

**Subpart C—Standards**

**OFFICIAL COTTON STANDARDS OF THE UNITED STATES FOR LENGTH OF STAPLE**

AUTHORITY: Sections 28.301 to 28.307 issued under Sec. 10, 42 Stat. 1519; 7 U.S.C. 61. Interpret or apply sec. 6, 42 Stat. 1518, as amended, sec. 4854, 68A Stat. 580; 7 U.S.C. 56, 26 U.S.C. 4854.

**§ 28.301 Measurement: humidity; temperature.**

The length of staple of any cotton shall be the normal length by measurement, without regard to quality or value, of a typical portion of its fibers under a relative humidity of the atmosphere of 65 percent and a temperature of 70 °F.

**§ 28.302 Terms of designation.**

The length of staple of any cotton shall be designated by that one of the following terms which expresses its measurement in inches and fractions of an inch in accordance with § 28.301:

“Below  $\frac{13}{16}$ ;  $\frac{7}{8}$ ;  $\frac{29}{32}$ ;  $\frac{15}{16}$ ;  $\frac{31}{32}$ ; 1;  $\frac{1}{32}$ ;  $\frac{1}{16}$ ;  $\frac{13}{32}$ ;  $\frac{1}{8}$ ;  $\frac{15}{32}$ ;  $\frac{3}{16}$ ;  $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  $\frac{19}{32}$ ;  $\frac{5}{16}$ ;  $\frac{11}{32}$ ;  $\frac{3}{8}$ ;  $\frac{13}{32}$ ;  $\frac{17}{16}$ ;  $\frac{15}{32}$ ;  $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  $\frac{11}{7}$ ;  $\frac{19}{16}$ ;  $\frac{119}{32}$ ;  $\frac{5}{8}$ ;  $\frac{121}{32}$ ;  $\frac{11}{16}$ ;  $\frac{123}{32}$ ;  $\frac{3}{4}$ ; and upward in like manner in gradations of thirty-seconds, disregarding any fraction less than a thirty-second.”

**§ 28.303 Standards for length of staple for American upland cotton.**

(a) Effective July 12, 1985, standards for the lengths of staple of American upland cotton shall be measurements as determined by the Suter-Webb Duplex Cotton Fiber Sorter in accordance with the test method prescribed in paragraph (c) of this section. Ranges for each official staple length are shown in the table below. Staple standards exceeding  $\frac{1}{4}$  inches, in gradations of thirty-second inches, will be expressed in increments of .041 inches.

[In inches]

Staple length	Upper quartile length range
$\frac{13}{16}$ .....	.827–.847
$\frac{7}{8}$ .....	.909–.929
$\frac{29}{32}$ .....	.950–.970
$\frac{15}{16}$ .....	.990–1.010
$\frac{31}{32}$ .....	1.031–1.051
1 .....	1.072–1.092
$\frac{1}{32}$ .....	1.113–1.133
$\frac{1}{16}$ .....	1.154–1.174
$\frac{19}{32}$ .....	1.195–1.215

[In inches]

Staple length	Upper quartile length range
$\frac{1}{8}$ .....	1.236–1.256
$\frac{15}{32}$ .....	1.277–1.297
$\frac{13}{16}$ .....	1.318–1.338
$\frac{17}{32}$ .....	1.359–1.379
$\frac{1}{4}$ .....	1.400–1.420

(b) Cotton selected for the preparation of practical forms of staple standards shall, to the extent practicable, measure at the mid-point of the appropriate staple range indicated in paragraph (a) of this section.

(c) Length measurements shall be performed in accordance with the “Standard Test Method for Length and Length Distribution of Cotton Fibers (Array Method), ANSI/ASTM D 1440–77 (1982), which is incorporated by reference pursuant to the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552(a). This standard test method has been adopted by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) and approved as an American National Standard by the American National Standards Institute. It is published in the “Annual Book of ASTM Standards,” Part 33, volume 07.02. Copies of the ASTM book and copies of ASTM standard D 1440–77 as a separate publication may be obtained from ASTM, Customer Service, 1916 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103. A copy of the ASTM standard test method is also on file at the Office of the Federal Register. A notice of any change in the ASTM standard test method cited herein will be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

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**§ 28.304 Original representation of American Pima cotton staple lengths.**

The following lengths of American Pima staple are represented by a quantity of cotton in the custody of the United States Department of Agriculture suitably contained and marked “Original Representation of Official Cotton Standards of the United States” followed in each instance by the name of growth, appropriate designation for staple length, and the effective date.