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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. No. AMS-AMS-22-0066]

United States Standards for Beans

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of final action.

SUMMARY: The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is revising the United States Standards for Beans under the United States Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, as amended, (AMA). AMS is revising the grade-determining factors for Moisture and Contrasting Chickpeas in the class Chickpea/Garbanzo Beans.

DATES: Applicable July 1, 2023.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Loren Almond, USDA AMS; Telephone: (816) 702-3925; Email: Loren.L.Almond@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the authority of the AMA (7 U.S.C. 1621-1627), as amended, AMS establishes and maintains a variety of voluntary quality and grade standards for agricultural commodities that serve as a fundamental starting point to define commodity quality and facilitate marketing of U.S. commodities in the domestic and global marketplace.

The USDA-AMS-Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) maintains and implements the U.S. Standards for Beans, last revised in 2017, which are available on the AMS public website (<https://www.ams.usda.gov/grades-standards>). The U.S. Standards for Beans define commonly used industry terms; contain basic principles governing the application of standards, such as the type of sample used for a particular quality analysis; outline the basis of determination; and specify grades and grade requirements. Official

testing procedures for determining grading factors are provided in the Bean Inspection Handbook. Together, the grading standards and testing procedures allow buyers and sellers to communicate quality requirements, compare bean quality using equivalent forms of measurement, and assist in price discovery.

AMS published a notice and request for comments in the **Federal Register** on October 12, 2022 (87 FR 61559), inviting interested parties to comment on proposed revisions to the standards pertaining to Moisture and Contrasting Chickpeas/Garbanzo Beans as grade-determining factors in the class Chickpeas/Garbanzo Beans in the U.S. Standards for Beans. AMS proposed the revisions following discussions with stakeholders in the bean processing/handling industry.

Proposed Revision of Moisture Determination in Chickpea/Garbanzo Beans

Currently, the maximum tolerance for moisture in U.S. No. 1, 2, and 3 grade chickpeas is 18.0 percent. AMS-FGIS met with representatives of bean industry stakeholders, who stated that 18.0 percent moisture content is too high for proper storage and maintenance of Chickpea/Garbanzo Beans and that the standard should be revised to a lower moisture content. However, FGIS is aware that moisture content is often a contract specification and that there is a need in the market for a grade that recognizes a higher moisture content. After various meetings and discussions, bean stakeholders recommended revising the moisture limit for U.S. No. 1, 2, and 3 grades of Chickpea/Garbanzo Beans downward from 18.0 percent to 14.0 percent and revising the standard for "High Moisture" beans from above 18.0 percent to above 14.0 percent moisture. Accordingly, FGIS proposed in the October 12, 2022, notice (87 FR 61559), that Chickpea/Garbanzo Beans with more than 14.0 percent moisture should be designated as Special Grade, "High Moisture."

Proposed Revision of Contrasting Chickpea/Garbanzo Beans

Currently, the maximum tolerance for contrasting chickpeas, that differ substantially in shape or color, in U.S. No. 3 grade is 5.0 percent. Chickpea

samples with greater than 5.0 percent contrasting chickpeas are considered "U.S. Substandard" grade. However, stakeholders told FGIS that contrasting chickpeas of greater than 5.0 percent do not affect actual bean quality, the entire sample of beans is still considered Chickpea/Garbanzo Beans, and that such beans are marketable. For these reasons stakeholders requested that chickpeas with greater than 5.0 percent contrast not be considered "U.S. Substandard." Stakeholders recommended revising the standard by changing the grade criteria for Contrasting Chickpeas in Chickpea/Garbanzo Beans. Under the recommended revision, Chickpea/Garbanzo Beans with greater than 2.0 percent contrasting chickpeas could be considered U.S. No. 3 grade. Accordingly, FGIS proposed in the October 12, 2022, notice (87 FR 61559), that Chickpea/Garbanzo Beans found to contain more than 2.0 percent Contrasting Chickpeas could be designated as U.S. No. 3 but would grade no higher than U.S. No. 3. Contrasting Chickpea grading criteria for U.S. No. 1 and U.S. No. 2 would remain unchanged.

Comment Review

The publication of the notice and request for comment initiated a 60-day comment period, which ended December 12, 2022. AMS received no comments on the proposed revisions.

Final Action

For the foregoing reasons, AMS-FGIS is revising the U.S. Standards for Beans in the class Chickpea/Garbanzo Bean by amending the criteria for Special Grade "High Moisture" and the grade determining factor "Contrasting Chickpeas". Accordingly, Chickpeas/Garbanzo Beans with more than 14.0 percent moisture will be considered Special Grade, "High Moisture," and samples with Contrasting Chickpeas over 2.0 percent will grade no higher than U.S. No. 3 Chickpea/Garbanzo Beans.

These revisions to the Chickpea/Garbanzo Bean standard are effective July 1, 2023. Table 3.10 of the Bean Inspection Handbook will be updated to reflect the revised bean standard, as shown below.

TABLE 3.10—CHICKPEAS (GARBANZO BEANS)

Grade	Maximum limits of—						
	Moisture ¹ (percent)	Total defects (DB, FM, CCL, & SPL) (percent)	Total damaged (percent)	Foreign material		Contrasting Classes ² (percent)	Contrasting Chickpeas ³ (percent)
				Total (percent)	Stones (percent)		
U.S. No. 1	14.0	2.0	2.0	0.5	0.2	0.5	1.0
U.S. No. 2	14.0	4.0	4.0	1.0	0.4	1.0	2.0
U.S. No. 3	14.0	6.0	6.0	1.5	0.6	2.0	>2.0

¹ Beans with more than 14.0 percent moisture are graded High Moisture.
² Beans with more than 2.0 percent contrasting classes are graded Mixed Beans.
³ Beans with more than 2.0 percent contrasting chickpeas must grade no higher than a U.S. No. 3.

U.S. Substandard: U.S. Substandard shall be beans which do not meet the requirements for the grades U.S. No. 1 through U.S. No. 3 or U.S. Sample Grade. Beans which are not well screened shall also be U.S. Substandard, except for beans which meet the requirements for U.S. Sample Grade.

U.S. Sample Grade: U.S. Sample Grade shall be beans which are musty, sour, heating, materially weathered, or weevily; which have any commercially objectionable odor; which contain insect webbing or filth, animal filth, any unknown foreign substance, broken glass, or metal fragments; or which are otherwise of distinctly low quality.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1621–1627.

Melissa Bailey,

Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2023–12708 Filed 6–13–23; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Reinstatement Comment Request

The Department of Agriculture will submit the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and reinstatement under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 on or after the date of publication of this notice. Comments are requested regarding: (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other

technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received by July 14, 2023. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Title: Irrigation and Water Management Survey (IWMS).

OMB Control Number: 0535–0234.

Summary of Collection: The 2023 Irrigation and Water Management Survey will mark 44 years of irrigation data collected on water management practices and water uses in American agriculture. Irrigation surveys have been conducted since 1974 as supplements to the quinquennial Censuses of Agriculture. This survey, supplementing basic irrigation data collected in the census, is conducted on a sample basis; the survey can provide comprehensive analyses of irrigation, production, and operator information with less respondent burden and cost than if this information were gathered as part of a census collection. The 2023 Irrigation and Water Management Survey will obtain data describing the irrigation activities of U.S. farm operations. Some of these activities are of current National

interest, such as the chemigation, fertigation, and water-conserving uses and practices of irrigators. The 2023 Irrigation and Water Management Survey will play an important part in providing critically needed data to address these types of issues. The Irrigation Survey is an integral part of the 2022 Census of Agriculture and is conducted every five years under the authority of the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997 (Pub. L. 105–113) where participation is mandatory. This law requires the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a census of agriculture in 2002 and every fifth year thereafter (prior to 1997 the census was conducted by the Department of Commerce).

Need and Use of the Information: The primary purpose of this survey is to provide detail data relating to on-farm irrigation activities for use in preparing a wide variety of water-related local programs, economic models, legislative initiatives, market analyses, and feasibility studies. The Irrigation and Water Management Survey data are the only data that are complete, consistent, and accurate enough to be used for bench-marking on-farm irrigation measures over time. The absence of the Irrigation and Water Management Survey data would certainly affect irrigation policy decisions. Federal programs, legislation, and impact studies would instead be subject to greater uncertainty and error.

Description of Respondents: Farms; business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 35,100.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: once.

Total Burden Hours: 26,974.

Levi S. Harrell,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2023–12667 Filed 6–13–23; 8:45 am]

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