

GIPSA Revises U.S. Standards for Milled Rice

WASHINGTON, DC (September 30, 2002) -- The USDA Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration is revising the United States Standards for Milled Rice to establish a new level of milling degree, "hard milled", to the existing milling requirements, and to eliminate reference to "lightly milled" from the standard's milling requirements.

According to GIPSA administrator Donna Reifschneider, these changes will facilitate the marketing of rice by better aligning the standards with current processing and marketing practices.

GIPSA published a direct final rule on this action in today's Federal Register. The changes to the standards will become effective December 1, 2002, without further action, unless adverse comment is received by October 31, 2002. If adverse comment is received, GIPSA will publish a timely withdrawal of the rule in the Federal Register.

Written comments must be submitted to Tess Butler, USDA, GIPSA, Room 1647-S, STOP 3604, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20250-3604; FAX (202) 690-2755; or e-mailed to comments.gipsa@usda.gov.

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