

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

Agricultural Marketing Service

7 CFR Part 945

[Docket No. FV04-945-1]

Irish Potatoes Grown in Certain Designated Counties in Idaho, and Malheur County, OR; Continuance Referendum

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Referendum order.

SUMMARY: This document directs that a referendum be conducted among eligible growers of Irish potatoes in certain designated counties in Idaho, and Malheur County, Oregon, to determine whether they favor continuance of the marketing order regulating the handling of Irish potatoes grown in the production area.

DATES: The referendum will be conducted from January 14 through January 31, 2005. To vote in this referendum, growers must have produced Irish potatoes for the fresh market within the designated production area in Idaho or Malheur County, Oregon, during the period August 1, 2003, through July 31, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the marketing order may be obtained from the office of the referendum agents at 1220 SW. Third Avenue, Suite 385, Portland, Oregon 97204-2807, or the Office of the Docket Clerk, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 0237, Washington, DC 20250-0237.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barry Broadbent, Marketing Specialist, Northwest Marketing Field Office, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, 1220 SW. Third Avenue, Suite 385, Portland, Oregon 97204-2807; telephone (503) 326-2724; fax

(503) 326-7440; or Kathy Finn, Acting Rulemaking Team Leader, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 0237, Washington, DC 20250-0237; telephone (202) 720-2491; fax (202) 720-8938.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Marketing Order No. 945 (7 CFR part 945), hereinafter referred to as the "order," and the applicable provisions of the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, as amended (7 U.S.C. 601-674), hereinafter referred to as the "Act," it is hereby directed that a referendum be conducted to ascertain whether continuance of the order is favored by the growers. The referendum shall be conducted during the period January 14 through January 31, 2005, among Irish potato growers in the production area. Only growers that were engaged in the production of Irish potatoes for the fresh market in Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon, during the period of August 1, 2003, through July 31, 2004, may participate in the continuance referendum.

USDA has determined that continuance referenda are an effective means for determining whether growers favor continuation of marketing order programs. The Department would consider termination of the order if less than two-thirds of the growers voting in the referendum and growers of less than two-thirds of the volume of Irish potatoes represented in the referendum favor continuance. In evaluating the merits of continuance versus termination, the USDA will not only consider the results of the continuance referendum. The USDA will also consider all other relevant information concerning the operation of the order and the relative benefits and disadvantages to growers, handlers, and consumers in order to determine whether continued operation of the order would tend to effectuate the declared policy of the Act.

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the ballot materials to be used in the referendum herein ordered have been submitted to and approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and have been assigned OMB No. 0581-0178. It has been estimated that it will take an average of 20 minutes

for each of the approximately 1,135 growers of Irish potatoes in Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon, to cast a ballot. Participation is voluntary. Ballots postmarked after January 31, 2005, will not be included in the vote tabulation.

Gary D. Olson and Barry Broadbent of the Northwest Marketing Field Office, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, are hereby designated as the referendum agents of the Department to conduct such referendum. The procedure applicable to the referendum shall be the "Procedure for the Conduct of Referenda in Connection With Marketing Orders for Fruits, Vegetables, and Nuts Pursuant to the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, as Amended" (7 CFR part 900.400 *et. seq.*).

Ballots will be mailed to all growers of record and may also be obtained from the referendum agents, or from their appointees.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 945

Irish potatoes, Marketing agreements, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 601-674.

Dated: December 17, 2004.

A.J. Yates,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 04-28055 Filed 12-22-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

9 CFR Part 417

[Docket No. 04-017N]

HACCP Reassessment for Slaughterers of Young Calves

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rule; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is publishing this document to inform slaughterers of young calves, including those marketed, slaughtered, and labeled as "veal," of the need for such firms to reassess their Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) System, including prerequisite programs, with respect to