



United States
Department of
Agriculture

October 25, 2002

EOD-115

Farm and Foreign
Agricultural
Services

NOTICE TO THE TRADE

Farm Service
Agency

Subject: Filing Time for Setoffs on Short and Damaged Cargo

Kansas City
Commodity Office
P.O. Box 419205
Kansas City,
Missouri
64141-6205

Effective with this Notice, CCC is lifting the nine-month limit for setoffs against commodity contract payments for receipt of short and damaged cargo on bridge and f.a.s. contracts.

The nine-month limit was imposed by CCC based on a regulated rail industry in which the Uniform Bill of Lading was used for every shipment. Due to the deregulation of the railroad industry and the limited use of the Uniform Rail Bill of Lading, this time limit is no longer relevant. Individual contracts are prevalent between rail carriers and shippers. Claims provisions under those contracts are negotiated between the two parties.

If you have any questions concerning this Notice, please contact Austen Merrick, Chief, Export Operations Division, at 816-926-6715.

George W. Aldaya
Director