

Meat grading services withdrawal upheld

NEW YORK, N.Y. — The withdrawal of federal meat grading services from Salsburg Meats, Inc., of Shillington, Pa., for one year because of violations of meat grading regulations has been upheld by a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) law judge, announced Carol Tucker Foreman, assistant secretary of agriculture for food and consumer services.

The law judge's decision, which became effective Nov. 26, upheld the department's action in withdrawing the services last May 5.

"Normally grading services are withdrawn only after a firm has been given an administrative hearing and the law judge has sustained the charge," Ms. Foreman said. "We took direct action in this case because of the seriousness of the charge against the firm.

We will not tolerate physical violence or gross verbal abuse of our meat graders."

According to officials of USDA's Food Safety and

Quality Service, meat grading services were immediately withdrawn when a company official used obscene language and physical

violence to keep a federal meat grader from performing his duties in the plant. The company later circumvented the with-

drawal by getting federal personnel at another plant to certify its products met certain contract specifications.

The law judge upheld the withdrawal of services for one year, and the order became effective when the firm failed to appeal the action within 30 days. The suspension will end May 5, 1978.

Fruity gift ideas told

UNIVERSITY PARK — Each year, the dilemma of holiday gift-giving takes on new complexities, especially when it comes to stretching the holiday dollar. Here are some ideas for holiday gifts from Extension specialists at Penn State that use inexpensive household and garden items. The secret to turning them into super gifts is the addition of fresh oranges, tangerines, and grapefruit, a bit of colorful ribbon and cellophane gift wrap.

One could buy an old-fashioned candy store jar and add a bright red gingham ribbon and a selection of grapefruit, tangerines and oranges.

A glass canister might be filled with fruit and a bit of greenery, then the screw-on lid tied to the bottom with bright velvet ribbon.

A glass pie plate filled with fruit and a colorful oven mitt becomes a special gift when wrapped in cellophane and tied with bright velvet ribbon. An extra-nice touch would be a recipe for a favorite fruit pie.

A woven basket filled with fruit and tied with ribbon is a gift the recipient will be able to keep filled with fresh fruits the year 'round.

A clay flower pot becomes a clever gift for a plant lover, with the addition of denim gardening gloves and fresh citrus fruit.

Another plant lover on the list would be delighted with a redwood planter filled with colorful citrus fruits and tied up in a festive ribbon.

A person could fill an inexpensive teflon-coated skillet with citrus fruits, wrap in clear cellophane and tie with bright calico ribbon. For an extra treat, add a matching spatula.

And finally, what about a dust pan for a gift? It could be filled with fruit, a bit of greenery added, and tied in cellophane for a thoughtful gift.



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