United States Department of Agriculture Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration Federal Grain Inspection Service

Directive

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1/20/98

COMPOSITE SAMPLE ANALYSIS FOR COMBINED LAND CARRIER INSPECTIONS

1. PURPOSE

This directive establishes procedures for composite sample analysis when combined lot inspection of export or domestic land carriers is requested. This directive applies to bulk shipments of grains and pulses (beans, peas, and lentils).

2. REPLACEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

This directive replaces FGIS Policy Bulletin Board Announcement #164, "Combined Land Carrier Inspections - Composite Sample Analysis," and FGIS Program Bulletin 95.7, "Combined Export Land Carrier Inspections."

3. BACKGROUND

Composite sample analysis for railcars (maximum five cars per sample) was permitted for aflatoxin determinations in 1990. In response to market demands for grain exports to Mexico, FGIS Program Bulletin 95.7, dated 5/17/95, provided for the combining of five export railcars maximum, or fifteen export trucklots maximum, into one composite sample for single certification of all requested quality information. In response to additional interior market needs, the provisions of Program Bulletin 95.7 were expanded to domestic shipments via FGIS Policy Bulletin Board Announcement #164 in September 1997.

4. POLICY

Upon request by the applicant for service, official personnel may combine samples from a maximum of five railcars or fifteen trucks/containers into one sample for analysis.

Certificate the results for each group on a single certificate that includes the identity of each carrier represented by the composite sample.

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Unlike the CuSum plan, it is not necessary to sample the carriers comprising the requested composite sample in the order they were loaded.

Each carrier is considered a unit when recording inspection volumes or applying unit fees for billing purposes.

/s/ Richard Pforr

David Orr, Deputy Director Field Management Division