

Program Notice

FGIS PN-02-06

06/28/02

HARD WHITE WHEAT CLASSIFICATION

1. PURPOSE

This program notice transmits the policy for classifying Hard White wheat based on color requirements.

2. REPLACEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

This notice replaces Program Notice FGIS-PN-01-06, Hard White Wheat Classification for 2001 Crop Year, dated 6-30-01.

3. BACKGROUND

Hard White wheat produced during the 2001 crop year was darker in color than normally expected. The wheat exhibited the typical milling and baking traits and characteristics of Hard White wheat except for seed coat color, which was affected by the growing environment.

Hard White wheat buyers accepted the darker-colored Hard White wheat varieties and segregated it from Hard Red Winter wheat. Consequently, the Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS), a program of the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA), decided to amend the official wheat classification policy to conform to existing marketing practices, which facilitated trade. GIPSA communicated this to stakeholders by publishing PN-01-06 in crop year 2001. Subsequently, GIPSA has decided to continue this classification policy for the coming year.

4. CLASSIFICATION POLICY

Effective June 30, 2002, FGIS will continue the following classification procedures for Hard White wheat:

- a. All Hard White wheat varieties are considered Hard White wheat regardless of color. Purity of class is determined by visual analysis of individual kernels. The sodium hydroxide test, PN-01-07, may be used for validation purposes.

- b. Upon request, a certification statement will indicate if the Hard White wheat sample is darker than the interpretive color line print developed for Hard White wheat.

FGIS will continue to consider only light-colored Hard White wheat kernels as contrasting classes and wheat of other classes in Hard Red Winter or Hard Red Spring samples.

/s/ David Orr

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