

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

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Subpart A—Administration

§91.1 General.

This part consolidates the procedural and administrative rules of the Science and Technology of the Agricultural Marketing Service for conducting the analytical testing and laboratory audits with quality assurance reviews. It also contains the fees, charges and laboratories applicable to such services.

[58 FR 42415, Aug. 9, 1993, as amended at 65 FR 64309, Oct. 26, 2000]

§91.2 Definitions.

Words used in the regulations in this part in the singular form will import

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

Agency. The Agricultural Marketing Service agency of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Analyses. Microbiological, chemical, or physical tests performed on a commodity.

Applicant. Any person or organization requesting services provided by the Science and Technology (S&T) programs.

Legal holidays. Those days designated as legal public holidays specified by Congress in paragraph (a) of section 6103, title 5 of the United States Code and any other day declared to be a holiday by Federal Statute or Executive Order. Under section 6103 and Executive Order 10357, as amended, if the specified legal public holiday falls on a Saturday, the preceding Friday shall be considered the holiday, or if the specified legal holiday falls on a Sunday, the following Monday shall be considered to be the holiday.

[58 FR 42415, Aug. 9, 1993, as amended at 65 FR 64309, Oct. 26, 2000]

§91.3 Authority.

The Deputy Administrator is charged with the administration of this subchapter.

[58 FR 42415, Aug. 9, 1993, as amended at 65 FR 64309, Oct. 26, 2000]

Subpart B—General Services

§91.4 Kinds of services.

(a) Analytical tests. Analytical laboratory testing services under the regulations in this subchapter consist of microbiological, chemical, and certain other analyses, requested by the applicant and performed on tobacco, seed, dairy, egg, fruit and vegetable, meat and poultry products, and related processed products. Analyses are performed to determine if products meet Federal specifications or specifications defined in purchase contracts and cooperative agreements. Laboratory analyses are also performed on egg products as part of the mandatory Egg Products Inspection Program under the management

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of USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) as detailed in 9 CFR 590.580.

(b) *Examination and licensure.* The manager of a particular Science and Technology program administers examinations and licenses analysts in laboratories for competency in performing commodity testing services.

(c) *Quality assurance reviews.* The Science and Technology representative performs on-site laboratory quality assurance reviews (both required and voluntary) to ensure that appropriate technical methods, equipment maintenance, and quality control procedures are being observed.

(d) *Consultation.* Technical advice, statistical science consultation, and quality assurance program assistance are provided by the representatives for the Science and Technology programs for domestic and foreign laboratories.

[65 FR 64309, Oct. 26, 2000, as amended at 68 FR 69946, Dec. 16, 2003]

§91.5 Where services are offered.

(a) Services are offered to applicants at the Science and Technology laboratories and facilities as listed below.

(1) *Science and Technology Programs National Science Laboratory.* A variety of proximate for composition, chemical, physical, microbiological and biomolecular (DNA-based) tests and laboratory analyses performed on fruits and vegetables, poultry, dairy and dairy products, juices, fish, vegetative seed and oilseed, honey, meat and meat products, fiber products and processed foods are performed at the Science and Technology Programs (S&T) laboratory located at: USDA, AMS, Science and Technology Programs, National Science Laboratory (NSL), 801 Summit Crossing Place, Suite B, Gastonia, North Carolina 28054–2193.

(2) *Science and Technology (S&T) Programs Science Specialty Laboratories.* The Science specialty laboratories performing aflatoxin and other testing on peanuts, peanut products, dried fruits, grains, edible seeds, tree nuts, shelled corn products, oilseed products, olive oil, vegetable oils, juices, citrus products, and other commodities are located as follows:

(i) USDA, AMS, Science & Technology, Citrus Laboratory, 98 Third

Street, SW., Winter Haven, Florida 33880–2905.

(ii) USDA, AMS, Science & Technology, Science Specialty Laboratory, 6567 Chancey Mill Road, Blakely, Georgia 39823–2785.

(3) *Program laboratories.* Laboratory services are available in all areas covered by cooperative agreements providing for this laboratory work and entered on behalf of the Department with cooperating Federal or State laboratory agencies pursuant to authority contained in Act(s) of Congress. Also, services may be provided in other areas not covered by a cooperative agreement if the Administrator determines that it is possible to provide such laboratory services.

(4) *Other alternative laboratories.* Laboratory analyses may be conducted at alternative Science and Technology Programs laboratories and can be reached from any commodity market in which a laboratory facility is located to the extent laboratory personnel are available.

(5) *The Plant Variety Protection (PVP) Office.* The PVP office and plant examination facility of the Science and Technology programs issues certificates of protection to developers of novel varieties of plants which reproduce sexually. The PVP office is located as follows: USDA, AMS, Science & Technology Programs, Plant Variety Protection Office, National Agricultural Library Building, Room 401, 10301 Baltimore Boulevard, Beltsville, MD 20705–2351.

(6) *Science and Technology Programs headquarters offices.* The examination, licensure, quality assurance reviews, laboratory approval/certification and consultation services are provided by headquarters staff located in Washington, DC. The main headquarters office is located as follow: USDA, AMS, Science and Technology Programs, Office of the Deputy Administrator, Room 1092 South Agriculture Bldg., Mail Stop 0270, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250–0270.

(7) *Statistics Branch Office.* The Statistics Branch office of Science and Technology Programs (S&T) provides statistical services to the Agency and other agencies within the USDA. In addition, the Statistics Branch office