

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Agriculture
Section 7-207 and 7-208
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1974 Volume and 1980 Supplement)

Preamble

In recognition of the unique problems associated with the marketing of tobacco by auction, the General Assembly finds that disorderly market conditions occur during the tobacco auction market season. Disorderly market conditions cause buyers to withdraw from tobacco sales. This reduces competition and tends to result in lower prices for the farmer. Tobacco buyers will withdraw from the auction market when their packers are "blocked up", or unable to dry or process tobacco for shipment. This condition can be corrected by reducing the level of sales by quota for each licensed commission selling agency. The General Assembly therefore has determined that the Authority should determine and allocate annually among commission selling agencies daily sales quotas to prevent a disorderly market during the tobacco auction market season.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

Article - Agriculture

7-207.

(A) The Authority shall:

(1) Prescribe the conditions under which baskets of leaf tobacco may be arranged and displayed on the sales floor of any leaf warehouse;

(2) Prescribe the terms and conditions under which baskets of leaf tobacco may be withdrawn from the sales floor of any private warehouse;

(3) Determine the data or information that may be placed on the tickets of baskets of leaf tobacco on the sales floor of any private warehouse;

(4) Make inspections from time to time or upon request of any interested party in order to determine the accuracy of any weights or measures used by any commission selling agency; and

(5) Regulate or prohibit the intentional tearing up of baskets on the warehouse floor by the buyer.