

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§ 993.90

persons from whom such funds were collected.

[26 FR 476, Jan. 19, 1961, as amended at 30 FR 9800, Aug. 6, 1965]

§ 993.82 Funds.

All funds received by the committee pursuant to the provisions of this part shall be used solely for authorized purposes. The Secretary may, at any time, require the committee or its members and alternate members to account for all receipts and disbursements.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

§ 993.83 Rights of the Secretary.

The members of the committee (including successors or alternates) and any agent or employee appointed or employed by the committee, shall be subject to the removal or suspension by the Secretary, in his discretion, at any time. Each and every decision, determination, or other acts of the committee shall be subject to the continuing right of the Secretary to disapprove of the same at any time, and upon such disapproval, shall be deemed null and void.

§ 993.84 Personal liability.

No member or alternate member of the committee, or any employee, representative, or agent thereof shall be held personally responsible, either individually or jointly with others, in any way whatsoever, to any person, for errors in judgment, mistakes, or other acts, either of commission or omission, as such member, alternate member, employee, representative, or agent, except for acts of dishonesty.

§ 993.85 Separability.

If any provision of this subpart is declared invalid or the applicability thereof to any person, circumstance, or thing is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this subpart or the applicability thereof to any other person, circumstance, or thing shall not be affected thereby.

§ 993.86 Derogation.

Nothing contained in this subpart is, or shall be construed to be, in derogation or in modification of the rights of the Secretary or of the United States

to exercise any powers granted by the act or otherwise, or, in accordance with such powers, to act in the premises whenever such action is deemed advisable.

§ 993.87 Duration of immunities.

The benefits, privileges, and immunities conferred upon any person by virtue of this subpart shall cease upon the termination of this subpart, except with respect to acts done under and during the existence of this subpart.

§ 993.88 Agents.

(a) *Authorization by Secretary.* The Secretary may, by a designation in writing, name any person, including any officer or employee of the United States Government, or name any bureau or division in the United States Department of Agriculture, to act as his agent or representative in connection with any of the provisions of this subpart.

(b) *Authorization by committee.* The committee may authorize any person or persons or agency to act as its agent or representative in connection with the provisions of this subpart.

§ 993.89 Effective time.

The provisions of this subpart, as well as any amendments to this subpart, shall become effective at such time as the Secretary may declare, and shall continue in force until terminated, or during suspension, in one of the ways specified in § 993.90.

§ 993.90 Termination or suspension.

(a) *Failure to effectuate policy of act.* 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 he may determine. The Secretary shall terminate or suspend the operation of any or all of the provisions of this subpart, whenever he finds that such provisions do not tend to effectuate the declared policy of the act.

(b) *Referendum.* The Secretary shall terminate the provisions of this subpart on or before the fifteenth day of July of any crop year, to be effective at the end of such crop year, whenever he is required to do so by the provisions of

section 8c(16)(B) of the act. The Secretary may, at any time he deems it desirable, hold a referendum of producers to determine whether they favor termination of this subpart. However, beginning with 1951, if the Secretary receives a recommendation, adopted by at least a majority vote of the producer members of the committee, requesting the holding of such a referendum, the Secretary shall hold such a referendum: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall not be required to hold such a referendum upon the basis of such a request more than once every two years.

(c) *Termination of act.* The provisions of this subpart shall terminate, in any event, upon the termination of the act.

§ 993.91 Procedure upon termination.

Upon the termination of this subpart, the members of the committee then functioning shall continue as joint trustees, for the purpose of liquidating the affairs of the committee. Action by such trustee shall require the concurrence of a majority of the said trustees. Such trustees shall continue in such capacity until discharged by the Secretary, and shall, from time to time, account for all receipts and disbursements and deliver all property on hand, together with all books and records of the committee and the joint trustees, to such person as the Secretary may direct; and shall, upon the request of the Secretary, execute such assignments or other instruments necessary or appropriate to vest in such person full title and right to all the funds, properties, and claims vested in the committee or the joint trustees, pursuant to this subpart. Any person to whom funds, property, or claims have been transferred or delivered by the committee or the joint trustees, pursuant to this section, shall be subject to the same obligations imposed upon the members of the said committee and upon said joint trustees.

§ 993.92 Effect of termination or amendment.

Unless otherwise expressly provided by the Secretary, the termination of this subpart or of any regulation issued pursuant to this subpart, or the issuance of any amendment to either thereof, shall not (a) affect or waive

any right, duty, obligation, or liability which shall have arisen or which may thereafter arise in connection with any provision of this subpart or any regulation issued under this subpart, or (b) release or extinguish any violation of this subpart or any regulation issued under this subpart, or (c) affect or impair any rights or remedies of the Secretary, or of any other person, with respect to such violation.

§ 993.93 Amendments.

Amendments to this subpart may be proposed from time to time, by any person or by the committee, and may be made a part of this subpart by the procedures provided under the act.

§ 993.97 Exhibit A; minimum standards.

I. Minimum standards for natural condition prunes:

A. *Defects.* Defects are: (1) Off-color; (2) inferior meat condition; (3) end cracks; (4) fermentation; (5) skin or flesh damage; (6) scab; (7) burned; (8) mold; (9) imbedded dirt; (10) insect infestation; (11) decay.

B. *Explanation of terms.* (1) *Off-color* means a dull color or skin differing noticeably in appearance from that which is characteristic of mature, properly handled fruit of a given variety or type.

(2) *Inferior meat condition* means flesh which is fibrous, woody or otherwise inferior due to immaturity to the extent that the characteristic texture of the meat is substantially affected.

(3) *End cracks* means callous growth cracks, at the blossom end of prunes, aggregating more than three-eighths of one inch ($\frac{3}{8}$ ") but not more than one-half of one inch ($\frac{1}{2}$ ") in length.

(4) *Fermentation* means damage to the flesh by fermentation to the extent that the characteristic appearance or flavor is substantially affected.

(5) *Skin or flesh damage* means growth cracks, splits, breaks in skin or flesh of the following descriptions:

(a) Callous growth cracks, except end cracks as defined in this section, aggregating more than three-eighths of one inch ($\frac{3}{8}$ ") in length;

(b) Splits or skin breaks exposing flesh and affecting materially the normal appearance of the prunes;

(c) Any cracks, splits or breaks open to the pit;

(d) Healed or unhealed surface or flesh blemishes caused by insect injury and which materially affect appearance, edibility or keeping quality;