



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Grain Inspection,
Packers and Stockyards
Administration

Stop 3630
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20250-3630

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Reference # 246

TO: FGIS POLICY BULLETIN BOARD

FROM: Robert Lijewski, Director
Field Management Division

for Pat McCluskey

SUBJECT: Providing Fumigation Information on FGIS 921-2

ORIGINATING OFFICE: Policies, Procedures, and Market Analysis Branch

1. PURPOSE

This memorandum establishes the policy for determining when to provide fumigation information on form FGIS 921-2.

2. BACKGROUND

In 1981, because of the similarities in phytosanitary inspection responsibilities, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA), Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS), and Animal and Plant Health (APHIS), Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ), established a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Under this MOU, FGIS assisted interested parties in obtaining phytosanitary inspection services on grain and processed grain products at export locations in the United States and Canada by performing phytosanitary inspections for APHIS/PPQ on samples drawn by FGIS inspection personnel. APHIS/PPQ issues a phytosanitary certificate based on FGIS inspection results as recorded on form FGIS 921-2, "Inspection Report – Insects in Grain."

In 2005, APHIS and GIPSA agreed to expand the scope of this MOU to include export grain shipped by land carriers (e.g., containers, trucks, railcars) from interior locations, and in July 2007, the MOU was further expanded to include inspection of processed grain products administratively assigned to GIPSA.

3. POLICY

Upon request of APHIS/PPQ, FGIS shall witness the fumigation of grain infested with insects that are prohibited by the country of destination, re-inspect grain for infestation after fumigation, and shall witness fumigation even if grain is not considered "infested" under U.S. Grain Standards Act (USGSA) or Agriculture Marketing Act (AMA).

Official FGIS fumigation procedures apply when fumigation is required to remove the “infested” designation and also when a request is made for fumigation according to FGIS procedures. Following official fumigation procedures guarantees the efficacy for ships, lash barges, and land carriers but not for river barges. Official personnel are required to probe the river barge after fumigation and check for the presence of live insects. Also, when some land carriers are fumigated according to official procedures, official personnel may not be able to be present to witness the fumigation.

To alleviate uncertainty as to when the fumigation information should be put on the FGIS 921-2, the following policy is established:

4. COMPLETING FORM FGIS 921-2

The following policy applies to vessels, lash barges, land carriers, and river barges.

- a. In-Transit Fumigation – if the fumigation is performed according to official procedures the fumigation information will be placed on the FGIS 921-2.
- b. Stationary Fumigation – if official personnel are present to witness the fumigation the fumigation information will be placed on the FGIS 921-2.
- c. If official personnel are present to witness the fumigation, even if not done according to official procedures, the fumigation information will be placed on FGIS 921-2.
- d. If official personnel are not present to witness the fumigation, the fumigation information should only be put on the FGIS 921-2 if official fumigation procedures are followed, i.e. the fumigator provides the required documentation.

Note: The “Treatment” box should always be left blank per FGIS 921-2 instructions.

5. FILING INSTRUCTIONS

File a copy of this memo with the Fumigation Handbook until the handbook is revised to include this change. Field office managers must ensure that a copy of this memorandum is provided to official agencies operating within their circuit.

6. QUESTIONS

Direct any questions regarding this policy to Robert Dorman, Policies, Procedures, and Market Analysis Branch, at (816) 659-8411 or email at Robert.J.Dorman@usda.gov.