

1513-0057

Title 26 U.S.C.

Sec. 5351. - Bonded wine cellar

Any person establishing premises for the production, blending, cellar treatment, storage, bottling, packaging, or repackaging of untaxpaid wine (other than wine produced exempt from tax under section 5042), including the use of wine spirits in wine production, shall, before commencing operations, make application to the Secretary and file bond and receive permission to operate. Such premises shall be known as "bonded wine cellars"; except that any such premises engaging in production operations may, in the discretion of the Secretary, be designated as a "bonded winery"

Sec. 5352. - Taxpaid wine bottling house

Any person bottling, packaging, or repackaging taxpaid wines shall, before commencing such operations, make application to the Secretary and receive permission to operate. Such premises shall be known as "tax-paid wine bottling houses.'

Sec. 5353. - Bonded wine warehouse

Any responsible warehouse company or other responsible person may, upon filing application with the Secretary and consent of the proprietor and the surety on the bond of any bonded wine cellar, under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, establish on such premises facilities for the storage of wines and allied products for credit purposes, to be known as a "bonded wine warehouse". The proprietor of the bonded wine cellar shall remain responsible in all respects for operations in the warehouse and the tax on the wine or wine spirit stored therein

Sec. 5354. - Bond

The bond for a bonded wine cellar shall be in such form, on such conditions, and with such adequate surety, as regulations issued by the Secretary shall prescribe, and shall be in a penal sum not less than the tax on any wine or distilled spirits possessed or in transit at any one time (taking into account the appropriate amount of credit with respect to such wine under section 5041(c)), but not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$50,000; except that where the tax on such wine and on such distilled spirits exceeds \$250,000, the penal sum of the bond shall be not more than \$100,000. Where additional liability arises as a result of deferral of payment of tax payable on any return, the Secretary may require the proprietor to file a supplemental bond in such amount as may be necessary to protect the revenue. The liability of any person on any such bond shall apply whether the transaction or operation on which the liability of the proprietor is based occurred on or off the proprietor's premises

Sec. 5355. - General provisions relating to bonds

The provisions of section 5551 (relating to bonds) shall be applicable to the bonds required under section 5354

Sec. 5356. - Application

The application required by this part shall disclose, as regulations issued by the Secretary shall provide, such information as may be necessary to enable the Secretary to determine the location and extent of the premises, the type of operations to be conducted on such premises, and whether the operations will be in conformity with law and regulations

Sec. 5357. - Premises

Bonded wine cellar premises, including noncontiguous portions thereof, shall be so located, constructed, and equipped, as to afford adequate protection to the revenue, as regulations prescribed by the Secretary may provide

Sec. 5361. - Bonded wine cellar operations

In addition to the operations described in section 5351, the proprietor of a bonded wine cellar may, subject to regulations prescribed by the Secretary, on such premises receive taxpaid wine for return to bond, reconditioning, or destruction; prepare for market and store commercial fruit products and by-products not taxable as wines; produce or receive distilling material or vinegar stock; produce (with or without added wine spirits, and without added sugar) or receive on wine premises, subject to tax as wine but not for sale or consumption as beverage wine,

(1) heavy bodied blending wines and Spanish-type blending sherries, and

(2) other wine products made from natural wine for nonbeverage purposes; and such other operations as may be conducted in a manner that will not jeopardize the revenue or conflict with wine operations

Sec. 5362. - Removals of wine from bonded wine cellars

(a) Withdrawals on determination of tax

Wine may be withdrawn from bonded wine cellars on payment or determination of the tax thereon, under such regulations as the Secretary shall prescribe.

(b) Transfers of wine between bonded premises

(1) In general

Wine on which the tax has not been paid or determined may, under such regulations as the Secretary shall prescribe, be transferred in bond between bonded premises.

(2) Wine transferred to a distilled spirits plant may not be removed for consumption or sale as wine

Any wine transferred to the bonded premises of a distilled spirits plant -

(A) may be used in the manufacture of a distilled spirits product, and

(B) may not be removed from such bonded premises for consumption or sale as wine.

(3) Continued liability for tax

The liability for tax on wine transferred to the bonded premises of a distilled spirits plant pursuant to paragraph (1) shall (except as otherwise provided by law) continue until the wine is used in a distilled spirits product.

(4) Transfer in bond not treated as removal for consumption or sale

For purposes of this chapter, the removal of wine for transfer in bond between bonded premises shall not be treated as a removal for consumption or sale.

(5) Bonded premises

For purposes of this subsection, the term "bonded premises" means a bonded wine cellar or the bonded premises of a distilled spirits plant.

(c) Withdrawals of wine free of tax or without payment of tax

Wine on which the tax has not been paid or determined may, under such regulations and bonds as the Secretary may deem necessary to protect the revenue, be withdrawn from bonded wine cellars -

(1) without payment of tax for export by the proprietor or by any authorized exporter;

(2) without payment of tax for transfer to any foreign-trade zone;

(3) without payment of tax for use of certain vessels and aircraft as authorized by law;

(4) without payment of tax for transfer to any customs bonded warehouse;

(5) without payment of tax for use in the production of vinegar;

(6) without payment of tax for use in distillation in any distilled spirits plant authorized to produce distilled spirits;

(7) free of tax for experimental or research purposes by any scientific university, college of learning, or institution of scientific research;

(8) free of tax for use by or for the account of the proprietor or his agents for analysis or testing, organoleptic or otherwise; and

(9) free of tax for use by the United States or any agency thereof, and for use for analysis, testing, research, or experimentation by the governments of the several States and the District of Columbia or of any political subdivision thereof or by any agency of such governments. No bond shall be required of any such government or agency under this paragraph.

(d) Withdrawal free of tax of wine and wine products unfit for beverage use

Under such regulations as the Secretary may deem necessary to protect the revenue, wine, or wine products made from wine, when rendered unfit for beverage use, on which the tax has not been paid or determined, may be withdrawn from bonded wine cellars free of tax. The wine or wine products to be so withdrawn may be treated with methods or materials which render such wine or wine products suitable for their intended use. No wine or wine products so withdrawn shall contain more than 21 percent of alcohol by volume, or be used in the compounding of distilled spirits or wine for beverage use or in the manufacture of any product intended to be used in such compounding.

(e) Withdrawal from customs bonded warehouses for use of foreign embassies, legations, etc.

(1) In general

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, wine entered into customs bonded warehouses under subsection (c)(4) may, under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, be withdrawn from such warehouses for consumption in the United States by and for the official or family use of such foreign governments, organizations, and individuals who are entitled to withdraw imported wines from such warehouses free of tax. Wines transferred to customs bonded warehouses under subsection (c)(4) shall be entered, stored, and accounted for in such warehouses under such regulations and bonds as the Secretary may prescribe, and may be withdrawn therefrom by such governments, organizations, and individuals free of tax under the same conditions and procedures as imported wines.

(2) Withdrawal for domestic use

Wine entered into customs bonded warehouses under subsection (c) (4) for purposes of removal under paragraph (1) may be withdrawn therefrom for domestic use. Wines so withdrawn shall be treated as American goods exported and returned.

(3) Sale or unauthorized use prohibited

Wine withdrawn from customs bonded warehouses or otherwise brought into the United States free of tax for the official or family use of

foreign governments, organizations, or individuals authorized to obtain wine free of tax shall not be sold and shall not be disposed of or possessed for any use other than an authorized use. The provisions of paragraphs (1)(B) and (3) of section 5043(a) are hereby extended and made applicable to any person selling, disposing of, or possessing any wine in violation of the preceding sentence, and to the wine involved in any such violation

Sec. 5363. - Taxpaid wine bottling house operations

In addition to the operations described in section 5352, the proprietor of a taxpaid wine bottling house may, subject to regulations issued by the Secretary, on such premises mix wine of the same kind and taxable grade to facilitate handling; preserve, filter, or clarify wine; and conduct operations not involving wine where such operations will not jeopardize the revenue or conflict with wine operations

Sec. 5364. - Wine imported in bulk

Natural wine (as defined in section 5381) imported or brought into the United States in bulk containers may, under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, be withdrawn from customs custody and transferred in such bulk containers to the premises of a bonded wine cellar without payment of the internal revenue tax imposed on such wine. The proprietor of a bonded wine cellar to which such wine is transferred shall become liable for the tax on the wine withdrawn from customs custody under this section upon release of the wine from customs custody, and the importer, or the person bringing such wine into the United States, shall thereupon be relieved of the liability for such tax

Sec. 5365. - Segregation of operations

The Secretary may require by regulations such segregation of operations within the premises, by partitions or otherwise, as may be necessary to prevent jeopardy to the revenue, to prevent confusion between untaxpaid wine operations and such other operations as are authorized in this subchapter, to prevent substitution with respect to the several methods of producing effervescent wines, and to prevent the commingling of standard wines with other than standard wines

Sec. 5366. - Supervision

The Secretary may by regulations require that operations at a bonded wine cellar or taxpaid wine bottling house be supervised by an internal revenue officer where necessary for the protection of the revenue or for the proper enforcement of this subchapter

Sec. 5367. - Records

The proprietor of a bonded wine cellar or a tax-paid wine bottling house shall keep such records and file such returns, in such form and containing such information, as the Secretary may by regulations provide

Sec. 5368. - Gauging and marking

(a) Gauging and marking

All wine or wine spirits shall be locked, sealed, and gauged, and shall be marked, branded, labeled, or otherwise identified, in such manner as the Secretary may by regulations prescribe.

(b) Marking

Wines shall be removed in such containers (including vessels, vehicles, and pipelines) bearing such marks and labels evidencing compliance with this chapter, as the Secretary may by regulations prescribe

Sec. 5369. - Inventories

Each proprietor of premises subject to the provisions of this subchapter shall take and report such inventories as the Secretary may by regulations prescribe

Sec. 5370. - Losses

(a) General

No tax shall be collected in respect of any wines lost or destroyed while in bond, except that tax shall be collected -

(1) Theft

In the case of loss by theft, unless the Secretary shall find that the theft occurred without connivance, collusion, fraud, or negligence on the part of the proprietor or other person responsible for the tax, or the owner, consignor, consignee, bailee, or carrier, or the agents or employees of any of them; and

(2) Voluntary destruction

In the case of voluntary destruction, unless the wine was destroyed under Government supervision, or on such adequate notice to, and approval by, the Secretary as regulations shall provide.

(b) Proof of loss

In any case in which the wine is lost or destroyed, whether by theft or otherwise, the Secretary may require by regulations the proprietor of the bonded wine cellar or other person liable for the tax to file a claim for relief from the tax and submit proof as to the cause of such loss. In every case where it appears that the loss was by theft, the burden shall be on the proprietor or other person liable for the tax to establish to the satisfaction of the Secretary, that such loss did not occur as the result of connivance, collusion, fraud, or negligence on the part of the proprietor, owner, consignor, consignee, bailee, or carrier, or the agents or employees of any of them

Sec. 5371. - Insurance coverage, etc.

Any remission, abatement, refund, or credit of, or other relief from, taxes on wines or wine spirits authorized by law shall be allowed only to the extent that the claimant is not indemnified or recompensed for the tax

Sec. 5372. - Sampling

Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, wine may be utilized in any bonded wine cellar for testing, tasting, or sampling, free of tax

Sec. 5373. - Wine spirits

(a) In general

The wine spirits authorized to be used in wine production shall be brandy or wine spirits produced in a distilled spirits plant (with or without the use of water to facilitate extraction and distillation) exclusively from -

- (1)** fresh or dried fruit, or their residues,
- (2)** the wine or wine residues, therefrom, or
- (3)** special natural wine under such conditions as the Secretary may by regulations prescribe;

except that where, in the production of natural wine or special natural wine, sugar has been used, the wine or the residuum thereof may not be used if the unfermented sugars therein have been refermented. Such wine spirits shall not be reduced with water from distillation proof, nor be distilled, unless regulations otherwise provide, at less than 140 degrees of proof (except that commercial brandy aged in wood for a period of not less than 2 years, and barreled at not less than 100 degrees of proof, shall be deemed wine spirits for the purpose of this subsection).

(b) Withdrawal of wine spirits

(1) The proprietor of any bonded wine cellar may withdraw and receive wine spirits without payment of tax from the bonded premises of any distilled spirits plant, or from any bonded wine cellar as provided in paragraph (2), for use in the production of natural wine, for addition to concentrated or unconcentrated juice for use in wine production, or for such other uses as may be authorized in this subchapter.

(2) Wine spirits so withdrawn, and not used in wine production or as otherwise authorized in this subchapter, may, as provided by regulations prescribed by the Secretary, be transferred to the bonded premises of any distilled spirits plant or bonded wine cellar, or may be taxpaid and removed as provided by law.

(3) On such use, transfer, or taxpayment, the Secretary shall credit the proprietor with the amount of wine spirits so used or transferred or taxpaid and, in addition, with such portion of wine spirits so withdrawn as may have been lost either in transit or on the bonded wine cellar premises, to the extent allowable under section 5008(a). Where the proprietor has used wine spirits in

actual wine production but in violation of the requirements of this subchapter, the Secretary shall also extend such credit to the wine spirits so used if the proprietor satisfactorily shows that such wine spirits were not knowingly used in violation of law.

(4) Suitable samples of brandy or wine spirits may, under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, be withdrawn free of tax from the bonded premises of any distilled spirits plant, bonded wine cellar, or authorized experimental premises, for analysis or testing.

(c) Distillates containing aldehydes

When the Secretary deems such removal and use will not jeopardize the revenue nor unduly increase administrative supervision, distillates containing aldehydes may, under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, be removed without payment of tax from the bonded premises of a distilled spirits plant to an adjacent bonded wine cellar and used therein in fermentation of wine to be used as distilling material at the distilled spirits plant from which such unfinished distilled spirits were removed

Sec. 5381. - Natural wine

Natural wine is the product of the juice or must of sound, ripe grapes or other sound, ripe fruit, made with such cellar treatment as may be authorized under section 5382 and containing not more than 21 percent by weight of total solids. Any wine conforming to such definition except for having become substandard by reason of its condition shall be deemed not to be natural wine, unless the condition is corrected

Sec. 5382. - Cellar treatment of natural wine

(a) General

Proper cellar treatment of natural wine constitutes those practices and procedures in the United States and elsewhere, whether historical or newly developed, of using various methods and materials to correct or stabilize the wine, or the fruit juice from which it is made, so as to produce a finished product acceptable in good commercial practice. Where a particular treatment has been used in customary commercial practice, it shall continue to be recognized as a proper cellar treatment in the absence of regulations prescribed by the Secretary finding such treatment not to be a proper cellar treatment within the meaning of this subsection.

(b) Specifically authorized treatments

The practices and procedures specifically enumerated in this subsection shall be deemed proper cellar treatment for natural wine:

(1) The preparation and use of pure concentrated or unconcentrated juice or must. Concentrated juice or must reduced with water to its original density or to not less than 22 degrees Brix or unconcentrated juice or must reduced with water to not less than 22 degrees Brix shall be deemed to be juice or must, and

shall include such amounts of water to clear crushing equipment as regulations prescribed by the Secretary may provide.

(2) The addition to natural wine, or to concentrated or unconcentrated juice or must, from one kind of fruit, of wine spirits (whether or not tax-paid) distilled in the United States from the same kind of fruit; except that

(A) the wine, juice, or concentrate shall not have an alcoholic content in excess of 24 percent by volume after the addition of wine spirits, and

(B) in the case of still wines, wine spirits may be added in any State only to natural wines produced by fermentation in bonded wine cellars located within the same State.

(3) Amelioration and sweetening of natural grape wines in accordance with section 5383.

(4) Amelioration and sweetening of natural wines from fruits other than grapes in accordance with section 5384.

(5) In the case of effervescent wines, such preparations for refermentation and for dosage as may be acceptable in good commercial practice, but only if the alcoholic content of the finished product does not exceed 14 percent by volume.

(6) The natural darkening of the sugars or other elements in juice, must, or wine due to storage, concentration, heating processes, or natural oxidation.

(7) The blending of natural wines with each other or with heavy-bodied blending wine or with concentrated or unconcentrated juice, whether or not such juice contains wine spirits, if the wines, juice, or wine spirits are from the same kind of fruit.

(8) Such use of acids to correct natural deficiencies and stabilize the wine as may be acceptable in good commercial practice.

(9) The addition -

(A) to natural grape or berry wine of the winemaker's own production, of volatile fruit-flavor concentrate produced from the same kind and variety of grape or berry at a plant qualified under section 5511, or

(B) to natural fruit wine (other than grape or berry) of the winemaker's own production, of volatile fruit-flavor concentrate produced from the same kind of fruit at such a plant, so long as the proportion of the volatile fruit-flavor concentrate to the wine does not exceed the proportion of the volatile fruit-flavor concentrate to the original juice or must from which it was produced. The transfer of volatile fruit-flavor concentrate from a plant qualified under section 5511 to a bonded wine cellar and its storage and use in such a cellar shall be under such applications and bonds, and under such other requirements, as may be provided in regulations prescribed by the Secretary.

(c) Other authorized treatment

The Secretary may by regulations prescribe limitations on the preparation and use of clarifying, stabilizing, preserving, fermenting, and corrective methods or materials, to the extent that such preparation or use is not acceptable in good commercial practice.

(d) Use of juice or must from which volatile fruit flavor has been removed

For purposes of this part, juice, concentrated juice, or must processed at a plant qualified under section 5511 may be deemed to be pure juice, concentrated juice, or must even though volatile fruit flavor has been removed if, at a plant qualified under section 5511 or at the bonded wine cellar, there is added to such juice, concentrated juice, or must, or (in the case of a bonded wine cellar) to wine of the winemaker's own production made therefrom, either the identical volatile flavor removed or -

(1) in the case of natural grape or berry wine of the winemaker's own production, an equivalent quantity of volatile fruit-flavor concentrate produced at such a plant and derived from the same kind and variety of grape or berry, or

(2) in the case of natural fruit wine (other than grape or berry wine) of the winemaker's own production, an equivalent quantity of volatile fruit-flavor concentrate produced at such a plant and derived from the same kind of fruit

Sec. 5383. - Amelioration and sweetening limitations for natural grape wines

(a) Sweetening of grape wines

Any natural grape wine may be sweetened after fermentation and before taxpayment with pure dry sugar or liquid sugar if the total solids content of the finished wine does not exceed 12 percent of the weight of the wine and the alcoholic content of the finished wine after sweetening is not more than 14 percent by volume; except that the use under this subsection of liquid sugar shall be limited so that the resultant volume will not exceed the volume which could result from the maximum authorized use of pure dry sugar only.

(b) High acid wines

(1) Amelioration

Before, during, and after fermentation, ameliorating materials consisting of pure dry sugar or liquid sugar, water, or a combination of sugar and water, may be added to natural grape wines of a winemaker's own production when such wines are made from juice having a natural fixed acid content of more than five parts per thousand (calculated before fermentation and as tartaric acid). Ameliorating material so added shall not reduce the natural fixed acid content of the juice to less than five parts per thousand, nor exceed 35 percent of the volume of juice (calculated exclusive of pulp) and ameliorating material combined.

(2) Sweetening

Any wine produced under this subsection may be sweetened by the producer thereof, after amelioration and fermentation, with pure dry sugar or liquid sugar if the total solids content of the finished wine does not exceed

(A) 17 percent by weight if the alcoholic content is more than 14 percent by volume, or

(B) 21 percent by weight if the alcoholic content is not more than 14 percent by volume. The use under this paragraph of liquid sugar shall be limited to cases where the resultant volume does not exceed the volume which could result from the maximum authorized use of pure dry sugar only.

(3) Wine spirits

Wine spirits may be added (whether or not wine spirits were previously added) to wine produced under this subsection only if the wine contains not more than 14 percent of alcohol by volume derived from fermentation

Sec. 5384. - Amelioration and sweetening limitations for natural fruit and berry wines

(a) In general

To natural wine made from berries or fruit other than grapes, pure dry sugar or liquid sugar may be added to the juice in the fermenter, or to the wine after fermentation; but only if such wine has not more than 14 percent alcohol by volume after complete fermentation, or after complete fermentation and sweetening, and a total solids content not in excess of 21 percent by weight; and except that the use under this subsection of liquid sugar shall be limited so that the resultant volume will not exceed the volume which could result from the maximum authorized use of pure dry sugar only.

(b) Ameliorated fruit and berry wines

(1) Any natural fruit or berry wine (other than grape wine) of a winemaker's own production may, if not made under subsection (a) of this section, be ameliorated to correct high acid content. Ameliorating material calculations and accounting shall be separate for wines made from each different kind of fruit.

(2) Pure dry sugar or liquid sugar may be used in the production of wines under this subsection for the purpose of correcting natural deficiencies, but not to such an extent as would reduce the natural fixed acid in the corrected juice or wine to five parts per thousand. The quantity of sugar so used shall not exceed the quantity which would have been required to adjust the juice, prior to fermentation, to a total solids content of 25 degrees (Brix). Such sugar shall be added prior to the completion of fermentation of the wine. After such addition of the sugar, the wine or juice shall be treated and accounted for as

provided in section 5383(b), covering the production of high acid grape wines, except that -

(A) Natural fixed acid shall be calculated as malic acid for apple wine and as citric acid for other fruit and berry wines, instead of tartaric acid;

(B) Juice adjusted with pure dry sugar or liquid sugar as provided in this paragraph shall be treated in the same manner as original natural juice under the provisions of section 5383(b); except that if liquid sugar is used, the volume of water contained therein must be deducted from the volume of ameliorating material authorized;

(C) Wines made under this subsection shall have a total solids content of not more than 21 percent by weight, whether or not wine spirits have been added; and

(D) Wines made exclusively from any fruit or berry with a natural fixed acid of 20 parts per thousand or more (before any correction of such fruit or berry) shall be entitled to a volume of ameliorating material not in excess of 60 percent (in lieu of 35 percent)

Sec. 5385. - Specially sweetened natural wines

(a) Definition

Specially sweetened natural wine is the product made by adding to natural wine of the winemaker's own production a sufficient quantity of pure dry sugar, or juice or concentrated juice from the same kind of fruit, separately or in combination, to produce a finished product having a total solids content in excess of 17 percent by weight and an alcoholic content of not more than 14 percent by volume, and shall include extra sweet kosher wine and similarly heavily sweetened wines.

(b) Cellar treatment

Specially sweetened natural wines may be blended with each other, or with natural wine or heavy bodied blending wine in the further production of specially sweetened natural wine only, if the wines so blended are made from the same kind of fruit. Wines produced under this section may be cellar treated under the provisions of section 5382(a) and (c). Wine spirits may not be added to specially sweetened natural wine

Sec. 5386. - Special natural wines

(a) In general

Special natural wines are the products made, pursuant to a formula approved under this section, from a base of natural wine (including heavy-bodied blending wine) exclusively, with the addition, before, during or after fermentation, of natural herbs, spices, fruit juices, aromatics, essences, and other natural flavorings in such quantities or proportions as to enable such products to be distinguished from any natural wine not so treated, and with or without carbon dioxide naturally or artificially added, and with or without the

addition, separately or in combination, of pure dry sugar or a solution of pure dry sugar and water, or caramel. No added wine spirits or alcohol or other spirits shall be used in any wine under this section except as may be contained in the natural wine (including heavy-bodied blending wine) used as a base or except as may be necessary in the production of approved essences or similar approved flavorings. The Brix degree of any solution of pure dry sugar and water used may be limited by regulations prescribed by the Secretary in accordance with good commercial practice.

(b) Cellar treatment

Special natural wines may be cellar treated under the provisions of section 5382(a) and (c)

Sec. 5387. - Agricultural wines

(a) In general

Wines made from agricultural products other than the juice of fruit shall be made in accordance with good commercial practice as may be prescribed by the Secretary by regulations. Wines made in accordance with such regulations shall be classed as "standard agricultural wines". Wines made under this section may be cellar treated under the provisions of section 5382(a) and (c).

(b) Limitations

No wine spirits may be added to wines produced under this section, nor shall any coloring material or herbs or other flavoring material (except hops in the case of honey wine) be used in their production.

(c) Restriction on blending

Wines from different agricultural commodities shall not be blended together

Sec. 5388. - Designation of wines

(a) Standard wines

Standard wines may be removed from premises subject to the provisions of this subchapter and be marked, transported, and sold under their proper designation as to kind and origin, or, if there is no such designation known to the trade or consumers, then under a truthful and adequate statement of composition.

(b) Other wines

Wines other than standard wines may be removed for consumption or sale and be marked, transported, or sold only under such designation as to kind and origin as adequately describes the true composition of such products and as adequately distinguish them from standard wines, as regulations prescribed by the Secretary shall provide.

(c) Use of semi-generic designations

(1) In general

Semi-generic designations may be used to designate wines of an origin other than that indicated by such name only if -

(A) there appears in direct conjunction therewith an appropriate appellation of origin disclosing the true place of origin of the wine, and

(B) the wine so designated conforms to the standard of identity, if any, for such wine contained in the regulations under this section or, if there is no such standard, to the trade understanding of such class or type.

(2) Determination of whether name is semi-generic

(A) In general

Except as provided in subparagraph (B), a name of geographic significance, which is also the designation of a class or type of wine, shall be deemed to have become semi-generic only if so found by the Secretary.

(B) Certain names treated as semi-generic

The following names shall be treated as semi-generic:

Angelica, Burgundy, Claret, Chablis, Champagne, Chianti, Malaga, Marsala, Madeira, Moselle, Port, Rhine Wine or Hock, Sauterne, Haut Sauterne, Sherry, Tokay

Sec. 5391. - Exemption from distilled spirits taxes

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the tax imposed by section 5001 on distilled spirits shall not, except as provided in this subchapter, be assessed, levied, or collected from the proprietor of any bonded wine cellar with respect to his use of wine spirits in wine production, in such premises; except that, whenever wine or wine spirits are used in violation of this subchapter, the applicable tax imposed by section 5001 shall be collected unless the proprietor satisfactorily shows that such wine or wine spirits were not knowingly used in violation of law

Sec. 5392. - Definitions

(a) Standard wine

For purposes of this subchapter the term "standard wine" means natural wine, specially sweetened natural wine, special natural wine, and standard agricultural wine, produced in accordance with the provisions of sections 5381, 5385, 5386, and 5387, respectively.

(b) Heavy bodied blending wine

For purposes of this subchapter the term "heavy bodied blending wine" means wine made from fruit without added sugar, and with or without added wine spirits, and conforming to the definition of natural wine in all respects except as to maximum total solids content.

(c) Pure sugar

For purposes of this subchapter the term "pure sugar" means pure refined sugar, suitable for human consumption, having a dextrose equivalent of not less than 95 percent on a dry basis, and produced from cane, beets, or fruit, or from grain or other sources of starch. Invert sugar syrup produced from such pure sugar by recognized methods of inversion may be used to prepare any sugar syrup, or solution of water and pure sugar, authorized in this subchapter.

(d) Total solids

For purposes of this subchapter the term "total solids", in the case of wine, means the degrees Brix of the dealcoholized wine.

(e) Same kind of fruit

For purposes of this subchapter the term "same kind of fruit" includes, in the case of grapes, all of the several species and varieties of grapes. In the case of fruits other than grapes, this term includes all of the several species and varieties of any given kind; except that this shall not preclude a more precise identification of the composition of the product for the purpose of its designation.

(f) Own production

For purposes of this subchapter the term "own production", when used with reference to wine in a bonded wine cellar, means wine produced by fermentation in the same bonded wine cellar, whether or not produced by a predecessor in interest at such bonded wine cellar. This term may also include, under regulations, wine produced by fermentation in bonded wine cellars owned or controlled by the same or affiliated persons or firms when located within the same State; the term "affiliated" shall be deemed to include any one or more bonded wine cellar proprietors associated as members of any farm cooperative, or any one or more bonded wine cellar proprietors affiliated within the meaning of section 17(a)(5) of the Federal Alcohol Administration Act, as amended ([27 U.S.C. 211](#)). ¹¹

(g) Liquid sugar

For purposes of this subchapter the term "liquid sugar" means a substantially colorless pure sugar and water solution containing not less than 60 percent pure sugar by weight (60 degrees Brix).

Sec. 5661. - Penalty and forfeiture for violation of laws and regulations relating to wine

(a) Fraudulent offenses

Whoever, with intent to defraud the United States, fails to pay any tax imposed upon wine or violates, or fails to comply with, any provision of subchapter F or subpart C of part I of subchapter A, or regulations issued pursuant thereto, or recovers or attempts to recover any spirits from wine, shall be fined not more than \$5,000, or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both, for each such offense, and all products and materials used in any such violation shall be forfeited to the United States.

(b) Other offenses

Any proprietor of premises subject to the provisions of subchapter F, or any employee or agent of such proprietor, or any other person, who otherwise than with intent to defraud the United States violates or fails to comply with any provision of subchapter F or subpart C of part I of subchapter A, or regulations issued pursuant thereto, or who aids or abets in any such violation, shall be fined not more than \$1,000, or imprisoned not more than 1 year, or both, for each such offense

Sec. 5662. - Penalty for alteration of wine labels

Any person who, without the permission of the Secretary, so alters as to materially change the meaning of any mark, brand, or label required to appear upon any wine upon its removal from premises subject to the provisions of subchapter F, or from customs custody, or who, after such removal, represents any wine, whether in its original containers or otherwise, to be of an identity or origin other than its proper identity or origin as shown by such stamp, mark, brand, or label, or who, directly or indirectly, and whether by manner of packaging or advertising or any other form of representation, represents any still wine to be an effervescent wine or a substitute for an effervescent wine, shall be fined not more than \$1,000, or imprisoned not more than 1 year, or both, for each such offense

Sec. 5663. - Cross reference

For penalties of common application pertaining to liquors, including wines, see part IV

27 CFR

LETTERHEAD APPLICATIONS

Sec. 24.21 Modified forms.

(a) General. The appropriate TTB officer may approve the use of a modified form in lieu of the prescribed form required by this part, when in the judgment of the appropriate TTB officer:

(1) Good cause has been shown for the use of the modified form and

(2) The use of the modified form will not result in a net increase in cost to the Government or hinder the effective administration of this part. Except to adapt tax returns for use with data processing equipment, no proposal for modification of a prescribed form relating to qualification, to the giving of any bond, or to the assessment, payment, or collection of tax will be approved under this section.

(b) Application. The proprietor who desires to modify a prescribed form shall submit a written application to the appropriate TTB officer. The application will state the reasons a modified form is necessary and be accompanied by a copy of the proposed form with typical entries.

(c) Conditions. A modified form may not be used until the application has been approved by the appropriate TTB officer. Authorization for the use of a modified form is conditioned on compliance with the procedures, conditions, and limitations specified in the approval of the application. The use of a modified form does not relieve the proprietor from any requirement of this part. Authority for use of a modified form may be withdrawn whenever in the judgment of the appropriate TTB officer the effective administration of this part is hindered by the continuation of the authority. (Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1381, as amended, 1395, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5367, 5555))

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[T.D. ATF-299, 55 FR 24989, June 19, 1990, as amended by T.D. ATF-409, 64 FR 13683, Mar. 22, 1999]

Sec. 24.22 Alternate method or procedure.

(a) General. The proprietor, on specific approval of the appropriate TTB officer as provided in this section, may use an alternate method or procedure in lieu of a method or procedure specifically prescribed in this part. As used in this section, an alternate method or procedure also includes alternate construction or equipment. No alternate method or procedure relating to the giving of any bond or to the assessment, payment, or collection of tax, will be authorized under this section. The appropriate TTB officer may approve an alternate method or procedure, subject to stated conditions, when in the judgment of the appropriate TTB officer:

(1) Good cause has been shown for the use of the alternate method or procedure;

(2) The alternate method or procedure is within the purpose of, and consistent with the effect intended by, the specifically prescribed method or procedure, and affords equivalent security to the revenue; and

(3) The alternate method or procedure will not be contrary to any provision of law, will not result in an increase in cost to the Government, and will not hinder the effective administration of this part.

(b) Application. The proprietor who desires to employ an alternate method or procedure shall submit a written application to the appropriate TTB officer. The application will specifically describe the proposed alternate method or procedure,

and will set forth the reasons therefor. Alternate methods or procedures will not be employed until the application is approved by the appropriate TTB officer.

(c) Conditions. The proprietor shall, during the period of authorization for an alternate method or procedure, comply with the terms of the approved application. Authorization for any alternate method or procedure may be withdrawn whenever in the judgment of the appropriate TTB officer the revenue is jeopardized or the effective administration of this part is hindered by the continuation of the authorization. (Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1395, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5556))

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[T.D. ATF-299, 55 FR 24989, June 19, 1990, as amended by T.D. ATF-409, 64 FR 13683, 13684, Mar. 22, 1999]

Sec. 24.25 Emergency variations from requirements.

(a) General. The appropriate TTB officer may approve construction, equipment, and methods of operation other than as specified in this part, when in the judgment of such officer an emergency exists, the proposed variations from the specified requirements are necessary, and the proposed variations:

(1) Will afford the security and protection to the revenue intended by the prescribed specifications;

(2) Will not hinder the effective administration of this part; and

(3) Will not be contrary to any provisions of law.

(b) Application. The proprietor must submit a written application to the appropriate TTB officer within 24 hours of any temporary approval granted under paragraph (c) of this section, which describes the proposed variation, and sets forth the reasons therefor.

(c) Temporary approval. The proprietor who desires to employ an emergency variation from requirements must contact the appropriate TTB officer and request temporary approval until the written application, required by paragraph (b) of this section, is acted upon. The appropriate TTB officer will be a subordinate of the TTB officer designated in paragraph (a) of this section. Where the emergency threatens life or property, the proprietor may take immediate action to correct the situation without prior notification; however, the proprietor must promptly contact the appropriate TTB officer and file with that officer a report concerning the emergency and the action taken to correct the situation.

(d) Conditions. The proprietor must, during the period of variation from requirements granted under this section, comply with the terms of the approved application. A failure to comply in good faith with any procedures, conditions, and limitations will automatically terminate the authority for a variation. Upon termination of the variation, the proprietor must fully comply with requirements of regulations for which the variation was authorized. Authority for any variation may be withdrawn whenever in the judgment of the appropriate TTB officer the revenue is jeopardized or the effective administration of this part is hindered by the continuation of the variation.

[T.D. ATF-409, 64 FR 13684, Mar. 22, 1999]

Sec. 24.26 Authority to approve.

The appropriate TTB officer is authorized to approve, except as otherwise provided in this part, all applications, bonds, consents of surety, qualifying documents, claims,

and any other documents required by or filed under this part, whether for original establishment, for changes subsequent to establishment, for discontinuance of business, for remission, abatement, credit, or refund of tax, or for any other purpose. (Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1378, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5351))

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[T.D. ATF-299, 55 FR 24989, June 19, 1990, as amended by T.D. ATF-409, 64 FR 13683, Mar. 22, 1999]

Sec. 24.77 Experimental wine.

(a) General. Any scientific university, college of learning, or institution of scientific research may, without payment of tax, produce, receive, blend, treat, and store wine for experimental or research use, but not for consumption (other than organoleptic tests) or sale, and may receive wine spirits without payment of tax in quantities as may be necessary for the production of wine.

(b) Qualification. An institution that wants to conduct experimental wine operations must apply in letter form to the appropriate TTB officer. The application will show the name and address of the institution, the nature, extent, and purpose of the operations to be conducted, describe the operations and equipment and the location at which operations will be conducted (including identification of the building or buildings, or portions thereof, to be used), and the security measures to be provided. If wine spirits are to be used, that fact will be stated together with the estimated annual requirements in proof gallons. A secure place of storage under lock will be provided for such spirits and will be described in the application. The applicant must, when required by the appropriate TTB officer, furnish as part of the application, additional information that may be necessary to determine whether the application should be approved. Operations may not begin until authorized by the appropriate TTB officer.

(c) Procurement of spirits. Where the approved application provides for the use of wine spirits in experimental wine operations, such spirits may be procured to the extent stated in the approved qualifying application. However, an application will be filed with the appropriate TTB officer and authorization obtained for each wine spirits procurement.

(d) Records. All approved qualifying documents and applications will be retained in the files of the institution and will be exhibited on request to appropriate TTB officers. No reports concerning wine or wine spirits need be filed unless required by appropriate TTB officer, but records appropriate to the experiments to be conducted and records documenting the disposition of the wine and wine spirits will be retained and will be made available for inspection by appropriate TTB officers. If wine spirits are used, the records will show the quantities of spirits received and used each day.

(e) Discontinuance. When an institution discontinues experimental wine operations, all remaining wine or wine spirits will be disposed of either by destruction or shipment to premises authorized to receive wine or wine spirits. A letter application will be filed with the appropriate TTB officer and authorization obtained prior to the destruction or shipment of the wine or wine spirits. When the authorized destruction or shipment has been completed, a letter notification will be sent to the appropriate TTB officer. (Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1331, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5042))

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[T.D. ATF-299, 55 FR 24989, June 19, 1990, as amended by T.D. ATF-409, 64 FR 13683, 13684, Mar. 22, 1999]

Sec. 24.235 Taxpayment or destruction of spirits.

(a) Taxpayment of spirits. The proprietor who wants to taxpay spirits shall follow the prepayment of tax procedures of 27 CFR 19.522(c).

(b) Destruction of spirits. The proprietor who wants to destroy spirits shall file an application with the appropriate TTB officer stating the quantity of spirits, the proposed date and method of destruction, and the reason for destruction. Spirits may not be destroyed prior to approval by the appropriate TTB officer. (Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1382, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5373))

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[T.D. ATF-299, 55 FR 24989, June 19, 1990, as amended by T.D. ATF-409, 64 FR 13684, Mar. 22, 1999]

Sec. 24.249 Experimentation with new treating material or process.

(a) General. The proprietor may, under the provisions of this section, conduct on bonded wine premises such experimentation with a treating material or process as the appropriate TTB officer finds may be conducted in a manner that will not jeopardize the revenue, conflict with wine operations, or be contrary to law.

(b) Application. The proprietor who wants to conduct experimentation must file an application with the appropriate TTB officer setting forth in detail the experimentation to be conducted and the facilities and equipment to be used. The proposed experimentation must not be conducted until the appropriate TTB officer has determined that the conduct of such experimentation must not jeopardize the revenue, conflict with wine operations, or be contrary to law, and has approved the application.

(c) Segregation of operations. Experimentation authorized under this section will be conducted with the degree of segregation from wine operations as may be required by the appropriate TTB officer under the provisions of Sec. 24.27.

(d) Records. The proprietor shall, with respect to each experiment authorized by this section, keep records of the kind and quantity of materials received and used and the volume of wine treated and the manner by which disposed.

(e) Disposition of the wine. The disposition of the wine subjected to experimental treatment will conform to the conditions stated in the authorization to conduct the experimentation. (Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859 (72 Stat. 1383, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5361, 5382))

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[T.D. ATF-299, 55 FR 24989, June 19, 1990, as amended by T.D. ATF-409, 64 FR 13683, 13685, Mar. 22, 1999]

Sec. 24.250 Application for use of new treating material or process.

(a) General. If the proprietor desires to use a material or process which is not specifically authorized in Sec. Sec. 24.246, 24.247, 24.248, or elsewhere in this part, an application shall be filed with the appropriate TTB officer to show that the

proposed material or process is a cellar treatment consistent with good commercial practice.

(b) Data required. The application will include the following:

- (1) The name and description of the material or process;
- (2) The purpose, the manner, and the extent to which the material or process is to be used together with any technical bulletin or other pertinent information relative to the material or process;
- (3) A sample, if a proposed material;
- (4) Documentary evidence of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's approval of the material for its intended purpose in the amounts proposed for the particular treatment contemplated;
- (5) The test results of any laboratory-scale pilot study conducted by the winemaker in testing the material and an evaluation of the product and of the treatment including the results of tests of the shelf life of the treated wine;
- (6) A tabulation of pertinent information derived from the testing program conducted by the chemical manufacturer demonstrating the function of the material or process;
- (7) A list of all chemicals used in compounding the treating material and the quantity of each component;
- (8) The recommended maximum and minimum amounts, if any, of the material proposed to be used in the treatment and a statement as to the volume of water required, if any, to facilitate the addition of the material or operation of the process; and
- (9) Two 750-milliliter samples representative of the wine before and after treatment. Information of a confidential or proprietary nature to the manufacturer or supplier of the treating material or process may be forwarded by the manufacturer or supplier to the appropriate TTB officer with a reference to the application filed by the winemaker. Information contained within the winemaker's application can be disclosed to the public, subject to the limitations of 26 U.S.C. 6103 and 7213.

(c) Use of cellar treatment. The proprietor may not use the proposed treating material or process until a determination has been made by the appropriate TTB officer that the intended use of the material or process is acceptable in good commercial practice.

(d) Processing of application. After evaluation of the data submitted with the application, the appropriate TTB officer will make a decision regarding the acceptability of the proposed treatment in good commercial practice. The appropriate TTB officer will notify the proprietor of the approval or disapproval of the application. (Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1383, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5381, 5382, 5385, 5386, and 5387))

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[T.D. ATF-299, 55 FR 24989, June 19, 1990, as amended by T.D. ATF-409, 64 FR 13683, 13685, Mar. 22, 1999]

NOTICES

Sec. 24.231 Receipt of spirits in sealed bulk containers.

The proprietor shall examine sealed bulk containers (packages) of spirits received at the bonded wine premises to verify that the containers are the same as those described on the transfer record accompanying the shipment. Any container which appears to have been tampered with or from which spirits appear to have been removed or lost will be gauged by the proprietor and the proprietor shall prepare and

submit to the appropriate TTB officer a statement setting forth fully the circumstances and apparent cause of any loss. (Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1381, as amended, 1382, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5366, 5367, 5368, 5373))

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[T.D. ATF-299, 55 FR 24989, June 19, 1990, as amended by T.D. ATF-409, 64 FR 13683, Mar. 22, 1999]

Sec. 24.236 Losses of spirits.

Losses by theft or any other cause of spirits while on bonded wine premises or in transit are to be determined and reported at the time the losses are discovered. A physical inventory of the spirits storage tanks will be taken at the close of any month during which spirits were used in wine production, or upon completion of spirits use for the month or at any other time required by the appropriate TTB officer. Any loss which has not previously been reported will be determined by the inventory. (Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1323, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5008, 5373))

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[T.D. ATF-299, 55 FR 24989, June 19, 1990, as amended by T.D. ATF-409, 64 FR 13683, Mar. 22, 1999]

Sec. 24.242 Authority to use greater quantities of decolorizing material in juice or wine.

(a) Proprietor's notice. If the proprietor desires to remove color from juice prior to fermentation or if color in excess of that normally present in wine develops during the production or storage of a particular lot or lots, and if the proprietor desires to use activated carbon in excess of twenty-five pounds per 1,000 gallons (3.0 grams per liter) of juice or wine to remove this color, the proprietor, prior to starting the treatment, shall submit to the appropriate TTB officer a written notice for each lot of juice or wine to be treated for decolorization. The written notice will state

- (1) The reason for the treatment;
- (2) The volume, kind, and type of juice or wine to be treated;
- (3) The kind and quantity of decolorizing material to be used; and,
- (4) The length of time the decolorizing material is in contact with

the juice or wine.

(b) Action by the appropriate TTB officer on proprietor's notice. Upon receipt of the proprietor's notice, the appropriate TTB officer may require the proprietor to submit samples representative of the lot of juice or wine for examination by the TTB laboratory.

(c) Samples and chemical analysis--(1) Samples. If the appropriate TTB officer requires samples under paragraph (b) of this section, the proprietor shall prepare samples representative of the lot of juice or wine for examination. The samples will consist of:

- (i) The juice or wine before treatment with decolorizing material,
 - (ii) The juice or wine after treatment with decolorizing material,
- and
- (iii) The decolorizing material used.

(2) Chemical analysis. If the TTB chemical analyses of the samples shows that the proposed treatment would remove only color and will not remove the vinous characteristics of the wine, the appropriate TTB officer will return an approved copy of the proprietor's written notice. If the TTB chemical analysis shows that the proposed treatment is not acceptable, the appropriate TTB officer will send the proprietor a letter stating the reason(s) for disallowing the proposed treatment. (Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1383, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5382))

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[T.D. ATF-299, 55 FR 24989, June 19, 1990, as amended by T.D. ATF-409, 64 FR 13683, Mar. 22, 1999]

Sec. 24.291 Removal of wine for vinegar production.

(a) General. Still wine may be removed from bonded wine premises, without payment of tax, for use in the manufacture of vinegar. Where the proprietor is also the proprietor of a vinegar plant located adjacent or contiguous to the bonded wine premises, wine may be removed without payment of tax upon filing a consent of surety extending the terms of the wine bond to cover the removal and use of wine in the manufacture of vinegar. Where the proprietor of a vinegar plant is not the proprietor of an adjacent or contiguous bonded wine premises, the proprietor of the vinegar plant may receive wine, without payment of tax, for use in the manufacture of vinegar by filing a bond under the provisions of Sec. 24.146(c) to cover the removal to and use of wine at the vinegar plant.

(b) Vinegar plant records. Each proprietor of a vinegar plant to which wine is shipped, without payment of tax, for use in the manufacture of vinegar shall keep a record of all wine received and used for the manufacture of vinegar and of all vinegar produced and disposed of. The record will show the following information:

(1) The volume and alcohol content of all wine received, the date of receipt, and the name, registry number, and address of the bonded wine premises from which received;

(2) The volume and alcohol content of all wine used in the manufacture of vinegar, and the date of use;

(3) The volume and grain strength of the vinegar produced, and the date of production. (This volume will be reported on a 100-grain strength basis and will be determined by multiplying the wine gallons of vinegar produced by the grain strength thereof and dividing the result by 100); and

(4) The names and addresses of all persons to whom vinegar is shipped, the volume and grain strength shipped to each, and the date of shipment. (Grain strength is a measure of the acetic acid content of vinegar, expressed as 10 times the grams of acetic acid per 100 mL).

(c) Inspection of vinegar plants. The proprietor of a vinegar plant receiving wine, without payment of tax, for use in the manufacture of vinegar shall make the premises and records available for inspection by appropriate TTB officers during regular business hours. (August 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 903, as amended (26 U.S.C. 7606); Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1380, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5362))

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