

§ 1435.315

year to other farm owners or operators subject to the following conditions:

(1) The acreage base history of the transferring farm will be preserved for a period from 1 to 5 years; and

(2) Acreage base history will not be increased on the receiving farm.

(c) Producers who transfer a proportionate share under this section will be required to:

(1) Initiate the transfer in the county FSA office where the proportionate shares are established; and

(2) Obtain approval from the transferring county FSA committee.

(d) All transfers made under this section must be completed by the date the State FSA committee establishes.

§ 1435.315 Adjustments to proportionate shares.

Whenever CCC determines that, because of a natural disaster or other condition beyond the control of producers adversely affecting a sugarcane crop, the amount of sugarcane produced by producers subject to proportionate shares will not be sufficient to enable state processors to produce sufficient sugar to meet the State's cane sugar allotment and provide a normal carryover of sugar, CCC may uniformly allow producers to harvest sugarcane in excess of their proportionate shares, or suspend proportionate shares entirely.

§ 1435.316 Acreage reports for purposes of proportionate shares.

(a) A report of planted and failed acreage shall be required on farms that produce sugarcane for sugar or seed. Such report shall also specify the total acreage intended for harvest for sugar and seed.

(b) The reports required under paragraph (a) of this section shall be on forms prescribed by CCC and shall be filed annually with the county FSA committee by the applicable final reporting date CCC establishes. The farm operator or farm owner shall file such reports.

(c) Acreage reports will be used to determine compliance with proportionate shares and acreage bases for future proportionate shares.

(d) An acreage report may be accepted after the established date for report-

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ing if physical evidence is still available for inspection that may be used to make a determination relative to:

(1) Existence of the crop;

(2) Use made of the crop;

(3) Lack of crop; or

(4) Disaster condition affecting the crop.

(e) The farm operator shall pay the cost of a farm visit by an authorized FSA employee unless the county FSA committee has determined that failure to report in a timely manner was beyond the producer's control.

(f) The farm operator may revise an acreage report. Revised reports shall be filed in accordance with CCC instructions and shall be accepted at any time if:

(1) Evidence exists for inspection and determination of:

(i) Existence of the crop;

(ii) Use made of the crop;

(iii) Lack of crop; or

(iv) Disaster condition affecting the crops.

(2) The farm has not already been inspected and the acreage already determined or harvesting of sugarcane already begun.

(g) Provisions of part 718 of this chapter will apply for field inspections, tolerance, and variance. Assessments for false acreage reporting will be applied under § 1435.318.

§ 1435.317 Revisions of allocations and proportionate shares.

The Executive Vice President, CCC, may modify any processor's allocation or any producer's proportionate share on the same basis as the initial allocation or proportionate share was required to be established.

§ 1435.318 Penalties and assessments.

(a) Any sugar beet or sugarcane processor who knowingly markets sugar or sugar products in excess of the processor's allocation will be liable to CCC for a civil penalty in an amount equal to 3 times the U.S. market value, at the time the violation was committed, of that quantity of sugar involved in the violation.

(b) CCC may assess liquidated damages, as specified in a surplus allocation survey and agreement, with respect to a surplus allocation still existing after the end of a crop year if the processor had a surplus allocation because the processor provided incomplete or erroneous information to CCC.

(c) Under §359f(c)(5) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, any producer of sugarcane whose farm has a proportionate share, and who knowingly harvests or allows to be harvested an acreage of sugarcane for sugar or seed in excess of the farm's proportionate share shall pay to CCC a civil penalty in an amount equal to 1.5 times the U.S. market value of the quantity of sugar that is marketed by the processor of such sugarcane in excess of the allocation of such processor, for the year in which the violation was committed. However, civil penalties will not be assessed when the producer harvests acreage for sugar or seed in excess of the farm's proportionate share, if the excess sugarcane harvested is:

(1) Processed by a sugarcane processor that does not exceed its marketing allocation; or

(2) Diverted to a use other than sugar or seed if:

(i) The sugarcane producer requests and pays for a CCC field inspection, and

(ii) CCC verifies the disposition of the excess harvest is not for sugar or seed.

(d) Any penalty assessed under paragraph (b) of this section shall be prorated among the producers of all sugarcane acquired by the processor from excess acres.

(e) Any person filing a false acreage report that exceeds tolerance will be subject to an assessment not to exceed the amount specified at §3.91(b)(10)(iii) of this title. Whenever the failure of a producer to comply fully with the terms and conditions applicable to proportionate shares would result in an assessment, the Deputy Administrator may authorize the waiver or reduction of the assessment in such amounts as determined to be equitable about the seriousness of the failure, the producer's good-faith effort to comply fully with such terms and conditions, and the producer's substantial performance.

(f) Any person who knowingly violates any provision of this subpart other than paragraph (d) of this section is subject to the assessment of a civil penalty by CCC of not more than the amount specified at §3.91(b)(10)(iv) of this title for each violation.

[67 FR 54928, Aug. 26, 2002, as amended at 74 FR 15367, Apr. 6, 2009; 75 FR 17561, Apr. 7, 2010]

§ 1435.319 Appeals and arbitration.

(a) A person adversely affected by any determination made under this subpart may request reconsideration of such determination by filing a written request with the Executive Vice President, CCC, detailing the basis of the request within 10 days of such determination. Such a request must be submitted at: Executive Vice President, CCC, Stop 0501, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-0501.

(b) For issues arising under section 359d establishing allocations for marketing allotments, and sections 359f(b) and (c), and section 359i of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, after completion of the process provided in paragraph (a) of this section, a person adversely affected by a reconsidered determination may appeal such determination by filing a written notice of appeal within 20 days of the issuance of the reconsidered determination with the Hearing Clerk, USDA, Room 1081, South Building, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250-9200. Any hearing conducted under this paragraph shall be in accordance with instructions issued by USDA's Judicial Officer.

(c) For issues arising under §§359a-359c, 359e, and 359g of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, after completion of the process provided in paragraph (a) of this section, a person adversely affected by the reconsidered determination may appeal such determination by filing a written notice of appeal with the Director, National Appeals Division, USDA, as provided in part 11 of this title. For issues arising under §359f(a) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, such disputes shall be resolved through arbitration under the direction of the Executive Vice President, CCC. A request for arbitration