



United States Department of Agriculture

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

PATCH # 045

DOCUMENT: Pistachios in the Shell Shipping Point and Market Inspection Instructions, February 2005

REMARKS: The following paragraph replaces paragraph (d) on page 22 of the inspection instruction and includes instructions on mixing of product before submitting it to a USDA approved lab.

- (d) **Test samples for aflatoxin.** After the sampling is completed, an inspector or under the supervision of an inspector, or as approved under an alternative USDA-recognized inspection program shall take the total of the required incremental samples collected from the lot and thoroughly mix them in a single container to achieve a single composite sample. Prior to submission of samples to a USDA accredited laboratory for aflatoxin analysis, one sample (“test sample”) shall be created from the pistachios designated for aflatoxin testing in compliance with Tables 1 and 2 for inshell and kernel pistachio lots that weigh up to and including 4,400 pounds. For lot sizes larger than 4,400 pounds, two samples (“test samples”) shall be created equally from the composite sample designated for aflatoxin testing in compliance with the requirements of Tables 1 and 2. Each sample is placed in a suitable container, with the lot number clearly identified. Each test sample has a SC-187, Notice of Sampling inserted in the film bag with the product and the cartons are sealed. The sample is then ready to be submitted to a USDA accredited laboratory.

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.
