

(1) failure to maintain grading facilities and equipment in a satisfactory state of repair, sanitation, or cleanliness; (2) the use of operating procedures which are not in accordance with the regulations in this part; or (3) alterations of grading facilities or equipment which have not been approved in accordance with the regulations in this part.

(b) Whenever it is feasible to do so, written notice in advance of a suspension shall be given to the person concerned and shall specify a reasonable period of time in which corrective action must be taken. If advance written notice is not given, the suspension action shall be promptly confirmed in writing and the reasons therefor shall be stated, except in instances where the person has already corrected the deficiency. Such service, after appropriate corrective action is taken, will be restored immediately, or as soon thereafter as a grader can be made available. During such period of suspension, grading service shall not be rendered. However, the other provisions of the regulations pertaining to providing service on a resident basis will remain in effect unless such service is terminated in accordance with the provisions of this part.

(c) If the grading facilities or methods of operation are not brought into compliance within a reasonable period of time as specified by the Administrator, he shall initiate withdrawal action pursuant to the Rules of Practice Governing Withdrawal of Inspection and Grading Service (7 CFR part 1, subpart H), and the operator shall be afforded an opportunity for an oral hearing upon his written request in accordance with such Rules of Practice, with respect to the merits or validity of the withdrawal action, but any suspension shall continue in effect pending the outcome of such hearing unless otherwise ordered by the Administrator. Upon withdrawal of grading service in an official plant, the plant approval shall also become terminated, and all labels, seals, tags, or packaging material bearing official identification shall, under the supervision of a person designated by the service, either be destroyed, or the official identification

completely obliterated, or sealed in a manner acceptable to the service.

(d) In any case where grading service is withdrawn under this § 70.38, the person concerned may thereafter apply for grading service as provided in §§ 70.30 through 70.37 of these regulations.

[41 FR 23681, June 11, 1976. Redesignated at 42 FR 32514, June 27, 1977, and amended at 43 FR 60139, Dec. 26, 1978. Redesignated at 46 FR 63203, Dec. 31, 1981]

DENIAL OF SERVICE

§ 70.40 Debarment.

The acts or practices set forth in §§ 70.41 through 70.46, or the causing thereof, may be deemed sufficient cause for the debarment by the Administrator of any person, including any agents, officers, subsidiaries, or affiliates of such person, from any or all benefits of the Act for a specified period. The rules of practice governing withdrawal of grading services in formal adjudicatory proceedings instituted by the Secretary (7 CFR, part 1, subpart H) shall be applicable to such debarment action.

[41 FR 23681, June 11, 1976. Redesignated at 42 FR 32514, June 27, 1977, and amended at 43 FR 60139, Dec. 26, 1978. Redesignated at 46 FR 63203, Dec. 31, 1981]

§ 70.41 Misrepresentation, deceptive, or fraudulent acts or practices.

Any willful misrepresentation or any deceptive or fraudulent act or practice found to be made or committed by any person in connection with:

(a) The making or filing of any application for any grading service, appeal or regrading service;

(b) The making of the product accessible for grading;

(c) The making, issuing, or using, or attempting to issue or use any grading certificate, symbol, stamp, label, seal, or identification, authorized pursuant to the regulations in this part;

(d) The use of the terms "United States" or "U.S." in conjunction with the grade of the product;

(e) The use of any of the aforesaid terms or any official stamp, symbol,

label, seal, or identification in the labeling or advertising of any product.

[41 FR 23681, June 11, 1976; 41 FR 24693, June 18, 1976. Redesignated at 42 FR 32514, June 27, 1977, and at 46 FR 63203, Dec. 31, 1981]

§ 70.42 Use of facsimile forms.

Using or attempting to use a form which simulates in whole or in part any certificate, symbol, stamp, label, seal, or identification authorized to be issued or used under the regulations in this part.

§ 70.43 Willful violation of the regulations.

Any willful violation of the regulations in this part or the Act.

§ 70.44 Interfering with a grader or employee of Service.

Any interference with or obstruction or any attempted interference or obstruction of, or assault upon any grader, licensee, or employee of the Service in the performance of his duties. The giving or offering, directly or indirectly, of any money, loan, gift, or anything of value to an employee of the Service, or the making or offering of any contribution to or in any way supplementing the salary, compensation, or expenses of an employee of the Service, or the offering or entering into a private contract or agreement with an employee of the Service for any services to be rendered while employed by the Service.

§ 70.45 Misleading labeling.

The use of the terms "Government Graded" and "Federal-State Graded" or terms of similar import in the labeling or advertising of any product without stating in the labeling or advertisement the U.S. grade of the product as determined by an authorized grader.

§ 70.46 Miscellaneous.

The existence of any of the conditions set forth in § 70.35 constituting a basis for the rejection of an application for grading service.

IDENTIFYING AND MARKING PRODUCTS

§ 70.50 Approval of official identification and wording on labels.

Any label or packaging material which bears any official grade identification shall be used only in such a manner as the Administrator may prescribe, and such labeling or packaging materials, including the wording used on such materials, shall be approved in accordance with and conform with the provisions of this part 70 and the applicable provisions of §§ 381.115 through 381.141 of 9 CFR part 381. Poultry Products Inspection Regulations. Labeling requirements for ready-to-cook rabbits, except for the product name, shall be the same as for ready-to-cook poultry. For ready-to-cook rabbits the class name shall be shown on the label. The appropriate designation, "young," "mature," or "old," may be used as a prefix to the word "rabbit" in lieu of the class name.

[41 FR 23681, June 11, 1976; 41 FR 24694, June 18, 1976. Redesignated at 42 FR 32514, June 27, 1977, and at 46 FR 63203, Dec. 31, 1981]

§ 70.51 Marking graded products.

(a) *Information required on grademark.* Except as otherwise authorized by the Administrator, each grademark, which is to be used, shall include the letters "USDA" and the U.S. Grade of the product it identifies, such as "U.S. A Grade," and such information shall be printed with the shield in a dark color and the wording within the shield in a light color or the shield in a light color and the wording within the shield in a dark color, provided that such design is legible and conspicuous on the material upon which it is printed. In addition, a term, such as "Federal-State Graded," or "Government Graded," may be used adjacent to but not within the grademark.

(b) *Form of official identification symbol and grademark.* (1) The shield set forth in Figure 1, containing the letters "USDA" shall be the official identification symbol for purposes of this part, and when used, imitated, or simulated in any manner in connection with poultry or rabbits, shall be deemed