

unless a request for a refund is made by the applicant.

(h) *Time and form of payment.* (1) *Fees for Federal inspection service.* Bills for fees assessed under the regulations for official services performed by FGIS shall be paid by check, draft, or money order, payable to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Federal Grain Inspection Service.

(2) *Fees for cooperator inspection service.* Fees for inspection services provided by a cooperator shall be paid by the applicant to the cooperator in accordance with the cooperator's fee schedule.

[53 FR 3722, Feb. 9, 1988. Redesignated and amended at 60 FR 16364, 16365, Mar. 30, 1995; 61 FR 66536, Dec. 18, 1996]

### Subpart B—Marketing Standards

SOURCE: 62 FR 6706, Feb. 13, 1997, unless otherwise noted.

#### § 868.101 General information.

The Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) facilitates the fair and efficient marketing of agricultural products by maintaining voluntary grade standards for Beans, Whole Dry Peas, Split Peas, and Lentils, which provide a uniform language for describing the quality of these commodities in the marketplace. These standards may cover (but are not limited to) terms, classes, quality levels, performance criteria, and inspection requirements. Procedures contained in this part set forth the process which GIPSA will follow in developing, issuing, revising, suspending, or terminating the U.S. standards for Beans, Whole Dry Peas, Split Peas, and Lentils. Communications about GIPSA standards in general should be addressed to the Administrator, GIPSA, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-3601.

#### § 868.102 Procedures for establishing and revising grade standards.

(a) GIPSA will develop, revise, suspend, or terminate grade standards if it determines that such action is in the public interest. GIPSA encourages interested parties to participate in the

review, development, and revision of grade standards. Interested parties include growers, producers, processors, shippers, distributors, consumers, trade associations, companies, and State or Federal agencies. Such persons may at any time recommend that GIPSA develop, revise, suspend, or terminate a grade standard. Requests for action should be in writing, and should be accompanied by a draft of the suggested change, as appropriate.

(b) GIPSA will:

(1) Determine the need for new or revised standards;

(2) Collect technical, marketing, or other appropriate data;

(3) Conduct research regarding new or revised standards, as appropriate; and

(4) Draft the proposed standards.

(c) If GIPSA determines that new standards are needed, existing standards need to be revised, or the suspension or termination of existing standards is justified, GIPSA will undertake the action with input from interested parties.

#### § 868.103 Public notification of grade standards action.

(a) After developing a standardization proposal, GIPSA will publish a notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER proposing new or revised standards or suspending or terminating existing standards. The notice will provide a sufficient comment period for interested parties to submit comments.

(b) GIPSA will simultaneously issue a news release about these actions, notifying the affected industry and general public. GIPSA will also distribute copies of proposals to anyone requesting a copy or to anyone it believes may be interested, including other Federal, State, or local government agencies.

(c) All comments received within the comment period will be made part of the public record maintained by GIPSA, will be available to the public for review, and will be considered by GIPSA before final action is taken on the proposal.

(d) Based on the comments received, GIPSA's knowledge of standards, grading, marketing, and other technical factors, and any other relevant information, GIPSA will decide whether the