

## **GIPSA Adopts Final Rule Amending Sorghum Standards**

WASHINGTON, July 20, 2007 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) today announced revisions to the United States Standards for Sorghum to better describe the types of grain sorghum produced by American farmers and to reduce the allowable levels of broken sorghum kernels and foreign material in the various quality grades of sorghum. The revisions to the standards become effective on June 1, 2008.

Grain sorghum is the third most important cereal crop grown in the United States. Nearly 50 percent of the grain sorghum produced by American farmers is exported around the world for use as food and animal feed. In many parts of the world sorghum is used in food products and various food items; porridge, unleavened bread, cookies, cakes, couscous, and malted beverages are made from this versatile grain. Domestically, sorghum is used primarily as animal feed with a lesser amount moving into food marketing channels and, more recently, into ethanol production.

According to GIPSA administrator James E. Link, the changes being announced will promote the marketing of higher quality sorghum and facilitate both domestic and international grain sorghum trade.

The final rule amending the U.S. Standards for Sorghum was published in today's *Federal Register*.

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