

Sec.	
473a.	Cotton classification services.
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#### § 471. Statistics and estimates of grades and staple length of cotton; collection and publication

The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized and directed to collect and publish annually, on dates to be announced by him, statistics or estimates concerning the grades and staple length of stocks of cotton, known as the carry-over, on hand on the 1st of August of each year in warehouses and other establishments of every character in the continental United States; and following such publication each year, to publish, at intervals in his discretion, his estimate of the grades and staple length of cotton of the then current crop: *Provided*, That not less than three such estimates shall be published with respect to each crop. In any such statistics or estimates published, the cotton which on the date for which such statistics are published may be recognized as tenderable on contracts of sale of cotton for future delivery under the United States Cotton Futures Act, shall be stated separately from that which may be untenderable under said Act.

(Mar. 3, 1927, ch. 337, §1, 44 Stat. 1372.)

##### REFERENCES IN TEXT

The United States Cotton Futures Act, referred to in text, is part A of act Aug. 11, 1916, ch. 313, 39 Stat. 476, which was repealed by section 4 of act Feb. 10, 1939, ch. 2, 53 Stat. 1. For complete classification of this Act to the Code prior to its repeal, see Tables.

##### SHORT TITLE OF 1987 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 100-108, §1, Aug. 20, 1987, 101 Stat. 728, provided: "That this Act [amending section 473a of this title and enacting provisions set out as notes under section 473a of this title] may be cited as the 'Uniform Cotton Classing Fees Act of 1987'."

##### SHORT TITLE

Act Mar. 3, 1927, which enacted sections 471 to 474 and amended sections 475 and 476 of this title, is popularly known as the "Cotton Statistics and Estimates Act".

#### § 472. Information furnished of confidential character; penalty for divulging information

The information furnished by any individual establishment under the provisions of this chapter shall be considered as strictly confidential and shall be used only for the statistical purpose for which it is supplied. Any employee of the Department of Agriculture who, without the written authority of the Secretary of Agriculture, shall publish or communicate any information given into his possession by reason of his em-

ployment under the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined not less than \$300 or more than \$1,000, or imprisoned for a period of not exceeding one year, or both so fined and imprisoned, at the discretion of the court.

(Mar. 3, 1927, ch. 337, §2, 44 Stat. 1373.)

#### § 473. Persons required to furnish information; request; failure to furnish; false information

It shall be the duty of every owner, president, treasurer, secretary, director, or other officer or agent of any cotton warehouse, cotton ginnery, cotton mill, or other place or establishment where cotton is stored, whether conducted as a corporation, firm, limited partnership, or individual, and of any owner or holder of any cotton and of the agents and representatives of any such owner or holder, when requested by the Secretary of Agriculture or by any special agent or other employee of the Department of Agriculture acting under the instructions of said Secretary to furnish completely and correctly, to the best of his knowledge, all of the information concerning the grades and staple length of cotton on hand, and when requested to permit such agent or employee of the Department of Agriculture to examine and classify samples of all such cotton on hand. The request of the Secretary of Agriculture for such information may be made in writing or by a visiting representative, and if made in writing shall be forwarded by registered mail, or by certified mail and the registry receipt or receipt for certified mail of the United States Postal Service shall be accepted as evidence of such demand. Any owner, president, treasurer, secretary, director, or other officer or agent of any cotton warehouse, cotton ginnery, cotton mill, or other place or establishment where cotton is stored, or any owner or holder of any cotton or the agent or representative of any such owner or holder, who, under the conditions hereinbefore stated, shall refuse or willfully neglect to furnish any information herein provided for or shall willfully give answers that are false or shall refuse to allow agents or employees of the Department of Agriculture to examine or classify any cotton in store in any such establishment, or in the hands of any owner or holder or of the agent or representative of any such owner or holder, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not less than \$300 or more than \$1,000.

(Mar. 3, 1927, ch. 337, §3, 44 Stat. 1373; Pub. L. 86-507, §1(3), June 11, 1960, 74 Stat. 200; Pub. L. 91-375, §§4(a), 6(o), Aug. 12, 1970, 84 Stat. 773, 783.)

##### AMENDMENTS

1960—Pub. L. 86-507 inserted "or by certified mail" after "registered mail", and "or receipt for certified mail" after "registry receipt."

##### CHANGE OF NAME

"United States Postal Service" substituted in text for "Post Office Department" pursuant to Pub. L. 91-375, §§4(a), 6(o), Aug. 12, 1970, 84 Stat. 773, 783, which are set out as notes preceding section 101 of Title 39, Postal Service, and under section 201 of Title 39, respectively, which abolished Post Office Department, transferred its functions to United States Postal Service,