

participant's name and the participant's account number or Social Security number. A written inquiry from a spouse or former spouse or a beneficiary of the participant must include the inquiring party's name and Social Security number or, if available, the case reference number as well as the name and Social Security number or account number of the participant. Other third party inquiries (e.g., from other Federal agencies authorized to obtain information about the participant's account) must include, at a minimum, the participant's name and Social Security number.

* * * * *

(2) * * * To access these features, the participant may be required to provide identity and account verification information such as his or her account number, PIN, or Web password.

* * * * *

■ 4. Amend § 1630.7 as follows:

■ a. Revised paragraph (b).

■ b. In the first sentence in paragraph (c)(1) after the words "their respective" add the words "account numbers (or case reference numbers) or".

■ c. In the first sentence in paragraph (c)(2) after the words and punctuation mark "her name," add the words "account number (or case reference number) or".

■ d. In paragraph (c)(3) amend the second sentence and remove the third sentence as follows:

§ 1630.7 Identification requirements.

* * * * *

(b) *In writing.* A participant shall provide his or her name, date of birth, and account number or Social Security number and shall sign the request. Most other individuals shall provide the participant's account number or Social Security number, shall provide a statement of relationship to the participant unless it is clearly identified in the nature of the correspondence, and shall sign the request. If a request for access is granted by mail and, in the opinion of the Privacy Act Officer or record keeper designee after consulting with the appropriate system manager, the disclosure of the records through the mail may result in harm or embarrassment (if a person other than the subject individual were to receive the records), a notarized statement of identity or some other similar assurance of identity will be required.

* * * * *

(c) * * *

(3) * * * These systems may require identity and account verification information such as the participant's account number and Web password or

PIN for the Web site and ThriftLine respectively.

PART 1640—PERIODIC PARTICIPANT STATEMENTS

■ 5. The authority citation for part 1640 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 8439(c)(1) and (c)(2), 5 U.S.C. 8474(b)(5) and (c)(1).

§ 1640.3 [Amended]

■ 6. In § 1640.3, paragraph (a), remove the words "Social Security" and add, in their place, the word "account."

PART 1653—COURT ORDERS AND LEGAL PROCESSES AFFECTING THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN ACCOUNTS

■ 7. The authority citation for part 1653 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 8435, 8436(b), 8437(e), 8439(a)(3), 8467, 8474(b)(5) and 8474(c)(1).

■ 8. In § 1653.2, paragraph (a)(3)(iv), revise Examples (1), (2), and (3) to read as follows:

§ 1653.2 Qualifying retirement benefits court orders.

(a) * * *

(3) * * *

(iv) * * *

Example (1). ORDERED: [payee's name, Social Security number (SSN), and address] is awarded \$____ from the [civilian or uniformed services] Thrift Savings Plan account of [participant's name, account number or SSN, and address].

Example (2). ORDERED: [payee's name, SSN, and address] is awarded ____% of the [civilian and/or uniformed services] Thrift Savings Plan account[s] of [participant's name, account number or SSN, and address] as of [date].

Example (3). ORDERED: [payee's name, SSN, and address] is awarded [fraction] of the [civilian and/or uniformed services] Thrift Savings Plan account[s] of [participant's name, account number or SSN, and address] as of [date].

§ 1653.3 [Amended]

■ 9. In § 1653.3(b)(1), before the words "Social Security number (SSN)" add the words "account number or."

§ 1653.13 [Amended]

■ 10. In § 1653.13(b)(1), before the words "Social Security number (SSN)" add the words "account number or."

[FR Doc. E7-17646 Filed 9-6-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6760-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

7 CFR Part 987

[Docket No. AMS-FV-07-0104; FV07-987-1 IFR]

Domestic Dates Produced or Packed in Riverside County, CA; Decreased Assessment Rate

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Interim final rule with request for comments.

SUMMARY: This rule decreases the assessment rate established for the California Date Administrative Committee (committee) for the 2007-08 and subsequent crop year from \$0.95 to \$0.75 per hundredweight of dates handled. The committee recommended decreasing the assessment rate to reduce its cash reserve levels. The committee locally administers the marketing order which regulates the handling of dates grown or packed in Riverside County, California. Assessments upon date handlers are used by the committee to fund reasonable and necessary expenses of the program. The crop year begins October 1 and ends September 30. The assessment rate will remain in effect indefinitely unless modified, suspended, or terminated.

DATES: Effective September 10, 2007. Comments received by November 6, 2007, will be considered prior to issuance of a final rule.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Terry Vawter, Senior Marketing Specialist, or Kurt J. Kimmel, Regional Manager, California Marketing Field Office, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA; Telephone: (559) 487-5901, Fax: (559) 487-5906, or E-mail: Terry.Vawter@usda.gov or Kurt.Kimmel@usda.gov.

Small businesses may request information on complying with this regulation by contacting Jay Guerber, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., STOP 0237, Washington, DC 20250-0237; Telephone: (202) 720-2491, Fax: (202) 720-8938, or E-mail: Jay.Guerber@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This rule is issued under Marketing Order No. 987, as amended (7 CFR part 987), regulating the handling of dates grown or packed in Riverside County, California, hereinafter referred to as the "order." The order is effective under the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, as amended (7 U.S.C. 601-674), hereinafter referred to as the "Act."

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

This rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12988, Civil Justice Reform. Under the marketing order now in effect, California date handlers are subject to assessments. Funds to administer the order are derived from such assessments. It is intended that the assessment rate as issued herein will be applicable to all assessable dates beginning October 1, 2007, and continue until amended, suspended, or terminated. This rule will not preempt any State or local laws, regulations, or policies, unless they present an irreconcilable conflict with this rule.

The Act provides that administrative proceedings must be exhausted before parties may file suit in court. Under section 608c(15) (A) of the Act, any handler subject to an 3 order may file with USDA a petition stating that the order, any provision of the order, or any obligation imposed in connection with the order is not in accordance with law and request a modification of the order or to be exempted therefrom. Such handler is afforded the opportunity for a hearing on the petition. After the hearing USDA would rule on the petition. The Act provides that the district court of the United States in any district in which the handler is an inhabitant, or has his or her principal place of business, has jurisdiction to review USDA's ruling on the petition, provided an action is filed not later than 20 days after the date of the entry of the ruling.

This rule decreases the assessment rate established for the committee for the 2007-08 and subsequent crop years from \$0.95 per to \$0.75 per hundredweight of dates.

The California date marketing order provides authority for the committee,

with the approval of USDA, to formulate an annual budget of expenses and collect assessments from handlers to administer the program. The members of the committee are producers and handlers of California dates. They are familiar with the committee's needs and with the costs for goods and services in their local area, and are thus in a position to formulate an appropriate budget and assessment rate. The assessment rate is formulated and discussed in a public meeting. Thus, all directly affected persons have an opportunity to participate and provide input.

For the 2005-06 crop year and subsequent crop years, the committee recommended, and USDA approved, an assessment rate that would continue in effect from crop year to crop year unless modified, suspended, or terminated by USDA upon recommendation and information submitted by the committee or other information available to USDA.

The committee met on June 21, 2007, and unanimously recommended 2007-08 expenditures of \$209,182 and an assessment rate of \$0.75 per hundredweight of California dates. In comparison, last year's budgeted expenditures were \$127,485. The assessment rate of \$0.75 is \$0.20 lower than the rate currently in effect. The committee believes that the assessment rate should be reduced, because the 2006-07 crop was 3 million pounds larger than expected, resulting in \$102,652 in accumulated cash reserves available for 2007-08 expenditures. Section 987.72(c) states that the reserve may not exceed 50 percent of the average of expenses incurred during the most recent five preceding crop years. The committee believes the decreased assessment rate will allow it to reduce the amount it holds in cash reserves to \$30,115, by September 30, 2008, the end of the 2007-08 crop year. That reserve amount would be within the limits provided in § 987.72(c).

Proceeds from sales of cull dates are deposited in a surplus account for subsequent use by the committee in covering the surplus pool share of the committee's expenses. Handlers may also dispose of cull dates of their own production within their own livestock-feeding operation; otherwise, such cull dates must be shipped or delivered to the committee for sale to non-human food product outlets. Pursuant to § 987.72(b), the committee is authorized to temporarily use funds derived from assessments to defray expenses incurred in disposing of surplus dates. All such expenses are required to be deducted from proceeds obtained by the committee from the disposal of surplus

dates. For the 2007-08 crop year, the committee estimated that \$2,000 from the surplus account would be needed to refund assessments used in paying committee expenses incurred in disposing of surplus dates.

The major expenditures recommended by the committee for the 2007-08 crop year include \$87,312 for general and administrative programs, \$67,870 for promotional programs, \$24,000 for marketing and media consulting, \$5,000 for moving expenses, and \$5,000 for updating marketing materials. The committee also budgeted \$20,000 as a contingency reserve for other marketing and promotion projects that it may wish to support later in the year.

By comparison, expenditures for the 2006-07 crop year were \$127,485. Major expenditures recommended by the committee included \$75,095 for general and administrative expenses, \$22,390 for promotional expenses, and \$30,000 for date nutritional analysis.

The assessment rate recommended by the committee was derived by adding the incoming reserve funds from the 2006-07 crop year (\$105,652), plus the anticipated assessment income from an estimated crop of 19,000,000 million pounds at \$0.75 per hundredweight (\$142,500) along with the contribution from the surplus program (\$2,000), minus the proposed expenses of \$209,182, and a refund of excess assessments of \$10,855, leaving a reserve of \$30,115 to carry into the 2008-09 crop year.

The assessment rate established in this rule will continue in effect indefinitely unless modified, suspended, or terminated by USDA upon recommendation and information submitted by the committee or other available information.

Although this assessment rate is effective for an indefinite period, the committee will continue to meet prior to or during each crop year to recommend a budget of expenses and consider recommendations for modification of the assessment rate. The dates and times of committee meetings are available from the committee or USDA. Committee meetings are open to the public and interested persons may express their views at these meetings. USDA will evaluate committee recommendations and other available information to determine whether modification of the assessment rate is needed. Further rulemaking will be undertaken as necessary. The committee's 2007-08 budget and those for subsequent crop years will be reviewed and, as appropriate, approved by USDA.

Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Pursuant to requirements set forth in the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA), the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) has considered the economic impact of this rule on small entities. Accordingly, AMS has prepared this initial regulatory flexibility analysis.

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

There are approximately 124 producers of dates in the production area and approximately 10 handlers subject to regulation under the marketing order. The Small Business Administration (13 CFR 121.201) defines small agricultural producers as those having annual receipts of less than \$750,000, and small agricultural service firms are defined as those having annual receipts of less than \$6,500,000.

An industry profile shows that four of the 10 handlers (40 percent) had date sales over \$6,500,000 and could be considered large handlers by the Small Business Administration. Six of the 10 handlers (60 percent) had date sales of less than \$6,500,000 and could be considered small handlers. An estimated 7 producers, or less than 6 percent, of the 124 total producers, would be considered large producers with annual incomes over \$750,000. The remaining producers have incomes less than \$750,000. The majority of handlers and producers of California dates may be classified as small entities.

This rule decreases the assessment rate established for the committee and collected from handlers for the 2007–08 and subsequent crop years from \$0.95 to \$0.75 per hundredweight of dates handled. The committee unanimously recommended 2007–08 expenditures of \$209,182 and an assessment rate of \$0.75 per hundredweight of dates, which is \$0.20 lower than the 2005–06 rate, currently in effect. The committee recommended decreasing the assessment rate to reduce its cash reserve levels.

The quantity of assessable dates for the 2007–08 crop year is estimated at 19,000,000 pounds. Thus, the \$0.75 rate should provide \$142,500 in assessment income and, with reserve funds of \$105,652 and the \$20,000 contribution from the surplus program, will be

adequate to meet the 2007–08 crop year expenses.

The major expenditures recommended by the committee for the 2007–08 crop year include \$87,312 for general and administrative programs, \$67,870 for promotional programs, \$24,000 for marketing and media consulting, \$5,000 for moving expenses, and \$5,000 for updating marketing materials. The committee also budgeted \$2,000 as a contingency reserve for other marketing and promotion projects that it may wish to support later in the year.

The committee believes that the assessment rate should be reduced because the unanticipated increased date production during the 2006–07 crop year resulted in a larger carry-in of funds than the committee prefers. The decrease in the assessment rate would allow the committee to reduce its cash reserves to an appropriate level.

The committee reviewed and unanimously recommended 2007–08 crop year expenditures of \$209,180. Prior to arriving at this budget, the committee considered information from various sources, such as the committee's Marketing Subcommittee. Alternative expenditure levels were an option available to the committee, but given the windfall from the larger-than-expected 2006–07 crop, it was ultimately determined that a \$209,180 budget would be most beneficial to the industry. The assessment rate of \$0.75 per hundredweight of dates was then derived, based upon the committee's estimates of the incoming reserve, income, and anticipated expenses.

A review of historical information and preliminary information pertaining to the upcoming crop year indicates that the grower price for the 2007–08 crop year could range between \$45 and \$50 per hundredweight of dates. Therefore, the estimated assessment revenue for the 2007–08 crop year as a percentage of total grower revenue is approximately 1.67 to 1.5 percent, respectively.

This action decreases the assessment obligation imposed on handlers. Assessments are applied uniformly on all handlers, and some of the costs may be passed on to producers. However, decreasing the assessment rate reduces the burden on handlers, and may reduce the burden on producers. In addition, the committee's meeting was widely publicized throughout the California date industry and all interested persons were invited to attend the meeting and participate in committee deliberations on all issues. Like all committee meetings, the June 21, 2007, meeting was a public meeting and all entities, both large and small, were able to

express views on this issue. Finally, interested persons are invited to submit comments on this interim final rule, including the regulatory and informational impacts of this action on small businesses.

This action imposes no additional reporting or recordkeeping requirements on either small or large California date handlers. As with all Federal marketing order programs, reports and forms are periodically reviewed to reduce information requirements and duplication by industry and public sector agencies.

AMS is committed to complying with the E-Government Act, to promote the use of the Internet and other information technologies to provide increased opportunities for citizen access to Government information and services, and for other purposes.

USDA has not identified any relevant Federal rules that duplicate, overlap, or conflict with this rule.

A small business guide on complying with fruit, vegetable, and specialty crop marketing agreements and orders may be viewed at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/fv/moab.html>. Any questions about the compliance guide should be sent to Jay Guerber at the previously mentioned address in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

After consideration of all relevant material presented, including the information and recommendation submitted by the committee and other available information, it is hereby found that this rule, as hereinafter set forth, will tend to effectuate the declared policy of the Act.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553, it is also found and determined upon good cause that it is impracticable, unnecessary, and contrary to the public interest to give preliminary notice prior to putting this rule into effect, and that good cause exists for not postponing the effective date of this rule until 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register** because: (1) The 2007–08 crop year begins on October 1, 2007, and the marketing order requires that the rate of assessment for each crop year apply to all assessable dates handled during such crop year; (2) the action decreases the assessment rate for assessable dates beginning with the 2007–08 crop year; (3) handlers are aware of this action which was unanimously recommended by the committee at a public meeting and is similar to other assessment rate actions issued in past years; and (4) this interim final rule provides a 60-day comment period, and all comments timely received will be considered prior to finalization of this rule.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 987

Dates, Marketing agreements, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

■ For the reasons set forth in the preamble, 7 CFR part 987 is amended as follows:

PART 997—DATES PRODUCED OR PACKED IN RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

■ 1. The authority citation for 7 CFR part 987 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 601–674.

■ Section 987.339 is revised to read as follows:

§ 987.339 Assessment rate.

On and after October 1, 2007, an assessment rate of \$0.75 per hundredweight is established for California dates.

Dated: August 30, 2007.

Lloyd C. Day,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 07–4368 Filed 9–6–07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–02–M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Aviation Administration****14 CFR Part 71**

[Docket No. FAA–2007–28559; Airspace Docket No. 07–AEA–03]

Removal of Class D and E Airspace; Utica, NY; Amendment of Class D and E Airspace; Rome, NY; Establishment of Class E Airspace; Rome, NY

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This action will remove the Class D, E2, E4, and E5 airspace at Utica, NY, and amend the Class D and E2 airspace at Rome, NY. This action will also establish Class E5 airspace at Rome, NY. The Oneida County Airport, Utica, NY, is permanently closed and no longer operational, moving aircraft operations to Griffiss Airfield, Rome, NY. The closure necessitates the removal of all Class D and E airspace at Utica, NY. Subsequently, this action amends the Class D and E2 airspace at Rome, NY, published in the **Federal Register** on January 25, 2007, (72 FR 3365) but not charted due to inaccuracies in the legal descriptions. This action will also establish Class E5 airspace at Rome, NY, to replace the

Class E5 airspace being removed at Utica, NY. Class D surface area airspace is required when the control tower is open to contain Standard Instrument Approach Procedures (SIAPs) and other Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) operations at the airport. Class E2 surface area airspace is required when the control tower is closed to contain SIAPs and other IFR operations at the airport. Class E5 airspace extends upward from 700 feet Above Ground Level (AGL) and is required to contain SIAPs and other IFR operations at the airport. This action will amend Class D airspace extending upward from the surface to and including 3,000 feet MSL within an 8.4-mile radius and Class E2 airspace within an 8.4-mile radius of the Griffiss Airfield. This action will also establish Class E5 airspace extending upward from 700 feet above the surface within a 10.9 mile radius of Griffiss Airfield and within 5 miles each side of the Griffiss Airfield ILS localizer northwest course from the 10.9-mile radius to 15 miles northwest of Griffiss Airfield and within a 26-mile radius of the airport extending clockwise from a 125° bearing to 200° bearing from the airport.

DATES: Effective Date: 0901 UTC, October 25, 2007. The Director of the Federal Register approves this incorporation by reference action under 1 CFR, part 51, subject to the annual revision of FAA Order 7400.9 and publication of conforming amendments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mark D. Ward, Manager, System Support, Eastern Service Center, Federal Aviation Administration, P.O. Box 20636, Atlanta, Georgia 30320; telephone (404) 305–5586.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**History**

On January 1, 2007, the Oneida County Airport, Utica, NY, was permanently closed and airport operations terminated. The closure, therefore, requires the removal of all Class D and E airspace at Utica, NY. Subsequently, operations were moved to Griffiss Airfield, Rome, NY, and Class D and E2 airspace areas were established. An amendment is required to correct errors in the legal description of the Class D and E airspace which has prevented the airspace from being charted. Establishment of Class E5 airspace at Rome, NY, is required to replace the Class E5 airspace being removed at Utica, NY. This rule becomes effective on the date specified in the “Effective Date” section. Since this action eliminates the impact of controlled airspace on users of airspace in the vicinity of Utica, NY, and has no

significant impact on the users of the airspace in the vicinity of the Griffiss Airfield, Rome, NY, notice and public procedure under 5 U.S.C. 553(b) are not necessary. Designations for Class D and E Surface Area Airspace, Class E Airspace Areas D Surface Area, and Class E Airspace Areas Extending Upward from 700 feet or More Above the Surface of the Earth are published in paragraphs 5000, 6002, 6004 and 6005 respectively of FAA Order 7400.9P, dated September 1, 2006, and effective September 15, 2006, which is incorporated by reference in 14 CFR 71.1. The Class D and Class E airspace designations listed in this document will be published subsequently in the Order.

The Rule

This amendment to part 71 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 71) removes Class D, E2, E4, and E5 airspace at Utica, NY, amends Class D, and E2 airspace at Rome, NY, and establishes Class E5 airspace at Rome, NY.

The FAA has determined that this regulation only involves an established body of technical regulations for which frequent and routine amendments are necessary to keep them operationally current. It, therefore, (1) is not a “significant regulatory action” under Executive Order 12866; (2) is not a “significant rule” under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034; February 26, 1979); and (3) does not warrant preparation of a regulatory evaluation as the anticipated impact is so minimal. Since this is a routine matter that will only affect air traffic procedures and air navigation, it is certified that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 71

Airspace, Incorporation by reference, Navigation (air).

Adoption of the Amendment

■ In consideration of the foregoing, the Federal Aviation Administration amends 14 CFR part 71 as follows:

PART 71—DESIGNATION OF CLASS A, CLASS B, CLASS C, CLASS D AND CLASS E AIRSPACE AREAS; AIRWAYS; ROUTES; AND REPORTING POINTS

■ 1. The authority citation for 14 CFR part 71 continues to read as follows: