

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

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would result in samples of insufficient length, it will be acceptable to split the sample lengthwise along the layers, provided the outside portion from each side is submitted for the official classification.

(c) *Mechanical sampling.* Samples may be drawn in gins equipped with mechanical samplers approved by the Division and operated according to sampling instructions furnished by the Director or an authorized representative. Such samples shall not be less than 6 ounces in weight.

(d) *Samples must be representative.* Each sample must be representative of the bale from which drawn.

(e) *Handling samples.* Samples shall not be dressed or trimmed and shall be carefully handled in such manner as not to cause loss of leaf, sand, or other material, or otherwise change their representative character. Samples shall be handled only by employees of the licensee prior to shipment or delivery to the cotton classing office of the Division.

(f) *Identifying and shipping samples.* Each sample shall be identified with a tag, supplied or approved by the Division, bearing the gin or warehouse number of the bale from which the sample was drawn and the name and address of the producer of the bale. The tag shall be placed between the two halves of the sample, the sample tightly rolled and enclosed in a package or bag for shipment. Each package or bag shall be labeled or marked with the name and address of the licensed gin or warehouse. The packages shall be shipped or delivered direct to the cotton classing office serving the territory in which the cotton is ginned. Samples that were drawn by a mechanical sampler at the gin may be transported with the bales to the warehouse and then shipped or delivered direct to the classing office by the warehouse.

(g) *Request for classification.* Samples received from a licensed gin or warehouse with the identification tag required in § 28.908(f) shall constitute a request for classification service by the producer.

§ 28.909 Costs.

(a) Costs incident to sampling, tagging, and identification of samples and

transporting samples to points of shipment shall be assumed by the producer, but tags and containers for the shipment of samples and shipping charges via U.S. Postal Service or duly authorized common carrier will be furnished by the service. After classification the samples shall become the property of the Government. The proceeds of the sale of cotton samples shall be used to defray the costs of providing the services under this subpart.

(b) The cost of High Volume Instrument (HVI) cotton classification service to producers is \$1.85 per bale.

(c) The Division will periodically bill producers or the voluntary agents designated by producers for the cost of classification. A discount of 5 cents per sample will be granted for services provided under this section when billing is made to voluntary agents.

CLASSIFICATION

§ 28.910 Classification of samples and issuance of classification data.

(a)(1) The samples submitted as provided in the subpart shall be classified by employees of the Division and classification memoranda showing the official quality determination of each sample according to the official cotton standards of the United States shall be issued by any one of the following methods at no additional charge:

- (i) Computer diskettes,
- (ii) Computer tapes, or
- (iii) Telecommunications, with all long distance telephone line charges paid by the receiver of data.

(2) When an additional copy of the classification memorandum is issued by any method listed in paragraph (a)(1), there will be a charge of five cents per bale. If provided as an additional method of data transfer, the minimum fee for each tape or diskette issued shall be \$10.00.

(b) Owners of cotton, other than producers, may receive classification data showing the official quality determination of each sample by means of telecommunications from a central database to be maintained by the Division. The fee for this service shall be five cents per bale, with all long distance telephone line charges paid by the receiver of data. The minimum charge

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assessed for services obtained from the central database shall be \$5.00 per monthly billing period.

(c) Upon request of an owner of cotton for which classification memoranda have been issued under the subpart, a new memorandum shall be issued for the business convenience of such owner without the reclassification of the cotton. Such rewritten memorandum shall bear the date of its issuance and the date or inclusive dates of the original classification. The fee for a new memorandum shall be 15 cents per bale or a minimum of \$5.00 per sheet.

§ 28.911 Review classification.

(a) A producer may request one review classification for each bale of eligible cotton. The fee for review classification is \$1.85 per bale.

(b) Samples for review classification must be drawn by gins or warehouses licensed pursuant to §§28.20 through 28.22, or by employees of the United States Department of Agriculture. Each sample for review classification shall be taken, handled, and submitted according to §28.908 and to supplemental instructions issued by the Director or an authorized representative of the Director. Costs incident to sampling, tagging, identification, containers, and shipment for samples for review classification shall be assumed by the producer. After classification, the samples shall become the property of the Government unless the producer requests the return of the samples. The proceeds from the sale of samples that become Government property shall be used to defray the costs of providing the services under this subpart. Producers who request return of their samples after classing will pay a fee of 40 cents per sample in addition to the fee established above in this section.

LIMITATIONS OF SERVICES

§ 28.917 Limitations of services.

The Director, or an authorized representative, may suspend, terminate, or withhold cotton classing and market news services to any producer upon any failure of the producer to comply with the act or these regulations. Failure to

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remit fees for classification services shall result in loss of service.

Subpart E—Cotton Fiber and Processing Tests

AUTHORITY: Sec. 3c, 50 Stat. 62; 7 U.S.C. 473c; sec. 3d, 55 Stat. 131 (7 U.S.C. 473d).

SOURCE: 35 FR 8532, June 3, 1970, unless otherwise noted.

DEFINITIONS

§ 28.950 Terms defined.

As used throughout this subpart, unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms shall be construed, respectively, to mean:

(a) *Regulations.* Regulations mean the provisions in this subpart.

(b) *Service.* The Agricultural Marketing Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

(c) *Administrator.* The Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, or any officer or employee of the Service, to whom authority has been delegated to act for the Administrator.

(d) *Division.* The Cotton Division of the Agricultural Marketing Service.

(e) *Director.* The Director of the Cotton Division, or any officer or employee of the Division to whom authority has been delegated to act for the Director.

(f) *Laboratories.* Laboratories of the Cotton Division that perform the fiber and processing tests described in this subpart.

[35 FR 8532, June 3, 1970, as amended at 46 FR 30073, June 5, 1981; 46 FR 51593, Oct. 21, 1981]

ADMINISTRATION

§ 28.951 Director.

The Director shall perform, for and under the supervision of the Administrator, such duties as the Administrator may require in enforcing the regulations in this subpart.

FIBER AND PROCESSING TESTS

§ 28.952 Testing of samples.

The Director or an authorized representative, upon written requests, shall make fiber and processing tests of the properties of cotton samples and