

## REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NATIONAL MEAT INSPECTION COMMISSION Diliman, Quezon City



July 28, 1999

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR No. 3 - 94 - 00 | Series of 1999

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Subject

Guidelines on Inspection of Imported Meat and Meat Products:

In pursuance to the provisions of R.A. 7394, Art. 10 to 15, series of 1992, E.O. 137, section 31—(a) (2) series of 1993, and in consonance with the provisions of A.O. 72, series of 1998 and A.O. 9-A, series of 1996, the following procedures are promulgated to ensure the efficient and effective inspection and monitoring of imported meat and meat products:

- 1. The importer shall inform the concerned NMIC Regional Office at least 2 to 3 days before the arrival of the shipment and furnish a copy of the following documents:
  - a. See Foreign Meat/Health Inspection Certificate original copy
  - b. \* \* Commercial Invoice Photocopy
  - c. Bill of Lading Photocopy
  - d. See International Sanitary Certificate or VQC Photocopy
- 2. All meat and meat products shall be presented by the importer for inspection to NMIC upon delivery at the cold storage or warehouse. Before unloading, the NMIC inspector shall verify the veracity of the documents and shall examine the general condition of the container van, seal of padlocks, and reading of the thermograph. Only when the documents are in order that further inspection is conducted.
- 3. The NMIC inspector shall account for the number of boxes/packages unloaded. In case the container van is used for storage itself, the goods shall likewise be unloaded to ensure proper inspection and marking. Every lot/batch shall be given visual examination for general appearance and label compliance.
- 4. Laboratory samples shall be routinely collected during unloading using the attached (Annex A) Single Sampling Plan for Normal Inspection
  - a. Determine lot/batch size;
  - b. Determine the number of sample units required;
  - c. Determine the drawing interval by dividing the lot/batch size by the number of sample units required (a divided by b);
  - d. Draw sample units.

Whenever necessary, the NMIC inspector shall shift to the reduced or tightened inspection levels using special guidelines for such activity.

- 5. All boxes or packages collected for laboratory examination shall be opened for physical evaluation such as color, odor and texture right there at the inspection site.
- 6. The whole shipment with documents found to be in order and apparently fit for human consumption upon physical evaluation shall be stamped "NMIC, Inspected And Passed. For Duty-Free Shop Only" or "NMIC, Inspected and Passed, For Any Domestic Markets", as the case may be at the top and sides of all the packages/boxes.
- Shipment found apparently unsatisfactory on physical examination shall not be allowed 7. to be used or distributed in commerce by the importer until laboratory test confirms "Inspected and Passed" shall only be marked upon confirmation of satisfactory laboratory result.
- All goods marked "Inspected and Passed" shall be issued corresponding Imported Meat 8. Inspection Certificate.
- Samples collected shall be submitted to the laboratory for examination. Should the 9. result shows non-compliance to standards set by the NMIC, the importer shall be immediately informed and after due notice and/or hearing, the NMIC shall make the appropriate order for its recall, seizure or prohibition from public sale or distribution.
- Disposal of condemned goods shall be in accordance with A.O. 6, series 1975, Rules and Regulations Governing Meat Inspection in the Philippines.

For compliance.

Executive Director

## SAMPLING GUIDE (ISO 2859, S-3)

LOT OR BATCH SIZE (No. of box/package)	SAMPLE SIZE (No. of box/package).	Acceptance Quality Level (6.5)	
		Accept	Reject
2 - 8 * P ***	2	0.	1 .
9 - 15	2	0	1
16 - 25	3	o	1
26 - 50	3	0	1
51 - 90	5	0	1 196
91 - 150	5	0	1
151 - 280	8	1	2
281 - 500	8	1	2
501 - 1200 feet	13	2	3
1201 - 3200	13	. 2	· 3
3201 - 10000	20	3	4
10001 - 35000	20	3	41
35001 - 150000	32	5	6
150001 - 500000	32	5	6
500001 and over	50	7	8

Lot or batch is counted by its original package. e.g. carton or box.

Shipment consigned to different importers from the same meat plant and arriving at the same time shall be treated as one lot or batch.