submit comments on this rule, including the regulatory and informational impacts of this action on small businesses.

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), the Order's information collection requirements have been previously approved by OMB and assigned OMB No. 0581–0177, Tart Cherries Grown in the States of Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin. No changes to those requirements would be necessary as a result of this final rule. Should any changes become necessary, they would be submitted to OMB for approval.

This final rule will not impose any additional reporting or recordkeeping requirements on either small or large tart cherry handlers. As with all Federal marketing order programs, reports and forms are periodically reviewed to reduce information requirements and duplication by industry and public sector agencies.

AMS is committed to complying with the E-Government Act, to promote the use of the internet and other information technologies to provide increased opportunities for citizen access to Government information and services, and for other purposes. AMS has not identified any relevant federal rules that duplicate, overlap, or conflict with this final rule.

A proposed rule concerning this action was published in the **Federal Register** on November 18, 2025 (90 FR 51572). Copies of the proposed rule were provided to all tart cherry handlers. In addition, the proposal was made available through the internet by AMS and the Office of the Federal Register via *https://www.regulations.gov.* A 30-day comment period ending December 18, 2025, was provided for interested persons to respond to the proposal. AMS received two comments during the comment period. One comment supported the proposal and one comment challenged the procedural sufficiency of the rulemaking, asserting that AMS did not adhere to the requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act, Paperwork Reduction Act, Executive Order 12866, and the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Specifically, the commenter claimed that AMS procedurally bypassed notice and comment or waived the 30-day delayed effective date without adequate good cause and failed to present a clear analysis of the impacts on small businesses, and that the rule did not provide information regarding the reporting burden on handlers.

Contrary to the commenter's assertions on the Administrative Procedures Act, AMS did not bypass notice and comment or invoke good cause. Interested persons had numerous opportunities to review pertinent information, present their views, and participate in the rulemaking process. As noted above, AMS published a proposed rule in the **Federal Register** on November 18, 2025, not an interim final rule as the commenter suggests. The proposed rule included a 30-day comment period for interested persons, ending December 18, 2025. The proposed rulemaking also included an Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis, pursuant to requirements set forth in the Regulatory Flexibility Act, that considered and detailed for the public's review, the economic impact of this final rule on small entities. AMS has provided adequate opportunity for interested persons to consider the proposal and provide comments and included the regulatory and informational impacts of this action on small businesses. As noted above in the Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis, growers and handlers, regardless of size, benefit from the stabilizing effects of the volume restriction.

In response to the commenter's request for clarification on the Paperwork Reduction Act, the proposed rulemaking and this final rule address the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35) and related compliance. AMS reiterates that in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, the Order's information collection requirements have been previously approved by OMB and assigned OMB No. 0581–0177, Tart Cherries Grown in the States of Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin, and that no changes to those requirements would be necessary based on this action.

Lastly, and contrary to the commenter's assertion that AMS did not adhere to Executive Order 12866, AMS reiterates that this rule falls within a category of regulatory actions that OMB exempted from Executive Order 12866 review. After review of the comment, AMS determined that all the statutory and procedural requirements for rulemaking have been met regarding this action. Accordingly, AMS made no changes to the rule as proposed.

After consideration of all relevant material presented, including the information and recommendations submitted by the Board and other available information, AMS has determined that this final rule is consistent with and effectuates the purposes of the Act.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 930

Tart cherries, Marketing agreements, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, 7 CFR part 930 is amended as follows:

PART 930—TART CHERRIES GROWN IN THE STATES OF MICHIGAN, NEW YORK, PENNSYLVANIA, OREGON, UTAH, WASHINGTON, AND WISCONSIN

■ 1. The authority citation for part 930 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 601–674.

■ 2. Revise § 930.256 to read as follows:

§ 930.256 Free and restricted percentages for the 2024–2025 crop year.

The percentages for tart cherries handled by handlers during the crop year beginning on July 1, 2024, which shall be free and restricted, respectively, are designated as follows: Free percentage, 81 percent and restricted percentage, 19 percent.

Erin Morris,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2026–17512 Filed 8–26–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

7 CFR Part 932

[Doc. No. AMS–SC–25–0002]

Olives Grown in California; Decreased Assessment Rate

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This final rule implements a recommendation from the California Olive Committee (Committee) to decrease the assessment rate established for the 2025 and subsequent fiscal years from $28 to $24 per ton of assessable olives grown in California. The assessment rate will remain in effect indefinitely unless modified, suspended, or terminated.

DATES: Effective September 28, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeffery Rymer, Marketing Specialist, or Abigail Maharaj, Chief, West Region Branch, Market Development Division, Specialty Crops Program, AMS, USDA;

telephone: (559) 487–5901; or email: *Jefferym.Rymer@usda.gov* or *Abigail.Maharaj@usda.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This action, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553, amends regulations issued to carry out a marketing order as defined in 7 CFR 900.2(j). This final rule is issued under the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, as amended (7 U.S.C. 601–674) (the Act), amending Marketing Order No. 932 (7 CFR part 932; the Order), regulating the handling of olives grown in California. The Committee locally administers the Order and is comprised of producers and handlers of olives operating within the area of production.

This action is exempt from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) review process required by Executive Order 12866. This final rule amends existing Marketing Order No. 932, as amended (7 CFR part 932), Olives Grown in California, and is necessary for the continued operation of Marketing Order No. 932. Additionally, this action is exempt from the requirements of Executive Order 14192, ''Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation,'' pursuant to section 5(c).

This final rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 13175, ''Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, '' which requires Federal agencies to consider whether their rulemaking actions would have Tribal implications. The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) has determined that this final rule is unlikely to have substantial direct effects on one or more Indian Tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian Tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian Tribes.

This final rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12988, ''Civil Justice Reform.'' Under the Order now in effect, California olive handlers are subject to assessments. Funds to administer the Order are derived from such assessments. It is intended that the assessment rate will be applicable to all assessable olives for the 2025 fiscal year, and continue until amended, suspended, or terminated.

The Act provides that administrative proceedings must be exhausted before parties may file suit in court. Under section 608(c)(15)(A) of the Act, any handler subject to an order may file with U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) a petition stating that the order, any provision of the order, or any obligation imposed in connection with the order is not in accordance with law and request a modification of the order or to be exempted therefrom. Such handler is afforded the opportunity for a hearing on the petition. After the hearing, USDA would rule on the petition. The Act provides that the district court of the United States in any district in which the handler is an inhabitant, or has his or her principal place of business, has jurisdiction to review USDA's ruling on the petition, provided an action is filed not later than 20 days after the date of the entry of the ruling.

This final rule decreases the assessment rate for assessable olives handled under the Order from $28 to $24 per ton for the 2025 and subsequent fiscal years.

Sections 932.38 and 932.39 of the Order authorize the Committee, with the approval of AMS, to formulate an annual budget of expenses and collect assessments from handlers to administer the program. The members of the Committee are familiar with the Committee's needs and with the costs of goods and services in their local area and can formulate an appropriate budget and assessment rate. The assessment rate is formulated and discussed in a public meeting, and all directly affected persons have an opportunity to participate and provide input.

For the 2024 and subsequent fiscal years, the Committee recommended, and AMS approved, an assessment rate of $28 per ton of assessable olives within the production area. That rate continues in effect from fiscal year to fiscal year until modified, suspended, or terminated by AMS upon recommendation and information submitted by the Committee or other information available to AMS.

The Committee met on December 19, 2024, and unanimously recommended, with a vote of 15 in favor and none opposed, 2025 fiscal year expenditures of $1,174,697 and an assessment rate of $24 per ton of assessed olives handled for the 2025 and subsequent fiscal years. In comparison, the 2024 fiscal year's budgeted expenditures were $1,100,151. The assessment rate of $24 per ton is $4 lower than the rate currently in effect. Although the recommended 2025 fiscal year expenditures are higher than those in 2024, the Committee recommended decreasing the assessment rate due to the significantly higher crop size in 2024 (fruit that is marketed over the course of the 2025 fiscal year), and the need to maintain its reserve funds within a level authorized under the Order. The Committee estimated approximately 48,560 tons of olives from the 2024 crop year that would be assessable during the 2025 fiscal year. This amount is substantially higher than the 34,000 tons of olives that were harvested in 2023.

Olives harvested in 2024 will be marketed over the course of the 2025 fiscal year, which began on January 1, 2025, as the harvested olives are stored in brining tanks and processed over the subsequent year. The 48,560 tons of assessable olives from the 2024 crop would generate $1,165,440 (48,560 tons multiplied by $24 assessment rate) in assessment revenue over the 2025 fiscal year at the new assessment rate. The balance of funds needed to cover budgeted expenditures would come from the interest income and the Committee's financial reserve. The 2025 fiscal year assessment rate decrease is appropriate to ensure the Committee has sufficient revenue to fund the recommended 2025 fiscal year budgeted expenditures while also ensuring that funds in the reserve do not exceed approximately one fiscal year's expenses, the maximum reserve amount permitted by 7 CFR 932.40.

The Order has a fiscal year and a crop year that are independent of each other. The crop year is a 12-month year that begins on August 1 of each year and ends on July 31 of the following year. The fiscal year is the 12-month period that begins on January 1 and ends on December 31 of each year. Olives are an alternate-bearing crop, with a small crop (2023) followed by a large crop (2024). For this final rule, the Committee utilized the estimated 2024 crop year receipts to determine the recommended assessment rate for the 2025 fiscal year.

The Committee derived the recommended assessment rate by considering anticipated fiscal year expenses, the expected volume of assessable olives, and the level of funds available in the authorized financial reserve. The expected 48,560 tons of assessable olives is expected to generate $1,165,440 in assessment revenue at the new assessment rate (48,560 tons multiplied by the $24 assessment rate). The income generated from handler assessments, along with reserve funds and interest income, will be sufficient to meet the Committee's estimated program expenditures of $1,174,697 for the 2025 fiscal year. Funds available in the financial reserve (currently about $1,723,008) will be kept within the maximum permitted by the Order (approximately one fiscal year's expenses as authorized by 7 CFR 932.40).

The assessment rate will continue in effect indefinitely unless modified, suspended, or terminated by AMS upon recommendation and information submitted by the Committee or other available information. Although this assessment rate will be in effect for an indefinite period, the Committee will continue to meet prior to or during each fiscal year to recommend a budget of expenses and consider recommendations for modification of the assessment rate. The dates and times of Committee meetings are available from the Committee or AMS. Committee meetings are open to the public and interested persons may express their views at these meetings. AMS will evaluate Committee recommendations and other available information to determine whether modification of the assessment rate is needed. Further rulemaking would be undertaken as necessary. The Committee's 2025 fiscal year budget, and those for subsequent fiscal years, will be reviewed approved by AMS.

Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Pursuant to requirements set forth in the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA) (5 U.S.C. 601–612), AMS has considered the economic impact of this final rule on small entities. Accordingly, AMS has prepared this final regulatory flexibility analysis.

The purpose of the RFA is to fit regulatory actions to the scale of businesses subject to such actions in order that small businesses will not be unduly or disproportionately burdened. Marketing orders issued pursuant to the Act are unique regulations in that they are brought about through group action of typically small entities acting on their own behalf.

The Small Business Administration (SBA) defines, in 13 CFR part 121, small agricultural service firms, including handlers, as those whose average annual receipts are no greater than $34 million (North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 115114, Postharvest Crop Activities). SBA defines small agricultural producers of olives as those having average annual receipts no greater than $3.5 million (NAICS code 111339, Other Noncitrus Fruit Farming).

According to the Committee, there are two handlers subject to regulation under the Order. The volume of olives produced in the production area—a two-year average of 31,520 tons for crop years 2023 to 2024—would require large scale processing facilities for just two handlers to be able to process the entire California crop; therefore, it is likely that both handlers would exceed the SBA threshold of $34 million in annual receipts, and therefore, not be considered small businesses under the SBA definition of a small firm engaging in postharvest crop activities.

In the 2022 Census of Agriculture, the most recent to date, National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports the existence of 1,613 olive-farming operations in California totaling 41,828 bearing acres. To estimate the number olive growers that would be considered to be ''small'' per the SBA definition, AMS calculates the acreage required to produce the volume of olives at an average price to reach the $3.5 million threshold. Due to the alternate-bearing nature of olives, a two-year average is used to estimate price and yield, based on the most recent NASS data for 2023 and 2024.

NASS reports 2023 and 2024 California grower prices for olives for canning at $1,080 per ton and $1,140 per ton, respectively. This results in a two-year average price received by California growers of olives for canning of $1,110 per ton ($1,080 plus $1,140, divided by 2). Olive yields in California measured 3.04 tons per acre in 2023 and 3.78 tons per acre in 2024, resulting in an average yield of 3.41 tons of olives per acre (3.04 tons plus 3.78 tons, divided by 2). These figures are utilized in the equations below to estimate the amount of acreage needed to produce the volume of olives sold at the average price to reach the SBA threshold of $3.5 million.

Dividing the SBA threshold for a small olive grower of $3.5 million by the $1,110 per ton average grower received price and by the estimated average yield of 3.41 tons per acre results in approximately 925 acres that would be required for an olive grower to reach $3.5 million in annual receipts. Therefore, AMS concludes that an olive grower would need 926 bearing acres to be considered ''large'' per the SBA definition.

According to the 2022 Census of Agriculture, published by NASS in February 2024, of the 1,613 olive farms in California, four had bearing acreage between 750 and 999.9 acres, and three had bearing acreage equal to or exceeding 1,000 acres. This means that between 99.6 percent (1,613 minus 7 (4 plus 3), divided by 1,613) and 99.8 percent (1,613 minus 3, divided by 1,613) of farms, or growers, would be considered to be small businesses under the SBA definition.

This final rule decreases the assessment rate collected from handers for the 2025 fiscal year and subsequent fiscal years from $28 to $24 per ton of assessable olives. The Committee unanimously recommended 2025 expenditures of $1,174,697 and an assessment rate of $24 per ton. The new assessment rate of $24 is $4 lower than the 2024 assessment rate. The 2024 crop is estimated to be 48,560 tons. The $24 per ton should provide $1,165,440 in assessment income (48,560 tons multiplied by $24 assessment rate). Income derived from handler assessments, along with interest income and funds from the authorized reserve, should be sufficient to cover budgeted expenses.

The Committee deliberated on many of the expenses, weighed the relative value of various programs or projects, and decreased their expenses for inspection and marketing activities while increasing the expenses of their program administration and research activities. Overall, the 2025 budget of $1,174,697 is $74,546 more than the $1,100,151 budgeted for the 2024 fiscal year.

Prior to arriving at this budget and assessment rate, the Committee considered information from various sources including the Committee's Executive, Marketing, Inspection, and Research Subcommittees. Alternate expenditure levels were discussed by these groups, based upon the relative value of various projects to the olive industry and the increased olive production. The assessment rate of $24 per ton of assessable olives was derived by considering anticipated expenses, the high volume of assessable olives, the current balance in the monetary reserve, and additional pertinent factors.

A review of NASS historical and preliminary information indicates the two-year average producer price for California olives is approximately $1,180 per ton. Therefore, utilizing the recommended assessment rate of $24 per ton, assessment revenue for the 2024 fiscal year as a percentage of total producer revenue would be approximately 2 percent ($24 divided by $1,180, multiplied by 100).

This final rule decreases the assessment obligation imposed on handlers. Assessments are applied uniformly to all handlers. Some of the assessment costs to handlers may be passed on to producers. Decreasing the assessment rate reduces the burden on handlers and may also, therefore, reduce the burden on producers.

Committee meetings are widely publicized throughout the production area and all interested persons are invited to attend the meetings and participate in Committee deliberations on all issues. Like all Committee meetings, the December 19, 2024, meeting was a public meeting and all entities, both large and small, were able to express views on this issue. Finally, interested persons were invited to submit comments on this rule, including the regulatory and information collection impacts of this action on small businesses.

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), the Order's information collection requirements have been previously approved by OMB and assigned OMB No. 0581–0178, ''Vegetable and Specialty Crops.'' No changes in those requirements are necessary because of this final rule. Should any changes become necessary, they would be submitted to OMB for approval.

This final rule will not impose any additional reporting or recordkeeping requirements on either small or large California olive handlers. As with all Federal marketing order programs, reports and forms are periodically reviewed to reduce information requirements and duplication by industry and public sector agencies.

AMS is committed to complying with the E-Government Act, to promote the use of the internet and other information technologies to provide increased opportunities for citizen access to Government information and services, and for other purposes.

AMS has not identified any relevant Federal rules that duplicate, overlap, or conflict with this final rule.

A proposed rule concerning this action was published in the **Federal Register** on March 9, 2026 (91 FR 11184). Copies of the proposed rule were provided to all California olive handlers. In addition, the proposal was made available through the internet by AMS and the Office of the Federal Register via *https://www.regulations.gov.* A 30-day comment period ending April 8, 2026, was provided for interested persons to respond to the proposal. AMS received one comment during the comment period. The comment did not address the merits of the proposal. Accordingly, AMS made no changes to the rule as proposed.

After consideration of all relevant material presented, including the information and recommendations submitted by the Committee and other available information, AMS has determined that this final rule is consistent with and effectuates the purposes of the Act.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 932

Marketing agreements, Olives, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, AMS amends 7 CFR part 932 as follows:

PART 932—OLIVES GROWN IN CALIFORNIA

■ 1. The authority citation for part 932 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 601–674.

■ 2. Section 932.230 is revised to read as follows:

§ 932.230 Assessment rate.

On and after January 1, 2025, an assessment rate of $24 per ton is established for California olives.

Erin Morris,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2026–17511 Filed 8–26–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commodity Credit Corporation

7 CFR Part 1414

[Docket ID FSA–2026–0001]

RIN 0560–AI87

Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA) Program; Correction

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: Correcting amendment.

SUMMARY: The Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) announced the Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA) Program in a final rule on February 23, 2026. This correction amends the definition of ''corn'' to add blue and red corn, which are eligible commodities for the FBA Program.

DATES: Effective on August 27, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jamie Garriott; telephone: (202) 253–9843; or email: *Jamie.Garriott@usda.gov.* Individuals with disabilities who require alternative means for communication should contact the USDA Target Center at (202) 720–2600 (voice and text telephone (TTY mode)) or dial 711 for Telecommunications Relay Service (both voice and text telephone users can initiate this call from any telephone).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On February 23, 2026, CCC published a final rule (91 FR 8360) announcing the FBA program, which provides up to $11 billion in one-time bridge payments to American farmers in response to temporary trade market disruptions and increased production costs. Corn is an eligible commodity for the FBA Program, and the final rule defined ''corn'' as, ''only white, yellow, amylose, popcorn (excluding strawberry popcorn), waxy, and high amylase corn.'' (7 CFR 1414.3). That definition inadvertently omitted blue and red corn, which are also eligible for the FBA Program. This document corrects that omission by adding those types of corn to the definition of ''corn.''

The deadline to apply for the FBA Program was April 17, 2026. Due to the omission of blue and red corn from the definition of ''corn'', those types of corn were not included on pre-filled FBA Program applications and producers of those commodities could not apply by the deadline. CCC is announcing that it will generate a CCC–555, Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA) Program Application, for each eligible producer who timely reported eligible 2025 crop year acres of blue or red corn, as provided in § 1414.5. CCC is extending the deadline for producers to submit a CCC–555 for blue and red corn until September 28, 2026, as authorized under § 1414.6(b). As indicated in § 1414.6(c), producers must also submit all eligibility forms by April 19, 2027.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 1414

Agricultural commodities, Cotton, Feed grains, Fruits, Nuts, Oilseeds, Peanuts, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Rice, Vegetables, Wheat.

For the reasons discussed above, CCC amends the regulations in 7 CFR part 1414 as follows:

PART 1414—BRIDGE ASSISTANCE

■ 1. The authority citation for part 1414 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 714, *et seq.*

Subpart A—Farmer Bridge Assistance Program

§ 1414.3 [Amended]

■ 2. Amend the definition of ''Corn'' in § 1414.3 by adding the words ''blue, red,'' after the word ''only''.

William Beam,

Executive Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation.

[FR Doc. 2026–17538 Filed 8–26–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3411–E2–P