

# **FEDERAL RAISIN MARKETING ORDER**

## **PART 989 Raisins Produced from Grapes Grown in California**

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**Authority:** 7 U.S.C. 601–674.

### **Subpart—Order Regulating Handling**

**Source:** 25 FR 12813, Dec. 14, 1960; 27 FR 2506, Mar. 16, 1962, unless otherwise noted.

#### **Definitions**

##### **§ 989.1 Secretary**

*Secretary* means the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States or any officer or employee of the United States Department of Agriculture to whom authority has heretofore been delegated or to whom authority may hereafter be delegated, to act in his stead.

##### **§ 989.2 Act**

*Act* means Public Act No. 10, 73d Congress, as amended, and as re-enacted and amended by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, as amended (sections 1–19, 48 Stat. 31, as amended; 7 U.S.C. 601–674).

[42 FR 37201, July 20, 1977]

##### **§ 989.3 Person**

*Person* means an individual, partnership, corporation, association, or any other business unit.

##### **§ 989.4 Area**

*Area* means the State of California.

##### **§ 989.5 Raisins**

*Raisins* means grapes of any variety grown in the area, from which a significant part of the natural moisture has been removed by sun-drying or artificial dehydration, either prior to or after such grapes have been removed from the vines. Removal of a significant part of the natural moisture means removal which has progressed to the point where the grape skin develops wrinkles characteristic of wrinkles in fully formed raisins.

[37 FR 19622, Sept. 21, 1972]

##### **§ 989.7 Golden Seedless raisins**

*Golden Seedless raisins* means raisins, the production of which includes soda dipping, sulfuring, and artificial dehydration.

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### § 989.8 Natural condition raisins

*Natural condition raisins* means raisins the production of which includes sun-drying or artificial dehydration but which have not been further processed to a point where they meet any of the conditions for “packed raisins”, as defined in §989.9.

[25 FR 12813, Dec. 14, 1960, as amended at 42 FR 37201, July 20, 1977]

### § 989.9 Packed raisins

*Packed raisins* means raisins which have been stemmed, graded, sorted, cleaned, or seeded, and placed in any container customarily used in the marketing of raisins or in any container suitable or usable for such marketing. Raisins in the process of being packed or raisins which are partially packed shall be subject to the same requirements as packed raisins.

### § 989.10 Varietal types

*Varietal types* means raisins generally recognized as possessing characteristics differing from other raisins in a degree sufficient to make necessary or desirable separate identification and classification. Varietal types are the following: Natural (sun-dried) Seedless, Dipped Seedless, Golden Seedless, Muscats (including other raisins with seeds), Sultana, Zante Currant, Monukka, and Oleate and Related Seedless: *Provided*, That the Committee may, subject to approval of the Secretary, change this list of varietal types.

[48 FR 32974, July 20, 1983]

### § 989.11 Producer

*Producer* means any person engaged in a proprietary capacity in the production of grapes which are sun-dried or dehydrated by artificial means until they become raisins: *Provided*, That a “producer” shall include any person whose production unit has qualified for diversion under a diversion program announced by the Committee.

[50 FR 1831, Jan. 14, 1985]

### § 989.12 Dehydrator

*Dehydrator* means any person who produces raisins by dehydrating grapes by artificial means.

### § 989.12a Cooperative bargaining association

*Cooperative bargaining association* means a nonprofit cooperative association of raisin producers engaged within the area in bargaining with handlers as to price and otherwise arranging for the sale of natural condition raisin of its members.

[32 FR 12158, Aug. 24, 1967]

### § 989.13 Processor

*Processor* means any person who receives or acquires natural condition raisins, off-grade raisins, other failing raisins or raisin residual material and uses them or it within the area, with or without other ingredients, in the production of a product other than raisins, for market or distribution.

[32 FR 12158, Aug. 24, 1967; 33 FR 2983, Feb. 15, 1968, as amended at 42 FR 37201, July 20, 1977]

### § 989.14 Packer

*Packer* means any person who, within the area, stems, sorts, cleans, or seeds raisins, grades stemmed raisins, or packages raisins for market as raisins: *Provided*, That:

(a) No producer with respect to the raisins produced by him, and no group of producers with respect to raisins produced by the producers comprising the group, and not otherwise a packer, shall be deemed a packer if he or it sorts or cleans (with or without water) such raisins in their unstemmed form;

(b) Any dehydrator shall be deemed to be a packer, with respect to raisins dehydrated by him, only if he stems, cleans with water subsequent to such dehydration, seeds or packages them for market as raisin;

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(c) The committee may, with the approval of the Secretary restrict the exceptions as to permitted cleaning if necessary to cause delivery of sound raisins; and

(d) No person shall be deemed a packer by reason of the fact he repackages for market (with or without additional preparation) packed raisins which, in the hands of a previous holder, have been inspected and certified as meeting the applicable minimum grade standards for packed raisins.

[32 FR 12158, Aug. 24, 1967]

### § 989.15 Handler.

*Handler* means: (a) Any processor or packer; (b) any person who places, ships, or continues natural condition raisins in the current of commerce from within the area to any point outside thereof; (c) any person who delivers off-grade raisins, other failing raisins or raisin residual material to other than a packer or other than into any eligible non-normal outlet; or (d) any person who blends raisins: *Provided*, That blending shall not cause a person not otherwise a handler to be a handler on account of such blending if he is either: (1) A producer who, in his capacity as a producer, blends raisins entirely of his own production in the course of his usual and customary practices of preparing raisins for delivery to processors, packers, or dehydrators; (2) a person who blends raisins after they have been placed in trade channels by a packer with other such raisins in trade channels; or (3) a dehydrator who, in his capacity as a dehydrator, blends raisins entirely of his own manufacture.

[37 FR 19622, Sept. 21, 1972]

### § 989.16 Blend

*Blend* means to mix or commingle raisins.

### § 989.17 Acquire

*Acquire* means to have or obtain physical possession of raisins by a handler at his packing or processing plant or at any other established receiving station operated by him: *Provided*, That a handler shall not be deemed to acquire any raisins (including raisins produced or dehydrated by him) while: (a) He stores them for another person or as handler-produced tonnage in compliance with the provisions of §§989.58 and 989.70; (b) He reconditions them, or; (c) He has them in his possession for the purpose of inspection; and *Provided further*, That the term shall apply only to the handler who first acquires the raisins.

### § 989.18 Committee

*Committee* means the Raisin Administrative Committee established under §989.26.

[41 FR 32412, Aug. 3, 1976]

### § 989.20 Ton

*Ton* means a short ton of 2,000 pounds.

### § 989.21 Crop year

*Crop year* means the 12-month period beginning with August 1 of any year and ending with July 31 of the following year.

[41 FR 32412, Aug. 3, 1976]

### § 989.22 District

*District* means any one of the geographical areas referred to in §989.26, and designated in the rules and regulations.

[48 FR 32974, July 20, 1983]



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### § 989.23 File

*File* means transmit or deliver to the Secretary or committee, as the case may be, and such act shall be deemed to have been accomplished at the time: (a) Of actual receipt by the Secretary or committee in the event of personal delivery; (b) Of receipt at the office of the telegraph company, in case submission is by telegram; or (c) Shown by the postmark, in case submission is by mail.

### § 989.24 Standard raisins, off-grade raisins, other failing raisins, and raisin residual material

(a) *Standard raisins* means raisins which meet the then effective minimum grade and condition standards for natural condition raisins.

(b) *Offgrade raisins* means raisins which do not meet the then effective minimum grade and condition standards for natural condition raisins: *Provided*, That raisins which are certified as off-grade raisins shall continue to be such until successfully reconditioned or become “other failing raisins.”

(c) *Other failing raisins* means any raisins received or acquired by a handler, either as standard raisins or off-grade raisins, which are processed to a point where they qualify as packed raisins but fail to meet the applicable minimum grade standards for packed raisins.

(d) *Raisin residual material* means defective raisins, stemmer waste, sweepings, and other residue accumulated by a handler from reconditioning raisins or from processing standard raisins and other failing raisins.

[25 FR 12813, Dec. 14, 1960, as amended at 42 FR 37201, July 20, 1977]

### § 989.24a Non-normal outlets

*Non-normal outlets* means outlets other than those customarily used for commercial disposition of raisins meeting the then applicable minimum standards for natural condition raisins or packed raisins.

[29 FR 9483, July 11, 1964]

### § 989.25 Part and subpart

*Part* means the order regulating the handling of raisins produced from grapes grown in California, and all rules, regulations, and supplementary orders issued thereunder. This order regulating the handling of raisins produced from grapes grown in California shall be a *subpart* of such part.

## Raisin Administrative Committee

### § 989.26 Establishment and membership

A Raisin Administrative Committee is hereby established consisting of 47 members of whom 35 shall represent producers, 10 shall represent handlers, 1 shall represent the cooperative bargaining association(s) and 1 shall be a public member. The producer members shall be selected as follows:

(a) Producer members representing the cooperative marketing association(s) shall be members of such association(s) engaged in the handling of raisins, each of which acquired not less than 10 percent of the total raisin acquisitions during the preceding crop year, and those members shall be equal to the product, rounded to the nearest whole number, obtained by multiplying 35 by the ratio the cooperative marketing association(s) raisin acquisitions are to the acquisitions of all handlers during the preceding crop year.

(b) Producer members representing cooperative bargaining association(s) shall be members of such associations, and the number of those members shall be equal to the product, rounded to the nearest whole number, obtained by multiplying 35 by the ratio the raisins acquired by handlers from bargaining association members are to the total acquisitions of all handlers during the preceding crop year.

(c) All other producer members who shall not be members of a cooperative bargaining association(s), cooperative marketing association(s) engaged in the handling of raisins which acquired 10 percent or more of the total acquisitions

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during the preceding crop year, nor sold for cash to cooperative marketing association(s), shall represent all producers not defined in paragraph (a) or (b) of this section and shall be selected in the number and, when appropriate, for the districts as designated in the rules and regulations.

(d) The handler members shall be divided into two groups and include the following:

(1) Handler members shall be selected from and represent cooperative marketing association(s) engaged in the handling of raisins each of which acquired not less than 10 percent of the total raisin acquisitions during the preceding crop year, and the number of those members shall be equal to the product, rounded to the nearest whole number, obtained by multiplying 10 by the ratio of the cooperative marketing association(s) raisin acquisitions are to the total acquisitions of all handlers during the preceding crop year.

(2) The remaining handler members shall be selected from and represent all other handlers, which would include all independent handlers and small cooperative marketing association(s) who acquired less than 10 percent of the total raisin acquisitions during the preceding crop year. Handler nominees for this group shall be nominated by all handlers in the group in a manner determined by the Committee, with the approval of the Secretary, and specified in the rules and regulations.

(e) The “cooperative” bargaining association(s) member shall be selected from the cooperative bargaining association(s). The public member shall be nominated by the Committee and selected by the Secretary as public member.

(f) For each member of the Committee there shall be an alternate member who shall have the same qualifications as the member for whom he is an alternate.

[48 FR 32974, July 20, 1983]

### § 989.27 Eligibility

No person shall be selected or continue to serve as a member or alternate member of the Committee who is not actively engaged in the business of the group which he represents either in his own behalf, or as an officer, agent, or employee of a business unit engaged in such business: *Provided*, That only producers, as defined in §989.11, engaged as such with respect to the most recent grape crop, are eligible to serve on the Committee. Only handlers who packed or processed raisins during the then current crop year shall be eligible to represent handlers on the Committee. Any handler eligible to represent a particular group shall continue to represent handlers for the entire term for which he was selected.

[48 FR 32974, July 20, 1983]

### § 989.28 Term of office

The term of office of all representatives serving on the Committee shall be for two years and shall end on April 30 of even numbered calendar years, but each such member and alternate member shall continue to serve until their successor is selected and has qualified.

[48 FR 32975, July 20, 1983]

### § 989.29 Initial members and nomination of successor members

(a) *Initial members*. Members and alternate members of the Committee serving immediately prior to the effective date of this amended subpart shall, if thereafter they are eligible, serve on the Committee until April 30, 1984, and until their respective successors have been selected and qualified.

(b) *Nominations for successor members*. Nominations for successor members and alternate members of the Committee shall be made as follows:

(1) The Committee shall notify the cooperative marketing association(s) engaged in handling not less than 10 percent of the total raisin acquisitions during the preceding crop year, and cooperative bargaining association(s), of the date by which nominations to fill member and alternate member positions shall be made. The Committee shall give reasonable

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publicity of a meeting or meetings of producers who are not members of cooperative bargaining association(s), or cooperative marketing association(s) which handled 10 percent or more of the total raisin acquisitions during the preceding crop year, and of independent handlers and cooperative marketing association(s) who handled less than 10 percent of the total raisin acquisitions during the preceding crop year, for the purpose of making nominations to fill the member and alternate member positions prescribed in §989.26 (c) and (d): *Provided*, That member and alternate member nominations by independent handlers and cooperative marketing association(s) who acquired less than 10 percent of the total raisin acquisitions during the preceding crop year may be made to the Committee by mail in lieu of meetings.

(2)(i) Any producer representing independent producer and producers who are affiliated with cooperative marketing association(s) handling less than 10 percent of the total raisin acquisitions during the preceding crop year must have produced grapes which were made into raisins in the particular district for which they are nominated to represent said district as a producer member or alternate producer member on the committee. In the event any such nominee is engaged as a producer in more than one district, such producer may be a nominee for only one district. One or more producers may be nominated for each such producer member or alternate member position.

(ii) Each such producer whose name is offered in nomination shall be given the opportunity to provide the committee a short statement outlining qualifications and desire to represent on the committee independent producers or producers who are affiliated with cooperative marketing association(s) handling less than 10 percent of the total raisin acquisitions during the preceding crop year. These brief statements, together with a ballot and voting instructions, shall be mailed to all independent producers and producers who are affiliated with cooperative marketing associations handling less than 10 percent of the total raisin acquisitions during the preceding crop year of record with the committee in each district. The producer receiving the highest number of votes shall be designated as the first member nominee, the second highest shall be designated as the second member nominee or alternate member nominee, as the case may be, until nominees for all member and alternate member positions have been filled.

(iii) Each independent producers or producers affiliated with cooperative marketing association(s) handling less than 10 percent of the total raisin acquisitions during the preceding crop year shall cast only one vote with respect to each position for which nominations are to be made. Write-in candidates shall be accepted. The person receiving the most votes with respect to each position to be filled, in accordance with paragraph (b)(2)(ii) of this section, shall be the person to be certified to the Secretary as the nominee. The committee may, subject to the approval of the Secretary, establish rules and regulations to effectuate this section.

(3) One or more eligible handlers for each handler position to be filled may be proposed for nomination to represent independent handlers and cooperative marketing association(s) which acquired less than 10 percent of the total raisin acquisitions during the preceding crop year on the Committee. Nominations shall be made by and from handlers, or employees, representatives or agents of handlers falling within such groups. Each handler shall cast only one vote with respect to each position for which nomination is to be made. The person receiving the most votes with respect to each handler member of handler alternate member position shall be the person to be certified to the Secretary as the nominee for each such position.

(4) Each vote cast shall be on behalf of the person voting, the person's agent, subsidiaries, affiliates, and representatives. Voting at each handler meeting shall be in person. The results of each ballot at each handler meeting shall be announced at that meeting.

(5) Each nomination shall be certified by the Committee to the Secretary on or before April 5 immediately preceding the commencement of the term of office of the member or alternate member position for which the nomination is certified.

[48 FR 32975, July 20, 1983, as amended at 54 FR 34137, Aug. 18, 1989]

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### **§ 989.30 Selection**

The Secretary shall select producer, handler, cooperative bargaining association(s), and public members and alternate members in the number specified in 989.26, as applicable, and with the qualifications specified in §989.27. Such selections may be made from nominations certified pursuant to §989.29 or from other eligible producers, handlers, or cooperative bargaining association(s) officers or employees.

[48 FR 32975, July 20, 1983]

### **§ 989.31 Failure to nominate**

In the event nomination for a member or alternate member position on the committee is not certified pursuant to and within the time specified in §989.29, the Secretary may select an eligible person to fill such position without regard to nomination.

[41 FR 32412, Aug. 3, 1976]

### **§ 989.32 Acceptance**

Each person to be selected by the Secretary as a member or as an alternate member of the Committee shall, prior to such selection, qualify by advising the Secretary that he/she agrees to serve in the position for which nominated for selection.

[48 FR 32975, July 20, 1983]

### **§ 989.33 Alternate members**

The alternate for a member of the committee shall act in the place and stead of such member (a) during his absence, and (b) in the event of his removal, resignation, disqualification, or death, until a successor for such member's unexpired term has been selected and has qualified.

[41 FR 32412, Aug. 3, 1976]

### **§ 989.34 Vacancies**

To fill any vacancy occasioned by the failure of any person selected as a member or as an alternate member of the committee to qualify, or in the event of the removal, resignation, disqualification, or death of any member or alternate member, a successor for such person's unexpired term shall be nominated and selected in the manner set forth in §§989.29 and 989.30, insofar as such provisions are applicable. If nomination to fill any vacancy is not filed within 40 calendar days after such vacancy occurs, the Secretary may select an eligible person to fill such vacancy without regard to nomination.

[41 FR 32412, Aug. 3, 1976]

### **§ 989.35 Powers**

The committee shall have the following powers:

- (a) To administer the terms and provisions of this part;
- (b) To make rules and regulations to effectuate the terms and provisions of this part;
- (c) To recommend to the Secretary amendments to this part; and
- (d) To receive, investigate, and report to the Secretary complaints of violations of this part.

[41 FR 32412, Aug. 3, 1976, as amended at 48 FR 32975, July 20, 1983]

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### § 989.36 Duties

The committee shall have, among others, the following duties:

- (a) To act as intermediary between the Secretary and any producer, packer, dehydrator, processor or cooperative bargaining association;
- (b) To investigate compliance and to use means available to it to prevent violations of this part;
- (c) To keep minutes, books, and other records, which shall clearly reflect all of its acts and transactions, and such minutes, books, and other records shall be subject to examination by the Secretary at any time;
- (d) To investigate and assemble data on the production, handling and market conditions with respect to raisins;
- (e) To submit to the Secretary such available information with respect to raisins and grapes as he may request, and such other information as the committee may deem desirable and pertinent;
- (f) To select from among its members a chairman and other officers, and to adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its business as it may deem advisable;
- (g) To appoint or employ such other persons as it may deem necessary, and to determine the salaries and define the duties of each such person;
- (h) To cause the books of the committee to be audited by certified public accountants at least once each year, or at such other times as the committee may deem necessary or as the Secretary may request, and the report of each such audit shall show, among other things, the receipts and expenditures of funds, and at least two copies of each such audit shall be submitted to the Secretary;
- (i) To prepare quarterly statements of its financial operations and make such statements, together with the minutes of its meetings, available at the office of the committee for inspection by producers, handlers and dehydrators;
- (j) To give reasonable advance notice of the times, places, and purposes of its meetings by mail or other appropriate means to each member and alternate member and such notice shall be given as widespread publicity as is practicable;
- (k) To conduct meetings for the purpose of making nominations for membership on the committee and the certifying of nominations made for such purposes to the Secretary;
- (l) To establish, with the approval of the Secretary, such rules and procedures relative to administration of this subpart as may be consistent with the provisions contained in this subpart and as may be necessary to accomplish the purposes of the act and the efficient administration of this subpart.

[41 FR 32412, Aug. 3, 1976, as amended at 48 FR 32975, July 20, 1983]

### § 989.37 Obligation

Upon the removal, resignation, disqualification, or expiration of the term of office of any member or alternate member, such member or alternate member shall account for all receipts and disbursements and deliver to his successor, to the committee, or to a designee of the Secretary all property (including, but not limited to, all books and records) in his possession or under his control as member or alternate member, and he shall execute such assignments and other instruments as may be necessary or appropriate to vest in such successor, committee, or designee full title to such property and funds, and all claims vested in such member or alternate member. Upon the death of any member or alternate member of the committee, full title to such property, funds, and claims vested in such member or alternate member shall be vested in his successor or, until such successor has been selected and has qualified, in the committee.

[41 FR 32412, Aug. 3, 1976]

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### § 989.38 Procedure

The Committee shall meet at the call of the chairman, or vice-chairman when acting as chairman, or at the call of any three members. All decisions of the Committee reached shall be by majority vote of the members present. All votes shall be cast in person and a quorum must be present. The presence of 25 members shall be required to constitute a quorum. The Committee shall give to the Secretary the same notice of meetings of the Committee as it gives to its members.

[48 FR 32976, July 20, 1983]

### § 989.39 Compensation and expenses

The members and alternate members of the committee shall serve without compensation, but shall be allowed their necessary expenses as approved by the committee.

[54 FR 34137, Aug. 18, 1989]

## Research and Development

### § 989.53 Research and development

(a) *General.* The Committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may establish or provide for the establishment of projects involving marketing research and development and marketing promotion including paid advertising, designed to assist, improve, or promote the marketing, distribution, and consumption of raisins in domestic and foreign markets. These projects may include, but need not be limited to those designed to:

- (1) Improve through research the accuracy of raisin production estimates;
- (2) Improve through research the preparation for market, sanitation, quality, condition, storability, processing, or packaging of raisins;
- (3) Ascertain through research the factors affecting acceptance of raisins by manufacturers or consumers;
- (4) Promote the marketing, distribution, or consumption of raisins in domestic and foreign markets by collecting data thereon, consulting with members of the trade, and making the information available to producers, handlers, and exporters; and
- (5) Promote the marketing, distribution, or consumption of raisins in foreign markets through the use of merchandising programs.

The expense of any such project relating solely to free tonnage raisins shall be paid from funds collected pursuant to §989.80. The expense of any such project relating solely to reserve tonnage raisins shall be paid from the sale proceeds of such raisins. If any such project encompasses both free tonnage and reserve tonnage raisins, such as one which is designed to promote the consumption in export outlets of raisins generally on a long-term basis, the expense of the project may be allocated between the assessment fund and the pool fund.

(b) *Creditable expenditures.* The Committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may provide for crediting all or any portion of a handler's direct expenditures for marketing promotion, including paid advertising, that promotes the sale of raisins, raisin products, or their use. No handler shall receive credit for any allowable direct expenditures that would exceed the total of his assessment obligation which is attributable to that portion of his assessment designated for marketing promotion including paid advertising.

(c) *Criteria.* Before any project involving marketing promotion, including paid advertising, and the crediting of the handler's pro rata expense assessment obligation of handlers is undertaken pursuant to this section, the Secretary after recommendation by the Committee, shall approve appropriate criteria to effectively regulate such activity.

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[48 FR 32976, July 20, 1983]

### Marketing Policy

#### **§ 989.54 Marketing policy**

(a) *Trade demand.* On or before August 15 of each crop year, the Committee shall hold a meeting to review shipment data, inventory data, and other matters relating to the quantity of raisins of all varietal types. For any varietal type for which a free tonnage percentage may be recommended, the Committee shall compute a trade demand. The trade demand shall be 90 percent of the prior crop year's shipments (converted to a natural condition weight) of free tonnage and reserve tonnage sold for free use for that varietal type, into all market outlets, adjusted by the carryin on August 1 of the current crop year and the desirable carryout for the varietal type at the end of that crop year. If the prior year's shipments were limited because of crop conditions, the Committee may select the shipments of one of the three years preceding the prior crop year. The desirable carryout shall be increased from 45,000 to 60,000 tons for Natural (sun-dried) Seedless raisins at a rate of 5,000 tons per year for three crop years following the effective date of this amended subpart. The desirable carryout for Dipped Seedless raisins shall be 1,500 tons, and for Oleate and Related Seedless raisins, 1,500 tons. The trade demand computed by the Committee shall be announced by the Committee in accordance with paragraph (h) of this section.

(b) *Preliminary percentages.* On or before October 5 of each crop year (except that the Committee may extend this date not more than five business days if warranted by a late crop), the Committee shall estimate the production of any varietal type of raisins for which it has computed a trade demand. If the Committee determines that volume regulation is desirable during the crop year for that varietal type, it shall compute and announce preliminary free and reserve percentages for that varietal type: *Provided*, That such production estimate shall include by varietal type the raisins handlers are expected to acquire from producers and the total tonnage of raisins diverted under a raisin diversion program. The Committee shall compute a preliminary free percentage to release 85 percent of the computed trade demand, if it determines that a field price has been established for that varietal type, or 65 percent of the trade demand if no field price has been established. The preliminary free percentage shall be computed by multiplying the trade demand by either 85 percent or 65 percent (as the case may be) and dividing the product by the estimated production of that varietal type and rounding the resulting percentage to the nearest full percent. The difference between 100 percent and the preliminary free percentage shall be the preliminary reserve percentage.

(c) *Interim percentages.* Prior to February 15, the Committee may modify the preliminary free and reserve percentages to release less than the trade demand.

(d) *Final percentages.* No later than February 15, the Committee shall recommend to the Secretary, final free and reserve percentages which will tend to release the full trade demand for any varietal type for which preliminary or interim percentages have been computed and announced. The difference between any final free percentage designated by the Secretary and 100 percent shall be the final reserve percentage. With its recommendation, the committee shall report on its consideration of the factors in paragraph (e) of this section.

(e) *Factors.* When computing preliminary and interim percentages, or determining final percentages for recommendation to the Secretary, the Committee shall give consideration to the following factors:

- (1) The estimated tonnage held by producers, handlers, and for the account of the Committee at the beginning of the crop year;
- (2) The expected general quality and any modifications of the minimum grade standards;
- (3) The estimated tonnage of standard and off-grade raisins which will be produced;
- (4) If different than the computed trade demand, the estimated trade demand for raisins in free tonnage outlets;

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(5) If not estimated as provided in paragraph (a) of this section, an estimated desirable carryout at the end of the crop year for free tonnage and, if applicable, for reserve tonnage;

(6) The estimated market requirements for raisins outside free tonnage outlets, considering the estimated world raisin supply and demand situation;

(7) Current prices being received and the probable general level of prices to be received for raisins by producers and handlers;

(8) The trend and level of consumer income;

(9) Any prohibition of trade practices, pursuant to §989.62 intended for the crop year; and

(10) Any other pertinent factors bearing on the marketing of raisins including the estimated supply of and demand for other varietal types and regulations applicable thereto.

(f) *Modification.* In the event the Committee subsequently deems it advisable to modify its marketing policy on any crop, because of national emergency, crop failure, or other major change in economic conditions, it shall hold a meeting for that purpose, and file a report thereof with the Secretary within 5 days (exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays) after the holding of such meeting, which report shall show such modification and the basis therefor.

(g) *Reserve tonnage to sell as free tonnage.* On or before November 15 of the crop year, the Committee shall make two simultaneous offers of reserve tonnage to handlers to sell as free tonnage for each varietal type for which preliminary percentages have been computed and announced. One offer shall consist of a quantity equal to 10 percent of the prior year's (or the alternative year selected by the Committee pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section) shipments of free tonnage and reserve tonnage sold for free use into all market outlets to equate the current year's supply with the prior year's shipments. This offer shall be allocated to handlers on the basis of their prior year's acquisitions. The second offer, to provide for market expansion, shall consist of a quantity equal to 10 percent of the prior year's (or the alternative year selected by the Committee pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section) shipments of free tonnage and reserve tonnage sold for free use. This offer shall be allocated to handlers on the basis of their prior year's shipments of free tonnage and reserve tonnage sold for free use. Each offer shall be open to handlers not more than five business days, and subsequently, two offers of any tonnage unsold in the original offers open not more than two business days each, may be made. The reoffer tonnage shall be allocated to handlers who purchase 100 percent of their allocation in preceding offers, and shall be on the basis of the quantity each handler purchased, as a percentage of the total quantity purchased by all handlers eligible to participate. At the close of the second reoffer, any remaining tonnage may be offered to handlers who purchased all of their allocations from previous offers on a first-come first-served basis and such offer shall be open to handlers for one business day. Any handler who had no shipments or acquisitions of raisins during the prior crop year will be allocated raisins under these offers on the basis of his acquisition (up to the time the original offer is made) of raisins in the current crop year. If field prices are not established, the offer shall be made not more than fifteen days following such establishment. The price of reserve tonnage raisins offered to handlers to sell as free tonnage, pursuant to this paragraph, shall be the established field price for free tonnage raisins of that varietal type, plus 3 percent of the established field price, plus the estimated costs incurred by the Committee for equity holders.

(h) *Publicity.* The Committee shall promptly give reasonable publicity to producers, dehydrators, handlers, and the cooperative bargaining association(s) of each meeting to consider a marketing policy or any modification thereof, and each such meeting shall be open to them. Similar publicity shall be given to producers, dehydrators, handlers, and the cooperative bargaining association(s) of each marketing policy report or modification thereof, filed with the Secretary and of the Secretary's action thereon. Copies of all marketing policy reports shall be maintained in the office of the Committee, where they shall be made available for examination by any producer, dehydrator, handler, or cooperative bargaining association representative. The Committee shall notify handlers, dehydrators and the cooperative bargaining association(s), and give reasonable publicity to producers of its computation of the trade demand, preliminary percentages, and interim percentages and shall notify handlers, dehydrators, and the cooperative bargaining association(s) of the Secretary's action on percentages by registered or certified mail.



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[48 FR 32976, July 20, 1983, as amended at 50 FR 1831, Jan. 14, 1985; 54 FR 24670, June 9, 1989]

**Effective Date Notes:** 1. At 54 FR 24670, June 9, 1989, in §989.54, in paragraph (a), the sentences, “The desirable carryout shall be increased from 45,000 to 60,000 tons for Natural (sun-dried) Seedless raisins at a rate of 5,000 tons per year for the three crop years following the effective date of this amended subpart. The desirable carryout for Dipped Seedless raisins shall be 1,500 tons, and for Oleate and Related Seedless raisins 1,500 tons.” were suspended indefinitely, effective July 10, 1989.

2. At 62 FR 50484, Sept. 26, 1997, in paragraph (g), the words “On or before November 15 of the crop year” and “simultaneous” in the first sentence were suspended indefinitely, effective Sept. 29, 1997.

### § 989.55 Regulation by the Secretary

Whenever the Secretary finds, from the recommendation and supporting information supplied by the Committee or from other available information, that to designate final free and reserve percentages for any varietal type of standard raisins acquired by handlers, during the crop year will tend to effectuate the declared policy of the Act, the Secretary shall designate such percentages. In the event the Secretary finds that suspension or termination of any percentages computed by the Committee or designated by the Secretary tend to effectuate the declared policy of the Act, the Secretary shall suspend or terminate such percentages.

[48 FR 32977, July 20, 1983]

### § 989.56 Raisin diversion program

(a) *Announcement of program.* On or before November 30 of each crop year, the committee shall hold a meeting to review production data, supply data, demand data, including anticipated demand to all potential market outlets, desirable carryout inventory, and other matters relating to the quantity of raisins of all varietal types. When the committee determines that raisins exist in the reserve pool in excess of projected market needs for any varietal type, it may announce the amount of such tonnage eligible for diversion during the subsequent crop year. At the same time, the committee shall determine and announce to producers, handlers, and the cooperative bargaining association(s) the allowable harvest cost to be applicable to such diversion tonnage. A production cap of 2.75 tons of raisins per acre shall be established for any production unit approved for participation in a diversion program. The committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may recommend, at the same time that the diversion tonnage for that season is announced, a change in the production cap for that season's diversion program of less than 2.75 tons per acre for any production unit approved for the diversion program.

(b) *Voluntary diversion.* No producer shall be required to participate in any raisin diversion program.

(c) *Issuance of diversion certificates.* After the committee announces a raisin diversion program, any producer may divert grapes of the producer's own production and receive from the committee a diversion certificate in accordance with the applicable rules and regulations. Such certificates may only be submitted by producers to handlers in accordance with applicable rules and regulations. Diversion certificates issued by the committee shall apply to a specific production unit and shall be equal to the creditable fruit weight, not to exceed the production cap established pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section, of such raisins produced on such unit during the prior crop year or the last prior crop year eligible for such diversion: *Provided*, That in the case of a production unit, or partial production unit, removed from production through vine removal or other means established by the committee, the committee may issue a diversion certificate in an amount greater than the creditable fruit weight of the raisins produced therein or the production cap applicable.

(d) *Redemption of diversion certificates.* Handlers may redeem diversion certificates for reserve pool raisins. To redeem a certificate, a handler must present the diversion certificate to the Committee and pay the Committee an amount equal to the harvest cost it has established, plus an amount equal to the payment for receiving, storing, fumigating, handling, and inspecting reserve tonnage raisins specified in §989.401 for the entire tonnage represented on the certificate. Upon receipt of the diversion certificate, the Committee shall note on the certificate that it is cancelled.

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(e) *Implementation of the program.* The Committee shall establish, with the approval of the Secretary, such rules and regulations as may be necessary for the implementation and operation of a raisin diversion program.

[50 FR 1831, Jan. 14, 1985, as amended at 50 FR 40477, Oct. 4, 1985; 54 FR 34137, Aug. 18, 1989]

### Grade and Condition Standards

#### **§ 989.58 Natural condition raisins**

(a) *Regulation.* No handler shall acquire or receive natural condition raisins which fail to meet such minimum grade and condition standards as the committee may establish, with the approval of the Secretary, in applicable rules and regulations: *Provided*, That a handler may receive raisins for inspection, may receive off-grade raisins for reconditioning and may receive or acquire off-grade raisins for use in eligible non-normal outlets: *And provided further*, That a handler may acquire natural condition raisins which exceed the tolerance established for maturity under a weight dockage system established pursuant to rules and regulations recommended by the committee and approved by the Secretary. Nothing contained in this paragraph shall apply to the acquisition or receipt of natural condition raisins of a particular varietal type for which minimum grade and condition standards are not applicable or then in effect pursuant to this part.

(b) *Changes in minimum grade and condition standards for natural condition raisins.* The committee may recommend to the Secretary changes in the minimum grade and condition standards for natural condition raisins of any varietal type and may recommend to the Secretary that minimum grade and condition standards for any varietal type be added to or deleted. The committee shall submit with its recommendation all data and information upon which it acted in making its recommendation, and such other information as the Secretary may request. The Secretary shall approve any such change if he finds, upon the basis of data submitted to him by the committee or from other pertinent information available to him, that to do so would tend to effectuate the declared policy of the act.

(c) *Publicity and notice.* The committee shall give prompt and reasonable publicity to producer, dehydrators, and handlers of each recommendation submitted by it to the Secretary and of each regulation issued by the Secretary. Notice of such regulation shall be given to all handlers by registered or certified mail.

(d) *Inspection and certification.* (1) Each handler shall cause an inspection and certification to be made of all natural condition raisins acquired or received by him, except with respect to: (i) An interplant or interhandler transfer of offgrade raisins as described in paragraph (e)(2) of this section, unless such inspection and certification are required by rules and procedures made effective pursuant to this amended subpart; (ii) an interplant or interhandler transfer of free tonnage raisins as described in §989.59(e); (iii) raisins received from a dehydrator which have been previously inspected pursuant to paragraph (d)(2) of this section; (iv) any raisins for which minimum grade and condition standards are not then in effect; (v) raisins received from a cooperative bargaining association which have been inspected and are in compliance with requirements established pursuant to paragraph (d)(3) of this section; and (vi) any raisins, if permitted in accordance with such rules and procedures as the committee may establish with the approval of the Secretary, acquired or received for disposition in eligible nonnormal outlets. The handler shall be reimbursed by the committee for inspection costs incurred by him and applicable to pool tonnage held for the account of the committee. Except as otherwise provided in this section, prior to blending raisins, acquiring raisins, storing raisins, reconditioning raisins, or acquiring raisins which have been reconditioned, each handler shall obtain an inspection certification showing whether or not the raisins meet the applicable grade and condition standards: *Provided*, That the initial inspection for infestation shall not be required if the raisins are fumigated in accordance with such rules and procedures as the committee shall establish with the approval of the Secretary. The handler shall submit or cause to be submitted to the committee a copy of such certification, together with such other documents or records as the committee may require. Such certification shall be issued by inspectors of the Processed Products Standardization and Inspection Branch of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, unless the committee determines, and the Secretary concurs in such determination, that inspection by another agency would improve the administration of this amended subpart. The committee may require that raisins held on memorandum receipt be reinspected and certified as a condition for their acquisition by a handler.

(2) The committee may, in accordance with rules and procedures established with the approval of the Secretary, authorize handlers to receive or acquire natural condition raisins which have been produced by any dehydrator by

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dehydrating grapes by artificial means and have been inspected and certified on his premises. In the event there shall have been compliance with committee requirements, any handler who receives or acquires such inspected and certificated raisins shall be deemed to have satisfied the requirements contained in paragraph (d)(1) of this section with respect to inspection and certification of natural condition raisins received or acquired by him.

(3) The committee may, in accordance with rules and the procedures established with the approval of the Secretary, authorize handlers to receive or acquire without further inspection and certification, natural condition raisins, standard or offgrade, which have been inspected, certified and held, in compliance with committee requirements, at a receiving station of a cooperative bargaining association.

(e) *Off-grade raisins.* (1) Any natural condition raisins tendered to a handler which fail to meet the applicable minimum grade and condition standards may: (i) Be received or acquired by the handler for disposition, without further inspection, in eligible non-normal outlets; (ii) be returned unstemmed to the person tendering the raisins; or (iii) be received by the handler for reconditioning. Off-grade raisins received by a handler under any one of the three described categories may be changed to any other of the categories under such rules and procedures as the committee, with the approval of the Secretary, shall establish. No handler shall ship or otherwise dispose of off-grade raisins which he does not return to the tenderer, transfer to another handler as provided in paragraph (e)(2) of this section, or recondition so that they at least meet the minimum standards prescribed in or pursuant to this amended subpart, except into eligible non-normal outlets.

(2) Off-grade raisins may be transferred from the plant of the handler where received to another plant of his or to that of another handler within the State of California under such rules and procedures as the committee, with the approval of the Secretary, shall establish to safeguard the objectives of this part.

(3) Each handler shall, while holding any off-grade raisins, store them separate and apart from other raisins and the off-grade raisins shall be stored in accordance with disposition and reconditioning categories. The committee with the approval of the Secretary may prescribe rules and procedures for the storage of the raisins.

(4) If the handler is to acquire the raisins after they are reconditioned, his obligation with respect to such raisins shall be based on the weight of the raisins (if stemmed, adjusted to natural condition weight) after they have been reconditioned. If, after such reconditioning, such raisins meet the minimum standards but are no longer natural condition raisins, any handler who acquires such raisins shall meet his reserve tonnage obligations from natural condition standard raisins acquired by him.

(5) The committee shall establish, with the approval of the Secretary, such additional rules and procedures as may be necessary to insure adequate control of off-grade raisins, including, but not limited to, the reconditioning of off-grade raisins, the disposition and use of unsuccessfully reconditioned raisins, and the disposition and use of residual matter from reconditioning operations.

(f) *Blending.* No handler shall blend raisins except: (1) Incidental to reconditioning raisins as permitted under rules and procedures established by the committee, with the approval of the Secretary; (2) blending standard raisins with standard raisins; or (3) blending raisins which meet the minimum grade standards for packed raisins with other raisins which meet such standards.

[25 FR 12813, Dec. 14, 1960, as amended at 29 FR 9483, July 11, 1964; 32 FR 12161, Aug. 24, 1967; 32 FR 18086, Dec. 19, 1967; 42 FR 37201, July 20, 1977]

### § 989.59 Regulation of the handling of raisins subsequent to their acquisition by handlers

(a) *Regulation.* Unless otherwise provided in this part, no handler shall: (1) Ship or otherwise make final disposition of natural condition raisins unless they at least meet the effective and applicable minimum grade and condition standards for natural condition raisins; or (2) ship or otherwise make final disposition of packed raisins unless they at least meet such minimum grade standards established by the committee, with the approval of the Secretary, in applicable rules and regulations or as later changed or prescribed pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (b) of this section: *Provided, That*

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nothing contained in this paragraph shall prohibit the shipment or final disposition of any raisins of a particular varietal type for which minimum standards are not applicable or then in effect pursuant to this part. *And provided further*, That a handler may grind raisins, which do not meet the minimum grade standards for packed raisins because of mechanical damage or sugaring, into a raisin paste.

(b) The committee may recommend changes in the minimum grade standards for packed raisins of any varietal type and may recommend to the Secretary that minimum grade standards for any varietal type be added or deleted. The committee shall submit with its recommendation all data and information upon which it acted in making its recommendation, and such other information as the Secretary may request. The Secretary shall approve any such change if he finds, upon the basis of data submitted to him by the committee or from other pertinent information available to him, that to do so would tend to effectuate the declared policy of the act.

(c) *Publicity and notice.* The committee shall give prompt and reasonable notice to producers, dehydrators, handlers, and the cooperative bargaining association(s) of each recommendation submitted by it to the Secretary and of each regulation issued by the Secretary. Notice of such regulation shall be given to all handlers of record by registered or certified mail.

(d) *Inspection and certification.* Unless otherwise provided in this section, each handler shall, at his own expense, before shipping or otherwise making final disposition of raisins, cause and inspection to be made of such raisins to determine whether they meet the then applicable minimum grade and condition standards for natural condition raisins or the then applicable minimum grade standards for packed raisins. Such handler shall obtain a certificate that such raisins meet the aforementioned applicable minimum standards and shall submit or cause to be submitted to the committee a copy of such certificate together with such other documents or records as the committee may require. The certificate shall be issued by the Processed Products Standardization and Inspection Branch of the United States Department of Agriculture, unless the committee determines, and the Secretary concurs in such determination, that inspection by another agency will improve the administration of this amended subpart. Any certificate issued pursuant to this paragraph shall be valid only for such period of time as the committee may specify, with the approval of the Secretary, in appropriate rules and regulations.

(e) *Inter-plant and inter-handler transfers.* Any handler may transfer from his plant to his own or another handler's plant within the State of California any free tonnage raisins without having had such raisins inspected as provided in paragraph (d) of this section. The transferring handler shall transmit promptly to the committee a report of such transfer, except that transfers between plants owned or operated by the same handler need not be reported. Before shipping or otherwise making final disposition of such raisins, the receiving handler shall comply with the requirements of this section.

(f) *Disposition of offgrade raisins, other failing raisins, and raisin residual material in eligible nonnormal outlets.* Any offgrade raisins, except those returned unstemmed to the tenderer or successfully reconditioned, and any raisin residual material which may be received or acquired by a handler or accumulated by a handler from reconditioning raisins or from processing standard raisins and other failing raisins, shall be disposed of or marketed by the handler, without further inspection, in eligible nonnormal outlets: *Provided*, That no packer shall be precluded from recovering raisins from such accumulations or acquisitions: *Provided further*, That whenever the Secretary concludes, on the basis of a recommendation of the committee, that to specify one or more nonnormal outlets as ineligible for any class of such receipts, acquisitions, or accumulations will tend to effectuate the declared policy of the act, he shall specify such ineligible outlets and prohibit the shipment thereto or final disposition therein of such class by handlers as well as the receipt and use thereof by processors: *And provided further*, That no processor who is a distiller shall be precluded from receiving or using for distillation (1) the standard raisins which subsequently fail to meet the said applicable standards, (2) the raisin residual material accumulated from processing standard raisins, or (3) the raisin residual material referable to the standard raisin equivalent recovered in reconditioning; and any handler may ship such raisins and raisin residual material to such processor. The Committee shall establish, with the approval of the Secretary, such rules and procedures as may be necessary to insure adequate control over the off-grade raisins, other failing raisins, and raisin residual material subject to this paragraph. Such rules may include a requirement that the disposition and use of all or any class of off-grade raisins, other failing raisins, or raisin residual material be confined to the area. The provisions of

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this paragraph are not intended to excuse any failure to comply with all applicable food and sanitary rules and regulations of city, county, State, Federal, or other agencies having jurisdiction.

(g) *Exemption of experimental and specialty packs.* The committee may establish, with the approval of the Secretary, rules and procedures providing for the exemption of raisins in experimental and specialty packs from one or more of the requirements of the minimum grade standards of this section, together with the inspection and certification requirements if applicable.

[25 FR 12813, Dec. 14, 1960, as amended at 32 FR 12161, Aug. 24, 1967; 37 FR 19622, Sept. 21, 1972; 42 FR 37202, July 20, 1977]

### § 989.60 Exemption

(a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this amended subpart, the committee may establish, with the approval of the Secretary, such rules and procedures as may be necessary to permit the acquisition and disposition of any off-grade or reserve pool raisins, free from any or all regulations, for uses in non-normal outlets.

(b) The committee may establish, with the approval of the Secretary, such rules and procedures as may be necessary to exempt from any or all regulations raisins produced in southern California (i.e., the counties of Riverside, Imperial, San Bernardino, Ventura, Orange, Los Angeles, and San Diego) and disposed of for distillation, livestock feed, or by export in natural condition to Mexico.

(c) The committee may designate such raisins as it deems appropriate for production, processing, and marketing research and development. The period of such designation shall be for not more than five years unless extended by the committee. The volume which may be acquired by all handlers shall not exceed 500 natural condition tons annually for each designated project, unless increased by the Secretary upon a recommendation of the committee. Such designated raisins may be acquired and disposed of free from those regulations specified by the committee. In any crop year, when the total industry acquisitions of the designated raisins exceed 500 natural condition tons or a larger quantity approved by the Secretary upon a recommendation of the committee, the exemption shall not apply.

[29 FR 9484, July 11, 1964, as amended at 32 FR 18086, Dec. 19, 1967; 37 FR 19623, Sept. 21, 1972; 42 FR 37202, July 20, 1977]

### § 989.61 Above parity situations

The provisions of this part relating to minimum grade and condition standards and inspection requirements, within the meaning of section 2(3) of the act, and any other provisions pertaining to the administration and enforcement of the order, shall continue in effect irrespective of whether the estimated season average price to producers for raisins is in excess of the parity level specified in section 2(1) of the act.

[42 FR 37202, July 20, 1977]

### Trade Practices

#### § 989.62 Authorization for prohibition of trade practices

Whenever the Secretary finds, upon recommendation of the committee or other information, that continuance of certain practices in trade channels would tend to interfere with the achieving of the objectives of this part, he may prohibit handlers from using such practices, for any crop year or portion thereof, in selling raisins in containers exceeding four pounds net weight. The prohibited practices may include:

(a) Any provision within or added to a sales contract, or action or agreement outside such contract, whereby the handler is obligated to reflect declines in market prices of raisins by charging the buyer a subsequent market price in lieu of the sales price specified in the contract.

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(b) Any agreement in an undertaking to hold raisins in reserve for possible future delivery to a buyer, or action or agreement outside such undertaking, whereby the handler is obligated to not reflect increases in market prices by charging the buyer a price specified in the agreement.

Prior to any such practices being prohibited in any crop year, the committee shall recommend, for the approval of the Secretary, such rules and procedures and such record keeping requirements as are necessary to administer these prohibitions and obtain compliance therewith.

### **Volume Regulation**

#### **§ 989.65 Free and reserve tonnage**

The standard raisins acquired by handlers which are free tonnage, and any reserve tonnage purchased for free use, may be disposed of by him in any marketing channel, subject to the applicable provisions of this part. A handler's free tonnage of a varietal type of raisin shall be either the free percentage of the standard raisins of the varietal type acquired by him or all of the standard raisins of the varietal type acquired by him if no free percentage is established by the Committee or designated by the Secretary for that varietal type. A handler's reserve tonnage of a varietal type shall be the reserve percentage of the standard raisins of that varietal type acquired by him.

[48 FR 32977, July 20, 1983]

#### **§ 989.66 Reserve tonnage generally**

(a) The standard raisins acquired by a handler which are designated as reserve tonnage and reserve tonnage transferred to a handler by the committee shall be held by him for the account of the committee and subject to the applicable restrictions of this part.

(b)(1) Each handler shall hold in storage all reserve tonnage acquired by him and all reserve tonnage transferred to him by the committee until he has been relieved of such responsibility by the committee either by delivery to the committee or otherwise. Such handler shall store such reserve tonnage raisins in natural condition without addition of moisture and in such manner as will maintain the raisins in the same condition as when he acquired them, except for normal and natural deterioration and shrinkage, and except for loss through fire, acts of God or other conditions beyond the handler's control.

(2) Reserve tonnage acquired by a handler or transferred to a handler by the committee shall be stored separate and apart from other raisins to such extent and identified in such manner as the committee shall specify in its rules and procedures with the approval of the Secretary.

(3) Each handler may, under the direction and supervision of the committee, substitute for any reserve tonnage raisins a like quantity of standard raisins of the same varietal type and of the same or more recent year's production. Each such handler shall give the committee reasonable advance notice of his intention to substitute, the exact location of the raisins for which substitution is to be made, and arrange with the committee a mutually satisfactory time for the substitution.

(4) The committee may, after giving reasonable notice, require a handler to deliver to it, or to anyone designated by it, at such handler's warehouse or at such other place as the raisins may be stored, part or all of the reserve tonnage raisins held by such handler. Reserve tonnage raisins delivered by any handler to the committee, or to any person designated by it, in the form of natural condition raisins shall in the aggregate be not more than 2 percent less than the average maturity level of all raisins such handler acquired during the applicable crop year. The committee may require that such delivery consist of natural condition raisins, or it may arrange for such delivery to consist of packed raisins.

(c) Each handler shall, at all times, hold in his possession or under his control reserve tonnage referable to his acquisitions of standard raisins and reserve tonnage transferred to him by the committee, less any quantity of such reserve tonnage released to him by a change of percentages, delivered by him pursuant to instructions of the committee or sold to him by the committee.

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(d) Reserve tonnage raisins delivered by any handler to the committee, or to any person designated by it, whether in the form of natural condition raisins or packed raisins shall meet the applicable minimum grade or grade and condition standards, except for normal and natural deterioration. The committee shall have the authority to require, in its discretion and at its expense, such reinspection and certification of reserve pool tonnage raisins as it may deem necessary.

(e) In the event the committee offers to handlers reserve tonnage raisins for contract packing or for sale in export, as provided in §989.67, each handler shall be given the opportunity to pack or purchase his share of each offer.

(f) Handlers shall be compensated for receiving, storing, fumigating, handling, and inspection of that tonnage of reserve raisins determined by the reserve percentage of a crop year and held by them for the account of the committee, in accordance with a schedule of payments established by the committee and approved by the Secretary. A box rental shall be paid by the committee to producers or handlers for boxes used in storing reserve tonnage raisins beyond the crop year of acquisition in accordance with a rental schedule established by the committee and approved by the Secretary. The handler compensation shall be reviewed annually and shall be paid, as to the amount determined to be earned and unpaid, as soon as practicable after the end of the second quarter of the crop year and quarterly thereafter. Any handler may request the committee, by registered or certified mail, at any time after June 1 of a crop year to remove or relocate reserve tonnage raisins of the current crop year which remain in his possession. At any time during a crop year, a handler may request removal or relocation of reserve tonnage of a prior crop year. In each instance, he may request that the committee provide the necessary containers for any such removal or relocation. When so requested as to current crop year raisins, the committee shall make the removal or relocation, the availability of containers, storage space and time of request permitting, by September 15 of the subsequent crop year, and as to raisins of the prior crop year, within 30 days, supplying the necessary containers if so requested. If the committee removes or relocates reserve raisins of the current crop year pursuant to a handler's request, and such raisins are released to him by September 15 of the subsequent crop year, the handler shall reimburse the committee for any costs incurred by it in such removal or relocation. If any handler requests removal or relocation of reserve raisins, the committee shall immediately give notice thereof to the Secretary.

(g) The committee shall have the authority, in its discretion, to obtain loans, nonrecourse or otherwise, on any part of the reserve tonnage not subject to release as desirable free tonnage and to pledge or hypothecate the raisins on which such loans are obtained as security therefor: *Provided*, That in every such case, there shall be included in the loan agreement a provision to the effect that, in case the lender obtains possession or control of such raisins, he will dispose of them in such a manner as will not tend to defeat the objectives of this amended subpart. The net proceeds of any such loan shall be distributed by the committee pursuant to paragraph (h) of this section.

(h) The net proceeds from the disposition of reserve tonnage raisins of any varietal type shall be distributed by the committee to the respective producers, or their successor in interest thereto, on the basis of the volume of their respective contributions to the reserve tonnage of such varietal type. Distribution of the proceeds in connection with the reserve tonnage contributed by a nonprofit cooperative marketing association which has authority to market the raisins of its members and to allocate the proceeds therefrom to such members shall be made to such association. Advance or progress payments may be made by the committee, in conformity with the provisions of this paragraph, as sufficient funds become available.

[32 FR 12161, Aug. 24, 1967, as amended at 37 FR 19623, Sept. 21, 1972; 41 FR 32417, Aug. 3, 1976; 42 FR 37202, July 20, 1977; 48 FR 32977, July 20, 1983; 54 FR 34138, Aug. 18, 1989]

### § 989.67 Disposal of reserve raisins

(a) At the time the committee meets to consider free and reserve percentages for a crop year, the committee shall consider the marketing of reserve tonnage raisins for the subsequent 12-month period. The committee shall dispose of all reserve tonnage in such manner as to achieve, as nearly as may be practicable, maximum disposal of such raisins by the time reserve tonnage raisins from the subsequent crop year are available. Any reserve tonnage raisins held unsold by the committee on May 1 of the subsequent crop year shall be physically disposed of promptly in any available outlet not competitive with normal market channels for free tonnage raisins or sales of new crop reserve tonnage raisins in export:

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*Provided*, That, whenever the Secretary finds, based upon a recommendation of the committee, or on the basis of information otherwise available to him that because of national emergency, crop failure, an insufficient supply of reserve tonnage raisins for export, or other change of economic or marketing conditions, retention of reserve tonnage raisins carried over is warranted, the foregoing requirements as to disposal shall not apply and such raisins may be disposed of in any outlet recommended by the committee and approved by the Secretary.

(b) Reserve tonnage raisins shall be disposed of by the committee: (1) By sale to handlers for sale in specified outlets or for resale to exporters for sale in export outlets; (2) By direct sale to any agency of the U.S. Government for noncompetitive use; (3) By direct sale to foreign government agencies or foreign importers in any country not listed pursuant to paragraph (c) of this section or where the procurement of raisins is so regulated as to preclude purchases from domestic handlers; (4) By gift; and (5) By any other means consistent with the provisions of this section, and in outlets noncompetitive with those for free tonnage raisins.

(c) The committee shall sell reserve raisins to handlers for export sale to countries on a list established by the Secretary, on the basis of the recommendation of the committee or from other available information. The list of countries shall be reviewed by the committee annually when it reviews matters relating to the free tonnage, and shall recommend any changes in the list to the Secretary for approval. No country may be removed from the list for the purpose of permitting direct sale by the committee unless a finding is made by the committee and approved by the Secretary, that such removal and subsequent direct sale by the committee shall not lead to disruption of sale of reserve tonnage raisins by handlers in other countries on the list, and that although handlers have been able to offer reserve tonnage raisins at competitive prices to the country to be so removed, there remains an unfilled demand in such country which has not been supplied by handlers and which could be supplied by the committee at the same prices by means of direct sale.

(d)(1) Reserve tonnage raisins shall be sold to handlers at prices and in a manner intended to maximum producer returns and achieve maximum disposition of such raisins by the time reserve tonnage raisins from the subsequent crop year are available. The committee may pay the cost of transporting reserve tonnage from one handler to another and in the event a handler has more than one plant, the committee may pay the cost of transporting reserve tonnage to the handler's plant of its choice. In each offer or reoffer of reserve tonnage raisins for export, the committee may include a quantity of raisins not to exceed 2 percent of the total tonnage offered in such offer or reoffer, which it may sell to handlers whose regular allocation provides insufficient tonnage to fill a containerized freight shipping container: *Provided*, That such sale may be made only when the remaining portion of a handler's regular allocation will fill at least 50 percent of such container and shall be made to a handler only one time in each offer or reoffer of reserve tonnage raisins. No offer or reoffer shall be made until 5 days (exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays) have elapsed from the time it files with the Secretary complete information as to varietal type, quantity, and price involved in such offer or reoffer, and the Secretary may disapprove the offer or reoffer or any term thereof: *Provided*, That at any time prior to the expiration of the 5-day period, the offer or reoffer may be made to handlers upon the committee receiving from the Secretary notice that he does not disapprove the making of the offer or reoffer. Subject to the same conditions as are set forth in the preceding sentence with respect to the making of such offer or reoffer, the committee may withdraw an offer or reoffer to sell reserve tonnage raisins to handlers or may extend the offer or reoffer period but not when such extension would deprive one or more handlers of an opportunity to purchase raisins.

(2) Except for the final offer of the reserve tonnage from a crop year, an offer of reserve tonnage raisins for export shall provide for a specific tonnage. Each handler's share of the reserve tonnage offered prior to November 1 of any crop year shall be determined as the same proportion of the quantity offered that the free tonnage raisins acquired by him during the preceding crop year is of the free tonnage raisins acquired by all handlers during the preceding crop year who remain handlers. If reserve tonnage raisins have been removed by the committee from a handler's premises pursuant to §989.66(f), such handler's allocation of reserve pool offers subsequent to such removal and prior to November 1 of the following crop year shall be reduced by the percentage such removed reserve tonnage is of the total reserve tonnage acquired by such handler in the crop year. Subsequent to October 31, each handler's share shall be determined as the same proportion of the quantity offered that the free tonnage raisins acquired by the handler during the then current crop year is of the total free tonnage raisins acquired by all handlers during the then current crop year. With respect to any offer other than the initial offer, each handler's share of the total quantity offered as of that date (the then current offer plus all prior offers of that crop year) shall first be determined by the appropriate formula. His share of the current



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offer shall then be determined by subtracting from his share of the total quantity offered, the total of his share of prior offers from the beginning of the crop year. If any handler did not acquire raisins during the preceding crop year, the basis for his share of any quantity of reserve tonnage raisins offered prior to November 1 shall be his acquisitions of free tonnage raisins during the then current crop year. The current free tonnage acquisitions of all such new handler shall, for the purposes of determining the shares of all handlers prior to November 1, be added to the total acquisitions of free tonnage raisins during the preceding crop year of all handlers in business at the time the offer is made.

(3) With respect to any offer of reserve tonnage for sale to handlers for resale in export, the committee may provide that any such tonnage unpurchased at the end of the share reservation period will be reoffered to handlers without regard to shares and that approval for handlers' applications for purchase may be made in the same order in which the applications are received by the committee. Such reoffer may be made by the committee at the time it makes a regular offer of reserve tonnage, at any time during the period a regular offer is in effect, or within a reasonable time after a regular offer has expired.

(4) The final offer of the reserve tonnage from a crop year may be offered to handlers without regard to shares and approval of handlers' applications for purchase may be made in the same order in which the applications are received by the committee.

(5) Whenever a handler's share or allocation pursuant to this paragraph is less than or exceeds his holdings of reserve tonnage by a minor quantity, the committee may adjust the handler's share or allocation so as to avoid the cost of the physical transfer. The maximum quantity by which a handler's share or allocation may be so allocated shall be prescribed in rules and procedures which the committee shall establish with the approval of the Secretary.

(e) The committee may sell reserve tonnage raisins as provided in paragraph (b)(3) of this section only when such country is not included in the list of specified countries established pursuant to paragraph (c) of this section and may sell reserve tonnage raisins to foreign government agencies of foreign importers in any country removed from such list. No agreement to sell reserve tonnage raisins shall be entered into by the committee until 5 days (exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays) have elapsed from the time it files with the Secretary complete information as to varietal type, quantity, price and foreign country involved in any such proposed sale, and the Secretary may disapprove such sale or any term thereof: *Provided*, That, at any time prior to the expiration of the 5-day period, the sale may be made upon the committee receiving from the Secretary notice that he does not disapprove the making of the sale.

(f) Whenever the committee concludes that the orderly disposition of reserve tonnage would be promoted by the committee replacing any portion or all of handlers' export shipments of free tonnage raisins, to other than free tonnage outlets, made prior to the committee's first offer to sell reserve tonnage, it may do so and may specify such requirements and conditions as are necessary to carry out the replacement consistent with the objectives of this amended subpart. The committee may establish a price for such replacement tonnage which is higher, the same as, or lower than that for reserve tonnage in the first offer of the crop year. Any such replacement offer by the committee shall be governed by those provisions of paragraph (d)(1) of this section which prescribe prior action by the Secretary on committee offers to sell tonnage to handlers.

(g)(1) The committee may, subject to review by the Secretary, refuse to sell reserve tonnage raisins for export:

(i) To any handler who is in default on any previous purchase of reserve tonnage raisins from the committee;

(ii) To any handler currently not in compliance with the provisions of a sales agreement covering reserve tonnage raisins, executed by such handler with the committee; or

(iii) To any handler who signifies an intention to sell reserve tonnage to or through any person who has previously failed to complete a sale of reserve tonnage raisins to a foreign buyer and such raisins remain to be exported and remain unsold to any foreign buyer in an eligible export market.

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(2) Handlers who are in default of timely payment under any purchase agreement are subject to an interest and late payment charge(s) recommended by the committee and approved by the Secretary on the delinquent amount that is owed the committee. The interest charge shall be the current prime rate plus 2 percent established by the bank in which the committee has its administrative assessment funds deposited, on the day the amount owed becomes delinquent; and further, that such rate of interest be added to the bill monthly until the handler's delinquent amount owed plus applicable interest has been paid: *Provided*, That the committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may recommend changes in the rate of interest to another rate of interest. When the committee determines to change the rate of interest or a late payment charge is needed, and such change is approved by the Secretary, the committee shall announce the change in the rate of interest or the rate of late payment charge through a mailing by the committee to handlers.

(3) *Appeals*. If a determination is made by the committee that a handler has not complied with the provisions of this section and any actions allowed under this section are taken against the handler, such handler may request a hearing before an appeals subcommittee established by the committee. If the handler disagrees with the subcommittee's decisions, the handler may request the committee to review the subcommittee's decision. The committee may, subject to the approval of the Secretary, establish additional procedures concerning appeals.

(h) Each packer's share of an offer of reserve tonnage raisins for contract packing shall be determined as the same proportion that the reserve tonnage raisins acquired by him is of the reserve tonnage raisins acquired by all packers. In the event that any packer fails to contract for packing any or all of his share of any offer, the remaining portion thereof shall be reoffered by the committee to all packers who contracted for packing all of their respective shares, in proportion to their respective acquisitions: *Provided*, That, if such amount which packers fail to contract for packing does not exceed 250 tons, or if it is necessary to deviate from the foregoing in order to meet terms and conditions of shipment, the committee may, in its discretion, allocate such reserve tonnage raisins among packers as it deems appropriate, but the shares of packers in subsequent offers or reoffers shall be adjusted accordingly.

(i) In the event the committee determines that the applicable procedures as specified in paragraphs (d) and (h) of this section will not provide an allocation for handlers which is suitable for a particular situation, the committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may establish such modifications of procedures, consistent with §989.66(e), as will facilitate the disposition of reserve tonnage through the handlers.

(j) The committee shall not sell reserve tonnage raisins of any varietal type to handlers to provide them with raisins to sell as free tonnage, other than as provided in §989.54, unless it files with the Secretary complete information and receives from the Secretary notice that he does not disapprove of such sale and that because of: National emergency, crop failure; change of economic or marketing conditions; free tonnage shipments during the then current crop year exceeding shipments of a comparable period of the prior crop year by more than 5 percent: *Provided*, That, such sale of reserve tonnage shall be limited to the quantity exceeding 105 percent of shipments for the first 10 months of the prior crop year; and/or an inadequate carryover, the free tonnage outlets cannot be reasonably well supplied by the tonnage released to the industry as a whole by the committee's marketing policy for that varietal type. Any quantities of reserve raisins offered to handlers for free use, except as provided in §989.54(g), may be offered to them on the basis of handler shipments or acquisitions in the same manner as in paragraph (d)(1) of this section. If offered on the basis of acquisitions, shares shall be determined pursuant to paragraph (d)(2) of this section. If offered on the basis of shipments, the same formula shall be used, except that shipments shall be used as the basis instead of acquisitions in computing handlers' shares. However, such raisins shall not be sold at a price below that which the committee concludes reflects the average price received by producers for free tonnage of the same varietal type purchased by handlers during the current crop year up to the time of any offer for sale of reserve tonnage by the committee, to which shall be added the costs to the equity holders incurred by the committee on account of receiving, inspecting, storing, fumigating, insuring, and holding of said raisins, and including costs of taxes and interest: *Provided*, That, where the outlook for the next crop year or other factors have caused a downward trend in the prices received by producers for free tonnage raisins or in the prices received by handlers for free tonnage packed raisins, reserve tonnage may be sold to handlers at the currently prevailing or the approximate computed field price for free tonnage raisins, as determined by the committee. The committee may sell reserve tonnage raisins of any varietal type to any handler to provide him with raisins to sell as free tonnage if such

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handler has lost all or part of his free tonnage because of fire or other disaster beyond his control subject to the applicable provisions of this paragraph and in an amount equal to such tonnage so lost.

[32 FR 12162, Aug. 24, 1967, as amended at 37 FR 19623, Sept. 21, 1972; 41 FR 32417, Aug. 3, 1976; 42 FR 37202, July 20, 1977; 48 FR 32978, July 20, 1983; 51 FR 3764, Jan. 30, 1986; 54 FR 34138, Aug. 18, 1989]

**Effective Date Note:** At 62 FR 50484, Sept. 26, 1997, in §989.67, at paragraph (j), the words “by more than 5 percent” and “105 percent of” in the first sentence were suspended indefinitely, effective Sept. 29, 1997.

### § 989.70 Storage of raisins held on memorandum receipt and of packer-owned tonnage

All raisins stored by a handler for another person on memorandum or warehouse receipt, or raisins produced and stored by a handler, shall be stored separate and apart from other raisins and shall be clearly marked or tagged as raisins stored on memorandum or warehouse receipt or as raisins produced by the handler but not acquired by him in his capacity as a handler.

### § 989.71 Disposition of unsold reserve tonnage in above parity situations

In the event that the Secretary should find, during a crop year when reserve tonnage percentages have been designated and are in effect pursuant to this part, that the estimated season average price for raisins for that crop year will be in excess of the price level contemplated by the provisions of section 2(1) of the act, he shall issue an order providing for the orderly disposition of the unsold reserve tonnage then on hand, in such outlets, at such times, and in accordance with such terms and conditions, as he may determine to be appropriate in the circumstances. In determining the liquidation procedures and terms, the Secretary shall give consideration to the data and recommendations, if any, which may be submitted by the committee.

[32 FR 12164, Aug. 24, 1967]

### § 989.72 Exemption of educational institutions

The committee may exempt, wholly or in part, from the volume regulation provisions of this part, that volume of raisins received or acquired by public or private educational agencies or institutions incidental to or in connection with teaching, experimental, or research activities.

## Reports and Records

### § 989.73 Reports

(a) *Inventory reports.* Each handler shall, upon request of the committee, file promptly with the committee a certified report, showing such information as the committee shall specify with respect to any raisins which were held by him on a date designated by the committee, which information as specified may include, but not be limited to: (1) The quantity of any raisins so held, segregated as to varietal type, natural condition, packed, standard quality or off-grade quality; and (2) The locations of the raisins.

(b) *Acquisition reports.* Each handler shall submit to the committee in accordance with such rules and procedures as are prescribed by the committee, with the approval of the Secretary, certified reports, for such periods as the committee may require, with respect to his acquisitions of each varietal type of raisins during the particular period covered by such report, which report shall include, but not be limited to: (1) The total quantity of standard raisins acquired; (2) the quantity of reserve tonnage referable to his acquisitions of standard raisins; (3) the locations of such reserve tonnages; (4) the total quantity of off-grade raisins acquired pursuant to §989.58(e)(1)(i), and (5) cumulative totals of such acquisitions from the beginning of the then current crop year to and including the end of the period for which the report is made. Upon written application made to the committee, a handler may be relieved of submitting such reports after completing his packing operations for the season. Upon request of the committee, each handler shall furnish to the committee, in such manner and at such times as it may require, the name and address of each person from whom he acquired raisins and the quantity of each varietal type of raisins acquired from each such person.

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(c) Each handler shall file such reports of creditable promotion including paid advertising as recommended by the Committee and approved by the Secretary.

(d) *Other reports.* Upon the request of the committee, with the approval of the Secretary, each handler shall furnish to the committee such other information as may be necessary to enable it to exercise its powers and perform its duties under this amended part.

[25 FR 12813, Dec. 14, 1960, as amended at 32 FR 12164, Aug. 24, 1967; 32 FR 18086, Dec. 19, 1967; 48 FR 32978, July 20, 1983]

### **§ 989.75 Confidential information**

All reports and records furnished or submitted by a handler to the committee shall be received by, and at all times kept under the custody or control of, one or more employees of the committee, who shall disclose to no person, except the Secretary upon request therefor, data or information obtained or extracted therefrom which would constitute a trade secret or the disclosure of which might affect the trade position, financial condition, or business operations of the particular handler from whom received: *Provided*, That the committee may require such an employee to disclose to it, or to any person designated by it or by the Secretary, information and data of a general nature, compilations of data affecting handlers as a group, and any data affecting one or more handlers, so long as the identity of the individual handlers involved is not disclosed.

### **§ 989.76 Records**

Each handler shall maintain such records of all raisins received, and of all raisins acquired, by him as prescribed by the committee. Such records shall include, but not be limited to, the quantity of raisins of each varietal type acquired from each person and the name and address of each such person, total acquisitions, total sales, and total other disposition of each varietal type which he handles, and each handler shall maintain such records for at least two years after the termination of the crop year in which the transactions occurred. The Committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may prescribe rules and regulations to include under this section handler records that detail promotion and advertising activities which the Committee may need to perform its functions under §989.53.

[25 FR 12813, Dec. 14, 1960, as amended at 48 FR 32978, July 20, 1983]

### **§ 989.77 Verification of reports and records**

For the purpose of checking and verifying reports filed by handlers and records prescribed in or pursuant to this amended subpart, the committee, through its duly authorized representatives, shall have access to any handler's premises during regular business hours and shall be permitted at any such times to inspect such premises and any raisins held by such handler, and any and all records of the handler with respect to the holding or disposition of raisins by him and promotion and advertising activities conducted by handlers under §989.53. Each handler shall furnish all labor and equipment necessary to make such inspections. Each handler shall store raisins in a manner which will facilitate inspection, and shall maintain storage records which will permit accurate identification of raisins held by him or theretofore disposed of. Insofar as is practicable and consistent with the carrying out of the provisions of this amended subpart, all data and information obtained or received through checking and verification of reports and records shall be treated as confidential information.

[25 FR 12813, Dec. 14, 1960, as amended at 48 FR 32978, July 20, 1983]

## **Expenses and Assessments**

### **§ 989.79 Expenses**

The committee is authorized to incur such expenses (other than those specified in §989.82) as the Secretary finds are reasonable and likely to be incurred by it during each crop year, for the maintenance and functioning of the committee and for such purposes as he may, pursuant to this subpart, determine to be appropriate. The funds to cover such expenses shall be obtained levying assessments as provided in §989.80. The committee shall file with the Secretary for each crop year a proposed budget of these expenses and a proposal as to the assessment rate to be fixed pursuant to §989.80, together with a report thereon. Such filing shall be not later than October 5 of the crop year, but this date may

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be extended by the committee not more than 5 days if warranted by a late crop. Also it shall file at the same time a proposed budget of the expenses likely to be incurred during the crop year in connection with reserve raisins held for the account of the committee, exclusive of the receiving, storing, fumigating, and handling expenses which are covered by a schedule of payments to handlers effective pursuant to §989.66(f) or any rules and procedures established by the committee, and exclusive of any expenses it may incur in connection with the disposition of such raisins and which are unknown at the time. The said report shall also cover this proposed budget.

[32 FR 12165, Aug. 24, 1967, as amended at 41 FR 32417, Aug. 3, 1976; 42 FR 37202, July 20, 1977]

### § 989.80 Assessments

(a) Each handler shall, with respect to free tonnage acquired by him, and any reserve tonnage released or sold to him for use in free tonnage outlets, pay to the committee, upon demand, his pro rata share of the expenses (exclusive of expenses for receiving, fumigating, handling, holding or disposing of reserve pool tonnage) which the Secretary finds will be incurred, as aforesaid, by the committee during each crop year less any amounts credited pursuant to §989.53. Such handler's pro rata share of such expenses shall be equal to the ratio between the total free tonnage acquired by such handler plus any reserve tonnage released or sold to him for use as free tonnage, during the applicable crop year and the total free tonnage acquired by all handlers plus all reserve tonnage released or sold to all handlers for use as free tonnage, during the same crop year: *Provided*, That (1) in computing the total free tonnage acquired by a particular handler, there shall be excluded all standard raisins (recovered by the reconditioning of offgrade raisins) acquired by the handler and which comprise the assessable portion of another handler pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section, and (2) the computation of the total free tonnage acquired by all handlers shall not be similarly reduced.

(b) Each handler who reconditions offgrade raisins but does not acquire the standard raisins recovered therefrom shall, with respect to his assessable portion of all such standard raisins, pay to the committee, upon demand, his pro rata share of the expenses which the Secretary finds will be incurred by the committee each crop year. Such handler's pro rata share of such expenses shall be equal to the ratio between the handler's assessable portion (which shall be a quantity equal to the free tonnage portions of such handler's standard raisins which are acquired by some other handler or handlers) during the applicable crop year and the total free tonnage acquired by all handlers, plus all reserve tonnage released or sold to all handlers for use as free tonnage, during the same crop year.

(c) During any crop year or any portion of a crop year for which volume percentages are not effective for a varietal type, all standard raisins of that varietal type acquired by handlers during such period shall be free tonnage for purposes of levying assessments pursuant to this section. The Secretary shall fix the rate of assessment to be paid by all handlers on the basis of a specified rate per ton. At any time during or after a crop year, the Secretary may increase the rate of assessment to obtain sufficient funds to cover any later finding by the Secretary relative to the expenses of the committee. Each handler shall pay such additional assessment to the committee upon demand. In order to provide funds to carry out the functions of the committee, the committee may accept advance payments from any handler to be credited toward such assessments as may be levied pursuant to this section against such handler during the crop year. The payment of assessments for the maintenance and functioning of the committee, and for such purposes as the Secretary may pursuant to this subpart determine to be appropriate, may be required under this part throughout the period it is in effect, irrespective of whether particular provisions thereof are suspended or become inoperative.

(d) Each handler shall, with respect to administrative assessments not paid within 30 calendar days of the date of the Committee's invoice, pay to the Committee interest on the unpaid assessment at the rate of the prime rate established by the bank in which the Committee has its administrative assessment funds deposited, on the day that the administrative assessment becomes delinquent plus 2 percent; and further, that such rate of interest be added to the bill monthly until the delinquent handler's assessment plus applicable interest has been paid: *Provided*, That the Committee may, with the approval of the Secretary, modify the interest rate applicable to delinquent handler's assessment through the establishment of applicable rules and regulations.

[29 FR 9484, July 11, 1964, as amended at 32 FR 12165, Aug. 24, 1967; 42 FR 37202, July 20, 1977; 48 FR 32978, July 20, 1983]

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### **§ 989.81 Accounting**

(a) If, at the end of the crop year, the assessments collected for such crop year exceed the expenses incurred with respect to such crop year, each handler's share of such excess shall be credited to him against, and may be used for, the operations of the following crop year, unless such handler demands payment thereof, in which case his share shall be paid to him.

(b) The committee may, with the approval of the Secretary, maintain in its own name or in the name of its members, a suit against any handler for the collection of such handler's pro rata share of the expenses.

### **§ 989.82 Expenses of reserve raisin operations**

The committee is authorized to incur such expenses as are reasonable and are necessary in discharging its obligations, pursuant to this part, with respect to the receiving, fumigating, handling, holding, or disposing of any quantity of reserve pool raisins held for the account of the committee. The committee is authorized to pay any taxes assessed against raisins held by or for the account of the committee on March 1, or such assessment date as later changed and then in effect, in the reserve pool established pursuant to this subpart: *Provided*, That any equity holder may pay his taxes upon giving notice to the committee on or before May 1 of each year of his intention to do so. All pool expenses shall be deducted from the proceeds obtained by the committee from the sale or other disposal of such reserve raisins held for the account of the committee.

[32 FR 12165, Aug. 24, 1967, as amended at 37 FR 19624, Sept. 21, 1972; 42 FR 37202, July 20, 1977]

### **§ 989.83 Funds**

All funds received by the committee pursuant to the provisions of this part, shall be used solely for the purposes authorized, and shall be accounted for in the manner provided, in this part. The Secretary may, at any time, require the committee and its members and alternate members to account for all receipts and disbursements.

## **Miscellaneous Provisions**

### **§ 989.84 Disposition limitation**

No handler shall dispose of free or reserve tonnage raisins, offgrade raisins, or other failing raisins, except in accordance with the provisions of this subpart or pursuant to regulations issued by the committee.

[32 FR 12165, Aug. 24, 1967, as amended at 42 FR 37202, July 20, 1977]

### **§ 989.85 Personal liability**

No member or alternate member of the committee or any employee or agent thereof shall be held personally responsible, either individually or jointly with others, in any way whatsoever, to any handler or any person, for errors in judgment, mistakes, or other acts either of commission or omission, as such member, alternate member, employee, or agent, except for acts of dishonesty.

[41 FR 32417, Aug. 3, 1976, as amended at 48 FR 32978, July 20, 1983]

### **§ 989.86 Separability**

If any provision of this amended subpart is declared invalid, or the applicability thereof to any person, circumstance, or thing is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this amended subpart or the applicability thereof to any other person, circumstance, or thing shall not be affected thereby.

### **§ 989.87 Derogation**

Nothing contained in this amended subpart is, or shall be construed to be, in derogation or in modification of the rights of the Secretary or of the United States to exercise any powers granted by the act or otherwise, or, in accordance with such powers, to act in the premises whenever such action is deemed advisable.

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### § 989.88 Duration of immunities

The benefits, privileges, and immunities conferred upon any person by virtue of this amended subpart shall cease upon the termination of this amended subpart, except with respect to acts done under and during the existence of this subpart.

### § 989.89 Agents

The Secretary may, by a designation in writing, name any person, including any officer or employee of the United States Government, or name any bureau or division in the United States Department of Agriculture, to act as his agent or representative in connection with any of the provisions of this amended subpart.

### § 989.90 Effective time

The provisions of this amended subpart, as well as any amendments to this amended subpart shall become effective at such time as the Secretary may declare, and shall continue in force until terminated, or during suspension, in one of the ways specified in §989.91.

### § 989.91 Suspension or termination

(a) The Secretary may, at any time, terminate the provisions of this amended subpart by giving at least one day's notice by means of a press release or in any other manner which he may determine.

(b) The Secretary shall terminate or suspend the operation of any or all of the provisions of this amended subpart, whenever he finds that such provisions do not tend to effectuate the declared policy of the act.

(c) The Secretary shall terminate the provisions of this amended subpart at the end of any crop year whenever he finds that such termination is favored by a majority of the producers who, during a representative period determined by the Secretary, have been engaged in the production for market of grapes used in the production of raisins in the State of California: *Provided*, That such majority have, during such representative period, produced for market more than 50 percent of the volume of such grapes produced for market within said State; but such termination shall be effective only if announced before July 31 of the then current crop year.

(d) The provisions of this amended subpart shall, in any event, terminate whenever the provisions of the act authorizing them cease to be in effect.

[25 FR 12813, Dec. 14, 1960, as amended at 41 FR 32417, Aug. 3, 1976]

### § 989.92 Proceedings after termination

(a) Upon the termination of the provisions of this amended subpart, the members of the committee then functioning shall continue as joint trustees for the purpose of liquidating the affairs of the committee, of all funds and property then in the possession or under the control of the committee, including claims for any funds unpaid or property not delivered at the time of such termination. Action by said trusteeship shall require the concurrence of a majority of the said trustees.

(b) Said trustees shall continue in such capacity until discharged by the Secretary; shall, from time to time, account for all receipts and disbursements and deliver all property on hand, together with all books and records of the committee and the joint trustees, to such person as the Secretary may direct; and shall, upon the request of the Secretary, execute such assignments or other instruments necessary or appropriate to vest in such person full title and right to all of the funds, property, and claims vested in the committee or the joint trustees pursuant to this subpart.

(c) Any person to whom funds, property or claims have been transferred or delivered by the committee or its members, pursuant to this section, shall be subject to the same obligations imposed upon the members of the said committee and upon said joint trustees.

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### **§ 989.93 Effect of termination or amendment**

Unless otherwise expressly provided by the Secretary, the termination of this amended subpart or any regulation issued pursuant to this amended subpart, or the issuance of any amendment to either thereof, shall not (a) affect or waive any right, duty, obligation, or liability which shall have arisen or which may thereafter arise in connection with any provision of this amended subpart or any regulation issued under this amended subpart, (b) release or extinguish any violation of this amended subpart, or of any regulation issued under this amended subpart, or (c) affect or impair any rights or remedies of the Secretary or of any other person, with respect to any such violation.

### **§ 989.94 Amendments**

Amendments to this amended subpart may be proposed from time to time, by any person or by the committee.

### **§ 989.95 Right of Secretary**

The members of the committee (including alternates and successors) and any agent or employee appointed or employed by the committee, shall be subject to removal or suspension by the Secretary, in his discretion, at any time. Every decision, determination, or other act of the committee shall be subject to the continuing right of the Secretary to disapprove of the same at any time. Upon such disapproval, the disapproved action of the committee shall be deemed null and void.

[41 FR 32417, Aug. 3, 1976, as amended at 48 FR 32978, July 20, 1983]



# PART 989 – RAISINS PRODUCED FROM GRAPES GROWN IN CALIFORNIA

## Subpart—Administrative Rules and Regulations

Source: 27 FR 3112, Mar. 31, 1962, unless otherwise noted.

### Definitions

#### § 989.102 Inspection service

*Inspection service* means the Processed Products Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Division, Agricultural Marketing Service of the United States Department of Agriculture.

[49 FR 18730, May 2, 1984]

#### § 989.104 Lot

(a) *Natural condition raisins - (1) Basic definition.* For the purpose of incoming and outgoing inspection of natural condition raisins, *lot* means, except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, the quantity of such raisins of the same varietal type or of differing varietal types when commingled within their containers (including sweat and picking boxes and bins), which does not exceed a car, truck, or truck-trailer load, and which is submitted for inspection at one time and in the same place.

(2) *Separation of large units.* If a quantity of raisins in excess of a car, truck, or truck-trailer load is submitted for inspection, the total quantity may, at the discretion of the inspector, be separated into such readily identifiable portions, either prior to or in the course of inspection, as can be conveniently and properly inspected, and each such portion shall constitute a lot.

(3) *Resubmission after reconditioning.* Raisins which are submitted for inspection after reconditioning (such as sorting or drying) and whose original lot identity is no longer applicable, shall be a new lot.

(4) *Meeting and failing portions.* Where a portion of a quantity of raisins submitted for inspection meets the minimum grade and condition standards and has been separated from the remainder of the raisins failing to meet such standards:

(i) The meeting portion shall be one lot; and

(ii) The remainder shall be one or more lots as necessary to cause each lot to contain either (a) a single defect in excess of tolerance or (b) two or more of the same defects in excess of tolerance occurring together within each of the individual containers. (5) *Entire quantity failing.* Where the entire quantity of raisins submitted for inspection fails to meet such standards, then, whether such quantity shall be one or more lots shall be determined in the same manner as for the failing remainder referred to in paragraph (a)(4) of this section.

(6) *Special condition.* Notwithstanding other provisions of this section, any quantity of raisins failing to meet such standards and which are not to be reconditioned may be a single lot.

(b) *Packed raisins.* For the purpose of outgoing inspection of packed raisins, *lot* means: (1) For in-line inspection (i.e., where samples are drawn from a flow of raisins prior to packaging), the aggregate quantity of raisins of the same varietal type, subtype, or size (or in their mixed form), processed in any continuous production of one calendar day and packaged in one size and style of package but excluding those rejected by inspection; and (2) for floor inspection (i.e., where samples are drawn from containers of raisins), the aggregate quantity of such raisins in like containers but not necessarily processed in one continuous production or during one calendar day, identifiable and offered for inspection as a lot.

#### § 989.105 Inspection point

*Inspection point* means any plant or receiving station of a handler, or any other place where raisins are received by a handler, and which is so designated by the Committee. The inspection point(s) of the handler shall include any area(s) in which he receives grapes or raisins for dehydration unless he keeps his raisin dehydration business separate, physically and by records, from his business of handling raisins.

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[31 FR 16305, Dec. 21, 1966]

### § 989.106 Ship

*Ship* means the physical movement of raisins other than to storage for the handler's account within the general locality of the packing plant.

### § 989.107 Inspection certificate

*Inspection certificate* means any written certification, finding, or attestation as to the quality or condition of any lot or lots issued by an authorized member of the inspection service.

### § 989.110 Varietal types

Pursuant to §989.10, specific definitions for each varietal type of raisins contained in that section are as follows:

(a) Natural (sun-dried) Seedless includes all sun-dried seedless raisins possessing similar identifiable characteristics as raisins produced from Thompson Seedless grapes or similar grape varieties, whether dried on trays or on the vine, with or without the application of a drying agent that is a food-grade additive such as, soda, oil, Ethyl Oleate, or Methyl Oleate prior to, during, or after the drying process.

(b) Dipped Seedless includes all raisins produced by artificial dehydration of seedless grapes that possess the characteristics similar to Thompson Seedless grapes which, in order to expedite drying, have been dipped in or sprayed with water only after such grapes have been removed from the vine.

(c) Golden Seedless includes all seedless raisins whose color generally varies from golden yellow to dark amber.

(d) Muscats (including other raisins with seeds) include all raisins which usually contain seeds and possess characteristics similar to Muscat raisins.

(e) Sultana includes all raisins which usually contain an undeveloped (vestigial) seed and possess characteristics similar to Sultana raisins.

(f) Zante Currant includes all raisins that possess characteristics similar to those produced from Black Corinth or White Corinth grapes.

(g) Monukka includes all raisins produced from Monukka grapes.

(h) Other Seedless includes all raisins produced from Ruby Seedless, Kings Ruby Seedless, Flame Seedless and other seedless grapes not included in any of the varietal categories for Seedless raisins defined in paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d) or (h) above.

(i) Other Seedless-Sulfured includes all raisins produced from Ruby Seedless, Kings Ruby Seedless, Flame Seedless and other seedless grapes not included in any of the varietal categories for Seedless raisins defined in paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (h), or (i) of this section which have been artificially dehydrated and sulfured.

[49 FR 18730, May 2, 1984, as amended at 53 FR 34714, Sept. 8, 1988; 55 FR 32598, Aug. 10, 1990; 67 FR 36792, May 28, 2002; 68 FR 42947, July 21, 2003]

### § 989.111 Independent producer and small cooperative producer

(a) *Independent producer* means any producer who is not a member of a cooperative bargaining association or a cooperative marketing association, nor has sold for cash to a cooperative marketing association.

(b) *Small cooperative producer* means any producer who is a member of a cooperative marketing association which acquired less than 10 percent of total raisin acquisitions during the crop year preceding the year in which nominations are held.

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[49 FR 18730, May 2, 1984]

### **§ 989.115 Independent handler, major cooperative marketing association handler, and small cooperative marketing association handler**

(a) *Independent handler* means any handler who is not a cooperative marketing association of producers.

(b) *Major cooperative marketing association handler* means any handler who is a cooperative marketing association of producers which acquired not less than 10 percent of the total raisin acquisitions during the crop year preceding nominations.

(c) *Small cooperative marketing association handler* means any handler who is a cooperative marketing association of producers which acquired less than 10 percent of the total raisin acquisitions during the crop year preceding nominations.

[49 FR 18730, May 2, 1984]

### **Raisin Administrative Committee**

#### **§ 989.122 Districts for independent and small cooperative producer representation on the Committee**

For the purposes of §989.26(c) and commencing with the term of office beginning May 1, 1984, independent and small cooperative producer districts are as follows:

(a) *District No. 1.* All of the counties north of Fresno County.

(b) *District No. 2.* All of the counties south of Fresno County.

(c) *District No. 3* All of Fresno County.

[49 FR 18730, May 2, 1984]

#### **§ 989.126 Representation of the Committee**

(a) To provide independent and small cooperative producers equitable representation throughout the production area commencing with the term of office beginning May 1, 1984, representation shall be apportioned among the three districts specified in §989.122. Districts 1 and 2 shall each have one producer member, and District 3 shall have the remaining producer members to which independent and small cooperative producers are entitled pursuant to §989.26(c).

(b) Pursuant to section 989.26(d) and commencing with the term of office beginning May 1, 1994, apportionment of the independent and small cooperative marketing association handlers shall be:

(1) Two members selected from and representing the four handler(s) other than major cooperative marketing association handler(s) who acquired the largest percentage of the total raisin acquisitions during the preceding crop year;

(2) Three members selected from and representing the six handlers other than major cooperative marketing association handler(s) who acquired the next largest percentage of the total raisin acquisitions during the preceding crop year; and

(3) The remaining member(s) selected from and representing all other handlers, including small cooperative marketing association handler(s) and all processors.

[49 FR 18730, May 2, 1984, as amended at 59 FR 27226, May 26, 1994]

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### § 989.129 Voting at nomination meetings

Any person (defined in §989.3 as an individual, partnership, corporation, association, or any other business unit) who is engaged, in a proprietary capacity, in the production of grapes which are sun-dried or dehydrated by artificial means to produce raisins and who qualifies under the provisions of §989.29(b)(2) shall be eligible to cast one vote for a nominee for each producer member position and one vote for a nominee for each producer alternate member position on the committee which is to be filled for his district. Such person must be the one who or which: (a) Owns and farms land resulting in his or its ownership of such grapes produced thereon; (b) rents and farms land, resulting in his or its ownership of all or a portion of such grapes produced thereon; or (c) owns land which he or it does not farm and, as rental for such land, obtains the ownership of a portion of such grapes or the raisins. In this connection, a partnership shall be deemed to include two or more persons (including a husband and wife) with respect to land the title to which, or leasehold interest in which, is vested in them as tenants in common, joint tenants, or under community property laws, as community property. In a landlord-tenant relationship, wherein each of the parties is a producer, each such producer shall be entitled to one vote for a nominee for each producer member position and one vote for each producer alternate member position. Hence, where two persons operate land as landlord and tenant on a share-crop basis, each person is entitled to one vote for each such position to be filled. Where land is leased on a cash rental basis, only the person who is the tenant or cash renter (producer) is entitled to vote. A partnership or corporation, when eligible, is entitled to cast only one vote for a nominee for each producer position to be filled in its district.

[38 FR 10076, Apr. 24, 1973, as amended at 42 FR 52376, Sept. 30, 1977]

### § 989.139 Compensation for attendance of alternates at Committee meetings

Whenever a member of the Raisin Administrative Committee has reason to believe that he will be unable to attend a Committee meeting and has so notified his alternate or the Committee manager, such notification or a request from the manager shall be held to be a request for the alternate to attend and he shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses subject to the limitations contained in §989.39.

[42 FR 52376, Sept. 30, 1977, as amended at 49 FR 18731, May 2, 1984]

## Marketing Policy

### § 989.154 Marketing policy computations

(a) *Desirable carryout levels.* The desirable carryout level to be used in computing and announcing a crop year's marketing policy for Natural (sun-dried) Seedless raisins shall be 85,000 natural condition tons. The desirable carryout level to be used in computing and announcing a crop year's marketing policy for all other varietal types of raisins specified in §989.110 shall be equal to the total shipments of free tonnage during August, September, and one-half of October for each of the past 5 crop years, for each such varietal type, converted to a natural condition basis, dropping the high and low figures, and dividing the remaining sum by three.

(b) *Estimated trade demand.* Pursuant to §989.54 (e)(4), estimated trade demand is a figure different than the trade demand computed according to the formula in §989.54(a). The Committee shall use an estimated trade demand to compute preliminary and interim free and reserve percentages, or determine such final percentages for recommendation to the Secretary for 2007–08 crop Natural (sun-dried) Seedless (NS) raisins if the crop estimate is equal to, less than, or no more than 10 percent greater than the computed trade demand: *Provided*, That the final reserve percentage computed using such estimated trade demand shall be no more than 10 percent, and no reserve shall be established if the final 2007–08 NS raisin crop estimate is less than 215,000 natural condition tons.

[64 FR 43902, Aug. 12, 1999, as amended at 65 FR 44408, July 18, 2000; 67 FR 52393, Aug. 12, 2002; 72 FR 54347, Sept. 25, 2007; 76 FR 42009, July 18, 2011]

### § 989.156 Raisin diversion program

(a)(1) *Quantity to be diverted.* On or before November 30 of each crop year, the Committee, with the approval of the Secretary, shall announce the quantity of raisins eligible for a raisin diversion program: *Provided*, That, for the 2003 diversion program, this date may be extended by the Committee to a later date within the 2002–03 crop year. On or before January 15 of each crop year, the Committee, with the approval the Secretary, may announce an increase in the

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tonnage eligible for a raisin diversion program: *Provided, That, for the 2002 Natural (sun-dried) Seedless raisin diversion program, the Committee may announce an increase in the quantity of tonnage eligible for the program later than January 15: And provided further, That, for the 2003 and subsequent raisin diversion programs, the Committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may announce an increase in the tonnage eligible for a raisin diversion program on or before May 1 of each crop year. The quantity eligible for diversion may be announced for any of the following varietal types of raisins: Natural (sun-dried) Seedless, Muscat (including other raisins with seeds), Sultana, Zante Currant, Monukka, and Other Seedless raisins. At the same time, the Committee, with the approval of the Secretary, shall determine and announce to producers, handlers, and the cooperative bargaining association(s) the allowable harvest cost to be applicable to such diversion tonnage. The factors to be reviewed by the Committee in determining allowable harvest costs shall include but not be limited to: Costs for picking, turning, rolling, boxing, paper trays, vineyard terracing, hauling to the handler, and crop insurance.*

(2) *Additional provisions.* For any crop year's diversion program, the Committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may:

(i) Limit the entire program to production units on which producers agree to remove vines;

(ii) Limit a portion of the program to production units on which producers agree to remove vines;

(iii) Limit the production cap to a percentage (less than or equal to 100 percent) of the yield per acre of the specific production unit for production units on which producers agree to divert production by methods other than vine removal;

(iv) Limit participation in a vine removal program to producers who agree not to replant raisin-variety vines for a period not to exceed 5 years and who agree to compensate the Committee for appropriate damages if raisin-variety vines are replanted. Damages collected by the Committee pursuant to this subparagraph shall be deposited in the reserve pool fund of the reserve pool applicable to the particular diversion program and be distributed to the equity holders in that pool: *Provided, That, if such reserve pool has been closed and equity distributed, damages collected shall be deposited in the next open reserve pool of the crop year closest to the applicable diversion pool. If a determination is made by the Committee that a producer violated the agreement not to replant and is subject to damages, the producer may appeal the Committee's decision in accordance with paragraph (m) of this section;*

(v) Specify how tonnage available to producers who agree to divert production by means other than through vine removal will be allotted, either pro-rata to remaining applicants, or by lottery to remaining applicants for complete production units if a minimal amount of tonnage remains; and/or

(vi) Limit a program that is applicable to partial production units by specifying the portion of the production units that can be diverted, or like provisions to maintain the integrity of the program.

Additional provisions provided pursuant to this paragraph shall be announced at the time the tonnage available for that season's diversion program is announced.

(b) *Application for diversion certificates.* Any producer desiring to participate in a raisin diversion program shall file with the Committee, by certified mail, prior to December 20 of the crop year, an application on Form RAC-1000, "Application for a Raisin Diversion Program" together with a copy of any two of the following four documents: Plot Map from the County Hall of Records; irrigation tax bill; county property tax bill; or any other document containing an Assessor's Parcel Number: *Provided, That, for the 2003 diversion program, this date may be extended by the Committee to a later date within the 2002-03 crop year. Such application shall include at least the following information:*

(1) The name, address, and telephone number of the producer;

(2) The location and size of the production unit to be diverted;

(3) The raisin production by varietal type on such production unit during the prior crop year or the last crop year eligible for such diversion;

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(4) The handler to whom such raisins were delivered;

(5) A statement identifying whether the applicant will remove the vines in the production unit under the program;

(6) A statement that all persons with an equity interest in the grapes in the production unit to be diverted, in the vines, or the land on which the grapes were produced consent to the filing of the application.

(7) A statement that the producer agrees to comply with the regulations established for a raisin diversion program. The producer applicant shall sign the application certifying that the information contained therein is true and correct.

(c) *Handling of applications.* After the Committee receives the producer applications, it shall review them to determine whether all the required information has been provided and appears reliable. Any incomplete application shall be returned to the producer applicant for correction together with a statement of the error or omission in the application. The applicant shall have a reasonable opportunity to correct such application. However, such correction must be received by the Committee on or before January 12: *Provided, That, for the 2003 diversion program, this date may be extended by the Committee to a later date within the 2002–03 crop year.*

(d) *Priority of applications and allocation of tonnage.* (1) Those producer applications indicating that the vines on the producing units will be removed shall receive first priority over other applications when reserve tonnage under the program is to be allocated.

(2) Pursuant to paragraphs (a)(2)(i) and (a)(2)(ii) of this section, if the entire program, or a portion of the program, is limited to production units on which producers agree to remove vines, and the production volume in such vine removal applications exceeds the amount of diversion tonnage available for vine removal, a lottery will be held to allocate such vine removal tonnage among the respective applicants.

(3) Remaining tonnage available under a diversion program, after that allocated to producer applications indicating that the vines of the producing units will be removed, shall be allocated by the Committee either:

(i) Pro-rata to remaining applicants; or

(ii) To remaining applicants by a lottery for complete production units, if a minimal amount of tonnage remains. In conducting any lottery under this section, the Committee may group producer applications on a handler-by-handler basis, and separate lotteries will be held for each group. The diversion tonnage of raisins available for each such group in each lottery may not exceed the percentage of total handler acquisitions acquired by the group's handler during the previous crop year. If diversion tonnage exists after such group lotteries, such remaining diversion tonnage may be allocated by one lottery of all remaining producer applications.

(e) *Approval of applications.* The Committee shall notify the applicant for diversion, in writing, as to whether or not the application has been approved. If the application is not approved, the notification shall state the reason(s) for disapproving the application.

(f) *Disclosure of information.* The applicant, whose application has been approved, agrees that by participating in the raisin diversion program, the information in the application may be disclosed to the Committee, its representatives, or agents. The Committee, its representatives, or agents may not use this information for any personal use and shall comply with all applicable provisions pertaining to the unauthorized disclosure of such information.

(g) *Verification.* Any applicant whose application has been approved, authorizes Committee representatives and agents to have access to the production unit in the diversion program during reasonable business hours during the crop year to confirm compliance with the program. Notice will be provided to the applicant of such visits.

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(h) *Compliance —(1) Methods of diversion.* An approved applicant shall be required to remove the vines, spur-prune the vines, remove the bunches or take other means to preclude grapes from being produced and harvested on the production unit: *Provided*, That vine removal may be the only means of diversion in some seasons as determined and announced by the Committee. Bunches which occur on vines in an approved production unit shall be removed and destroyed by the applicant before maturity. If the Committee representatives or agents determine that there is an average of more than four bunches per vine remaining on an approved production unit, the producer shall be notified immediately by certified mail, in writing, and given 2 weeks to remove such bunches. Grafting vines of one varietal type to another varietal type does not constitute removal of vines under the program.

(2) *Period of diversion.* An approved applicant must remove the grapes, or vines, indicated on the application within the production unit, or portion thereof, designated within the application not later than June 1 of the crop year in which a diversion program is implemented. Producers who remove the vines on a production unit after August 15 may qualify for a diversion program for that crop year if a diversion program is announced and if diversion on that unit and vine removal after August 15 can be documented and verified.

(3) *Failure to divert.* Any raisin producer who does not take the necessary measures to remove the grapes on an approved production unit, or portion thereof, by June 1, or any raisin producer who has indicated the removal of vines or the intent to remove the vines and who does not remove such vines on an approved production unit by June 1, shall not be issued a diversion certificate, may be subject to liquidated damages and interest charges as provided in paragraph (q) of this section, may be subject to an injunctive action under the Act, and may be denied the opportunity to participate in the next diversion program, when implemented: *Provided*: That any producer who has more than one production unit and fails to divert on an approved production unit or portion thereof may be denied the opportunity to participate on all of that producer's production units, in the next diversion program. For spur-pruned vines, this date may be extended 2 weeks from the date of the inspection of a producer's vineyard if more than 4 bunches on spur-pruned vines are present at the time of inspection.

(i) *Issuance of certificates.* When preliminary percentages are announced, the Committee shall issue diversion certificates to those approved applicants who have removed grapes in accordance with this section. Such certificates shall represent an amount of reserve tonnage raisins equal to the amount of raisins diverted from the production unit(s), or portion(s) thereof, specified in the producer application, or additional quantity granted by the Committee when vines are diverted through vine removal or any other means established by the Committee, with the approval of the Secretary. If, prior to issuance of a certificate, the Committee is notified by an approved applicant that such applicant's interest in the production unit(s), or portion(s) thereof, involved in the program has been transferred to another person, the Committee may substitute the transferee for the applicant provided the transferee agrees to comply with the provisions of this section.

(j) *Submission of diversion certificates from producer to handlers.* Diversion certificates may be submitted by producers only to handlers. The handler shall pay the producer for the free tonnage applicable to the diversion certificate minus the established harvest cost for the entire tonnage shown on the certificate.

(k) *Redemption of certificates.* Any handler holding certificates may redeem such certificates for reserve pool raisins from the Committee. To redeem a certificate, a handler must present the diversion certificate to the Committee and pay the Committee an amount equal to the established harvest costs plus an amount equal to the payment for receiving, storing, fumigating, handling, and inspecting raisins as specified in §989.401 for the entire tonnage shown on the certificate. Handlers who acquire diversion certificates from producers shall report acquisitions of such certificates and submit them for redemption in a manner and for the reporting periods provided in §989.173(b) for the acquisition of raisins acquired from producers. The Committee shall issue a reserve release entitling the handler to an amount of reserve pool raisins equal to the entire amount of tonnage shown on the certificate. Upon receipt of the diversion certificate, the Committee shall note on the certificate that it is cancelled. Diversion certificates will only be valid and honored if presented to the Committee for redemption on or before December 15 of the crop year for which they were issued: *Provided*, That, for the 2002 diversion program for Natural (sun-dried) Seedless raisins, this date may be extended by the Committee to a later date within the 2002–03 crop year.

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(l) *Lost, damaged, or destroyed certificates.* The Committee should be notified of any lost, damaged, or destroyed certificates as quickly as possible by a handler or producer so that appropriate measures such as issuing new certificates may be taken.

(m) *Appeals.* If a determination is made by the Committee that a producer has not complied with these regulations and is not entitled to a diversion certificate, that a producer is subject to liquidated damages and interest or that a producer is denied the opportunity to participate in the next RDP, such producer may request a hearing before an appeals subcommittee established by the Committee. If a producer disagrees with the subcommittee's decision, the producer may request the Committee to review the subcommittee's decision. If the producer disagrees with the Committee's decision upon review, the producer may, through the Committee, request the Secretary's review of the decision.

(n) *Voiding certificates.* If, subsequent to a diversion certificate being issued to a producer but before it has been submitted to a handler, the Committee determines that the producer did not comply with these regulations, it shall void the certificate.

(o) *Production units.* (1) For the purpose of the raisin diversion program, a production unit is a clearly defined geographic area with permanent boundaries (either natural or man-made). A producer must be able to document to the Committee the previous year's production data for that specific area by means of sales receipts or other deliveries or transfer documents which indicate the creditable fruit weight delivered to handlers from that specific area. If the information submitted by producers on the application concerning a unit's production is significantly greater than past production on the unit, production on neighboring units, or the industry norm, or the production is unable to be verified based on submitted documentation, the Committee may request additional documentation such as tray count, payroll records, prior years' production, and insurance records to substantiate the tonnage of raisins produced on all production units that such applicant controls or owns. Producers would not be precluded from submitting other information substantiating production if those producers desired. A new production unit will not be eligible for the raisin diversion program until at least 1 year's production has been grown and is documented. An existing production unit, transferred to a new or expanding producer, is eligible for the raisin diversion program as soon as the previous year's production can be properly documented.

(2) For purposes of the raisin diversion program, a partial production unit must have two permanent, contiguous boundaries (either natural or man-made).

(p) *Handling of reserve pool tonnage released when diversion certificates are redeemed.* Handlers shall comply with the applicable provisions of the order and administrative rules and regulations for the reserve pool tonnage released under the raisin diversion program in the same manner as raisins acquired from producers. Such provisions shall include, but not be limited to, reporting, satisfying reserve pool obligations, payment of assessments, storing reserve tonnage, and the remedies in the event of failure to deliver reserve tonnage raisins.

(q) *Liquidated damages and interest charges.* By applying to participate in a raisin diversion program, an applicant agrees that the failure of the approved applicant to timely remove the vines or grapes will cause serious and substantial damage to the program and the raisin industry and that, in consideration of the approval of the application, such applicant will pay liquidated damages and interest to the Committee, in the event of such failure to timely remove vines or grapes. Since it would be difficult, if not impossible, to determine the amount of such liquidated damages, the following amount, which is a fair measure of damages and not a penalty, shall apply:

(1) The amount of the liquidated damages shall be computed by multiplying the tonnage on the approved diversion application (Form RAC-1000) by the harvest cost determined and announced by the Committee.

(2) Each approved applicant shall, with respect to liquidated damages not paid by July 1, pay to the Committee interest on such unpaid liquidated damages at the rate of the prime rate of the bank in which the Committee has its reserve pool funds deposited, on the day the liquidated damages become delinquent, plus 2 percent, and further such rate of interest shall be added to the unpaid amount, monthly, until the liquidated damages plus applicable interest are paid: *Provided,*



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That for the program specified in paragraph (u) of this section, the applicable date concerning liquidated damages not paid, shall be September 1 instead of July 1 as referenced in this paragraph.

(3) Liquidated damages and interest collected by the Committee pursuant to this subparagraph shall be deposited in the reserve pool fund of the reserve pool applicable to the particular diversion program and be distributed to the equity holders in that pool.

(r) *Notification.* If any changes are made in the terms and conditions of the diversion program after a producer's application has been approved, the Committee will notify the producer of such changes and the producer will be given 10 calendar days to agree to the revised terms, or to withdraw from the program. Failure of the producer to notify the Committee in writing of its intention to withdraw from the program within 10 calendar days from the date of the Committee's notice will constitute agreement to the revised terms and conditions.

(s) *Additional opportunity for vine removal.* The Committee may announce a date later than that provided in §989.156(b), by which producers, who agree to remove the vines on a production unit may file an application to participate in a raisin diversion program.

(1) For the 2002 Natural (sun-dried) Seedless raisin diversion program, additional opportunity for vine removal shall be provided in accordance with paragraph (u) of this section.

(2) For raisin diversion programs applicable to the 2003 and subsequent crop years, the following provisions apply.

(i) The announced date shall be not later than May 1. The diversion certificates will be issued only for the production units from which vines are removed. The total tonnage available to such applicants shall not exceed the tonnage determined by deducting the tonnage approved for applications received on or before December 20 from the total tonnage announced as eligible by the Committee for diversion: *Provided, That, for the 2003 diversion program, this date may be extended by the Committee to a later date within the 2002–03 crop year. Applications shall be considered and approved on a first-come, first-served, basis and shall not be given preference over the tonnage approved for applications received on or before December 20: Provided, That, for the 2003 diversion program, this date may be extended by the Committee to a later date within the 2002–03 crop year. The vines shall be removed from the production units for which such applications are approved not later than June 1.*

(ii) Producers who agree to remove the vines pursuant to this paragraph shall notify the Committee in advance of the date when such vines will be removed in order to allow a representative of the Committee to observe and verify such vine removal.

(t) Pursuant to §989.56(a), the production cap for the 2003 raisin diversion program for the Natural (sun-dried) Seedless varietal type is 2.0 tons of raisins per acre.

(u) *Additional opportunity for producers to participate in the 2002 raisin diversion program.* An additional opportunity for vine removal of 2002 crop Natural (sun-dried) Seedless raisins provided for 25,000 additional tons of raisins in accordance with the following provisions.

(1) The additional opportunity applies to production units on which producers agree to remove vines. The additional opportunity program applies to “new participants” (producers who are not approved participants in the initial 2002 diversion program), and to “early season spur pruners” (approved participants in the initial 2002 diversion program who curtailed production by spur pruning their vines). Grafting vines of one varietal type to another varietal type does not constitute removal under the program.

(2) Priority will be given to “new participants.” If the production volume in such applications exceeds 25,000 tons, a lottery will be held to allocate such diversion tonnage among applicants, pursuant to applicable procedures specified in §989.156(d).

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(3) Eligible producers who wish to participate in this program must file an application with the Committee by July 8, 2002, with appropriate documentation as specified in §989.156(b). The Committee shall notify the applicant, in writing, as to whether or not the application has been approved. Vines must be removed or chain sawed at the base of the vine by July 31, 2002. Committee staff will verify that the vines have been removed or adequately chain sawed. Committee staff will re-inspect vines that have been chain sawed to ensure that the remainder of the vine is removed. Procedures specified §§989.156(e), (f), (g), and (i) through (r) are applicable to the additional opportunity program for vine removal of 2002 crop Natural (sun-dried) Seedless raisins.

[50 FR 3880, Jan. 29, 1985]

**Editorial Note:** For Federal Register citations affecting §989.156, see the List of CFR Sections Affected, which appears in the Finding Aids section of the printed volume and at [www.fdsys.gov](http://www.fdsys.gov).

### Quality Control

#### **§ 989.157 Raisins produced from grapes grown outside of California**

(a) Any raisins produced from grapes grown outside the State of California that are received by a handler shall be observed and marked for identification by an inspector. As provided in §989.173(b)(7), the inspection service may request information needed to properly mark such raisins for identification; it shall be the handler's responsibility to arrange for such identification and furnish required documentation promptly.

(b) In the absence of an inspector to observe and mark such raisins for identification, the handler shall not permit the unloading to occur unless the handler has a written statement from the inspection service that an inspector cannot be furnished within a reasonable time: *Provided*, That raisins so unloaded shall be observed and marked properly upon an inspector being available.

(c) The handler shall notify the inspection service in writing at least one business day in advance of the time such handler plans to begin receiving raisins produced from grapes grown outside the State of California, unless a shorter period is acceptable to the inspection service.

(d) Raisins produced from grapes grown outside of the State of California and received by a handler shall be marked for identification by the inspector affixing to one container on each pallet or to each bin in each lot a prenumbered RAC control card (to be furnished by the Committee) which shall remain affixed until the raisins are processed and disposed of or disposed of as natural condition raisins. The cards shall be removed only by an inspector of the inspection service or authorized Committee personnel.

(e) Each handler shall store raisins produced from grapes grown outside the State of California separate and apart from all other raisins held by such handler to the satisfaction of the Committee. Storage of such raisins shall be deemed "separate and apart" if the containers are marked as raisins produced from grapes grown outside the State of California and placed so as to be readily and clearly identified.

(f) Any raisins received by a handler produced from grapes grown outside the State of California shall be processed and/or disposed of under the surveillance of the inspection service. The handler shall notify the inspection service in writing at least one business day in advance of the time such processing and/or disposition will occur, unless a shorter period is acceptable to the inspection service.

(g) The handler receiving raisins produced from grapes grown outside of California shall pay fees assessed by the inspection service to identify and maintain surveillance of such raisins.

[55 FR 28019, July 9, 1990]

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### § 989.158 Natural condition raisins

(a) *Incoming inspection.* (1)(i) The Committee shall, upon request of a handler who complies with the requirements of this part with respect to inspection points, designate as his inspection point any place (including his plant or receiving station) where the handler receives raisins.

(ii) Each handler shall, at his expense, provide at each of his inspection points reasonably safe and adequate facilities for receiving raisins, drawing samples, and efficient inspection of natural condition raisins. At the time of inspection of any lot, the handler shall, at his expense, provide the inspector with any assistance necessary in the inspection of the raisins, including the movement of individual containers. Each handler, other than a processor, shall maintain with the Committee a current written description, defining the boundaries and other pertinent details, of each of his inspection points. In the event the Committee determines that any inspection point, or any modification thereof, does not comply with the definition or the requirements of this part, it shall notify the handler of the changes necessary for compliance. The handler shall make such changes promptly. In the event any of his inspection points is the same as that of another handler or person receiving raisins or grapes in any form, the handler shall maintain his raisins separate and apart from any other raisins.

(iii) The weight of each lot of raisins tendered for receiving, storage, reconditioning, acquisition, or disposition shall be substantiated by an official "State Certificate of Weights and Measures" issued by a public weighmaster, whether located at the inspection point or otherwise, or such other document approved by the Committee which accurately reflects the weight of each lot tendered. The net weight of such raisins for the purposes of this part, shall be determined by deducting the sand tare and box tare from the gross weight of the raisins. The sand tare shall be the weight of the sand and other foreign material removed from the raisins by passing the raisins over a screen (of a type commonly used by the industry for such purpose) having 36 square openings to the square inch, with each opening being one-eighth of an inch square.

(2) No handler, other than a processor, shall receive at points other than at an inspection point, natural condition raisins from a tenderer, either for acquisition, storage, reconditioning, inspection, or for disposition in eligible nonnormal outlets: *Provided*, That this requirement shall not preclude a handler from dehydrating, free from the provisions of this part, at separate dehydrating facilities recognized in §989.105 and located in California, raisins not delivered to an inspection point. Any handler who accepts raisins at an inspection point for drying or other reconditioning shall be deemed to have received the raisins for reconditioning and shall be subject to the provisions of this part with respect to such raisins.

(3) For each lot of natural condition raisins received by a handler for acquisition, reconditioning, storage, inspection, or for disposition in eligible nonnormal outlets, the handler shall, immediately upon physical receipt and tentative acceptance thereof, issue a prenumbered (numbered serially in advance) door receipt or weight certificate showing the name and address of the tenderer, the weight of the lot, the number and type of containers in the lot, and any other information necessary to identify the lot. For the purposes of identifying incoming lots of raisins, other than dehydrated raisins covered by paragraph (e) of this section, a handler, if it is impracticable for him to issue immediately a door receipt or weight certificate, may issue for temporary use only a prenumbered "Request for USDA Inspection" on a form furnished by the Committee. Any such raisins so received by a handler shall, prior to their acceptance, be inspected at an inspection point during the unloading process, and if certified as standard raisins shall be, unless returned to the tenderer, either promptly acquired by the handler or received for storage on memorandum receipt: *Provided*, That in the absence of an inspector to perform inspection during unloading, the handler shall not permit unloading to occur unless such absence is during normal business hours and the handler has a written statement from the inspection service to the effect that inspection cannot be furnished within a reasonable time: *And provided further*, That the raisins so unloaded shall be inspected promptly upon an inspector being available. It shall be the handler's responsibility in any case to arrange for the inspection, other than with respect to dehydrated raisins covered by paragraph (e) of this section, and furnish weight certificates promptly. Any raisins received by a handler as off-grade for disposition in eligible non-normal outlets or for reconditioning may be accepted uninspected: *Provided*, That an application for receiving such uninspected raisins shall be submitted by the handler, on a form furnished by the Committee, to the Inspection Service prior to, or upon physical receipt of, such off-grade raisins. Such form shall provide for at least the name and address of the tenderer (equity holder), date, number, and type of containers, net weight of the raisins, and the particular defect(s) the handler

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indicates would cause the raisins to be off-grade. Handlers shall complete and sign the form. The application for such uninspected raisins shall not be acceptable unless signed by the tenderer. The uninspected raisins shall be subject to surveillance by the Inspection Service. Each lot of raisins accepted by a handler for reconditioning shall be reconditioned separately from any other lot.

(4) If any lot of natural condition raisins tendered to a handler is separated into two or more lots because a portion of the original lot failed to meet minimum grade and condition standards, or because the entire lot failed due to more than one defect, the handler shall issue a prenumbered weight certificate for each such new lot not returned to the tenderer, showing the name and address of the tenderer, the weight of the lot, and the number and type of containers in the lot. The weight of any meeting lot shall be determined by weighing it, or by weighing the failing portion of the incoming lot and deducting the weight thereof from the weight of the incoming lot. The weight of each failing lot shall be determined by weighing it, or by deriving such weight by applying the original average container weight to the number of containers.

(5) Any financially interested party may, upon the payment of any fees assessed by the inspection service, obtain an appeal inspection. An appeal inspection shall be applicable only to raisins which have not been removed from their containers, with pallet control cards still affixed, are readily identifiable, and have not been removed from the original inspection point: *Provided*, That when the condition of a lot of such raisins may have changed subsequent to the original inspection, an additional inspection, rather than an appeal inspection, may be obtained.

(6) Raisins produced by a handler shall be subject to the requirements of paragraph (a) (3) and (4) of this section upon delivery to an inspection point. Raisins produced by a handler by dehydration within an inspection point shall be subject to the requirements of paragraph (a) (3) and (4) of this section immediately upon completion of said dehydration.

(7) The inspection certificate for a mixed lot of natural condition raisins (raisins of different varietal types commingled within their containers) shall show the percentage which the raisins of each varietal type is of the total raisins contained in the lot.

(8) With respect to any lot of natural condition raisins being received and inspected at a handler's inspection point pursuant to paragraph (a)(3) of this section, the handler shall notify the inspection service if he elects to have the raisins inspected for infestation. If the handler elects not to have the raisins inspected for infestation, he shall: (i) Fumigate promptly all raisins he receives; (ii) notify the inspection service in advance of the time he plans to fumigate such raisins; (iii) permit the inspection service to monitor the fumigation; and (iv) permit the inspection service to make periodic incubation checks of his packed raisins. The inspection service shall certify the raisins received as standard raisins if they meet all other grade and condition standards. If the handler elects to have the raisins inspected for infestation, the inspector shall afford such handler the opportunity to fumigate such raisins during the inspection and certification process. Such raisins shall remain under the supervision of the inspector during the fumigation. The inspection certificate shall not be issued until the fumigation is completed: *Provided*, That the inspection certificate shall be issued, whether or not the fumigation is completed, not later than five business days after the date the inspection and certification process is suspended by the inspector to permit fumigation.

(9) With respect to any lot (as defined in §989.104(a)(1)) of natural condition raisins being received and inspected at a handler's inspection point pursuant to paragraph (a)(3) of this section and notwithstanding separation of the meeting portion of the original lot from the failing portions thereof for the purposes on §989.104 and paragraph (a)(4) of this section, any tenderer may, when permitted by the handler and when notified by the inspector of defects during the inspection and certification process, and in accordance with the provisions of this subparagraph, perform any one or more of the following on an individual box basis: (i) Mix raisins within boxes containing raisins that are wet, or of high moisture content in some areas of the box; (ii) dump raisins from wet boxes into dry boxes; (iii) remove wet raisins; or (iv) remove foreign material such as sandburs, puncture vine seed, Eucalyptus pods or leaves, rocks, and sticks. This authorization to the tenderer shall not extend to raisins in containers larger than sweat boxes; and the number of boxes in the original lot on which the aforesaid actions may be performed during such process shall not exceed ten, or five percent of the total number of containers in the lot, whichever is less. Where the percentage computation results in a fraction of a box and is less than ten boxes, it shall be rounded upward to the next number. The entire lot of raisins shall remain under surveillance of the inspector during such process. The actions of the tenderer shall be done without

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delay, take place at the unloading dock in the inspection point, or in the immediate area thereof, and be under observation of the inspector.

(b) *Submission of inspection certificates to the Committee.* A copy of each inspection certificate which a handler is required to submit to the Committee pursuant to §989.58(d) shall be submitted not later than Wednesday of the week following the week for which such certificate was issued. This may be accomplished by authorizing the inspection service to submit a copy of each such inspection certificate directly to the Committee. A copy of such authorization shall be furnished to the Committee.

(c) *Off-grade raisins —(1) Holding and identification.* The inspection certificates covering any lot of off-grade raisins shall state whether or not such off-grade raisins are storable. Any raisins which do not meet the applicable grade and condition standards shall be classified in one of the three categories specified in §989.58(e)(1) within 5 business days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays) after inspection or 3 such business days after issuance of the inspection certificate, whichever is later: *Provided*, That these time limits may be extended by the Committee under such conditions as it may deem necessary in the circumstances. The handler shall report to the Committee the information as required and specified in §989.173(b)(5). Any such lot of off-grade raisins shall be identified immediately following inspection by fixing to a container on each pallet a prenumbered RAC control card (to be furnished by the Committee), and kept separate and apart from any other raisins in the handler's possession. In the event the handler does not normally use pallets in his operation the RAC control card shall be affixed to one or more of the containers in each lot. The RAC control cards shall remain fixed to the containers until the raisins are (i) disposed of by the handler in eligible nonnormal outlets, (ii) returned unstemmed to the tenderer, or (iii) submitted for reconditioning. The cards shall be removed only by an inspector of the inspection service or authorized Committee personnel, except control cards designating lots held only for fumigation may be removed by the handler after the completion of fumigation to the satisfaction of the inspection service. Each lot of off-grade raisins not returned to the tenderer shall be stored by the handler separate and apart by varietal types from all other raisins and by disposition and conditioning categories which preserve the lot identity and, if for reconditioning, the defect identity. Off-grade raisins shall be stored in such a manner as to be accessible to the Committee.

(2) *Change in off-grade categories.* After raisins have been classified as to the categories in §989.58(e)(1), any lot of natural condition off-grade raisins held by a handler under paragraph (i) or (iii) of §989.58(e)(1), may be changed to the other category, or to paragraph (ii). Prior to making such change, the handler shall notify the inspection service at least one business day in advance of the time such handler plans to begin such change. Such notification shall be provided verbally or by other means of communication, including e-mail. Any off-grade lot under paragraph (ii) of §989.58(e)(1) which has not been removed from the handler premises and is identifiable with the original inspection, may be tendered to the handler for the purposes of paragraph (i) or (iii) of §989.58(e)(1) and, if accepted, the handler shall so report to the Committee. It shall be the responsibility of the handler to establish and maintain the identity of the raisins in the changed categories in accordance with the applicable provisions of paragraph (c)(1) of this section. Where the tenderer has a financial interest in the raisins the handler shall, before making any change in category, submit to the Committee evidence of the tenderer's permission to make any such change, except for changes from paragraph (i) or paragraph (iii) to paragraph (ii) of §989.58(e)(1).

(3) *Interplant and interpacker transfer of off-grade raisins.* Any packer may, pursuant to §989.58(e)(2) and under the surveillance of the inspection service, transfer to or from another packer's plant in California, any off-grade raisins for reconditioning. Such transfer may be for the packer's convenience or that of a financially interested person. Where a tenderer or other person has a financial interest in the raisins, the handler shall first obtain the tenderer's or other interested person's written agreement to the transfer. The handler shall notify the inspection service in advance of the time such handler plans to transfer each lot. Such notification shall be provided verbally or by other means of communication, including e-mail. The notification shall be at least 1 business day in advance of the transfer unless a shorter period is acceptable to the inspection service. In the same manner except for the tenderer's or other person's written agreement, any packer may transfer off-grade raisins from one of his plants or inspection points to another of his plants in California. In both cases such raisins may be removed directly to the premises of the receiving packer or another plant of the packer under the surveillance of the inspection service. Upon completion of the transfer all applicable provisions of this part shall apply with respect to such raisins and the packer receiving them.

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(4) *Reconditioning off-grade raisins—reconditioning requirements.* (i) The handler shall notify the inspection service at least one business day in advance of the time such handler plans to begin reconditioning each lot of raisins, unless a shorter period is acceptable to the inspection service. Such notification shall be provided verbally or by other means of communication, including e-mail. Natural condition raisins which have been reconditioned shall continue to be considered natural condition raisins for purposes of reinspection (inspection pursuant to §989.58(d)) or set aside by a handler to satisfy the handler's reserve pool obligation, after such reconditioning has been completed, if no water or moisture has been added; otherwise, such raisins shall be considered as packed raisins. The weight of the raisins reconditioned successfully shall be determined by reweighing, except where a lot, before reconditioning, failed due to excess moisture only. The weight of such raisins resulting from reconditioning a lot failing account excess moisture may be determined by deducting 1.2 percent of the weight for each percent of moisture in excess of the allowable tolerance. When necessary due to the presence of sand, as determined by the inspection service, the requirement for deducting sand tare and the manner of its determination, as prescribed in paragraph (a)(1) of this section, shall apply in computing the net weight of any such successfully reconditioned natural condition raisins. If, after reconditioning, such raisins meet the minimum grade standards, but no longer are natural condition raisins as defined in §989.8, any handler who acquires such raisins shall meet his reserve obligation from natural condition standard raisins of the same varietal type acquired by him. The weight of the reconditioned raisins acquired as packed raisins shall be adjusted to natural condition weight by the use of factors applicable to the various degrees of processing accomplished. The applicable factor shall be that selected by the inspector of the reconditioned raisins from among factors established by the Committee with the approval of the Secretary.

(ii) In reconditioning off-grade raisins, a handler shall use methods designed to remove the defects whereby the lot fails to qualify as standard raisins. Lots with identical defects may be reconditioned simultaneously (commingled basis) but lots with differing defects shall be reconditioned as separate lots.

(5) *General.* Reconditioning of off-grade raisins by a handler shall be done in accordance with such procedure as will enable the inspector to observe the off-grade raisins at any time and to make a proper inspection. A packer may recover raisins from residual raisin material obtained from his reconditioning operations in conformity with the applicable provisions of §989.159(g)(1).

(6) *Off-grade raisins which are not reconditioned successfully.* (i) Except as provided in paragraph (c)(6)(ii) of this section, no handler shall return to the tenderer any off-grade raisins received for reconditioning which, after his reconditioning of them is complete, have been stemmed and which then fail to meet the applicable minimum grade standards. Any raisins which fail to meet the applicable minimum grade and condition standards or minimum grade standards after reconditioning and all residual material from reconditioning, held by the handler, shall be identified promptly by affixing to one or more containers in each lot, or to a container in each pallet if pallets are used, a prenumbered RAC control card as prescribed in paragraph (c)(1) of this section: *Provided*, That such failing raisins and residual material which are placed directly into trucks or trailers for immediate disposition need not be identified by affixing thereto a RAC control card. The handler shall hold the failing raisins and the residual material separate and apart from all other raisins. The control cards shall be removed from the containers only by an inspector of the inspection service or authorized Committee personnel. The handler shall physically dispose of the residual material, and any failing raisins which he does not return unstemmed to the tenderer, only in eligible nonnormal outlets as provided in §989.159(g)(2).

(ii) Any packer may arrange for or permit the tenderer to remove the stemmed raisins (described in paragraph (c)(6)(i) of this section), but not the residual, directly to the premises, within California, of another packer for further reconditioning of the raisins at the latter's premises. Such removal and transfer shall be made under the surveillance of the inspection service. The packer shall notify the inspection service as required in paragraph (c)(3) of this section. Such raisins may be received by the other packer without inspection. On and after such receipt of the raisins for further reconditioning, all applicable provisions of this part shall apply with respect to such raisins and the packer so receiving them.

(7) *Return of off-grade raisins to tenderer.* Any off-grade raisins which are to be returned unstemmed to the tenderer pursuant to §989.58(e)(1)(ii), shall be physically returned within five business days after the issuance of the inspection

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certificate: *Provided*, That such time limit may be extended by the Committee as it may deem justified by extenuating circumstances. The handler shall file with the Committee a report of the returned raisins as required in §989.173(b)(4).

(i) *Unstemmed and stemmed raisins.* For the purpose of determining whether or not off-grade raisins may be returned to the person tendering such raisins, “unstemmed” raisins shall be defined as lots of raisins that contain 150 or more capstems per pound. “Stemmed” raisins means lots of raisins that contain less than 150 capstems per pound.

(d) *Reinspection of raisins held more than one hundred and twenty days on memorandum receipt.* No handler shall acquire raisins held on memorandum receipt for a period longer than one hundred and twenty (120) days unless such raisins have been reinspected and certified immediately prior to acquisition as meeting the minimum requirements for standard raisins: *Provided*, That the Committee at any other time may require such reinspection and certification of raisins held on memorandum receipt as a prerequisite to acquisition if it has reason to believe that the raisins do not then meet such requirements.

(e) *Inspection of raisins on dehydrator's premises —(1) Application and agreement.* (i) Any dehydrator may submit to the Committee for approval, and the Committee may approve, in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph an application and agreement, on a form furnished by the Committee, providing for dehydrator on-premise inspection of natural condition raisins produced by the dehydrator by subjecting grapes to artificial heat. Raisins so produced are referred to in paragraph (a)(3) of this section and in this paragraph as “dehydrated raisins.”

(ii) The provisions of such application and agreement shall include at least the following:

(a) The dehydrator shall request the inspection service to inspect all dehydrated raisins which the dehydrator produces and to issue a related memorandum report of inspection at the time of loading any quantity of such raisins for delivery to a packer's inspection point;

(b) The dehydrator will arrange with the inspection service for the necessary inspection service to be performed by the service, and the dehydrator will submit to the Committee a statement from the inspection service that the dehydrator has adequate facilities for the inspection and that such arrangements have been made;

(c) All necessary reconditioning of dehydrated raisins, identification and segregation of raisins, and movement of inspected dehydrated raisins on or from the dehydrator's premises shall be done in such manner and under such conditions as the inspection service may require;

(d) The dehydrator shall, at the time of the packer's receipt of such raisins, furnish to the packer to whose inspection point the inspected raisins are delivered the original and one copy of the memorandum report of inspection covering such raisins;

(e) The dehydrator shall maintain such records and furnish such reports and permit access to such records and the dehydrator's premises as required in the application and agreement or as the Committee may subsequently request; and

(f) The application and agreement may be suspended or terminated as provided therein.

(iii) The Committee will notify raisin packers of each dehydrator whose application and agreement has been approved by the Committee (such dehydrator is referred to in this subpart as “authorized dehydrator”); similarly, the Committee will notify packers of each suspension or termination of a previously approved application and agreement.

(2) *Delivery of inspected dehydrated raisins.* Any dehydrated raisins which (i) are inspected on an authorized dehydrator's premises where produced; (ii) are moved promptly and directly to a packer's inspection point from the premises of the authorized dehydrator; (iii) are accompanied by an applicable memorandum report of inspection to be furnished to the packer; and (iv) are otherwise in compliance with the provisions of such approved application and agreement and this paragraph may be received by the packer without the inspection at time of receipt required by §989.58(d). With respect

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to such dehydrated raisins, the packer shall comply with all applicable requirements and procedures of this part, including, but not limited to, inspection after any necessary reconditioning and the inspection prescribed in §989.59.

(3) *Packer's obligations.* Immediately upon a packer's receiving any such already inspected dehydrated raisins accompanied by the applicable memorandum report of inspection, the packer shall give to the inspector at the packer's inspection point where the dehydrated raisins were received, the original and one copy of such memorandum report so that the inspector may enter the net weight and scale ticket number on such memorandum report of inspection and copy thereof. Whenever a packer receives off-grade raisins from an authorized dehydrator he shall so advise the inspector at the packer's inspection point at the time of such receipt; and such raisins shall not be unloaded except in the presence of the inspector or in accordance with such prior arrangements as may have been made between the packer and the inspection service.

(f) *Inspection of raisins at cooperative bargaining association's receiving station —(1) Application and agreement.* (i) In accordance with the provisions of this paragraph, any cooperative bargaining association may submit to the Committee for approval, and the Committee may approve, an application and agreement, on a form furnished by the Committee, providing that where the association receives from individual producers lots of natural condition raisins at any of its receiving points and the raisins are inspected and stored consistent with such application and agreement, such lots shall be eligible for delivery to handlers, pursuant to paragraph (f)(3) of this section, without reinspection. Any raisins which upon inspection by the inspection service do not meet the applicable grade and condition standards shall be identified immediately following inspection and kept separate and apart from any other raisins in the association's possession.

(2) *Terms and conditions.* The provisions of such application and agreement shall include at least the following terms and conditions:

(i) That the association shall, prior to delivery of any raisins to handlers, arrange for inspection services at the association's receiving station(s), and cause to be submitted to the Committee a statement by the inspection service of such arrangement and of the association's having adequate laboratory and other facilities for such services available at the association's receiving station(s).

(ii) That the association shall maintain such facilities satisfactory to the inspection service.

(iii) That the association shall request inspection of each lot of raisins immediately upon physical arrival thereof at the association's receiving station(s), and shall provide the inspector with any assistance necessary in the inspection of such raisins, including the movement of individual containers.

(iv) That the association shall fumigate all raisins received at the association's receiving station(s) as necessary to assure that the raisins are free from active infestation and maintain them as such while on such premises, and that fumigation shall be performed to the satisfaction of the inspection service.

(v) That the association shall, with respect to all raisins entering its premises which are not returned to the producer as provided in paragraph (f)(2)(vi) of this section, promptly affix to one or more containers in each lot, or to a container in each pallet if pallets are used, a Committee control card showing thereon such information as the Committee requires to maintain the producer identity of each lot and prevent commingling with any other lot. The association shall not move all or any portion of a lot of raisins on the premises of the association's receiving station(s) or load any such raisins for shipment, except in the presence of an inspector of the inspection service.

(vi) That the association shall store any standard raisins and any off-grade raisins which are held by it after receipt and inspection on the premises of its receiving station(s) under conditions which protect the raisins from rain, infestation and contamination, and which can be expected to maintain their respective conditions except for normal and natural deterioration and shrinkage. Any raisins which after receipt and inspection are not accepted and held by the association shall be returned to the producer within 5 business days after the issuance of the inspection certificate.



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(vii) That the association shall furnish the inspection service with a completed Committee form requesting issuance, at the time of loading any lot of inspected raisins for delivery to any handler's inspection point, of a memorandum report of inspection covering such lot.

(viii) That the association shall deliver to the handler at the time of receipt of any such lot of eligible raisins at the handler's inspection point the original and one copy of the inspection service's related memorandum report of inspection; and such original and copy shall accompany the shipment of such lot from the premises of the association's receiving station(s) to the handler's inspection point.

(ix) That the association shall maintain complete records of the receipt, holding and disposition of each lot of raisins and retain such records for at least 2 years after the crop year in which such transactions occurred.

(x) That the association shall file promptly with the Committee certified reports showing such information as the Committee may request relative to the association's receipts, holdings, and dispositions of raisins.

(xi) That the association shall permit the Committee, the inspection service, and the Secretary of Agriculture, through their duly authorized representatives, to have access to the premises of the association's receiving station(s) to inspect such premises and any raisins thereon and any and all records with respect to the association's receipts, holdings and dispositions of raisins.

(xii) That upon approval of the application and agreement the Committee will notify handlers of such approval and that eligible lots of inspected raisins will not require incoming inspection at handler inspection points; will notify the interested handlers of any suspension or revocation, for good cause, of the eligibility of a particular lot of raisins; and will notify handlers of any suspension or termination of the application and agreement.

(xiii) That the Committee will request the inspection service to establish a fee to the association for the services to be rendered at the same rate as is charged handlers.

(xiv) That the application and agreement may be suspended or terminated as provided therein.

(3) *Waiver of requirement for incoming inspection at handler inspection point.* Any lot of raisins which (i) is inspected on the premises of the association's receiving station(s) pursuant to an approved application and agreement, (ii) is in compliance with the provisions of such application and agreement and this paragraph, (iii) is moved under the surveillance of the inspection service to a handler's inspection point from the association's receiving station(s) after issuance of the related memorandum report of inspection, and (iv) is accompanied by such memorandum report to be furnished to the handler may be received by the handler without the inspection as required by §989.58(d) at time of receipt.

(4) *Handler's obligations.* With respect to such raisins received by the handler, the handler shall comply with all applicable requirements and procedures of this part, including, but not limited to, the inspection prescribed in §989.59 and that required, as prescribed in §989.58(d), prior to the handler acquiring reconditioned raisins. Immediately upon a handler receiving any such raisins accompanied by the applicable memorandum report of inspection, the handler shall give to the inspector at the handler's inspection point where such raisins are received, the original and one copy of the memorandum report so that the inspector may enter the net weight and scale ticket number on such memorandum report of inspection and copy thereof.

[27 FR 3112, Mar. 31, 1962, as amended at 27 FR 10249, Oct. 19, 1962; 27 FR 10409, Oct. 25, 1962; 28 FR 13544, Dec. 14, 1963; 31 FR 16305, Dec. 21, 1966; 32 FR 15915, Nov. 21, 1967; 32 FR 17467, Dec. 6 1967; 35 FR 16037, Oct. 13, 1970; 38 FR 20237, July 30, 1973; 42 FR 52377, Sept. 30, 1977; 49 FR 18731, May 2, 1984; 49 FR 33994, Aug. 28, 1984; 55 FR 2226, Jan. 23, 1990; 55 FR 36608, Sept. 6, 1990; 73 FR 42259, July 21, 2008]

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### § 989.159 Regulation of the handling of raisins subsequent to their acquisition

(a) *Inspection facilities.* At each of the premises where packed raisins are to be inspected each handler shall, at his expense provide reasonably safe and adequate space and other facilities necessary for the proper and efficient inspection of such raisins.

(b) *Identification of inspected raisins.* (1) Each handler shall mark each shipping container with legible code or other identification, satisfactory to the Committee and the inspection service which shall indicate (i) with respect to packed raisins, the date that the raisins in such shipping containers were packed, and (ii) with respect to shipments of natural condition raisins, the date on which such raisins were inspected.

(2) Each handler shall furnish promptly to the Committee, through the inspection service, a certified report on a form furnished by the Committee showing the handler's count and weight of the raisins of each pack and varietal type packed each day.

(c) *Outgoing inspection.* (1) Outgoing inspection and certification of raisins as required by §989.59(d) shall be made as set forth in this paragraph.

(2) Such inspection of natural condition raisins (which is subject to exceptions and exemptions provided in this part) shall be made of each individual lot and in each case not more than five days before the date of shipment or other final disposition of the lot. The certificate that the raisins meet the applicable minimum grade and condition standards for natural condition raisins, which the handler is required to obtain and submit to the Committee pursuant to §989.59(d), shall be on Form FV 146 labeled "Certificate of Quality and Condition (Processed Foods)." If shipment involves exportation to a foreign country, the handler shall surrender to the United States Customs Service at the port of exit two copies of such inspection certificate. Such an inspection and certification (on Form FV 146) may, if requested by the handler, be made at the time of his receipt or acquisition of the raisins. In such an event, no additional inspection shall be required if the lot remains intact and identifiable, and shipment or other final disposition takes place within five days after the date of the inspection.

(3) Such inspection of packed raisins shall be made prior to shipment or other final disposition, and unless made during the final processing or packing operations so as to facilitate proper sampling, the inspector shall perform the inspection on the basis of representative samples drawn from shipping containers of the packed raisins.

(4) Except as otherwise provided in this part, where there is presented for inspection a lot of packed raisins consisting of raisins of different varietal types or sub-types commingled within their containers, each such type and sub-type shall be inspected separately, except that inspection for moisture shall be performed on the lot as a whole. The inspection certificate shall show the respective percentages which the raisins of the various types and sub-types are of the lot and whether each meets the applicable minimum grade standards. In the event the raisins of any such varietal type or sub-type contained in the lot fail to meet the applicable requirements, other than for moisture, none of the lot shall be certified as meeting minimum grade standards unless it is found to be practicable to separate the raisins into two new lots, one which meets and the other which fails to meet all of the applicable minimum standards, respectively. Any lot of mixed types or sub-types of packed raisins for which minimum grade standards are prescribed for each type or sub-type pursuant to §989.59 (a) and (b) but which in their commingled form cannot be inspected against the standards for the respective varietal types or sub-types and hence are excluded from the category of "Mixed types" as defined in the then effective United States Standards for Grades of Processed Raisins, or any raisins which as a mixed lot contain moisture in excess of 18 percent, shall not be certified as meeting the minimum grade standard for packed raisins.

(d) *Submission of inspection certificates to the Committee.* A copy of each inspection certificate which a handler is required to submit to the Committee pursuant to §989.59(d) shall be submitted not later than Wednesday of the week following the week in which the certificate was issued. This may be accomplished by authorizing the inspection service in writing to submit a copy of each such inspection certificate directly to the Committee. A copy of such authorization shall be furnished to the Committee.

(e) *Term of inspection certificate.* Any handler who:

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(1) Fails to ship or make other final disposition for human consumption of any lot of packed raisins within 90 calendar days, or of any lot of natural condition raisins within 5 calendar days, after the date of the last inspection of the lot; or

(2) Has any shipment or portion of a shipment returned to his inspection point or storage premises within the area, shall, before any such shipment or final disposition, or before blending with other raisins, have such raisins inspected for condition and shall furnish promptly to the Committee (which may be through the inspection service as provided in §989.158(b)) a copy of the inspection certificate showing that the raisins meet the respective requirements of this part for shipment, final disposition or blending.

(f) *Exemption of experimental and specialty packs* —(1) *Shipment under exemption*. Upon obtaining approval of the Committee as provided in this paragraph, any handler may ship or dispose of raisins in experimental or specialty packs without regard to one or more of the requirements of the minimum grade standards for packed raisins and inspection and certification requirements, prescribed pursuant to §989.59. For the purpose of this exemption, experimental and specialty packs means raisins processed using methods, materials, or techniques that are not normally employed in packing raisins.

(2) *Application for exemption*. Each application for exemption shall be filed with the Committee in triplicate. The application shall at least contain information as to:

(i) The name and address of the handler;

(ii) The estimated quantity of each varietal type of raisins for which the exemption is requested;

(iii) The specific requirements in the minimum grade standards from which exemption is requested;

(iv) The special processing involved;

(v) The net weight of each type of container;

(vi) Whether disposition will be made direct to consumers, wholesalers, retailers, persons, or organizations, and any special uses to be made of such raisins; and

(vii) The general quality, style, and condition of the raisins for which the exemption is requested.

(3) *Committee action on application*. The Committee in its discretion shall approve each application for exemption of raisins, if it concludes that such exemption shall not jeopardize the objectives of the marketing order program. The Committee shall notify the handler promptly in writing of its approval or disapproval of his application and, if the application is approved, the maximum quantity for which approval is granted. If the application is disapproved, the Committee shall inform the handler of the reasons therefor.

(4) *Reports*. The handler shall report shipments or other dispositions under an approved exemption as required pursuant to §989.173(e).

(g) *Off-grade raisins, other failing raisins, and raisin residual material* —(1) *Recovery of raisins*. For the purposes of §§989.59(f) and 989.158(c)(4), a packer may recover raisins from: (i) Residual raisins from his processing of standard raisins; (ii) any raisins acquired as standard raisins which fail to meet the applicable outgoing grade and condition standards; (iii) any raisins rejected on a condition inspection; and (iv) residual raisins from reconditioning of off-grade raisins: *Provided*, That such recovery under paragraph (g)(1) (ii) and (iii) of this section must occur without blending, if the failure to meet the minimum grade standards for packed raisins is due to a defect or defects affecting the wholesomeness of the raisins: *And provided further*, That such recovery under paragraph (g)(1)(iv) of this section must occur without blending, except as permitted in §989.158(c)(4)(ii), and the weight of standard raisins in residual from off-grade raisins shall be credited equitably to the same lot or lots from which the residual was obtained. The provisions of this paragraph are not

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intended to excuse any failure to comply with all applicable food and sanitary rules and regulations of city, county, state, federal, or other agencies having jurisdiction.

(2) *Disposition.* (i) Except as authorized in this part, no handler shall ship or otherwise dispose of any off-grade raisins, other failing raisins, or raisin residual material. Any handler may ship, transfer, or otherwise dispose of off-grade raisins, other failing raisins, and raisin residual material to or at points within the continental United States (other than Alaska) for use in eligible nonnormal outlets only after filing with the Committee a written application to make such shipment, transfer, or other disposition and receiving its written approval thereof. However, the requirements of prior filing and approval of any such application shall not apply to:

(a) The transfer of any such raisins or residual material by a handler from one of his plants to another of his plants in the State of California, except any transfer of raisins which are for reconditioning shall be in accordance with §989.158(c)(3);

(b) Any interpacker transfer or removal of off-grade raisins made in accordance with §989.158(c)(3) and of unsuccessfully reconditioned off-grade raisins which have been stemmed (other failing raisins) made in accordance with §989.158(c)(6)(ii);

(c) Any return by a handler of unstemmed off-grade raisins to the tenderer in accordance with §989.158(c)(7);

(d) Any shipment or transfer of off-grade raisins, other failing raisins, or raisin residual material by any handler to a processor within the State of California for use, within the State, in eligible nonnormal outlets;

(e) Any shipment or transfer of off-grade raisins, other failing raisins, or raisin residual material by a handler to any person with an effective agreement with the Committee, in which he agrees (1) to use such raisins and raisin residual material only in eligible nonnormal outlets, (2) if not so used, to pay to the Committee liquidated damages in the amount and under the conditions specified in paragraph (g)(2)(iii) of this section, and (3) to maintain complete, accurate, and current records regarding his dealings in raisins and raisin residual material, retain the records for at least 2 years, and permit representatives of the Committee and Secretary of Agriculture to examine all of his books and records relating to raisins and residual material; and

(f) Any direct use by the handler of such raisins or material in eligible nonnormal outlets within the State of California.

(ii) Each such application shall, in addition to the agreement specified in paragraph (g)(2)(iii) of this section, include as a minimum: (a) The names and addresses of the handler, the buyer, the consignee, and the user; (b) the quantity of off-grade and other failing raisins and the quantity of raisins residual material to be shipped or otherwise disposed of; (c) a description of such off-grade raisins and other failing raisins and raisin residual material, as to type or origin; (d) the present location of such raisins and raisin residual material; (e) the particular use to be made of the raisins; and (f) a copy of the sales contract, which may be on a form furnished by the Committee, wherein the buyer agrees:

(1) Not to ship such raisins or raisin residual material to points outside the continental United States or to Alaska;

(2) To dispose of the raisins or raisin residual material only for uses in eligible non-normal outlet(s); and

(3) To maintain complete, accurate, and current records regarding his dealings in raisins, retain the records for at least 2 years, and permit representatives of the Committee and of the Secretary of Agriculture to examine all of his books and records relating to raisins and residual material.

(iii) Each such application shall also include a provision for liquidated damages wherein the handler, in consideration of the Committee approving his application, agrees that in the event any raisins or raisin residual material covered by the approved application should be shipped to points outside of the continental United States or to Alaska, or disposed of in other than eligible non-normal outlets, by any person, it will cause serious and substantial damage to the Committee, to producers, and to handlers of raisins and will be difficult, if not impossible, to prove the extent of such damage.

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Therefore, the handler shall pay to the Committee a sum equal to the established field price as liquidated damages for each ton so shipped or disposed of, such sum being a fair measure of damages and not a penalty.

(iv) The Committee shall notify the applicant in writing of its approval action. In acting on an application, the Committee may disapprove the application when: (a) The application is incomplete, or any required information has not been submitted; (b) the Committee has cause to believe that the raisins or raisin residual material covered by the application will not be shipped or disposed of in accordance with the application; or (c) the handler, or any of the parties involved in the proposed shipment or disposition, had shipped or made disposition or use of raisins or raisin residual material covered by a previously approved application inconsistent with that application. When the use or the name and address of the user or consignee are not known to the handler, the Committee shall not approve the application until it has been informed as to such use and user and consignee of the raisins or residual material.

(v) The Committee may, for cause, revoke any previously approved application of a handler if the handler, buyer, consignee or user covered by the application has shipped or made disposition inconsistent with any approved application. The Committee shall notify the handler in writing of such revocation.

(vi) The handler shall furnish the Committee with a copy of the shipping document or other documentary evidence of the disposition as may be satisfactory to the Committee and at such times as the Committee may direct.

(h) *Appeal inspection.* An appeal inspection on an original inspection may be obtained from the inspection service upon the request of any financially interested party and upon the payment of any fees assessed by the inspection service for such appeal inspection.

[27 FR 3112, Mar. 31, 1962, as amended at 30 FR 6906, May 21, 1965; 31 FR 16306, Dec. 21, 1966; 36 FR 13980, July 29, 1971; 38 FR 13012, May 18, 1973; 38 FR 20237, July 30, 1973; 42 FR 52377, Sept. 30, 1977; 49 FR 18731, May 2, 1984]

### § 989.160 Exemptions

(a) Any processor may receive or acquire any raisins for use in eligible nonnormal outlets, and dispose of them for such use, without having them inspected and certified. Processors receiving or acquiring raisins under such exemption, or otherwise receiving or acquiring raisins which do not meet the applicable minimum grade and condition standards, shall not ship or otherwise dispose of any such raisins except in conformity with the provisions of §989.159(g)(2). Processors shall report receipts and acquisitions and make such other reports as are or may be required pursuant to §§989.73 and 989.173.

(b) *Disposition of raisins produced in Southern California.* Raisins produced from grapes dried on the vine in the counties of Riverside, Imperial, San Bernardino, Ventura, Orange, Los Angeles, and San Diego, which are disposed of for use in distillation or livestock feed, shall be exempt from the provisions of this part.

[30 FR 6906, May 21, 1965, as amended at 38 FR 13013, May 18, 1973; 59 FR 44031, Aug. 26, 1994]

### Volume Regulation

#### § 989.166 Reserve tonnage generally

(a) *Set-aside obligations* —(1) *Natural (sun-dried) Seedless.* Handlers who acquire any lot of natural condition Natural (sun-dried) Seedless raisins which have been dipped in or sprayed with water, with or without chemicals, prior to or during the drying process, for purposes other than to expedite drying, or that have been produced from seedless varieties of grapes other than Thompson Seedless (i.e., Fiesta, Emerald Seedless, Perlette, Delight, and other similar grape varieties), or that have been treated with Oleate or similar drying agents, or such other Natural (sun-dried) Seedless raisins that have been produced using other cultural practices as recommended by the Committee with the approval of the Secretary, may set aside such raisins to satisfy their reserve pool obligation: *Provided*, That such raisins shall be identified by the Inspection Service affixing to one container on each pallet or to each bin in each lot, a prenumbered RAC control card (to be furnished by the Committee) which shall remain affixed until raisins are processed or disposed of as natural

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condition raisins: and *Provided further*, That such raisins shall not be delivered to the Committee or transferred to another handler without approval of the Committee or the receiving handler.

(2) *Mixed varietal types*. A handler who acquired any lot of natural condition raisins of mixed varietal types (commingled within their containers) shall meet the reserve tonnage setaside obligation for each varietal type contained in the mixed lot by setting aside raisins of each such varietal type which have not been mixed or commingled with raisins of any other varietal type. The obligation as to each varietal type shall be computed according to the reserve percentage established by the Secretary, and the percentage of the varietal type contained in the mixed lot as shown by the incoming inspection certificate applicable thereto.

(b) *Storage of reserve tonnage raisins* —(1) *Time limits for setting aside pool tonnage*. Handlers shall be allowed 3 calendar days (exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays), after the preliminary or interim percentages have been computed and announced by the Committee, and after the publication in the Federal Register of the applicable final reserve percentages established for the crop year, or after any reserve tonnage raisins are acquired subsequent to the percentages being announced or established, to segregate and properly stack each varietal type of reserve tonnage raisins.

(2) *Conditions*. Each handler shall store reserve tonnage raisins in storage and under conditions which protect them from rain and which reasonably can be expected to maintain the raisins free of any biological or other infestation or contamination. Each handler shall, pursuant to §989.66(b)(2), store each varietal type of reserve tonnage raisins held by him for the account of the Committee, separate and apart from all other raisins. Storage of such raisins shall be deemed “separate and apart” if the containers are so marked and placed as to be capable of ready and clear identification as to the category in which are held. Reserve tonnage raisins shall be stored in sweat boxes, picking boxes, or other portable containers not exceeding one ton capacity:

(3) *Substitution of free tonnage*. A handler may, pursuant to §989.66(b)(3), after giving the Committee reasonable advance notice in writing and under its direction and supervision, substitute standard raisins for reserve tonnage raisins.

(c) *Remedy in the event of failure to deliver reserve tonnage raisins*. A handler who fails to deliver to the Committee, upon request, any reserve tonnage raisins in the quantity and quality for which he has become obligated (after any shrinkage allowances which may then be in effect are applied and allowances for any deterioration due to conditions beyond his control are made) shall compensate the Committee for the amount of the loss resulting from his failure to so deliver. The amount of compensation for any shortage of tonnage shall be determined by multiplying the quantity of reserve raisins not delivered by the latest weighted average price per ton received by producers during the particular crop year for free tonnage raisins of the same varietal type or types, plus any charges already paid or credited to the handler and cost incurred by the Committee on account of the handler's failure to deliver. The weighted average price shall be determined from those sales made during the particular crop year up to the time such cash payment is requested by the Committee, or up to the end of the particular crop year, whichever date may be earlier. The amount which a handler shall compensate the Committee for any reserve raisins which have deteriorated so as to be off-grade in quality during storage for reasons within his control, shall be the latest weighted average price received by the Committee for the applicable varietal type of reserve pool raisins, less the amount actually received by the Committee in the disposition of the deteriorated raisins delivered by the handler (or the salvage value of such raisins as determined by the Committee). Any amounts paid to the Committee in satisfaction of such deficiencies shall accrue to the earnings of the applicable reserve pool. The remedies provided in this paragraph shall be in addition to, and not exclusive of, any or all of the remedies or penalties prescribed in the act for failure on the part of the handler to comply with the applicable provisions of the act or of this part.

(d) *Disposition of reserve tonnage raisins which become off-grade for causes beyond the handler's control*. Any reserve tonnage raisins held by or for the account of the Committee which become off-grade for reasons beyond the handler's control shall, at the Committee's discretion, be reconditioned or disposed of by the Committee, or under the Committee's control, in eligible nonnormal outlets. Any monetary loss sustained in the reconditioning or disposition of such raisins, not covered by insurance carried by the Committee, shall be charged to the applicable reserve pool.

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(e) *Offers of reserve tonnage raisins to handlers for sale in export.* Whenever the Committee offers reserve tonnage raisins to handlers for sale in export, it shall specify in addition to the normal contract terms and conditions, the total quantity, the price and period within which each handler will be permitted to purchase his share of the offer. Whenever a handler's share of an offer is less than, or exceeds, his holding of reserve tonnage raisins by not more than 10 tons, the Committee may adjust his share so as to avoid the cost involved in the physical transfer of raisins. If, prior to the expiration of the offer period, a handler desires to obtain reserve tonnage in an amount greater than that represented by his share of the offer, he may negotiate with another handler for any unpurchased portion of the other handler's share of an outstanding offer. No such transaction shall be deemed to reduce the transferring handler's share or to increase the transferee handler's share so as to affect either handler's share privileges in subsequent offers. Transfers to implement such transactions between handlers shall be permitted by the Committee only upon receipt of written authorization, on a form furnished by the Committee, by the transferring handler. All limitations applicable to the transferred tonnage shall continue to apply. Such reserve tonnage raisins will be released by the Committee to the transferee handler upon submission of his completed application and full payment for such raisins, and such transferee handler shall be responsible to the Committee for all documentation required in connection with the transaction. All such transfers shall be made at the expense of the handlers concerned.

[32 FR 15916, Nov. 21, 1967, as amended at 38 FR 14960, June 7, 1973; 42 FR 52377, Sept. 30, 1977; 49 FR 18731, May 2, 1984; 54 FR 29327, July 12, 1989; 56 FR 38072, Aug. 12, 1991; 68 FR 42947, July 21, 2003]

### § 989.167 Disposal of reserve raisins

(a) *Offer of reserve tonnage raisins for use in noncompetitive outlets.* Whenever the Committee proposes to offer to sell standard reserve tonnage raisins in noncompetitive outlets pursuant to §989.67 (a) and (b), it shall promptly file with the Secretary complete information with respect thereto and the basis therefor. The Secretary shall have the right to disapprove, within seven calendar days, the making of such an offer or sale or any term or conditions thereof.

(b) *Determination of price of reserve tonnage sold for free tonnage use.* Whenever, pursuant to §989.67(j), the Committee concludes, with respect to any varietal type of raisins, that a downward trend in the price received by producers for free tonnage, or in the prices received by handlers for free tonnage packed raisins, makes it impracticable to sell reserve tonnage at the average price received by producers for free tonnage plus pooling costs, the Committee, subject to the requirements of §99.67(j), may sell reserve tonnage raisins at the currently prevailing field price for free tonnage raisins of the same varietal type, unless such price is deemed to be unrepresentative of the current f.o.b. price of free tonnage packed raisins. In such an event, or if there is no current field price, the Committee shall make any offer of reserve tonnage at approximately the computed field price obtained by deducting from the current f.o.b. price for free tonnage packed raisins of the varietal type to be offered, the approximate recent packing and handling margin between such packed price and the field price for free tonnage raisins. This paragraph (b) shall not be in effect from July 30, 1984, through July 31, 1986.

(c) *Terms of reserve tonnage offers.* Whenever the Committee offers reserve tonnage raisins to handlers for use in free tonnage outlets, the Committee shall, among other terms and conditions of the offer, specify (1) the period in which each handler shall be given the opportunity to purchase his share of the offer, and (2) the period in which each eligible handler shall be given an opportunity to purchase his respective share of any reoffer. In the event reserve pool raisins are transferred by the Committee, the purchasing handler shall promptly empty the raisins from the containers used in the transfer so that the Committee may return the containers and pallets used in the transfer to the handler from whom the raisins were transferred within 10 business days from the date of transfer. Any handler who refuses to permit the containers in which reserve pool raisins are stored to leave his premises, shall, at his expense, place such raisins in containers supplied by the Committee.

[32 FR 15916, Nov. 21, 1967; 33 FR 2380 Jan. 31, 1968, as amended at 49 FR 30296, July 30, 1984]

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### Reports and Records

#### § 989.173 Reports

(a) *Inventory reports.* Each handler shall submit to the Committee as of the close of business on July 31 of each crop year, and not later than the following August 6, an inventory report which shall show, with respect to each varietal type of raisins held by such handler: *Provided*, That, for the Other Seedless varietal type, handlers shall report the information required in this paragraph separately for the different types of Other Seedless raisins:

(1) The quantity of free tonnage raisins, segregated as to locations where they are stored and whether they are natural condition or packed;

(2) The quantity of reserve tonnage raisins for the account of the Committee; and

(3) The quantity of off-grade raisins segregated as to those for reconditioning and those for disposition as such. Upon request by the Committee, each handler shall file at other times, and as of other dates, any of the said information which may reasonably be necessary for the determination or revision of marketing policy and which the Committee shall specify in its request.

(b) *Reports of raisins received or acquired* —(1) *General.* (i) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (i) of this section, each handler shall submit to the Committee (on forms furnished by it) for each week (Sunday through Saturday or such other 7-day period for which the handler has submitted a proposal to and received approval from the Committee) and not later than the following Wednesday, the reports specified in paragraphs (b)(2), (3), (4), and (5) of this section.

(ii) For each report required to be submitted pursuant to this paragraph, the required information shall be shown separately for each varietal type: *Provided*, That, for the Other Seedless varietal type, the required information shall be shown separately for the different types of Other Seedless raisins. With each report, other than that specified in paragraph (b)(4) of this section, the handler shall submit a copy of the door receipt, weight certificate or such other document approved by the Committee that accurately reflects the weight of each lot tendered, for each lot of raisins received or acquired by him during the reporting period and for each lot of raisins stored on memorandum or warehouse receipt which was returned to the tenderer during such period, which shall show the information to be contained on such receipts or weight certificates as specified in §989.158(a)(3). At the time he submits the reports specified in paragraphs (b) (2) and (3) of this section to the Committee, each handler shall submit a copy of each such report to the Inspection Service.

(2) *Acquisition of standard raisins.* Each handler shall report:

(i) The total net weight of the standard raisins acquired during the reporting period, segregated when appropriate, as to free tonnage and reserve tonnage;

(ii) The location of the reserve tonnage raisins; and

(iii) The cumulative totals of such acquisitions (as so segregated) from the beginning of the then current crop year.

(3) *Standard raisins received for memorandum storage.* Each handler shall, with respect to all standard raisins held for memorandum receipt, storage, bailment, or warehousing (raisins received other than by acquisition or interhandler transfer), report:

(i) The net weight of such standard raisins held at the start of the reporting period;

(ii) The net weight of such standard raisins received during the reporting period;

(iii) The net weight of such standard raisins acquired during such period and included with the acquisitions required to be reported pursuant to paragraph (b)(2) of this section;



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(iv) The net weight of such raisins returned during such period to the persons from whom they were received; and

(v) The net weight(s) and location(s) of such raisins held at the end of such period.

(4) *Off-grade raisins returned to tenderers.* Each handler shall report with respect to each lot of off-grade raisins which the handler returned during the reporting period to the tenderer pursuant to paragraph (1) of §989.58(e):

(i) The inspection certificate number;

(ii) The net weight;

(iii) The name of the tenderer; and

(iv) The date the lot was returned to the tenderer.

(5) *Off-grade raisins received for reconditioning or disposition in eligible nonfood channels.* Each handler who is not a processor shall, with respect to all off-grade raisins received by the handler and retained by him for reconditioning or for disposition or use in eligible nonnormal outlets, report for each category received or reconditioned during the reporting period:

(i) The name of each tenderer;

(ii) The net weight of such raisins;

(iii) The locations where received;

(iv) The inspection certificate number covering each receipt;

(v) The name and address of each person to whom residual or off-grade lots were delivered for disposition, and the respective net weight delivered; and

(vi) The total net weight (according to location) of each category of off-grade raisins held by him at the end of the reporting period.

Each nonacquiring handler shall report also the weight of standard raisins recovered from reconditioning, their inspection certificate number(s) and the handler or other person to whom the standard raisins were delivered.

(6) *Monthly report of raisins received or acquired by processors.* Each processor who receives or acquires off-grade raisins, or who avail himself of the exemptions from the grade and inspection requirements provided in §§989.58, 989.59(f), and 989.160 and receives or acquires raisins or raisin residual material, shall submit to the Committee on or before the 7th day of each month a report of such raisins, raisin residual material, and off-grade raisins received or acquired during the preceding month. Each report shall show for each varietal type:

(i) The name and address of each handler, producer, or other person from whom such raisins or raisin residual material was received or acquired; and

(ii) The net weight of such raisins and raisin residual material.

(7) *Receipt of raisins produced from grapes grown outside the State of California.* Each handler who receives raisins produced from grapes grown outside the State of California shall submit to the Committee, on an appropriate form provided by the Committee so that it is received by the Committee not later than the eighth day of each month, a report of the receipt of such raisins. This report shall include: The varietal type of raisins received; the net weight (pounds) of raisins received for the current month as well as a cumulative quantity from August 1; and the state or country where the

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raisins were produced. With each report, the handler shall submit a copy of the door receipt, weight certificate, or such other document as required by the Committee that includes, but is not limited to, the name of the tenderer (equity holder) from whom such raisins were received, the varietal type(s) of raisins, the net fruit weight, the number and type of containers in the lot, the date of delivery, and the address including State or country where such raisins were produced.

(c) *Reports of disposition* —(1) *Free tonnage raisins*. Each month each handler who is not a processor shall furnish to the Committee, on an appropriate form provided by the Committee and so that it is received by the Committee not later than the seventh day of the month, a report showing the aggregate quantity of each varietal type of free tonnage packed raisins and standard natural condition raisins which were shipped or otherwise disposed of by such handler during the preceding month (exclusive of transfers within the State of California between plants of any such handler and from such handler to other handlers): *Provided*, That, for the Other Seedless varietal type, handlers shall report such information for the different types of Other Seedless raisins. Such required information shall be segregated as to:

(i) Domestic outlets (exclusive of Federal Government purchases) according to the quantity shipped in consumer cartons, the quantity shipped in bags having a net weight content of four pounds or less, and the quantity shipped in bulk packs (including, but not limited to those in bags having a net weight content of more than four pounds);

(ii) Federal Government purchases;

(iii) The varietal type of raisin, with organically produced raisins as specified in paragraph (g) of this section separated out, net weight, and condition of the raisins transferred: *Provided*, That, for the Other Seedless varietal type, handlers shall report such information for the different types of Other Seedless raisins; and

(iv) Export outlets, by countries of destination; and

(v) Each of any other outlets in which the handler has made disposition of such raisins other than by any transfer which is excluded by the preceding sentence.

(2) *Disposition by handlers (other than processors) of off-grade raisins, other failing raisins, and raisin residual material*. Each handler who is not a processor shall submit to the Committee on or before the seventh day of each month a report of all shipments and other dispositions made during the preceding month of off-grade raisins, other failing raisins, and raisin residual material. Such report shall be submitted on a form furnished by the Committee and shall include the following information:

(i) Date of each shipment and other disposition;

(ii) Name and address of each buyer and receiver; and

(iii) Description and net weight of the raisins and raisin residual material in each shipment or other disposition.

(3) *Disposition by handlers of raisins produced from grapes grown outside the State of California*. Each handler who receives raisins produced from grapes grown outside the State of California shall submit to the Committee, on or before the eighth day of each month, a report, on the appropriate form provided by the Committee, of all shipments of such raisins made during the preceding month. This report shall include:

(i) The varietal type(s) of raisins shipped;

(ii) The net weight (pounds) of raisins shipped;

(iii) The destination (domestic, export, and other disposition such as distilleries, livestock feeders, or concentrate) of such shipments; and

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(iv) The area of origin (state or country) of the raisins shipped.

(4) *Disposition reports by processors.* Each processor shall submit to the Committee, upon its request, such of the following information and for such period as the Committee shall specify;

(i) The quantity of raisins and raisin material sold or otherwise disposed of by processing operations, segregated as to the processing outlets and the kinds of raisins or raisin material which the Committee shall specify; and

(ii) The quantity of raisins or raisin material sold or otherwise disposed of by the processor, segregated as to specified outlets and kinds of raisins or raisin material.

(d) *Reports of interhandler transfers* —(1) *Free-tonnage.* Any handler who transfers free-tonnage raisins to another handler within the State of California shall submit to the Committee not later than five calendar days following such transfer a report showing:

(i) The date of transfer;

(ii) The name(s) and address(es) of the handler or handlers and the locations of the plants;

(iii) The varietal type of raisin, with organically produced raisins as specified in paragraph (g) of this section separated out, net weight, and condition of the raisins transferred: Provided, That, for the Other Seedless varietal type, handlers shall report such information for the different types of Other Seedless raisins;

(iv) If packed, the inspection certificate number in the event such raisins have been inspected prior to such transfer and a certificate issued. Two copies of such report shall be forwarded to the receiving handler at the time the report is submitted to the Committee, on one of which the receiving handler shall certify to the receipt of such raisins and submit it to the Committee within five calendar days after the raisins or the copies of such report have been received by him, whichever is later; and

(v) If packed, the transferring handler shall certify that such handler is transferring only acquired, free-tonnage raisins that meet all applicable marketing order requirements, including reporting, incoming inspection, assessments, and volume regulation.

(2) [Reserved]

(e) *Report of shipments of experimental or specialty packs under exemption.* Each handler who obtains an exemption pursuant to §989.59(g) for the shipment of experimental or specialty packs of raisins shall submit to the Committee on a copy of the approved application for exemption a report showing the quantity of raisins shipped or disposed of under such exemption. The handler shall submit the report promptly after the end of the crop year or after completion by him of all shipments of such exempted raisins, whichever is earlier.

(f) *Reports pertaining to the release of reserve tonnage and marketing policy information.* Upon request of the Committee, each handler shall submit to the Committee on forms furnished by it a report containing such of the following information for each specified varietal type of raisins as the Committee may request:

(1) The quantity of free tonnage raisins held by him in and outside California as of the date specified in the Committee's request, segregated by the portion sold and the portion not sold;

(2) The total quantity of raisins expected to be acquired by him subsequent to the date specified by the Committee, pursuant to purchase contracts with producers and dehydrators, which are in effect as of the date specified by the Committee;

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(3) The weighted average price paid by him to producers and dehydrators for free tonnage raisins, natural condition basis, during the period specified by the Committee and the quantity of raisins for which such average was computed;

(4) The quantity of free tonnage raisins sold or sold and shipped (as to which category the Committee shall specify) by him during a period specified by the Committee, segregated to show the quantities sold or sold and shipped in:

(i) Domestic markets; and

(ii) Foreign markets, detailed by country; and

(5) The average weighted f.o.b. sales prices received from sales, during a period specified by the Committee, of raisins in 30 pound fibre cases in domestic markets and the quantity of raisins for which such average prices were computed. Each such report shall be submitted not later than the end of the fifth calendar day following either the date of the request by the Committee or the ending date of the period to be covered by the report, whichever is later.

(g) *Organically produced raisins.* For purposes of this section, organically produced raisins means raisins that have been certified by an organic certification organization currently registered with the California Department of Food and Agriculture or such certifying organization accredited under the National Organic Program. Handlers of such raisins shall submit the following reports to the Committee by varietal type: *Provided:* That, for the Other Seedless varietal type, handlers shall report such information for the different types of Other Seedless raisins.

(1) *Inventory report of organically-produced raisins.* Each handler shall submit to the Committee by the close of business on July 31 of each crop year, and not later than the following August 6, on an appropriate form provided by the Committee, a report showing, with respect to the organically-produced raisins held by such handler:

(i) The quantity of free tonnage raisins, segregated as to locations where they are stored and whether they are natural condition or packed;

(ii) The quantity of reserve tonnage raisins held for the account of the Committee;

(iii) The quantity of off-grade raisins segregated as to those for reconditioning and those for disposition as such.

(2) *Acquisition report of organically-produced standard raisins.* Each handler shall submit to the Committee for each week (Sunday through Saturday or such other 7-day period for which the handler has submitted a proposal to and received approval from the Committee) and not later than the following Wednesday, on an appropriate form provided by the Committee, a report showing the following:

(i) The total net weight of the standard raisins acquired during the reporting period, segregated when appropriate, as to free tonnage and reserve tonnage;

(ii) The location of the reserve tonnage; and

(iii) The cumulative totals of such acquisitions (as so segregated) from the beginning of the current crop year.

(iv) Upon request of the Committee, each handler shall provide copies of the organic certificate(s) applicable to the quantity of raisins reported as acquired.

(3) *Disposition report of organically-produced raisins.* No later than the seventh day of each month, handlers who are not processors shall submit to the Committee, on an appropriate form provided by the Committee, a report showing the aggregate quantity of free tonnage packed raisins and standard natural condition raisins which were shipped or otherwise disposed of by such handler during the preceding month (exclusive of transfer within the State of California between the plants of any such handler and from such handler to other handlers). Such information shall include:

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- (i) Domestic outlets (exclusive of Federal government purchases) according to the quantity shipped in consumer cartons, the quantity of bags having a net weight content of 4 pounds or less, and the quantity shipped in bulk packs (including, but not limited to those in bags having a net weight content of more than 4 pounds);
  - (ii) Federal government purchases;
  - (iii) Export outlets according to quantity shipped in consumer cartons, the quantity shipped in bags having a net weight of 4 pounds or less, and the quantity shipped in bulk packs (including, but not limited to those in bags having a net weight content of more than 4 pounds);
  - (iv) Export outlets, by countries of destination; and
  - (v) Each of any other outlets in which the handler disposed of such raisins other than by any transfer which is excluded by the preceding sentence.
- (h) *Certification of report.* All reports submitted to the Committee pursuant to this part shall be dated, and certified to the United States Department of Agriculture and to the Raisin Administrative Committee as to the truthfulness, accuracy and completeness of the information shown thereon.
- (i) *Reporting by non-profit cooperative associations.* Non-profit cooperative associations need not submit door tags, door receipts, weight certificates or other similar documents with its report as to raisins received or acquired from its members.
- (j) *Exemption from filing report.* A handler may be relieved by the Committee of submitting any of the reports required pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section which he shall specify in a written application therefor to the Committee stating that no transactions subject to such reports are contemplated for the balance of the crop year: *Provided*, That any such exemption shall remain in effect only so long as said handler has no such transactions subject to such reports.

[27 FR 3112, Mar. 31, 1962]

**Editorial Note:** For Federal Register citations affecting §989.173, see the List of CFR Sections Affected, which appears in the Finding Aids section of the printed volume and at [www.fdsys.gov](http://www.fdsys.gov).

### § 989.176 Records

Each handler shall maintain complete, accurate, and current records of all of his business affairs concerning which he is required to submit reports with the Committee, and shall maintain such records for at least two years after the termination of the crop year in which the transactions occurred.

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### Subpart—Supplementary Regulations

#### **§ 989.210 Handling of varietal types of raisins acquired pursuant to a weight dockage system**

(a) *General.* A handler may acquire as standard raisins lots of Natural (sun-dried) Seedless, Golden Seedless, Dipped Seedless, Monukka, Other Seedless, Sultana, Zante Currant, Muscat (including other raisins with seeds), and Other Seedless-Sulfured raisins under the weight dockage provisions described in §§989.212 and 989.213. The creditable weight of each lot of raisins acquired in this manner shall be that obtained by multiplying the net weight of the raisins in the lot by the applicable factor(s) from the appropriate dockage table(s) included in those sections.

(b) *Free and reserve tonnage percentages.* Whenever free and reserve percentages are designated for raisins of the varietal types specified in paragraph (a) of this section for a crop year, such percentages shall be applicable to the creditable weight of any lot of such raisins acquired by a handler pursuant to a weight dockage system.

(c) *Reserve tonnage.* A handler may hold as reserve tonnage raisins, any lot, or portion thereof, of raisins of the varietal types specified in paragraph (a) of this section acquired pursuant to a weight dockage system: *Provided,* That only the creditable weight of such lot, or portion thereof, may be applied by the Committee against the handler's reserve tonnage obligation.

(d) *Assessments.* Assessments on any lot of raisins of the varietal types specified in paragraph (a) of this section acquired by a handler pursuant to a weight dockage system shall be applicable to the free tonnage portion of the creditable weight of such lot.

(e) *Payments for services on reserve tonnage.* Payment to a handler for services performed by such handler with respect to reserve tonnage raisins of the varietal types specified in paragraph (a) of this section acquired by a handler pursuant to a weight dockage system shall be made on the basis of the creditable weight of such lot and at the applicable rate specified for such services in §989.401 of *Subpart—Schedule of Payments.*

(f) *Identification.* Any lot of raisins of the varietal types specified in paragraph (a) of this section acquired pursuant to a weight dockage system shall be so identified by the inspection service affixing to one container on each pallet, or to each bin, in such lot, a prenumbered RAC control card (to be furnished by the Committee) which shall remain affixed to the container or bin until the raisins are processed or disposed of as natural condition raisins. The control card shall only be removed by, or under the supervision of an inspector of, the inspection service, or authorized Committee personnel.

(g) *Application of dockage factors.* A lot of raisins acquired which may be subject to both a substandard and maturity dockage factor shall have only the highest of the two dockage factors applied to determine the creditable weight.

[53 FR 49296, Dec. 7, 1988, as amended at 67 FR 36792, May 28, 2002; 68 FR 42947, July 21, 2003]

#### **§ 989.212 Substandard dockage**

(a) *General.* Subject to prior agreement between handler and tenderer, Natural (sun-dried) Seedless, Golden Seedless, Dipped Seedless, Monukka, Other Seedless, and Other Seedless-Sulfured raisins containing from 5.1 through 17.0 percent, by weight, of substandard raisins may be acquired by a handler under a weight dockage system. A handler may also, subject to prior agreement, acquire as standard raisins any lot of Muscat (including other raisins with seeds), Sultana, and Zante Currant raisins containing from 12.1 through 20.0 percent, by weight, of substandard raisins under a weight dockage system. The creditable weight of each lot of raisins acquired under the substandard dockage system shall be obtained by multiplying the net weight of the lot of raisins by the applicable dockage factor from the appropriate dockage table prescribed in paragraph (b) or (c) of this section.

(b) *Substandard dockage table applicable to Natural (sun-dried) Seedless, Golden Seedless, Dipped Seedless, Monukka, Other Seedless, and Other Seedless-Sulfured raisins.*

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Percent substandard	Dockage factor
5.0 or less	(!)
5.1	.999
5.2	.998
5.3	.997
5.4	.996
5.5	.995

!No dockage.

Note to paragraph (b): Percentages in excess of the last percentage shown in the table shall be expressed in the same increment as the foregoing, and the dockage factor for each such increment shall be .001 less than the dockage factor for the preceding increment. Deliveries in excess of 17.0 percent would be offgrade; therefore, the dockage factor does not apply.

(c) *Substandard dockage table applicable to Muscat (including other raisins with seeds), Sultana and Zante Currant raisins.*

Percent substandard	Dockage factor
12.0 or less	(!)
12.1	.999
12.2	.998
12.3	.997
12.4	.996
12.5	.995

!No dockage.

Note to paragraph (c): Percentages in excess of the last percentage shown in the table shall be expressed in the same increments as the foregoing, and the dockage factor for each increment shall be .001 less than the dockage factor for the preceding increment. Deliveries in excess of 20.0 percent would be offgrade; therefore, the dockage factor does not apply.

[57 FR 28597, June 26, 1992, as amended at 63 FR 56785, Oct. 23, 1998; 67 FR 36792, May 28, 2002; 68 FR 42947, July 21, 2003]

### § 989.213 Maturity dockage

(a) *General.* Subject to prior agreement between handler and tenderer, Natural (sun-dried) Seedless, Golden Seedless, Dipped Seedless, Monukka, Other Seedless, and Other Seedless-Sulfured raisins containing from 35.0 percent through 49.9 percent, by weight, of well-matured or reasonably well-matured raisins may be acquired by a handler under a weight dockage system. The creditable weight of each lot of raisins acquired under the maturity dockage system shall be obtained by multiplying the net weight of the lot of raisins by the applicable dockage factor from the dockage table prescribed in paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) of this section.

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(b) Maturity dockage table applicable to lots of Natural (sun-dried) Seedless, Golden Seedless, Dipped Seedless, Monukka, Other Seedless, and Other Seedless-Sulfured raisins which contain 45.0 percent through 49.9 percent well-matured or reasonably well-matured raisins:

<b>Percent well-matured or reasonably well-matured:</b>	<b>Dockage factor</b>
50.0 or more	(1)
49.9	0.9995
49.8	.9990
49.7	.9985
49.6	.9980
49.5	.9975

<sup>1</sup>No dockage.

Note: Percentages less than the last percentage shown in the table, down to 45.0 percent, shall be expressed in the same increments as the foregoing, and the dockage for each such increment shall be .0005 less than the dockage factor for the preceding increment.

(c) Maturity dockage table applicable to lots of Natural (sun-dried) Seedless, Golden Seedless, Dipped Seedless, Monukka, Other Seedless, and Other Seedless-Sulfured raisins which contain 40.0 percent through 44.9 percent well-matured or reasonably well-matured raisins:

<b>Percent well-matured or reasonably well-matured:</b>	<b>Dockage factor</b>
44.9	0.974
44.8	.973
44.7	.972
44.6	.971
44.5	.970
44.4	.969

Note: Percentages less than the last percentage shown in the table, down to 40.0 percent, shall be expressed in the same increments as the foregoing, and the dockage factor for each such increment shall be .001 less than the dockage factor for the preceding increment.

(d) Maturity dockage table applicable to lots of Natural (sun-dried) Seedless, Golden Seedless, Dipped Seedless, Monukka, Other Seedless, and Other Seedless-Sulfured raisins which contain 35.0 percent through 39.9 percent well-matured or reasonably well-matured raisins:

<b>Percent well-matured or reasonably well-matured:</b>	<b>Dockage factor</b>
39.9	0.9235
39.8	.9220
39.7	.9205
39.6	.9190
39.5	.9175



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Note to paragraph (d): Percentages less than the last percentage shown in the table shall be expressed in the same increments as the foregoing, and the dockage factor for each such increment shall be .0015 less than the dockage factor for the preceding increment.

[25 FR 12813, Dec. 14, 1960; 27 FR 2506, Mar. 16, 1962, as amended at 52 FR 32776, Aug. 31, 1987; 53 FR 34715, Sept. 8, 1988; 53 FR 49296, Dec. 7, 1988; 54 FR 43041, Oct. 20, 1989; 63 FR 56785, Oct. 23, 1998; 67 FR 36792, May 28, 2002; 68 FR 42947, July 21, 2003]

### § 989.221 Sale and export of reserve raisins by handlers

(a) *Eligible countries.* Pursuant to §989.67(c), the Committee may sell reserve raisins to handlers for export to all markets in the world except those listed in paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) *Non-eligible countries.* The Committee may not sell reserve raisins to handlers for export to Cuba, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Canada, Mexico, and all islands adjacent to Canada and Mexico.

[58 FR 48275, Sept. 15, 1993]

**Editorial Note:** After January 1, 1979, “Budget of Expenses and Rate of Assessment” regulations (e.g., sections .300 through .399) and “Marketing percentage” regulations (e.g., sections .222 through .299) which are in effect for a year or less, will not be carried in the Code of Federal Regulations. For Federal Register citations affecting these regulations, see the List of CFR Sections Affected, which appears in the Finding Aids section of the printed volume and at [www.fdsys.gov](http://www.fdsys.gov).

### § 989.257 Final free and reserve percentages

(a) The final percentages for the respective varietal type(s) of raisins acquired by handlers during the crop year beginning August 1, which shall be free tonnage and reserve tonnage, respectively, are designated as follows:

(b)

Crop year	Varietal type	Free percentage	Reserve percentage
2003–04	Natural (sun-dried) Seedless	70	30
2005–06	Natural (sun-dried) Seedless	82.50	17.50
2006–07	Natural (sun-dried) Seedless	90	10
2007–08	Natural (sun-dried) Seedless	85	15
2008–09	Natural (sun-dried) Seedless	87	13
2009–10	Natural (sun-dried) Seedless	85	15

(b) The volume regulation percentages apply to acquisitions of the varietal type of raisins for the applicable crop year until the reserve raisins for that crop are disposed of under the marketing order.

[75 FR 20901, Apr. 22, 2010]

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### Subpart—Assessment Rates

#### **§ 989.347 Assessment rate**

On and after August 1, 2010, an assessment rate of \$14.00 per ton is established for assessable raisins produced from grapes grown in California.

[76 FR 18007, Apr. 1, 2011]

### Subpart—Schedule of Payments

#### **§ 989.401 Payments for services performed with respect to reserve tonnage raisins**

(a) *Payment for crop year of acquisition* —(1) *Receiving, storing, fumigating, and handling.* Each handler shall be compensated at a rate of \$46 per ton (natural condition weight at the time of acquisition) for receiving, storing, fumigating, and handling the reserve tonnage raisins, as determined by the final reserve tonnage percentage, acquired during a particular crop year and held by the handler for the account of the Committee during all or any part of the same crop year.

(2) *Inspection.* Each handler shall be reimbursed by the Committee for inspection costs applicable to the reserve tonnage raisins, as determined by the final reserve tonnage percentage, received and held by him for the account of the Committee. Such payment shall be made at the currently applicable rate per ton paid by such handler to the Inspection Service and on the quantity reported by the handler. The Committee shall pay the cost of any inspection required by it of such reserve tonnage raisins while they are being held for its account: *Provided*, That the cost of inspection of any raisins substituted, pursuant to §989.66(b)(3), by a handler for such reserve tonnage raisins, or which he received by transfer from another handler by purchasing, as permitted pursuant to §989.166, a portion or all of such other handler's share of an offer, shall be borne by the handler and shall not be reimbursed to him by the Committee.

(b) *Additional payment for reserve tonnage raisins held beyond the crop year of acquisition.* Additional payment for reserve tonnage raisins held beyond the crop year of acquisition shall be made in accordance with this paragraph. Each handler holding such raisins for the account of the Committee on August 1 shall be compensated for storing, handling, and fumigating such raisins at the rate of \$2.30 per ton per month, or any part thereof, between August 1 and October 31, and at the rate of \$1.18 per ton per month, or any part thereof, between November 1 and July 31: *Provided*, That handlers holding 2002–03 Natural (sun-dried) Seedless reserve raisins on August 1, 2003, that are intended for use as cattle feed shall be compensated for storing, handling, and fumigating such raisins at the rate of \$2.30 per ton per month, or any part thereof, between September 13 and October 31, 2003, and at the rate of \$1.18 per ton per month, or any part thereof, between November 1, 2003, and July 31, 2004. Such services shall be completed so that the Committee is assured that the raisins are maintained in good condition.

(c) *Payment of rental on boxes and bins containing raisins held beyond the crop year of acquisition.* Payment of rental on boxes and bins containing reserve tonnage raisins held beyond the crop year of acquisition shall be made in accordance with this paragraph. Each handler, producer, dehydrator, and other person who furnishes boxes or bins in which such raisins are held for the account of the Committee on August 1, shall be compensated for the use of such boxes and bins: *Provided*, That persons holding 2002–03 Natural (sun-dried) Seedless reserve raisins on September 13, 2003, that are intended for use as cattle feed shall be compensated for the use of such boxes and bins, and that no compensation shall be accrued for such raisins held between August 1 and September 12, 2003. The rate of compensation shall be: For boxes, two and one-half cents per day, not to exceed a total payment of \$1 per box per year, per average net weight of raisins in a sweatbox, with equivalent rates for raisins in boxes other than sweatboxes; and for bins 20 cents per day per bin, not to exceed a total of \$10 per bin per year. For purposes of this paragraph, *box* means any container with a capacity of less than 1,000 pounds, and *bin* means any container with a capacity of 1,000 pounds or more. The average net weight of raisins in each type of box shall be the industry average as computed by the Committee for the box in which the raisins are so held. No further compensation shall be paid unless the raisins are so held in the boxes on the succeeding August 1.

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(d) *Payment for other services* —(1) *General*. In addition to the payments provided in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this section, handlers shall be compensated for other services performed with respect to reserve tonnage raisins as set forth in this paragraph.

(2) *Transportation*. The Committee may arrange with any handler for transporting reserve tonnage raisins. Payment for such transportation shall be based on then prevailing haulage rates within the production area for the type of transportation required.

(3) *Packing*. A handler who accepts an offer by the Committee to pack reserve tonnage raisins for its account shall be compensated for such packing in an amount determined by or acceptable to the Committee. In considering the amount of compensation to be paid, the Committee shall take into account, among other factors, the particular varietal type of raisins to be packed, the particular pack or package required, and the quantity and quality of the raisins to be packed.

(4) *Redelivery*. In the event the Committee removes reserve tonnage raisins of a previous crop year from a handler upon the request provided for in §989.66(f) and such handler subsequently desires redelivery to him of reserve tonnage raisins for contract packing, or other purpose, he shall reimburse the Committee in advance of such redelivery for the net costs to it of the removal, storage, and redelivery of such raisins: *Provided*, That the Committee may waive payment by the handler of part or all of such costs if it determines that such waiver is reasonably necessary to the prompt and favorable disposition of the raisins involved.

[32 FR 15917, Nov. 21, 1967, as amended at 49 FR 18731, May 2, 1984; 53 FR 49297, Dec. 7, 1988; 54 FR 35636, Aug. 29, 1989; 65 FR 30527, May 12, 2000; 68 FR 44859, July 31, 2003]

### **Subpart—Conversion Factors**

#### **§ 989.601 Conversion factors for raisin weight**

The following factors for the named varietal types of raisins shall be used to convert the net weight of reconditioned raisins acquired by handlers as packed raisins to natural condition weight. The net weight of the raisins after the completion of processing shall be divided by the applicable factor to obtain the natural condition weight: *Provided*, That the adjusted weight does not exceed the original weight of the raisins prior to reconditioning; and *Provided further*, That, if the adjusted weight exceeds the original weight, the original weight will be used.

<b>Varietal type</b>	<b>Conversion factor</b>
Natural (sun-dried) Seedless	0.92
Golden Seedless, Dipped Seedless, Other Seedless, and Other Seedless-Sulfured	0.95
Muscats (including raisins with seeds):	
Seeded	0.80
Unseeded	0.92
Sultana	0.92
Zante Currant	0.91

[54 FR 41587, Oct. 11, 1989, as amended at 67 FR 36792, May 28, 2002; 68 FR 42947, July 21, 2003]

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### Subpart—Quality Control

#### **§ 989.701 Minimum grade and condition standards for natural condition raisins**

Effective pursuant to §989.58, raisins meeting the varietal standards hereinafter set forth shall be considered as standard raisins and those failing to meet such standards shall be considered as off-grade raisins. Where the raisins in any lot consist of two or more varietal types commingled within their containers, the lot shall be considered as a mixed lot and as standard raisins if they meet for each defect the most restrictive requirements for the varietal types of raisins comprising the lot. In the event layered Muscats (including other raisins with seeds) or Cluster Seedless raisins are commingled within their containers with loose Muscats (including other raisins with seeds) or loose Cluster Seedless raisins respectively, the entire lot shall be considered as loose Muscats (including other raisins with seeds) or Natural (sun-dried) Seedless raisins. The raisins shall be considered as standard raisins if the lot as a whole meets the minimum standards for loose Muscats (including other raisins with seeds) or Natural (sun-dried) Seedless raisins: *Provided*, That with respect to the requirements peculiar to a varietal type such as possessing characteristic color, flavor, or odor, the raisins shall be considered as meeting such requirements if they have been properly prepared as raisins. In each category, only those raisins which have been properly dried and cured in original natural condition, are free from active infestation, and are in such condition that they are capable of being received, stored, and packed without undue deterioration or spoilage, shall be considered as storable raisins.

(a) *Natural (sun-dried) Seedless, Monukka and Other Seedless raisins.* Natural condition Natural (sun-dried) Seedless, Monukka and Other Seedless raisins shall have been prepared from sound, wholesome, matured grapes properly dried and cured, and shall meet the following additional requirements: (1) Shall be fairly free from damage by sugaring, mechanical injury, sunburn, or other similar injury; (2) shall have a normal characteristic color, flavor, and odor of properly prepared raisins; (3) shall contain not more than 5 percent, by weight, of substandard raisins (raisins that show development less than that characteristic of raisins prepared from fairly well-matured grapes), and shall also contain at least 50 percent well-matured or reasonably well-matured raisins; (4) shall not exceed 16 percent moisture as determined by the dried fruit moisture tester method, except that there shall be no maximum moisture content for Cluster Seedless raisins; and (5) shall be of such quality and condition as can be expected to withstand storage as provided in the order and that when processed in accordance with good commercial practice will meet the minimum standards for processed raisins established by the Committee, and that with respect to Cluster Seedless raisins, in addition to the above requirements the raisins shall be fairly free from shattered (or loose end) berries, and be uniformly cured; shall contain 30 percent or more “2 Crown” or larger size berries; and shall be of such quality and condition that when processed in accordance with good commercial practice will, except for moisture content, meet the minimum standards for processed raisins established by the Committee.

(b) *Dipped Seedless, Oleate and Related Seedless, and Other Seedless-Sulfured raisins.* Natural condition Dipped Seedless, and Other Seedless-Sulfured raisins shall have been prepared from sound, wholesome, matured grapes properly dried and cured, and shall meet the following additional requirements: (1) Shall be fairly free from damage by sugaring, mechanical injury, sunburn, or other similar injury; (2) Shall have a normal characteristic flavor and odor of properly prepared raisins; (3) Shall contain not more than 5 percent, by weight, of substandard raisins (raisins that show development less than that characteristic of raisins prepared from fairly well-matured grapes), and for the 1985–86 and subsequent crop years also contain at least 50 percent well-matured or reasonably well-matured raisins; (4) Shall not exceed 14 percent moisture as determined by the dried fruit moisture tester method, (5) Shall be of such quality and condition as can be expected to withstand storage as provided in the order and that when processed in accordance with good commercial practice will meet the minimum standards for processed raisins established by the Committee.

(c) *Golden Seedless.* Natural condition Golden Seedless raisins shall have been prepared from sound, wholesome, matured grapes properly dried and cured, and shall meet the following additional requirements: (1) Shall be fairly free from damage by sugaring, mechanical injury, sunburn, or other similar injury; (2) shall have a normal characteristic flavor and odor of properly prepared raisins; (3) shall contain not more than 5 percent, by weight, of substandard raisins (raisins that show development less than that characteristic of raisins prepared from fairly well-matured grapes), and for the 1985–86 and subsequent crop years also contain at least 50 percent well-matured or reasonably well-matured raisins; (4) shall not exceed 14 percent moisture as determined by the dried fruit moisture tester method, (5) shall be of such quality and condition as can be expected to withstand storage as provided in the order and that when processed in

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accordance with good commercial practice will meet the minimum standards for processed raisins established by the Committee; and (6) shall possess a color varying from yellowish green to dark amber or dark greenish amber with not more than 15 percent, by weight, of all the raisins being definitely dark berries. *Definitely dark berries* means raisins which are definitely darker than dark amber and characteristic of “naturally” raisined grapes.

(d) *Muscats (including other raisins with seeds)*. Natural condition Muscat raisins (including other raisins with seeds) shall have been prepared from sound, wholesome, matured grapes properly dried and cured, and shall meet the following additional requirements: (1) Shall be fairly free from damage by sugar, mechanical injury, sunburn or other similar injury; (2) Shall have a normal characteristic color, flavor, and odor of properly prepared raisins and shall contain not more than 12 percent, by weight, of substandard raisins (raisins that show development less than that characteristic of raisins prepared from fairly well-matured grapes); (3) Shall not exceed 16 percent moisture as determined by the dried fruit moisture tester method, except that water dipped, vine sprayed or similarly treated Muscats (including other raisins with seeds) shall not exceed 14 percent moisture, and that there shall be no maximum moisture content for layered Muscats (including other raisins with seeds); (4) The raisins shall be of such quality and condition as can be expected to withstand storage as provided in the marketing agreement and order, and that when processed in accordance with good commercial practice will meet the minimum standards for processed raisins established by the Committee, and that with respect to layered Muscats (including other raisins with seeds), in addition to the above requirements the raisins shall be fairly free from shattered (or loose end) berries; uniformly cured; 30 percent or more “3 Crown” or larger size; of such quality and condition that when processed in accordance with good commercial practice will, except for moisture content, meet the minimum standards for processed raisins established by the Committee.

(e) *Sultana Raisins*. Natural condition Sultana raisins shall have been prepared from sound, wholesome, matured grapes properly dried and cured, and shall meet the following additional requirements: (1) Shall be fairly free from damage by sugaring, mechanical injury, sunburn, or other similar injury; (2) Shall have a normal characteristic color, flavor, and odor of properly prepared raisins and shall contain not more than 12 percent, by weight, of substandard raisins (raisins that show development less than that characteristic of raisins prepared from fairly well-matured grapes); (3) Shall not exceed 16 percent moisture as determined by the dried fruit moisture tester method; and (4) The raisins shall be of such quality and condition as can be expected to withstand storage as provided in the marketing agreement and order, and that when processed in accordance with good commercial practice will meet the minimum standards for processed raisins established by the Committee.

(f) *Zante Currant Raisins*. Natural condition Zante Currant raisins shall have been prepared from sound, wholesome, matured grapes properly dried and cured, and shall meet the following additional requirements; (1) Shall be fairly free from damage by sugaring, mechanical injury, sunburn, or other similar injury; (2) shall have a normal characteristic color, flavor, and odor of properly prepared raisins and shall contain not more than 12 percent, by weight, of substandard raisins (raisins that show development less than that characteristic of raisins prepared from fairly well-matured grapes); (3) shall not exceed 16 percent moisture as determined by the dried fruit moisture tester method; and (4) the raisins shall be of such quality and condition as can be expected to withstand storage as provided in the marketing agreement and order, and that when processed in accordance with good commercial practice will meet the minimum standards for processed raisins established by the Committee.

[42 FR 52378, Sept. 30, 1977, as amended at 46 FR 39121, July 31, 1981; 48 FR 49215, Oct. 25, 1983; 49 FR 1669, Jan. 13, 1984; 49 FR 33994, Aug. 28, 1984; 50 FR 35771, Sept. 4, 1985; 53 FR 34715, Sept. 8, 1988; 67 FR 36793, May 28, 2002; 68 FR 42947, July 21, 2003]

### § 989.702 Minimum grade standards for packed raisins

Effective pursuant to §989.59, the minimum grade standards for packed raisins shall be as follows:

(a) *Natural (sun-dried) Seedless, Dipped Seedless, and Other Seedless-Sulfured raisins*. Packed Natural (sun-dried) Seedless, Dipped Seedless, and Other Seedless-Sulfured raisins shall meet the requirements of U.S. Grade C as defined in the effective United States Standards for Grades of Processed Raisins (§§52.1841 through 52.1858 of this title): *Provided*, That at least 70.0 percent, by weight, of the raisins shall be well-matured or reasonably well-matured. With respect to select-sized and mixed-sized raisin lots, the raisins shall at least meet the U.S. Grade B tolerances for pieces of stem, and

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underdeveloped and substandard raisins, and small (midget)-sized raisins shall meet the U.S. Grade C tolerances for those factors.

(b) *Golden Seedless Raisins*. Packed Golden Seedless raisins shall at least meet the requirements prescribed in paragraph (a) of this section, and the color requirements for “colored” as defined in said standards.

(c) *Monukka and Other Seedless Raisins*. Packed Monukka and Other Seedless raisins shall at least meet the requirements prescribed in paragraph (a) of this section, except that the tolerance for moisture shall be 19 percent rather than 18 percent.

(d) *Muscat (including other raisins with seeds) Raisins*. Packed Muscat (including other raisins with seeds) raisins shall at least meet the requirements of U.S. Grade C of the said standards. Layer Muscat (including other raisins with seeds) raisins shall at least meet U.S. Grade B as defined for “Layer or Cluster Raisins With Seeds” in said standards, except for the provisions therein relating to moisture content.

(e) *Sultana Raisins*. Packed Sultana raisins shall at least meet the requirements of U.S. Grade C as defined in said standards.

(f) *Zante Currant Raisins*. Packed Zante Currant raisins shall at least meet the requirements of U.S. Grade B as defined in said standards.

(g) *Cluster Seedless Raisins* —(1) *Description*. Raisins referred to as *Cluster Seedless raisins* means the raisins have not been detached from the main bunch. Cluster Seedless raisins shall at least meet the requirements of Marketing Order Grade B prescribed in this paragraph. The processed raisins are prepared from clean, sound, dried grapes; are stored or cleaned, or both, and are washed with water to assure a wholesome product.

(2) *Grades*. (i) Marketing Order Grade A is a quality of Cluster Seedless raisins that have similar varietal characteristics; have a good typical color; have a good characteristic flavor; are uniformly cured and show development characteristics of raisins prepared from well-matured grapes; contain not more than 23 percent, by weight, of moisture; that not less than 30 percent, by weight, of the raisins, exclusive of stems and branches, are “2 Crown” size or larger and meet the additional requirements as outlined in the table in paragraph (2)(iv) of this paragraph.

(ii) Marketing Order Grade B is the quality of the Cluster Seedless raisins that have similar varietal characteristics; have a reasonably good typical color; have a good characteristic flavor; are uniformly cured and show characteristics of raisins prepared from reasonably well-matured grapes; contain not more than 23 percent, by weight, of moisture; that not less than 30 percent, by weight, of raisins, exclusive of stems and branches, are “2 Crown” size or larger and meet the additional requirements as outlined in the table in paragraph (2)(iv) of this paragraph.

(iii) Substandard is the quality of Cluster Seedless raisins that fail to meet the requirements of Marketing Order Grade B.

(iv) Allowances for defects in Cluster Seedless raisins:

Defects	Marketing order grade A	Marketing order grade B
	Maximum (percent by weight)	
Sugared	5	10
Discolored, damaged, or moldy	5	7
Provided these limits are not exceed:		
Damaged	3	4

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Moldy	2	3
Substandard Development and Undeveloped	2	5
Shattered (or loose) individual berries and small clusters of 2 or 3 berries each	Practically free	Reasonably free
	Appearance or edibility of product	
Slightly discolored or damaged by fermentation or any other defect not described above	May not be affected	May not be more than slightly affected.
Grit, sand, or silt	None of any consequence may be present that affects the appearance or edibility of the product.	
<b>Defects</b>	<b>Marketing order grade A</b>	<b>Marketing order grade B</b>
	Maximum (percent by weight)	
Sugared	5	10
Discolored, damaged, or moldy	5	7
Provided these limits are not exceed:		
Damaged	3	4
Moldy	2	3
Substandard Development and Undeveloped	2	5
Shattered (or loose) individual berries and small clusters of 2 or 3 berries each	Practically free	Reasonably free
	Appearance or edibility of product	
Slightly discolored or damaged by fermentation or any other defect not described above	May not be affected	May not be more than slightly affected
Grit, sand, or silt	None of any consequence may be present that affects the appearance or edibility of the product.	

(h) A handler may grind raisins which do not meet the minimum grade standards prescribed in paragraphs (a) through (g) of this section because of mechanical damage or sugaring, into a raisin paste.

[49 FR 33994, Aug. 28, 1984, as amended at 50 FR 35772, Sept. 4, 1985; 53 FR 34715, Sept. 8, 1988; 67 FR 36793, May 28, 2002; 68 FR 42947, July 21, 2003]

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### **Subpart—Antitrust Immunity and Liability**

#### **§ 989.801 Restrictions applicable to committee personnel.**

Members and employees of the Raisin Administrative Committee are immune from prosecution under the United States antitrust laws only insofar as their conduct in administering the Raisin Marketing Order is authorized by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, 7 U.S.C. 601 et seq., or the provisions of the order. Under the antitrust laws.

Committee members and employees may not engage in any unauthorized agreement or concerted action that unreasonably restrains United States domestic or foreign commerce. For example, Committee members and employees have no authority to participate, either directly or indirectly, whether on an informal or formal, written or oral basis, in any bilateral or international undertaking or agreement with any competing foreign producer or seller or with any foreign government, agency, or instrumentality acting on behalf of competing foreign producers or sellers to (a) raise, fix, stabilize, or set a floor for raisin, sultana, or currant prices, or (b) limit the quantity or quality of raisins, sultanas, or currants imported into or exported from the United States. Participation in any such unauthorized agreement or joint undertaking could result in prosecution under the antitrust laws by the United States Department of Justice and/or suit by injured private persons seeking treble damages, and could also result in expulsion of members from the Committee or termination of employment with the Committee.

[46 FR 39984, Aug. 6, 1981]