

SUBCHAPTER V—DAIRY

§ 7981. Milk price support program**(a) Support activities**

During the period beginning on June 1, 2002, and ending on December 31, 2007, the Secretary of Agriculture shall support the price of milk produced in the 48 contiguous States through the purchase of cheese, butter, and nonfat dry milk produced from the milk.

(b) Rate

During the period specified in subsection (a) of this section, the price of milk shall be supported at a rate equal to \$9.90 per hundredweight for milk containing 3.67 percent butterfat.

(c) Purchase prices**(1) Uniform prices**

The support purchase prices under this section for each of the products of milk (butter, cheese, and nonfat dry milk) announced by the Secretary shall be the same for all of that product sold by persons offering to sell the product to the Secretary.

(2) Sufficient prices

The purchase prices shall be sufficient to enable plants of average efficiency to pay producers, on average, a price that is not less than the rate of price support for milk in effect under subsection (b) of this section.

(d) Special rule for butter and nonfat dry milk purchase prices**(1) Allocation of purchase prices**

The Secretary may allocate the rate of price support between the purchase prices for nonfat dry milk and butter in a manner that will result in the lowest level of expenditures by the Commodity Credit Corporation or achieve such other objectives as the Secretary considers appropriate. Not later than 10 days after making or changing an allocation, the Secretary shall notify the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate of the allocation. Section 553 of title 5 shall not apply with respect to the implementation of this section.

(2) Timing of purchase price adjustments

The Secretary may make any such adjustments in the purchase prices for nonfat dry milk and butter the Secretary considers to be necessary not more than twice in each calendar year.

(e) Commodity Credit Corporation

The Secretary shall carry out the program authorized by this section through the Commodity Credit Corporation.

(Pub. L. 107-171, title I, §1501, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 205.)

§ 7982. National dairy market loss payments**(a) Definitions**

In this section:

(1) Class I milk

The term “Class I milk” means milk (including milk components) classified as Class I milk under a Federal milk marketing order.

(2) Eligible production

The term “eligible production” means milk produced by a producer in a participating State.

(3) Federal milk marketing order

The term “Federal milk marketing order” means an order issued under section 608c of this title.

(4) Participating State

The term “participating State” means each State.

(5) Producer

The term “producer” means an individual or entity that directly or indirectly (as determined by the Secretary)—

(A) shares in the risk of producing milk; and

(B) makes contributions (including land, labor, management, equipment, or capital) to the dairy farming operation of the individual or entity that are at least commensurate with the share of the individual or entity of the proceeds of the operation.

(b) Payments

The Secretary shall offer to enter into contracts with producers on a dairy farm located in a participating State under which the producers receive payments on eligible production.

(c) Amount

Payments to a producer under this section shall be calculated by multiplying (as determined by the Secretary)—

(1) the payment quantity for the producer during the applicable month established under subsection (d) of this section;

(2) the amount equal to—

(A) \$16.94 per hundredweight; less

(B) the Class I milk price per hundredweight in Boston under the applicable Federal milk marketing order; by

(3)(A) during the period beginning on the first day of the month the producers on a dairy farm enter into a contract under this section and ending on September 30, 2005, 45 percent; and

(B) during the period beginning on October 1, 2005, and ending on September 30, 2007, 34 percent.

(d) Payment quantity**(1) In general**

Subject to paragraph (2), the payment quantity for a producer during the applicable month under this section shall be equal to the quantity of eligible production marketed by the producer during the month.

(2) Limitation

The payment quantity for all producers on a single dairy operation during the months of the applicable fiscal year for which the producers receive payments under subsection (b) of this section shall not exceed 2,400,000 pounds. For purposes of determining whether producers are producers on separate dairy operations or a single dairy operation, the Secretary shall apply the same standards as were