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§ 1429.113 Maintaining records.

Producers applying for payment through the Asparagus Revenue Market Loss Assistance Payment Program must maintain records and accounts to document all eligibility requirements specified in this part. Such records and accounts must be retained for 3 years after the date of payment.

§ 1429.114 Refunds; joint and several liability.

(a) Excess payments, payments provided as the result of erroneous information provided by any person, or payments resulting from a failure to comply with any requirement or condition for payment in the application or this part, must be refunded to CCC.

(b) A refund required as specified in this section will be due with interest from the date of CCC disbursement and determined in accordance with paragraph (d) of this section and late payment charges as provided in part 1403 of this chapter.

(c) Persons signing an ALAP Program application as having an interest in the asparagus farm operation will be jointly and severally liable for any refund and related charges found to be due as specified in this section.

(d) Interest will be applicable to any refunds required as specified in parts 792 and 1403 of this title. Such interest will be charged at the rate that the U.S. Department of the Treasury charges CCC for funds, and will accrue from the date CCC made the erroneous payment to the date of repayment.

(e) CCC may waive the accrual of interest if it determines that the cause of the erroneous determination was not due to any action of the person, or was beyond the control of the person committing the violation. Any waiver is at the discretion of CCC alone.

§ 1429.115 Miscellaneous provisions and appeals.

(a) *Offset.* CCC may offset or withhold any amount due CCC as specified in this part in accordance with the provisions of part 1403 of this chapter.

(b) *Claims.* Claims or debts will be settled in accordance with the provisions of part 1403 of this chapter.

(c) *Other interests.* Payments or any portion thereof due under this part will

be made without regard to questions of title under State law and without regard to any claim or lien against the asparagus crop, or proceeds thereof, in favor of the owner or any other creditor except agencies and instrumentalities of the U.S. Government.

(d) *Assignments.* Any asparagus producer entitled to any payment as specified in this part may assign any payment in accordance with the provisions of part 1404 of this chapter.

(e) *Appeals.* Appeals will be handled as specified in parts 11 and 780 of this title.

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AUTHORITY: 7 U.S.C. 7982, 8771, and 8773; and 15 U.S.C. 714b and 714c.

Subpart A—Dairy Product Price Support Program

SOURCE: 75 FR 41367, July 16, 2010, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1430.100 Applicability.

During the period beginning on January 1, 2008, and ending December 31, 2012, the Secretary of Agriculture will support the price of cheddar cheese, butter, and nonfat dry milk by providing a standing offer to purchase those products from eligible offerors. The products must be made from cow's milk produced in the United States. Purchases are subject to the terms and conditions in CCC's purchase announcements.

§ 1430.101 Definitions.

For purposes of this subpart, the following definitions apply:

CCC means the Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.

Eligible offeror means the person, firm, corporation, or other legal entity obligated by the purchase agreement with CCC. The product must not have been sold before to another party and the offeror must be the manufacturer of the dairy product offered or a marketing cooperative for the manufacturer.

Net removals means, for a given period of time, the total dairy product purchased by CCC through the program in this subpart plus the quantity of the product exported through the Dairy Export Incentive Program (as authorized in 15 U.S.C. 713a-14), less the quantity sold by CCC for unrestricted use.

§ 1430.102 Eligible products.

(a) To be eligible for the program in this subpart, the products must be manufactured from dairy cow's milk produced in the United States, and must not have been previously owned by CCC. Dairy cow in this instance means an animal of the kind that produces the majority of dairy products in the United States and not, for example, cows of other species of animals such as yaks or oxen.

(b) Products will be purchased only from eligible offerors of the product, and only in carlot weights.

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(c) The products purchased must be of the following grades and moisture content, as evidenced by USDA-issued inspection certificates:

(1) Block cheddar cheese must be U.S. Grade A or higher, and the moisture content must not exceed 38.5 percent;

(2) Barrel cheddar cheese must be U.S. Extra Grade, and the moisture content must not exceed 36.5 percent;

(3) Butter must be U.S. Grade A or higher;

(4) Nonfat dry milk must be U.S. Extra Grade, and the moisture content must not exceed 3.5 percent.

(d) CCC may require other terms and conditions of purchase, as specified in CCC's purchase announcement.

§ 1430.103 Purchase prices.

(a) CCC will offer to purchase products at the following prices for all regions of the United States:

(1) Cheddar cheese in blocks for not less than \$1.13 per pound; unless

(i) Net removals of cheese for a period of 12 consecutive months exceed 200,000,000 pounds, but do not exceed 400,000,000 pounds, in which case the CCC block cheese purchase price will be not less than \$1.03 per pound, during the immediately following month, or

(ii) Net removals of cheese for a period of 12 consecutive months exceed 400,000,000 pounds, in which case the CCC block cheese purchase price will be not less than \$0.93 per pound during the immediately following month;

(2) Cheddar cheese in barrels for \$0.03 per pound less than the cheddar cheese block price;

(3) Butter for not less than \$1.05 per pound; unless

(i) Net removals of butter for a period of 12 consecutive months exceed 450,000,000 pounds, but do not exceed 650,000,000 pounds, in which case the CCC butter purchase price will be not less than \$0.95 per pound during the immediately following month, or

(ii) Net removals of butter for a period of 12 consecutive months exceed 650,000,000 pounds, in which case the CCC butter purchase price will be not less than \$0.85 per pound during the immediately following month; and

(4) Nonfat dry milk for not less than \$0.80 per pound, unless

(i) Net removals of nonfat dry milk for a period of 12 consecutive months exceed 600,000,000 pounds, but do not exceed 800,000,000 pounds, in which case the CCC nonfat dry milk purchase price will be not less than \$0.75 per pound during the immediately following month, or,

(ii) Net removals of nonfat dry milk for a period of 12 consecutive months exceed 800,000,000 pounds, in which case the CCC nonfat dry milk purchase price will be not less than \$0.70 per pound during the immediately following month.

(b) CCC may offer to purchase cheddar cheese, butter, fortified nonfat dry milk, or fortified instant nonfat dry milk in consumer-sized ready-to-consume packages at a premium to the purchase prices for cheddar cheese, butter and nonfat dry milk specified in paragraph (a) of this section. Any such offers will be made through CCC's purchase announcements, and such offers may be limited by quantity and to a specific time period.

(c) CCC may offer to purchase cheddar cheese with a lower moisture content than is specified in §1430.102(c) at a premium to the prices specified in paragraph (a) of this section. Any such offers will be made through CCC's purchase announcements, and such offers may be limited by quantity and to a specific time period.

§ 1430.104 Sales from inventories.

(a) CCC may sell any dairy product purchased as specified in this subpart for unrestricted use at the market price prevailing for that product at the time of sale, except that the sale price will not be less than 110 percent of the purchase price specified in §1430.103(a), before any price reduction for the amount of CCC net removals of the dairy products.

(b) CCC may sell or distribute dairy products purchased under this section for restricted use when such sale is determined to maximize the return to CCC on its purchases.

Subpart B—Milk Income Loss Contract Program

SOURCE: 67 FR 64476, Oct. 18, 2002, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1430.200 Applicability.

(a) This subpart governs the Milk Income Loss Contract Program. This program provides financial assistance to dairy operations in connection with milk production that is sold in the commercial market.

§ 1430.201 Administration.

(a) This program is administered under the general supervision of the Executive Vice President, CCC, or a designee, and shall be carried out by Farm Service Agency (FSA) State and county committees and employees.

(b) State and county committees, and their employees may not waive or modify any requirement of this subpart, except as provided in paragraph (e) of this section.

(c) The State committee shall take any action required when not taken by the county committee, require correction of actions not in compliance, or require the withholding of any action that is not in compliance with this subpart.

(d) The Executive Vice President, CCC, or a designee, may determine any question arising under the program or reverse or modify any decision of the State or county committee.

(e) The Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs, FSA, may waive or modify program requirements where failure to meet such requirements does not adversely affect the operation of the Milk Income Loss Contract Program.

(f) A representative of CCC may execute Milk Income Loss Contracts and related documents under the terms and conditions determined and announced by CCC. Any document not under such terms and conditions, including any purported execution before the date authorized by CCC, shall be null and void.

§ 1430.202 Definitions.

The definitions in this section shall be applicable for all purposes of administering the Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) program established by this subpart.

CCC means the Commodity Credit Corporation of the Department.

Class I Milk means milk, including milk components, classified as Class I milk under a Federal milk marketing order.

Contract application means a Milk Income Loss Contract as executed on a form prescribed by CCC.

Contract application period means the date established by the Deputy Administrator for producers to apply for program benefits.

County committee means the FSA county committee.

County office means the FSA office responsible for administering FSA programs to farms located in a specific area in a state.

Dairy operation means any person or group of persons who as a single unit as determined by CCC, produce and market milk commercially produced from cows, and whose production facilities are located in the United States. In administering this program, for purposes of determining what is a “dairy operation” and its eligibility under this program, those determinations will be made in the same manner as was done for the Dairy Market Loss Assistance (DMLA) contracts in the State in which the dairy is located. New MILC operations, which is to say those operations that did not participate in the MILC program for marketings prior to FY 2008, must be unaffiliated with any other DMLA or MILC operations.

Deputy Administrator means the Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs (DAFP), FSA or a designee.

Eligible production means milk that was produced at a time relevant to this program by cows in the United States and marketed commercially by a producer in a participating State.

Farm Service Agency or FSA means the Farm Service Agency of the Department.

Federal Milk Marketing Order means an order issued under section 8c of the Agricultural Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 608c), reenacted with amendments by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937.

Fiscal Year or FY means the year beginning October 1 and ending the following September 30. Fiscal years will be designated for this part by year by reference to the calendar year in which it ends. For example, FY 2009 is from October 1, 2008, through September 30, 2009 (inclusive).

Hundredweight or cwt. means 100 pounds.

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Marketed commercially means sold to the market to which the dairy operation normally delivers whole milk and receives a monetary amount.

MILC means the Milk Income Loss Contract program or the form upon which CCC and the producer agree to the terms of the payment to be made under the MILC program.

Milk handler means the marketing agency to or through which the producer commercially markets whole milk.

Milk marketing means a marketing of milk for which there is a verifiable sales or delivery record of milk marketed for commercial use.

Participating State means each of the 50 States in the United States of America, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any other territory or possession of the United States.

Payment pounds means the pounds of milk production for which an operation is eligible to be paid under this subpart.

Producer means any individual, group of individuals, partnership, corporation, estate, trust association, cooperative, or other business enterprise or other legal entity who is, or whose members are, a citizen of, or legal resident alien in the United States, and who directly or indirectly, as determined by the Secretary, shares in the risk of producing milk, and makes contributions (including land, labor, management, equipment, or capital) to the dairy farming operation of the individual or entity that are at least commensurate with the share of the individual or entity of the proceeds of this operation.

United States means the 50 States of the United States of America, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any other territory or possession of the United States.

Verifiable production records means evidence that is used to substantiate the amount of production marketed and that can be verified by CCC through an independent source.

[67 FR 64476, Oct. 18, 2002, as amended at 71 FR 19622, Apr. 17, 2006; 73 FR 73776, Dec. 4, 2008]

§ 1430.203 Eligibility.

To be eligible to receive payments under this subpart, a dairy operation must:

(a) Have produced milk in the United States and commercially marketed the milk produced anytime during the period of October 1, 2007, through September 30, 2012;

(b) Enter into a MILC during the contract application period;

(c) Agree to all terms and conditions in the MILC and those that are otherwise contained in this subpart and comply with instructions issued by CCC;

(d) Provide proof of monthly milk production commercially marketed by all persons in the dairy operation during the contract period, to determine the total pounds of milk that will be converted to hundredweight (cwt.) used for payment;

(e) Submit timely production evidence according to § 1430.209;

(f) Be actively engaged in the business of producing and marketing agricultural products anytime during the period of October 1, 2007, through September 30, 2012;

(g) Meet all adjusted gross income eligibility requirements of part 1400 of this chapter as regards any person or entity seeking to receive payment under this part. No person or entity may, generally, receive any payment for FY 2009 marketings and subsequent marketings if their nonfarm yearly income for the relevant base period for the relevant marketings as determined under the adjusted gross income rules (as in effect when the payment is sought) is over \$500,000 as determined under this subpart. Further, for entities an otherwise due payment will be reduced commensurately to the extent that any person with an interest in the entity, as determined under the adjusted gross income rules had such income over that limit for the relevant period;

(h) Have submitted a contract during the applicable contract period for FYs 2008 through 2012:

(1) Except for 2009, and subject to the start month provision of § 1430.205, must have for any fiscal year or month for which payment is sought to be paid submitted the FY 2008 through 2012

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contract before the end of that fiscal year or month or

(2) For FY 2008 payments, if payments are generated under this part for that fiscal year, must have submitted a contract for the FY 2008 through 2012 program by October 1, 2009 and for FY 2009 the contract must have been submitted by the month for which payment is first sought except to the extent that §1430.205 explicitly permits the operation to pick a start month in advance of the month in which the contract is submitted; and

(i) Must not, if it did not participate in the preceding MILC program for fiscal years prior to FY 2008, be affiliated with any other dairy operation.

[67 FR 64476, Oct. 18, 2002, as amended at 71 FR 19622, Apr. 17, 2006; 73 FR 73766, Dec. 4, 2008]

§ 1430.204 Requesting benefits.

(a) A request for benefits or contract application, under this subpart must be submitted on a form as prescribed by the Agency. Contract applications shall be submitted to the FSA office serving the county where the dairy operation is located. Contract applications must be received by FSA by the close of business on the date established by the Deputy Administrator. Contract applications received after such date shall be disapproved.

(b) The dairy operation requesting MILC benefits must certify the accuracy and truthfulness of the information in their contract application. All information provided is subject to verification by CCC. Refusal to allow CCC or any other agency of the Department to verify any information provided will result in disapproval.

(c) Contract applications will be approved by execution by FSA and producer of a MILC. All persons who share in the risk of a dairy operation's total production must sign and certify the contract application.

§ 1430.205 Selection of starting month.

(a) A dairy operation that enters into a MILC contract with CCC must designate the starting month for each fiscal year for the calculation of payments and pound limits for the operation. Once a start month is chosen for a fiscal year the corresponding month

will be the start month for each subsequent fiscal year unless changed by an affirmative request in writing on a form approved by CCC. The production start month must be selected on or before the 14th of the month before the month for which payment is sought. If such date falls on a weekend, the start month selection must be made on the last business day preceding the weekend. A dairy operation cannot select as the start month for payment a month which:

(1) Has already begun, except as provided in paragraph (c)(1) of this section;

(2) Has already passed; or

(3) During which no milk production was produced by the dairy operation.

(b) For FY 2009, if the operation signs its FY 2008 through 2012 MILC contract within 30 days of the beginning of the application period it can pick any preceding FY 2009 month as its start month for that period or can use the normal rule of paragraph (c) of this section to pick the start month.

(c) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, the start month for a fiscal year may only be

(1) For the fiscal year in which the contract is submitted, the month the contract is submitted or

(2) For a fiscal year that has not yet begun, any month, provided that a month may not be selected after the 14th of the preceding month.

(d) Dairy operations may change the production start month on or before the 14th day of the month previously selected.

(e) If a change of the production starting month is not made by the dates required by paragraph (d) of this section, the MILC production starting month cannot be changed until the next fiscal year. If the selected MILC production starting month is never modified, it will remain the same throughout the duration of the contract.

(f) MILC payments will be made consecutively to the dairy operation on a monthly basis after the production starting month has been designated until the earlier of the following:

(1) Payment quantity is reached in accordance with §1430.207; or

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(2) The end of the applicable fiscal year.

(g)(1) MILC production start month selections made during the signup period designated by CCC may be made as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, otherwise MILC production start month selections must be made in accordance with paragraph (c) of this section. If a payment rate is not in effect during the production start month selected by the dairy operation, payments to the dairy operation will be issued based on the next consecutive month with a payment rate in effect following the MILC production start month selected by the dairy operation. Production in months in which the pay formula does not produce a payment will not count against the fiscal year's poundage limit for the operation.

(2) Dairy operations with MILC production start months that begin with the month a MILC contract is submitted to FSA or that begin with the first month of the fiscal year with an effective payment rate will receive payments made by CCC consecutively on a monthly basis, if otherwise provided for in this part, until the earlier of the following:

(i) The maximum payment quantity for the fiscal year or month is reached as determined in accordance with §1430.207 or

(ii) The end of the applicable fiscal year.

(h) All producers involved in the dairy operation must agree to the month designated. The dairy operation assumes the risk of not reaching the maximum payment quantity based on the month selected by the dairy operation. Payments will not be issued for past months for the sole purpose of reaching the maximum payment quantity.

[71 FR 19622, Apr. 17, 2006, as amended at 73 FR 73766, Dec. 4, 2008]

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§ 1430.207 Dairy operation payment quantity.

(a) The applicant's payment quantity of milk will be determined by CCC, based on the quantity of milk that was produced and commercially marketed by each dairy operation per fiscal year.

(b) The maximum quantity of eligible production for which dairy operations, per separate and distinct operation, are eligible for payment per fiscal year under this subpart will be:

(1) 2,400,000 pounds (24,000 cwt.) for FY 2008 (October 1, 2007, through September 30, 2008);

(2) 2,985,000 pounds (29,850 cwt.) for FY 2009 (October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009), FY 2010 (October 1, 2009, through September 30, 2010), FY 2011 (October 1, 2010, through September 30, 2011) and FY 2012 (October 1, 2011, through September 30, 2012), provided further an operation may receive payment for September, 2012, marketings only if its pre-September FY 2012 marketings did not exceed 2,400,000 pounds in which case new marketings that would not put the operation's FY 2012 marketings over 2,400,000 pounds will be eligible for payments otherwise permitted in this rule.

(c) In accordance with these regulations, the Deputy Administrator will determine what is a separate and distinct operation. That decision will be final

[67 FR 64476, Oct. 18, 2002, as amended at 73 FR 73767, Dec. 4, 2008]

§ 1430.208 Payment rate and dairy operation payment.

(a) Payments under this subpart may be made to dairy operations when the Boston Class I milk price under the applicable Federal milk marketing order is below \$16.94 per cwt. No payments will be made to dairy operations for marketings during the months that the Boston Class I milk price under the applicable milk marketing order is equal to or exceeds \$16.94.

(b) A per-hundredweight payment rate will be determined for the applicable month by:

(1) Subtracting from \$16.94 the Class I milk price per cwt. in Boston;

(2) Multiplying the difference by 34 percent for marketings during the period beginning on October 1, 2007, and ending on September 30, 2008;

(3) Multiplying the difference by 45 percent for marketings during the period beginning on October 1, 2008, and ending on August 31, 2012; and

(4) Multiplying the difference by 34 percent for marketings in September 2012.

(c) The payment rate as calculated as specified in paragraph (b) of this section, will be adjusted to compensate for feed prices when the National Average Dairy Feed Ration Cost for a month is greater than the levels set in paragraphs (c)(1) and (c)(2) of this section. The National Average Dairy Feed Ration Cost per cwt. for each month will be calculated using the same procedures used to calculate the feed components of the estimated price of 16 percent Mixed Dairy Feed per pound noted on page 33 of the USDA monthly Agricultural Prices publication (including the data and factors noted in footnote 4). The payment rate adjustment for Entire Month feed prices will be determined by increasing \$16.94 by the percentage that is 45 percent of the percentage by which the National Average Dairy Feed Ration Cost exceeds \$7.35 per cwt. (except that \$7.35 will be \$9.50 for September 2012 marketings.)

(d) Each eligible dairy operation payment will be calculated, as determined by the Secretary, by:

(1) Converting whole pounds of milk to hundredweight and

(2) Multiplying the payment rate determined in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section by the quantity of eligible production marketed by the operation during the applicable month as determined according to §1430.205 and other provisions of this subpart.

(3) Payments to dairy operations will be based on calculated payment rates rounded seven places to the right of the decimal.

(e) Payments under this subpart may be made to a dairy operation only up to the maximum production limitations set in §1430.207(b) of eligible production per applicable fiscal year.

(f) Dairy operations receiving benefits under this subpart, will receive earned payments on a monthly basis according to the MILC contract, to the extent practicable, not later than 60 days after the later of production evidence and all supporting documents for the applicable month are received by CCC or the entire month National Average Dairy Feed Ration Cost is made available by USDA, as applicable. Pay-

ments issued by CCC more than 60 days after the later of all production evidence and supporting documentation are received by CCC or the entire month National Average Dairy Feed Ration Cost is made available by USDA, whichever is later, will be subject to prompt payment interest as allowed by law. However, CCC will endeavor where possible to make payments within 60 days of the end of the marketing month.

[67 FR 64476, Oct. 18, 2002, as amended at 71 FR 19623, Apr. 17, 2006; 72 FR 48231, Aug. 23, 2007; 73 FR 73767, Dec. 4, 2008]

§ 1430.209 Proof of market loss production.

(a) A dairy operation entering into a MILC must, based on instructions issued by the Deputy Administrator, provide adequate proof of the dairy operation's eligible production during the months of each fiscal year designated in the MILC. The dairy operation must also provide proof that the eligible production was commercially marketed during the months beginning October 1, 2007, and ending September 30, 2012. Evidence of milk production claimed for payment shall be provided to CCC with supporting documentation under paragraph (b) of this section. All information provided is subject to verification, spot check and audit by FSA. Further verification information may be obtained from the dairy operation's milk handler or marketing cooperative if deemed necessary by CCC to verify provided information. Refusal to allow a representative of CCC or any other agency of the Department of Agriculture to verify any information provided will result in a determination of ineligibility for benefits under this subpart.

(b) Eligible dairy operations marketing milk during the period specified in the MILC shall provide any available supporting documents from all producers in the dairy operation to assist CCC in verifying that the dairy operation produced and marketed milk commercially from the designated starting month and thereafter. Examples of supporting documentation include, but are not limited to: milk marketing payment stubs, tank records, milk handler records, daily

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milk marketings, copies of any payments received as compensation from other sources, or any other documents available to confirm the production and production history of the dairy operation. Producers may also be required to allow CCC to examine the herd of cattle as production evidence. If supporting documentation requested is not presented to CCC or FSA, the request for MILC benefits will be disapproved.

[67 FR 64476, Oct. 18, 2002, as amended at 71 FR 19623, Apr. 17, 2006; 73 FR 73767, Dec. 4, 2008]

§ 1430.210 MILC agents.

(a) MILC benefits may be disbursed by a dairy marketing cooperative that serves special groups or communities, such as an Amish or Mennonite community. Producers in such groups in a dairy operation may authorize an agent of a dairy cooperative or milk handler affiliated with such cooperative to obtain and disburse MILC benefits to the dairy operation.

(b) The authorized MILC agent must on behalf of the dairy operation do the following:

(1) Obtain an acceptable power of attorney or acceptable equivalent for the producers of the dairy operation that authorizes the agent to enter into an MILC contract;

(2) Enter into a written agreement with CCC for approval to act as a MILC agent on a form prescribed by CCC;

(3) Provide the dairy operation's monthly production evidence to the appropriate FSA office;

(4) Disburse payment to the dairy operation in the producer's monthly milk check or in an otherwise approved manner.

§ 1430.211 Duration of contracts.

(a) Except as provided in § 1430.205, or elsewhere in this subpart, a MILC entered into by producers in a dairy operation shall cover eligible production marketed by the producers in the dairy operation during the period beginning with the first day of the month the producers in the dairy operation enter into an MILC and ending on September 30, 2012.

(b) If a dairy goes out of business during the contract period, the MILC will

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be terminated immediately, except as applicable to earned payments.

[67 FR 64476, Oct. 18, 2002, as amended at 71 FR 19623, Apr. 17, 2006; 73 FR 73768, Dec. 4, 2008]

§ 1430.212 Contract modifications and statutory changes in program.

(a) Producers in a dairy operation must notify FSA immediately of any changes that may affect their MILC. Changes include, but are not limited to changes to the starting month to receive payment for the next fiscal year, death of producer on the contract, new member joining the operation, member exiting the operation, transfer of shares by sale or other transfer action, or farm reconstitutions undertaken in accordance with § 1430.213.

(b) CCC may modify an MILC if such modifications are desirable to carry out purposes of the program or to facilitate the program's administration.

(c) Payments otherwise due under this subpart or the program will be adjusted or denied to the extent provided for by a statutory change in program eligibilities or requirements of any kind irrespective of whether the program contract preceded the statutory change. Operations will be given the option of accepting the changes or terminating the contract.

[67 FR 64476, Oct. 18, 2002, as amended at 73 FR 73768, Dec. 4, 2008]

§ 1430.213 Reconstitutions.

(a) A dairy operation receiving MILC benefits may reorganize or restructure such that the constitution or makeup of its operation is reconstituted in another organizational framework. However, any operation that reorganizes or restructures after October 1, 2007, is subject to a review by FSA to determine if the operation was reorganized or restructured for the sole purpose of receiving multiple or additional MILC payments.

(b) A dairy operation that FSA determines has reorganized solely to receive additional MILC payments will be in violation of its contract and dealt in accordance with § 1430.214.

(c) If during the contract period a change in the dairy operation occurs, the modification to the MILC will not

take effect until the first day of the fiscal year following the month FSA received notification of the changes. Changes include but are not limited to any producer affiliated with a dairy operation that has an approved MILC with CCC forming a new dairy operation that is not formed solely to receive additional MILC payments.

(d) Changes resulting in the following will take effect immediately upon notification to CCC, in accordance with § 1430.212:

(1) Increases or reductions of shareholders or producers and their corresponding share amounts in the dairy operation; or

(2) Purchases of a new dairy operation by a producer or producers not affiliated with an existing dairy operation that has an approved MILC with CCC.

[67 FR 64476, Oct. 18, 2002, as amended at 73 FR 73768, Dec. 4, 2008]

§ 1430.214 Violations.

(a) If producers in a dairy operation violates the MILC or the requirements of this subpart, CCC may:

(1) Terminate the MILC for the remainder of the fiscal year in which the violation occurs, and allow the producer to retain any payments received under the contract; or

(2) Allow the MILC to remain in effect and require the producer to repay a portion of the payments received commensurate with the violation's severity, as CCC determines.

(3) If the MILC is terminated under this section, the participant shall forfeit all rights to further MILC benefits and shall refund all or part of the payments received as CCC determines appropriate.

(4) A producer or operation with a violation, as determined by CCC, shall refund all MILC funds disbursed under of this part. The remedies provided in this subpart shall be in addition to other civil, criminal, or administrative remedies which may apply.

(b) A MILC is violated by the following actions:

(1) Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the MILC and addendum;

(2) Reconstitutions of the dairy operation for the sole purpose of receiving multiple program benefits;

(3) Failure to comply with highly erodible land conservation and wetland provisions of this 7 CFR part 12 or their successor regulations;

(4) Failure to meet the definition of a dairy operation according to § 1430.202;

(5) Any action that tends to defeat the purpose of the program, as CCC determines.

(c) The Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs (DAFP) of the Farm Service Agency may terminate any MILC by mutual agreement upon request of the participant if DAFP determines that termination is in the best interest of the public.

(d) The DAFP may determine that failure of the dairy operation to perform the MILC does not warrant termination and may require the participant to refund part of the payments received or accept adjustments in the payment as the DAFP determines to be appropriate.

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§ 1430.216 Contracts not in conformity with regulations.

If it is discovered that an MILC contract does not comply with this subpart as the result of a misunderstanding by someone who has signed the contract, the contract may be modified by mutual agreement. If the parties to the MILC cannot reach agreement for such modification, it shall be terminated and all payments paid or payable under the contract shall be forfeited or refunded to CCC, except as may otherwise be allowed under § 1430.214.

§ 1430.217 Offsets and withholdings.

CCC may offset or withhold any amount due CCC under this subpart under the provisions of part 1403 of this chapter or any successor regulations.

§ 1430.218 Assignments.

Any producer may assign a payment to be made under this part in accordance with part 1404 of this chapter or successor regulations as designated by the Department.

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§ 1430.219 Appeals.

Any producer who is dissatisfied with a determination made pursuant to this subpart may request reconsideration or appeal of such determination under part 11 or 780 of this title.

§ 1430.220 Misrepresentation and scheme or device.

(a) A dairy operation shall be ineligible for the MILC program if FSA determines that it knowingly:

(1) Adopted a scheme or device that tends to defeat the purpose of this program;

(2) Made any fraudulent representation; or

(3) Misrepresented any fact affecting a determination under this program. CCC will take steps deemed necessary to protect the interests of the government.

(b) Any funds disbursed to a producer or operation engaged in a misrepresentation, scheme, or device, shall be refunded to CCC. The remedies provided in this subpart shall be in addition to other civil, criminal, or administrative remedies which may apply.

§ 1430.221 Estates, trusts, and minors.

(a) Program documents executed by producers legally authorized to represent estates or trusts will be accepted only if such producers furnish evidence of the authority to execute such documents.

(b) A minor who is otherwise eligible for assistance under this part must also:

(1) Establish that the right of majority has been conferred on the minor by court proceedings or by statute;

(2) Show that a guardian has been appointed to manage the minor's property and the applicable program documents are executed by the guardian; or

(3) Furnish a bond under which the surety guarantees any loss incurred for which the minor would be liable had the minor been an adult.

§ 1430.222 Death, incompetency, or disappearance.

In the case of death, incompetency, disappearance or dissolution of a producer that is eligible to receive benefits under this part, such persons as are specified in part 707 of this title may

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receive such benefits, as determined appropriate by FSA.

§ 1430.223 Maintenance and inspection of records.

(a) Producers approved for benefits under this program must maintain accurate records and accounts that will document that they meet all eligibility requirements specified herein, as may be requested by CCC or FSA. Such records and accounts must be retained for 3 years after the date of payment to the dairy operation under this program. Destruction of the records 3 years after the date of payment shall be the risk of the party undertaking the destruction.

(b) At all times during regular business hours, authorized representatives of CCC, the Department, or the Comptroller General of the United States shall have access to the premises of the dairy operation in order to inspect the herd of cattle, examine, and make copies of the books, records, and accounts, and other written data as specified in paragraph (a) of this section.

(c) Any funds disbursed pursuant to this part to any producers or operation who does not comply with the provisions of paragraphs (a) or (b) of this section, or who otherwise receives a payment for which they are not eligible, shall be refunded with interest.

§ 1430.224 Refunds; joint and several liability.

(a) In the event of an error on a MILC application, a failure to comply with any term, requirement, or condition for payment arising under the MILC application, or this subpart, all improper payments shall be refunded to CCC together with interest from the date payment was received through the date the refund is received by CCC.

(b) All producers signing a dairy operation's application for payment as having an interest in the operation shall be jointly and severally liable for any refund, including related charges, that is determined to be due for any reason under the terms and conditions of the contract application and addendum or this part for such operation.

§ 1430.225 Violations of highly erodible land and wetland conservation provisions.

The provisions of part 12 of this title apply to this part.

§ 1430.226 Violations regarding controlled substances.

The provisions of § 718.11 of this title apply to this part.

Subpart C—2004 Dairy Disaster Assistance Payment Program

SOURCE: 70 FR 56115, Sept. 26, 2005, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1430.300 Applicability.

(a) Subject to the availability of funds, this subpart sets forth the terms and conditions applicable to the 2004 Dairy Disaster Assistance Payment Program authorized by section 103 of Division B of Public Law 108-324. Benefits are available to eligible United States producers who have suffered dairy production losses and dairy spoilage losses in eligible counties as a result of a hurricane disaster in 2004.

(b) To be eligible for this program, a producer must have been a milk producer in 2004 in a county declared a disaster by the President of the United States due to a 2004 hurricane. Only losses occurring in those counties are eligible for payment in this program. Producers in contiguous counties that were not designated by the President as a disaster county due to a hurricane in 2004 are not eligible.

(c) Subject to the availability of funds, benefits shall be provided by the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) to eligible dairy producers. Additional terms and conditions may be set forth in the payment application that must be executed by participants to receive a disaster assistance payment for dairy production losses and dairy spoilage losses.

(d) To be eligible for payments, producers must comply with the provisions of, and their losses must meet the conditions of, this subpart and any other conditions imposed by CCC.

§ 1430.301 Administration.

(a) The 2004 Dairy Disaster Assistance Payment Program shall be administered under the general supervision of the Executive Vice President, CCC (Administrator, FSA), or a designee, and shall be carried out in the field by FSA State and county committees (State and county committees) and FSA employees.

(b) State and county committees, and representatives and employees thereof, do not have the authority to modify or waive any of the provisions of the regulations of this subpart.

(c) The State committee shall take any action required by the regulations of this subpart that has not been taken by the county committee. The State committee shall also:

(1) Correct, or require the county committee to correct, any action taken by such county committee that is not in accordance with the regulations of this subpart; and

(2) Require a county committee to withhold taking any action that is not in accordance with the regulations of this subpart.

(d) No provision of delegation in this subpart to a State or county committee shall preclude the Executive Vice President, CCC, or a designee, from determining any question arising under the program or from reversing or modifying any determination made by the State or county committee.

(e) The Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs, FSA, may authorize State and county committees to waive or modify deadlines in cases where lateness or failure to meet such requirements do not adversely affect the operation of the 2004 Dairy Disaster Assistance Payment Program and does not violate statutory limitations on the program.

(f) Data furnished by the applicants is used to determine eligibility for program benefits. Although participation in the 2004 Dairy Disaster Assistance Payment Program is voluntary, program benefits are not to be provided unless the participant furnishes all requested data.

§ 1430.302 Definitions.

The definitions set forth in this section shall be applicable for all purposes

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of administering the 2004 Dairy Disaster Assistance Payment Program established by this subpart.

Application means the 2004 Dairy Disaster Assistance Payment Program Application.

Application period means the time period established by the Deputy Administrator for producers to apply for program benefits.

CCC means the Commodity Credit Corporation of the Department.

County committee means the FSA county committee.

County office means the FSA office responsible for administering FSA programs for farms located in a specific area in a state.

Dairy operation means any person or group of persons who, as a single unit, as determined by CCC, produces and markets milk commercially from cows and whose production facilities are located in the United States.

Department or USDA means the United States Department of Agriculture.

Deputy Administrator means the Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs (DAFP), FSA, or a designee.

Disaster county means a county declared a disaster by the President of the United States due to a hurricane in 2004, and is only the county so declared, not a contiguous county.

Farm Service Agency or FSA means the Farm Service Agency of the Department.

Hundredweight or cwt. means 100 pounds.

Milk handler or cooperative means the marketing agency to, or through which, the producer commercially markets whole milk.

Milk marketings means a marketing of milk for which there is a verifiable sales or delivery record of milk marketed for commercial use. In counting milk toward production amounts, dumped milk will not be considered as marketed for commercial use. Such dumped milk shall be counted toward production but will be accounted for separately from milk that is marketed for normal commercial use as determined by the Deputy Administrator. All production in the months for which loss coverage is available will be counted in making determinations under

this part, as determined by the Deputy Administrator, with care to avoid double counting, and with care to avoid a calculated loss that overstates the actual losses.

Payment pounds means the pounds of milk production from a dairy operation for which the dairy producer is eligible to be paid under this subpart.

Producer means any individual, group of individuals, partnership, corporation, estate, trust association, cooperative, or other business enterprise or other legal entity who is, or whose members are, a citizen of, or legal resident alien in the United States, and who directly or indirectly, as determined by the Secretary, shares in the risk of producing milk, and makes contributions (including land, labor, management, equipment, or capital) to the dairy farming operation of the individual or entity of the proceeds of this operation.

Starting base production means actual commercial production marketed by the dairy operation during the month of July 2004, or alternative period established by the Deputy Administrator.

Verifiable production records means evidence that is used to substantiate the amount of production marketed, including any dumped production, and that can be verified by CCC through an independent source.

§ 1430.303 Time and method of application.

(a) Dairy producers may obtain an Application, in person, by mail, by telephone, or by facsimile from any county FSA office. In addition, applicants may download a copy of the Application at <http://www.sc.egov.usda.gov>.

(b) A request for benefits under this subpart must be submitted on a completed Application as defined in §1430.302. Applications and any other supporting documentation shall be submitted to the FSA county office serving the county where the dairy operation is located but, in any case, must be received by the FSA county office by the close of business on the date established by the Deputy Administrator. The closing date shall be no

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sooner than October 11, 2005. Applications not received by the close of business on such date will be disapproved as not having been timely filed and the dairy producer will not be eligible for benefits under this program.

(c) All persons who share in the risk of a dairy operation's total production must certify to the information on the Application before the Application is considered complete.

(d) Each dairy producer requesting benefits under this subpart must certify to the accuracy and truthfulness of the information provided in their application and any supporting documentation. All information provided is subject to verification by CCC. Refusal to allow CCC or any other agency of the Department of Agriculture to verify any information provided will result in a denial of eligibility. Furnishing the information is voluntary; however, without it program benefits will not be approved. Providing a false certification to the Government may be punishable by imprisonment, fines and other penalties or sanctions.

§ 1430.304 Eligibility.

(a) Producers in the United States are eligible to receive hurricane-related dairy disaster benefits under this part only if they have suffered dairy production or dairy spoilage losses in counties declared a disaster by the President due to any hurricane in 2004. To be eligible to receive payments under this subpart, producers in a dairy operation must:

(1) Have produced and commercially marketed milk in the United States and commercially marketed the milk produced during the 2004 calendar year;

(2) Be a producer on a dairy farm operation physically located in a disaster county where production and milk spoilage losses were incurred as a result of 2004 hurricanes, and limiting their claims to losses occurring in those counties;

(3) Provide proof of monthly milk production dumped and commercially marketed by all persons in the eligible dairy operation during the third quarter of the 2004 milk marketing year, or other period as determined by FSA, to determine the total pounds of eligible

losses that will be used for payment; and

(4) Apply for payments during the application period established by the Deputy Administrator.

(b) Payments may be made for losses suffered by an otherwise eligible producer who is now deceased or is a dissolved entity if a representative who currently has authority to enter into a contract for the producer or the producer's estate signs the application for payment. Proof of authority to sign for the deceased producer's estate or a dissolved entity must be provided. If a producer is now a dissolved general partnership or joint venture, all members of the general partnership or joint venture at the time of dissolution or their duly-authorized representatives must sign the application for payment.

(c) Producers associated with a dairy operation must submit a timely application and comply with terms and conditions of this subpart, instructions issued by CCC and instructions contained in the Application to be eligible for benefits under this subpart.

(d) As a condition to receive benefits under this part, a producer must have been in compliance with the Highly Erodible Land Conservation and Wetland Conservation provisions of 7 CFR part 12 for the 2004 calendar year, as applicable, and must not otherwise be barred from receiving benefits under 7 CFR part 12 or any other law or regulation.

(e) Payments are limited to losses in eligible counties in eligible months.

(f) All payments under this part are subject to the availability of funds.

§ 1430.305 Proof of production.

(a) Evidence of production is required to establish the commercial marketing and production history of the dairy operation so that production and spoilage losses can be computed in accordance with § 1430.306.

(b) A dairy producer must, based on the instructions issued by the Deputy Administrator, provide adequate proof of the dairy operation's commercial production, including any dumped production and dairy cow purchases, for each month of the period July 2004 through October 2004, and must specifically identify any dumped production

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for August through October 2004. If a month other than July 2004 is used for base creation purposes records for that month must be provided.

(1) A producer must certify and provide such proof as requested that losses for which compensation is claimed were hurricane-related and occurred in an eligible county in an eligible month.

(2) Additional supporting documentation may be requested by FSA as necessary to verify production or spoilage losses and dairy herd increases or decreases to the satisfaction of FSA.

(c) Adequate proof of production history of the dairy operation under paragraph (b) of this section must be based on milk marketing statements obtained from the dairy operation's milk handler or marketing cooperative. Supporting documents may include, but are not limited to: tank records, milk handler records, daily milk marketings, copies of any payments received from other sources for production or spoilage losses, or any other documents available to confirm the production history and losses incurred by the dairy operation.

(d) Adequate proof of dairy cow additions to the milking herd during the eligible months can include, but are not limited to sales receipts, invoices, State health certificates, or any other documents available to confirm the cow purchases.

(e) All information provided to FSA by a producer is subject to verification, spot-check and audit by FSA. Also, FSA or another CCC representative may examine the dairy operation's production or spoilage claims.

(f) If adequate proof of commercially-marketed production and supporting documentation is not presented to the satisfaction of CCC or FSA, the request for benefits will be rejected. In the case of a new producer that had no verifiable, actual, commercial production marketed by the dairy operation during the month of July 2004, but which suffered eligible losses, an alternate base period may be established by the Deputy Administrator.

§ 1430.306 Determination of losses incurred.

(a) Eligible payable losses are calculated on a dairy operation by dairy

operation basis and are limited to those occurring in August through October 2004. Specifically, dairy production and spoilage losses incurred by producers under this subpart are determined on the established history of the dairy operation's actual commercial production marketed from August through October 2004, and actual production dumped or otherwise not marketed from August through October 2004, as provided by the dairy operation consistent with §1430.305. Except as otherwise provided in these regulations, the starting base production, as defined in §1430.302, is adjusted downward by a percentage determined by CCC to determine the base production for the months of August through October 2004. These adjustments are made to account for the seasonal declines that can occur during those months. The base production for each of the months August through October 2004 is calculated by reducing the starting base production (July 2004, or alternate month approved by the Deputy Administrator for new producers) as follows:

(1) August 2004 base production is the starting base production reduced by 9 percent;

(2) September 2004 base production is the starting base production reduced by 15 percent;

(3) October 2004 base production is the starting base production reduced by 11 percent.

(b) The eligible dairy production losses for a dairy operation for each of the months of August through October 2004 will be:

(1) The new base production for the dairy operation calculated under paragraph (a) of this section less,

(2) For each such month for each dairy operation, the total of:

(i) Actual commercially-marketed production (not counting dumped production counted under paragraph (b)(1)(ii) of this section); plus

(ii) The pounds of milk production dumped (whether related to the hurricane or not), or otherwise not commercially marketed (whether related to the hurricane or not). For dumping losses to be eligible, they must, as with other program losses, be hurricane related, as described under paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section.

(c) Actual production losses may be adjusted to the extent the reduction in production is not certified by the producer to be the result of the hurricane or is determined by FSA not to be hurricane-related. Actual production, as adjusted, that exceeds the adjusted base production will mean that the dairy operation incurred no eligible production losses for the corresponding month as a result of the hurricane disaster, and that the production level for that month does not qualify for a payment under this program.

(d) Eligible dairy spoilage losses incurred by producers under this subpart for each of the months August through October 2004 will be determined based on actual milk produced in those months that was dumped on the farm as a result of the 2004 hurricanes. Proper documentation of milk dumped on the farm as a result of spoilage due to a hurricane must be provided to CCC as provided in §1430.305.

(e) Calculated production losses may be adjusted by FSA based on the monthly average of daily dairy cow additions or reductions to the milking herd during the period of July 1, 2004 through October 31, 2004, to account for production adjustments as a result of dairy cow purchases, sales, or death losses. Production adjustments can be calculated using the average number of dairy cows in a dairy operation's milking herd and the average production per cow during each applicable month. Per-cow production averages during the months of August through October will be determined based on the actual per-cow production average during the month of July 2004 and reduced downward according to the seasonal decline percentages provided in paragraph (a) of this section, to determine the total production that may be credited back to the dairy operation's total production losses. To qualify for the production adjustment:

(1) Producers in eligible dairy operations must report any increases or decreases to the dairy cow milking herd during the period of July 1, 2004 through October 31, 2004.

(2) Adequate supporting documentation according to §1430.305 must be provided to the satisfaction of the COC to

verify any claims of herd increases or decreases during the eligible period.

(3) Any cows purchased during the eligible period that would increase the dairy cow milking herd must have been to offset production losses as a result of the 2004 hurricanes.

(f) Eligible production and spoilage losses as otherwise determined under paragraphs (a) through (e) of this section are added together to determine total eligible losses incurred by the dairy operation subject to all other eligibility requirements as may be included in this part or elsewhere.

(g) Payment on eligible dairy operation losses is calculated using whole pounds of milk. No double counting is permitted, and only one payment will be made for each pound of milk calculated as an eligible loss after the distribution of the operation's eligible production loss among the producers of the dairy operation according to §1420.307(b). Payments under this part will not be affected by any payments for dumped or spoiled milk that the dairy operation may have received from its milk handler, or marketing cooperative, or any other private party.

(h) If a producer is eligible to receive payments under this part and benefits under any other program administered by the Secretary for the same losses, the producer must choose whether to receive the other program benefits or payments under this part, but shall not be eligible for both. The limitation on multiple benefits prohibits a producer from being compensated more than once for the same losses. If the other USDA program benefits are not available until after an application for benefits has been filed under this part, the producer may, to avoid this restriction on such other benefits, refund the total amount of the payment to the administrative FSA office from which the payment was received.

§ 1430.307 Rate of payment and limitations on funding.

(a) Subject to the availability of funds, the payment rate for eligible production and spoilage losses determined according to §1430.306 is, depending on the State, the average monthly Mailbox milk price for the Florida, the

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Southeast, or the Appalachian States Marketing Orders as reported by the Agricultural Marketing Service during the months of August, September, and October of 2004. Maximum payment rates for eligible losses for dairy operations located in specific states are as follows:

(1) Florida—\$17.62 per hundredweight (\$0.1762 per pound).

(2) Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Mississippi—\$16.26 per hundredweight (\$0.1626 per pound).

(3) North Carolina and South Carolina—\$15.59 per hundredweight (\$0.1559 per pound).

(b) Subject to the availability of funds, each eligible dairy operation's payment is calculated by multiplying the applicable payment rate under paragraph (a) of this section by the operation's total eligible losses. Where there are multiple producers in the dairy operation, individual producers' payments are disbursed according to each producer's share of the dairy operation's production as specified in the Application.

(c) If the total value of losses claimed under paragraph (b) of this section exceeds the \$10 million available for the 2004 Dairy Disaster Assistance Payment Program, less any reserve that may be created under paragraph (e) of this section, total eligible losses of individual dairy operations that, as calculated as an overall percentage for the full three month period, August–October 2004 (not a monthly average for any one month), are greater than 20 percent of the total base production for those three months will be paid at the maximum rate under paragraph (a) of this section to the extent available funding allows. A loss of over 20 percent in only one or two of the eligible months does not itself qualify for the maximum per-pound payment. Total eligible losses for a producer, as calculated under § 1430.306, of less than or equal to 20 percent during the eligibility period of August to October 2004 will be paid at a rate determined by dividing the eligible losses of less than 20 percent by the funds remaining after making payments for all eligible losses above the 20 percent threshold.

(d) In no event shall the payment exceed the value determined by multi-

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plying the producer's total eligible loss times the average price received for commercial milk production in their area as defined in paragraph (a) of this section.

(e) A reserve may be created to handle claims that extend beyond the conclusion of the application period, but claims shall not be payable once the available funding is expended.

§ 1430.308 Availability of funds.

The total available program funds shall be \$10 million as provided by section 103 of Division B of Public Law 108–324.

§ 1430.309 Appeals.

Any producer who is dissatisfied with a determination made pursuant to this subpart may request reconsideration or appeal of such determination in accordance with the appeal regulations set forth at 7 CFR parts 11 and 780. Appeals of determinations of ineligibility or payment amounts are subject to the limitations in §§ 1430.307 and 1430.308.

§ 1430.310 Misrepresentation and scheme or device.

(a) In addition to other penalties, sanctions or remedies as may apply, a dairy producer shall be ineligible to receive assistance under this program if the producer is determined by FSA or CCC to have:

(1) Adopted any scheme or device that tends to defeat the purpose of this program;

(2) Made any fraudulent representation; or

(3) Misrepresented any fact affecting a program determination.

(b) Any funds disbursed pursuant to this part to any person or operation engaged in a misrepresentation, scheme, or device, shall be refunded with interest together with such other sums as may become due. Any dairy operation or person engaged in acts prohibited by this section and any dairy operation or person receiving payment under this subpart shall be jointly and severally liable with other persons or operations involved in such claim for benefits for any refund due under this section and

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for related charges. The remedies provided in this subpart shall be in addition to other civil, criminal, or administrative remedies that may apply.

§ 1430.311 Death, incompetence, or disappearance.

In the case of death, incompetency, disappearance, or dissolution of a person that is eligible to receive benefits in accordance with this subpart, such alternate person or persons specified in 7 CFR part 707 may receive such benefits, as determined appropriate by FSA.

§ 1430.312 Maintaining records.

Persons applying for benefits under this program must maintain records and accounts to document all eligibility requirements specified herein. Such records and accounts must be retained for 3 years after the date of payment to the dairy operations under this program. Destruction of the records after such date shall be at the risk of the party undertaking the destruction.

§ 1430.313 Refunds; joint and several liability.

(a) Excess payments, payments provided as the result of erroneous information provided by any person, or payments resulting from a failure to comply with any requirement or condition for payment under the application or this subpart, must be refunded to CCC.

(b) A refund required under this section shall be due with interest determined in accordance with paragraph (d) of this section and late payment charges as provided in 7 CFR part 1403.

(c) Persons signing a dairy operation's application as having an interest in the operation shall be jointly and severally liable for any refund and related charges found to be due under this section.

(d) Interest shall be applicable to any refunds required in accordance with 7 CFR parts 792 and 1403. Such interest shall be charged at the rate the United States Department of the Treasury charges CCC for funds, and shall accrue from the date FSA or CCC made the erroneous payment to the date of repayment.

(e) FSA may waive the accrual of interest if it determines that the cause of

the erroneous determination was not due to any action of the person, or was beyond the control of the person committing the violation. Any waiver is at the discretion of FSA alone.

§ 1430.314 Miscellaneous provisions.

(a) *Offset.* CCC may offset or withhold any amount due CCC under this subpart in accordance with 7 CFR part 1403.

(b) *Claims.* Claims or debts are settled in accordance with 7 CFR part 1403.

(c) *Other interests.* Payments or any portion thereof due under this subpart shall be made without regard to questions of title under State law and without regard to any claim or lien against the livestock, or proceeds thereof, in favor of the owner or any other creditor except agencies and instrumentalities of the U.S. Government.

(d) *Assignments.* Any producer entitled to any payment under this part may assign any payments in accordance with the provisions of 7 CFR part 1404.

§ 1430.315 Termination of program.

This program ends after payment has been made to those applicants certified as eligible pursuant to the application period established in §1430.304. All eligibility determinations shall be final except as otherwise determined by the Deputy Administrator.

Subpart D—Dairy Market Loss Assistance Program

AUTHORITY: Pub. L. 105-277, 112 Stat. 2681; Pub. L. 106-78, 113 Stat. 1135; Pub. L. 106-387, 114 Stat. 1549.

SOURCE: 64 FR 24934, May 10, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1430.500 Applicability.

This subpart establishes the Dairy Market Loss Assistance Program. The purpose of this program is to provide benefits to dairy operations under Public Law 105-277, 112 Stat. 2681; sections 805 and 825 of Public Law 106-78; and section 805 of Public Law 106-387 only, in order to provide financial assistance to dairy operations in connection with

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normal milk production that is sold on the commercial market.

[64 FR 24934, May 10, 1999, as amended at 65 FR 7956, Feb. 16, 2000; 66 FR 15176, Mar. 15, 2001]

§ 1430.501 Administration.

(a) The provisions of §§1430.351, 1430.352, 1430.354, 1430.355, and 1430.360 shall be applied to this subpart in the same manner as they are applied to the subpart in which they are located.

(b) The provisions of §§1430.1 through 1430.349, 1430.353, 1430.356 through 1430.359, 1430.361 through 1430.362, and 1430.400 through 1430.410 are not applicable to this subpart.

(c) This subpart shall be administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) under the general direction and supervision of the Executive Vice President, CCC or designee. The program shall be carried out in the field by State and county FSA committees under the general direction and supervision of the State and county FSA committees.

(d) State and county committees, and representatives and employees thereof, do not have the authority to modify or waive any of the provisions of the regulations in this subpart.

(e) The State committee shall take any action required by this subpart which has not been taken by the county committee. The State committee shall also:

(1) Correct, or require a county committee to correct, any action taken by such county committee which is not in accordance with the regulations of this subpart; or

(2) Require a county committee to withhold taking any action which is not in accordance with the regulations of this subpart.

(f) No delegation in this subpart to a State or county committee shall preclude the Executive Vice President, CCC, or a designee, from determining any question arising under the program or from reversing or modifying any determination made by a State or county committee.

(g) The Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs, FSA, may authorize State and county committees to waive or modify deadlines and other program requirements in cases where timeliness

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or failure to meet such other requirements does not adversely affect the operation of the program.

§ 1430.502 Definitions.

The definitions set forth in this section shall be applicable for all purposes of administering the Dairy Market Loss Assistance Program established by this subpart.

Application means the Dairy Market Loss Assistance Program Payment application, CCC-1040.

Application period means April 12, 1999 through February 28, 2001.

Base period means the calendar year, either 1997 or 1998, as selected by the dairy operation, during which milk was produced and marketed.

Commodity Credit Corporation means the Commodity Credit Corporation.

Dairy operation means any person or group of persons who as a single unit as determined by CCC, produce and market milk commercially produced from cows and whose production and facilities are located in the United States.

Department means the United States Department of Agriculture.

Deputy Administrator means the Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs (DAFP), Farm Service Agency (FSA) or a designee.

Eligible production means milk that had been produced by cows in the United States and marketed commercially in the United States anytime during the 1997 and or 1998 calendar year, subject to a maximum of 26,000 cwt per dairy operation.

Farm Service Agency or FSA means the Farm Service Agency of the Department.

Fourth quarter of 1998 means the period from October 1, 1998 through December 31, 1998.

Marketed commercially means sold to the market to which the dairy operation normally delivers whole milk and receives a monetary amount.

Milk handler means the marketing agency to or through which the producer commercially markets whole milk.

Milk marketing means a marketing of milk for which there is a verifiable sales or delivery record of milk marketed for commercial use.

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Person means any individual, group of individuals, partnership, corporation, estate, trust, association, cooperative, or other business enterprise or other legal entity who is, or whose members are, a citizen or citizens of, or legal resident alien or aliens in the United States.

Secretary means the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture or any other officer or employee of the Department who has been delegated the authority to act in the Secretary's stead with respect to the program established in this part.

United States means the 50 States of the United States of America, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

[64 FR 24934, May 10, 1999, as amended at 65 FR 7956, Feb. 16, 2000; 66 FR 15177, Mar. 15, 2001]

§ 1430.503 Time and method for application.

(a) Dairy operations may obtain an application, Form CCC-1040 (Dairy Market Loss Assistance Program Payment Application), in person, by mail, by telephone, or by facsimile from any county FSA office. In addition, applicants may download a copy of the CCC-1040 at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dajfp/psd/>.

(b) A request for benefits under this subpart must be submitted on a completed Form CCC-1040. The Form CCC-1040 should be submitted to the county FSA office serving the county where the dairy operation is located but, in any case, must be received by the county FSA office by the close of business on February 28, 2001. Applications not received by the close of business on February 28, 2001, will be disapproved as not having been timely filed and the dairy operation will not be eligible for benefits under this program.

(c) All persons who share in the milk production of a dairy operation that marketed milk during the fourth quarter of 1998 must certify on the same CCC-1040 in order to obtain the total milk production of the dairy operation before the application is complete.

(d) The dairy operation requesting benefits under this subpart must certify with respect to the accuracy and truthfulness of the information provided in their application for benefits.

All information provided is subject to verification and spot checks by CCC. Refusal to allow CCC or any other agency of the Department of Agriculture to verify any information provided will result in a determination of ineligibility. Data furnished by the applicant will be used to determine eligibility for program benefits. Furnishing the data is voluntary; however, without it program benefits will not be approved. Providing a false certification to the Government is punishable by imprisonment, fines and other penalties.

[64 FR 24934, May 10, 1999, as amended at 65 FR 7956, Feb. 16, 2000; 66 FR 15177, Mar. 15, 2001]

§ 1430.504 Eligibility.

(a) To be eligible to receive cash payments under this subpart, a dairy operation must:

(1) Have produced and marketed milk commercially in the United States anytime during the fourth quarter of 1998;

(2) Indicate all milk commercially marketed by all persons in the dairy operation during calendar year 1997 and 1998 to establish the base period for determining the total pounds of milk that will be converted to hundredweight (cwt) used for payment; and

(3) Apply for payments during the application period.

(b) A dairy operation must submit a timely application and comply with all other terms and conditions of this subpart and those that are otherwise contained in the application to be eligible for benefits under this subpart.

§ 1430.505 Proof of production.

(a) Dairy operations selected for spotchecks by CCC must, in accordance with instructions issued by the Deputy Administrator, provide adequate proof that the dairy operation was commercially marketing milk anytime during the fourth quarter of 1998. The dairy operation must also provide proof of production for the 1997 or 1998 calendar year to verify the base period. The documentary evidence of milk production claimed for payment shall be reported to CCC together with any supporting documentation under paragraph (b) of this section. The pounds of 1997 or 1998

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calendar year milk production must be documented using actual records.

(b) All persons involved in such dairy operation marketing milk during the fourth quarter of 1998 shall provide any available supporting documents to assist the county FSA office in verifying that the dairy operation produced and marketed milk commercially during the fourth quarter of 1998 and the base period milk marketings indicated on Form CCC-1040. Examples of supporting documentation include, but are not limited to: tank records, milk handler records, milk marketing payment stubs, daily milk marketings, copies of any payments received as compensation from other sources, or any other documents available to confirm the production and production history of the dairy operation. In the event that supporting documentation is not presented to the county FSA office requesting the information, dairy operations will be determined ineligible for benefits.

§ 1430.506 Payment rate and dairy operation payment.

(a) Payments under this subpart may be made to dairy operations only on the first 26,000 cwt of milk produced by them from cows in the United States actually marketed in the United States during the base period. A payment rate will be determined after the conclusion of the application period, and shall be calculated by:

(1) Converting whole pounds of milk to cwt;

(2) Totaling the eligible cwt (not to exceed 26,000 cwt) of milk marketed commercially during the base period from all approved applications; and

(3) Dividing the amount available for Dairy Market Loss Assistance Program by the total eligible cwt submitted and approved for payment.

(b) Each dairy operation payment will be calculated by multiplying the payment rate determined in paragraph (a) (3) of this section by the dairy operation's eligible production.

(c) In the event that approval of all eligible applications would result in expenditures in excess of the amount available, CCC shall reduce the payment rate in such manner as CCC, in

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its sole discretion, finds fair and reasonable.

§ 1430.507 Misrepresentation and scheme or device.

(a) A dairy operation shall be ineligible to receive assistance under this program if it is determined by the State committee or the county committee to have:

(1) Adopted any scheme or device which tends to defeat the purpose of this program;

(2) Made any fraudulent representation; or

(3) Misrepresented any fact affecting a program determination.

(b) Any funds disbursed pursuant to this part to a dairy operation engaged in a misrepresentation, scheme, or device, or to any other person as a result of the dairy operation's actions, shall be refunded with interest together with such other sums as may become due. Any dairy operation or person engaged in acts prohibited by this section and any dairy operation or person receiving payment under this subpart shall be jointly and severally liable for any refund due under this section and for related charges. The remedies provided in this subpart shall be in addition to other civil, criminal, or administrative remedies which may apply.

§ 1430.508 Maintaining records.

Dairy operations making application for benefits under this program must maintain accurate records and accounts that will document that they meet all eligibility requirements specified in this subpart and the pounds of milk marketed commercially during the fourth quarter of 1998 and the base period. Such records and accounts must be retained for at least three years after the date of the cash payment to dairy operations under this program.

§ 1430.509 Refunds; joint and several liability.

(a) In the event there is a failure to comply with any term, requirement, or condition for payment arising under the application, or this subpart, and if any refund of a payment to CCC shall otherwise become due in connection with the application, or this subpart,

all payments made under this subpart to any dairy operation shall be refunded to CCC together with interest as determined in accordance with paragraph (c) of this section and late-payment charges as provided for in part 1403 of this chapter.

(b) All persons listed on a dairy operation's application shall be jointly and severally liable for any refund, including related charges, which is determined to be due for any reason under the terms and conditions of the application or this subpart.

(c) Interest shall be applicable to refunds required of the dairy operation if CCC determines that payments or other assistance were provided to the producer was not eligible for such assistance. Such interest shall be charged at the rate of interest which the United States Treasury charges CCC for funds, as of the date CCC made such benefits available. Such interest shall accrue from the date such benefits were made available to the date of repayment or the date interest increases as determined in accordance with applicable regulations. CCC may waive the accrual of interest if CCC determines that the cause of the erroneous determination was not due to any action of the dairy operation.

(d) Interest determined in accordance with paragraph (c) of this section may be waived by CCC with respect to refunds required of the dairy operation because of unintentional misaction on the part of the dairy operation, as determined by CCC.

(e) Late payment interest shall be assessed on all refunds in accordance with the provisions of, and subject to the rates prescribed in 7 CFR part 1403.

(f) Dairy operations must refund to CCC any excess payments made by CCC with respect to such application.

(g) In the event that a benefit under this subpart was provided as the result of erroneous information provided by any person, the benefit must be repaid with any applicable interest.

§ 1430.510 New producers.

Notwithstanding other provisions of this subpart, producers who were new producers in 1999 or 2000 and not affiliated with other eligible producers may receive payments from sums made

available after October 27, 2000 based on their 1999 production levels or for 2000, on their production levels from October 1, 1999 through September 30, 2000.

[66 FR 15177, Mar. 15, 2001]

§ 1430.511 Supplemental payments.

(a) Supplemental payments under Public Law 106-387 will be made available to dairy operations in connection with normal milk production that is sold on the commercial market.

(b) For supplemental payments made under this section, the payment rate shall be \$0.6468 per cwt.

(c) For dairy operations that received a payment under sections 805 and 825 of Public Law 106-78 on less than 12 months production, an annual production level will be calculated by subtracting from the dairy operation's production level for the period of October 1, 1999 through September 30, 2000 the production level on which previous payments were received.

[66 FR 15177, Mar. 15, 2001]

Subpart E—2005 Dairy Disaster Assistance Payment Program II (DDAP-II)

SOURCE: 71 FR 63670, Oct. 31, 2006, 71 FR 65711, Nov. 9, 2006, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1430.600 Applicability.

(a) Subject to the availability of funds, this subpart sets forth the terms and conditions applicable to DDAP-II authorized by section 3014 of Public Law 109-234. Benefits are available to eligible United States producers who have suffered in 2005 dairy production losses and dairy spoilage losses in eligible counties as a result of Hurricanes Katrina, Ophelia, Rita, and Wilma or conditions related to those hurricanes.

(b) To be eligible for this program, a producer must have been a milk producer in 2005 in a county declared a natural disaster by the Secretary of Agriculture or declared a major disaster or emergency designated by the President of the United States due to a 2005 hurricane or related condition thereof, or in a contiguous county to a county that is directly eligible by way of a natural disaster declaration. Only

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losses occurring in these counties are eligible for payment under this program.

(c) Subject to the availability of funds, benefits shall be provided by the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) to eligible dairy producers. Additional terms and conditions may be set forth in the payment application that must be executed by participants to receive a disaster assistance payment for dairy production losses and dairy spoilage losses.

(d) To be eligible for payments, producers must comply with the provisions of, and their losses must meet the conditions of, this subpart and any other conditions imposed by CCC.

§ 1430.601 Administration.

(a) DDAP-II shall be administered under the general supervision of the Executive Vice President, CCC, or a designee, and shall be carried out in the field by FSA State and county committees (State and county committees) and FSA employees.

(b) State and county committees, and representatives and employees thereof, do not have the authority to modify or waive any of the provisions of the regulations of this subpart.

(c) The State committee shall take any action required by the regulations of this subpart that has not been taken by the county committee. The State committee shall also:

(1) Correct, or require the county committee to correct, any action taken by such county committee that is not in accordance with the regulations of this subpart; and

(2) Require a county committee to withhold taking any action that is not in accordance with the regulations of this subpart.

(d) No provision of delegation in this subpart to a State or county committee shall preclude the Executive Vice President, CCC, or a designee, from determining any question arising under the program or from reversing or modifying any determination made by the State or county committee.

(e) The Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs, FSA, may authorize State and county committees to waive or modify deadlines in cases where lateness or failure to meet such require-

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ments do not adversely affect the operation of the 2005 Dairy Disaster Assistance Payment Program II and does not violate statutory limitations on the program.

(f) Data furnished by the applicants is used to determine eligibility for program benefits. Although participation in DDAP-II is voluntary, program benefits are not provided unless the participant furnishes all requested data.

§ 1430.602 Definitions.

The definitions in 7 CFR part 718 shall apply to this subpart except to the extent they are inconsistent with the provisions of this subpart. In addition, for the purpose of this subpart, the following definitions shall apply.

Application means DDAP-II Application.

Application period means the time period established by the Deputy Administrator for producers to apply for program benefits.

Base month means the base month for the particular 2005 hurricane assigned in § 1430.604.

CCC means the Commodity Credit Corporation of the Department.

Claim period means as assigned in this subpart the qualifying months of calendar year 2005, following the base month, in which the loss occurred.

County committee means the FSA county committee.

County office means the FSA office responsible for administering FSA programs for farms located in a specific area in a State.

Dairy operation means any person or group of persons who, as a single unit, as determined by CCC, produces and markets milk commercially from cows and whose production facilities are located in the United States.

Department or USDA means the United States Department of Agriculture.

Deputy Administrator means the Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs (DAFP), FSA, or a designee.

Farm Service Agency or FSA means the Farm Service Agency of the Department.

Hundredweight or cwt. means 100 pounds.

Hurricane-affected county means a county included in the geographic area

covered by a natural disaster declaration related to Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Ophelia, Hurricane Rita, Hurricane Wilma or conditions related to those hurricanes, and includes counties which qualify because they are contiguous to a county that qualifies by a natural disaster declaration.

Milk handler or cooperative means the marketing agency to, or through which, the producer commercially markets whole milk.

Milk marketings means a marketing of milk for which there is a verifiable sales or delivery record of milk marketed for commercial use. In counting milk toward production amounts, dumped milk will not be considered as marketed for commercial use. Such dumped milk shall be counted toward production but will be accounted for separately from milk that is marketed for normal commercial use as determined by the Deputy Administrator. All production in the months for which loss coverage is available will be counted in making determinations under this part, as determined by the Deputy Administrator, with care to avoid double counting, and with care to avoid a calculated loss that overstates the actual losses. Adjustments may be made as appropriate to accomplish these objectives.

Natural disaster declaration means a natural disaster declaration issued by the Secretary of Agriculture during calendar year 2005 under section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1961 (a)), or a major disaster or emergency designation by the President of the United States during calendar year 2005 under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, including declarations and designations by both the President and Secretary made during calendar year 2006 for which a request was pending as of December 31, 2005.

Payment pounds means the pounds of milk production from a dairy operation for which the dairy producer is eligible to be paid under this subpart.

Producer means any individual, group of individuals, partnership, corporation, estate, trust association, cooperative, or other business enterprise or other legal entity who is, or whose

members are, citizens of, or legal resident aliens in the United States, and who directly or indirectly, as determined by the Secretary, share in the risk of producing milk, and make contributions (including land, labor, management, equipment, or capital) to the dairy farming operation of the individual or entity.

Reliable production records means evidence provided by the producer that is used to substantiate the amount of production reported when verifiable records are not available, including copies of receipts, ledgers of income, income statements of deposit slips, register tapes, and records to verify production costs, contemporaneous measurements, and contemporaneous diaries that are determined acceptable by the county committee.

Starting base production means actual commercial production marketed by the dairy operation during the base month applicable to the 2005 hurricane disaster, or alternative period established by the Deputy Administrator.

Verifiable production records means evidence that is used to substantiate the amount of production including any part marketed normally, dumped, or otherwise disposed of, and that can be verified by CCC through an independent source.

§ 1430.603 Time and method of application.

(a) Dairy producers may obtain an Application, in person, by mail, by telephone, or by facsimile from any county FSA office. In addition, applicants may download a copy of the Application at <http://www.sc.egov.usda.gov>.

(b) A request for benefits under this subpart must be submitted on a completed Application as defined in §1430.602. Applications and any other supporting documentation shall be submitted to the FSA county office serving the county where the dairy operation is located but, in any case, must be received by the FSA county office by the close of business on the date established by the Deputy Administrator. The closing date shall be no sooner than November 30, 2006. Applications not received by the close of business on such date will be disapproved as not having been timely filed and the

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dairy producer will not be eligible for benefits under this program.

(c) All persons who share in the risk of a dairy operation's total production must certify to the information on the Application before the Application is considered complete.

(d) Each dairy producer requesting benefits under this subpart must certify to the accuracy and truthfulness of the information provided in their application and any supporting documentation. All information provided is subject to verification by CCC. Refusal to allow CCC or any other agency of the Department of Agriculture to verify any information provided will result in a denial of eligibility. Furnishing the information is voluntary; however, without it program benefits will not be approved.

§ 1430.604 Eligibility.

(a) Producers in the United States are eligible to receive hurricane-related dairy disaster benefits under this part only if they have suffered dairy production or dairy spoilage losses in 2005 as a result of a hurricane disaster or related condition, in a hurricane-affected county. To be eligible to receive payments under this subpart, producers in a dairy operation must:

(1) Have produced and commercially marketed milk in the United States and commercially marketed the milk produced during the 2005 calendar year;

(2) Be a producer on a dairy farm operation physically located in an eligible county where dairy production and milk spoilage losses were incurred as a result of 2005 hurricanes, or a related condition, in and limiting their claims to losses occurring in those counties and contiguous counties;

(3) Provide adequate proof, to the satisfaction of the County Committee, of monthly milk production dumped and commercially marketed by all persons in the eligible dairy operation during the base month and claim period that corresponds with the applicable hurricane-related disaster during the 2005 milk marketing year, or other period as determined by CCC, to determine the total pounds of eligible losses that will be used for payment; and

(4) Apply for payments during the application period established by the Deputy Administrator.

(b) Payments may be made for losses suffered by an otherwise eligible producer who is now deceased or is a dissolved entity if a representative who currently has authority to enter into a contract for the producer or the producer's estate signs the application for payment. Proof of authority to sign for the deceased producer's estate or a dissolved entity must be provided. If a producer is now a dissolved general partnership or joint venture, all members of the general partnership or joint venture at the time of dissolution or their duly-authorized representatives must sign the application for payment.

(c) Producers associated with a dairy operation must submit a timely application and comply with terms and conditions of this subpart, instructions issued by CCC and instructions contained in the Application to be eligible for benefits under this subpart.

(d) As a condition to receive benefits under this part, a producer must have been in compliance with the Highly Erodible Land Conservation and Wetland Conservation provisions of 7 CFR part 12 for the 2005 calendar year, as applicable, and must not otherwise be barred from receiving benefits under 7 CFR part 12 or any other law or regulation.

(e) Payments are limited to losses in eligible counties, in eligible months.

(f) All payments under this part are subject to the availability of funds.

(g) Eligible losses are determined from the applicable base month that corresponds to the hurricane disaster or related condition and must have occurred during the claim periods applicable to the disaster as follows:

(1) For Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita the base month is July 2005 and the corresponding claim period are the 2005 calendar months of August through December; and

(2) For Hurricane Ophelia and Hurricane Wilma the base month is September 2005 and the corresponding claim period are the 2005 calendar months of October through December.

§ 1430.605 Proof of production.

(a) Evidence of production is required to establish the commercial marketing and production history of the dairy operation so that dairy production and spoilage losses can be computed in accordance with §1430.606.

(b) A dairy producer must, based on the instructions issued by the Deputy Administrator, provide adequate proof of the dairy operation's commercial production, including any dumped production and dairy cow purchases, for each month of the applicable base month and claim period that corresponds with the applicable 2005 hurricane disaster or related condition, and must specifically identify any production during the applicable claim period that is dumped. If a month other than the applicable base month is used for base creation purposes, records for that month must be provided.

(1) A producer must certify and provide such proof as requested that losses for which compensation is claimed were hurricane-related and occurred in an eligible county in an eligible month.

(2) Additional supporting documentation may be requested by CCC as necessary to verify production or spoilage losses and dairy herd increases or decreases to the satisfaction of CCC.

(c) Adequate proof of production history of the dairy operation under paragraph (b) of this section must be based on milk marketing statements obtained from the dairy operation's milk handler or marketing cooperative. Supporting documents may include, but are not limited to: Tank records, milk handler records, daily milk marketings, copies of any payments received from other sources for production or spoilage losses, or any other documents available to confirm or adjust the production history and losses incurred by the dairy operation.

(d) Adequate proof of dairy cow additions to the milking herd during the eligible months can include, but is not limited to sales receipts, invoices, State health certificates, or any other documents available to confirm the cow purchases.

(e) If adequate proof of normally marketed production, dumped production, and any other production for relevant periods is not presented to the

satisfaction of CCC, the request for benefits will be rejected. In the case of a new producer that had no verifiable, actual, commercial production marketed by the dairy operation during the applicable base month, but which suffered eligible losses, an alternate base period may be established by the Deputy Administrator.

§ 1430.606 Determination of losses incurred.

(a) Eligible payable losses are calculated on a dairy operation by dairy operation basis and are limited to those occurring during the applicable claim period, as provided by §1430.604(g), that corresponds with the hurricane-related disaster. Specifically, dairy production and spoilage losses incurred by producers under this subpart are determined on the established history of the dairy operation's actual commercial production marketed during the applicable claim period that corresponds with the hurricane-related disaster, and actual production dumped or otherwise not marketed during that same claim period, as provided by the dairy operation consistent with §1430.605. Except as otherwise provided in these regulations, the starting base production, as defined in §1430.602 and established in §1430.604(g), is adjusted downward by a percentage determined by CCC to determine the base production for the applicable claim period that corresponds to the hurricane-related disaster. These adjustments are made to account for the seasonal declines that can occur during the months within the claim period. The base production for each of the applicable claim period months is calculated by reducing the starting base production of the applicable base month, or alternate month approved by the Deputy Administrator for new producers, as follows:

(1) August 2005 base production is the starting base production reduced by 8 percent;

(2) September 2005 base production is the starting base production reduced by 17 percent;

(3) October 2005 base production is the starting base production reduced by 11 percent. However, if losses occurred only as a result of Hurricanes

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Ophelia and Wilma, for October 2005, base production is not reduced.

(4) November 2005 base production is the starting base production reduced by 6 percent, unless eligible losses occurred only as a result of Hurricanes Ophelia and Wilma, in which case, for November 2005, base production is not reduced.

(5) December 2005 base production is not reduced by a downward adjustment percentage.

(b) The eligible dairy production losses for a dairy operation for each of the claim period months of August through December 2005, as applicable, will be:

(1) The new base production for the dairy operation calculated under paragraph (a) of this section less,

(2) For each such month for each dairy operation, the total of:

(i) Actual commercially-marketed production (not counting dumped production counted under paragraph (b)(1)(ii) of this section); plus

(ii) The pounds of milk production dumped (whether related to the hurricane or not), or otherwise not commercially marketed (whether related to the hurricane or not). For dumping losses to be eligible for payment, however, they must, as with other program losses, be hurricane related, as described under paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section.

(c) Actual production losses may be adjusted to the extent the reduction in production is not certified by the producer to be the result of the hurricane or is determined by CCC not to be hurricane-related. Actual production, as adjusted, that exceeds the adjusted base production will mean that the dairy operation incurred no eligible production losses for the corresponding month as a result of the hurricane disaster, and that the production level for that month does not qualify for a production loss payment under this program.

(d) Eligible dairy spoilage losses incurred by producers under this subpart for each of the months August through December 2005, as applicable to the claim period that corresponds with the hurricane-related disaster, will be determined based on actual milk produced in those months that was

dumped on the farm as a result of the 2005 hurricanes, or other related condition. Proper documentation of milk dumped on the farm as a result of spoilage due to a hurricane must be provided to CCC as provided in §1430.605.

(e) Calculated production losses may be adjusted by CCC based on the monthly average of daily dairy cow additions or reductions to the milking herd during the applicable claim period that corresponds with the hurricane-related disaster, to account for production adjustments as a result of dairy cow purchases, sales, or death losses. Production adjustments can be calculated using the average number of dairy cows in a dairy operation's milking herd and the average production per cow during each applicable month. Per-cow production averages during the applicable claim period months will be determined based on the actual per-cow production average during the base month applicable to the hurricane-related disaster and reduced downward according to the seasonal decline percentages provided in paragraph (a) of this section, to determine the total production that may be credited back to the dairy operation's total production losses. To qualify for the production adjustment credit:

(1) Producers in eligible dairy operations must report any increases to the dairy cow milking herd during the applicable base month and claim period that corresponds to the hurricane disaster condition to the eligible hurricane.

(2) Adequate supporting documentation according to §1430.605 must be provided to the satisfaction of the COC to verify any claims of herd increases during the eligible period.

(3) Any cows purchased during the eligible period that would increase the dairy cow milking herd must have been to offset production losses as a result of the 2005 hurricanes, or other related condition.

(f) Eligible production and spoilage losses as otherwise determined under paragraphs (a) through (e) of this section are added together to determine total eligible losses incurred by the

dairy operation subject to all other eligibility requirements as may be included in this part or elsewhere.

(g) Payment on eligible dairy operation losses is calculated using whole pounds of milk. No double counting is permitted, and only one payment will be made for each pound of milk calculated as an eligible loss after the distribution of the operation's eligible production loss among the producers of the dairy operation according to §1420.307(b). Payments under this part will not be affected by any payments for dumped or spoiled milk that the dairy operation may have received from its milk handler, or marketing cooperative, or any other private party.

(h) If a producer is eligible to receive payments under this part and benefits under any other program administered by the Department of Agriculture (USDA) for the same losses, the producer must choose whether to receive the other program benefits or payments under this part, but shall not be eligible for both. The limitation on multiple benefits prohibits a producer from being compensated more than once for the same losses. If the other USDA program benefits are not available until after an application for benefits has been filed under this part, the producer may, to avoid this restriction on such other benefits, refund the total amount of the payment to the FSA administrative office from which the payment was received.

EDITORIAL NOTE: At 71 FR 65711, Nov. 9, 2006, §1430.606(g) was amended by revising the reference to “§1420.305” to read “§1430.605”. However, because of inaccurate amendatory language, this amendment could not be incorporated.

§ 1430.607 Rate of payment and limitations on funding.

(a) Subject to the availability of funds, the payment rate for eligible production and spoilage losses determined according to §1430.606 is, depending on the State, the amount set forth below which is derived from the monthly Mailbox milk price for the Florida, the Southeast, Western Texas or the Appalachian States Marketing Orders as reported by the Agricultural Marketing Service. Maximum payment

rates for eligible losses for dairy operations located in specific states are as follows:

(1) Florida—\$18.19 per hundredweight (\$0.1819 per pound), which is averaged to account for the mailbox price during the months of August 2005 and October 2005 when the hurricane disasters occurred.

(2) Louisiana—\$16.47 per hundredweight (\$0.1647 per pound), which is averaged to account for the mailbox price during the months of August 2005 and September 2005 when the hurricane disasters occurred.

(3) Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia and Mississippi—\$16.49 per hundredweight (\$0.1649 per pound).

(4) North Carolina—\$15.39 per hundredweight (\$0.1539 per pound).

(5) Texas—\$14.19 per hundredweight (\$0.1419 per pound).

(6) Tennessee—\$15.38 per hundredweight (\$0.1538 per pound).

(b) Subject to the availability of funds, each eligible dairy operation's payment is calculated by multiplying the applicable payment rate under paragraph (a) of this section by the operation's total eligible losses. Where there are multiple producers in the dairy operation, individual producers' payments are disbursed according to each producer's share of the dairy operation's production as specified in the Application.

(c) If the total value of losses claimed under paragraph (b) of this section exceeds the \$17 million available for DDAP-II, less any reserve that may be created under paragraph (e) of this section, total eligible losses of individual dairy operations that, as calculated as an overall percentage for the full disaster claim period that corresponds with the applicable hurricane-related disaster (not a monthly average for any one month), are greater than 20 percent of the total base production for those applicable claim period months will be paid at the maximum rate under paragraph (a) of this section to the extent available funding allows. A loss of over 20 percent in only one or two of the eligible months does not itself qualify for the maximum per-pound payment. Total eligible losses for a producer, as calculated under

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§ 1430.606, of less than or equal to 20 percent during the eligible claim period will then be paid at a rate determined by dividing the eligible losses of less than 20 percent by the funds remaining after making payments for all eligible losses above the 20-percent threshold.

(d) In no event shall the payment exceed the value determined by multiplying the producer's total eligible loss times the average price received for commercial milk production in their area as defined in paragraph (a) of this section.

(e) A reserve may be created to handle pending or disputed claims, but claims shall not be payable once the available funding is expended.

§ 1430.608 Availability of funds.

The total available program funds shall be \$17 million as provided by section 3014 of Title III of Public Law 109-234.

§ 1430.609 Appeals.

Any producer who is dissatisfied with a determination made pursuant to this subpart may request reconsideration or appeal of such determination in accordance with the appeal regulations set forth at 7 CFR parts 11 and 780. Appeals of determinations of ineligibility or payment amounts are subject to the limitations in §§ 1430.607 and 1430.608 and other limitations as may apply.

§ 1430.610 Misrepresentation and scheme or device.

(a) In addition to other penalties, sanctions or remedies as may apply, a dairy producer shall be ineligible to receive assistance under this program if the producer is determined by CCC to have:

(1) Adopted any scheme or device that tends to defeat the purpose of this program;

(2) Made any fraudulent representation; or

(3) Misrepresented any fact affecting a program determination.

(b) Any funds disbursed pursuant to this part to any person or operation engaged in a misrepresentation, scheme, or device, must be refunded with interest together with such other sums as may become due. Any dairy operation or person engaged in acts prohibited by

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this section and any dairy operation or person receiving payment under this subpart shall be jointly and severally liable with other persons or operations involved in such claim for benefits for any refund due under this section and for related charges. The remedies provided in this subpart shall be in addition to other civil, criminal, or administrative remedies that may apply.

§ 1430.611 Death, incompetence, or disappearance.

In the case of death, incompetency, disappearance, or dissolution of a person that is eligible to receive benefits in accordance with this subpart, such alternate person or persons specified in 7 CFR part 707 may receive such benefits, as determined appropriate by CCC.

§ 1430.612 Maintaining records.

Persons applying for benefits under this program must maintain records and accounts to document all eligibility requirements specified herein. Such records and accounts must be retained for 3 years after the date of payment to the dairy operations under this program. Destruction of the records after such date shall be at the risk of the party imposed with the recordkeeping requirements by this subpart.

§ 1430.613 Refunds; joint and several liability.

(a) Excess payments, payments provided as the result of erroneous information provided by any person, or payments resulting from a failure to comply with any requirement or condition for payment under the application or this subpart, must be refunded to CCC.

(b) A refund required under this section shall be due with interest determined in accordance with paragraph (d) of this section and late payment charges as provided in 7 CFR part 1403.

(c) Persons signing a dairy operation's application as having an interest in the operation shall be jointly and severally liable for any refund and related charges found to be due under this section.

(d) In accord with parts 792 and 1403 of this title, interest shall be applicable to any refunds required under this subpart. Such interest shall be charged

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at the rate the United States Department of the Treasury charges CCC for funds, and shall accrue from the date FSA or CCC made the erroneous payment to the date of repayment.

(e) CCC may waive the accrual of interest if it determines that the cause of the erroneous determination was not due to any action of the person, or was beyond the control of the person committing the violation. Any waiver is at the discretion of CCC alone.

§ 1430.614 Miscellaneous provisions.

(a) CCC may offset or withhold any amount due CCC under this subpart in accordance with 7 CFR part 1403.

(b) Payments or any portion thereof due under this subpart shall be made without regard to questions of title under State law and without regard to any claim or lien against the livestock or property of any kind, or proceeds thereof, in favor of the owner or any other creditor except agencies and instrumentalities of the U.S. Government.

(c) Any producer entitled to any payment under this part may assign any payments in accordance with the provisions of 7 CFR part 1404.

PART 1434—NONRECOURSE MARKETING ASSISTANCE LOAN AND LDP REGULATIONS FOR HONEY

Sec.

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- 1434.20 Foreclosure.
- 1434.21 Loan deficiency payments.

1434.22 Death, incompetency, or disappearance; appeals; other loan provisions.

AUTHORITY: 7 U.S.C. 7931 and Public Law 110-246.

SOURCE: 66 FR 15177, Mar. 15, 2001, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1434.1 Applicability.

(a) This part provides the terms and conditions of Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) nonrecourse marketing assistance loans or loan deficiency payments for honey for the 2008 through 2012 crop years. Marketing loan gains and loan deficiency payments for the 2008 crop will be limited to the payment limitation rules applicable to the 2008 crop. Beginning with the 2009 crop year, there will not be payment limits on marketing loan gains and loan deficiency payments.

(b) Producers must comply with all provisions of this part and part 1421 of this chapter.

[74 FR 15656, Apr. 7, 2009]

§ 1434.2 Administration.

(a) The regulations of this part shall be administered under the general supervision of the Executive Vice President, CCC, and shall be carried out in the field by State and county Farm Service Agency (FSA) committees.

(b) State and county committees, representatives and employees thereof, do not have the authority to modify or waive any of the provisions of the regulations of this part.

(c) The State committee shall take any action required by the regulations of this part that has not been taken by the county committee. The State committee shall also:

(1) Correct, or require a county committee to correct, any action taken by such county committee that is not in accordance with the regulations of this part; or

(2) Require a county committee to withhold taking any action that is not in accordance with the regulations of this part.

(d) No provision or delegation herein to a State or county committee shall preclude the Executive Vice President, CCC, or a designee, from determining any question arising under the program or from reversing or modifying