



Non GMO Project Group Verified
www.nongmoproject.com

First of all, Non-GMO Project Verification offers transparency to your customers about your GMO avoidance practices. By enrolling in the Project, you gain the outreach and education support of our nonprofit and the thousands of retailers who support and endorse the Project. Retailers and consumers are looking for the assurance of independent, third-party validation of product claims – and when it comes to GMOs, the Non-GMO Project seal gives consumers the most trusted alternatives to GMO food and products available today. Maintaining a supply of non-GMO ingredients in the face of growing contamination risk takes coordinated, cooperative efforts. The Non-GMO Project's uniform, industry-wide Standard and Product Verification Program create essential efficiency for an industry where sharing of co-packers and ingredient suppliers is common. By engaging a critical mass of companies, from seed growers to manufacturers, we achieve the economy of scale that makes long-term non-GMO sourcing possible.



IMI Global (USDA approved, non-biased, third-party auditors)
www.imiglobal.com

By consistently providing our customers with dependable, high quality verification solutions, IMI continues to lead the way in providing transparency and value in food products for both producers and consumers world wide. IMI has worked with some of the largest agricultural organizations in the United States, providing comprehensive applications for verification and identification through our USDA Process Verified Programs, as well as a range of consulting services tailored to meet each customer's needs.



Non-Hormone Treated Cattle Program (NHTC)

The NHTC program is a USDA approved, non-biased, third-party audit program which verifies the source and age of your cattle, but also verifies that your cattle have not received hormones at any stage of their life. This program is perfect for those producers already practicing non-hormone or natural procedures and want to see the benefit of those practices realized at sale time. When your cattle are NHTC verified, not only can you market them as such, but they will also qualify for export to the European Union - again adding value at sale time.



Certified All Natural Program

There are many programs in the marketplace that require specific practices in order to label a product with marketing statements signifying that cattle are raised under "Natural" conditions. Many of these programs focus on the basis that cattle have never received hormones, antibiotics, or animal by-products; however, each program has its own specifications. Our program takes into account all four parameters which makes it perfect to realize the benefits at sale time.

Beef Industry Identification and Traceability Program

A USDA PROCESS VERIFIED PROGRAM THAT IS SOURCE VERIFIED, AGE VERIFIED, NATURAL VERIFIED AND TRACEABLE FROM BIRTH THROUGH HARVEST AND FABRICATION

Source and Age Verification

To verify the source and age of your calves, producers should enroll in a Source and Age Verification Program which is USDA-approved, non-biased, and third-party audited. The most important step here is that you not only track the source and age of your cattle, but you are enrolled in a "verification program," which can verify that your records meet the requirements set by USDA. Source and age programs allow you to be able to meet the requirements of Country of Origin Labeling (COOL), and the age verification provides the opportunity for your cattle to be export eligible to countries with age requirements on imported beef products.



NEVER EVER 3

- NO ANTIBIOTICS - Never Ever
- NO GROWTH PROMOTANTS - Never Ever
- NO ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS - Never Ever

<http://processverified.usda.gov>

USDA
PROCESS
VERIFIED

OPEN RANGE - SOURCE VERIFIED

Never Ever 3 (NE3) Program

There are a few verification suppliers who do offer a USDA-approved, non-biased, third party audited natural program called (NE3) USDA guidelines for this program, requires that calves have never received hormones, antibiotics, or animal by-products.



Global Animal Partnership (GAP)

GAP's responsibility is to set animal care and wellbeing standards, and then to conduct training of independent certification companies to audit meat suppliers to the established standards. The program requires independent, third-party certification companies to evaluate locations (farms/ranches, backgrounders, feedlots) to the 5-Step standards, and the GAP certification process will determine the Step Level achieved. The certifier follows ISO (International Organization for Standardization) Guide 65 guidelines, which requires auditors to be independent of that which they are auditing, employ qualified and trained auditors and ensure consistency in the audits being conducted. Once the audit is conducted, the certifier determines compliance to the step within the standard and determines the location's approval for a 15-month period of time. The structure of the program is similar to other ISO Guide 65 models, such as certified organic or the USDA Processed Verified Program's (PVP) model for claims that could change with the animal over time, such as non-hormone treated cattle (NHTC), NeverEver3, etc. Currently we are certified GAP step 1, which makes it possible to see benefit in the Whole Foods market.

