

DEPARTMENTAL REGULATION		NUMBER: 1042-49
SUBJECT: Renewal of the National Advisory Committee for Tobacco Inspection Services	DATE September 27, 2002	
	OPI: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)	

1 PURPOSE

- a Section 511d of Title 7 of the United States Code requires the renewal of a National Advisory Committee for tobacco producers and advisory subcommittees for each major kind of tobacco. This regulation renews the National Advisory Committee for Tobacco Inspection Services to provide advice to the Secretary of Agriculture by reviewing the financial status of the tobacco inspection program and presenting its recommendations to the Secretary on the user fee rates needed to maintain the desired level of services. If the Committee did not exist, the regulatory process to change user fee rates and the level of services would be a much longer and more expensive process.**
- b The renewal of the National Advisory Committee for Tobacco Inspection Services is in the public interest in connection with the duties and responsibilities imposed upon the Secretary by 7 U.S.C. 511d. The Committee and its subcommittees shall be of permanent duration.**

2 SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/CANCELLATION

- a This regulation shall terminate 2 years from date of filing.**
- b Departmental Regulation 1042-49, dated May 23, 2000, is superseded by this regulation.**

3 OFFICERS AND MEMBERSHIP

- a The Committee, to be appointed by the Secretary, will consist of 14 members, each of whom shall have an alternate. Members will be selected from and represent producer interests.**

- b Equal opportunity practices, in line with the USDA policies, will be followed in all membership appointments to the Committee. To ensure that the recommendations of the Committee have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, membership shall include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.**
- c The Committee shall elect from among its members a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and a Secretary. In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson will act in his/her stead.**
- d The officers shall be elected by majority vote of those members present to serve for 2 years or until their successors are elected.**
- e The Committee Chairperson shall appoint committee members to serve on subcommittees according to the respective type of tobacco each member represents. These subcommittees shall be responsible to the Chairperson and perform such duties as assigned to them by the Chairperson.**

4 DUTIES

The duties of the Committee are solely advisory. The Committee will make recommendations to the Secretary with regard to the desired level of services, user fee rates, collection of such fees for tobacco inspection services at designated markets, and such other matters as it may deem advisable or which the Secretary, Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, AMS Administrator, or AMS Tobacco Programs' Deputy Administrator may request.

5 ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS

- a Annual operating costs are estimated at \$69,000.**

- b The estimated expenses represent all public and private funds to be spent by or on behalf of the Committee.**
- c All funds utilized in support of the Committee are derived from user fees.**

6 NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

The Committee will meet at the call of the Secretary of Agriculture in a central location at least once each year as needed in preparation for and throughout the marketing season. All meetings shall be open to the public.

7 REPORTING/SUPPORT

- a The Committee reports to the Secretary of Agriculture through the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs.**
- b Support to the Committee will be provided by AMS, Tobacco Programs. Federal staff support is estimated at 0.5 staff years.**

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