

The U.S. Department of Commerce does such testing, in conjunction with industry, for the purpose of establishing commodity standards. These commodity standards have been established in 450 different industries. They are done at the request of the industry in question. An example is the commodity standard for the clinical thermometer industry.

Both GSA and USDC publish the standards established, but not the results of the tests done in the process of setting the standard.

In the case of GSA, standards are sometimes set so that the only product which meets them is the one which tests highest. In such a case, the standard itself constitutes an implied endorsement of a particular product.

3. Coded results of comparative tests. In a few cases where QPL testing cannot be done entirely in the laboratory, GSA codes the results of tests in such a way as to disguise brand names so that the impartiality of field testers will not be influenced. An example is floor waxes.

4. Testing to determine which brands of a particular product conform to established minimum standards. Example:

(a) Lamps, tested by NBS.

#### PUBLISHED TEST RESULTS

##### A. In popular publications

1. Comparative tests in which brands are indicated by code number, but described in such a way as to be easily identifiable by an informed reader. Examples:

(a) Numerous NBS bulletins on the acoustical and fire resistance properties of building materials.

(b) USDA tests on various shapes of plow blades.

2. Comparative tests of particular brands of products, done at the request of industry, the expenses of testing being paid by industry. Example:

(a) Various tests on building materials done by NBS.

3. Comparative tests of the properties of a particular product, where the different brands tested are identified by brand and manufacturer. Example:

(a) Tests on various properties of safety eyeglasses, done by NBS.

4. Test of a single brand, not done at the industry's request, the results of which give an implied endorsement to the product tested. Examples:

(a) Teflon, tested as a coating on plow blades by USDA.

(b) Sevin, tested as an apple thinner by USDA.

5. Testing solely for consumer purposes, where the test results are not made public. Example:

(a) The Consumer Research Division of USDA tests consumer products, e.g., washing machines, detergents, and home freezers. Informative booklets on what to look for when buying are published, but test results are not given in any form. However, implied endorsements are sometimes made.

##### B. In trade and technical publications

1. Testing solely for consumer purposes. Results of USDA's consumer tests (described in (a)5, above) are sometimes made available in trade publications with the results coded. Particular brands are easily identified by informed readers.

2. Tests of a particular brand, not done at the request of industry. Actual endorsement given. Example:

(a) Nicarbazin (Merck), prevents coccidiosis in chickens.

3. Comparative tests of branded products, not done at industry's request. Examples:

(a) Six anticoccidial compounds, tested by USDA.

(b) Preventatives of *Eimeria tennella* in chickens, tested by USDA.

(c) Anthelmintics for swine, tested by USDA.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. Thank you very much.

Do you think that the Federal Government or any individual agencies have made any effort to disseminate the information they have currently in their files or in their possession?

Mr. KAPLAN. Yes. I tried to indicate that some of the agencies do this. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has a history of working in this area. It started originally with an effort to make this information available to farmers, but clearly there are some kind of goods that farmers use that are used equally by nonfarming people, so this