

Agricultural Marketing Service, Specialty Crops Program, Specialty Crops Inspection Division

## PATCH # 069

**DOCUMENT:** Walnuts (Juglans regia) in the Shell and Shelled Inspection Instructions, December 1974

**REMARKS:** Moratorium on Mandatory Inspections Required by the Walnut Marketing Order

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has announced a six-month moratorium on the enforcement of mandatory inspection requirements under the Federal marketing order for California walnuts that will begin Sept. 1, 2021. This moratorium also includes inspection requirements on walnuts imported into the United States under Section 8e of the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937.

The moratorium will remain in place for six months. If the California Walnut Board (CWB) submits a proposal for a formal rulemaking to address the inspection requirements in the marketing order, USDA will extend the moratorium until resolution of the rulemaking process.

A copy of this notification may be found on the AMS web site at the following link: <u>https://www.ams.usda.gov/content/usda-announces-moratorium-mandatory-inspections-</u> <u>required-walnut-marketing-order</u>. This announcement is also available on the Walnut commodity pages under the Detailed standards, Inspection Instructions & Other Resources section at the following links:

- Shelled Walnuts <u>https://www.ams.usda.gov/grades-standards/shelled-walnuts-grades-and-standards</u>
- Walnuts in the Shell <u>https://www.ams.usda.gov/grades-standards/walnuts-shell-grades-and-standards</u>

This PATCH represents official guidance. This PATCH is scheduled to be incorporated into the document listed above. After incorporation into the document listed above this PATCH will become obsolete. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.