

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§ 946.50

§ 946.41 Assessments.

Each handler shall pay to the committee upon demand, his pro rata share of the expenses authorized by the Secretary for each fiscal period. Each handler's pro rata share shall be the rate of assessment per hundredweight fixed by the Secretary times the quantity of potatoes which he handles as the first handler thereof. At any time during or after a fiscal period, the Secretary may increase the rate of assessment as necessary to cover authorized expenses. Such increase shall be applicable to all potatoes handled during the given fiscal period. The payment of expenses for the maintenance and functioning of the committee may be required during periods when no regulations are in effect. If a handler does not pay his assessment within the time prescribed by the committee, the assessment may be increased by a late payment charge or an interest charge, or both, at rates prescribed by the committee with the approval of the Secretary.

[37 FR 10917, June 1, 1972]

§ 946.42 Accounting.

(a) *Excess funds.* At the end of a fiscal period, funds in excess of the year's expenses shall be placed in an operating reserve not to exceed approximately two fiscal periods' operational expenses or such lower limits as the committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may establish. Funds in such reserve shall be available for use by the committee for expenses authorized pursuant to § 946.40. Funds in excess of those placed in the operating reserve shall be refunded to handlers. Each handler's share of such excess shall be the amount of assessments he paid in excess of his pro rata share of the actual expenses of the committee and the addition, if any, to the operating reserve.

(b) *Accounting of funds upon termination of order.* Any money collected as assessments pursuant to this subpart and remaining unexpended in the possession of the committee after termination of this part shall be distributed in such manner as the Secretary may direct: *Provided*, That to the extent practical, such funds shall be returned

pro rata to the persons from whom such funds were collected.

[37 FR 10917, June 1, 1972]

§ 946.43 Funds.

All funds received by the committee pursuant to any provisions of this subpart shall be used solely for the purposes specified in this subpart and shall be accounted for in the following manner:

(a) The Secretary may at any time require the committee and its members to account for all receipts and disbursements; and

(b) Whenever any person ceases to be a committee member or alternate, he shall account for all receipts and disbursements and deliver all property and funds in his hands, together with all books and records in his possession, to his successor in office or to such person as the Secretary may designate, and shall execute such assignments and other instruments as may be necessary or appropriate to vest in such successor or in such designated person the right to all the property, funds, or claims vested in such member or alternate.

REGULATION

§ 946.50 Marketing policy.

(a) Prior to each marketing season, the committee shall consider and prepare a policy statement for the marketing of potatoes. In developing its marketing policy, the committee shall investigate relevant supply and demand conditions for potatoes. In such investigations, the committee shall give appropriate considerations to the following:

(1) Market prices of potatoes, including prices by grade, size, quality, and maturity in different packs of fresh potatoes and of the various forms of processed potatoes;

(2) Supplies of potatoes by grade, size, quality, and maturity in the production area and in other production areas, of fresh potatoes, and the supplies of various forms of processed potatoes;

(3) The trend and level of consumer income;

(4) Establishing and maintaining orderly marketing conditions for potatoes;

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(5) Orderly marketing of potatoes as will be in the public interest; and
(6) Other relevant factors.

(b) In the event it becomes advisable to deviate from such marketing policy because of changed supply and demand conditions, the committee shall formulate a revised marketing policy statement in accordance with the appropriate considerations in paragraph (a) of this section.

(c) The committee shall submit a report to the Secretary setting forth such marketing policy. Notice of each such marketing policy and any revision thereof shall be given to producers, handlers, and other interested parties by bulletins, newspapers, or other appropriate media, and copies thereof shall be available for examination at the committee office to all interested parties.

[37 FR 10917, June 1, 1972]

§ 946.51 Recommendation for regulations.

The committee shall recommend to the Secretary regulations, or amendments, modifications, suspension, or termination thereof, whenever it finds that such regulations as provided in § 946.52 are in accordance with the marketing policy established pursuant to § 946.50 and that such regulations will tend to effectuate the declared policy of the act.

[37 FR 10917, June 1, 1972]

§ 946.52 Issuance of regulations.

(a) The Secretary shall limit the shipment of potatoes as set forth in this subpart whenever he finds from the recommendation and information submitted by the committee, or from other available information, that it would tend to effectuate the declared policy of the act:

(1) To regulate, in any or all portions of the production area the handling of particular grades, sizes, qualities or maturity of any or all varieties of potatoes during any period;

(2) To regulate the handling of particular grades, sizes, qualities or maturities of any or all varieties of potatoes, or for any combination of the foregoing during any period in the States of Oregon and Idaho which have

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been shipped from the production area to specified locations therein for grading or storage pursuant to § 946.54;

(3) To regulate the handling of particular grades, sizes, qualities or maturities of any or all varieties differently for: Different portions of the production area, different uses or outlets, different packs or for any combination of the foregoing, during any period;

(4) To regulate the handling of potatoes by establishing in terms of grades, sizes, or both, minimum standards of quality and maturity.

(5) To regulate the size, capacity, weight, dimensions, pack, and marking or labeling of the container, or containers, which may be used in the packing or handling of potatoes, or both.

(b) The Secretary may amend any regulation issued under this subpart whenever he finds that such amendment would tend to effectuate the declared policy of the act. The Secretary may also terminate or suspend any regulation whenever he finds that such regulation obstructs or no longer tends to effectuate the declared policy of the act.

(c) The Secretary shall notify the committee of any such regulation issued pursuant to this section and the committee shall give reasonable notice thereof to handlers.

[37 FR 10917, June 1, 1972, as amended at 70 FR 41134, July 18, 2005]

§ 946.53 Minimum quantities.

The committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may establish, for any or all portions of the production area, minimum quantities below which shipments will be free from regulations issued pursuant to this part.

[37 FR 10918, June 1, 1972]

§ 946.54 Shipments for specified purposes.

(a) Whenever the Secretary finds, upon the basis of the recommendations and information submitted by the committee, or from other available information, that it will tend to effectuate the declared policy of the act, he shall modify, suspend, or terminate any or all regulations issued pursuant to this