

(b) For the purposes of determining the 4-year acreage average for a historic peanut producer under this part, the Deputy Administrator shall not exclude any crop year in which the producer did not plant peanuts.

(c) If more than one historic peanut producer shared in the risk of producing the crop on a farm, the historic peanut producers shall receive the proportional share of the number of acres planted or prevented from being planted to peanuts for harvest on the farm, based on the sharing arrangement that was in effect among the producers for the crop.

(d) When a historic peanut producer is no longer living or when an entity composed of historic peanut producers has been dissolved, and in other similar situations, the Deputy Administrator shall make the base determinations under this subpart in the manner determined to be fair and reasonable.

§ 1412.702 Determination of average peanut yield.

(a) The Deputy Administrator shall determine, for each historic peanut producer, the average yield for peanuts on each farm the historic peanut producer planted peanuts for harvest for the 1998 through 2001 crop years, excluding any crop year in which the producer did not plant or was prevented from planting peanuts. Production information reported according to part 729 of this chapter will be used by the Deputy Administrator for determining yields under this section.

(b)(1) For the purposes of determining the 4-year average yield for a historic peanut producer under paragraph (a) of this section, the historic peanut producer may elect to substitute for a farm for not more than 3 of the 1998 through 2001 crop years in which the historic peanut producer planted peanuts on the farm, the average harvested yield for peanuts produced in the county in which the farm is located for the 1990 through 1997 crop years.

(2) The average harvested yield for peanuts produced in a county which will be used in paragraph (b)(1) of this section shall be the NASS irrigated and non-irrigated yields or, in States and counties where the irrigated and non-

irrigated NASS data is unavailable, the NASS blended yield for the county.

(3) If NASS harvested peanut yield data is unavailable, for the purposes set forth in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, the harvested county average peanut yield, determined according to peanut production information reported according to part 729 of this chapter, shall be used.

(c) The average harvested yield, to be used at the producer's option in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, shall be determined by calculating the weighted 7-year average for each type of yield for the years 1990 through 1997 of:

(1) The NASS harvested peanut irrigated yield for the county for each year;

(2) The NASS harvested peanut non-irrigated yield for the county for each year;

(3) The NASS harvested peanut blended yield for all counties where the yields in paragraphs (c)(1) and (c)(2) of this section are unavailable for each year for all acreage regardless of whether or not the acres were irrigated or nonirrigated;

(4) The average yield for the county, determined in accordance with paragraph (b)(3) of this section for each year.

§ 1412.703 Assignment of average peanut yields and average peanut acreages to farms.

(a) The Deputy Administrator shall give each historical peanut producer an opportunity to assign the average peanut yield determined in accordance with § 1412.702 and average acreage determined in accordance with § 1412.701 for each farm of the historic peanut producer to cropland on that farm or another farm in the same State or a contiguous State.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this section, the average acreage determined under § 1412.701 for a farm may be assigned to a farm in a contiguous state only if either of the following apply:

(1) The historic peanut producer making the assignment produced peanuts in that State during at least one of the 1998 through 2001 crop years; or

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(2) As of March 31, 2003, the historic peanut producer is a producer on a farm in that State.

(c) The Deputy Administrator shall provide notice to historic peanut producers regarding the opportunity to assign average peanut yields and average acreages to farms under paragraph (a) of this section. The notice shall provide the following information:

(1) Notice that the opportunity to make the assignments is being provided only once;

(2) A description of the limitations in paragraph (b) of this section on their ability to make their assignments; and

(3) Information regarding the manner in which the assignments must be made and the time periods and manner in which notice of the assignments must be submitted to the Deputy Administrator.

(d) Not later than March 31, 2003, an historic peanut producer shall submit to the Deputy Administrator notice of the assignments made by the producer under this section. If a historic peanut producer fails to submit such notice by that date, that base and yield shall be assigned to the most recent farm associated with such base and yield, as determined by FSA records.

(e) The average of all yields assigned by a historic peanut producer under paragraph (a) of this section to a farm shall be considered to be the payment yield for that farm for the purpose of making direct and payments and counter-cyclical payments under this part, beginning with crop year 2003.

(f) The total number of acres assigned by historic peanut producers under paragraph (b) of this section to a farm shall be considered to be the farm's base acres for peanuts for the purpose of making direct payments and counter-cyclical payments under this part, beginning with crop year 2003.

[67 FR 64751, Oct. 21, 2002, as amended at 68 FR 37939, June 26, 2003; 68 FR 67939, Dec. 5, 2003]

Subpart H—Peanut Quota Buyout Program

SOURCE: 67 FR 61472, Oct. 1, 2002, unless otherwise noted. Redesignated at 67 FR 64751, Oct. 21, 2002.

§ 1412.801 Applicability.

The regulations in this subpart govern the Peanut Quota Buyout Program of the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). Generally, CCC will enter into contracts with eligible peanut quota holders that provide for payments to such holders based upon the amount of the 2001 crop peanut quota assigned to farms owned by such holders as of May 13, 2002.

§ 1412.802 Administration.

(a) The program will be administered under the general supervision of the Executive Vice President, CCC, and shall be carried out by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) State and county committees (State and county committees).

(b) State and county committees, their representatives and employees, have no authority to modify or waive provisions of this subpart, except as provided in paragraph (e) of this section.

(c) The State committee shall take any action required by the regulations of this part that the county committee has not taken. The State committee shall also:

(1) Correct, or require a county committee to correct any action taken by such county committee that is not in accordance with this part; or

(2) Require a county committee to withhold taking any action that is not in accordance with this part.

(d) No provision or delegation to a State or county committee shall preclude the Executive Vice President, CCC, or a designee, from determining any question arising under the program or from reversing or modifying any determination made by a State or county committee.

(e) The Deputy Administrator may authorize State and county committees to waive or modify deadlines, except statutory deadlines, and other non-statutory requirements in cases where lateness or failure to meet such other requirements does not adversely affect operation of the program.

(f) A representative of CCC may execute a contract for a quota buyout only under the terms and conditions of this part, and as determined and announced by the Executive Vice President, CCC.