

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§ 948.50

§ 948.31 Investigation.

An area committee shall be permitted at any time to make a thorough investigation of any applicant's claim pertaining to exemptions.

§ 948.32 Appeal.

If any applicant for exemption certificates is dissatisfied with the determination by an area committee with respect to his application, he may file an appeal with the committee. Any applicant filing an appeal shall furnish evidence satisfactory to the committee for a determination on the appeal.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

§ 948.35 Research and development.

The committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may provide for the establishment of marketing research and development projects designed to assist, improve, or promote the marketing, distribution, and consumption of potatoes and may make available committee information and data to any person, or to any employee of an agency or its agent, authorized by the committee as its agent with the approval of the Secretary, to conduct such projects.

INSPECTION

§ 948.40 Inspection and certification.

(a) During any period in which the handling of potatoes is regulated pursuant to § 948.20 through § 948.24, inclusive, no handler shall handle potatoes unless such potatoes are inspected by an authorized representative of the Federal or a Federal-State Inspection Service and are covered by a valid inspection certificate, except when relieved of such requirements by § 948.22(b), § 948.23, or § 948.40(b).

(b) Rules may be issued by the Secretary, upon recommendation of the Colorado Potato Committee requiring inspection on regraded, resorted or repacked lots, or providing for special inspection requirements or relief therefrom. Such rules may provide distinctions, insofar as practical, between handling at shipping point and handling in receiving markets within the production area.

(c) Upon recommendation of an area committee and approval by the Secretary, any or all potatoes so inspected and certified shall be identified by appropriate seals, stamps, or tags to be affixed to the containers by the handler under the direction and supervision of a Federal or Federal-State Inspector or the committee. Master containers may bear the identification instead of the individual containers within said master container.

(d) 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.

(e) 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.

(f) Area committees with the approval of the Colorado Potato Committee may recommend and the Secretary may require that no handler shall transport or cause the transportation of potatoes by motor vehicle or by other means unless such shipment is accompanied by a copy of the inspection certificate issued thereon, or other document authorized by the committee to indicate that such inspection has been performed. Such certificate or document shall be surrendered to such authority as may be designated.

COMMITTEES

§ 948.50 Area committees.

A committee is hereby established as an administrative agency for each area. Each area committee shall be comprised of members and alternates as set forth in this section or as reestablished by § 948.53.

(a) Area No. 1 (Western Slope): Four producers and three handlers selected as follows:

Two (2) producers and one (1) handler from the counties of Eagle, Garfield, Pitkin, Moffat, and Routt, in the State of Colorado;

Two (2) producers and one (1) handler from the remaining counties of Area No. 1;
One (1) handler representing all producers' cooperative marketing associations in Area No. 1.

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(b) Area No. 2 (San Luis Valley): Seven producers and five handlers selected as follows:

- Three (3) producers from Rio Grande County;
- One (1) producer from Saguache County;
- One (1) producer from Conejos County;
- One (1) producer from Alamosa County;
- One (1) producer from all other counties in Area No. 2;
- Two (2) handlers representing all producers' cooperative marketing associations in Area No. 2;
- Three (3) handlers representing handlers in Area No. 2 other than producers' cooperative marketing associations.

(c) Area No. 3: Five Producers and four handlers selected as follows:

- Three (3) producers from Weld County;
- One (1) producer from Morgan County;
- One (1) producer from the remaining counties of Area No. 3;
- Four (4) handlers from Area No. 3.

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 57 FR 61774, Dec. 29, 1992, in § 948.50, paragraph (a) was suspended indefinitely.

§ 948.51 Colorado Potato Committee.

The Colorado Potato Committee is hereby established consisting of six members, with alternates. Two members and alternates shall be selected from each area committee. Committeemen shall be selected by the Secretary from nominations of area committee members or alternates.

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 57 FR 61774, Dec. 29, 1992, § 948.51 was amended by suspending indefinitely the second sentence.

§ 948.52 Alternates.

(a) For each committee member there shall be an alternate who shall have the same qualifications. During a member's absence, or when called upon to do so in accordance with the terms hereof, or in the event of a member's death, removal, resignation, or disqualification, an alternate shall act in his place and stead until the member's successor is selected and has qualified.

(b) Area committees, with the Secretary's approval, may provide through rules for members or for alternates to recommend regulations for early crop potatoes or for late crop potatoes and to specify the particular crop for which each group shall be responsible.

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§ 948.53 Reestablishment.

Areas, subdivisions of areas, the distribution of representation among the subdivision of areas, or among marketing organizations within respective areas may be reestablished by the Secretary upon area committee recommendations. Upon approval thereof of respective committees affected thereby, areas may be reestablished. In recommending any such changes, the committee shall consider (a) the relative importance of new producing sections, (b) relative production, (c) changes in marketing organizations and their relative status in the industry, (d) the geographic locations of producing sections as they would affect the efficiency of administration of this part, and (e) other relevant factors.

§ 948.54 Eligibility.

Area committee members and alternates shall be individuals who shall be residents of, and producers or handlers, as the case may be, in the respective area. Also, each member or alternate to qualify as a representative (a) for producers shall be a producer, or an officer or employee of a producer; (b) for producer's cooperative marketing associations shall be members or employees of such associations; or (c) for handlers other than cooperative marketing associations shall be a handler, or an officer or employee of a handler.

§ 948.55 Term of office.

The term of office of each area committee member and alternate shall be for two years. The term of office for Colorado Potato Committee members and alternates shall be for one year. The dates on which terms of office for each committee shall begin and end shall be established by the Secretary pursuant to respective committee recommendation. Terms of office of area committee members shall be arranged so that approximately one-half shall terminate each year. Determination of which initial members and alternates shall serve for one year or two years shall be by lot.

§ 948.56 Nomination and selection.

(a) Each area committee shall hold or cause to be held, not less than 15