Citrus Administrative Committee

Organic Shipment Rule

Federal Marketing Order No. 905

905.146 Special Purpose Shipments.

A Special Purpose Shipper is one who deals with certified organically grown Florida citrus fruit as defined in Chapter 504.22 through 504.35 of the Florida Statues. Any such shipments shall be made subject to a Certificate of Privilege.

To qualify for a Certificate of Privilege, each such shipper must notify the Citrus Administrative Committee (committee) prior to the first shipment of certified organically grown Florida citrus fruit in the fiscal period of his intent to ship such citrus, submit an application on forms (CAC Form 200) supplied by the committee, and agree to other requirements as set forth in 905.147 and 905.148 inclusive, with respect to such shipments. The shipper shall certify that he will make no claims, written or verbal, concerning any alleged advantages of using, or any alleged superiority of, fruit shipped under a Certificate of Privilege, compared to other Florida produced citrus.

Citrus meeting all other applicable requirements may be handled without regard to grade regulations issued under section 905.52 under the following conditions:

(a) Such fruit meets requirements of U.S. No. 2 Russet grade and those requirements of the U.S. No. 1 grade relating to shape (form) as such requirements are set forth in the revised U.S. Standards for Grades of Florida Oranges and Tangelos (7 CFR 2851.1140 through CFR 2851.1835), or the revised U.S. Standards for Grades of Florida Grapefruit (7 CFR 2851.750 through 2851.784). Such fruit meets applicable minimum size requirements in effect for domestic shipments of citrus fruits.

(b) All such citrus shall be inspected as required by 905.53 by the Federal or Federal/State Inspection Service prior to the time such citrus is shipped from the packing facility, and certified as meeting the applicable requirements.

(c) Be reported as required in 905.148.

905.147 Certificate of Privilege.

(a) Application. Application for a Certificate of Privilege by a Special Purpose Shipper shall be made on forms (CAC Form 200) furnished by the committee. Each application may contain, but need not be limited to, the name and address of each handler; a list of certified organic citrus fruit growers, including addresses; the quantity and variety of citrus to be shipped; a certification to the Secretary of Agriculture and to the committee as to the truthfulness of the information shown thereon; and any other appropriate information or documents deemed necessary by the committee or its duly authorized agents for the purposes stated in 905.146.

(b) Approval. The committee or its duly authorized agents shall give prompt consideration to each application for a Certificate of Privilege. Approval of an application based upon a determination as to whether the information contained therein and other information available to the committee supports approval, shall

be evidenced by the issuance of a Certificate of Privilege to the applicant. Each certificate shall expire at the end of the fiscal period.

(c) Disqualification**.** The committee, from time to time, may conduct surveys of Special Purpose Shipments under the Certificate of Privilege to determine whether handlers are complying with the requirements and regulations applicable to such certificates. Whenever the committee finds that a handler or consignee is failing to comply with these requirements, the Certificate of Privilege issued such handler may be rescinded and further certificates denied. Such disqualification by the committee, but in no event shall it extend beyond the end of the current fiscal period. Any handler who has a certificate rescinded or denied may appeal to the committee in writing for reconsideration of his disqualification.

905.148 Reports of Special Purpose Shipments under Certificates of Privilege.

a. Each handler of citrus shipping under Certificates of Privilege shall supply the committee with reports on each shipment as requested by the committee, on forms (CAC Form 201) supplied by the committee, showing the name and address of the shipper; name and address of the certified organic Florida citrus fruit grower or growers supplying fruit for such shipment; truck or other conveyance identification; the loading point; destination, consignee; the inspection certificate number; and any other information deemed necessary by the committee.

b. One copy of the report on each shipment shall be forwarded to the committee promptly by the shipper; one copy of the report shall be forwarded to the receiver. Upon shipment of each shipment, the shipper shall complete the applicable portion of the form and return one copy to the committee within ten days. Such completion shall contain a certification to the Secretary and the committee that the citrus described meet the provisions of section 905.146. Failure to complete and return such forms could be cause to revoke the shippers Certificate of Privilege.