

§ 442.4

it must meet all accuracy requirements as specified in NIST Handbook 44. If a USDA inspector has put a "Retain" tag on a scale, the tag can only be removed by a USDA inspector. As long as the tag is on the scale, it shall not be used.

§ 442.4 Testing of scales.

(a) The operator of each official establishment that weighs meat or poultry food products will cause such scales to be tested for accuracy in accordance with the technical requirements of NIST Handbook 44, at least once during the calendar year. In cases where the scales are found not to maintain accuracy between tests, more frequent tests may be required and verified by an authorized USDA program official.

(b) The operator of each official establishment shall display on or near each scale a valid certification of the scale's accuracy from a State or local government's weights and measures authority or from a State registered or licensed scale repair firm or person, or shall have alternative documented procedures showing that the scale has been tested for accuracy in accordance with the requirements of NIST Handbook 44.

§ 442.5 Handling of failed product.

Any lot of product that is found to be out of compliance with net weight requirements upon testing in accordance with the methods prescribed in § 442.2 of this subchapter shall be handled as follows:

(a) A lot tested in an official establishment and found not to comply with net weight requirements may be reprocessed and must be reweighed and remarked to satisfy the net weight requirements of this section in accordance with the requirements of this part.

(b) A lot tested outside an official establishment and found not to comply with net weight requirements must be reweighed and remarked with a proper net weight statement, provided that such reweighing and remarking will not deface, cover, or destroy any other marking or labeling required under this subchapter, and the net quantity of contents is shown with the same

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prominence as the most conspicuous feature of a label.

PART 500—RULES OF PRACTICE

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AUTHORITY: 21 U.S.C. 451-470, 601-695; 7 U.S.C. 450, 1901-1906; 7 CFR 2.18, 2.53.

SOURCE: 64 FR 66546, Nov. 29, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

§ 500.1 Definitions.

(a) A "regulatory control action" is the retention of product, rejection of equipment or facilities, slowing or stopping of lines, or refusal to allow the processing of specifically identified product.

(b) A "withholding action" is the refusal to allow the marks of inspection to be applied to products. A withholding action may affect all product in the establishment or product produced by a particular process.

(c) A "suspension" is an interruption in the assignment of program employees to all or part of an establishment.

§ 500.2 Regulatory control action.

(a) FSIS may take a regulatory control action because of:

(1) Insanitary conditions or practices;

(2) Product adulteration or misbranding;

(3) Conditions that preclude FSIS from determining that product is not adulterated or misbranded; or

(4) Inhumane handling or slaughtering of livestock.

(b) If a regulatory control action is taken, the program employee will immediately notify the establishment orally or in writing of the action and the basis for the action.

(c) An establishment may appeal a regulatory control action, as provided in §§ 306.5 and 381.35 of this chapter.