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[Notices]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

United States Standards for Whole Dry Peas, Split Peas, and
Lentils

AGENCY: **Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration**,
USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

The **Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration** (GIPSA) is revising the voluntary United States Standards for Whole Dry Peas, Split Peas, and Lentils by eliminating the classes Persian and Mixed lentils and establishing a new class, Miscellaneous peas, and a new grading factor for lentils, Inconspicuous Admixture. GIPSA is changing these standards to facilitate the marketing of peas and lentils.

Section 203(c) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, as amended, directs and authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture ``to develop and improve standards of quality, condition, quantity, grade, and packaging and recommend and demonstrate such standards in order to encourage uniformity and consistency in commercial practices. . . .''

The **Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration** (GIPSA) is committed to carrying out this authority in a manner that facilitates the marketing of agricultural commodities and makes copies of official standards available upon request.

The **Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration** (GIPSA) published a notice in the Federal Register on August 15, 1997 (62 FR 43695), that it was proposing to eliminate the classes Persian and Mixed lentils, and to establish a new class, Miscellaneous peas, and a new grading factor for lentils, Inconspicuous Admixture.

GIPSA received no comments in response to that notice.

Since these changes to the standards were recommended and reviewed by the affected trade and are consistent with current practices in the trade, they will become effective on August 1, 1998, the beginning of the next marketing season.

The United States Standards for Whole Dry Peas, Split Peas, and Lentils do not appear in the Code of Federal Regulations but are maintained by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The revised United States Standards for Whole Dry Peas, Split Peas, and Lentils are available either by accessing GIPSA's Home Page on the Internet at: www.usda.gov/gipsa/strulreg/standard/beans or by contacting the

Audiovisual, Regulatory and Training Staff, GIPSA, USDA, STOP 3649,
1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3649; telephone
(202) 720-1734; FAX (202) 720-4628.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1621 et seq.

Dated: November 25, 1997.

James R. Baker,

Administrator.

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