

**Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA**

**§ 97.900**

opportunity to present views orally or in writing, with regard to the necessity for such action to be taken in the public interest.

(b) Upon the expiration of the period for the presentation of views by the owner, as provided in paragraph (a) of this section, the Secretary shall refer the matter to the Plant Variety Protection Board for advice, including advice on any limitations or rate of remuneration.

(c) Upon receiving the advice of the Plant Variety Protection Board, the Secretary shall advise the owner of the variety, the members of the Plant Variety Protection Board, and the public, by issuance of a press release, of any decision based on the provisions of section 44 of the Act to declare a variety open to use by the public. Any decision not to declare a variety open to use by the public will be transmitted only to the owner of the variety and the members of the Plant Variety Protection Board.

**PUBLICATION**

**§ 97.800 Publication of public variety descriptions.**

Voluntary submissions of varietal descriptions of "public varieties" on forms obtainable from the Office will be accepted for publication in the Official Journal. Such publication shall not constitute recognition that the variety is, in fact, distinct, uniform, and stable.

[58 FR 42435, Aug. 9, 1993, as amended at 60 FR 17190, Apr. 4, 1995]

**§ 97.900 Form of official identification symbol.**

The symbol set forth in Figure 1, containing the words "Plant Variety Protection Office" and "U.S. Department of Agriculture," shall be the official identification symbol of the Plant Variety Protection Office. This information symbol, used by the Plant Variety Protection Office on the seal on certificates of Plant Variety Protection, has been approved by the Office of Communications to be added to the USDA/AMS inventory of symbols. It is approved for use with AMS materials.



Figure 1. Official identification symbol of the Plant Variety Protection Office.

[65 FR 47244, Aug. 2, 2000]

## PART 98—MEALS, READY-TO-EAT (MRE's), MEATS, AND MEAT PRODUCTS

### Subpart A—MRE's, Meats, and Related Meat Food Products

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### Subpart B—USDA Certification of Laboratories for the Testing of Trichinae in Horsemeat

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AUTHORITY: 7 U.S.C. 1622, 1624.

SOURCE: 58 FR 42445, Aug. 9, 1993, unless otherwise noted.

### Subpart A—MRE's, Meats, and Related Meat Food Products

#### § 98.1 General.

Analytical services of meat and meat food products are performed for fat, moisture, salt, protein, and other content specifications.

#### § 98.2 Definitions.

Words used in the regulations in this subpart in the singular form will import the plural, and vice versa, as the case may demand. As used throughout the regulations in this subpart, unless the context requires otherwise, the following terms will be construed to mean:

*Lard (Edible).* The fat rendered from clean and sound edible tissues from swine.

*Meals, Ready-To-Eat (MRE).* Meals, Ready-To-Eat are complete portions of one meal for one military person and are processed and packaged to destroy or retard the growth of spoilage-type microorganisms in order to extend product shelf life for 7 years. Composition analyses for MRE's are covered by the reimbursable agreement in the Memorandums of Understanding (MOU's) between AMS, USDA and the

Defense Personnel Support Center, Department of Defense (DOD). These DOD, Defense Personnel Support Center (DPSC) contracts state certain military specifications for an acceptable one meal serving, retorted pouched or 18-24 serving hermetically-sealed tray packed meat, or meal product regarding satisfactory analyses for fat, salt, protein, moisture content, added stabilizer ingredient, and sometimes microbiological composition. MRE's are for use by the DOD, DPSC as a component of operational food rations, and as an item of general issue by the military.

*Meat.* This includes the edible part of the muscle of any cattle, sheep, swine, or goats, which is skeletal or which is found in the tongue, in the diaphragm, in the heart, or in the esophagus, and which is intended for human food, with or without the accompanying and overlying fat, and the portions of bone, skin, tendon, nerve, and blood vessels which normally accompany the muscle tissue, and which are not separated from it in the process of dressing. It does not include the muscle found in the lips, snout, or ears. This term, as applied to products of equines, shall have a meaning comparable to that provided in this paragraph with respect to cattle, sheep, swine, and goats.

*Meat food product.* Any article capable for use as human food (other than meat, prepared meat, or a meat by-product), which is derived or prepared wholly or in substantial part from meat or other portion of the carcass of any cattle, sheep, swine, or goats. An article exempted from definition as a meat food product by the Administrator, such as an organotherapeutic substance, meat juice, meat extract, and the like, which is used only for medicinal purposes and is advertised solely to the medical profession is not included.

*Ready-to-eat.* The term means consumers are likely to apply little or no additional heat to the fully-cooked and the fully-prepared food product before consumption.

*Specifications.* Descriptions with respect to the class, grade, other quality, quantity or condition of products, approved by the Administrator, and