

SEC. 7-309. GRADING.

(A) SECRETARY MAY ESTABLISH GRADING.

THE SECRETARY MAY FIX AND ESTABLISH GRADES FOR [[MARYLAND GROWN]] LEAF TOBACCO. THE GRADES SHALL FOLLOW THE GRADES ESTABLISHED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE.

(B) SECRETARY MAY GRADE ALL [[MARYLAND]] LEAF TOBACCO.

THE SECRETARY MAY GRADE ALL [[MARYLAND-GROWN]] LEAF TOBACCO SOLD OR OFFERED FOR SALE IN THE WAREHOUSE, WHETHER OR NOT THE TOBACCO IS STORED IN THE WAREHOUSE OR IN PRIVATE WAREHOUSES. FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE SECRETARY MAY ENTER PRIVATE WAREHOUSES WHERE TOBACCO IS STORED DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS.

(C) GRADING AS SOON AS HOGSHEAD UNCASSED.

THE TOBACCO SHALL BE GRADED AS SOON AS THE HOGSHEAD IS UNCASSED AND THE SAMPLE TAKEN.

(D) TOBACCO NOT SUBJECT TO GRADING.

THE TOBACCO OF ANY GROWER OR SHIPPER MAY NOT BE GRADED IF THE GROWER, SHIPPER, OR THEIR AGENTS SUBMITS A WRITTEN STATEMENT THAT HE DOES NOT WISH HIS TOBACCO TO BE GRADED WHEN THE TOBACCO IS PLACED IN THE WAREHOUSE OR SHIPPED TO THE SELLING AGENCY.

REVISOR'S NOTE: Subsections (a) and (b) are new language derived from Art. 48, §11(c) of the Code. Although the United States Department of Agriculture performs all grading in the State, this provision is retained because the Department would like the authority to grade, if necessary. Subsections (a) and (b) are revised by amendment to permit the Secretary to grade all leaf tobacco rather than merely Maryland grown tobacco.

Subsection (c) is new language derived from Art. 48, §20(b) of the Code.

Subsection (d) is new language derived from Art. 48, §11(d) of the Code.

SEC. 7-310. SECRETARY TO TAKE CHARGE OF DELIVERED TOBACCO; NUMBERED HOGSHEADS; RECORD NUMBER AND OTHER