

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§ 984.49

(f) To investigate the growing, shipping and marketing conditions with respect to walnuts and to assemble data in connection therewith;

(g) To investigate compliance with the provisions of this part; and

(h) To recommend rules and regulations for the purpose of administering this subpart.

§ 984.45 Procedure.

(a) The members of the Board shall select a chairman from their membership, and shall select such other officers and adopt such rules for the conduct of Board business as they deem advisable. The Board shall give the Secretary the same notice of its meetings as is given to members of the Board.

(b) All decisions of the Board, except where otherwise specifically provided, shall be by majority vote of the members present. A quorum of six members shall be required for the conduct of Board business.

(c) The Board may vote by mail or telegram upon due notice to all members. When any proposition is to be voted on by either of these methods, one dissenting vote shall prevent its adoption. The Board, with the approval of the Secretary, shall prescribe the minimum number of votes which must be cast when voting is by either of these methods, and any other procedures necessary to carry out the objectives of this paragraph.

[27 FR 9094, Sept. 13, 1962, as amended at 39 FR 35330, Oct. 1, 1974]

§ 984.46 Research and development.

The Board, with the approval of the Secretary, may establish or provide for the establishment of production research, marketing research and development projects, designed to assist, improve, or promote the marketing, distribution, and consumption or efficient production of walnuts. The expenses of such projects shall be paid from funds collected pursuant to § 984.69.

[39 FR 35330, Oct. 1, 1974]

MARKETING POLICY

§ 984.48 Marketing estimates and recommendations.

(a) Each marketing year the Board shall hold a meeting, prior to September 20, for the purpose of recommending to the Secretary a marketing policy for such year. Each year such recommendation shall be adopted by the affirmative vote of at least six members of the Board and shall include the following, and where applicable, on a kernelweight basis:

(1) Its estimate of the orchard-run production in the area of production for the marketing year;

(2) Its estimate of the handler carryover on August 1 of inshell and shelled walnuts;

(3) Its estimate of the merchantable and substandard walnuts in the production;

(4) Its estimate of the trade demand for such marketing year for shelled and inshell walnuts, taking into consideration trade carryover, imports, prices, competing nut supplies, and other factors;

(5) Its recommendation for desirable handler carryover of inshell and shelled walnuts on July 31 of each marketing year;

(6) Its recommendation as to the free and reserve percentages to be established for walnuts;

(7) Its recommendation of the percentage of reserve walnuts that may be exported pursuant to § 984.56, when it determines that the quantity of reserve walnuts that may be exported should be limited;

(8) Its opinion as to whether grower prices are likely to exceed parity; and

(9) Its recommendation for change, if any, in grade and size regulations.

(b) [Reserved]

[39 FR 35330, Oct. 1, 1974; 39 FR 35999, Oct. 7, 1974, as amended at 41 FR 31543, July 29, 1976]

§ 984.49 Volume regulation.

(a) *Free, reserve, and export percentages.* Whenever the Secretary finds, on the basis of the Board's recommendation or other information, that limiting the quantity of walnuts that may be handled in domestic markets for merchantable free walnuts during a marketing year will tend to effectuate

the declared policy of the act, he shall establish a free percentage to prescribe the portion of such walnuts which may be handled as free walnuts, and a reserve percentage to prescribe the portion that must be withheld as reserve walnuts. Whenever the Board recommends an export percentage pursuant to § 984.48(a)(7), the Secretary shall establish a percentage if he finds it would tend to effectuate the declared policy of the act.

(b) *Revision of percentages.* (1) On or before February 15 of the marketing year, the Board may recommend that the free percentage be increased and the reserve percentage be decreased. On the basis of the Board's recommendation or other information the Secretary may establish such revisions. If the reserve percentage is reduced when an export percentage is in effect, an increase shall be made in the export percentage so that the quantity previously authorized for export will not be reduced. If the revised reserve quantity is less than the quantity previously authorized for export the export percentage shall be 100 percent. Upon revision, all reserve obligations that are theretofore accrued on merchantable walnuts certified during such year on the basis of the previously effective percentages shall be adjusted accordingly.

(2) Any time prior to July 1, the Board may recommend an increase in the export percentage, if it finds that there is an insufficient volume of reserve walnuts available for export and additional demand exists, which would not adversely affect the disposition of the oncoming crop. On the basis of the Board's recommendation or other information, the Secretary may establish such revision.

[41 FR 31543, July 29, 1976]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 60 FR 40064, Aug. 7, 1995, in § 989.49, in paragraph (b)(1), the words "On or before February 15 of the marketing year," were suspended.

QUALITY CONTROL

§ 984.50 Grade and size regulations.

(a) *Minimum standard for inshell walnuts.* Except as provided in § 984.64, no handler shall handle inshell walnuts unless such walnuts are equal to or

better than the requirements of U.S. No. 2 grade and baby size as defined in the then effective United States Standards for Walnuts (*Juglans regia*) in the Shell. This minimum standard may be modified by the Secretary on the basis of a Board recommendation or other information.

(b) *Minimum standard for shelled walnuts.* Except as provided in § 984.64, no handler shall handle shelled walnuts unless such walnuts are equal to or better than the requirements of the U.S. Commercial grade as defined in the then effective United States Standards for Shelled Walnuts (*Juglans regia*) and the minimum size shall be pieces not more than 5 percent of which will pass through a round opening $\frac{5}{64}$ inch in diameter. This minimum standard may be modified by the Secretary on the basis of a Board recommendation or other information.

(c) *Effective period.* The minimum standards established pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section and the provisions of this part relating to the administration thereof, shall continue in effect irrespective of whether the season average price for walnuts is above the parity level specified in section 2(1) of the Act.

(d) *Additional grade and size regulation.* The Board may recommend to the Secretary additional grade and size regulations in the form of more restrictive minimum standards than those specified in this section. If the Secretary finds on the basis of such recommendation or other information that such additional grade and size regulations would tend to effectuate the declared policy of the act, he shall establish such regulation.

(e) *Minimum requirements for reserve.* The Board, with the approval of the Secretary, may specify the minimum kernel content and related requirements for any lot of walnuts acceptable for disposition for credit against a reserve obligation: *Provided*, That reserve walnuts exported must meet the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section if inshell, or paragraph (b) of this section if shelled.

[27 FR 9094, Sept. 13, 1962, as amended at 39 FR 35330, Oct. 1, 1974; 41 FR 31543, July 29, 1976]