

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§ 981.47

standard agency commission costs not to exceed 15 percent.

(d) *Promotion guidelines.* All marketing promotion activity engaged in by the Board, including paid advertising, shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

(1) No marketing promotion, including paid advertising shall refer to any private brand, private trademark or private trade name;

(2) No promotion or advertising shall disparage the quality, use, value, or sale of like or any other agricultural commodity or product, and no false or unwarranted claims shall be made in connection with the product;

(3) No promotion or advertising shall be undertaken without reason to believe that returns to producers will be improved by such activity; and

(4) Upon conclusion of each activity, but at least annually, the Board shall summarize and report the results of such activity to its members and to the Secretary.

(e) *Rules and regulations.* Before any project involving marketing promotion, including paid advertising and the crediting of the pro rata expense assessment obligation of handlers is undertaken pursuant to this section, the Secretary, after recommendation by the Board, shall prescribe appropriate rules and regulations as are necessary to effectively regulate such activity.

[37 FR 3984, Feb. 25, 1972, as amended at 61 FR 32921, June 26, 1996]

QUALITY CONTROL

§ 981.42 Quality control.

(a) *Incoming.* Except as provided in this paragraph, each handler shall cause to be determined, through the inspection agency, and at handler expense, the percent of inedible kernels in each variety received by him and shall report the determination to the Board. The quantity of inedible kernels in each variety in excess of two percent of the kernel weight received, shall constitute a weight obligation to be accumulated in the course of processing and shall be delivered to the Board, or Board accepted crushers, feed manufacturers, or feeders. The Board, with the approval of the Secretary, may change

this percentage for any crop year, may authorize additional outlets, may exempt bleaching stock from inedible kernel determination or obligation and may establish rules and regulations necessary and incidental to the administration of this provision, including the method of determining inedible kernel content and satisfaction of the disposition obligation. The Board for good cause may waive portions of obligations for those handlers not generating inedible material from such sources as blanching or manufacturing.

(b) *Outgoing.* For any crop year the Board may establish, with the approval of the Secretary, such minimum quality and inspection requirements applicable to almonds to be handled or to be processed into manufactured products, as will contribute to orderly marketing or be in the public interest. In such crop year, no handler shall handle or process almonds into manufactured items or products unless they meet the applicable requirements as evidenced by certification acceptable to the Board. The Board, with the approval of the Secretary, may establish rules and regulations necessary and incidental to the administration of this provision.

[41 FR 26853, June 30, 1976, as amended at 41 FR 53651, Dec. 8, 1976]

VOLUME REGULATION

§ 981.45 General.

In order to effectuate the declared policy of the act, no handler shall handle almonds except in accordance with the terms and conditions of this part.

§ 981.46 Withholding reserve.

When a reserve percentage has been fixed for any crop year, as hereinafter provided, no handler shall handle almonds except on condition that he comply with the requirements in respect to withholding reserve almonds and the prescribed disposition thereof.

§ 981.47 Method of establishing salable and reserve percentages.

Whenever the Secretary finds, from the recommendations and supporting information supplied by the Board or from any other available information, that to designate the percentages of almonds during any crop year which

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shall be salable almonds and reserve almonds would tend to effectuate the declared policy of the act, he shall designate such percentages. Except as provided in §981.50 the salable and reserve percentages shall each be applied to the kernel weight of almonds received by a handler for his own account during the crop year. In establishing such salable and reserve percentages, the Secretary shall give consideration to the ratio of estimated trade demand (domestic plus export, less the handler carryover available to satisfy trade demand plus the desirable handler carryover at the end of the crop year) to the estimated production of marketable almonds (all expressed in terms of kernel weight) or the allocation quantity (marketable production plus almonds diverted to oil or feed when eligible for reserve satisfaction) whichever is applicable; the recommendation submitted to him by the Board; and such other information as he deems appropriate. The total of the salable and reserve percentages established each crop year shall equal 100 percent.

[41 FR 26853, June 30, 1976, as amended at 61 FR 32921, June 26, 1996]

§981.48 Increase of salable percentage.

Upon request filed prior to May 15 by the Board or, if the Board should fail to request, by two or more handlers who have handled at least 15 percent of all almonds handled in the preceding crop year, and after findings of fact (based upon a revision of the estimates required under §981.49 and other pertinent information) that the quantity of salable almonds is not sufficient to satisfy trade demand and desirable carryover requirements for the crop year, the Secretary may increase the salable percentage. Such findings shall be made in the manner specified in §981.47.

§981.49 Board estimates and recommendations.

To aid the Secretary in fixing the salable and reserve percentages, the Board shall furnish to the Secretary, not later than August 1, the following estimates (kernel weight basis) and recommendations for the crop year, each of which, or any later revisions

thereof, shall be adopted by the affirmative vote of at least six members:

- (a) The quantity of marketable almonds to be produced;
- (b) The estimated handler carryover and the estimated reserve inventory as of July 31;
- (c) The desirable handler carryover and the probable reserve inventory at the end of the crop year;
- (d) The trade demand, taking into consideration anticipated imports, economic conditions and the anticipated market price (within the limitations of the act); and
- (e) The recommended salable and reserve percentages to be established.

The Board shall also furnish to the Secretary a complete report of the proceedings of the Board meeting at which the recommended salable and reserve percentages were considered. If, for any reason, the Board fails to make these estimates or to recommend to the Secretary salable and reserve percentages as required hereby, reports representing the views of members with respect to such matters may be submitted to the Secretary who may act on the basis of such reports or other information available to him.

[35 FR 11372, July 16, 1970, as amended at 41 FR 26853, June 30, 1976; 61 FR 32921, June 26, 1996]

§981.50 Reserve obligation.

Whenever salable and reserve percentages are in effect for a crop year, each handler shall withhold from handling a quantity of almonds having a kernel weight equal to the reserve percentage of the kernel weight of all almonds such handler receives for his own account during the crop year: *Provided*, That, any quantity of almonds delivered to outlets such as poultry or animal feed or crushing into oil, in a manner permitting accountability to the Board, shall not be included in such receipts. The quantity of almonds hereby required to be withheld from handling shall constitute, and may be referred to as the "reserve" or "reserve obligation" of a handler. The almonds handled as salable almonds by any handler, in accordance with the provisions of this part, shall be deemed to be that handler's quota fixed by the Secretary