

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§ 984.56

and such identification shall not be altered or removed except as directed by the Board. The assessment requirements in §984.69 shall be incurred at the time of certification.

(d) Whenever the Board determines that the length of time in storage or conditions of storage of any lot of merchantable walnuts which has been previously inspected have been or are such as normally to cause deterioration, such lot of walnuts shall be reinspected at the handler's expense and recertified as merchantable prior to shipment.

[39 FR 35330, Oct. 1, 1974, as amended at 41 FR 31543, July 29, 1976; 73 FR 11339, Mar. 3, 2008]

§984.52 Processing of shelled walnuts.

(a) No handler shall slice, chop, grind, or in any manner change the form of shelled walnuts unless such walnuts have been certified as merchantable or unless such walnuts meet quality regulations established under §984.50(d) if such regulations are in effect.

(b) Any lot of shelled walnuts which, upon inspection, fails to meet the minimum standard effective pursuant to §984.50 solely due to excess shriveling may be certified for processing provided that the total amount of shrivel does not exceed 20 percent, by weight, of the lot. All such walnuts must be reinspected after processing and shall be certified as merchantable if the processed material meets the effective minimum standard. The provisions of this paragraph may be modified by the Secretary, upon recommendation of the Board or other information.

(c) The Board shall establish such procedures as are necessary to insure that all such walnuts are inspected prior to being placed into the current of commerce.

[39 FR 35330, Oct. 1, 1974, as amended at 73 FR 11339, Mar. 3, 2008]

RESERVE WALNUTS

§984.54 Establishment of obligation.

(a) *Reserve obligation.* Whenever free and reserve percentages are in effect for a marketing year, each handler shall withhold a kernelweight of certified merchantable walnuts equal to a quantity derived by the application of the reserve percentage to the

kernelweight of merchantable walnuts certified. The kernelweight of certified merchantable walnuts which handlers are required to withhold shall be the "reserve obligation." The walnuts handled for use as free walnuts by any handler in accordance with the provisions of this part shall be deemed to be that handler's quota fixed by the Secretary within the meaning of section 8(a)(5) of the act.

(b) *Holding requirements.* Each handler shall at all times hold in his possession or under his control in proper storage the kernelweight of certified merchantable walnuts necessary to meet his reserve obligation less:

(1) Any quantity which was disposed of by him pursuant to §984.56; and

(2) Any quantity for which he is otherwise relieved by the Board of responsibility to so hold walnuts.

[41 FR 31543, July 29, 1976]

§984.56 Disposition of reserve walnuts.

(a) *General.* The Board shall have power and authority to sell or dispose of any and all reserve walnuts withheld upon the best terms and at the highest returns obtainable consistent with the ultimate complete disposition of reserve, subject to all conditions of this section. The Board may dispose of reserve walnuts through handlers acting as agents of the Board under the terms and conditions specified by the Board.

(b) *Export.* The Board may export or authorize the disposition in export to the destinations outside the United States, Puerto Rico, and the Canal Zone, the quantity of reserve walnuts permitted to be exported by the export percentage establishment pursuant to §984.49. Reserve walnuts may be exported by any handler as an agent of the Board under the terms and conditions specified by the Board.

(c) *Pooling.* At any time during the marketing year a handler may deliver reserve walnuts and any substandard walnuts meeting the minimum kernel content requirements effective pursuant to §984.50(e) to the Board for pooling and crediting against his reserve obligation. Any reserve walnuts that the handler as agent of the Board has

not disposed of by the end of the marketing year shall thereafter be delivered to the Board for pooling on demand. The Board shall dispose of these walnuts for use in the following outlets: Government agencies, charitable institutions, poultry or animal feed, walnut oil or other markets non-competitive with markets for merchantable free walnuts. The Board may rent and operate or arrange the use of facilities for storage and disposition of reserve walnuts delivered to it.

(d) *Crediting.* The kernelweight of walnuts disposed of in accordance with this section shall be credited to the handler's reserve obligation. At any time during the marketing year, upon a handler's written request, the Board shall transfer part or all of the handler's credit in excess of his reserve obligation to any handler he designates.

(e) *Pool proceeds.* The proceeds remaining after the payment of all expenses incurred by the Board in receiving, holding, and disposing of pooled walnuts shall be distributed pro rata by the Board to each handler in proportion to his contribution thereto, measured in kernelweight, or such other basis as the Board may adopt with the approval of the Secretary.

(f) *Rules and regulations.* The Board, with the approval of the Secretary, may prescribe such rules and regulations as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

[41 FR 31544, July 29, 1976]

§ 984.59 Interhandler transfers.

For the purposes of this part, transfer means the sale of inshell and shelled walnuts within the area of production by one handler to another. The Board, with the approval of the Secretary, may establish methods and procedures, including necessary reports, for such transfers.

[73 FR 11339, Mar. 3, 2008]

§ 984.64 Disposition of substandard walnuts.

Substandard walnuts may be disposed of only for manufacture into oil, livestock feed, or such other uses as the Board determines to be non-competitive with existing domestic and export markets for merchantable wal-

nuts and with proper safeguards to prevent such walnuts from thereafter entering channels of trade in such markets. Wherever free and reserve percentages are in effect, the kernelweight of any walnuts meeting the minimum kernel content requirements effective pursuant to §984.50(e), may be pooled and the disposition credited to the handler's reserve obligation pursuant to §984.56. Each handler shall submit, in such form and at such intervals as the Board may determine, reports of (a) his production and holdings of substandard walnuts and (b) the disposition of all substandard walnuts to any other person, showing the quantity, lot, date, name and address of the person to whom delivered, the approved use and such other information pertaining thereto as the Board may specify.

[41 FR 31544, July 29, 1976]

§ 984.65 Compliance.

Except as provided in this subpart, no person shall handle walnuts, inshell or shelled, during any marketing year in which this subpart and any regulations issued by the Secretary hereunder are in effect, unless such person has previously met the obligations imposed by each such regulation and the provisions of this subpart.

§ 984.66 Assistance of the Board in meeting reserve obligation.

The Board may assist any handler in accounting for his reserve obligation and may aid any handler in acquiring walnuts to meet any deficiency in his reserve obligation, or in accounting for, or disposing of reserve walnuts.

[41 FR 31544, July 29, 1976]

§ 984.67 Exemptions.

(a) Exemption from volume regulation. Reserve percentages shall not apply to lots of merchantable inshell walnuts which are of jumbo size or larger as defined in the then effective United States Standards for Walnuts in the Shell, or to such quantities as the Board may, with the approval of the Secretary, prescribe.

(b) *Exemptions from assessments, quality, and volume regulations—(1) Sales by growers direct to consumers.* Any walnut