

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
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March 4, 2010

To: Interested Parties, Appalachian Marketing Area
From: Market Administrator, Louisville, Kentucky
Subject: **USDA Issues Final Decision on Amendments to all Federal Milk Orders**

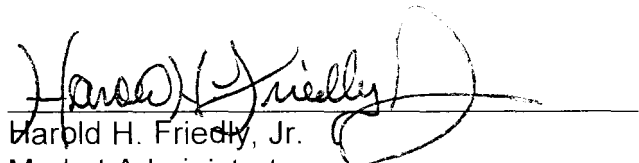
On February 26, 2010, the U.S. Department of Agriculture issued a final decision to amend the producer-handler definition in all federal milk marketing orders. These amendments were considered in a recommended decision published October 21, 2009.

This decision amends the producer-handler definition of all federal milk marketing orders to limit exemption from pooling and pricing provisions of the orders to those producer-handlers with total route disposition and sales of packaged fluid milk products to other plants of 3 million pounds or less per month.

These amendments are subject to producer approval before they can be implemented on a permanent basis. The final decision amends all federal milk marketing orders. Each amended federal order must be approved either by two-thirds of producers supplying milk to the federal order or by producers who supply two-thirds of the milk to that order. If approved, USDA will issue a final rule.

The final decision was published in the March 4 Federal Register. The final decision is available on the AMS' web site: www.ams.usda.gov/dairy.

Additional information may also be obtained from this office by calling (502) 499-0040, or e-mail friedly@malouisville.com.


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