

§ 723.217 Release and reapportionment of old farm acreage allotments for Cigar-filler and Binder (types 42, 43, 44, 54, and 55) tobacco.

(a) *Annual or permanent release of acreage allotments to State committee.* Except as provided in this paragraph, all or any part of a farm acreage allotment on which Cigar-filler and Binder (types 42, 43, 44, 54, and 55) tobacco will not be produced and which the operator of the farm voluntarily releases on an annual basis, or both the owner and operator voluntarily releases on a permanent basis, in writing to the State FSA committee by not later than the final date for filing releases established by the State FSA committee for the current year shall be deducted from the allotment of such farm.

(1) For the farm voluntarily releasing tobacco farm acreage allotment on an annual basis, such acreage will be considered as having been planted on the releasing farm for the purpose of establishing allotments for subsequent years. For the farm receiving such annual released acreage, such acreage shall not be taken into account in establishing future allotments for the farm. The tobacco history acreage for a farm releasing on a permanent basis shall not be taken into account in establishing future allotments for the farm. The tobacco history acreage for a farm releasing on a permanent basis shall be adjusted to reflect the acreage permanently released.

(2) An acreage allotment shall not be released either annually or permanently:

(i) From the eminent domain allotment pool if an application for transfer from the pool has been filed in accordance with part 718 of this chapter;

(ii) From a new farm; or

(iii) To the extent such acreage is designated for reduction under a Conservation Reserve Program contract.

(b) *Reapportionment of released acreage allotment.* The acreage voluntarily released on an annual or permanent basis for the current year may be reapportioned by the State FSA committee to any farm in any county in the State including a farm receiving a new farm allotment. The State FSA committee shall select the counties to which the released acreage will be reapportioned.

The county FSA committee shall select the farms to which the released acreage will be reapportioned. The State FSA committee shall keep records on both an annual and permanent basis of the source of acreage released. Any acreage released for the current year on a permanent basis which is not reapportioned by the State FSA committee in the current year may be reapportioned in the following year. The county FSA committee for the county receiving released acreage may reapportion the tobacco allotment acreage on an annual or permanent basis to other farms in the county in amounts determined by the county FSA committee to be fair and reasonable on the basis of land, labor, and equipment available for production of Cigarfiller and binder (types 42, 43, 44, 54, and 55) tobacco; crop rotation practices; and the soil and other physical factors affecting the production of tobacco. Released acreage should not be reapportioned on a temporary or permanent basis to any farm unless there is assurance from the operator to the county FSA committee that the released acreage being received will be produced. Allotment reapportioned to a farm on an annual basis can only be used by the receiving farm for increased production during the current year. Allotment reapportioned to a farm on a permanent basis shall be added to the current year allotment or shall serve to establish an allotment for a farm without a current allotment. A farm shall be eligible to receive reapportionment of released acreage on either or both an annual or permanent basis only if a written request is filed by the farm owner or operator at the office of the county FSA committee not later than the final date for filing such requests established by the State FSA committee for the current year.

§ 723.218 Determining tobacco history acreage.

With respect to each respective kind of tobacco, the tobacco history acreage shall be determined for each farm for which a tobacco acreage allotment was established for such kind of tobacco for the current year.