Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§ 958.328 Handling regulation.

No person shall handle any lot of onions, except braided red onions, unless such onions are at least "moderately cured," as defined in paragraph (b) of this section, and meet the requirements of paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this section, or unless such onions are handled in accordance with paragraphs (d), (e) and (f) or (g) of this section.

(a) Grade and size requirements—(1) White varieties (except cipolline (Borettana) varieties). Shall be either:
   (i) U.S. No. 1, 1 inch minimum to 2 inches maximum diameter; or
   (ii) U.S. No. 1, at least 1 1/2 inches minimum diameter. However, neither of these two categories of onions may be commingled in the same bag or other container.

   (2) Cipolline (Borettana) varieties and red varieties. U.S. No. 2 or better grade, at least 1 1/2 inches minimum diameter.

   (3) All other varieties. Shall be either:
      (i) U.S. No. 2 or U.S. Commercial grade, at least 3 inches minimum diameter, but not more than 30 percent of the lot shall be comprised of onions of U.S. No. 1 quality when packed in containers weighing less than 60 pounds; or
      (ii) U.S. No. 1, 1 1/4 inches minimum to 2 1/2 maximum diameter; or
      (iii) U.S. No. 1, at least 2 1/4 inches minimum diameter.

   However, none of these three categories of onions may be commingled in the same bag or other container.

(b) Pack. Onions packed as U.S. Commercial grade in containers weighing less than 60 pounds shall have the grade marked permanently and conspicuously on the container.

(c) Inspection. No handler may handle any onions regulated hereunder unless such onions are inspected by the Federal-State Inspection Service and are covered by a valid applicable inspection certificate, except when relieved of such requirement pursuant to paragraph (d), (e) or (g) of this section.

(d) Onions for peeling, chopping, or slicing. Onions that have been inspected and certified as meeting the requirements of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section and that are subsequently peeled, chopped, or sliced for fresh market within the production area may be handled without reinspection: Provided the following:

   (1) Each handler making shipments of onions for alteration or performing alteration by peeling, chopping, or slicing must furnish the committee the following information on the "Fresh Cut Report" and such other documents as required:
      (i) Business name, address, telephone number, signature, and the date the form was signed;
      (ii) The date of peeling, chopping, or slicing;
      (iii) Inspection certificate number;
      (iv) The quantity of onions; and
      (v) Such other information as may be required by the committee.

   (2) Handlers who peel, chop, or slice onions produced outside the production area must provide the committee with