

of this section, must be filed by November 1, 1997. Disposition of peanuts imported in excess of the 1997 peanut import quotas must be filed within 120 days of the peanuts' entry by the Customs Service. Extension of these reporting periods must be granted by the AMS on a case by case basis upon a showing that such extension would be justified. Requests for extension must be submitted in writing to the Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Division, AMS, USDA, P.O. Box 96456, room 2525-S, Washington, DC 20090-6456, Attn: Peanut Imports or faxing the request to (202) 720-5698. An extension request must include the Customs Service entry number, relevant grade and aflatoxin certificates (if any) issued on the outstanding peanuts, and the reasons for delay in obtaining final disposition of the peanuts.

(4) Failure to fully comply with quality and handling requirements or failure to notify the Secretary of disposition of all foreign produced peanuts, as required under this section, may result in a compliance investigation by the Secretary. Falsification of reports submitted to the Secretary is a violation of Federal law punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both.

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Dated: September 19, 1997.

Robert C. Keeney,
Director, Fruit and Vegetable Division.
[FR Doc. 97-25411 Filed 9-24-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service
7 CFR Part 1205

1997 Amendment to Cotton Board Rules and Regulations Adjusting Supplemental Assessment on Imports

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Correction to final rule.

SUMMARY: This document corrects the final rule published September 2, 1997 (62 FR 46412) which amended the Cotton Board Rules and Regulations by lowering the value assigned to imported cotton for the purpose of calculating supplemental assessments collected for use by the Cotton Research and Promotion Program.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 2, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Craig Shackelford, (202) 720-2259.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) amended the Cotton Board Rules and Regulations by lowering the value assigned to imported cotton for the purpose of calculating supplemental assessments collected for use by the Cotton Research and Promotion Program. This action is required by this regulation on an annual basis to ensure that the assessments collected on imported cotton and the cotton content of imported products remain similar to those paid on domestically produced cotton. As a result of changes in the 1997 Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS), numbering changes in the import assessment table are amended. Eleven HTS numbers were to be eliminated from the assessment table because negligible assessments have been collected on these numbers and their elimination would contribute to reducing the overall burden to importers.

Need for Correction

In rule FR Doc. 97-23218 published on September 2, 1997 (62 FR 46412), make the following correction. On page 46415, in the third column, immediately following the HTS number 5212216090 remove the entries for HTS numbers 5309214010, 5309214090, 5309294010, 5311004020, 5407810010, 5407810030, 5407912020, 5408312020, 5408329020, 5408349020, and 5408349095.

Dated: September 18, 1997.

Norma McDill,
Acting Director, Cotton Division.
[FR Doc. 97-25278 Filed 9-24-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

9 CFR Parts 1 and 3

[Docket No. 95-078-4]

RIN 0579-AA74

Humane Treatment of Dogs; Tethering; Clarification

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Final rule; clarification.

SUMMARY: On August 13, 1997, we published in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 43272-43275, Docket No. 95-078-2) a final rule that removed the option for facilities regulated under the Animal Welfare Act to use tethering as a means

of primary enclosure. We also added a provision to the regulations to permit regulated facilities to temporarily tether a dog if they obtain approval from the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. The purpose of this notice is to clarify what kinds of facilities are regulated under the Animal Welfare Act and, subsequently, what kinds of facilities must comply with the final rule on tethering.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Stephen Smith, Staff Animal Health Technician, Animal Care, APHIS, suite 6D02, 4700 River Road Unit 84, Riverdale, MD 20737-1234, (301) 734-4972, or e-mail: snsmith@aphis.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On August 13, 1997, we published in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 43272-43275, Docket No. 95-078-2) a final rule that amended the regulations by removing the option for facilities regulated under the Animal Welfare Act to use tethering as a means of primary enclosure. We also added a provision to the regulations to state that regulated facilities may temporarily tether a dog if they obtain approval from the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

This rulemaking was based on our experience in enforcing the Animal Welfare Act, which has shown that tethering can be an inhumane practice when used as a means of primary enclosure in facilities regulated under the Animal Welfare Act. Typically, this inappropriate use of tethering involves dogs that are permanently tethered without opportunity for regular exercise. This was the basis for our position that tethering is inhumane. However, we recognize that under other circumstances (intermittent use, dogs are vigorously exercised, pets are on running tethers, dogs have close oversight, etc.) the use of tethering may be entirely appropriate and humane. We did not intend to imply that tethering of dogs under all circumstances is inhumane, nor that tethering under any circumstances must be prohibited.

Since publication of the final rule, we have been made aware that some members of the public are confused as to who must comply with this final rule. We have received numerous inquiries from various kinds of dog owners who tether their dogs. These dog owners are concerned that, pursuant to the final rule, they will no longer be able to tether their dogs. We are publishing this notice in order to make it clear who must comply with the final rule, and