



PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT



AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

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USDA ANNOUNCES INTERIM ORDER TO AMEND ALL FEDERAL MILK ORDERS

WASHINGTON, DC April 23, 2004 - The U. S. Department of Agriculture today issued an interim order amending the current classification of milk provisions of all Federal milk marketing orders. USDA determined dairy farmers' approval by polling cooperative associations in eight of the marketing areas and by conducting referenda in the Northeast and Mideast marketing areas.

This interim order 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.

These interim amendments to the orders will become effective on May 1, 2004. Public comments on the Tentative Final Decision published in the *Federal Register* February 27, 2004, are due May 3, 2004.

The interim order rule and additional background information can be accessed on the web at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/dairy>. Copies of this interim order and additional information also may be obtained by contacting any of the following market administrator offices:

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