

REPORTS

Subpart—Assessment Rates**§ 947.247 Assessment rate.**

On and after July 1, 1997, an assessment rate of \$0.004 per hundredweight is established for Oregon-California potatoes.

[61 FR 27248, May 31, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 27171, May 19, 1997]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 65 FR 42278, July 10, 2000, § 947.247 was suspended, effective July 1, 2000.

Subpart—Handling Regulations**§ 947.340 Handling regulation.**

No person shall handle any variety of potatoes grown in the production area, except for non-white fleshed varieties of potatoes, unless such potatoes meet the requirements specified in paragraphs (a) through (f) of this section, or unless such potatoes are handled in accordance with paragraphs (g) and (h), or (i) of this section.

(a) *Grade requirements.* Such potatoes grade at least U.S. No. 2.

(b) *Size requirements.* (1) Such potatoes shipped to points within the continental United States shall be at least 2 inches in diameter or weigh at least 4 ounces, and such potatoes shipped to export destinations shall be at least 1½ inches in diameter.

(2) Red-skinned varieties of potatoes may be shipped without regard to any minimum size requirement, if they otherwise grade at least U.S. No. 1.

(3) All non-red-skinned varieties of potatoes that measure 1¾ inches in diameter or less may be shipped if such potatoes otherwise grade at least U.S. No. 1.

(c) *Cleanliness requirements.* All varieties and grades—As required in the United States Standards for Grades of Potatoes, except that U.S. Commercial may be no more than “slightly dirty.”

(d) *Maturity (skinning) requirements.* (1) Round and White Rose varieties: not more than “moderately skinned.”

(2) Other Long Varieties (including but not limited to Russet Burbank and Norgold): not more than “slightly skinned.”

(3) Not to exceed a total of 100 hundredweight of potatoes may be handled during any seven day period without meeting these maturity requirements. Prior to shipment of potatoes exempt from the above maturity requirements, the handler shall obtain from the committee a Certificate of Privilege.

(e) *Pack.* Potatoes packed in cartons shall be either: (1) U.S. No. 1 grade or better, except that potatoes that fail to meet the U.S. No. 1 grade only because of hollow heart and/or internal discoloration may be shipped provided the lot contains not more than 10 percent damage by hollow heart and/or internal discoloration, or not more than 5 percent serious damage by internal defects; or (2) U.S. No. 2 potatoes weighing at least 10 ounces.

(f) *Inspection.* (1) Except when relieved by paragraphs (g) and (h), or (i) of this section and paragraph (f)(2) of this section, no person shall handle potatoes without first obtaining inspection from an authorized representative of the Federal-State Inspection Service.

(2) Handlers making shipments from facilities located in an area where inspection costs would otherwise exceed one and one-half times the current per-hundredweight inspection fee, are exempt from on-site inspection provided such handler has made application to the committee for inspection exemption on forms supplied by the committee, and provided further that such handler signs an agreement with the committee to report each shipment on a daily basis and pay the committee a sum equal to the current inspection fee.

(3) For the purpose of operation under this part each required inspection certificate is hereby determined, pursuant to § 947.60(c) to be valid for a period of not to exceed 14 days following completion of inspection as shown on the certificate. The validity period of an inspection certificate covering inspected and certified potatoes that are stored in mechanically refrigerated storage within 14 days of the inspection shall be 14 days plus the number of days that the potatoes were held in refrigerated storage.