the prior year's shipments are limited because of crop conditions, the total shipments during that period of time during one of the three years preceding the prior crop year may be used. In accordance with these provisions, the Committee computed and announced a 1994–95 trade demand of 787 tons for Other Seedless raisins.

Section 989.54 of the order also authorizes the Committee to consider factors which pertain to the marketing of raisins, including an estimated trade demand which differs from the computed trade demand. At its August 15, 1994, meeting, the Committee computed a trade demand of 500 tons for Zante Currants. The Committee, however, determined that anticipated changes in the market conditions for Zante Currants warranted an estimated trade demand substantially higher than this.

Entering this season, the California raisin industry was carrying a very large supply of 1992–93 and 1993–94 crop Zante Currants and projected a record production in 1994–95. The Committee recommended actions to help handlers sell their tonnage at prices competitive with other currant prices in domestic and export markets. Because of these actions, the Committee believed that the computed trade demand was insufficient and decided to calculate its percentages based on an estimated trade demand of 2,200 tons.

When the Committee met on October 5, 1994, the field price for Zante Currants had been established, but the field price for Other Seedless raisins had not. Section 989.54(b) of the order requires the Committee to compute percentages which release 85 percent of the trade demand for varieties for which field prices have been established and 65 percent for varieties which have not. Thus, when the Committee met on that date, it computed and announced preliminary crop estimates and preliminary free and reserve percentages for Zante Currant and Other Seedless raisins which released 85 percent and 65 percent of the trade demands, respectively. The preliminary crop estimates and preliminary free and reserve percentages were as follows: 6,074 tons, 31 percent free and 69 percent reserve for Zante Currants; and 4,073 tons, 13 percent free and 87 percent reserve for Other Seedless Raisins. The Committee also authorized the Committee staff to increase the preliminary percentages to release 85 percent of the trade demands for varietal types without established field prices when the field prices were established. For Other Seedless raisins, the preliminary percentages were adjusted

soon thereafter to 16 percent free and 84 percent reserve.

Also at that meeting, the Committee computed and announced preliminary crop estimates and preliminary free and reserve percentages for Dipped Seedless, Oleate and Related Seedless, Sultana, Muscat, Monukka, and Golden Seedless raisins. On January 12, 1995, the Committee decided that volume control percentages only were warranted for Zante Currant, Other Seedless, and Natural (sun-dried) Seedless raisins. The Committee delayed announcing final percentages for Natural (sun-dried) Seedless raisins until more shipment and production information was available. It determined that the supplies of the other varietal types would be less than or close enough to the computed trade demands for each of these varietals. Thus, volume control percentages would not be necessary to maintain market stability.

Pursuant to section 989.54(c), the Committee may adopt interim free and reserve percentages. Interim percentages may release less than the computed trade demand for each varietal type. Interim percentages for both Zante Currant and Other Seedless raisins of 39.75 percent free and 60.25 percent reserve were computed and announced on January 12, 1995. That action released most, but not all, of the computed trade demand for Zante Currant and Other Seedless raisins.

Under section 989.54(d) of the order, the Committee is required to recommend to the Secretary, no later than February 15 of each crop year, final free and reserve percentages which, when applied to the final production estimate of a varietal type, will tend to release the full trade demand for any varietal type.

The Committee's estimates, as of January 12, 1995, of 1994–95 production of Zante Currant and Other Seedless raisins are 5,507 and 1,973 tons, respectively. For Zante Currants, dividing the estimated trade demand of 2,200 tons by the final estimate of production results in a final free percentage of 40 percent and a final reserve percentage of 60 percent. For Other Seedless raisins, dividing the computed trade demand of 787 tons by the final estimate of production results in a final free percentage of 40 percent and a final reserve percentage of 60 percent.

Based on available information, the Administrator of the AMS has determined that the issuance of this interim final rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. After consideration of all relevant information presented, including the Committee's recommendations and other information, it is found that this regulation, as hereinafter set forth, will tend to effectuate the declared policy of the Act.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553, it is also found and determined that upon good cause it is impracticable, unnecessary, and contrary to the public interest to give preliminary notice prior to putting this rule into effect, and that good cause exists for not postponing the effective date of this rule until 30 days after publication in the Federal Register because: (1) The relevant provisions of this part require that the percentages designated herein for the 1994–95 crop year apply to all Zante Currant and Other Seedless raisins acquired from the beginning of that crop year; (2) handlers are currently marketing 1994-95 crop raisins of the Zante Currant and Other Seedless varietal types and this action should be taken promptly to achieve the intended purpose of making the full trade demand available to handlers; (3) handlers are aware of this action, which was recommended by the Committee at an open meeting, and need no additional time to comply with these percentages; and (4) this interim final rule provides a 30-day period for written comments and all comments received will be considered prior to finalization of this interim final rule.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 989

Grapes, Marketing agreements, Raisins, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, 7 CFR part 989 is amended as follows:

PART 989—RAISINS PRODUCED FROM GRAPES GROWN IN CALIFORNIA

1. The authority citation for 7 CFR part 989 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 601-674.

2. Section 989.247 is added to Subpart—Supplementary Regulations to read as follows:

Note: This section will not appear in the annual Code of Federal Regulations.

§ 989.247 Final free and reserve percentages for the 1994–95 crop year.

The final percentages for Zante Currant and Other Seedless raisins acquired by handlers during the crop year beginning on August 1, 1994, which shall be free tonnage and reserve tonnage, respectively, are designated as follows: