such as the type of sample used for a particular quality analysis; explain the basis of determination; and specify grades and grade requirements. Official procedures for determining grading factors are provided in the Pea and Lentil Inspection Handbook. Together, the grading standards and testing procedures allow buyers and sellers to communicate quality requirements, compare pea quality using equivalent forms of measurement, and assist in price discovery.

AMS engages in outreach with stakeholders to ensure commodity standards maintain relevance to the modern market. Pea industry stakeholders include the USA Dry Pea and Lentil Council (USADPLC), a national organization of producers, processors, and exporters of U.S. dry peas, lentils, and chickpeas; the U.S. Pea and Lentil Trade Association (USPLTA), a national association representing processors, traders, handlers and merchandisers, and transporters in the pea, lentil and chickpea industry; and, other handlers and merchandisers. The United States Standards for Split Peas and the official inspection procedures for Split Peas in the Pea and Lentil Handbook are available on the AMS public website. The United States Standards for Peas were last revised in 2009. A “whole pea” is defined as “any pea which is 55 percent or more of a whole pea.” Industry stakeholders told AMS it is difficult to meet split pea contract specifications due to the strict standards required to achieve a “split pea” based on the current tolerance of a “whole pea.” Stakeholders asked AMS to revise the tolerance for whole pea in the class Split Peas.

Revision of Split Pea Tolerances for Whole Peas

Stakeholders recommended AMS revise the Pea and Lentil Inspection Handbook tolerance for whole peas. AMS and stakeholders worked collaboratively to redefine the tolerances for whole peas in Split Peas. Additionally, these changes were recommended to AMS by the stakeholder organizations identified above to facilitate the current marketing practices.

Comment Review

AMS published a Notice in the Federal Register on September 29, 2020 (85 FR 60953), inviting interested parties to comment on the proposed revision to the whole pea determination for Split Peas. AMS received four comments in response to the notice. One comment strongly supported the proposed revision. AMS received no comments opposing the proposed revision. AMS received three comments that were not germane to the issue. AMS believes this revision will facilitate marketing of split peas and better reflect current marketing practices. The revision becomes effective upon publication in the Federal Register, and the Pea and Lentil Inspection Handbook will be revised to incorporate the revision to the standards.

Final Action

AMS–FGIS is revising split pea inspection criteria in the Pea and Lentil Inspection Handbook by increasing the percent needed for a split pea to be considered a whole pea from 55 percent or more to 60 percent or more. Therefore, a “whole pea” is any pea which is 60 percent or more of a whole pea.


Erin Morris,
Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.
[FR Doc. 2021–12569 Filed 6–14–21; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service
[Doc. No. AMS–FGIS–20–0066]

United States Standards for Lentils

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: Notice of final action.

SUMMARY: This action is being taken under the authority of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, as amended, (AMA). The United States Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is revising the method of interpretation for the determination of the special grade “Green” in the Pea and Lentil Inspection Handbook pertaining to the class “Lentils,” in the U.S. Standards for Lentils. Stakeholders in the lentil processing/handling industry requested that AMS amend the interpretation of the special grade “Green” in the lentil inspection instructions by redefining the definition and including criteria for the inclusion of mottled lentils.

DATES: Applicability date: June 15, 2021.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Loren Almond, USDA AMS; Telephone: (616) 702–3925; Email: Loren.L.Almond@usda.gov.

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

Standards developed under the AMA include those for rice, whole dry peas, split peas, feed peas, lentils, and beans. The U.S. Standards for whole dry peas, split peas, feed peas, lentils and beans no longer appear in the Code of Federal Regulations but are now maintained by USDA–AMS–Federal Grain Inspection Service (AMS–FGIS). The U.S. Standards for lentils are voluntary and widely used in private contracts, government procurement, marketing communication, and for some commodities, consumer information.

The lentil standards facilitate lentil marketing and define U.S. lentil quality in the domestic and global marketplace. The standards 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; explain the basis of determination; and specify grades and grade requirements. Official procedures for determining grading factors are provided in the Pea and Lentil Inspection Handbook. Together, the grading standards and testing procedures allow buyers and sellers to communicate quality requirements, compare lentil quality using equivalent forms of measurement, and assist in price discovery.

AMS engages in outreach with stakeholders to ensure commodity standards maintain relevance to the modern market. Lentil industry stakeholders include the USA Dry Pea and Lentil Council (USADPLC), a national organization of producers, processors, and exporters of U.S. dry peas, lentils, and chickpeas; the U.S. Pea and Lentil Trade Association (USPLTA), a national association representing processors, traders, handlers and merchandisers, and transporters in the pea, lentil and chickpea industry; and, other handlers and merchandisers.

The United States Standards for Lentils and the official inspection procedures for lentils in the Pea and Lentil Handbook are available on the AMS public website. The United States Standards for Lentils were last revised in 2017 with the establishment of a new grading factor “wrinkled lentil,” and the new special grade of “Green” in lentils. With the current criteria, it is difficult to meet specifications due to the strict standards required to achieve the special grade “Green” in lentils. During meetings and discussions, lentil
stakeholders communicated the need to revise the Standards and the Pea and Lentil Inspection Handbook by changing the definition of Green Lentils and the criteria to include a percentage of allowable mottled lentils in the lentil sample.

Revision of Special Grade “Green Lentils”

Stakeholders, including the USADPLC, recommended AMS revise the lentil criteria for the special grade “Green” in the class “Lentils.” Stakeholders stated most shipments of lentils did not achieve the special grade “Green” based on current criteria. AMS and stakeholders worked collaboratively to redefine the special grade “Green” in lentils to best reflect the special grade condition. Additionally, stakeholders endorsed the following definition: “Green Lentils. Clear seeded (green) lentils possessing a natural, uniformly green color.” The proposed inspection instruction in the Pea and Lentil Handbook is being modified from what appeared in the notice and request for comments, for greater clarity, to state: “The portion size of approximately 60 grams for small seeded lentils and 125 grams for large seeded lentils must contain less than 0.5 percent lentils with mottling and be free of any lentils of contrasting color, before the removal of defects, and must be equal to or better than depicted on the Interpretive Line Print after the removal of dockage.”

Comment Review

AMS published a Notice in the Federal Register on September 29, 2020 (85 FR 60956), inviting interested parties to comment on the proposed revisions to the United States Standards for Lentils. AMS received one comment strongly supporting the proposed revision. AMS received no comments opposing the proposed revision. AMS believes that these revisions will facilitate the marketing of lentils and better reflect current marketing practices. Accordingly, AMS is implementing the revisions as proposed. The revisions to the standards become effective upon publication in the Federal Register, and the Pea and Lentil Inspection Handbook will be revised to incorporate the revisions to the standards.

Final Action

AMS–FGIS is revising the lentil standards to revise the definition for the special grade “Green” in lentils. Accordingly, the following section of the United States Standards for Lentils under the AMA is amended as follows: Section 609: Special grades and requirements, is amended to include the following definition: Green Lentils. Clear seeded (green) lentils possessing a natural, uniformly green color.

AMS–FGIS is revising lentil inspection criteria in the Pea and Lentil Inspection Handbook by including the following instruction pertaining to special grade “Green”: The portion size of approximately 60 grams for small seeded lentils and 125 grams for large seeded lentils must contain less than 0.5 percent lentils with mottling and be free of any lentils of contrasting color, before the removal of defects, and must be equal to or better than depicted on the Interpretive Line Print after the removal of dockage.


Erin Morris,
Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2021–12564 Filed 6–14–21; 8:45 am]

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COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the South Dakota Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Commission on Civil Rights.

ACTION: Announcement of public meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission), and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), that the South Dakota State Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene a meeting on July 21, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. (CT). The purpose of the meeting is for project planning to discuss next steps related to its report on Maternal Mortality and Health Disparities of American Indian Women in South Dakota.

DATES: Wednesday, July 21, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. (CT).

Public Web Conference Registration Link (video and audio): https://bit.ly/3eoX6To; password, if needed: USCCR.

If joining by Phone Only, Dial: 1–800–360–9505; access code: 199 390 2377

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[8–45–2021]

Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) 281—Miami-Dade County, Florida; Notification of Proposed Production Activity; Intel Corporation (Kitting, Assembly and Packaging of Computer Electronics), Miami, Florida

ModusLink Corporation, a proposed operator within FTZ 281, in Miami,