

§ 1.471-7

26 CFR Ch. I (4-1-02 Edition)

For taxable years beginning after August 22, 1997, a taxpayer using the unit livestock method must, however, annually reevaluate the unit livestock prices and must adjust the prices upward to reflect increases in the costs of raising livestock. The consent of the Commissioner is not required to make such upward adjustments. No other changes in the classification of animals or unit prices shall be made without the consent of the Commissioner. See § 1.263A-4 for rules regarding the computation of costs for purposes of the unit-livestock-price-method.

(g) A livestock raiser who uses the “unit-livestock-price method” must include in his inventory at cost any livestock purchased, except that animals purchased for draft, breeding, or dairy purposes can, at the election of the livestock raiser, be included in inventory or be treated as capital assets subject to depreciation after maturity. If the animals purchased are not mature at the time of purchase, the cost should be increased at the end of each taxable year in accordance with the established unit prices, except that no increase is to be made in the taxable year of purchase if the animal is acquired during the last six months of that year. If the records maintained permit identification of a purchased animal, the cost of such animal will be eliminated from the closing inventory in the event of its sale or loss. Otherwise, the first-in, first-out method of valuing inventories must be applied.

(h) If a taxpayer using the “farm-price method” desires to adopt the “unit-livestock-price method” in valuing his inventories of livestock, permission for the change shall first be secured from the Commissioner as provided in paragraph (e) of § 1.446-1. However, a taxpayer who has filed returns on the basis of inventories at cost, or cost or market whichever is lower, may adopt the “unit-livestock-price method” for valuing his inventories of livestock without formal application for permission, but the classifications and unit prices selected are subject to approval by the district director upon examination of the taxpayer’s return. A livestock raiser who has adopted a constant unit-price method of valuing livestock inventories and filed returns

on that basis will be considered as having elected the “unit-livestock-price method”.

(i) If returns have been made in which the taxable income has been computed upon incomplete inventories, the abnormality should be corrected by submitting with the return for the current taxable year a statement for the preceding taxable year. In this statement such adjustments shall be made as are necessary to bring the closing inventory for the preceding taxable year into agreement with the opening complete inventory for the current taxable year. If necessary clearly to reflect income, similar adjustments may be made as at the beginning of the preceding year or years, and the tax, if any be due, shall be assessed and paid at the rate of tax in effect for such year or years.

[T.D. 6500, 25 FR 11726, Nov. 26, 1960, as amended by T.D. 8131, 52 FR 10084, Mar. 30, 1987; T.D. 8729, 62 FR 44551, Aug. 22, 1997; T.D. 8897, 65 FR 50650, Aug. 21, 2000]

§ 1.471-7 Inventories of miners and manufacturers.

A taxpayer engaged in mining or manufacturing who by a single process or uniform series of processes derives a product of two or more kinds, sizes, or grades, the unit cost of which is substantially alike, and who in conformity to a recognized trade practice allocates an amount of cost to each kind, size, or grade of product, which in the aggregate will absorb the total cost of production, may, with the consent of the Commissioner, use such allocated cost as a basis for pricing inventories, provided such allocation bears a reasonable relation to the respective selling values of the different kinds, sizes, or grades of product. See section 472 as to last-in, first-out inventories.

[T.D. 6500, 25 FR 11726, Nov. 26, 1960]

§ 1.471-8 Inventories of retail merchants.

(a) Retail merchants who employ what is known as the “retail method” of pricing inventories may make their returns upon that method, provided that the use of such method is designated upon the return, that accurate accounts are kept, and that such method is consistently adhered to unless a