

**§ 996.17**

**7 CFR Ch. IX (1–1–14 Edition)**

**§ 996.17 Quota year.**

*Quota year* means the 12-month period beginning January 1 and ending December 31 of the same year for peanuts produced in Mexico and the 12-month period beginning April 1 and ending March 31 of the following year for Argentina and other countries, or other such periods as may be prescribed by the U.S. Customs Service.

**§ 996.18 Secretary.**

*Secretary* means the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States or any officer, employee, or agent of the United States Department of Agriculture who is, or who may hereafter be authorized to act in the Secretary's stead.

**§ 996.19 Shelled peanuts.**

*Shelled peanuts* means the kernels or portions of kernels of peanuts after the shells are removed.

**§ 996.20 USDA.**

*USDA* means the United States Department of Agriculture, including any officer, employee, service, program, or branch of the Department of Agriculture, or any other person acting as the Secretary's agent or representative in connection with any provisions of this part.

**§ 996.21 USDA laboratory.**

*USDA laboratory* means laboratories of the Science and Technology Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, which chemically analyze peanuts for aflatoxin content.

**§ 996.22 USDA-approved laboratory.**

*USDA-approved laboratory* means laboratories approved by the Science and Technology Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, that chemically analyze peanuts for aflatoxin content.

**QUALITY AND HANDLING STANDARDS**

**§ 996.30 Incoming quality standards.**

(a) All farmers stock peanuts received or acquired by a handler shall be

officially inspected by the Inspection Service, and certified as to segregation, moisture content, and foreign material.

(b) *Moisture.* Domestic and imported peanuts shall be dried to 18 percent or less prior to inspection and to 10.49 percent or less prior to storing or milling: *Provided,* That Virginia-type peanuts used for seed shall be dried to 18 percent or less prior to inspection and to 11.49 percent or less prior to storing or milling.

(c) *Foreign material.* No handler or importer shall receive or acquire farmers stock peanuts for subsequent disposition to human consumption outlets containing more than 10.49 percent foreign material, except that peanuts having a higher foreign material content may be received or acquired if they are held separately until milled, or moved over a *sand-screen* before storage, or shipped directly to a plant for prompt shelling. The term *sand-screen* means any type of farmers stock cleaner which removes sand and dirt.

(d) A handler may receive or acquire any peanuts from other persons for edible and non-edible use: *Provided,* That such peanuts intended for human consumption are inspected and certified pursuant to § 996.31 prior to such disposition. Non-edible uses may include, but are not limited to, seed, oilstock, animal feed, bird seed, or for export.

[67 FR 57140, Sept. 9, 2002, as amended at 68 FR 1157, Jan. 9, 2003; 70 FR 44046, Aug. 1, 2005]

**§ 996.31 Outgoing quality standards.**

(a) *Shelled peanuts:* No handler or importer shall ship or otherwise dispose of shelled peanuts for human consumption unless such peanuts are positive lot identified, chemically analyzed by a USDA laboratory or USDA-approved laboratory and certified "negative" as to aflatoxin, and certified by the Inspection Service as meeting the following quality standards: