

### § 987.31

and shall receive no compensation, however, such person shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses attendant to those assignments that the Committee has given prior support and approval.

[27 FR 6818, July 19, 1962, as amended at 43 FR 4252, Feb. 1, 1978]

#### § 987.31 Procedure.

(a) A majority of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

(b) The Committee shall, from among its members, select a chairman and such other officers and adopt such rules for the conduct of its business as it may deem advisable.

(c) For any decision of the Committee to be valid, a concurring vote of at least five members is required, except as follows:

(1) In matters relating to restructuring Committee composition pursuant to § 987.21, concurrence by at least eight members is required;

(2) In matters relating to establishment, modification and application of free and restricted percentages pursuant to §§ 987.44 and 987.46, concurrence by at least seven members is required; and

(3) In matters relating to recommendation of any program of paid advertising or major program of market promotion pursuant to § 987.33, concurrence by at least six members is required.

(d) At the discretion of the chairperson, Committee meetings may be assembled or conducted by means of teleconference, video conference, or other means of communication that may be developed. Assembled meetings may also allow for participation by means of teleconference or video conference or other communication methods, at the discretion of the chair. Members participating in meetings via any of these alternative means retain the same voting privileges that they would otherwise have.

(e) The Committee may vote upon any proposition by mail, or by telephone when confirmed in writing within two weeks, upon due notice and full and identical explanation to all members, including alternates acting as members, but any such action shall not

### 7 CFR Ch. IX (1-1-16 Edition)

be considered valid unless unanimously approved.

(f) If the total number of members of the Committee is changed pursuant to § 987.21, the minimum voting requirements shall be in the same ratio to the revised total number of members, as nearly as practicable, as the minimum voting requirements prescribed in paragraph (c) of this section are to nine.

[36 FR 15038, Aug. 12, 1971, as amended at 43 FR 4252, Feb. 1, 1978; 77 FR 37765, June 25, 2012]

#### MARKET DEVELOPMENT

#### § 987.33 Research and promotion.

(a) The Committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may establish or provide for the establishment of marketing research and development projects, including marketing promotion and paid advertising, designed to assist, improve, or promote the marketing, distribution, and consumption of dates. The expenses of such projects shall be paid from funds collected pursuant to § 987.72. Upon conclusion of each program, but at least annually, the Committee shall summarize and report on the program status and accomplishments, to its members and the Secretary. A similar report to the Committee shall be required of any contracting party on any paid advertising or major program. Also, for each advertising or major program the contracting party shall be required to maintain records of money received and expenditures and such shall be available to the Committee and the Secretary. The Committee shall, with the approval of the Secretary, establish criteria which will determine such major program.

(b) [Reserved]

[32 FR 12595, Aug. 31, 1967, as amended at 36 FR 15038, Aug. 12, 1971; 43 FR 4252, Feb. 1, 1978]

#### MARKETING POLICY

#### § 987.34 Development.

As early as practicable, but no later than October 31, the Committee shall prepare and submit to the Secretary, a report setting forth its marketing policy, including data on which it is

## Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

## § 987.39

based, by variety, for regulation of dates in the crop year.

(a) The committee shall consider such factors as:

(1) The estimated production of dates during the crop year;

(2) The estimated production of DAC dates, export dates, and product dates;

(3) The handler carryin on October 1 of dates of those qualities;

(4) The estimated trade demand in each outlet during the crop year; and

(5) The desirable carryout, by outlet.

(b) If dates to be handled as free dates are not synonymous with those to be handled in DAC outlets, the Committee shall consider such additional factors as:

(1) The supply of marketable dates that will be available from the estimated production, and from the October 1 carryin, that could be used as free dates, and

(2) The estimated trade demand for free dates during the current crop year, and the desirable carryout for free dates.

(c) The Committee shall submit its recommendation as to grade, size, and container regulations and its recommendation whether free and restricted percentages should be established and if so, the free and restricted percentages and the appropriate withholding factor.

[43 FR 4252, Feb. 1, 1978]

### § 987.35 Modifications.

In the event the Committee subsequently determines that the marketing policy should be modified due to changing supply or demand conditions, it shall formulate and submit to the Secretary its modified marketing policy along with the data which it considered in connection with such modification.

### § 987.36 Notice.

The Committee shall give notice through newspapers having general circulation in the area of production or by other means of communication to producers and handlers of the contents of each marketing policy report submitted to the Secretary and of each report modifying such marketing policy. Copies of all such reports shall be maintained in the office of the Committee where they shall be available

for examination by producers and handlers.

### § 987.38 Handlers of record.

Each crop year but no later than October 10 for continuing handlers and prior to handling dates in the case of new handlers, any person desiring to handle dates shall submit a report to the Committee on a form prescribed by it containing the following information with respect to all dates which such person expects to handle:

(a) The name and address of each producer;

(b) The location of each date garden; and

(c) The acreage and estimated current season's production thereon.

Those reports required to be filed by October 10 shall reflect producers who are signed up with the handlers as of October 1 of the then current crop year. The Committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may issue rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this section.

[43 FR 4252, Feb. 1, 1978]

## GRADE REGULATION

### § 987.39 The establishment of minimum standards.

In order to effectuate the declared policy of the act, all dates handled as marketable dates shall meet the requirements of U.S. Grade C, or if for further processing, U.S. Grade C (Dry) of the effective U.S. Standards for Grades of Dates, 7 CFR 52.1001: *Provided*, That the Secretary, may upon recommendation of the Committee, prescribe other minimum standards of grades and sizes for marketable dates of any variety to be handled in any designated outlet. To aid the Secretary in prescribing such other minimum standards, the Committee shall furnish to the Secretary the data upon which it acted in recommending such standards. The provisions hereof relating to minimum standards of grades and sizes for marketable dates and inspection requirements, within the meaning of section 2(3) of the act, and any other provisions relating to the administration and enforcement thereof shall continue in effect irrespective of whether the season average price to producers for