

(1) The committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may establish an operating monetary reserve and may carry over to subsequent fiscal periods excess funds in a reserve so established, except funds in the reserve shall not exceed approximately two fiscal periods' expenses. Such reserve funds may be used (i) to defray any expenses authorized under this part, (ii) to defray expenses during any fiscal period prior to the time assessment income is sufficient to cover such expenses, (iii) to cover deficits incurred during any fiscal period when assessment income is less than expenses, (iv) to defray expenses incurred during any period when any or all provisions of this part are suspended or are inoperative, and (v) to cover necessary expenses of liquidation in the event of termination of this part. Any funds remaining after termination should be refunded to handlers on a pro rata basis. If it is found impracticable to return such remaining funds to handlers, such funds shall be disposed of in such manner as the Secretary may determine to be appropriate;

(2) If such excess is not retained in a reserve or used to defray necessary expenses of liquidation, as provided for in paragraph (a)(1) of this section, it shall be refunded proportionately to the handlers from whom collected, except any sum paid by any handler in excess of his pro rata share of the expenses during any fiscal period may be applied by the committee at the end of such fiscal period to any outstanding obligations due the committee from such handler.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

§ 979.48 Research and development.

The committee, 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, consumption, or efficient production of melons. The expenses of such projects shall be paid from funds collected pursuant to § 979.42.

REGULATIONS

§ 979.50 Marketing policy.

(a) Prior to or at the same time initial recommendations in any fiscal period are made pursuant to § 979.51, and as the Secretary may require, the committee shall prepare a marketing policy statement. Notice of such marketing policy shall be given to producers, handlers, and other interested parties by bulletins, newspapers or other appropriate media, and copies thereof shall be submitted to the Secretary and shall be available at the committee office to all interested parties;

(b) Marketing policy statements relating to recommendations for regulations shall give appropriate consideration to melon supplies for the remainder of the season, with special consideration to:

- (1) Estimates of total supplies including grade, size, and quality thereof, in the production area;
- (2) Estimates of supplies of melons in competing areas;
- (3) Estimates of supplies of other competing commodities;
- (4) Market prices by grades, sizes, containers, and packs;
- (5) Anticipated marketing problems;
- (6) Level and trend of consumer income; and
- (7) Other relevant factors.

§ 979.51 Recommendations for regulations.

Upon complying with requirements of § 979.50, the committee may recommend regulations to the Secretary when it finds that such regulations as are authorized in this order will tend to effectuate the declared policy of the act.

§ 979.52 Issuance of regulations.

(a) The Secretary shall limit by regulation the handling of melons when he finds from the recommendations and information submitted by the committee, or from other available information, that such regulations would tend to effectuate the declared policy of the act.

(b) Such regulations may: