

provides for the use of the percentage change in the implicit price deflator of the gross national product (as indexed for the most recent 12-month period for which statistics are available). However, this has been replaced by the gross domestic product by the Department of Commerce as a more appropriate measure for the short-term monitoring and analysis of the U.S. economy.

The number of bales to be classed by the United States Department of Agriculture from the 2000 crop is estimated at 17,855,275 bales. The 2000 base fee was decreased 15 percent based on the estimated number of bales to be classed (one percent for every 100,000 bales or portion thereof above the base of 12,500,000, limited to a maximum adjustment of 15 percent). This percentage factor amounts to a 33 cents per bale reduction and was subtracted from the 2000 base fee of \$2.17 per bale, resulting in a fee of \$1.84 per bale.

With a fee of \$1.84 per bale, the projected operating reserve would be 49.77 percent. The Act specifies that the Secretary shall not establish a fee which, when combined with other sources of revenue, will result in a projected operating reserve of more than 25 percent. Accordingly, the fee of \$1.84 must be reduced by 49 cents per bale, to \$1.35 per bale, to provide an ending accumulated operating reserve for the fiscal year of 25 percent of the projected cost of operating the program. This would establish the 2000 season fee at \$1.35 per bale.

Accordingly, § 28.909, paragraph (b) would reflect the continuation of the HVI classification fee at \$1.35 per bale.

As provided for in the Uniform Cotton Classing Fees Act of 1987, as amended, a five cent per bale discount would continue to be applied to voluntary centralized billing and collecting agents as specified in § 28.909(c).

Growers or their designated agents requesting classification data provided on computer punched cards will continue to be charged the fee of 10 cents per card in § 28.910(a) to reflect the costs of providing this service. Requests for punch card classification data represented less than 1.0 percent of the total bales classed from the 1999 crop, down from 2.6 percent in 1997. Growers or their designated agents receiving classification data by methods other than computer punched cards would continue to incur no additional fees if only one method of receiving classification data was requested. The fee for each additional method of receiving classification data in § 28.910 would remain at five cents per bale, and it would be applicable even if the same method was requested. However, if

computer punched cards were requested, a fee of ten cents per card would be charged. The fee in § 28.910(b) for an owner receiving classification data from the central database would remain at five cents per bale, and the minimum charge of \$5.00 for services provided per monthly billing period would remain the same. The provisions of § 28.910(c) concerning the fee for new classification memoranda issued from the central database for the business convenience of an owner without reclassification of the cotton will remain the same.

The fee for review classification in § 28.911 would be maintained at \$1.35 per bale.

The fee for returning samples after classification in § 28.911 would remain at 40 cents per sample.

A thirty-day comment period is provided for public comments. This period is appropriate because it is anticipated that the proposed changes, if adopted, would be made effective July 1, 2000, as provided by the Cotton Statistics and Estimates Act.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 28

Administrative practice and procedure, Cotton, Cotton samples, Grades, Market news, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Standards, Staples, Testing, Warehouses.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, 7 CFR Part 28 is proposed to be amended as follows:

PART 28—[Amended]

1. The authority citation for 7 CFR Part 28, Subpart D, continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 471—476.

2. In § 28.909, paragraph (b) is revised to read as follows:

§ 28.909 Costs.

(b) The cost of High Volume Instrument (HVI) cotton classification service to producers is \$1.35 per bale.

3. In § 28.911, the last sentence of paragraph (a) is revised to read as follows:

§ 28.911 Review classification.

(a) * * * The fee for review classification is \$1.35 per bale.

Dated: March 6, 2000.

Kathleen A. Merrigan,
Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 00-5752 Filed 3-7-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

7 CFR Part 1205

[CN-00-002]

2000 Proposed Amendment to Cotton Board Rules and Regulations Adjusting Supplemental Assessment on Imports

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is proposing to amend the Cotton Board Rules and Regulations by lowering the value assigned to imported cotton for the purpose of calculating supplemental assessments collected for use by the Cotton Research and Promotion Program. This adjustment is required by this regulation on an annual basis to ensure that the assessments collected on imported cotton and the cotton content of imported products remain similar to those paid on domestically produced cotton.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before April 7, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to USDA, AMS, Cotton Program, STOP 0224, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-0224. All comments received will be available for public inspection at this address during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Whitney Rick, (202) 720-2259.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Executive Order 12866

This proposed rule has been determined to be "not significant" for purposes of Executive Order 12866, and, therefore, has not been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget.

Executive Order 12988

This proposed rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12988, Civil Justice Reform. It is not intended to have retroactive effect. This proposed rule would not preempt any state or local laws, regulations, or policies, unless they present an irreconcilable conflict with this rule.

The Cotton Research and Promotion Act provides that administrative proceedings must be exhausted before parties may file suit in court. Under Section 12 of the Act, any person subject to an order may file with the Secretary a petition stating that the

order, any provision of the plan, 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 person 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 person is an inhabitant, or has his principal place of business, has jurisdiction to review the Secretary's ruling, provided a complaint is filed within 20 days from the date of the entry of ruling.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

Pursuant to requirements set forth in the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA) (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*) AMS has considered the economic impact of this action on small entities and has determined that its implementation will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small businesses.

There are an estimated 10,000 importers who are presently subject to rules and regulations issued pursuant to the Cotton Research and Promotion Order. This proposed rule would affect importers of cotton and cotton-containing products. The majority of these importers are small businesses under the criteria established by the Small Business Administration. This proposed rule would lower the assessments paid by the importers under the Cotton Research and Promotion Order. Even though the assessment would be lowered, the decrease is small and will not significantly affect small businesses.

The current assessment on imported cotton is \$0.011397 per kilogram of imported cotton. The proposed assessment is \$0.009833, a decrease of \$0.001564 or a 13.72 percent decrease from the current assessment. From January through December 1999 approximately \$23 million was collected at the \$0.011397 per kilogram rate. Should the volume of cotton products imported into the U.S. remain at the same level in 2000, one could expect the decreased assessment to generate approximately \$19.8 million or a 13.72 percent decrease from 1999.

Paperwork Reduction

In compliance with Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations (5 CFR Part 1320) which implement the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) the information collection requirements contained in the regulation to be amended have been previously

approved by OMB and were assigned control number 0581-0093.

Background

The Cotton Research and Promotion Act Amendments of 1990 enacted by Congress under Subtitle G of Title XIX of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990 on November 28, 1990, contained two provisions that authorized changes in the funding procedures for the Cotton Research and Promotion Program.

These provisions are: (1) the assessment of imported cotton and cotton products; and (2) termination of the right of cotton producers to demand a refund of assessments.

An amended Cotton Research and Promotion Order was approved by producers and importers voting in a referendum held July 17-26, 1991 and the amended Order was published in the **Federal Register** on December 10, 1991, (56 FR 64470). Proposed rules implementing the amended Order were published in the **Federal Register** on December 17, 1991, (56 FR 65450). Implementing rules were published on July 1 and 2, 1992, (57 FR 29181) and (57 FR 29431), respectively.

This proposed rule would decrease the value assigned to imported cotton in the Cotton Board Rules and Regulations (7 CFR 1205.510 (b)(2)). This value is used to calculate supplemental assessments on imported cotton and the cotton content of imported products. Supplemental assessments are the second part of a two-part assessment. The first part of the assessment is levied on the weight of cotton produced or imported at a rate of \$1 per bale of cotton which is equivalent to 500 pounds or \$1 per 226.8 kilograms of cotton.

Supplemental assessments are levied at a rate of five-tenths of one percent of the value of domestically produced cotton, imported cotton, and the cotton content of imported products. The agency has adopted the practice of assigning the calendar year weighted average price received by U.S. farmers for Upland cotton to represent the value of imported cotton. This is done so that the assessment on domestically produced cotton and the assessment on imported cotton and the cotton content of imported products remain similar. The source for the average price statistic is "Agricultural Prices", a publication of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) of the Department of Agriculture. Use of the weighted average price figure in the calculation of supplemental assessments on imported cotton and the cotton content of imported products yields an assessment

that approximates assessments paid on domestically produced cotton in the prior calendar year.

The current value of imported cotton as published in the **Federal Register** (64 FR 30236) on June 7, 1999, for the purpose of calculating supplemental assessments on imported cotton is \$1.3977 per kilogram. This number was calculated using the annual weighted average price received by farmers for Upland cotton during the calendar year 1998 which was \$0.634 per pound and multiplying by the conversion factor 2.2046. Using the Average Weighted Price Received by U.S. farmers for Upland cotton for the calendar year 1999, which is \$0.492 per pound, the new value of imported cotton is \$1.0847 per kilogram. The proposed value is \$0.313 per kilogram less than the previous value.

An example of the complete assessment formula and how the various figures are obtained is as follows:

One bale is equal to 500 pounds.
One kilogram equals 2.2046 pounds.
One pound equals 0.453597 kilograms.

One Dollar Per Bale Assessment Converted to Kilograms

A 500 pound bale equals 226.8 kg.
(500 × 0.453597).

\$1 per bale assessment equals \$0.002000 per pound (1 ÷ 500) or \$0.004409 per kg. (1 ÷ 226.8)

Supplemental Assessment of 5/10 of One Percent of the Value of the Cotton Converted to Kilograms.

The 1999 calendar year weighted average price received by producers for Upland cotton is \$0.492 per pound or \$1.0847 per kg. (0.492 × 2.2046) = 1.0847.

Five tenths of one percent of the average price in kg. equals \$0.005424 per kg. (1.0847 × .005).

Total Assessment

The total assessment per kilogram of raw cotton in obtained by adding the \$1 per bale equivalent assessment of \$0.004409 per kg. and the supplemental assessment \$0.005424 per kg. which equals \$0.009833 per kg.

The current assessment on imported cotton is \$0.011397 per kilogram of imported cotton. The proposed assessment is \$0.009833, a decrease of \$0.001564 per kilogram. This decrease reflects the decrease in the Average Weighted Price of Upland Cotton Received by U.S. Farmers during the period January through December 1999.

Since the value of cotton is the basis of the supplemental assessment calculation and the figures shown in the

right hand column of the Import Assessment Table 1205.510 (b)(3) are a result of such a calculation, the figures in this table have been revised. These figures indicate the total assessment per kilogram due for each Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) number subject to assessment.

A thirty day comment period is provided to comment on the changes to the Cotton Board Rules and Regulations proposed herein. This period is deemed appropriate because this proposal would lower the assessments paid by importers under the Cotton Research and Promotion Order. Accordingly, the change proposed in this rule, if adopted, should be implemented as soon as possible.

List of Subjects 7 CFR Part 1205

Advertising, Agricultural research, Cotton, Marketing agreements, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, it is proposed that 7 CFR Part 1205 be amended as follows:

PART 1205—COTTON RESEARCH AND PROMOTION

1. The authority citation for part 1205 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 2101–2118.

2. In § 1205.510, paragraph (b)(2) and the table in paragraph (b)(3)(ii) are revised to read as follows:

§ 1205.510 Levy of assessments.

* * * * *

(b) * * *

(2) The 12-month average of monthly weighted average prices received by U.S. farmers will be calculated annually. Such weighted average will be used as the value of imported cotton for the purpose of levying the supplemental assessment on imported cotton and will be expressed in kilograms. The value of imported cotton for the purpose of levying this supplemental assessment is \$0.9833 per kilogram.

(3) * * *

(ii) * * *

IMPORT ASSESSMENT TABLE—
Continued
[Raw Cotton Fiber]

IMPORT ASSESSMENT TABLE—
Continued
[Raw Cotton Fiber]

HTS No.	Conv. fact.	Cents/kg.	HTS No.	Conv. fact.	Cents/kg.
5201003800	0	0.9833	5208296090	1.1455	1.1264
5204110000	1.1111	1.0925	5208298020	1.1455	1.1264
5204200000	1.1111	1.0925	5208312000	1.1455	1.1264
5205111000	1.1111	1.0925	5208321000	1.1455	1.1264
5205112000	1.1111	1.0925	5208323020	1.1455	1.1264
5205121000	1.1111	1.0925	5208323040	1.1455	1.1264
5205122000	1.1111	1.0925	5208323090	1.1455	1.1264
5205131000	1.1111	1.0925	5208324020	1.1455	1.1264
5205132000	1.1111	1.0925	5208324040	1.1455	1.1264
5205141000	1.1111	1.0925	5208325020	1.1455	1.1264
5205210020	1.1111	1.0925	5208330000	1.1455	1.1264
5205210090	1.1111	1.0925	5208392020	1.1455	1.1264
5205220020	1.1111	1.0925	5208392090	1.1455	1.1264
5205220090	1.1111	1.0925	5208394090	1.1455	1.1264
5205230020	1.1111	1.0925	5208396090	1.1455	1.1264
5205230090	1.1111	1.0925	5208398020	1.1455	1.1264
5205240020	1.1111	1.0925	5208412000	1.1455	1.1264
5205240090	1.1111	1.0925	5208416000	1.1455	1.1264
5205310000	1.1111	1.0925	5208418000	1.1455	1.1264
5205320000	1.1111	1.0925	5208421000	1.1455	1.1264
5205330000	1.1111	1.0925	5208423000	1.1455	1.1264
5205340000	1.1111	1.0925	5208424000	1.1455	1.1264
5205410020	1.1111	1.0925	5208425000	1.1455	1.1264
5205410090	1.1111	1.0925	5208430000	1.1455	1.1264
5205420020	1.1111	1.0925	5208492000	1.1455	1.1264
5205420090	1.1111	1.0925	5208494020	1.1455	1.1264
5205440020	1.1111	1.0925	5208494090	1.1455	1.1264
5205440090	1.1111	1.0925	5208496010	1.1455	1.1264
5206120000	0.5556	0.5463	5208496090	1.1455	1.1264
5206130000	0.5556	0.5463	5208498090	1.1455	1.1264
5206140000	0.5556	0.5463	5208512000	1.1455	1.1264
5206220000	0.5556	0.5463	5208516060	1.1455	1.1264
5206230000	0.5556	0.5463	5208518090	1.1455	1.1264
5206240000	0.5556	0.5463	5208523020	1.1455	1.1264
5206310000	0.5556	0.5463	5208523045	1.1455	1.1264
5207100000	1.1111	1.0925	5208523090	1.1455	1.1264
5207900000	0.5556	0.5463	5208524020	1.1455	1.1264
5208112020	1.1455	1.1264	5208524045	1.1455	1.1264
5208112040	1.1455	1.1264	5208524065	1.1455	1.1264
5208112090	1.1455	1.1264	5208525020	1.1455	1.1264
5208114020	1.1455	1.1264	5208530000	1.1455	1.1264
5208114060	1.1455	1.1264	5208592025	1.1455	1.1264
5208114090	1.1455	1.1264	5208592095	1.1455	1.1264
5208118090	1.1455	1.1264	5208594090	1.1455	1.1264
5208124020	1.1455	1.1264	5208596090	1.1455	1.1264
5208124040	1.1455	1.1264	5209110020	1.1455	1.1264
5208124090	1.1455	1.1264	5209110035	1.1455	1.1264
5208126020	1.1455	1.1264	5209110090	1.1455	1.1264
5208126040	1.1455	1.1264	5209120020	1.1455	1.1264
5208126060	1.1455	1.1264	5209120040	1.1455	1.1264
5208126090	1.1455	1.1264	5209190020	1.1455	1.1264
5208128020	1.1455	1.1264	5209190040	1.1455	1.1264
5208128090	1.1455	1.1264	5209190060	1.1455	1.1264
5208130000	1.1455	1.1264	5209190090	1.1455	1.1264
5208192020	1.1455	1.1264	5209210090	1.1455	1.1264
5208192090	1.1455	1.1264	5209220020	1.1455	1.1264
5208194020	1.1455	1.1264	5209220040	1.1455	1.1264
5208194090	1.1455	1.1264	5209290040	1.1455	1.1264
5208196020	1.1455	1.1264	5209290090	1.1455	1.1264
5208196090	1.1455	1.1264	5209313000	1.1455	1.1264
5208224040	1.1455	1.1264	5209316020	1.1455	1.1264
5208224090	1.1455	1.1264	5209316035	1.1455	1.1264
5208226020	1.1455	1.1264	5209316050	1.1455	1.1264
5208226060	1.1455	1.1264	5209316090	1.1455	1.1264
5208228020	1.1455	1.1264	5209320020	1.1455	1.1264
5208230000	1.1455	1.1264	5209320040	1.1455	1.1264
5208292020	1.1455	1.1264	5209390020	1.1455	1.1264
5208292090	1.1455	1.1264	5209390040	1.1455	1.1264
5208294090	1.1455	1.1264	5209390060	1.1455	1.1264

IMPORT ASSESSMENT TABLE
[Raw Cotton Fiber]

HTS No.	Conv. fact.	Cents/kg.
5201000500	0	0.9833
5201001200	0	0.9833
5201001400	0	0.9833
5201001800	0	0.9833
5201002200	0	0.9833
5201002400	0	0.9833
5201002800	0	0.9833
5201003400	0	0.9833

IMPORT ASSESSMENT TABLE— Continued [Raw Cotton Fiber]			IMPORT ASSESSMENT TABLE— Continued [Raw Cotton Fiber]			IMPORT ASSESSMENT TABLE— Continued [Raw Cotton Fiber]		
HTS No.	Conv. fact.	Cents/kg.	HTS No.	Conv. fact.	Cents/kg.	HTS No.	Conv. fact.	Cents/kg.
5209390080	1.1455	1.1264	5516420060	0.4009	0.3942	6103431570	0.2516	0.2474
5209390090	1.1455	1.1264	5516910060	0.4009	0.3942	6104220040	0.9002	0.8852
5209413000	1.1455	1.1264	5516930090	0.4009	0.3942	6104220060	0.9002	0.8852
5209416020	1.1455	1.1264	5601210010	1.1455	1.1264	6104320000	0.9207	0.9053
5209416040	1.1455	1.1264	5601210090	1.1455	1.1264	6104420010	0.9002	0.8852
5209420020	1.0309	1.0137	5601300000	1.1455	1.1264	6104420020	0.9002	0.8852
5209420040	1.0309	1.0137	5602109090	0.5727	0.5631	6104520010	0.9312	0.9156
5209430030	1.1455	1.1264	5602290000	1.1455	1.1264	6104520020	0.9312	0.9156
5209430050	1.1455	1.1264	5602906000	0.526	0.5172	6104622006	0.8806	0.8659
5209490020	1.1455	1.1264	5604900000	0.5556	0.5463	6104622011	0.8806	0.8659
5209490090	1.1455	1.1264	5607902000	0.8889	0.8741	6104622016	0.8806	0.8659
5209516035	1.1455	1.1264	5608901000	1.1111	1.0925	6104622021	0.8806	0.8659
5209516050	1.1455	1.1264	5608902300	1.1111	1.0925	6104622026	0.8806	0.8659
5209520020	1.1455	1.1264	5609001000	1.1111	1.0925	6104622028	0.8806	0.8659
5209590025	1.1455	1.1264	5609004000	0.5556	0.5463	6104622030	0.8806	0.8659
5209590040	1.1455	1.1264	5701104000	0.0556	0.055	6104622060	0.8806	0.8659
5209590090	1.1455	1.1264	5701109000	0.1111	0.1092	6104632006	0.3774	0.3711
5210114020	0.6873	0.6758	5701901010	1.0444	1.027	6104632011	0.3774	0.3711
5210114040	0.6873	0.6758	5702109020	1.1	1.0816	6104632026	0.3774	0.3711
5210116020	0.6873	0.6758	5702312000	0.0778	0.077	6104632028	0.3774	0.3711
5210116040	0.6873	0.6758	5702411000	0.0722	0.071	6104632030	0.3774	0.3711
5210116060	0.6873	0.6758	5702412000	0.0778	0.077	6104632060	0.3774	0.3711
5210118020	0.6873	0.6758	5702421000	0.0778	0.077	6104692030	0.3858	0.3794
5210120000	0.6873	0.6758	5702913000	0.0889	0.087	6105100010	0.985	0.9686
5210192090	0.6873	0.6758	5702991010	1.1111	1.0925	6105100020	0.985	0.9686
5210214040	0.6873	0.6758	5702991090	1.1111	1.0925	6105100030	0.985	0.9686
5210216020	0.6873	0.6758	5703900000	0.4489	0.4414	6105202010	0.3078	0.3027
5210216060	0.6873	0.6758	5801210000	1.1455	1.1264	6105202030	0.3078	0.3027
5210218020	0.6873	0.6758	5801230000	1.1455	1.1264	6106100010	0.985	0.9686
5210314020	0.6873	0.6758	5801250010	1.1455	1.1264	6106100020	0.985	0.9686
5210314040	0.6873	0.6758	5801250020	1.1455	1.1264	6106100030	0.985	0.9686
5210316020	0.6873	0.6758	5801260020	1.1455	1.1264	6106202010	0.3078	0.3027
5210318020	0.6873	0.6758	5802190000	1.1455	1.1264	6106202030	0.3078	0.3027
5210414000	0.6873	0.6758	5802300030	0.5727	0.5631	6107110010	1.1322	1.1133
5210416000	0.6873	0.6758	5804291000	1.1455	1.1264	6107110020	1.1322	1.1133
5210418000	0.6873	0.6758	5806200010	0.3534	0.3475	6107120010	0.5032	0.4948
5210498090	0.6873	0.6758	5806200090	0.3534	0.3475	6107210010	0.8806	0.8659
5210514040	0.6873	0.6758	5806310000	1.1455	1.1264	6107220015	0.3774	0.3711
5210516020	0.6873	0.6758	5806400000	0.4296	0.4224	6107220025	0.3774	0.3711
5210516040	0.6873	0.6758	5808107000	0.5727	0.5631	6107910040	1.2581	1.2371
5210516060	0.6873	0.6758	5808900010	0.5727	0.5631	6108210010	1.2445	1.2237
5211110090	0.6873	0.6758	5811002000	1.1455	1.1264	6108210020	1.2445	1.2237
5211120020	0.6873	0.6758	6001106000	1.1455	1.1264	6108310010	1.1201	1.1014
5211190020	0.6873	0.6758	6001210000	0.8591	0.8448	6108310020	1.1201	1.1014
5211190060	0.6873	0.6758	6001220000	0.2864	0.2816	6108320010	0.2489	0.2447
5211210025	0.6873	0.6758	6001910010	0.8591	0.8448	6108320015	0.2489	0.2447
5211210035	0.4165	0.4095	6001910020	0.8591	0.8448	6108320025	0.2489	0.2447
5211210050	0.6873	0.6758	6001920020	0.2864	0.2816	6108910005	1.2445	1.2237
5211290090	0.6873	0.6758	6001920030	0.2864	0.2816	6108910015	1.2445	1.2237
5211320020	0.6873	0.6758	6001920040	0.2864	0.2816	6108910025	1.2445	1.2237
5211390040	0.6873	0.6758	6002203000	0.8681	0.8536	6108910030	1.2445	1.2237
5211390060	0.6873	0.6758	6002206000	0.2894	0.2846	6108920030	0.2489	0.2447
5211490020	0.6873	0.6758	6002420000	0.8681	0.8536	6109100005	0.9956	0.979
5211490090	0.6873	0.6758	6002430010	0.2894	0.2846	6109100007	0.9956	0.979
5211590025	0.6873	0.6758	6002430080	0.2894	0.2846	6109100009	0.9956	0.979
5212146090	0.9164	0.9011	6002921000	1.1574	1.1381	6109100012	0.9956	0.979
5212156020	0.9164	0.9011	6002930040	0.1157	0.1138	6109100014	0.9956	0.979
5212216090	0.9164	0.9011	6002930080	0.1157	0.1138	6109100018	0.9956	0.979
5509530030	0.5556	0.5463	6101200010	1.0094	0.9925	6109100023	0.9956	0.979
5509530060	0.5556	0.5463	6101200020	1.0094	0.9925	6109100027	0.9956	0.979
5513110020	0.4009	0.3942	6102200010	1.0094	0.9925	6109100037	0.9956	0.979
5513110040	0.4009	0.3942	6102200020	1.0094	0.9925	6109100040	0.9956	0.979
5513110060	0.4009	0.3942	6103421020	0.8806	0.8659	6109100045	0.9956	0.979
5513110090	0.4009	0.3942	6103421040	0.8806	0.8659	6109100060	0.9956	0.979
5513120000	0.4009	0.3942	6103421050	0.8806	0.8659	6109100065	0.9956	0.979
5513130020	0.4009	0.3942	6103421070	0.8806	0.8659	6109100070	0.9956	0.979
5513210020	0.4009	0.3942	6103431520	0.2516	0.2474	6109901007	0.3111	0.3059
5513310000	0.4009	0.3942	6103431540	0.2516	0.2474	6109901009	0.3111	0.3059
5514120020	0.4009	0.3942	6103431550	0.2516	0.2474	6109901049	0.3111	0.3059

IMPORT ASSESSMENT TABLE— Continued [Raw Cotton Fiber]			IMPORT ASSESSMENT TABLE— Continued [Raw Cotton Fiber]			IMPORT ASSESSMENT TABLE— Continued [Raw Cotton Fiber]		
HTS No.	Conv. fact.	Cents/kg.	HTS No.	Conv. fact.	Cents/kg.	HTS No.	Conv. fact.	Cents/kg.
6109901050	0.3111	0.3059	6201922031	1.2871	1.2656	6204423060	0.9546	0.9387
6109901060	0.3111	0.3059	6201922041	1.2871	1.2656	6204522010	1.2654	1.2443
6109901065	0.3111	0.3059	6201922051	1.0296	1.0124	6204522030	1.2654	1.2443
6109901090	0.3111	0.3059	6201922061	1.0296	1.0124	6204522040	1.2654	1.2443
6110202005	1.1837	1.1639	6201931000	0.3089	0.3037	6204522070	1.0656	1.0478
6110202010	1.1837	1.1639	6201933511	0.2574	0.2531	6204522080	1.0656	1.0478
6110202015	1.1837	1.1639	6201933521	0.2574	0.2531	6204533010	0.2664	0.262
6110202020	1.1837	1.1639	6201999060	0.2574	0.2531	6204594060	0.2664	0.262
6110202025	1.1837	1.1639	6202121000	0.9372	0.9215	6204622010	0.9961	0.9795
6110202030	1.1837	1.1639	6202122010	1.1064	1.0879	6204622025	0.9961	0.9795
6110202035	1.1837	1.1639	6202122025	1.3017	1.28	6204622050	0.9961	0.9795
6110202040	1.1574	1.1381	6202122050	0.8461	0.832	6204624005	1.2451	1.2243
6110202045	1.1574	1.1381	6202122060	0.8461	0.832	6204624010	1.2451	1.2243
6110202065	1.1574	1.1381	6202134005	0.2664	0.262	6204624020	0.9961	0.9795
6110202075	1.1574	1.1381	6202134020	0.333	0.3274	6204624025	1.2451	1.2243
6110909022	0.263	0.2586	6202921000	1.0413	1.0239	6204624030	1.2451	1.2243
6110909024	0.263	0.2586	6202921500	1.0413	1.0239	6204624035	1.2451	1.2243
6110909030	0.3946	0.388	6202922026	1.3017	1.28	6204624040	1.2451	1.2243
6110909040	0.263	0.2586	6202922061	1.0413	1.0239	6204624045	0.9961	0.9795
6110909042	0.263	0.2586	6202922071	1.0413	1.0239	6204624050	0.9961	0.9795
6111201000	1.2581	1.2371	6202931000	0.3124	0.3072	6204624055	0.9854	0.9689
6111202000	1.2581	1.2371	6202935011	0.2603	0.256	6204624060	0.9854	0.9689
6111203000	1.0064	0.9896	6202935021	0.2603	0.256	6204624065	0.9854	0.9689
6111205000	1.0064	0.9896	6203122010	0.1302	0.128	6204633510	0.2546	0.2503
6111206010	1.0064	0.9896	6203221000	1.3017	1.28	6204633530	0.2546	0.2503
6111206020	1.0064	0.9896	6203322010	1.2366	1.2159	6204633532	0.2437	0.2396
6111206030	1.0064	0.9896	6203322040	1.2366	1.2159	6204633540	0.2437	0.2396
6111206040	1.0064	0.9896	6203332010	0.1302	0.128	6204692510	0.249	0.2448
6111305020	0.2516	0.2474	6203392010	1.1715	1.1519	6204692540	0.2437	0.2396
6111305040	0.2516	0.2474	6203399060	0.2603	0.256	6204699044	0.249	0.2448
6112110050	0.7548	0.7422	6203422010	0.9961	0.9795	6204699046	0.249	0.2448
6112120010	0.2516	0.2474	6203422025	0.9961	0.9795	6204699050	0.249	0.2448
6112120030	0.2516	0.2474	6203422050	0.9961	0.9795	6205202015	0.9961	0.9795
6112120040	0.2516	0.2474	6203422090	0.9961	0.9795	6205202020	0.9961	0.9795
6112120050	0.2516	0.2474	6203424005	1.2451	1.2243	6205202025	0.9961	0.9795
6112120060	0.2516	0.2474	6203424010	1.2451	1.2243	6205202030	0.9961	0.9795
6112390010	1.1322	1.1133	6203424015	0.9961	0.9795	6205202035	1.1206	1.1019
6112490010	0.9435	0.9277	6203424020	1.2451	1.2243	6205202046	0.9961	0.9795
6114200005	0.9002	0.8852	6203424025	1.2451	1.2243	6205202050	0.9961	0.9795
6114200010	0.9002	0.8852	6203424030	1.2451	1.2243	6205202060	0.9961	0.9795
6114200015	0.9002	0.8852	6203424035	1.2451	1.2243	6205202065	0.9961	0.9795
6114200020	1.286	1.2645	6203424040	0.9961	0.9795	6205202070	0.9961	0.9795
6114200040	0.9002	0.8852	6203424045	0.9961	0.9795	6205202075	0.9961	0.9795
6114200046	0.9002	0.8852	6203424050	0.9238	0.9084	6205302010	0.3113	0.3061
6114200052	0.9002	0.8852	6203424055	0.9238	0.9084	6205302030	0.3113	0.3061
6114200060	0.9002	0.8852	6203424060	0.9238	0.9084	6205302040	0.3113	0.3061
6114301010	0.2572	0.2529	6203431500	0.1245	0.1224	6205302050	0.3113	0.3061
6114301020	0.2572	0.2529	6203434010	0.1232	0.1211	6205302070	0.3113	0.3061
6114303030	0.2572	0.2529	6203434020	0.1232	0.1211	6205302080	0.3113	0.3061
6115198010	1.0417	1.0243	6203434030	0.1232	0.1211	6206100040	0.1245	0.1224
6115929000	1.0417	1.0243	6203434040	0.1232	0.1211	6206303010	0.9961	0.9795
6115936020	0.2315	0.2276	6203498045	0.249	0.2448	6206303020	0.9961	0.9795
6116101300	0.3655	0.3594	6204132010	0.1302	0.128	6206303030	0.9961	0.9795
6116101720	0.8528	0.8386	6204192000	0.1302	0.128	6206303040	0.9961	0.9795
6116926420	1.0965	1.0782	6204198090	0.2603	0.256	6206303050	0.9961	0.9795
6116926430	1.2183	1.198	6204221000	1.3017	1.28	6206303060	0.9961	0.9795
6116926440	1.0965	1.0782	6204223030	1.0413	1.0239	6206403010	0.3113	0.3061
6116928800	1.0965	1.0782	6204223040	1.0413	1.0239	6206403030	0.3113	0.3061
6117809510	0.9747	0.9584	6204223050	1.0413	1.0239	6206900040	0.249	0.2448
6117809540	0.3655	0.3594	6204223060	1.0413	1.0239	6207110000	1.0852	1.0671
6201121000	0.948	0.9322	6204223065	1.0413	1.0239	6207199010	0.3617	0.3557
6201122010	0.8953	0.8803	6204292040	0.3254	0.32	6207210010	1.1085	1.09
6201122050	0.6847	0.6733	6204322010	1.2366	1.2159	6207210030	1.1085	1.09
6201122060	0.6847	0.6733	6204322030	1.0413	1.0239	6207220000	0.3695	0.3633
6201134030	0.2633	0.2589	6204322040	1.0413	1.0239	6207911000	1.1455	1.1264
6201921000	0.9267	0.9112	6204423010	1.2728	1.2515	6207913010	1.1455	1.1264
6201921500	1.1583	1.139	6204423030	0.9546	0.9387	6207913020	1.1455	1.1264
6201922010	1.0296	1.0124	6204423040	0.9546	0.9387	6208210010	1.0583	1.0406
6201922021	1.2871	1.2656	6204423050	0.9546	0.9387	6208210020	1.0583	1.0406

IMPORT ASSESSMENT TABLE—
Continued
[Raw Cotton Fiber]

IMPORT ASSESSMENT TABLE—
Continued
[Raw Cotton Fiber]

proposed program is an assessment/refund plan under which the Commission would withhold \$.05 cents from the producer price from each Compact monthly pool. At the end of the Commission's fiscal (calendar) year, the Commission would refund the withheld funds to compact eligible producers who had increased production at a rate of one percent or less, as compared to the prior calendar year's production. One-half of the assessed funds would be distributed to all eligible producers at a flat rate refund amount and one-half would be distributed based on the total volume of milk produced for the year, up to a maximum per hundredweight refund of \$12,000.

DATES: A public hearing will be held on April 5, 2000 to commence at 1:00 p.m. Sworn and notarized written testimony, comments and exhibits may be submitted until 5:00 p.m. on April 19, 2000.

ADDRESSES: The public hearing will be held at the Wayfarer Inn, 121 S. River Road, U.S. Route 3, Bedford, New Hampshire. Mail, or deliver, sworn and notarized testimony, comments and exhibits to: Northeast Dairy Compact Commission, 34 Barre Street, Suite 2, Montpelier, Vermont 05602.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kenneth M. Becker, Executive Director, Northeast Dairy Compact Commission at the above address or by telephone at (802) 229-1941, or by facsimile at (802) 229-2028.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Northeast Dairy Compact Commission ("Commission") was established under authority of the Northeast Interstate Dairy Compact ("Compact"). The Compact was enacted into law by each of the six participating New England states as follows: Connecticut—Pub. L. 93-320; Maine—Pub. L. 89-437, as amended, Pub. L. 93-274; Massachusetts—Pub. L. 93-370; New Hampshire—Pub. L. 93-336; Rhode Island—Pub. L. 93-106; Vermont—Pub. L. 93-57. In accordance with Article I, Section 10 of the United States Constitution, Congress consented to the Compact in Pub. L. 104-127 (FAIR Act), Section 147, codified at 7 U.S.C. 7256. Subsequently, the United States Secretary of Agriculture, pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 7256(1), authorized implementation of the Compact. Congressional consent to the Compact was extended in Pub. L. 106-113, 115 Stat. 1501, November 29, 1999.

Pursuant to its rulemaking authority under Article V, Section 11 of the

HTS No.	Conv. fact.	Cents/kg.
6208220000	0.1245	0.1224
6208911010	1.1455	1.1264
6208911020	1.1455	1.1264
6208913010	1.1455	1.1264
6209201000	1.1577	1.1384
6209203000	0.9749	0.9586
6209205030	0.9749	0.9586
6209205035	0.9749	0.9586
6209205040	1.2186	1.1982
6209205045	0.9749	0.9586
6209205050	0.9749	0.9586
6209303020	0.2463	0.2422
6209303040	0.2463	0.2422
6210109010	0.2291	0.2253
6210403000	0.0391	0.038
6210405020	0.4556	0.448
6211111010	0.1273	0.1252
6211111020	0.1273	0.1252
6211118010	1.1455	1.1264
6211118020	1.1455	1.1264
6211320007	0.8461	0.832
6211320010	1.0413	1.0239
6211320015	1.0413	1.0239
6211320030	0.9763	0.96
6211320060	0.9763	0.96
6211320070	0.9763	0.96
6211330010	0.3254	0.032
6211330030	0.3905	0.384
6211330035	0.3905	0.384
6211330040	0.3905	0.384
6211420010	1.0413	1.0239
6211420020	1.0413	1.0239
6211420025	1.1715	1.1519
6211420060	1.0413	1.0239
6211420070	1.1715	1.1519
6211430010	0.2603	0.256
6211430030	0.2603	0.256
6211430040	0.2603	0.256
6211430050	0.2603	0.256
6211430060	0.2603	0.256
6211430066	0.2603	0.256
6212105020	0.2412	0.2372
6212109010	0.9646	0.9485
6212109020	0.2412	0.2372
6212200020	0.3014	0.2964
6212900030	0.1929	0.1897
6213201000	1.1809	1.1612
6213202000	1.0628	1.0451
6213901000	0.4724	0.4645
6214900010	0.9043	0.8892
6216000800	0.2351	0.2312
6216001720	0.6752	0.6639
6216003800	1.2058	1.1857
6216004100	1.2058	1.1857
6217109510	1.0182	1.0012
6217109530	0.2546	0.2503
6301300010	0.8766	0.862
6301300020	0.8766	0.862
6302100005	1.1689	1.1494
6302100008	1.1689	1.1494
6302100015	1.1689	1.1494
6302215010	0.8182	0.8045
6302215020	0.8182	0.8045
6302217010	1.1689	1.1494
6302217020	1.1689	1.1494
6302217050	1.1689	1.1494
6302219010	0.8182	0.8045
6302219020	0.8182	0.8045
6302219050	0.8182	0.8045

HTS No.	Conv. fact.	Cents/kg.
6302222010	0.4091	0.4023
6302222020	0.4091	0.4023
6302313010	0.8182	0.8045
6302313050	1.1689	1.1494
6302315050	0.8182	0.8045
6302317010	1.1689	1.1494
6302317020	1.1689	1.1494
6302317040	1.1689	1.1494
6302317050	1.1689	1.1494
6302319010	0.8182	0.8045
6302319040	0.8182	0.8045
6302319050	0.8182	0.8045
6302322020	0.4091	0.4023
6302322040	0.4091	0.4023
6302402010	0.9935	0.9769
6302511000	0.5844	0.5746
6302512000	0.8766	0.862
6302513000	0.5844	0.5746
6302514000	0.8182	0.8045
6302600010	1.1689	1.1494
6302600020	1.052	1.0344
6302600030	1.052	1.0344
6302910005	1.052	1.0344
6302910015	1.1689	1.1494
6302910025	1.052	1.0344
6302910035	1.052	1.0344
6302910045	1.052	1.0344
6302910050	1.052	1.0344
6302910060	1.052	1.0344
6303110000	0.9448	0.929
6303910000	0.6429	0.6322
6304111000	1.0629	1.0451
6304190500	1.052	1.0344
6304191000	1.1689	1.1494
6304191500	0.4091	0.4023
6304192000	0.4091	0.4023
6304910020	0.9351	0.9195
6304920000	0.9351	0.9195
6505901540	0.181	0.178
6505902060	0.9935	0.9769
6505902545	0.5844	0.5746

* * * * *

Dated: March 3, 2000.

Kathleen A. Merrigan,
Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 00-5611 Filed 3-7-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

NORTHEAST DAIRY COMPACT COMMISSION

7 CFR Parts 1306, 1307 and 1309

Over-Order Price Regulation

AGENCY: Northeast Dairy Compact Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule; notice of hearing.

SUMMARY: The Northeast Dairy Compact Commission proposes to amend the over-order price regulation to establish a supply management program. The