

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§ 947.68

under rules and regulations recommended by the committee, and approved by the Secretary.

(c) Insofar as the requirements of this section are concerned, the length of time for which an inspection certificate is valid may be established by the committee with the approval of the Secretary.

(d) When potatoes are inspected in accordance with the requirements of this section, a copy of each inspection certificate issued shall be made available to the committee by the inspection service.

EXEMPTIONS

§ 947.65 Procedure.

The committee may adopt, subject to approval of the Secretary, the procedures pursuant to which certificates of exemption will be issued to producers or handlers.

§ 947.66 Granting exemptions.

(a) The committee may issue certificates of exemption to any producer who applies for such exemption and furnishes adequate evidence to the committee: (1) That by reason of a regulation issued pursuant to § 947.52 he will be prevented from handling as large a proportion of his production as the average proportion of production handled by all producers in said applicant's immediate production area; and (2) that the grade, size, or quality of the applicant's potatoes have been adversely affected by acts beyond the applicant's control and by acts beyond reasonable expectation. Each certificate shall permit the producer to handle the amount of potatoes specified thereon. Such certificates shall be transferred with such potatoes at time of shipment.

(b) The committee may issue certificates of exemption to any handler who applies for such exemption and furnishes adequate evidence to the committee: (1) That by reason of a regulation issued pursuant to § 947.52 he will be prevented from handling as large a proportion of his storage holdings of ungraded potatoes, acquired during or immediately following the digging season, as the average proportion of ungraded storage holdings handled by

all handlers in said applicant's immediate shipping area; and (2) that the grade, size, or quality of the applicant's potatoes have been adversely affected by acts beyond the applicant's control and by acts beyond reasonable expectation. Each certificate shall permit the handler to handle the amount of potatoes specified thereon. Such certificate shall be transferred with such potatoes at time of shipment.

(c) The committee shall be permitted at any time to make a thorough investigation of any producer's or handler's claim pertaining to exemptions.

§ 947.67 Appeal.

If any applicant for exemption certificates is dissatisfied with the determination by the committee with respect to his application, said applicant may file an appeal with the committee. Such an appeal must be taken promptly after the determination by the committee from which the appeal is taken. Any applicant filing an appeal shall furnish evidence satisfactory to the committee for a determination on the appeal. The committee shall thereupon reconsider the application, examine all available evidence, and make a final determination concerning the application. The committee shall notify the appellant of the final determination and shall furnish the Secretary with a copy of the appeal and a statement of considerations involved in making the final determination.

§ 947.68 Review, records, and reports of exemptions.

(a) The Secretary shall have the right to modify, change, alter, or rescind any procedure and any exemptions granted pursuant to §§ 947.65, 947.66, 947.67, or any combination thereof.

(b) The committee shall maintain a record of all applications submitted for exemption certificates, a record of all exemption certificates issued and denied and the quantity of potatoes covered by such exemption certificates, a record of the amount of potatoes handled under exemption certificates, a record of appeals for reconsideration of applications, and such information as may be requested by the Secretary. Periodic reports on such records shall