

## REPORTS, BOOKS AND RECORDS

**§ 998.40 Confidential information.**

All reports and records furnished or submitted by handlers to the committee which include data or information constituting a trade secret or disclosing the trade position, financial condition, or business operations of the particular handlers or their customers shall be received by, and at all times kept in the custody and under the control of, one or more employees of the committee, who shall disclose such information to no person except the Secretary. Notwithstanding the above provisions of this section, information may be disclosed to the committee when reasonably necessary to enable the committee to carry out its functions under this agreement.

**§ 998.41 Reports of acquisitions and shipments.**

Each handler shall file such reports of his acquisitions and shipments of peanuts, as may be requested by the committee.

**§ 998.42 Other reports.**

Upon the request of the committee, with the approval of the Secretary, each handler shall furnish such other reports and information as are needed to enable the committee to perform its functions under this agreement.

**§ 998.43 Records.**

Each handler shall maintain such records of peanuts received, held and disposed of by him, as will substantiate any required reports and will show performance under this agreement. Such records shall be retained for at least 2 years beyond the crop year of their applicability.

**§ 998.44 Verification of reports.**

For the purpose of checking and verifying reports filed by handlers or the operation of handlers under the provisions of this agreement, the Secretary and the committee, through its duly authorized agents, shall have access to any premises where peanuts may be held by any handler and at any time during reasonable business hours, shall be permitted to inspect any peanuts so held by such handler and any

and all records of such handler with respect to the acquisition, holding, or disposition of all peanuts which may be held or which may have been disposed of by him.

## EXPENSES AND ASSESSMENTS

**§ 998.47 Expenses.**

The committee is authorized to incur such expenses as the Secretary finds are reasonable and likely to be incurred by it during each crop year for the maintenance and functioning of the committee and for such other purposes as the Secretary may, pursuant to the provisions of this agreement, determine to be appropriate.

**§ 998.48 Assessments.**

(a) Each handler shall pay to the committee, upon demand, with respect to peanuts received by him, including his own production, his pro rata share of all expenses, indemnification and other, which the Secretary finds are reasonable and likely to be incurred by the committee during each crop year. Each handler's pro rata share shall be the rate of assessment fixed by the Secretary per net ton of farmers stock peanuts received or acquired other than those peanuts described in § 998.31 (c) and (d). During a crop year the Secretary may not increase the rate of assessment to cover a deficit in the indemnification fund but may assess for a deficit in a subsequent year. An assessment rate may be increased to cover a deficit in the administrative fund.

(b) In order to provide funds to carry out the functions of the committee, the committee may borrow money or may accept advance payments from any handler to be credited toward such assessments as may be levied pursuant to this section against the respective handler.

(c) *Indemnification reserve.* The committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may establish and maintain during one or more crop years a monetary reserve in an amount approximating anticipated expenses for indemnification pursuant to § 998.36.

(d) *Refunds.* Administrative funds held by the committee at the conclusion of the crop year in excess of the