

AMS NEWS RELEASE

Release No. 238-04

USDA AMENDS ALL FEDERAL MILK MARKETING ORDERS

WASHINGTON, Nov. 24, 2004 — The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced a final rule that will make permanent changes to the classification of milk provisions in all Federal milk marketing orders. The changes were previously implemented on an interim basis. Dairy farmers approved the amended orders through the polling of cooperative associations in eight of the marketing areas and by referenda in the Northeast and Mideast marketing areas.

This final rule reclassifies milk used to produce evaporated milk in consumer-type packages or sweetened condensed milk in consumer-type packages from Class III to Class IV.

The final rule will be published in the Nov. 26, *Federal Register* and will become effective on Dec. 1, 2004.

Additional information about the rule may be obtained from the market administrator office as follows: David Z. Walker, USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs, P.O. Box 5102, Brunswick, OH 44212, Tel. (330) 225-4758; e-mail: dwalker@fmmaclev.com.