

RURAL PAYMENTS AGENCY

Lancaster House, Hampshire Court, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 7YH

16 October 2015

NOTICE TO TRADERS 23/15

Private Storage Aid: Skimmed Milk Powder

Introduction

- 1 In September 2014 the Commission opened Private Storage Aid (PSA) for Skimmed Milk Powder (SMP), as a result of the ban on imports of certain dairy products from the EU into Russia.
- 2 This notice announces an extension to the scheme rules in relation to the storage period and aid rates. It supersedes Notice to Traders 30/2014 covering PSA SMP.
- 3 Two parallel PSA SMP schemes are now available - the existing scheme plus an alternative to encourage operators to store higher quantities, for a longer period in exchange for a higher rate of aid. Applications for either scheme may be lodged up to 29 February 2016.

Scheme rules

- 4 You must be VAT registered in the Member State in which you are making your application and you must submit a copy of your VAT registration certificate.

Your application must meet the scheme rules.

Each application must be for a minimum of 1 tonne and the whole lot must be entered into PSA on the same day. Amounts above the minimum, need not be in whole tonnes.

Your application will only apply to products fully placed in storage.

The packaging should be marked with the production batch number, net weight and indicate the place and date of manufacture.

You must either mark contract numbers and the date of entry into the scheme on each individual unit or record this information in a store register.

The SMP must not have been subject to a previous PSA storage contract.

Your store must have been approved by Agency inspectors.

Specific conditions for SMP

- 5 SMP must have been produced during the 60 days preceding the day of application, be of homogeneous composition and quality and produced in a single factory.

It must have been made from cows' milk produced in the Union.

It must be packed into 25 kg bags or in 'big bags' weighing no more than 1500 kg.

SMP must:

- Have a minimum protein content of 34% by weight of non-fatty dry matter
- Have a fat content no greater than 1.5%
- Have water content no greater than 5%

Aid rates

6 Where the storage period applied for is between 90 and 210 days the aid will be:

- 8.86€ per tonne of storage for fixed storage costs
- 0.16€ per tonne per day of contractual storage

Where the storage period applied for is 365 days, the aid will be:

- 8.86€ per tonne for fixed storage costs
- 0.36€ per tonne per day of contractual storage

For the longer scheme, if the contractual quantity is removed after a minimum storage period of 270 days, the aid amounts will be reduced by 10%.

You must indicate the storage period you wish to use on your application.

If you already have SMP under contract for storage between 90 and 210 days, you must fulfil the obligations of that contract. Existing contracts cannot be changed or extended.

Contractual storage will end on the day preceding that of the removal from PSA storage.

Advance Payments

7 You may apply for an advance payment.

Where the storage period is 90 to 210 days, the advance will not exceed the amount of aid corresponding to 90 days.

If the storage period is 365 days, the maximum advance is for 270 days' aid.

You must lodge a security equivalent to 110% of the value of any advance applied for.

Storing in another Member State

8 We will supply confirmation of origin if you want to store SMP under private storage arrangements in another Member State. Please refer to Commission Regulation (EC) 826/2008 as amended.

We will not sample SMP destined for storage under the scheme in another Member State. This is carried out where storage is undertaken.

Applying for this scheme

- 9 Before applying for this scheme please read 'Scheme Leaflet Number 1' which can be found on Gov.uk.

You must submit a 'Storage Contract for Private Storage Aid' and a 'Notification of Package Numbers' form. Copies of both forms are on Gov.uk.

You must assign a unique contract number in the following format:

PMP/trader number/four digits starting 0001

Your contract numbers should run sequentially.

Regulatory Background

- 10 The regulations applicable are Regulation (EU) No. 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 948/2014 and Commission Regulation (EC) No. 826/2008, all as amended.

You can access the Official Journals electronically by visiting the Commission's website <http://www.eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm>. We are not responsible for the accuracy or completeness of the Europa website. While every care has been taken in producing this guidance, the regulations as published are definitive.

Questions

- 11 If you have any questions or would like more information about this notice, please contact the Operations team 0191 226 5851 or 0191 226 5064

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