

§915.65

finds that such provisions do not tend to effectuate the declared policy of the act.

(c) The Secretary shall terminate the provisions of this part whenever the Secretary finds by referendum or otherwise that such termination is favored by a majority of the producers: *Provided*, That such majority has, during a representative period determined by the Secretary, produced more than 50 percent of the volume of the avocados produced within the production area: *And Provided further*, That such termination shall be announced by March 15 of the then current fiscal year.

(d) The Secretary shall conduct a referendum as soon as practicable after the end of the fiscal year ending March 31, 1990, and at such time every sixth year thereafter, to ascertain whether continuance of this part is favored by avocado producers. The Secretary may terminate the provisions of this part at the end of any fiscal year in which the Secretary has found that continuance of this part is not favored by producers who, during a representative period determined by the Secretary, have been engaged in the production for market of avocados in the production area: *Provided*, That termination of this part shall be effective only if announced on or before March 15 of the then current fiscal year.

(e) The provisions of this part shall, in any event, terminate whenever the provisions of the Act authorizing them cease to be in effect.

[19 FR 3439, June 11, 1954. Redesignated at 26 FR 12751, Dec. 30, 1961, and amended at 52 FR 7118, Mar. 9, 1987]

§915.65 Proceedings after termination.

(a) Upon the termination of the provisions of this part, the committee shall, for the purpose of liquidating the affairs of the committee, continue as trustees of all the funds and property then in its possession, or under its control, including claims for any funds unpaid or property not delivered at the time of such termination.

(b) The said trustees shall (1) continue in such capacity until discharged by the Secretary; (2) from time to time account for all receipts and disbursements and deliver all property on hand, together with all books and records of

7 CFR Ch. IX (1-1-02 Edition)

the committee and of the trustees, to such persons as the Secretary may direct; and (3) upon the request of the Secretary, execute such assignments or other instruments necessary or appropriate to vest in such person, full title and right to all of the funds, property, and claims vested in the committee or the trustees pursuant thereto.

(c) Any person to whom funds, property, or claims have been transferred or delivered, pursuant to this section, shall be subject to the same obligation imposed upon the committee and upon the trustees.

§915.66 Effect of termination or amendment.

Unless otherwise expressly provided by the Secretary, the termination of this part or of any regulation issued pursuant to this part, or the issuance of any amendment to either thereof, shall not (a) affect or waive any right, duty, obligation, or liability which shall have arisen or which may thereafter arise in connection with any provision of this part or any regulation issued under this part, or (b) release or extinguish any violation of this part or of any regulation issued under this part, or (c) affect or impair any rights or remedies of the Secretary or of any other person with respect to any such violation.

§915.67 Duration of immunities.

The benefits, privileges, and immunities conferred upon any person by virtue of this part shall cease upon its termination, except with respect to acts done under and during the existence of this part.

§915.68 Agents.

The Secretary may, by designation in writing, name any officer or employee of the United States, or name any agency or division in the United States Department of Agriculture, to act as his agent or representative in connection with any of the provisions of this part.

§915.69 Derogation.

Nothing contained in this part is, or shall be construed to be, in derogation or in modification of the rights of the Secretary or of the United States (a) to

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§915.115

exercise any powers granted by the act or otherwise, or (b) in accordance with such powers, to act in the premises whenever such action is deemed advisable.

§915.70 Personal liability.

No member or alternate member of the committee and no employee or agent of the committee shall be held personally responsible, either individually or jointly with others, in any way whatsoever, to any person for errors in judgment, mistakes, or other acts, either of commission or omission, as such member, alternate, employee, or agent, except for acts of dishonesty, willful misconduct, or gross negligence.

§915.71 Separability.

If any provision of this part is declared invalid or the applicability thereof to any person, circumstance, or thing is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this part or the applicability thereof to any other person, circumstance, or thing shall not be affected thereby.

Subpart—Rules and Regulations

§915.110 Exemption certificates.

Exemption certificates under §915.53 shall be issued by the Avocado Administrative Committee pursuant to the following rules and regulations:

(a) The grower must make application for exemption on a form supplied by the committee. A separate application must be made for each variety or classification of avocados and shall contain the following:

- (1) Name and address of the applicant, and date of application;
- (2) District in which the applicant's grove is located;
- (3) Regulation from which exemption is requested;
- (4) Variety for which exemption is requested;
- (5) Location (by county, highway, rural route, distance from nearest town, etc.) of grove from which avocados are to be shipped pursuant to the requested exemption certificate;
- (6) Information as to the average size of such avocados and the reasons why

applicant believes he is entitled to an exemption certificate; and

(7) Name of the person who will handle any exempted fruit if different than the applicant.

(b) Upon receipt of an application for exemption certificate, the Avocado Administrative Committee shall check all information furnished by the applicant and shall conduct such investigations concerning the maturity of the applicant's avocados as may be necessary to determine whether the application shall be approved or denied.

(c) Approval of the application shall be evidenced by the issuance to the applicant, by the Manager of the Avocado Administrative Committee on its behalf, of one or more exemption certificates which shall authorize the handling of the quantity of the applicant's avocados which the committee has determined is mature.

(d) If the application is denied, the applicant shall be informed of such denial by written notice stating the reasons therefor.

[19 FR 5439, Aug. 26, 1954. Redesignated at 26 FR 12751, Dec. 30, 1961]

§915.115 Nomination procedure.

(a) Any grower who resides outside the production area and desires to be represented in a nomination meeting by a duly authorized agent and to have such grower's vote cast by such agent in the nomination and election of nominees for grower members and alternate members to fill positions on the Avocado Administrative Committee, as provided in §915.22(b)(2), shall submit to the committee, not later than January 20, a written statement containing the following:

- (1) Name of grower;
- (2) Mailing address;
- (3) Location of each avocado grove (either legal or from established landmarks);
- (4) Number of avocado trees owned;
- (5) Number of 55-pound units of avocados marketed to date during the current season;
- (6) Name of the handler of the fruit marketed;
- (7) Authorization, including the name and address, of the person who is to represent said grower at the nomination meeting.