



United States Department of Agriculture

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Packers and Stockyards  
Administration

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TO: FGIS POLICY BULLETIN BOARD

FROM: Anthony Goodeman, Deputy Director  
Field Management Division

SUBJECT: Picking up Submitted Samples

ORIGINATING OFFICE: Policies, Procedures, and Market Analysis Branch

### 1. PURPOSE

This policy memorandum communicates FGIS policy regarding official agencies (OAs) picking up submitted samples from applicants outside of their assigned geographic areas.

### 2. BACKGROUND

Field Management Division (FMD) has received inquiries from OAs as to whether OA personnel may travel outside their assigned territory to collect submitted samples from applicants. Additionally, OAs questioned whether they should charge for travel in order to provide such a service.

The regulations under the U.S. Grain Standards Act (USGSA) allow for requests for submitted sample inspections to be made with any OA or FGIS field office, not just the OA or field office assigned to the applicant's geographical area (7 CFR 800.116(b)). Further, 7 CFR 800.70(d) requires that OA fees be nondiscriminatory.

### 3. POLICY

Geographical restrictions do not apply to submitted sample inspection, therefore FGIS will allow OAs to travel outside of their agency boundaries in order to pick up submitted samples. Fees must be nondiscriminatory and OAs must charge applicants for such service in accordance with their existing fee schedules.

When submitting FGIS-922 “Inspection and Weighing Report,” OAs must report the number of submitted samples they collected from outside their assigned geographic territory.

OAs may not perform any inspection of submitted samples at facilities located outside their geographic boundary unless they have been granted an exception under 7 CFR 800.117.

#### **4. QUESTIONS**

Direct any questions concerning this policy to [AMS - FGIS Policies Procedures Market Analysis Branch.](#)