

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§ 956.70

minimum quantities below which Walla Walla Sweet Onion shipments will be free from the requirements in, or pursuant to, §§ 956.42, 956.62, 956.63, and 956.70, or any combination thereof.

[64 FR 4934, Feb. 1, 1999]

§ 956.65 Notification of regulations.

The Secretary shall notify the committee of each regulation issued and of each amendment, modification, suspension, or termination thereof. The committee shall give reasonable notice thereof to handlers.

§ 956.66 Safeguards.

(a) The committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may prescribe adequate safeguards to prevent Walla Walla Sweet Onions shipped, pursuant to §§ 956.63 and 956.64, from entering channels of trade for other than the purpose authorized therefor.

(b) The committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may also prescribe rules and regulations governing the issuance, and the contents, of Certificates of Privilege, if such certificates are prescribed as safeguards by the committee. Such safeguards may include requirements that:

(1) Handlers shall first file applications with the committee to ship such Walla Walla Sweet Onions.

(2) Handlers shall pay the pro rata share of expenses provided by § 956.42 in connection with such Walla Walla Sweet Onions.

(3) Handlers shall obtain Certificates of Privilege from the committee prior to effecting the particular onion shipment.

(c) The committee may rescind any Certificate of Privilege, or refuse to issue any Certificate of Privilege, to any handler if proof is obtained that Walla Walla Sweet Onions shipped by the handler for the purposes stated in the Certificate of Privilege were handled contrary to the provisions of this part.

(d) The Secretary shall have the right to modify, change, alter, or rescind any safeguards prescribed and any certificates issued by the committee pursuant to the provisions of this section.

(e) The committee shall make reports to the Secretary as requested,

showing the number of applications for such certificates, the quantity of Walla Walla Sweet Onions covered by such applications, the number of such applications denied and certificates granted, the quantity of Walla Walla Sweet Onions handled under duly issued certificates, and such other information as may be requested.

INSPECTION

§ 956.70 Inspection and certification.

(a) During any period in which shipments of Walla Walla Sweet Onions are regulated pursuant to this subpart, no handler shall handle Walla Walla Sweet Onions unless such onions are inspected by an authorized representative of the Federal-State Inspection Service, or such other inspection service as the Secretary shall designate and are covered by a valid inspection certificate, except when relieved from such requirements pursuant to § 956.63 or § 956.64, or both. Upon recommendation of the committee, with approval of the Secretary, inspection providers and certification requirements may be modified to facilitate the handling of Walla Walla Sweet Onions.

(b) Regrading, resorting, or repacking any lot of Walla Walla Sweet Onions shall invalidate prior inspection certificates insofar as the requirements of this section are concerned. No handler shall ship Walla Walla Sweet Onions after they have been regraded, resorted, repacked, or in any other way further prepared for market, unless such onions are inspected by an authorized representative of the Federal-State Inspection Service, or such other inspection service as the Secretary shall designate: *Provided*, That such inspection requirements on regraded, resorted, or repacked Walla Walla Sweet Onions may be modified, suspended, or terminated under rules and regulations recommended by the committee, and approved by the Secretary.

(c) Upon recommendation of the committee, and approval of the Secretary, all Walla Walla Sweet Onions that are required to be inspected and certified in accordance with this section shall be identified by appropriate seals, stamps, tags, or other identification to be furnished by the committee and affixed to

the containers by the handler under the direction and supervision of the Federal-State or Federal inspector, or the committee. Master containers may bear the identification instead of the individual containers within said master container.

(d) Insofar as the requirements of this section are concerned, the length of time for which an inspection certificate is valid may be established by the committee with the approval of the Secretary.

(e) When Walla Walla Sweet Onions are inspected in accordance with the requirements of this section, a copy of each inspection certificate issued shall be made available to the committee by the inspection service.

(f) The committee may enter into an agreement with an inspection service with respect to the costs of the inspection as provided by paragraph (a) of this section, and may collect from handlers their respective pro rata shares of such costs.

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REPORTS

§ 956.80 Reports and recordkeeping.

Upon request of the committee, made with the approval of the Secretary, each handler shall furnish to the committee, in such manner and at such time as it may prescribe, such reports and other information as may be necessary for the committee to perform its duties under this part.

(a) Such reports may include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following:

(1) The acreage of Walla Walla Sweet Onions grown;

(2) The quantities of Walla Walla Sweet Onions received by such handler;

(3) The quantities of Walla Walla Sweet Onions disposed of by such handler;

(4) The disposition date of such Walla Walla Sweet Onions;

(5) The manner of disposition of such Walla Walla Sweet Onions; and

(6) The identification of the carrier transporting such Walla Walla Sweet Onions.

(b) All such reports shall be held under appropriate protective classification and custody by the committee, or

duly appointed employees thereof, so that any information contained therein which may adversely affect the competitive position of any handler in relation to other handlers will not be disclosed. Compilations of general reports from data submitted by handlers is authorized, subject to the prohibition of disclosure of individual handler's identity or operations.

(c) Each handler shall maintain for at least two succeeding years such records of the Walla Walla Sweet Onions received and disposed of by such handler as may be necessary to verify reports submitted to the committee pursuant to this section.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

§ 956.85 Termination or suspension.

(a) The Secretary may at any time terminate the provisions of this subpart by giving at least one day's notice by means of a press release or in any other manner which the Secretary may determine.

(b) The Secretary shall terminate or suspend the operations of any or all of the provisions of this subpart whenever it is found that such provisions do not tend to effectuate the declared policy of the act.

(c) The Secretary shall terminate the provisions of this subpart at the end of any fiscal period whenever it is found that such termination is favored by a majority of producers who, during a representative period, have been engaged in the production of Walla Walla Sweet Onions: Provided, That such majority has, during such representative period, produced for market more than fifty percent of the volume of such Walla Walla Sweet Onions produced for market, but such termination shall be announced at least 90 days before the end of the current fiscal period.

(d) Within six years of the effective date of this subpart the Secretary shall conduct a continuance referendum to ascertain whether continuance of this subpart is favored by producers. Subsequent referenda to ascertain continuance shall be conducted every six years thereafter. The Secretary may terminate the provisions of this part at the end of any fiscal period in which the Secretary has found that continuance