

GIPSA Seeks Comments on U.S. Standards for Whole Dry Peas and Split Peas

Washington, April 20 - The USDA Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration is seeking comments on a notice proposing to revise the U.S. Standards for Whole Dry Peas and Split Peas that published in today's Federal Register.

Specifically, GIPSA is proposing to amend the general definitions "Whole Dry Peas" and "Split Peas," and the following specific definitions: "Smooth Green Dry Peas," "Smooth Yellow Dry Peas," "Wrinkled Dry Peas," "Green Split Peas," and "Yellow Split Peas." In addition, GIPSA is proposing to modify the classification terms and associated definitions for "Winter Dry Peas" and "Winter Split Peas."

"GIPSA standards serve as the fundamental starting point to define commodity quality in the domestic and global marketplaces," said GIPSA acting administrator Alan Christian. "The proposed changes will help facilitate the marketing of new winter pea variety releases and help ensure the purity of class for Whole Dry Peas and Split Peas."

Comments on GIPSA's notice must be submitted to Tess Butler, GIPSA, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 1643-S, Washington, DC 20250-3604; via email to comments.gipsa@usda.gov; by fax (202) 690-2173; or via Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> by May 20, 2009.

For further information, contact Beverly Whalen at USDA, GIPSA, at (816) 823-4648 or via email to Beverly.A.Whalen@usda.gov.

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GIPSA Release #24-09
Dana Stewart, 202-720-5091