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Lot Code Explanation

An important component of our Food Safety Plan is the ability to locate all finished goods in an event such as a routine trace back or product recall. Lot codes allow us to trace a product forward and backward in the chain of commerce.

The organic food industry uses a series of letters and numbers to denote information regarding ingredient identification, production date, and country of origin. The codes on goods will differ from company to company. Edison Grain's lot codes follow this basic format:

AQR25-1076-PE-625-4100

We begin with a 3-digit product identification code.

AQR = Ancient Grain/ Quinoa Red

Following the product code will be the original unit size:

AQR25 = Edison Grain Inc. is receiving pallets of 25 lb. bags from our supplier.

The next set of 4 numbers references the 3-digit Julian Date Calendar plus a number to represent the year the product was received:

XXX25-1076 = Org Red Quinoa in 25lb bags were delivered to Edison Grain on April 17, 2016

Using the ISO two-letter country codes indicates country of origin:

AQR25-1076-PE = Org Red Quinoa in 25lb bags delivered on April 17 came from Peru.

The last 7 digits are internal control numbers:

AQR25-1076-PE-625-4100

Documented traceability exercises are conducted routinely on exhausted lots. Raw material is traced to all forms of finished goods, achieving 99.5%-105% recovery. Normal yields, loss, waste and shrinkage are taken into consideration and recorded. A performance assessment is recorded noting improvements and any corrective actions.

All records relevant to the control of the process or evaluation of food safety, food quality and food defense are reviewed, signed and dated and retained for 2 years.