*Act*. The Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Title II of the act of Congress approved August 14, 1946, 60 Stat. 1087–1091, as amended; 7 U.S.C. 1621–1627).

*Administrator*. The Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, or any officer or employee of the Service, to whom authority has been delegated, or to whom authority may be delegated, to act in his or her stead.

*Cooperative agreement*. An agreement between the Agricultural Marketing Service and another Federal agency or a State agency, or other agency, organization or person that defines in the general terms the basis on which the parties concerned will cooperate to serve a mutual interest on an agricultural service project. The responsibilities for AMS and each cooperator are stated in the document along with the conditions as applicable.

*Department*. The United States Department of Agriculture.

*Deputy Administrator*. The Deputy Administrator of the Science and Technology program of the Agricultural Marketing Service agency, or any officer or employee of this agency to whom authority has heretofore been delegated, or to whom authority may hereafter be delegated, to act.

*Laboratories*. Science and Technology laboratories performing the official analyses described in this subchapter.

*Program*. The Science and Technology (S&T) program of the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) which performs official analytical testing services, issues licenses for cottonseed chemists, and conducts quality assurance reviews and grants accreditation or certification for commodity testing programs of laboratories.

*Quality assurance*. The assurance that there is accuracy of analytical data using proficiency check sample or analyte recovery techniques. In addition, the certainty that there is strict adherence by the analysts in following the quality control details in the recommended or official methods for reagents, laboratory apparatus and procedures. The overall objective of quality assurance, as a comprehensive program, is to ensure that all analytical data produced by the laboratory meets certain quality criteria and that all data produced is reproducible, precise, and accurate.

*Quality control*. The system of close examination of the critical details of an analytical procedure in order to have the proper equipment parameters, techniques, supplies and reagents to achieve a predetermined level of quality data, with the performance of a particular laboratory analysis.

*Secretary*. The Secretary of Agriculture of the United States, or any officer or employee of the Department to whom authority has heretofore been delegated, or to whom authority may hereafter be delegated, to act in his or her stead.

*Service*. The Agricultural Marketing Service of the United States Department of Agriculture.

[58 FR 42414, Aug. 9, 1993, as amended at 61 FR 51350, Oct. 2, 1996; 65 FR 64309, Oct. 26, 2000]

## Subpart C—Good Laboratory Practices for Commodity Laboratory Analyses

### § 90.3 General.

Laboratory service programs of laboratories certified and approved by the Science and Technology shall have good laboratory practice (GLP) requirements that are generalized in this subpart.

[58 FR 42414, Aug. 9, 1993, as amended at 61 FR 51350, Oct. 2, 1996; 65 FR 64309, Oct. 26, 2000]

§§ 90.4–90.100 [Reserved]

## Subpart D—Quality Assurance

### § 90.101 General.

Laboratory service programs of laboratories certified and approved by the Science and Technology shall have quality assurance requirements that are generalized in this subpart.

[58 FR 42414, Aug. 9, 1993, as amended at 61 FR 51350, Oct. 2, 1996; 65 FR 64309, Oct. 26, 2000]

### § 90.102 Quality assurance review.

(a) Each laboratory performing tests and analysis under this subchapter will be subject to a quality assurance program evaluation at least annually, and more often if deemed necessary by the

Deputy Administrator. Such evaluation will include:

(1) A review of the adequacy of quality control measures taken by the laboratory for the standardized method of analysis for a commodity and its related products;

(2) A review of the laboratory methodologies and procedures;

(3) A review of records for the calibration and maintenance of equipment;

(4) A review of records documenting sample handling;

(5) The evidence of quality control records;

(6) The evidence of correct reporting and determination of analytical data.

(b) A laboratory will receive a quality assurance report following the review. This evaluation will address any necessary improvements to the laboratory program(s) being examined.

[58 FR 42414, Aug. 9, 1993, as amended at 65 FR 64309, Oct. 26, 2000]

### § 90.103 Maintenance of quality control records.

Quality control records pertaining, but not limited to the following areas, shall be retained by the laboratory for at least the 3 most recent years:

(a) Prepared solution standardizations;

(b) Recovery studies by known analyte additions;

(c) The purity checks of reagents and test materials;

(d) Apparatus and equipment calibrations;

(e) The quality examination and testing of materials;

(f) The mandatory participation in proficiency check sample testing or collaborative studies;

(g) Daily critical parameter checks of equipment, such as temperature readings;

(h) The equivalency tests of new procedures with standard methodologies.

§§ 90.104–90.200 [Reserved]

# PART 91—SERVICES AND GENERAL INFORMATION

## Subpart A—Administration

Sec.



## Subpart B—General Services



## Subpart C—Application for Services



## Subpart D—Laboratory Service



## Subpart E—Samples



## Subpart F—Method Manuals



## Subpart G—Reporting



## Subpart H—Appeal of Laboratory Services