



FEDERAL ACTIONS



Department of Health, Education, and Welfare

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

HEARING ON PACIFIC OYSTER STANDARDS: A hearing to amend definitions and standards of identity for raw Pacific oysters was held on October 21, 1953, in Washington, D. C., and was announced in the September 18 Federal Register. The hearing was called by the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, and held for the purpose of receiving evidence on proposals of the Pacific Coast Oyster Growers Association to amend the standards of identity for Pacific oysters. Evidence was restricted to testimony and exhibits relevant and material to the proposals.

The proposals would amend Sections 36.17 to 36.20, inclusive, of the regulations, which fixed and established definitions and standards of identity for raw Pacific oysters. As amended the section would provide that:

1. Large Pacific oysters, large raw Pacific oysters, large shucked Pacific oysters, are of the species Ostrea gigas and conform to the definitions and standards of identity prescribed for oysters by Sections 36.10 and are of such size that 1 gallon contains not more than 64 oysters, and the largest oyster in the container is not more than twice the weight of the smallest oyster therein.

2. Medium Pacific oysters... and are of such size that 1 gallon contains more than 64 oysters and not more than 96 oysters, and the largest oyster in the container is not more than twice the weight of the smallest oyster therein.

3. Small Pacific oysters... and are of such size that 1 gallon contains more than 96 oysters and not more than 144 oysters, and the largest oyster in the container is not more than twice the weight of the smallest oyster therein.

4. Extra small Pacific oysters... and are of such size that 1 gallon contains more than 144 oysters, and the largest oyster in the container is not more than twice the weight of the smallest oyster therein.

The proposed amendments for consideration at the hearing are subject to adoption, rejection, or modification by the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, in whole or in part, as the evidence adduced at the hearing may require.

