

AGRICULTURE DECISIONS

Agriculture Decisions is an official publication by the Secretary of Agriculture consisting of decisions and orders issued in adjudicatory proceedings conducted for the Department under various statutes and regulations. Selected court decisions concerning the Department's regulatory programs are also included. The Department is required to publish its rules and regulations in the *Federal Register* and, therefore, they are not included in *Agriculture Decisions*.

Beginning in 1989, *Agriculture Decisions* is comprised of three Parts, each of which is published every six months. Part One is organized alphabetically by statute and contains all decisions and orders other than those pertaining to the Packers and Stockyards Act and the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act, which are contained in Parts Two and Three, respectively.

The published decisions and orders may be cited by giving the volume number, page number, and year, e.g., 1 Agric Dec. 472 (U.S.D.A. 1942). It is unnecessary to cite a decision's docket number, e.g., AWA Docket No. 99-0022, and the use of such references generally indicates that the decision has not been published in *Agriculture Decisions*. Decisions and Orders found on the OALJ website may be cited as primary sources.

Consent Decisions entered subsequent to December 31, 1986 are no longer published in *Agriculture Decisions*. However, a list of Consent Decisions is included in the printed edition. Since Volume 62, the full texts of Consent Decisions are posted on the USDA/OALJ website (See url below). Consent Decisions are on file in portable document format (pdf) and may be inspected upon request made to the Hearing Clerk, Office of Administrative Law Judges (OALJ).

Beginning in Volume 63, all **Initial Decisions** decided in the calendar year by the Administrative Law Judge(s) will be arranged by the controlling statute and will be published chronologically along with decisions from appeals (if any) of those ALJ decisions issued by the Judicial Officer.

Beginning in Volume 60, each part of *Agriculture Decisions* has all the parties for that volume, including Consent Decisions, listed alphabetically in a supplemental List of Decisions Reported. This Alphabetical List of Decisions Reported and the Subject Matter Index (from the beginning of the annual Volume) are included in a separate volume, entitled Part Four.

Volumes 57 (circa 1998) through the current volume of *Agriculture Decisions* are available online at <http://www.dm.usda.gov/oaljdecisions/> along with links to other related websites. Volumes 39 (circa 1980) through Volume 56 (circa 1997) have been scanned, but due to privacy concerns there are no plans that they appear on the OALJ website. Beginning on July 1, 2003, current ALJ Decisions will be displayed in pdf format on the OALJ website in reverse chronological order. Decisions and Orders for years prior to the current year are also available in pdf archives by calendar year.

Beginning in Volume 69 (circa 2010), Miscellaneous Orders and Default Decisions by the Administrative Law Judges will continue to be cited but without the full text of the Order/Decision. The full context of the Order/Decision will be published on the OALJ website (see above).

Selected individual softbound and volumes from Vol. 59 (circa 2000) of *Agriculture Decisions* are available until current supplies are exhausted.

Direct all inquires regarding this publication to: Editor, Agriculture Decisions, Office of Administrative Law Judges, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 1057 South Building, Washington, D.C. 20250-9200; Telephone: (202) 720-6645; Fax: (202) 690-0790; and e-mail address of Editor.OALJ@dm.usda.gov.