

domestic potato producers, who will benefit from lower seed potato prices, and consumers will benefit from any resulting lower prices.

Under these circumstances, the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has determined that this action will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

Executive Order 12778

This rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12778, Civil Justice Reform. This rule will allow true seed of *Solanum* spp. to be imported into the United States from Chile. State and local laws and regulations regarding true seed imported under this rule will be preempted while the true seed is in foreign commerce. Seeds are generally imported for immediate distribution and sale to the public, and remain in foreign commerce until sold to the ultimate consumer. The question of when foreign commerce ceases in other cases must be addressed on a case-by-case basis. This rule has no retroactive effect and does not require administrative proceedings before parties may file suit in court.

Paperwork Reduction Act

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), the information collection or recordkeeping requirements included in this rule have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and there are no new requirements. The assigned OMB control number is 0579-0049.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 319

Bees, Coffee, Cotton, Fruits, Honey, Imports, Incorporation by reference, Nursery stock, Plant diseases and pests, Quarantine, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Rice, Vegetables.

Accordingly, 7 CFR part 319 is amended as follows:

PART 319—FOREIGN QUARANTINE NOTICES

1. The authority citation for part 319 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 150dd, 150ee, 150ff, 151-167, and 450; 21 U.S.C. 136 and 136a; 7 CFR 2.17, 2.51, and 371.2(c).

§ 319.37-2 [Amended]

2. In § 319.37-2(a), in the table, the listing for *Solanum* spp. is amended in the third column by adding the words “; Arracacha Virus B; Potato Yellowing Virus” at the end of the entry, immediately before the period.

3. In § 319.37-2(a), in the table, the listing for *Solanum* spp. true seed is

amended in the second column by removing the words “Canada and New Zealand” and adding the words “Canada, New Zealand, and the X Region of Chile (that area of Chile between 39° and 44° South latitude—see § 319.37-5(o))” in their place, and in the third column by adding the words “; Arracacha Virus B, Potato Yellowing Virus” at the end of the entry, immediately before the period.

4. In § 319.37-3, paragraph (a)(3) is amended by removing the words “true seed of *Solanum* spp. (tuber bearing species only—Section Tuberarium) from New Zealand;”, and a new paragraph (a)(17) is added to read as set forth below:

§ 319.37-3 Permits.

(a) * * *

(17) *Solanum tuberosum* true seed from New Zealand and the X Region of Chile (that area of Chile between 39° and 44° South latitude—see § 319.37-5(o)).

* * * * *

5. In § 319.37-5, a new paragraph (o) is added to read as follows:

§ 319.37-5 Special foreign inspection and certification requirements.

* * * * *

(o) Any *Solanum tuberosum* true seed imported from Chile shall, at the time of arrival at the port of first arrival in the United States, be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate of inspection issued in Chile by the Servicio Agrícola y Ganadero (SAG), containing additional declarations that:

(1) The *Solanum* spp. true seed was produced by *Solanum* plants that were propagated from plantlets from the United States;

(2) The *Solanum* plants that produced the *Solanum tuberosum* true seed were grown in the Tenth (X) Region of Chile (that area of the country between 39° and 44° South latitude); and

(3) *Solanum tuberosum* tubers, plants, and true seed from each field in which the *Solanum* plants that produced the *Solanum tuberosum* true seed were grown have been sampled by SAG once per growing season at a rate to detect 1 percent contamination with a 99 percent confidence level (500 tubers/500 plants/500 true seeds per 1 hectare/2.5 acres), and that the samples have been analyzed by SAG using an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) test or nucleic acid spot hybridization (NASH) non-reagent test, with negative results, for Andean Potato Latent Virus, Arracacha Virus B, Potato Virus T, the Andean Potato Calico Strain of Tobacco Ringspot Virus, and Potato Yellowing Virus.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0579-0049)

Done in Washington, DC, this 9th day of February 1995.

Lonnie J. King,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 95-3843 Filed 2-15-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

Agricultural Marketing Service

7 CFR Parts 905 and 944

[Docket No. FV94-905-4-FIR]

Oranges, Grapefruit, Tangerines, and Tangelos Grown in Florida and Imported Grapefruit; Relaxation of the Minimum Size Requirement for Red Seedless Grapefruit

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Department of Agriculture (Department) is adopting as a final rule, without change, the provisions of an interim final rule which relaxed the minimum size requirement for domestic shipments of Florida red seedless grapefruit and for red seedless grapefruit imported into the United States to 3⁵/₁₆ inches in diameter (size 56) through November 12, 1995. This rule enables handlers in Florida and importers to continue to ship size 56 red seedless grapefruit for the entire 1994-95 season.

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 20, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William G. Pimental, Southeast Marketing Field Office, USDA/AMS, P.O. Box 2276, Winter Haven, Florida 33883; telephone: 813-299-4770; or Mark Kreaggor, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Division, AMS, USDA, P.O. Box 96456, Room 2523-S, Washington, DC 20090-6456; telephone: 202-720-2431.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This final rule is issued under Marketing Order No. 905 [7 CFR Part 905], as amended, regulating the handling of oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, and tangelos grown in Florida, hereinafter referred to as the “order”. This order is effective under the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, as amended [7 U.S.C. 601-674], hereinafter referred to as the Act.

This rule is also issued under section 8e of the Act, which provides that whenever specified commodities, including grapefruit, are regulated under a Federal marketing order,

imports of these commodities into the United States are prohibited unless they meet the same or comparable grade, size, quality, or maturity requirements as those in effect for the domestically produced commodities. Section 8e also provides that whenever two or more marketing orders regulate the same commodity produced in different areas of the United States, the Secretary shall determine which area the imported commodity is in most direct competition with and apply regulations based on that area to the imported commodity. The Secretary has determined that grapefruit imported into the United States are in most direct competition with grapefruit grown in Florida regulated under Marketing Order No. 905, and has found that the minimum grade and size requirements for imported grapefruit should be the same as those established for grapefruit under Marketing Order No. 905.

The Department of Agriculture (Department) is issuing this rule in conformance with Executive Order 12866.

This rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12778, Civil Justice Reform. This rule is not intended to have retroactive effect. This rule will not preempt any state or local laws, regulations, or policies, unless they present an irreconcilable conflict with this rule.

The Act provides that administrative proceedings must be exhausted before parties may file suit in court. Under section 608c(15)(A) of the Act, any handler subject to an order may file with the Secretary a petition stating that the order, any provision of the order, or any obligation imposed in connection with the order is not in accordance with law and requesting a modification of the order or to be exempted therefrom. A handler is afforded the opportunity for a hearing on the petition. After the hearing, the Secretary would rule on the petition. The Act provides that the district court of the United States in any district in which the handler is an inhabitant, or has his or her principal place of business, has jurisdiction in equity to review the Secretary's ruling on the petition, provided a bill in equity is filed not later than 20 days after the date of the entry of the ruling.

There are no administrative procedures which must be exhausted prior to any judicial challenge to the provisions of import regulations issued under section 8e of the Act.

Pursuant to the requirements set forth in the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA), the Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) has

considered the economic impact of this action on small entities.

The purpose of the RFA is to fit regulatory actions to the scale of business subject to such actions in order that small businesses will not be unduly or disproportionately burdened. Marketing orders issued pursuant to the Act, and rules issued thereunder, are unique in that they are brought about through group action of essentially small entities acting on their own behalf. Thus, both statutes have small entity orientation and compatibility. Import regulations issued under the Act are based on those established under Federal marketing orders.

There are approximately 110 Florida citrus handlers subject to regulation under the marketing order covering oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, and tangelos grown in Florida, about 11,970 producers of these citrus fruits in Florida, and about 25 grapefruit importers. Small agricultural service firms, which include grapefruit handlers and importers, have been defined by the Small Business Administration [13 CFR 121.601] as those whose annual receipts are less than \$5,000,000, and small agricultural producers are defined as those whose annual receipts are less than \$500,000. A majority of these handlers, importers, and producers may be classified as small entities.

The order for Florida citrus provides for the establishment of minimum grade and size requirements. The minimum grade and size requirements are designated to provide fresh markets with fruit of acceptable quality, thereby maintaining consumer confidence for fresh Florida citrus. This helps create buyer confidence and contributes to stable marketing conditions. This is in the interest of producers, packers, and consumers, and is designed to increase returns to Florida citrus growers.

The Citrus Administrative Committee (committee), which administers the order locally, makes recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture as to the grade and size of fruit that should garner consumer acceptance. The committee meets prior to and during each season to review the handling regulations effective on a continuous basis for each citrus fruit regulated under the order. Committee meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may express their views at these meetings. The Department reviews committee recommendations and information, as well as information from other sources, and determines whether modification, suspension, or termination of the handling regulations would tend to effectuate the declared policy of the Act.

The committee met on September 13, 1994, and unanimously recommended that the minimum size requirement for domestic shipments of fresh red seedless grapefruit be relaxed from size 48 to size 56 for the period November 7, 1994, to November 12, 1995. Size 56 ($3\frac{5}{16}$ inches diameter) is the minimum size until November 6, 1994. At that time, absent this revision of the rules and regulations under the order, the minimum size will revert to size 48 ($3\frac{9}{16}$ inches diameter).

Section 905.52, Issuance of regulations, authorizes the committee to recommend minimum grade and size regulations to the Secretary. Section 905.306 (7 CFR 905.306) specifies minimum grade and size requirements for different varieties of fresh Florida grapefruit. Such requirements for domestic shipments are specified in § 905.306 in Table I of paragraph (a), and for export shipments in Table II of paragraph (b).

Minimum grade and size requirements for grapefruit imported into the United States are currently in effect under § 944.106 (7 CFR 944.106), as reinstated on July 26, 1993 (58 FR 39428, July 23, 1993). Export requirements are not changed by this rule.

In making its recommendation, the committee considered estimated supply and current shipments. The committee reports that it expects that fresh market demand will be sufficient to permit the shipment of size 56 red seedless grapefruit grown in Florida during the entire 1994-95 season.

The committee recommended this relaxation in size to enable Florida grapefruit shippers to continue shipping size 56 red seedless grapefruit to the domestic market. This is consistent with current and anticipated demand in those markets for the 1994-95 season, and provides for the maximization of shipments to fresh market channels.

There are several exemption provisions under the order. Handlers may ship up to 15 standard packed cartons (12 bushels) of fruit per day, and up to two standard packed cartons of fruit per day in gift packages which are individually addressed and not for resale under these provisions. Fruit shipped for animal feed is also exempt under specific conditions. Fruit shipped to commercial processors for conversion into canned or frozen products or into a beverage base are not subject to the handling requirements.

This rule reflects the committee's and the Department's appraisal of the need to relax the minimum size requirement for red seedless grapefruit as specified. This rule has a beneficial impact on

producers, handlers and importers since it permits Florida grapefruit handlers and importers to make available those sizes of fruit needed to meet consumer needs consistent with this season's crop and market conditions.

The interim final rule concerning this action was published in the November 8, 1994, **Federal Register** (59 FR 55571), with a 30-day comment period ending December 8, 1994. No comments were received.

Section 8e of the Act provides that when certain domestically produced commodities, including grapefruit, are regulated under a Federal marketing order, imports of that commodity must meet the same or comparable grade, size, quality, and maturity requirements. Since this rule relaxes the minimum size requirement under the domestic handling regulations, a corresponding change to the import regulations is necessary.

This rule relaxes the minimum size requirements for imported red seedless grapefruit to $3\frac{5}{16}$ inches in diameter (size 56) through November 12, 1995, to reflect the relaxation being made under the order for grapefruit grown in Florida.

In accordance with section 8e of the Act, the United States Trade Representative has concurred with the issuance of this final rule.

Based on the above, the Administrator of the AMS has determined that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

After consideration of all relevant material presented, the information and recommendations submitted by the committee, and other information, it is found that finalizing the interim final rule without change, as published in the **Federal Register** (59 FR 55571) will tend to effectuate the declared policy of the Act.

List of Subjects 7 CFR Parts 905 and 944

Grapefruit, Marketing agreements, Oranges, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Tangelos, Tangerines.

PART 905—ORANGES, GRAPEFRUIT, TANGERINES, AND TANGELOS GROWN IN FLORIDA

Accordingly, the interim final rule amending 7 CFR Part 905 which was published at 59 55571 on November 8, 1994, is adopted as a final rule without change.

PART 944—FRUIT; IMPORT REGULATIONS

The interim final rule amending 7 CFR Part 944 which was published at 59 FR 55571 on November 8, 1994, is adopted as a final rule without change.

Dated: February 8, 1995.

Sharon Bomer Lauritsen,
Deputy Director, Fruit and Vegetable Division.
[FR Doc. 95-3838 Filed 2-15-95; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

7 CFR PART 915

[Docket No. FV93-911-1FR; Amendment]

Increase in Expenses for Marketing Order Covering Avocados Grown in South Florida

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Final rule; amendment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Agriculture (Department) is amending the final rule that authorized expenses and established an assessment rate for the Florida Avocado Administrative Committee (Committee) under Marketing Order No. 915 for the 1994-95 fiscal year. This final rule authorizes an increased level of expenses for the 1994-95 fiscal year. Authorization of this budget enables the Committee to incur expenses that are reasonable and necessary to administer its program. Funds to administer the program are derived from assessments on handlers. **EFFECTIVE DATE:** April 1, 1994, through March 31, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Britthany E. Beadle, Marketing Order Administration Branch, F&V, AMS, USDA, P.O. Box 96456, Room 2524-S, Washington, DC 20090-6456; telephone: (202) 720-5127; or Aleck Jonas, Southeast Marketing Field Office, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Division, AMS, USDA, P.O. Box 2276, Winter Haven, Florida 338833, telephone: (813) 299-4770.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This final rule is issued under Marketing Agreement and Order No. 915 (7 CFR Part 915), as amended, regulating the handling of avocados grown in south Florida. The marketing agreement and order are effective under the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, as amended [7 U.S.C. 601-674], hereinafter referred to as the Act.

The Department is issuing this rule in conformance with Executive Order 12866.

This final rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12778, Civil Justice Reform. This rule increases the authorized level of expenses for the 1994-95 fiscal year which began April 1, 1994, and ends March 31, 1995. This final rule will not preempt any State or local laws, regulations, or policies, unless they present an irreconcilable conflict with this rule.

The Act provides that administrative proceedings must be exhausted before parties may file suit in court. Under section 608c(15)(A) of the Act, any handler subject to an order may file with the Secretary a petition stating that the order, any provision of the order, or any obligation imposed in connection with the order is not in accordance with law and requesting a modification of the order or to be exempted therefrom. Such handler is afforded the opportunity for a hearing on the petition. After the hearing the Secretary would rule on the petition. The Act provides that the district court of the United States in any district in which the handler is an inhabitant, or has his or her principal place of business, has jurisdiction in equity to review the Secretary's ruling on the petition, provided a bill in equity is filed not later than 20 days after date of the entry of the ruling.

Pursuant to requirements set forth in the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA), the Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) has considered the economic impact of this action on small entities.

The purpose of the RFA is to fit regulatory actions to the scale of business subject to such actions in order that small businesses will not be unduly or disproportionately burdened. Marketing orders issued pursuant to the Act, and rules issued thereunder, are unique in that they are brought about through group action of essentially small entities acting on their own behalf. Thus, both statutes have small entity orientation and compatibility.

There are approximately 95 producers of avocados grown in south Florida, and approximately 65 handlers who are subject to regulation under the avocado marketing order. Small agricultural producers have been defined by the Small Business Administration [13 CFR 121.601] as those having annual receipts of less than \$500,000, and small agricultural service firms are defined as those whose annual receipts are less than \$5,000,000. The majority of the avocado producers and handlers may be classified as small entities.

The marketing order requires that the assessment rate for a particular fiscal year shall apply to all assessable avocados handled from the beginning of