Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA

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(b) The payment quantity will be multiplied by the following:

(1) Each asparagus producer’s share, and

(2) The payment rate for the fresh or processed asparagus determined as specified in §1429.107.

(c) If the total value of payments claimed exceeds the available funding, payments to producers are subject to a $100,000 cap per each of the two program marketing categories (fresh and processed) per asparagus producer as defined in this part, per not “person” or “legal entity” as those terms might be defined in part 1400 of this title.

§ 1429.109 Availability of funds.

(a) Payments specified in this part are subject to the availability of funds. The total available program funds will be $15,000,000 as provided by section 10404 of Public Law 110–246.

(b) Of the available funds, $7,500,000 are allocated for fresh market asparagus production and $7,500,000 are allocated to processed market asparagus.

(c) CCC will prorate the available funds by a national factor to ensure that payments do not exceed $15,000,000. CCC will prorate the payments in such manner as it, in its sole discretion, finds fair and reasonable.

(d) A reserve will be created to handle appeals and errors. Claims will not be payable once the available funding is expended. Any amount of funds reserved for such purposes that are not disbursed for the purpose of correcting errors or omissions, or for the payment of appeals, will not otherwise be distributed to any payment applicants and will be refunded to the U.S. Department of Treasury.

§ 1429.111 Misrepresentation and scheme or device.

(a) In addition to other penalties, sanctions, or remedies as may apply, an asparagus producer will be ineligible to receive assistance through the Asparagus Revenue Market Loss Assistance Payment Program if the asparagus producer is determined by CCC to have:

(1) Adopted any scheme or device that tends to defeat the purpose of this program;

(2) Made any fraudulent representation; or

(3) Misrepresented any fact affecting a program determination.

(b) Any funds disbursed pursuant to this part to any person or operation engaged in a misrepresentation, scheme, or device, must be refunded with interest together with such other sums as may become due and all charges including interest will run from the date of the disbursement of the CCC funds.

Any asparagus farm operation, asparagus producer, or person engaged in acts prohibited by this section and any asparagus farm operation, asparagus producer, or person receiving payment as specified in this part will be jointly and severally liable with other persons or operations involved in such claim for payment for any refund due as specified in this section and for related charges. The remedies provided in this part will be in addition to other civil, criminal, or administrative remedies that may apply.

§ 1429.112 Death, incompetence, or disappearance.

(a) In the case of death, incompetence, disappearance, or dissolution of a person or an entity that is eligible to receive payment as specified in this part, an alternate person or persons as determined appropriate by CCC.

(b) Payment may be made for asparagus market losses suffered by an otherwise eligible asparagus producer who is now deceased or is a dissolved entity if a representative who currently has authority to enter into an application for the producer or the producer’s estate signs the application for payment. Proof of authority to sign for the deceased producer’s estate or a dissolved entity must be provided. If an asparagus producer is now a dissolved general partnership or joint venture at the time of dissolution or their duly-authorized representatives must sign the application for payment.

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