

§ 1079.3 Route disposition.

Route disposition means any delivery (including any delivery by a vendor or disposition at a plant store) of a fluid milk product classified as Class I milk, other than bulk fluid milk products transferred to other plants.

§ 1079.4 Plant.

Plant means the land, buildings, facilities, and equipment constituting a single operating unit or establishment at which milk or milk products (including filled milk) are received, processed, or packaged. Separate facilities used only as a distribution point for storing packaged fluid milk products in transit or separate facilities at which milk is only reloaded from one tank truck to another for transshipment shall not be a "plant" under this definition.

§ 1079.7 Pool plant.

Except as provided in paragraph (d) of this section, *pool plant* means:

(a) Any plant (which, if qualified pursuant to this paragraph, shall be known as a "pool distributing plant") that is approved by a duly constituted regulatory agency for the processing or packaging of Grade A milk and from which during the month:

(1) The total route disposition (excluding packaged fluid milk products received from other plants and filled milk) as a percent of the total Grade A fluid milk products received in bulk form at such plant or diverted therefrom by the plant operator is equal to 40 percent or more during each of the months of September through November and 35 percent or more during all other months;

(2) Not less than 15 percent of such receipts are disposed of as route disposition (except filled milk) in the marketing area; and

(3) A unit consisting of at least two plants operated by a handler shall be considered as one distributing plant for the purpose of meeting the requirements of this paragraph if:

(i) Fluid milk products are processed and packaged at each plant;

(ii) Each plant meets the requirements of paragraph (a)(2) of this section; and

(iii) The handler notified the market administrator in writing before the first day of the month that the plants should be considered as a unit. The unit shall continue from month to month thereafter without further notification. To add plants to the unit, to drop them, or to discontinue the unit, the handler shall notify the market administrator in writing on or before the first day of the month such change is to be made.

(b) Any plant (which, if qualified pursuant to this paragraph, shall be known as a "pool supply plant") that is approved by a duly constituted regulatory agency for the handling of Grade A milk and from which during the month the volume of bulk fluid milk products transferred to pool distributing plants during each of the months of September through November is 35 percent or more and during each of the months of December through August is 20 percent or more of the total Grade A milk received at the plant from dairy farmers and handlers described in § 1079.9(c), including milk diverted therefrom by the plant operator pursuant to § 1079.13, subject to the following conditions:

(1) The shipping percentages of this paragraph may be increased or decreased up to 10 percentage points by the Director of the Dairy Division if he finds that such revision is necessary to result in needed shipments to pool distributing plants for Class I use, or to prevent uneconomic shipments, subject to the following conditions:

(i) Before making such a finding, the Director shall investigate the need for revision either on his own initiative or at the request of interested persons. If the investigation shows that a revision of the shipping percentage might be appropriate, he shall issue a notice stating that the revision is being considered and invite data, views, and arguments; and

(ii) No plant may qualify as a pool plant due to a reduction in the shipping percentage pursuant to this subparagraph unless it had been a pool supply plant during each of the immediately preceding three months.

(2) For plants located within the States of Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, or that portion of Illinois north of

Interstate 80, the shipping requirements of this paragraph may also be met in the following ways:

(i) A cooperative association that operates a supply plant may include as qualifying shipments its deliveries to pool distributing plants directly from farms of producers pursuant to § 1079.9(c);

(ii) A proprietary handler may include as qualifying shipments milk diverted pursuant to § 1079.13(d) to pool distributing plants;

(iii) The operator of a supply plant may include as qualifying shipments transfers of fluid milk products to distributing plants regulated under other Federal orders, except that credit for such transfers shall be limited to the amount of milk, including milk shipped directly from producers' farms, delivered to pool distributing plants under this order; and

(iv) Two or more supply plants operated by the same handler or by one or more cooperative associations may qualify for pooling as a unit by meeting the applicable percentage requirements of this paragraph in the same manner as a single plant if the handler submits a written request to the market administrator prior to the first day of September requesting that such plants qualify as a unit for the period of September through August of the following year.

The request shall list the plants to be included in the unit in the sequence in which they shall qualify for pool plant status based on the minimum deliveries required. If the deliveries made are insufficient to qualify the entire unit for pooling, the plant last on the list shall be excluded from the unit, followed by the plant next-to-last on the list, and continuing in this sequence until remaining plants on the list have met the minimum shipping requirements. Each plant that qualifies as a pool plant within a unit shall continue each month as a plant in the unit through the following August unless the plant fails subsequently to qualify for pooling or the handler submits a written request to the market administrator prior to the first day of the month that the plant be deleted from the unit or that the unit be discontinued. Any plant that has been so de-

leted from the unit, or that has failed to qualify in any month, will not be part of the unit for the remaining months through August. No plant may be added in any subsequent month through the following August to a unit that qualifies in September.

(c) Any plant, except a plant included in a unit, that qualified as a pool plant in each of the immediately preceding three months on the basis of performance standards described in paragraph (a) or (b) of this section.

(d) The term "pool plant" shall not apply to the following plants:

(1) A producer-handler plant;

(2) A governmental agency plant;

(3) A plant qualified as a pool plant pursuant to paragraph (a) in this section which also meets the pooling requirements of another Federal order and from which during the month a greater quantity of fluid milk products, except filled milk, was disposed of as route disposition, in such other marketing area and to pool plants qualified on the basis of route disposition in such other marketing area than was so disposed of from such plant in the Iowa marketing area as route disposition, or to pool plants qualified on the basis of route disposition, except that if such plant was subject to all the provisions of this part in the immediately preceding month, it shall continue to be subject to all the provisions of this part until the third consecutive month in which a greater proportion of its fluid milk products disposition, except filled milk, is made in the above described manner in such other marketing area, unless, notwithstanding the provisions of this paragraph, it is regulated by such other order;

(4) A plant qualified as a pool plant pursuant to this section which also meets the pooling requirements of another Federal order and from which during the month a greater quantity of fluid milk products, except filled milk, was disposed of as route disposition in this marketing area, and to pool plants qualified on the basis of route disposition in this marketing area than was so disposed of in such other Federal order marketing area but which plant is, nevertheless, fully regulated under such other Federal order; and

(5) That portion of a plant that is physically separated from the Grade A portion of such plant, is operated separately, and is not approved by any regulatory agency for the receiving, processing, or packaging of any fluid milk product for Grade A disposition.

[42 FR 17423, Apr. 1, 1977, as amended at 44 FR 29429, May 21, 1979; 54 FR 53527, Dec. 29, 1989; 61 FR 55733, Oct. 29, 1996]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 61 FR 55733, Oct. 29, 1996, in §1079.7(b) introductory text, the words "20 percent" are revised to read "30 percent", effective Dec. 1, 1996 through Mar. 31, 1997. Effective April 1, 1997 "30 percent" is revised to read "20 percent".

§ 1079.8 Nonpool plant.

Nonpool plant means any milk or filled milk receiving, manufacturing, or processing plant other than a pool plant. The following categories of nonpool plants are further defined as follows:

(a) *Other order plant* means a plant that is fully subject to the pricing and pooling provisions of another order issued pursuant to the Act.

(b) *Producer-handler plant* means a plant operated by a producer-handler as defined in any order (including this part) issued pursuant to the Act.

(c) *Partially regulated distributing plant* means a nonpool plant that is not an other order plant, a producer-handler plant, or a governmental agency plant, from which Grade A milk or filled milk is disposed of as route disposition in the marketing area during the month.

(d) *Unregulated supply plant* means a nonpool plant that is neither an other order plant nor a producer-handler plant from which fluid milk products are shipped during the month to a pool plant.

(e) *Governmental agency plant* means a plant that is operated by a governmental institution and from which fluid milk products are distributed in the marketing area. Such plant shall be exempt from all provisions of this part.

§ 1079.9 Handler.

Handler means:

(a) Any person in his capacity as the operator of a pool plant;

(b) Any cooperative association with respect to milk of a producer that is di-

verted for the account of the cooperative association from a pool plant in accordance with § 1079.13;

(c) Any cooperative association with respect to milk that it receives for its account from the farm of a producer for delivery to a pool plant in a tank truck owned and operated by, or under the control of, such cooperative association. If the milk is delivered to the pool plant of another handler, the plant operator may be the handler for such milk if both the cooperative association and the operator of the pool plant notify the market administrator prior to the time that such milk is delivered to the pool plant that the plant operator will purchase such milk on the basis of weights determined from its measurements at the farm and butterfat tests determined from farm bulk tank samples. Milk for which the cooperative is the handler pursuant to this paragraph shall be deemed to have been received by the cooperative at the location of the pool plant to which such milk is delivered;

(d) Any person who operates a partially regulated distributing plant;

(e) Any person who is a producer-handler;

(f) Any person who operates an other order plant described in § 1079.7(d); and

(g) Any person who operates an unregulated supply plant.

[42 FR 17423, Apr. 1, 1977, as amended at 44 FR 29430, May 21, 1979]

§ 1079.10 Producer-handler.

Producer-handler means any person who meets all of the following conditions:

(a) Operates a dairy farm and a distributing plant at which Grade A milk of his own production is processed and packaged, and from which there is route disposition in the marketing area;

(b) Receives no milk or fluid milk products at his plant (or at any distribution facility, including routes, operated by him, an affiliate, or any person who controls or is controlled by him) from the farms of other dairy farmers nor from any other source, except receipts of not more than 50,000 pounds of fluid milk products during the month from pool plants or from other order plants;