

used in dressing diseased carcasses shall be thoroughly cleansed with hot water having a minimum temperature of 180 °F. or in a disinfectant² approved by the Administrator, followed by rinsing in clean water. The employees of the establishment who handle any product shall keep their hands clean, and in all cases after visiting the toilet rooms or urinals shall wash their hands before handling any product or implements used in the preparation of product.

(d) Aprons, frocks, and other outer clothing worn by persons who handle any product shall be of material that is readily cleansed. Clean garments shall be worn at the start of each working day and the garments shall be changed during the day when required by the inspector in charge.

(e) Such practices as spitting on whetstones; spitting on the floor; placing skewers, tags, or knives in the mouth; inflating lungs or casings with air from the mouth; or testing with air from the mouth such receptacles as tierces, kegs, or casks, containing or intended as containers of any product, are prohibited. Only mechanical means may be used for such testing. Care shall be taken to prevent the contamination of product with perspiration, hair, cosmetics, medications, and similar substances.

(f) Equipment or substances which generate gases or odors shall not be used in official establishments except as permitted by the regulations in this part or by the circuit supervisor in specific cases in which he determines that such use will not result in adulteration of any product.

§ 308.9 Protective handling of products.

Products shall be protected from contamination from any source such as dust, dirt, or insects during storage, loading, or unloading at and transportation from official establishments.

²A list of approved disinfectants is available upon request to the Scientific Services, Meat and Poultry Inspection, Food Safety and Inspection Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250.

§ 308.10 Slack barrels and similar containers and means of conveyance used for product; paper in contact with product.

(a) When necessary to avoid contamination of product with wood splinters or similar contaminants, slack barrels and similar containers and the cargo space of trucks, railroad cars, or other means of conveyance shall be lined with suitable material of good quality before packing.

(b) Slack barrels and similar containers and trucks, railroad cars, and other means of conveyance in which any product is transported shall be kept in a clean and sanitary condition.

(c) Paper used for covering or lining slack barrels and similar containers and the cargo space of trucks, railroad cars, or other means of conveyance shall be of a kind which does not tear during use but remains intact when moistened by the product and does not disintegrate.

§ 308.11 Burlap wrapping for meat.

Since burlap used without any other material as a wrapping for meat deposits lint on the meat and does not sufficiently protect it from outside contamination, the use of burlap as a wrapping for meat will not be permitted unless the meat is first wrapped with a good grade of paper or cloth of a kind which will prevent contamination with lint or other foreign matter.

§ 308.12 Second-hand tubs, barrels, and other containers.

Second-hand tubs, barrels, and boxes intended for use as containers of any product shall be inspected when received at the official establishment and before they are cleaned. Those showing evidence of misuse rendering them unfit to serve as containers for food products shall be rejected. The use of those showing no evidence of previous misuse may be allowed after they have been thoroughly and properly cleaned. Steaming, after thorough scrubbing and rinsing, is essential to cleaning tubs and barrels.

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