

News Release

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Release No. 1635.04

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USDA ANNOUNCES REVISIONS TO 2003 CROP YEAR CANE SUGAR MARKETING ALLOTMENTS AND ALLOCATIONS

WASHINGTON, July 22, 2004 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) today announced the reassignment of unused cane sugar allocations from processors in Hawaii to processors in Florida, Louisiana and Texas. At this time, reassignments do not apply to the beet sector. CCC also announced the 2004 crop year, proportionate-share percentage for Louisiana.

2003 Crop Year Reassignments

CCC is required to make a determination on the need for reassignments based on current inventories, estimated production, expected marketings and any other factors CCC determines appropriate to determine a processor's ability to market its allocation.

Based on estimates published in the July 2004 World Agriculture Supply and Demand Estimates report (WASDE), the Hawaiian cane allotment was reduced by 63,169 short tons, raw value (STRV). Florida gained 35,076 STRV, Louisiana gained 25,263 STRV and Texas gained 2,830 STRV.

The final allotments/allocations were calculated from a combination of two steps: First, because 50 percent of cane sugar state allotments and processor allocations are based on the estimate of current production, updated production estimates from the May survey yielded new allotments/allocations. (See column C of the following table.) Second, based on the May survey results, 63,169 STRV were reassigned from Hawaiian processors. This amount was then proportionately redistributed only to those cane processors, who revealed in the same survey, a shortfall in allocation for the current crop year. (See column D of the attached table.)

The revised 2003 crop year cane sugar state marketing allotments and processor allocations are listed in the following table:

2003 CROP YEAR OVERALL BEET/CANE ALLOTMENTS AND ALLOCATIONS

	FY04 Allotments/Allocations as of 4/9/04	Change in Allocation Due to Updated Production Estimates	Amount Reassigned	New FY04 Allotments/ Allocations
	(short tons, raw value)			
Beet Sugar	4,483,875			4,483,875
Cane Sugar	3,766,125			3,766,125
TOTAL OAQ	8,250,000			8,250,000
STATE CANE SUGAR ALLOTMENTS:				
Florida	1,910,863	3,173	35,076	1,949,112
Louisiana	1,376,626	1,912	25,263	1,403,800
Texas	159,230	-4,804	2,830	157,256
Hawaii	319,406	-281	-63,169	255,956
Puerto Rico	0	0	0	0
TOTAL CANE SUGAR	3,766,125	0	0	3,766,125
CANE PROCESSORS' MARKETING ALLOCATIONS:				
Florida				
Atlantic Sugar Assoc.	172,561	(12,452)	2,934	163,043
Growers Co-op. of FL	346,933	2,666	6,407	356,005
Okeelanta Corp.	390,747	16,616	7,465	414,829
Osceola Farms Co.	223,769	1,733	4,132	229,635
U.S. Sugar Corp.	776,853	(5,389)	14,138	785,601
TOTAL	1,910,863	3,173	35,076	1,949,112
Louisiana				
Alma Plantation	76,578	696	1,623	78,897
Caire & Graugnard	0	0	0	0
Cajun Sugar Co-op.	107,894	-2,194	2,220	107,919
Cora-Texas Mfg. Co.	125,991	3,414	2,717	132,122
Harry Laws & Co.	57,522	-670	1,194	58,045
Iberia Sugar Co-op.	64,117	895	1,365	66,378
Jeanerette Sugar Co.	62,117	611	0	62,729
Lafourche Sugars Corp.	74,242	514	1,564	76,320
Louisiana Sugarcane Co-op.	85,573	-761	795	85,607
Lula Westfield, LLC	160,897	3,611	3,454	167,963
M.A. Patout & Sons	369,588	-3,742	7,688	373,534
St. Mary Sugar Co-op.	92,537	-82	1,941	94,397
So. Louisiana Sugars Co-op.	99,569	-380	701	99,891
TOTAL	1,376,626	1,912	25,263	1,403,800
Texas				
Rio Grande Valley	159,230	-4,804	2,830	157,256

Hawaii				
Gay & Robinson, Inc.	69,361	3,894	-3,473	69,783
Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company	250,044	-4,175	-59,696	186,173
TOTAL	319,406	-281	-63,169	255,956
Puerto Rico				
Agraso	0	0	0	0
Roig	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0

2004 Crop Year Proportionate Shares for Louisiana

Whenever marketing allotments are in effect and the quantity of sugarcane estimated to be produced in Louisiana, plus a reasonable carryover, exceeds the marketing allotment allocation for Louisiana, CCC is required to limit the amount of sugarcane acreage that may be harvested in Louisiana for sugar or seed. This limitation is referred to as a “proportionate share,” and is applied to each farm’s sugarcane acreage base to determine the quantity of sugarcane that may be harvested on that farm. Because production will be excessive in Louisiana, CCC has determined that the proportionate share of a sugarcane acreage base that may be harvested in Louisiana for sugar or seed for the 2004 crop year will be 83.4 percent of each farm’s sugarcane acreage base.

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