



Minnesota

MEAT MINUTE

Volume 13, Issue 4
April 2026



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In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this information is available in alternative forms of communication upon request by calling 651-201-6000. TTY users can call the Minnesota Relay Service at 711. The MDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

Meat Plant Resources

There are websites that provide resources for meat establishments. Be sure to visit these websites to find useful resources.

Niche Meat Processor Assistance Network (NMPAN) is an organization that helps small meat processing plants. They offer resources for starting a meat business, providing technical assistance and they host webinars highlighting training and marketing strategies. NMPAN provides a unique opportunity to book a call with a Meat and Poultry Processing Technical Assistance Consultant.

[Check out the NMPAN website](#)

The American Meat Science Association (AMSA) launched “The Meat Locker.” The website provides resources and technical information for meat processors of all sizes. The website addresses common topics and challenges meat processors face, such as sanitation, quality assurance, Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP), processing, food safety, business operations, labeling, and more.

[Check out The Meat Locker](#)





FDA Withdraws Authorization For Use of Red No. 3.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has amended its color additive regulation to no longer allow the use of Food, Drugs, and Cosmetics (FD&C) Red No. 3 in food. FD&C Red No. 3 can be found in some spices used to make meat products. Food manufacturers have until January 15, 2027, to reformulate their products. Meat establishments should be aware this may change how the spices they receive are formulated. This may result in a possible change in their product's ingredient statements.



Materials Available for Coping with Farm and Rural Stress

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture is happy to provide materials to people and organizations who work with farmers, ranchers, and others connected to agriculture, who experience stress to help raise awareness of the services available to them. Order some for your counter at www.mda.state.mn.us/farmstressorders.

For free, confidential, 24/7 help with stress, anxiety, depression, anger, relationships, substance use, business and financial problems and more visit the Minnesota Farm & Rural Helpline at: www.minnesotafarmstress.org. You may also:

CALL: 833-600-2670 (press 1)

TEXT: farmstress to 898211

EMAIL: farmstress@state.mn.us

2026 Meat Inspector Calendar No Inspection Dates

May 25 – Memorial Day

June 19 – Juneteenth Holiday

July 3 – July 4 Observed

September 7 – Labor Day

November 11 – Veterans Day

November 26-27 –
Thanksgiving Day and Day After

December 25 – Christmas Day

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