

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/TBT/Notif.98.487

9 October 1998

(98-3906)

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6.

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>UNITED STATES</u> If applicable, name of local government involved (Articles 3.2 and 7.2):
2.	Agency responsible: Department of Agriculture (25) Agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:
3.	Notified under Article 2.9.2 [X], 2.10.1 [], 5.6.2 [], 5.7.1 [], other:
4.	Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): Peanuts (HS Chapter 1202)
5.	Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document: Revised Quality and Handling Requirements and Entry Procedures for Imported Peanuts for 1999 and Subsequent Import Periods (20 pages, English)
6.	Description of content: This proposed rule invites comments on several revisions to the peanut import regulation effective with the 1999 and subsequent peanut import quota periods. The proposed changes would: relax certain quality requirements; modify entry procedures; revise handling requirements; reduce the reporting burden; and establish a new reporting period for peanuts imported in the United States. Changes to the quality and handling requirements are proposed to make the import requirements consistent, as required by law, with regulations covering domestically-produced peanuts under Marketing Agreement No. 146. Changes to import procedures and reporting requirements are proposed by the Agricultural Marketing Service to improve efficiency of the importation process, ease the reporting burden, and provide importers with more time to meet peanut import regulation requirements. This proposal continues safeguard measures which prevent non-edible imported peanuts from being used in human consumption outlets in the United States.
7.	Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable: To ensure that all peanuts in the domestics marketplace comply with the same quality standards.
8.	Relevant documents: 63 FR 46181, 31 August 1998; 7 CFR Part 999. Will appear in the Federal Register when adopted.
9.	Proposed date of adoption: To be determined Proposed date of entry into force:

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| 10. | Final date for comments: 30 September 1998 for comments regarding all aspects of the rule.
30 October 1998 for comments regarding the reporting and recordkeeping requirements. |
| 11. | Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address, e-mail and telefax number of the other body: The text is also available on the Internet at:
http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html |