

# Proposed Rules

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Federal Crop Insurance Corporation

#### 7 CFR Parts 400, 407 and 457

RIN 0563-AB85

#### General Administrative Regulations, Subpart T—Federal Crop Insurance Reform, Insurance Implementation, Regulations for the 1999 and Subsequent Reinsurance Years; Group Risk Plan of Insurance Regulations for the 2001 and Succeeding Crop Years; and the Common Crop Insurance Regulations, Basic Provisions

**AGENCY:** Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of reopening and extension of comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation is reopening and extending the comment period for the proposed rule that was published in the **Federal Register** on Wednesday, September 18, 2002 (67 FR 58912-58933) that amended the General Administrative Regulations, Subpart T; Group Risk Plan of Insurance Regulations; and the Common Crop Insurance Regulations, Basic Provisions. The proposed rule implements certain provisions of the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 (ARPA) eliminating identified program vulnerabilities that have lead to potential fraud, waste, and abuse, and make such other changes to existing policy provisions to better meet the needs of producers. This action will allow interested persons additional time to prepare and submit comments.

**DATES:** Written comments and opinions on this proposed rule will be accepted until close of business November 12, 2002, and will be considered when the rule is to be made final.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to submit written comments to the Director, Product Development Division, Risk Management Agency, United States Department of Agriculture, 6501 Beacon Drive, Stop

0812, Room 421, Kansas City, MO 64133-4676. Comments titled "Basic Provisions" may also be sent via the Internet to [DirectorPDD@rm.fcic.usda.gov](mailto:DirectorPDD@rm.fcic.usda.gov). A copy of each comment will be available for public inspection and copying from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., CDT, Monday through Friday, except holidays, at the above address.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Janice Nuckolls, Insurance Management Specialist, Research and Development, Product Development Division, Risk Management Agency, at the Kansas City, MO address listed above, telephone (816) 926-7730.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

On Wednesday, September 18, 2002, FCIC published a proposed rule with request for comments in the **Federal Register** proposing changes to subpart T in the General Administrative Regulations, the Group Risk Plan of Insurance Regulations, and the Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Basic Provisions to implement program changes mandated by ARPA, and make other changes to existing policy provisions to better meet the needs of the insured.

Comments were required to be received on or before October 18, 2002. Based on requests received during the comment period, we are reopening and extending the comment period until November 12, 2002. This action will allow interested persons additional time to prepare and submit comments.

Signed in Washington, DC, on October 23, 2002.

**Ross J. Davidson, Jr.,**

*Manager, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation.*

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**BILLING CODE 3410-08-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Agricultural Marketing Service

#### 7 CFR Part 993

[Docket No. FV02-993-3 PR]

#### Dried Prunes Produced in California; Revising the Regulations Pertaining to a Voluntary Prune Plum Diversion Program

**AGENCY:** Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** This rule invites comments on revising the administrative rules and regulations pertaining to a voluntary prune plum diversion program under the California prune marketing order (order). The order regulates the handling of dried prunes produced in California and is administered by the Prune Marketing Committee (Committee). The proposed changes would revise the regulations to reflect changes in industry structure and current economic conditions, and would modify administrative procedures used in connection with implementing a diversion program. These changes would provide for more timely and efficient implementation of a diversion program if recommended in the future.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by December 27, 2002. Pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act, comments on information collection burden that would result from this proposal must be received by December 27, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to submit written comments concerning this proposal. Comments must be sent to the Docket Clerk, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW STOP 0237, Washington, DC 20250-0237; Fax: (202) 720-8938, or E-mail: [moab.docketclerk@usda.gov](mailto:moab.docketclerk@usda.gov). All comments should reference the docket number and the date and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register** and will be made available for public inspection in the Office of the Docket Clerk during regular business hours, or can be viewed at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/fv/moab.html>.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Richard P. Van Diest, Marketing Specialist, California Marketing Field