§ 1580.501 Administration.

(a) The petition process will be administered by FAS. FAS will publish in the Federal Register the filing dates for commodity groups to file petitions.

(b) FSA will administer the producer application and payment process.

(c) State and county FSA committees and representatives do not have the authority to modify or waive any of the provisions of this part.

(d) The technical assistance process and the recommendation for approval of all producer business plans will be under the general supervision of NIFA. NIFA may award the technical assistance and services to a state cooperative extension service.

(e) The Deputy Administrator may, in consultation with the Administrator, FAS, authorize the State and County committees to waive or modify non-statutory deadlines or other program requirements in cases where lateness or failure to meet such other requirements by applicants does not adversely affect the operation of the program.

§ 1580.502 Maintenance of records, audits, and compliance.

(a) Producers making application 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. Such records and accounts must be retained for 2 years after the date of the final payment to the producer under this program.

(b) At all times during regular business hours, authorized representatives of the U.S. Department of Agriculture or any agency thereof, the Comptroller General of the United States shall have access to the premises of the producer in order to inspect, examine, and make copies of the books, records, and accounts, and other written data as specified in paragraph (a) of this section.

(c) Audits of certifications of average adjusted gross income may be conducted as necessary to determine compliance with the requirements of this subpart. As a part of this audit, income tax forms may be requested and if requested, must be supplied. If a producer has submitted information to FSA, including a certification from a certified public accountant or attorney, that relied upon information from a form previously filed with the Internal Revenue Service, such producer shall provide FSA a copy of any amended form filed with the Internal Revenue Service within 30 days of the filing.

(d) If requested in writing by the U.S. Department of Agriculture or any agency thereof, or the Comptroller General of the United States, the producer shall provide all information and documentation the reviewing authority determines necessary to verify any information or certification provided under this subpart, including all documents referred to in §1580.301(c) of this part, within 30 days. Acceptable production documentation may be submitted by facsimile, in person, or by mail and may include copies of receipts, ledgers, income statements, deposit slips, register tapes, invoices for custom harvesting, records to verify production costs, contemporaneous measurements, truck scale tickets, fish tickets, landing reports, and contemporaneous diaries that are determined acceptable. Failure to provide necessary and accurate information to verify compliance, or failure to comply with this part’s requirements, will result in ineligibility for all program benefits subject to this part for the year or years subject to the request.

§ 1580.503 Recovery of overpayments.

(a) If the Administrator (FAS) determines that any producer has received any payment under this program to which the producer was not entitled, or has expended funds received under this program for purposes that were not approved by the Administrator (FAS) such producer will be liable to repay such amount. The Administrator (FAS) may waive such repayment if it is determined that:
(1) The payment was made without fault on the part of the producer; and
(2) Requiring such repayment would be contrary to equity and good conscience.

(b) Unless an overpayment is otherwise recovered, or waived under paragraph (a) of this section, the Administrator (FAS), shall recover the overpayment as a debt following the procedures in 7 CFR part 3. The requirement for demand and notice and opportunity for a hearing under the debt collection procedures in 7 CFR part 3 shall satisfy the notice and hearing requirements under 19 U.S.C. 2401f(c), and the appeal procedures in §1580.505 of this part shall not apply to collection of overpayments.

§ 1580.504 Debarment, suspension, and penalties.
(a) Generally. The regulations governing Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement), 7 CFR part 3017, and Government Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Financial Assistance), 7 CFR part 3021, apply to this part.

(b) Additional specific suspension and debarment provision for this program. In addition to any other debarment or suspension of a producer under paragraph (a) of this section, in connection with this program, if the Administrator (FAS) or a court of competent jurisdiction, determines that a producer:

(1) Knowingly has made, or caused another to make, a false statement or representation of a material fact, or
(2) Knowingly has failed, or caused another to fail, to disclose a material fact; and, as a result of such false statement or representation, or of such nondisclosure, such producer has received any payment under this program to which the producer was not entitled, the Administrator (FAS) shall suspend and debar such producer from any future payments under this program, as provided in 19 U.S.C. 2401f(b).

(c) Criminal penalty. Whoever makes a false statement of a material fact knowing it to be false, or knowingly fails to disclose a material fact, for the purpose of obtaining or increasing for himself or for any other producer any payments authorized to be furnished under this program shall be fined not more than $10,000 or imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or both.

§ 1580.505 Appeals.
(a) A producer adversely affected by a determination with respect to their application for trade adjustment assistance under §1580.301 of this part or with respect to the receipt of technical assistance or payments under §1580.302 of this part may file a notice of appeal within 30 days of the date that the notification of the adverse determination was sent.

(b) A producer may not seek judicial review of any adverse decision under this paragraph without receiving a final determination pursuant to this paragraph.

§ 1580.506 Judicial review.
Any producer aggrieved by a final agency determination under this part may appeal to the U.S. Court of International Trade for a review of such determination in accordance with its rules and procedures.

§ 1580.602 Paperwork Reduction Act assigned number.
The information collection requirements contained in this part have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the provisions of 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35 and been assigned OMB control number 0551-0040.

PART 1599—MCGOVERN-DOLE INTERNATIONAL FOOD FOR EDUCATION AND CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM

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