

26 October 2017

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Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

NOTIFICATION

Addendum

The following communication, dated 26 October 2017, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of the <u>United States of America</u>.

TITLE: Minimum Quality and Handling Standards for Domestic and Imported Peanuts Marketed in the United States; Change to the Quality and Handling Requirements

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

ACTION: Final rule

SUMMARY: This rule implements a recommendation from the Peanut Standards Board (Board) to revise the minimum quality and handling standards for domestic and imported peanuts marketed in the United States (Standards). The Board advises the Secretary of Agriculture regarding potential changes to the Standards and is comprised of producers and industry representatives. This action relaxes the allowance for damaged kernels in farmers stock peanuts when determining segregation. This change increases the allowance for damaged kernels under Segregation 1 from not more than 2.49 percent to not more than 3.49 percent. The requirements for Segregation 2 are also adjusted to reflect this change. The Board recommended this change to align the incoming standards with recent changes to the outgoing quality standards and to help increase returns to producers.

Effective 1 February 2018.

RELEVANT DOCUMENTS: Minimum Quality and Handling Standards for Domestic and Imported Peanuts Marketed in the United States; Change to the Quality and Handling Requirements, Proposed Rule issued 25 May 2017:

https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-05-25/html/2017-10680.htm

https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-05-25/pdf/2017-10680.pdf

https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2017/TBT/USA/17 4791 00 e.pdf