

Farm Service Agency, USDA

§ 723.310

for a price support loan shall be paid to the "Farm Service Agency, USDA" to the extent of the indebtedness shown. The acceptance and use of a marketing card bearing a notation and information concerning an indebtedness to the United States shall not constitute a waiver by the debtor-producer of any right to contest the validity of such indebtedness by appropriate appeal. As claim collections are made, the amount of the claim shown on the card shall be revised to show the claim balance. If requested by the producer, the county FSA executive director who issued the marketing card shall issue a claim-free marketing card when the claim has been paid.

(b) *Replacing, exchanging, or issuing additional marketing cards.* Subject to the approval of the county FSA executive director, two or more marketing cards may be issued for any farm. Upon the return to the county FSA office of a marketing card which had been used in its entirety and before the marketing of tobacco from the farm has been completed, a new marketing card bearing the same name, information, and identification as the used card shall be issued for the farm. A new marketing card shall be issued to replace a card which has been determined by the county FSA executive director who issued the card to have been lost, destroyed, or stolen.

§ 723.307 Invalid cards.

(a) *Reasons for being invalid.* A marketing card shall be invalid if:

(1) It is not issued or delivered in the manner prescribed;

(2) An entry is omitted or is incorrect;

(3) It is lost, destroyed, stolen, or becomes illegible; or,

(4) Any erasure or alteration has been made and not properly initialed by the county FSA executive director.

(b) *Validating invalid cards.* If any entry is not made on a marketing card as required, either through omission or incorrect entry, and the proper entry is made and initialed by the county FSA executive director who issued the card, or by a marketing recorder, then such card shall become valid.

(c) *Returning invalid cards.* In the event any marketing card becomes in-

valid (other than by loss, destruction or theft, or by omission, alteration, or incorrect entry, which has not been corrected by the county FSA executive director who issued the card, or by a marketing recorder), the farm operator, or the person in possession of the card, shall return it to the county FSA office at which it was issued.

§ 723.308 Rate of penalty.

The rate of penalty for a marketing year shall be equal to seventy-five (75) percent of the average market price for the kind of tobacco for the immediately preceding marketing year as determined and announced annually by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

[55 FR 39914, Oct. 1, 1990, as amended at 63 FR 11582, Mar. 10, 1998]

§ 723.309 Persons to pay penalty.

Subject to any additional requirements or provisions for remittances which are contained in § 723.409 of this part, the persons to pay the penalty due on any marketing of tobacco subject to penalty shall be determined as follows:

(a) *Auction sale.* The penalty due on marketings by a producer or dealer through an auction sale shall be paid by the warehouse operator who may deduct an amount equivalent to the penalty from the price paid to the producer or dealer.

(b) *Nonauction sale.* The penalty due on tobacco acquired directly from a producer or dealer, other than at an auction sale, shall be paid by the person acquiring the tobacco who may deduct an amount equivalent to the penalty from the price paid to the producer or dealer in the case of a sale.

(c) *Marketing outside the United States.* The penalty due on marketings by a producer or dealer directly to any person outside the United States shall be paid by the producer or dealer making the sale.

[55 FR 39914, Oct. 1, 1990, as amended at 63 FR 11582, Mar. 10, 1998]

§ 723.310 Date penalty is due.

(a) *Payment of penalty.* Penalties shall become due at the time the tobacco is marketed, except that in the case of

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false identification or failure to account for disposition, the penalty shall be due on the date of such false identification or failure to account for disposition. The penalty shall be paid by remitting the amount due to the State FSA office not later than the end of the calendar week in which the tobacco becomes subject to penalty. A draft, money order, or check drawn payable to the Farm Service Agency may be used to pay any penalty, but any such draft or check shall be received subject to payment at par.

(b) *Auction sale net proceeds.* If the penalty due on any auction sale of tobacco by a producer is in excess of the net proceeds of such sale (gross amount for all lots included in the sale less usual warehouse charges), the amount of the net proceeds accompanied by a copy of the tobacco sale bill covering such sale may be remitted as the full penalty due. Usual warehouse charges shall not include the following:

- (1) Advances to producers,
- (2) Charges for hauling, or
- (3) Any other charges not usually incurred by producers in marketing tobacco through a warehouse.

(c) *Nonauction sales.* Nonauction sales of excess tobacco shall be subject to the full rate of penalty and shall be paid in full even though the penalty may exceed the proceeds for the sale of tobacco.

§ 723.311 Lien for penalty; liability of persons who are affiliated with indebted person or who permit the indebted person to use their identification card.

(a) *Lien on tobacco.* Until the amount of any marketing quota penalty imposed under this part is paid, a lien shall exist in favor of the United States for the amount of the penalty on:

- (1) The tobacco with respect to which such penalty is incurred; and
- (2) Any other tobacco subject to marketing quotas in which the person liable for payment of the penalty has an interest and which is marketed in the same or a subsequent marketing year.

(b) *Lien precedence.* The lien, described in paragraph (a) of this section, attaches at the time that the penalty is assessed. As to third parties, in the event of a lack of actual notice of the

lien, then notice shall be deemed to occur when:

(1) In the case of indebted producers, the debt is entered on the debt record maintained by the county FSA office of the county in which the tobacco was grown;

(2) In the case of an indebted warehouse operator, the debt is entered on the debt record of the State FSA office for the State in which the warehouse is located; and

(3) In the case of an indebted dealer, the debt is entered on the debt record of the State FSA office for the State in which the dealer is required to file reports.

(c) *Availability of list of marketing quota penalty debts.* Each county and State FSA office shall maintain a list of tobacco marketing penalty debts which have been entered on the debt record in their office. The list shall be available for examination upon request by any interested person.

(d) *Liability for penalty owed by another person.* (1) When a penalty in excess of \$10,000 is incurred under this part by an entity, all persons who have a substantial ownership interest in the entity shall be jointly and severally liable with the entity for the payment of such penalty, unless it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Deputy Administrator that the violation was inadvertent. Substantial ownership interest shall be deemed to be any ownership interest greater than ten percent.

(2) A dealer or warehouse operator who permits an indebted person to use such dealer's or warehouse operator's identification card to market tobacco shall be liable for the amounts due by the indebted person to the United States under this part up to the amount of the value of the tobacco so marketed. In addition, unless the Deputy Administrator determines otherwise, any persons or person, who as a warehouse operator or dealer becomes affiliated with any person who at the time of affiliation is indebted under this part to the United States, shall be liable for the amount of the debt owed to the United States by the person with whom such person or persons become affiliated up to the amount of the value of any tobacco which is marketed by