

CHAPTER 100

MARKETING; WAREHOUSES; TRADE PRACTICES

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Cross reference: See definitions in 93.01.

100.01 Produce wholesalers, unfair conduct, liability for damages. (1) DEFINITIONS. When used in this section:

(a) "Produce" means any kinds of fresh fruit or fresh vegetable, including potatoes and onions intended for planting.

(b) "Dealer" means a person who for resale buys, sells, offers or exposes for sale, or has in possession with intent to sell, any produce except that raised by him and that purchased by him exclusively for his own sale at retail.

(c) "Commission merchant" means a person engaged in receiving produce for sale for or on behalf of another.

(d) "Broker" means a person engaged in negotiating sales or purchases of produce for or on behalf of the seller or the buyer.

(e) "Produce wholesaler" means a commission merchant, dealer or broker.

(2) UNFAIR CONDUCT. It shall be unlawful:

(a) For a dealer to reject or fail to deliver in accordance with the contract, without reasonable cause, produce bought or sold or contracted to be bought or sold by such dealer.

(b) For a commission merchant, without reasonable cause, to fail to deliver produce in accordance with the contract.

(c) For a commission merchant to fail to render a true itemized statement of the sale or other disposition of a consignment of produce with full payment promptly in accordance with the terms of the agreement between the parties,

or, if no agreement, within 15 days after receipt of the produce. Such statement of sale shall clearly express the gross amount for which the produce was sold and the proper, usual or agreed selling charge, and other expenses necessarily and actually incurred or agreed to in the handling thereof.

(d) For a commission merchant or broker to make a fraudulent charge in respect to produce.

(e) For a commission merchant or broker to discard, dump or destroy without reasonable cause produce received by him.

(f) For a produce wholesaler to make for a fraudulent purpose or for the purpose of depressing the market a false or misleading statement concerning the grade, condition, markings, quality, quantity, market quotations or disposition of any produce or of the condition of the market therefor.

(g) For a produce wholesaler to receive produce from another state or country for sale or resale within this state and give the buyer the impression that the commodity is of Wisconsin origin.

(h) For a produce wholesaler, for a fraudulent purpose, to remove, alter or tamper with any card, stencil, stamp, tag, certificate or other notice placed upon any container or railroad car containing produce by the original packer or by or under authority of any federal or state inspector and bearing a certificate as to the grower, grade or quality of such produce.

(3) ACCEPTANCE IMPLIED. If any dealer fails to notify the seller of rejection within 24 hours

after he receives notice of arrival of the produce, he will be deemed to have accepted it as being in accordance with the contract.

(4) DOUBLE DAMAGES. A produce wholesaler who violates any provision of sub. (2) shall be liable to any person injured thereby for twice the amount of damages sustained in consequence of such violation and such liability may be enforced by suit in any court of competent jurisdiction.

100.02 Commission merchants, duties, must account. (1) No person, firm, association, or corporation receiving any fruits, vegetables, melons, dairy, or poultry products or any perishable farm products of any kind or character, other than cattle, sheep, hogs or horses, hereinafter referred to as produce, for or on behalf of another, shall without good and sufficient cause therefor, destroy, or abandon, discard as refuse or dump any produce directly or indirectly, or through collusion with any person, nor shall any person, firm, association or corporation knowingly and with intent to defraud make any false report or statement to the person, firm, association, or corporation from whom any produce was received, concerning the handling, condition, quality, quantity, sale or disposition thereof, nor shall any person, firm, association or corporation knowingly and with intent to defraud fail truly and correctly to account and pay over to the consignor therefor. The department of agriculture shall by regulation provide for the making of prompt investigations and the issuing of certificates as to the quality and condition of produce received, upon application of any person, firm, association, or corporation shipping, receiving, or financially interested in, such produce. Such regulations shall designate the classes of persons qualified and authorized to make such investigations and issue such certificates, except that any such investigation shall be made and any such certificate shall be issued by at least two disinterested persons in any case where such investigation is not made by an officer or employe of the department. A certificate made in compliance with such regulations shall be prima facie evidence in all courts of the truth of the statements therein contained as to the quality and condition of the produce; but if any such certificate is put in evidence by any party, in any civil or criminal proceeding, the opposite party shall be permitted to cross-examine any person signing such certificate, called as a witness at the instance of either party, as to his qualifications and authority and as to the truth of the statements contained in such certificate.

100.025 Classification of dairy heifer calves. (1) As used in this section, "dairy heifer

calf" means a female bovine animal, of a recognized dairy breed, at least 2 weeks and less than 4 months of age.

(2) The owner of the herd of origin of any healthy dairy heifer calf may classify such calf as a "Wisconsin Blue Tag" dairy heifer calf by certifying that he is the owner of the herd of origin; that the sire of such calf is a registered purebred sire; and that the dam is of the same breed as the sire. Such certification shall be on forms prescribed by the department and shall include identification of the calf and its sire and dam, and such other information as the department requires. Dairy heifer calves so classified shall be identified by the owner of the herd of origin or his agent by inserting a blue ear tag in the right ear and shall be accompanied by the certificate.

(3) The owner of the herd of origin of any calf may identify such calf as a slaughter calf by notching the right ear with a "V" notch. It is unlawful for a buyer of such calf to falsely represent in writing that the calf will be slaughtered or resold only to a slaughterer for immediate slaughter. In addition to the penalties provided for violations of this section, any buyer falsely representing the slaughter of such calf shall be liable in the sum of \$100 to the owner of the herd of origin in a suit brought to collect the same.

(4) Blue ear tags for dairy heifer calves shall be purchased from the department. Each tag shall bear a distinctive serial number. No person shall possess or use, for identification pursuant to this section, ear tags which have not been issued by the department. Ear tag applicators and other supplies may be purchased from the department.

(5) No person shall falsely execute any herd owner's certificate or falsely represent the identity or classification of any calves provided for in this section.

100.03 Food processors' payments; bond or security. (1) (a) No operator of any food processing plant, for which a license is required by s. 97.28, shall buy or otherwise take title to or possession of any farm product from the producer thereof without paying to the producer the full agreed price at the time of obtaining such possession or control, unless the applicant shall first satisfy the department that his financial condition is such as to reasonably assure prompt payment to growers of the produce contracted for or received by him as and when the same becomes due and payable. Such application shall be accompanied by a financial statement of the applicant's most recently completed fiscal year and such supplemental and additional information as the department may require.

(b) No operator of a food processing plant, for which a license is required by s. 97.28, shall, through a subsidiary or affiliate as herein defined, buy or otherwise take title to or possession of any farm product for which the producer thereof has not been paid the full agreed price, unless the applicant shall first satisfy the department that the financial condition of such subsidiary or affiliate is such as to reasonably assure prompt payment to such producers of the farm product processed by the applicant, in accordance with the contract between such producers and such subsidiary or affiliate. The term "subsidiary or affiliate" shall include any person who is a partner in an applicant partnership or is an officer or has a controlling interest in an applicant corporation, and any partnership of which the applicant is a partner, and any corporation controlled by the applicant, and any corporation controlled by the same person or persons controlling the applicant. In any case where the department is not satisfied that the financial condition of such subsidiary or affiliate reasonably assures such prompt payment, or finds that the current financial position of such subsidiary or affiliate is not accurately shown by the statement filed with the department, it may require as a condition to the issuance of a license that the applicant guarantee such payment to such producers by such subsidiary or affiliate and may require in addition to such guarantee that the applicant furnish bond or security as provided in sub. (2), conditioned upon the performance of such guarantee.

(2) In any case where the department is not satisfied that the financial condition of the applicant does reasonably assure such prompt payment, or finds that the applicant's current financial position is not accurately shown by the statement so filed, it may require as a condition to the issuing of such license that the applicant either:

(a) Make and file a surety bond in such sum as it deems sufficient, executed by the applicant as principal and by a surety company qualified and authorized to do business in this state as surety; such bond shall be in such form as the department may prescribe, be made payable to the state of Wisconsin for the benefit of producers who might suffer by reason of default of the principal, and be conditioned that the principal shall pay or cause to be paid to producers all sums owing producers for products contracted for or received by the principal as the same become due. In lieu of such bond the applicant may deposit cash or negotiable securities in such amount and in such manner and form as the department approves.

(b) Make and file with the department an agreement providing for the "set aside" of the processed produce equivalent to not less than 30 per cent of the produce obtained from producers, in trust for such producers. The agreement shall provide that no part of such "set aside" shall be released by the trustee unless an amount equivalent to the value of such released portion has been paid to apply pro rata on the claims of producers or is paid over to the trustee for such payment. The agreement shall designate the individual who shall be responsible for carrying out the agreement on behalf of the applicant, and shall be signed by him and by a trustee approved by the department. Wilful failure of such individual or such trustee to carry out the terms of the agreement to the prejudice of such producers shall be fined not to exceed \$10,000 or imprisoned not to exceed one year, or both. The applicant shall agree to pay all expenses of such trust. The department may release the "set aside" upon the filing of a current financial statement.

(3) Upon receipt of evidence of default by any licensee in making payment to producers the department may commence an action for the recovery of claims of all producers or otherwise assist the producers to establish an organization for the purpose of making collection.

100.04 Grading of Swiss Cheese. (1) Swiss or Emmenthaler cheese, in drum or wheel style, shall be purchased, sold, exchanged, or offered for sale or exchange in this state only upon the basis of the grade established by law or by general order of the department under s. 93.09 as determined by a qualified cheese grader employed by the department, except as to any individual sale of 100 pounds or less or of more than 100 pounds when limited to one wheel. All such cheese shall be graded at the factory whenever practical.

(2) The cost of such grading shall be charged to and collected from the owners of the cheese so graded in the sum of one-fortieth cent per pound, except that the department may charge an average fee of 5 cents for each wheel.

100.05 Butter and cheese manufacturers; accounts accessible. No operator of a butter factory or cheese factory wherein the value of the milk or cream delivered is determined by the sale of the product manufactured shall use or allow any other person unless he is entitled to the benefit thereof to use any milk or cream brought to him, without the consent of the owner thereof, and such operator shall keep or cause to be kept a correct account (which shall be open to the inspection of any person furnishing milk to him and to the department, its chemists, assistants,

inspectors and agents) of the amount of milk or cream received daily, and of the number of pounds of butter, and the number and style of cheese made each day, and of the number of cheese cut or otherwise disposed of and the weight of each, and the number of pounds of whey cream sold, with the test.

100.055 Butter; grading; label. (1) It is unlawful to sell, offer or expose for sale, or have in possession with intent to sell, any butter at retail unless it has been graded. Butter shall be graded as follows:

- (a) Grade, Wisconsin, AA—93 score;
- (b) Grade, Wisconsin, A—92 score;
- (c) Grade, Wisconsin, B—91-90 score;

(d) Grade, Wisconsin, undergrade—all butter below Wisconsin B.

(2) United States AA, A, and B grades shall be accepted in lieu of the corresponding Wisconsin AA, A, and B grades, but all United States grades below B shall, for the purpose of this section, correspond to Wisconsin undergrade.

(3) As used in this section, score or grade means the grading of butter by its examination for flavor and aroma, body and texture, color, salt, package and by the use of other tests or procedures approved by the department of agriculture for ascertaining the quality of butter in whole or in part.

(4) Details for methods and procedures to be used for ascertaining quality, for labeling, and for arbitrating disputes with respect to grades, shall be developed by the supervisory grading service (department of agriculture) as a result of public hearings to be held at a convenient location in the state.

(5) Butter from outside of the state sold within the state shall be provided with a label which indicates that it complies with the state grade standards as provided in this section and which indicates the grade in a manner equivalent to the requirements for butter manufactured and sold within the state.

(6) Butter which carries the state grade labels shall be graded by approved industry graders under the supervision of the supervisory grading service (department of agriculture).

(7) No person, for himself, or as an agent, shall advertise the sale of any butter at a stated price, unless the grade of the butter is set forth in such advertisement in not less than 10-point type.

100.06 Dairy licenses; financial condition.

(1) (a) No person shall operate a dairy plant or receiving station, as defined in s. 97.20, and no license therefor shall be issued unless he shall have first satisfied the department that his

financial condition is such as to reasonably assure prompt payment to the producers for the milk and cream to be purchased by him as and when the same becomes due and payable.

(c) The department shall require the applicant to file a verified statement of his business operations and financial condition. The licensee, during the term of his license, may be required to file such statements periodically. All such statements shall be confidential and shall not be open for public inspection. The department may require such statements to be certified by a public accountant. Such statements and audits, when made by the department, shall be paid for at cost.

(2) In all cases where it appears that the financial condition of the applicant or of the licensee is not adequate to reasonably assure payment when due for the milk, cream or dairy products to be purchased by him, the department may require:

(a) The filing of a bond or other security acceptable to the department in an amount not to exceed the sum reasonably likely to be due and accrued at any one time for such milk, cream or dairy products, which bond or security shall be payable to the department for the benefit of the persons who would otherwise suffer by reason of the default of the licensee in the payment for such milk, cream or dairy products.

(b) The filing of an agreement providing for the complete control over all manufactured or processed milk and dairy products by a trustee to be selected at least annually by the producers. Such trustee shall make and file a trustee's bond and contracts signed by the operator and the purchaser of the dairy products requiring that payment for all such products sold be made to him as trustee. Such trustee shall maintain a separate bank account for that purpose and shall at least annually render a true and correct account of his dealings to the department and to the producers.

(c) That the licensee shall receive no milk or cream on credit after the 5th day of any month unless at least 90 per cent of the value of the milk or cream delivered during the first 15 days of the preceding month shall have been paid, nor after the 20th day of any month unless the value of all of the milk or cream delivered during the previous month shall have been paid in full; provided that when payment is based on the value of Swiss cheese manufactured from the milk or cream so delivered, an extension of 2 months during which the product is held for curing shall be allowed if the manufactured product is the property of the producers or if the proceeds from the sale thereof are made payable to and distributed by a banking institution.

(3) (a) All dairy plant operators shall inform producers delivering milk and cream of the financial basis on which the license was issued including the type and amount of security, if any, filed under this section by statement in writing to each producer patron at least once every 6 months.

(b) No person shall receive milk, cream or dairy products which will increase the amount due and accrued from him beyond the amount represented as a basis for the issuance of a license without first notifying the department.

(4) Any person injured by the breach of any obligation under this section may file with the department a verified proof of claim. Upon receipt of such claim or any other evidence of default, the department, by order, may require all interested creditors to file their verified proofs of claim before a certain date or be barred from participating in any recovery made by the department. Notice of the entry of such order shall be given by posting a copy thereof on the premises described in the license and by publication of a class 3 notice, under ch. 985, in the affected area. The date of last insertion shall not be less than 30 days prior to the last date for the filing of such claims. The department shall make the necessary audit and by order allow or disallow all claims presented. Notice of allowance or disallowance and request for the payment within 30 days of the claims allowed shall be sent to the principal and surety by registered mail. The department may demand, collect and receive from the licensee or the trustee, or from the surety or sureties of either of them, the amount determined to be necessary to satisfy such claims. It may commence an action for that purpose in the circuit court of the county in which the licensed plant is located. Upon receipt of the money to be applied to the satisfaction of such claims as provided in this section, the department shall make distribution to the claimants in accordance with the order allowing claims, in full or pro rata, as the case may be. No claims for the purchase price of any milk, cream or dairy products the value of which was due and payable more than 30 days prior to the date the first written notice of default is received by the department, nor claims covering transactions wherein the seller has granted to the licensee any voluntary extension of credit, shall be allowed or paid under this section.

(5) When any dairy plant or receiving station shall employ or retain a sales agent or commission dealer to market and distribute its dairy products, and such sales agent or commission dealer shall sell such dairy products to a dairy products dealer, such dairy products dealer shall directly remit or transmit all moneys due thereunder to such dairy plant operator or to

the trustee thereof, as the case may be. The dairy plant or receiving station shall be responsible for the payment of any commission or salary that may be due to such sales agent or commission dealer. Such payment by the dairy products dealer shall be considered as in full release, payment and discharge of any obligation thereunder.

(6) Compliance with this section shall be an additional requirement for the license and noncompliance shall be ground for denial, suspension or revocation of license, under s. 97.20. Section 97.20 (9) and (10) shall apply to this section.

(7) The whole claim of any person against any licensee under s. 97.20 on account of milk, cream or dairy products sold or delivered to such licensee and any judgment therefor shall be entitled to the same preference in any insolvency or other creditor's proceedings as is given by any law of this state to claims for labor. One claim may be filed for any number of producers and when so filed the preference shall be allowed on the amount due each producer. Such preference shall also be given in bankruptcy proceedings to the extent permitted by the federal law. This section shall not affect or impair any other lien, security or priority for said claim or judgment.

(8) Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to the sale of milk, cream or dairy products in interstate commerce to an out-of-state plant operator or dealer not licensed under this section. The protection to producers afforded by this section shall be available to the producers of any state selling milk or cream to any dairy plant licensed in this state.

The department could find an implied contract that a dairy plant would pay producers of milk a competitive price and that when less was paid the difference was to be made up from the security funds of the producer. *Columbus Milk Producers v. Dept. of Agriculture*, 48 W (2d) 451, 180 NW (2d) 617.

100.07 Milk payments; audits. (1) Whenever petitions signed by more than 60 per cent of the producers of milk delivered to any dairy plant or petitions signed by more than 60 per cent of the producers comprising any municipal milk shed shall be presented to the department asking for the audit of payments to producers, the department by investigation and public hearing shall determine the facts in support of and against such petition and render its decision thereon. The department by order shall define the plants and areas affected. All persons receiving from producers in any such plant or area milk any part of which is used for fluid distribution shall keep adequate records of all purchases and all usage or disposition of milk and shall make reports thereof as prescribed by the department. The department shall have free

access to such records and shall after entry of such order audit the receipts and usage or disposition of milk and cream at intervals sufficiently frequent to keep the producers informed for bargaining purposes.

(2) Each such person shall deduct from the price to producers an amount sufficient to administer this section, to be the same for all, and not to exceed one-half cent per 100 pounds of milk received or its equivalent. Amounts so deducted are trust funds and shall be paid to the department.

(3) Whenever petitions signed by more than 51 per cent of the producers of milk delivered to any such plant or in any such municipal milk shed shall be presented to the department asking for discontinuance of such auditing service, it shall promptly hold a public hearing to determine the sufficiency of such petitions, and if it shall appear that the required number of persons have so petitioned, the auditing service shall be ordered discontinued. Plants and areas now being audited by the department shall continue to receive such service until an order of discontinuance is made as herein provided.

(4) Authorized officials of any organization whose members are producers delivering milk to any such plant or in any such municipal milk shed may sign petitions for such auditing service or for the discontinuance thereof for and on behalf of the producer members of such organization.

(5) Any person who violates this section by failing to pay to the department the deductions required by this section, or by failing to make or to keep the required records or reports, or by wilfully making any false entry in such records or reports, or by wilfully failing to make full and true entries in such records or reports, or by obstructing, refusing or resisting other than through judicial process any department audit of such records, shall be fined not to exceed \$200 or imprisoned in the county jail not more than 6 months or by both.

(6) Action to enjoin violation of this section may be commenced and prosecuted by the department in the name of the state in any court having equity jurisdiction.

100.12 Refusal of commission merchant to furnish written statement of transaction prima facie evidence of gambling.

(1) Every person doing business as a commission merchant or broker shall furnish, upon demand, to any person for whom he has executed an order for the purchase or sale of a commodity, whether for immediate or future delivery, a written statement containing the following information:

(a) The name of the party from whom the commodity was bought or to whom it was sold, whichever the case may be; and

(b) The time when, the place where, and the price at which such commodity was bought or sold.

(2) Refusal upon demand to furnish the written statement specified in sub. (1) is prima facie evidence that the purchase or sale of the commodity was not a bona fide business transaction.

(3) Transactions by or between members of a lawfully constituted chamber of commerce or board of trade which has been organized pursuant to the laws of this state are prima facie valid if they are conducted in accordance with the charter of such chamber of commerce or board of trade and the rules, by-laws and regulations adopted thereunder.

100.13 Warehouseman. (1) **DEFINITIONS, LICENSES** (a) "Warehouseman" as used in this section excludes: Municipal and railroad corporations; those licensed under sections 99.02 as to business covered by such license and 126.07; cooperative associations storing farm products and merchandise for members; those who own and use warehouses for storage of manufactured dairy products, or canned produce and dairy products, manufactured by them; and field warehouses. It includes every other person who stores property for hire.

(b) The department of agriculture may exempt from the operation of this section a warehouse or portion thereof if the operator has a license under the federal bonded warehouse act.

(c) A person desiring a warehouseman's license shall make application on a form furnished by the department and shall set forth the location, size, character and equipment of the building or premises to be used by him, the kinds of goods intended to be stored, the name of each partner, if a partnership, and the names of the officers, if a corporation, and such other facts as the department requires to show that the property proposed to be used is suitable for a warehouse and that the applicant is qualified as a warehouseman. If the property proposed to be used is suitable for a warehouse and the applicant is entitled to a license, he shall be notified of the fact and upon payment of the license fee and giving the bond required a license shall issue.

(2) **WAREHOUSEMEN CLASSIFIED.** Warehousemen are classified as follows: Warehousemen who have less than 10,000 square feet of floor space constitute class 1; warehousemen who have 10,000 square feet or over but less than 50,000 constitute class 2;

warehousemen who have 50,000 square feet or over but less than 100,000 constitute class 3; warehousemen who have 100,000 square feet or over but less than 150,000 constitute class 4; and warehousemen who have 150,000 square feet or over constitute class 5.

(3) LICENSE FEES, TERM. (a) Every warehouseman before he is licensed shall pay into the state treasury an annual fee, as follows: For class 1, \$25; for class 2, \$50; for class 3, \$100; for class 4, \$150; and for class 5, \$200.

(b) No license shall be issued for part of a year for less than the annual fee, and the license is not transferable. The license period expires June 30.

(4) BOND. (a) Every warehouseman, before he is licensed, shall file with the department a bond to the state, with one or more sureties, who shall justify in double the amount of such bond, or with a surety company licensed by this state as surety. Such bond must be acceptable to the department and shall be conditioned that the warehouseman will faithfully perform his obligations as a warehouseman. Any person whose property is stored in any such licensed warehouse may apply to the department to determine the sufficiency of such bond. When the department determines that a bond is insufficient, or when such bond or insurance policy lapses or is canceled without approval of the department, the warehouseman shall correct such defect within 20 days after written notice from the department and, if such defect is not corrected within such period, such warehouseman's license shall be considered automatically revoked without further action as of the expiration of such 20-day period. Any warehouseman may, in lieu of such bond, file with the department a certified copy of a legal liability insurance policy of like amount which is acceptable to the department and payable to the state for the benefit of the owners of stored property, and which provides that the policy shall not be canceled during the license period except upon 15 days' notice in writing to the department.

(b) The bond or insurance policy shall be in amount as follows: For class 1, \$5,000; for class 2, \$10,000; for class 3, \$15,000; for class 4, \$20,000; and for class 5, \$25,000.

(c) In the case of warehousemen engaged exclusively in storing wearing apparel the department may accept, in lieu of bond, a certified copy of insurance policies protecting the owners of all stored goods against loss or damage by fire, wind, water or theft.

(5) SIGN POSTED. Every warehouseman shall keep a conspicuous sign posted on the outside of each warehouse, at its main entrance, and another conspicuous sign posted at its main exit

which sign shall state clearly the name of the warehouseman and that the warehouse is a public warehouse.

(7) TRANSACTING BUSINESS WITHOUT A LICENSE. No person shall act or hold himself out as a warehouseman or advertise for or solicit business as a warehouseman without a warehouseman's license, or when his bond has become void or has been found insufficient.

(8) VIOLATIONS. The department in the name of the state may commence action to enjoin violation of this section and may prosecute such violation in any court of appropriate jurisdiction.

100.14 Uniform labels and trade-marks.

(1) The department may adopt uniform labels and trade-marks for brands of Wisconsin products and shall, upon request, permit the use of such labels and trade-marks by any person engaged in the production or distribution of products who complies with regulations issued by the department for the use of such labels or trade-marks.

(2) The secretary of state shall, upon application of the department, record any such label or trade-mark under ss. 132.01 to 132.11. The department shall be entitled to protect such label or trade-mark under said sections and in any other manner authorized by law.

100.15 Regulation of trading stamps. (1)

No person, firm, corporation, or association within this state shall use, give, offer, issue, transfer, furnish, deliver, or cause or authorize to be furnished or delivered to any other person, firm, corporation, or association within this state, in connection with the sale of any goods, wares or merchandise, any trading stamp, token, ticket, bond, or other similar device, which shall entitle the purchaser receiving the same to procure any goods, wares, merchandise privilege, or thing of value in exchange for any such trading stamp, token, ticket, bond, or other similar device, except that any manufacturer, packer, or dealer may issue any slip, ticket, or check with the sale of any goods, wares or merchandise, which slip, ticket or check shall bear upon its face a stated cash value and shall be redeemable only in cash for the amount stated thereon, upon presentation in amounts aggregating twenty-five cents or over of redemption value, and only by the person, firm or corporation issuing the same; provided, that the publication by or distribution through newspapers, or other publications, of coupons in advertisements other than their own, shall not be considered a violation of this section; and provided further, that this section shall not apply to any coupon, certificate or similar device, which is within, attached to, or a part of any

package or container as packed by the original manufacturer and is directly redeemed by such manufacturer.

(2) The giving, offering, issuance or delivery of any trading stamp, token, ticket, bond, slip, check or other similar device having a redemption value, by any person, firm, corporation or association, in connection with the resale of any goods, wares or merchandise which were bought by such person, firm, corporation or association with knowledge or notice that the resale price thereof had been fixed or established by the producer or distributor thereof, when the price obtained on the resale less the total redemption value of the device herein mentioned given in connection therewith is below the fixed or established minimum price, is declared to be an unfair method of competition in business, and notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, or any other provision in the statutes, is prohibited. In addition to the penalty provided in section 100.26 for violation of this section, an injunction may be issued by any court of competent jurisdiction restraining further violation hereof at the suit of any person, firm or corporation damaged or affected thereby.

(3) Notwithstanding sub. (1), it shall be lawful to give, offer, issue, furnish or deliver, in connection with the sale of goods, wares, merchandise or services, stamps, tokens, tickets, or similar devices, without any stated cash value, when such stamps, tokens, tickets, or similar devices are redeemable only in payment for parking privileges for automobiles or fares on urban passenger transit facilities.

100.16 Selling with pretense of prize. No person shall sell or offer to sell anything whatever, by the representation or pretense that a sum of money or something of value, which is uncertain or concealed, is inclosed within or may be found with or named upon the thing sold, or that will be given to the purchaser in addition to the thing sold, or by any representation, pretense or device, by which the purchaser is informed or induced to believe that money or something else of value may be won or drawn by chance by reason of such sale.

100.17 Guessing contests. No person or persons or corporations in their own name or under any assumed trade name, with intent to defraud, shall advertise or represent in printing or writing of any nature, any enigma, guessing or puzzle contest, offering to the participants therein any premium, prize or certificate entitling the recipient to a credit upon the purchase of merchandise in any form whatsoever; nor shall any person or corporation in the printing or writing, advertising or setting forth

any such contests, fail to state definitely the nature of the prizes so offered; nor shall any person or corporation fail to state clearly upon all evidences of value issued as a result of such contest in the form of credit certificates, credit bonds, coupons, or other evidences of credit in any form whatsoever, whether the same are redeemable in money or are of value only as a credit upon the purchase of merchandise; nor shall any person or corporation issue to any person as a result of any such contest, any instrument in the form of a bank check or bank draft or promissory note or any colorable imitation of any of the foregoing; nor shall any person or corporation refuse or fail to award and grant the specific prizes offered to the persons determined to be entitled thereto under the terms of such contest, or fail to redeem any credit certificate, credit bonds, coupons or other evidences of credit issued as a result of any such contest, according to the terms thereof.

100.18 Fraudulent advertising. (1) No person, firm, corporation or association, or agent or employe thereof, with intent to sell, distribute, increase the consumption of or in any wise dispose of any real estate, merchandise, securities, employment, service, or anything offered by such person, firm, corporation or association, or agent or employe thereof, directly or indirectly, to the public for sale, hire, use or other distribution, or with intent to induce the public in any manner to enter into any contract or obligation relating to the purchase, sale, hire, use or lease of any real estate, merchandise, securities, employment or service, shall make; publish, disseminate, circulate, or place before the public, or cause, directly or indirectly, to be made, published, disseminated, circulated, or placed before the public, in this state, in a newspaper, magazine or other publication, or in the form of a book, notice, handbill, poster, bill, circular, pamphlet, letter, sign, placard, card, label, or over any radio or television station, or in any other way similar or dissimilar to the foregoing, an advertisement, announcement, statement or representation of any kind to the public relating to such purchase, sale, hire, use or lease of such real estate, merchandise, securities, service or employment or to the terms or conditions thereof, which advertisement, announcement, statement or representation contains any assertion, representation or statement of fact which is untrue, deceptive or misleading.

(2) In advertising or otherwise representing the sale or furnishing of any property or services combined with or conditioned on the purchase of any other property or services described in such advertisement or other representation, it is deceptive to fail to state the price or amount

which must be paid for the property or services included in such sale, along with any other requirement which is a condition to the receipt of such property or services. The price or amount which must be paid shall be set forth clearly, conspicuously and in such manner that the total price or amount to be paid may be readily ascertained.

(3) It shall be deemed deceptive advertising, within the meaning of this section, for any person, firm or corporation, engaged in the business of buying or selling new or secondhand furs, wearing apparel, jewelry, furniture, pianos, phonographs, or other musical instruments, motor vehicles, stocks, or generally any form of property, real, personal or mixed, or in the business of furnishing any kind of service or investment, to advertise such articles, property or service for sale or purchase, in any manner indicating that the sale or purchase is being made by a private party or householder not engaged in such business. And every such firm, corporation or association, engaged in any such business, in advertising goods, property or service for sale or purchase, shall affirmatively and unmistakably indicate and state that the seller or purchaser is a business concern and not a private party.

(4) It shall be deemed deceptive advertising, within the meaning of this section, for any person, firm or corporation to take donations or sell merchandise or tickets of admission or solicit programs or any other advertising when any part of the proceeds will be donated to any organization or fund, unless said advertising shall contain a correct statement of the amount to be donated to any such organization or fund, set out substantially in the following manner: (a) the minimum amount stated in dollars; or (b) the minimum percentage of the gross income; or (c) the minimum percentage of the net income. If the amount to be donated is to be based on the net income such donor shall file with the secretary or treasurer of the fund or organization receiving the donation before commencing such advertising, an itemized statement, under oath, setting forth the maximum amounts to be deducted from gross income in determining the net income. Such statement shall be open to examination by the public. If merchandise is to be received and donated to such organization or fund, without change of form, the advertising shall state what percentage of the total amount of merchandise collected will be donated to such organization or fund.

(5) Any person, firm, corporation or association engaged in any business mentioned in sub. (3), or in any other kind of business, whether conducting such business in a store, business block, residence or other building, shall at all times keep a conspicuous sign posted on the

outside of his establishment and another conspicuous sign in the salesroom, which sign shall clearly state the name of the association, corporation or individual who actually owns said merchandise, property or service which are being offered to the public and not the name of any other person; provided, however, that the exterior sign shall not be required where the seller has no control over the exterior of the premises where such business is conducted.

(6) All advertising which shows or in any manner relates to the price at which motor fuel is offered for sale at retail, except multiple gallon computers attached to or forming a part of any dispensing equipment shall show only (a) the single gallon unit price including all applicable taxes in one amount or (b) the single gallon product price, the taxes applicable thereto, and the total single gallon unit price including all applicable taxes. In any such advertising, all numerals which represent either price or taxes shall be of the same type and size except that fractions of a cent shall be shown in figures one-half the height, width and prominence of the whole numbers.

(8) Every wholesaler and every other person selling or distributing motor fuel in this state shall keep posted in a conspicuous place, most accessible to the public at his place of business, and on every pump from which delivery is made directly into the fuel tank attached to a motor vehicle, a placard showing the net selling price per gallon of all grades of motor fuel and the amount of all taxes per gallon thereon. On pumps or other dispensing equipment from which motor fuel is sold and delivered directly into fuel supply tanks attached to motor vehicles, such posting shall be in figures not less than one inch high, except that no such placard shall be required on a computer pump whereon the total net selling price per gallon including all taxes is legibly shown on its face. All sales shall be made at the posted price and delivery slips shall also show the net selling price per gallon of all grades of motor fuel and the amount of all taxes per gallon thereon. If the wholesaler or person has more than one place of business in this state, the wholesaler or person shall post said placard at all of his places of business. All prices posted shall remain in effect for at least 24 hours after they are posted. It shall be deemed deceptive advertising to advertise or represent in any manner the price of motor fuel offered for sale at retail to be less than the price so posted on each pump.

(9) (a) It is deemed deceptive advertising, within the meaning of this section, for any person or any agent or employe thereof to make, publish, disseminate, circulate or place before the public in this state in a newspaper or other

publication or in the form of book, notice, handbill, poster, bill, circular, pamphlet, letter, sign, placard, card, label or over any radio or television station or in any other way similar or dissimilar to the foregoing, an advertisement, announcement, statement or representation of any kind to the public relating to the purchase, sale, hire, use or lease of real estate, merchandise, securities, service or employment or to the terms or conditions thereof which advertisement, announcement, statement or representation is part of a plan or scheme the purpose or effect of which is not to sell, purchase, hire, use or lease the real estate, merchandise, securities, service or employment as advertised.

(b) This subsection does not apply to the owner, publisher, printer, agent or employe of a newspaper or other publication, periodical or circular, or of a radio or television station, who in good faith and without knowledge of the falsity or deceptive character thereof, publishes, causes to be published or takes part in the publication of such advertisement.

(10) (a) It is deceptive to misrepresent the nature of any business by use of the words manufacturer, factory, mill, importer, wholesaler or words of similar meaning, in a corporate or trade name or otherwise.

(b) It is deceptive to represent the price of any merchandise as a manufacturer's or wholesaler's price, or a price equal thereto, unless such price is not more than the price which retailers regularly pay for such merchandise. The effective date of this act shall be January 1, 1962.

(11) (a) The department of agriculture shall enforce this section. Actions to enjoin violation of this section or any regulations thereunder may be commenced and prosecuted by the department in the name of the state in any court having equity jurisdiction. This remedy is not exclusive.

(b) 1. The department of agriculture may request that the department of justice commence an action to enjoin a violation of this section, in which event the latter department shall proceed with the requested action within a reasonable period of time or provide the department of agriculture with a brief statement of its reasons for not proceeding. The department of justice shall further provide the department of agriculture with periodic summaries of all activity under this section.

2. Any person suffering pecuniary loss because of a violation by any other person of any injunction issued under this section may sue for damages therefor in any court of competent jurisdiction and shall recover twice the amount of such pecuniary loss, together with costs, including a reasonable attorney's fee.

3. No action may be commenced under this section more than 3 years after the occurrence of

the unlawful act or practice which is the subject of the action. No injunction may be issued under this section which would conflict with general or special orders of the department or any statute, rule or regulation of the United States or of this state.

(c) 1. Whenever the department has reason to believe that a person is in possession, custody or control of any information or documentary material relevant to the enforcement of this section it may require that person to submit a statement or report, under oath or otherwise, as to the facts and circumstances concerning any activity in the course of trade or commerce; examine under oath that person with respect to any activity in the course of trade or commerce; and execute in writing and cause to be served upon such person a civil investigative demand requiring the person to produce any relevant documentary material for inspection and copying.

2. The department, in exercising powers under this subsection, may issue subpoenas, administer oaths and conduct hearings to aid in any investigation.

3. Service of any notice by the department requiring a person to file a statement or report, or service of a subpoena upon a person, or service of a civil investigative demand shall be made in compliance with the rules of civil procedure of this state.

4. If a person fails to file any statement or report, or fails to comply with any civil investigative demand, or fails to obey any subpoena issued by the department, such person may be coerced as provided in s. 885.12, except that no person shall be required to furnish any testimony or evidence under this subsection which might tend to incriminate him.

(d) The department or the department of justice or any district attorney, upon informing the department of justice, may commence an action in circuit court in the name of the state to restrain by temporary or permanent injunction any violation of this section. The court may in its discretion, prior to entry of final judgment, make such orders or judgments as may be necessary to restore to any person any pecuniary loss suffered because of the acts or practices involved in the action, provided proof thereof is submitted to the satisfaction of the court. The department of justice may subpoena persons, require the production of books and other documents, and may request the department to exercise its authority under par. (c) to aid in the investigation of alleged violations of this section.

(e) In lieu of instituting or continuing an action pursuant to this section, the department or the department of justice may accept a written assurance of discontinuance of any act or

practice alleged to be a violation of this section from the person who has engaged in such act or practice. The acceptance of such assurance by either the department or the department of justice shall be deemed acceptance by the other state officials enumerated in par. (d) if the terms of the assurance so provide. An assurance entered into pursuant to this section shall not be considered evidence of a violation of this section, provided that violation of such an assurance shall be treated as a violation of this section, and shall be subjected to all the penalties and remedies provided therefor.

100.183 Fraud, advertising foods. (1) No person, firm, corporation or association shall, with intent to sell, or increase the consumption thereof, or create an interest therein, make, publish, disseminate, circulate, or place before the public in this state, or cause, directly or indirectly to be made, published, disseminated, or placed before the public in this state, in a newspaper or other publication, or in the form of a book notice, handbill, poster, bill, circular or pamphlet, or in any other manner, an advertisement of any sort regarding articles of food, which advertisement contains any assertion, representation or statement which is untrue, deceptive or misleading.

(2) It shall be unlawful to advertise any dairy or other food product which is of a grade or quality inferior to or less valuable than the usual and ordinary grade established by common understanding or law for such product, or from which a more valuable portion has been removed, without plainly and conspicuously stating that the article advertised is below and inferior to the usual and ordinary grade.

(3) No person, for himself, or as an agent, shall advertise at a stated price the sale of turkeys, which have been graded by the U.S. department of agriculture, unless the federal grade is set forth in such advertisement in not less than 10-point type.

100.184 Advertising foods for sale. No person shall, himself, or by his servant or agent, or as the servant or agent of any other person, advertise for sale any article of food in package form when the retail price is mentioned in such advertisement unless the actual weight or volume of the contents of such package as stated on the label shall be plainly and conspicuously set forth in such advertisement in not less than 5-point type.

100.186 Linseed oil, white lead, zinc oxide, turpentine; standards; sale. (1) No person shall sell as and for "raw flaxseed oil" or "raw linseed oil" any oil unless it is obtained

from the seeds of the flax plant and unless it fulfills all the requirements for linseed oil laid down in the U.S. Pharmacopoeia; or as and for "boiled linseed oil" or "boiled flaxseed oil" any oil unless it has been prepared by heating pure raw linseed oil with or without the addition of not to exceed 4% of drier to a temperature not less than 225 degrees Fahrenheit. It is a violation of this section if said boiled linseed oil does not conform to the following requirements: First, its specific gravity at 60 degrees Fahrenheit must be not less than 935 thousandths and not greater than 945 thousandths; 2nd, its saponification value (koettstorfer figure) must not be less than 186; 3rd, its iodine number must not be less than 160; 4th, its acid value must not exceed 10; 5th, the volatile matter expelled at 212 degrees Fahrenheit must not exceed one-half of one per cent; 6th, no mineral or other foreign oil or free rosin shall be present, and the amount of unsaponifiable matter as determined by standard methods shall not exceed 2.5%; 7th, the film left after flowing the oil over glass and allowing it to drain in a vertical position must dry free from tackiness in not to exceed 20 hours, at a temperature of about 70 degrees Fahrenheit.

(2) Nor shall any person sell any raw or boiled linseed oil except under its true name, and unless each tank car, tank, barrel, keg, can or vessel of such oil has distinctly and durably marked thereon in ordinary bold-faced capital letters, not smaller than 60-point type, the words "Pure Linseed Oil—Raw" or "Linseed Oil—Boiled," and the name and address of the manufacturer.

(3) Linseed oil compounds designed to take the place of raw or boiled linseed oil, whether sold under invented proprietary names or titles, or otherwise, shall bear conspicuously upon the containing receptacle in which the same is sold, in ordinary bold-faced capital letters not smaller than 60-point type, the word "Compound," followed immediately with the true distinctive names of the actual ingredients in the order of their greater preponderance, in the English language, in plain legible type of the same style, not smaller than 36-point type, in continuous list with no intervening matter of any kind and shall also bear the name and address of the manufacturer.

(4) No person shall sell:

(a) As and for dry white lead any substance other than basic carbonate of lead or basic sulphate of lead;

(b) As and for white lead in oil, any product other than basic carbonate of lead ground in pure linseed oil or basic sulphate of lead ground in pure linseed oil;

(c) Any basic carbonate of lead ground in linseed oil, unless each receptacle containing it

has distinctly and durably marked thereon the words, "white lead, basic carbonate, in oil," and the name and address of the manufacturer or jobber;

(d) Any basic sulphate of lead ground in linseed oil, unless each receptacle containing it has distinctly and durably marked thereon the words "white lead, basic sulphate, in oil," and the name and address of the manufacturer or jobber;

(e) As and for dry oxide of zinc, or zinc oxide, or zinc white, any substance other than commercially pure oxide of zinc;

(f) As and for oxide of zinc in oil, or zinc oxide in oil, or zinc white in oil, any product other than commercially pure oxide of zinc ground in pure linseed oil;

(g) Any oxide of zinc ground in linseed oil, unless each receptacle containing the same has distinctly and durably marked thereon the words "oxide of zinc in oil" or "zinc oxide in oil" or "zinc white in oil" and the name and address of the manufacturer or jobber.

(5) No person shall sell:

(a) As and for turpentine, spirits of turpentine or oil of turpentine, any article except pure oil of turpentine distilled from the natural gum, dip or scrape of pine trees and unmixed with kerosene or other mineral oil or other foreign substance;

(b) As and for wood turpentine or wood spirits of turpentine any article except the distillates and spirits prepared directly from or by the distillation of the wood of pine trees, and unmixed with kerosene or other mineral oil or other foreign substance;

(c) Any oil of turpentine or wood spirits of turpentine except under its true name, and unless each tank car, tank, barrel, keg, can or vessel of such oil has distinctly and durably marked thereon in ordinary bold-faced capital letters, not smaller than 60-point type, the words "Oil of Turpentine" or "Wood Spirits of Turpentine" and the name and address of the manufacturer or jobber.

100.19 Distribution methods and practices.

(1) The methods of distribution and practices in the distribution of food products and fuel shall be free from needless waste and needless duplication which tend to increase the cost of such products to the consuming public. Methods of distribution and practices in the distribution of food products and fuel, wherever such waste or duplication tends to increase the costs of such products to the consuming public, are hereby prohibited.

(2) The department, after public hearing, may issue general orders forbidding methods of distribution or practices in distribution which

are found by the department to cause waste or duplication as defined herein. The department, after public hearing, may issue general orders prescribing methods of distribution or practices in distribution which are found by the department to avoid waste or duplication as defined herein.

(3) The department, after public hearing, may issue a special order against any person, enjoining such person from employing any method of distribution or practice in distribution which is found by the department to cause waste or duplication as defined herein. The department, after public hearing, may issue a special order against any person, requiring such person to employ the method of distribution or practice in distribution which is found by the department to avoid waste or duplication as defined herein.

100.195 Alleviation of energy shortages.

All agencies of the state shall, to the fullest extent possible, investigate and consider the conservation of energy resources as an important factor when making any major decision which law and rules permit them to make and which significantly affects energy usage.

History: 1973 c. 157

100.20 Methods of competition and trade practices.

(1) Methods of competition in business and trade practices in business shall be fair. Unfair methods of competition in business and unfair trade practices in business are hereby prohibited.

(2) The department, after public hearing, may issue general orders forbidding methods of competition in business or trade practices in business which are determined by the department to be unfair. The department, after public hearing, may issue general orders prescribing methods of competition in business or trade practices in business which are determined by the department to be fair.

(3) The department, after public hearing, may issue a special order against any person, enjoining such person from employing any method of competition in business or trade practice in business which is determined by the department to be unfair. The department, after public hearing, may issue a special order against any person, requiring such person to employ the method of competition in business or trade practice in business which is determined by the department to be fair.

(4) The department of justice may file a written complaint with the department alleging that the person named is employing unfair methods of competition in business or unfair trade practices in business or both. Whenever such a complaint is filed it shall be the duty of the

department to proceed, after proper notice and in accordance with its rules, to the hearing and adjudication of the matters alleged, and a representative of the department of justice designated by the attorney general may appear before the department in such proceedings. The department of justice shall be entitled to judicial review of the decisions and orders of the department under ch. 227.

(5) Any person suffering pecuniary loss because of a violation by any other person of any order issued under this section may sue for damages therefor in any court of competent jurisdiction and shall recover twice the amount of such pecuniary loss, together with costs, including a reasonable attorney's fee.

(6) The department may commence an action in circuit court in the name of the state to restrain by temporary or permanent injunction the violation of any order issued under this section. The court may in its discretion, prior to entry of final judgment make such orders or judgments as may be necessary to restore to any person any pecuniary loss suffered because of the uses or practices involved in the action, provided proof thereof is submitted to the satisfaction of the court. The department may use its authority in ss. 93.14 and 93.15 to investigate violations of any order issued under this section.

Rules of the department of agriculture prohibiting a chain distributor scheme are valid. Unfair practices which may be prohibited are not limited to those affecting competitors. *HM Distributors of Milwaukee v. Dept. of Agriculture*, 55 W (2d) 261, 198 NW (2d) 598.

Order of department declaring chain distributor schemes to be unfair trade practice was not void for vagueness. *Holiday Magic, Inc. v. Warren*, 357 F Supp 20.

100.201 Unfair trade practices in the dairy industry. (1) DEFINITIONS. Unless context requires otherwise:

(a) "Selected dairy products" means: 1. milk, skim milk, fortified milk, flavored milk, flavored skim milk, buttermilk, cream, sour cream, half and half, whipping cream, whipped cream and cottage cheese; and 2. ice cream, ice milk, sherbet, custard, water ices, quiescently frozen ices and frozen dessert novelties manufactured from any such products. The department may by rule after hearing designate as selected dairy products such other products derived in whole or in part from milk as it finds necessary to effectuate the purposes of this section; but in no event shall there be designated as selected dairy products any of the following: powdered dry milk or powdered dry cream, condensed, concentrated or evaporated milk in hermetically sealed containers, butter or cheese, other than cottage cheese.

(b) "Sell at retail," "sales at retail" and "retail sales" include any transfer for a valuable consideration made in the course of trade or

conduct of the seller's business, of title to tangible personal property to the purchaser for consumption or use other than resale or further processing or manufacturing, and include any transfer of such property where title is retained by the seller as security for the payment of the purchase price.

(c) "Sell at wholesale," "sales at wholesale" and "wholesale sales" include any transfer for a valuable consideration made in the course of trade or conduct of the seller's business, of title to tangible personal property to the purchaser for purposes of resale or further processing or manufacturing, and include any transfer of such property where title is retained by the seller as security for the payment of the purchase price.

(d) 1. "Retailer" means every person making any sale of selected dairy products at retail within this state unless otherwise excepted; provided, that in the case of a person making both sales at retail and sales at wholesale such term shall apply only to the retail portion of such sales. "Retailer" does not include the United States, the state, any municipality as defined in s. 345.05 (1) (a), or any religious, charitable or educational organization or institution, but does include any other person engaged in the business of making retail sales wholly or in part for his own profit at an institution operated by such an exempt party.

2. For the purpose of this section any subsidiary or affiliate corporation or co-operative, and any officer, director or partner, of a corporation, co-operative, or partnership which is a retailer of selected dairy products, and any individual, corporation, co-operative, partnership, association or any other business unit which owns, controls or franchises any retailer or which has any retailer as an affiliate, member or subsidiary, is deemed to be a retailer of selected dairy products and the prohibitions of sub. (2) shall also apply to any such person or business unit which sells any selected dairy product at wholesale.

(e) 1. "Wholesaler" means every person making sales of selected dairy products at wholesale within this state, unless otherwise excepted; provided, that in the case of a person making both sales at retail and sales at wholesale such term shall apply only to the wholesale portion of such business.

2. For the purpose of this section any subsidiary or affiliate corporation or co-operative, and any officer, director or partner, of a corporation, co-operative, or partnership which is a wholesaler of selected dairy products is deemed to be a wholesaler of selected dairy products.

(f) This section is applicable to consignment sales and a consignor shall be deemed to be a

wholesaler and a consignee to be a retailer for the purposes of this section.

(g) "Broker" means any person engaged in negotiating sales or purchases of selected dairy products for or on behalf of a retailer or wholesaler or both.

(2) PROHIBITIONS. Each of the practices described in this subsection is declared to be an unfair trade practice. It is unlawful for any person to be engaged in such practices. No wholesaler shall:

(a) 1. Give or extend discounts or rebates, directly or indirectly, to retailers or other wholesalers on selected dairy products or give or extend to such purchasers any services connected with the delivery, handling or stocking of such products except in accordance with published price lists. A wholesaler may sell selected dairy products at a price different from or with services less than or additional to those in said published price list in order to meet a bona fide offer by a competitor to a particular retailer or wholesaler, but such discount, rebate or service shall not be given until the wholesaler first makes a written record of the date of such competitive offer, the terms thereof, the name of the retailer or wholesaler to whom made and the name of the competitor by whom made. Such record shall be available within this state for inspection and copying by any retailer or wholesaler upon his written request therefor. It is the duty of every wholesaler under this subsection to prepare and publish as hereinafter provided current price lists giving the prices of all selected dairy products sold by him at wholesale, directly or indirectly, to retailers or other wholesalers, including all discounts, rebates and services connected with the delivery, handling or stocking of such products, giving the effective dates of such prices, and giving the amount paid or anything of value given or granted by him for such sales made through a broker as commission, brokerage, allowance or other compensation. Such price lists shall be available within this state for inspection and copying by any retailer or wholesaler upon his written request therefor.

2. Every wholesaler shall file with the department the address of his principal business office in this state, if any. If a wholesaler has such a principal business address in this state written request for any record or price list required to be made available under this subsection shall be sent to such business office and the information requested shall be made available there. A wholesaler having no principal business office within this state shall file with the department or a designated agent approved by the department such current records or price lists required to be made available under this subsection. Such current records or price lists shall be available for

inspection and copying by any retailer or wholesaler upon his written request therefor. The failure or refusal of any wholesaler to make available for inspection and copying any record or price list required to be made available under this subsection within 24 hours after a request has been received or to file with the department current records or price lists as required shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of this subsection.

3. In case of the failure or refusal of any wholesaler to make available or file any record or price list as required by this paragraph, any court of record of competent jurisdiction shall, upon a showing of such failure or refusal, and upon notice, order said wholesaler to give to the retailer or wholesaler so requesting, within a specified time, an inspection thereof, with permission to make a copy therefrom, or to file such information with the department.

(b) Discriminate in price, directly or indirectly, between different purchasers of selected dairy products of like grade and quality where the effect of such discrimination may be substantially to lessen competition or tend to create a monopoly, or to injure, destroy or prevent competition with any person who either grants or knowingly receives the benefit of such discrimination, or with customers of either of them. Proof made at any proceeding under this paragraph that there has been discrimination in price shall be prima facie evidence of the truth of such charges. The burden of rebutting such prima facie evidence by a showing of justification shall be upon the person charged with the violation. Nothing in this paragraph shall prevent any person charged with a violation of this paragraph from rebutting such prima facie evidence by showing that his lower price was made in good faith to meet an equally low price of a competitor. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to apply to the submission of bids to or sales to the United States, the state, any municipality as defined in s. 345.05 (1) (a), or any religious, charitable or educational organization or institution. Nothing in this paragraph shall prevent:

1. Price differentials which merely allow for differences in the cost of manufacture, sale or delivery resulting from the differing methods or quantities in which such selected dairy products are sold or delivered to such purchasers.

2. Persons engaged in selling selected dairy products from selecting their own customers in bona fide transactions and not in restraint of trade.

3. Price changes from time to time resulting from changing conditions affecting the market for or the marketability of the selected dairy products concerned, including but not limited to

actual or imminent deterioration, obsolescence, distress sales under court process, or sales in good faith in discontinuance of business in the selected dairy products concerned.

(c) Make payments of money, credit, gifts or loans to retailers as rental for the storage or display of selected dairy products on the premises where they are offered for sale by the retailer.

(d) Make or underwrite loans to a retailer or become bound in any manner for the financial obligation of any retailer except that a wholesaler may lend money to a retailer for the purchase of equipment for the storage, transportation and display of selected dairy products, provided the loan is for not more than 90% of the purchase price, bears at least a 5% annual interest rate, is payable in equal monthly instalments over a period of not more than 48 months, and is secured by a security interest created by a security agreement specifying all payments by the retailer and duly filed by the wholesaler within 10 days after the making or underwriting of said loan, as provided in ss. 409.401 and 409.402.

(e) Furnish, sell, give, lend or rent any equipment to a retailer except:

1. The wholesaler, under a bill of sale or security agreement describing the property sold and specifying the price and terms of sale duly filed by him under ss. 409.401 and 409.402 within 10 days after delivery of the equipment described therein, may sell equipment for the storage, transportation and display of selected dairy products to the retailer but the selling price shall be not less than the cost to the wholesaler, less 10% per year depreciation, plus transportation and installation costs, plus at least 6%, but in no event shall it be less than \$100 per unit. In filing bills of sale under this section, the filing officer shall follow the procedure under s. 409.403 insofar as applicable. If the wholesaler makes the sale under a security agreement, the terms of sale shall be no more favorable to the retailer than those under sub. (2) (d). Failure by any wholesaler to enforce his security interest under this paragraph or sub. (2) (d) if a retailer is in default for more than 90 days shall constitute prima facie evidence of a violation of this section. No wholesaler shall renegotiate a security agreement which is in default.

2. The wholesaler may provide without restriction coin-vending machines from which the product vended is consumed on the premises.

3. The wholesaler may furnish equipment to retailers for the storage, transportation or display of selected dairy products for one period of not longer than 10 consecutive days a year to any one retailer for use at a fair, exhibition, exposition or other event for agricultural,

industrial, charitable, educational, religious or recreational purposes

4. A wholesaler who furnishes, lends or rents the use of equipment for the storage or display of selected dairy products to any person exempt under sub. (1) (d) shall not sell selected dairy products which will be stored or displayed in such equipment to any retailer using the equipment on the premises of such exempt person unless such retailer purchases said equipment in accordance with this paragraph or par. (d). Nothing in this paragraph shall limit sales of selected dairy products to retailers in conjunction with equipment furnished under subd. 3.

(f) Maintain or make repairs of any equipment owned by a retailer except those used exclusively for selected dairy products. On such repairs the wholesaler shall make charges for the service and parts at the same prices as are charged by third persons rendering such service in the community where the retailer is located but in no event shall the charges be less than the cost thereof to the wholesaler plus a reasonable margin of profit.

(g) Extend or give credit to any retailer in excess of 30 days payable 15 days thereafter.

(h) 1. Sell or offer to sell, directly or indirectly, any selected dairy product at less than cost with the purpose or intent of injuring, destroying or eliminating competition or a competitor or creating a monopoly, or where the effect may be any of the same. This paragraph shall apply to all sales, including those made to any instrumentality of state or local government and to all religious, charitable or educational organizations or institutions, but does not apply to sales made to the United States.

2. "Cost" of a selected dairy product to a wholesaler means that portion of all of the cost of raw product plus all costs of manufacturing, processing, packaging, handling, sale, delivery and overhead of such wholesaler which, under a system of accounting in accordance with sound accounting principles and reasonably adapted to the business of such wholesaler, is fairly allocable to such selected dairy product and the sale thereof to its customers or to a particular class thereof. Such cost shall include, but not be limited to, all expenses for labor, salaries, bonuses, fringe benefits, administration, rent, interest, depreciation, power, raw and processed ingredients, materials, packaging, supplies, maintenance of equipment, selling, advertising, transportation, delivery, credit losses, license and other fees, taxes, insurance, and other fixed and incidental operating expenses and costs of doing business.

3. The department may by rule after hearing adopt a uniform system of accounting to be used

by the department in determining the cost of a selected dairy product and to require wholesalers to file reports of such cost based upon such adopted system of accounting.

4. Proof made at any proceeding under this paragraph of a sale or offer to sell, directly or indirectly, any selected dairy product at less than cost as determined by department rule, if adopted, shall be prima facie evidence that it was made with the purpose or intent of injuring, destroying or eliminating competition or a competitor or creating a monopoly and that the effect may be any of the same. The burden of rebutting such prima facie evidence shall be upon the person charged with a violation of this paragraph. Nothing in this paragraph shall prevent any person charged with a violation of this paragraph from rebutting such prima facie evidence by showing that his sale or offer to sell was made in good faith to meet competition.

5. This paragraph shall also apply to any retailer who owns, operates or otherwise contracts for, directly or indirectly, facilities for manufacturing or processing any selected dairy product, and to the cost of a selected dairy product, as defined in this paragraph, shall be added both the wholesale and retail markup as provided in s. 100.30.

(i) 1. Give, offer to give, furnish, finance or otherwise make available, directly or indirectly, to any retailer or to any other person doing business with such retailer anything of value which is connected with, or which aids or assists in, or which may induce or encourage, the purchase, handling, sale, offering for sale or promotion of the sale of the wholesaler's selected dairy products by such retailer or any other person doing business with such retailer. The term "anything of value" as used herein includes, but is not limited to:

a. Any payment, discount, rebate, allowance, gift, goods, merchandise, privilege, contest, service or facility, whether or not given, offered, furnished, financed or otherwise made available in combination with or contingent on a purchase.

b. Any transaction involving the use of a coupon, token, slip, punch card, trading stamp or other device similar in nature, including any part of a container or package intended to be used as such device, and which transaction involves any participation by or purchase from a retailer.

2. Nothing in subd. 1 shall prevent, as to transactions with retailers, any of the following:

a. Differences in wholesale price, including any discount, rebate or allowance, not in violation of par. (b).

b. The furnishing of hostesses or demonstrators at any retailer's premises to promote the wholesaler's own brands of products.

c. The giving away of merchandise to be consumed on the premises.

d. The furnishing or installation of point of sale advertising material to any retailer that remains inside such retailer's premises made of paper, cardboard or other material not permanent in nature or indoor advertising signs, all of which have no use other than the promotion of the wholesaler's own brands of products and do not identify the retailer.

e. The furnishing or installation of indoor clocks bearing only the wholesaler's advertising and having a value of not more than \$30.

f. Advertising allowances which do no more than reimburse a retailer for his costs in advertising the wholesaler's own brands of products.

g. The furnishing or installation of outdoor signs advertising the wholesaler's own brands of products but not more than one-third of the space or cost of such signs may be used to identify the retailer.

h. The advertising by a wholesaler of his own brands of products through any media which does not identify any retailer or involve any transaction or conduct otherwise prohibited by this section.

i. Offers of premiums for which the consumer pays a separate fee which covers in full the wholesaler's costs of making such premiums available.

j. Transactions otherwise permitted by pars. (d), (e), (f), (g) and (h) and sub. (3).

(3) OPERATION OF RETAIL OUTLET BY WHOLESALER. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to prohibit the operation of a retail outlet by a wholesaler for retail sales or to prohibit the use by him in such retail outlet any equipment or advertising or miscellaneous matter owned by him provided that such retail outlet is under direct control and management of the wholesaler.

(4) UNLAWFUL ACTS OF RETAILERS. It is unlawful for any retailer or any officer, director, employe or agent thereof to solicit or receive, directly or indirectly, from or through a wholesaler, broker or another retailer, anything which is prohibited by sub. (2), where he knows or, in the exercise of reasonable prudence, should know that the same is prohibited.

(5) UNLAWFUL ACTS OF BROKERS. (a) It is unlawful for a broker, or any officer or agent thereof, to participate, directly or indirectly, in any unfair trade practice described in sub. (2).

(b) It is unlawful for a wholesaler to engage or offer to engage in any unfair trade practice described in sub. (2), directly or indirectly, through a broker.

(6) FEE ON DAIRY PRODUCTS. (a) For the purpose of administering and enforcing this

section the first person who processes or manufactures any selected dairy product for sale at wholesale or sale at retail (except sales at retail by counter freezer operators licensed under s. 97.26) within this state, or the wholesaler or retailer who first receives any such product already processed from outside the state for sale within the state, shall pay to the department on or before the 25th day of each month following the month in which such wholesaler receives, processes or sells such selected dairy products, a fee as determined by the department, but not to exceed 3 mills per hundredweight of 3.5% butterfat raw milk equivalent on all selected dairy products defined in sub. (1) (a) 1 sold within the state in final consumer package or container to retailers or consumers or sold in such packages or containers to other wholesalers of selected dairy products for further sale within the state to retailers or consumers, and not to exceed 2 mills per gallon on all ice cream mix and ice milk mix made for freezing into ice cream and ice milk and ultimately sold within the state, whether in the form of mix or finished ice cream and ice milk. Products upon which fees have been paid shall be exempt from further fees in successive transactions. Any person claiming that products sold by him are not subject to assessment under this subsection by reason of the fact that they were not sold or resold within the state shall have the burden of so proving, and shall be obligated to pay assessment on such products unless and until he produces records satisfying the department that such products are not subject to assessment.

(am) In addition to the fees authorized by par. (a) and required to be paid by persons designated therein, such persons shall pay additional fees not to exceed 1 mill per hundredweight of 3.5% butterfat raw milk equivalent on all selected dairy products defined in sub. (1) (a) 1 and not to exceed 1 mill per gallon on all ice cream mix and ice milk mix for a period not longer than 12 months beginning the month following December 10, 1965.

(b) A failure on the part of any person to pay on demand any assessments due hereunder shall be punishable as a violation of this section. The department may, by appropriate proceedings in any court of competent jurisdiction, recover the amount of any assessments due hereunder, together with interest at the rate of 2% per month, for each month such payments are delinquent.

(7) **APPLICABILITY.** The provisions of ss. 133.17 and 133.185 shall not apply to any conduct either permitted, required or prohibited under this section.

(8) **ENFORCEMENT.** It is the duty of the department to investigate, ascertain and determine whether this section or lawful orders issued hereunder are being violated and for such purposes the department shall have all the powers conferred by ch. 93.

(8m) **JURISDICTION.** This section shall apply to transactions, acts or omissions which take place in whole or in part outside this state. In any action or administrative proceeding the department has jurisdiction of the person served under s. 262.06 when any act or omission outside this state by the defendant or respondent results in local injury or may have the effect of injuring competition or a competitor in this state or unfairly diverts trade or business from a competitor, if at the time:

(a) Solicitation or service activities were carried on within this state by or on behalf of the defendant or respondent; or

(b) Selected dairy products processed, serviced, distributed or manufactured by the defendant or respondent were received for resale in this state at retail or wholesale without regard to where sale or delivery takes place.

(9) **PENALTIES.** (a) Any person violating this section shall forfeit not less than \$100 nor more than \$5,000 for each violation.

(b) The department, after public hearing held under s. 93.18, may issue a special order against any person requiring such person to cease and desist from acts, practices or omissions determined by the department to violate this section. Such orders shall be subject to judicial review under ch. 227. Any violation of a special order issued hereunder shall be punishable as a contempt under ch. 295 in the manner provided for disobedience of a lawful order of a court, upon the filing of an affidavit by the department of the commission of such violation in any court of record in the county where the violation occurred. The person in contempt may be fined not more than \$5,000 or imprisoned not more than 6 months or both, but s. 295.15 shall not be applicable.

(c) The department, in addition to or in lieu of any other remedies herein provided, may apply to a circuit court for a temporary or permanent injunction to prevent, restrain or enjoin any person from violating this section or any special order of the department issued hereunder, without being compelled to allege or prove that an adequate remedy at law does not exist.

(d) The provisions of s. 93.06 (7) shall be applicable to violations of this section insofar as permits, certificates, registrations or licenses issued by the department for the manufacture, distribution, and sale of selected dairy products are concerned, provided that any suspension or revocation thereof pursuant to s. 93.06 (7) can

be ordered only for failure to comply with any special order issued pursuant to par. (b) or with any permanent injunction issued pursuant to par. (c), should such failure continue after such order or such injunction becomes final on the completion of any review proceedings. In such proceedings the department shall follow the hearing procedure set forth in s. 93.18 for special orders. Judicial review shall be as provided in ch. 227.

(e) Any person suffering pecuniary loss because of any violation of this section may sue for damages therefor in any court of competent jurisdiction and shall recover treble the amount of such pecuniary loss, together with costs, including a reasonable attorney's fee.

(f) Any retailer or wholesaler may file a written verified complaint with the department alleging facts which, if proved, would support a charge that a person named therein is engaging in unfair trade practices as defined in this section. Whenever such a complaint is filed it is the duty of the department to proceed to hearing and adjudication as provided in par. (b).

(g) A final judgment, decree or order hereafter rendered in any civil or criminal action or special proceeding, or in any special order proceeding under par. (b), brought by or on behalf of the state under this section to the effect that a defendant or respondent has violated said law shall be prima facie evidence against such defendant or respondent in any action or special proceeding brought by any other party against such defendant or respondent under said law, as to all matters respecting which said judgment, decree or order would be an estoppel as between the parties thereto but this subsection shall not apply to judgments, decrees or special orders entered by consent.

(10) REMOVAL OR SALE OF EQUIPMENT. Any equipment furnished by wholesalers to retailers prior to August 17, 1963, shall be removed from the retailers' premises or sold pursuant to sub. (2) (d) or (e) by January 1, 1964. The minimum selling price of such equipment, if fully depreciated in accordance with sub. (2) (e), shall not be less than \$10 per unit.

History: 1971 c. 238.

100.202 Contracts in violation void. All contracts and agreements made in violation of s. 100.201 are void.

100.22 Unfair discrimination in purchase of dairy products. (1) Any person, firm or corporation, foreign or domestic, engaged in the business of buying milk, cream or butter fat for the purpose of manufacture, that discriminates between different sections, communities, towns, villages or cities of this state, or between persons,

firms or corporations in any locality of this state, by paying for such commodity at a higher price or rate in one section, community, town, village or city, or to any person, firm or corporation in any locality of this state, than is paid for the same commodity by said person, firm or corporation, foreign or domestic, in another section, community, town, village or city, or to another person, firm or corporation in any locality of this state, where the effect may be to lessen substantially competition or to tend to create a monopoly or to injure, destroy or prevent competition, shall be guilty of unfair discrimination, which is hereby prohibited and declared unlawful; provided, that it shall be a justification for such a discrimination in price if the difference is merely commensurate with an actual difference in the quality or quantity of the commodity purchased or in transportation charges or other expense of marketing involved in said purchase; provided, further, that it shall be a justification for such a discrimination in price if it is done in good faith to meet competition.

(2) Proof of any justification, as described in subsection (1) of this section, may be made by the defendant but no such justification need be negated in the information or complaint, and, if so negated, no proof in relation to the matter so negated shall be required on the part of the informant or complainant.

(3) Whenever the department is credibly informed that this section has been violated, it shall make investigation and shall report the results of the investigation to the attorney general and the secretary of state. The department shall co-operate with the attorney general in the securing of evidence of violations of this section.

100.23 Contracts; void. All contracts or agreements made in violation of any of the provisions of section 100.22 shall be void.

100.24 Revocation of corporate authority. Any corporation, foreign or domestic, which violates s. 100.22 or any order issued under s. 100.20 may be enjoined from doing business in this state and its certificate of authority or incorporation may be canceled or revoked. The attorney general may bring an action for this purpose in the name of the state. In any such action judgment for injunction, cancellation or revocation may be rendered by the court, upon such terms as it deems just and in the public interest, but only upon proof of a substantial and wilful violation.

100.25 Cumulative remedies. Nothing in sections 100.22 to 100.24, inclusive, shall be construed as repealing any other law of this state,

but the remedies herein provided shall be cumulative to all other remedies provided by law in and for such cases.

100.26 Penalties. (1) Any person who violates any provision of this chapter for which no specific penalty is prescribed shall be fined not to exceed \$200, or imprisoned in the county jail not more than 6 months or both.

(2) Any person violating any of the provisions of section 100.02 shall be guilty of a felony and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not less than fifty dollars nor more than three thousand dollars, or by imprisonment for not less than thirty days nor more than three years, or both.

(3) Any person who violates any provision of section 100.04, 100.15, 100.19, 100.20 or 100.22, or who intentionally refuses, neglects or fails to obey any regulation made under section 100.04, 100.19 or 100.20, shall, for each offense, be punished by a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars nor more than five thousand dollars, or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than one year, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

(5) Any person violating s. 100.03 or 100.06 or any order or regulation of the department thereunder, or s. 100.13 (7) or 100.18 (9), shall be fined not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000, or imprisoned for not more than one year or both. Each day shall constitute a separate offense.

(6) The department of justice or any district attorney may commence an action in the name of the state to recover a civil forfeiture to the state of not less than \$100 nor more than \$10,000 for the violation of an injunction issued under s. 100.18 or an order issued under s. 100.20.

100.30 Unfair sales act. (1) **POLICY.** The practice of selling certain items of merchandise below cost in order to attract patronage is generally a form of deceptive advertising and an unfair method of competition in commerce. Such practice causes commercial dislocations, misleads the consumer, works back against the farmer, directly burdens and obstructs commerce, and diverts business from dealers who maintain a fair price policy. Bankruptcies among merchants who fail because of the competition of those who use such methods result in unemployment, disruption of leases, and nonpayment of taxes and loans, and contribute to an inevitable train of undesirable consequences, including economic depression.

(2) **DEFINITIONS.** When used in this section unless context otherwise requires:

(a) "Cost to retailer" means the invoice cost of the merchandise to the retailer within 30 days prior to the date of sale, or replacement cost of

the merchandise to the retailer, whichever is lower, less all trade discounts except customary discounts for cash, plus any excise taxes imposed on such merchandise or the sale thereof other than excise taxes collected by the retailer, and any cost incurred for transportation and any other charges not otherwise included in the invoice cost or the replacement cost of the merchandise as herein set forth, to which shall be added a markup to cover a proportionate part of the cost of doing business, which markup, in the absence of proof of a lesser cost, shall be 6% of the cost to the retailer as herein set forth.

(b) "Cost to wholesaler" means the invoice cost of the merchandise to the wholesaler within 30 days prior to the date of sale, or the replacement cost of the merchandise to the wholesaler, whichever is lower, less all trade discounts except customary discounts for cash, plus any excise taxes imposed on the sale thereof prior to the sale at retail, and any cost incurred for transportation and any other charges not otherwise included in the invoice cost or the replacement cost of the merchandise as herein set forth, to which shall be added a markup to cover a proportionate part of the cost of doing business, which markup, in the absence of proof of a lesser cost, shall be 3% of the cost to the wholesaler as herein set forth.

(c) "Replacement cost" means the cost computed as specified in par. (a) or (b) at which the merchandise sold could have been bought by the seller at any time within 30 days prior to the date of sale if bought in the same quantity as the seller's last purchase of the said merchandise.

(d) "Cost to retailer" and "cost to wholesaler" as defined in pars. (a) and (b) mean bona fide costs; and purchases made by retailers and wholesalers at prices which cannot be justified by prevailing market conditions within this state shall not be used in determining cost to the retailer and cost to the wholesaler. Prices at which purchases of merchandise are made by retailers or wholesalers cannot be justified by prevailing market conditions in this state when they are below the lowest prices at which the manufacturer or producer of such merchandise sells to other retailers or wholesalers in this state.

(e) "Sell at retail", "sales at retail" and "retail sale" mean any transfer for a valuable consideration, made in the ordinary course of trade or in the usual prosecution of the seller's business, of title to tangible personal property to the purchaser for consumption or use other than resale or further processing or manufacturing.

(f) "Sell at wholesale", "sales at wholesale" and "wholesale sales" include any transfer for a valuable consideration made in ordinary course of trade or the usual conduct of the seller's

business, of title to tangible personal property to the purchaser for purposes of resale or further processing or manufacturing.

(g) "Retailer" includes every person engaged in the business of making sales at retail within this state, but, in the case of a person engaged in the business of making both sales at retail and sales at wholesale, such term shall be applied only to the retail portion of such business.

(h) "Wholesaler" includes every person engaged in the business of making sales at wholesale within this state, but, in the case of a person engaged in the business of making both sales at wholesale and sales at retail, such term shall be applied only to the wholesale portion of such business.

(i) "Retailer" and "wholesaler" shall both be applied to any merchant who buys merchandise for resale at retail from the manufacturer or producer thereof and, as to such merchandise, the terms "cost to retailer" and "cost to wholesaler" as defined in pars. (a) and (b) shall both be applied, including the markup requirements.

(j) When one or more items of merchandise are furnished or sold in combination with or on condition of the purchase of one or more other items, or are so advertised, all items shall be included in determining cost under par. (a) or (b); and if any of the items included therein are separately priced, such separate price shall be subject to the requirements of this section.

(k) "Sell", "sale" or "sold" includes any advertising or offer to sell or any transfer of merchandise where title is retained by the seller as security for the payment of the purchase price. In determining the selling price of merchandise by wholesalers and retailers under this section, all fractions of a cent shall be carried to the next full cent.

(l) The term "trade discount" shall not include advertising, display or promotional allowances in the absence of a statement in writing from the grantor that receipt of such allowance is not conditioned on the performance of any service or expenditure of any money for promotion, advertising or any other purpose.

(m) In the case of retail sales of fermented malt beverages and intoxicating liquors, "trade discount" shall not include discounts in the form of cash or merchandise.

(n) Any person who sells at retail and who also sells to other retailers shall use the invoice cost to other retailers in computing his selling price at retail under par. (a); and if such person is a manufacturer or producer, both pars. (a) and (b) shall be used in computing his selling price at retail. In the absence of sales to other retailers, the manufacturer's or producer's invoice cost to wholesalers shall be used in

computing the manufacturer's or producer's selling price at retail as provided in pars. (a) and (b).

(3) **ILLEGALITY OF LOSS LEADERS.** Any sale of any item of merchandise either by a retailer or wholesaler, at less than cost as defined in this section with the intent or effect of inducing the purchase of other merchandise or of unfairly diverting trade from a competitor, impairs and prevents fair competition, injures public welfare and is unfair competition and contrary to public policy and the policy of this section. Such sales are prohibited. Evidence of any sale of any item of merchandise by any retailer or wholesaler at less than cost as defined in this section shall be prima facie evidence of intent or effect to induce the purchase of other merchandise, or to unfairly divert trade from a competitor, or to otherwise injure a competitor.

(4) **PENALTIES.** Any retailer who, with the intent or effect of inducing the purchase of other merchandise or of unfairly diverting trade from a competitor or otherwise injuring a competitor, sells at retail any item of merchandise at less than cost to the retailer as defined in this section; or any wholesaler who, with intent or effect of inducing the purchase of other merchandise or of unfairly diverting trade from a competitor or otherwise injuring a competitor, sells at wholesale any item of merchandise at less than cost to the wholesaler as defined in this section, shall be fined not less than \$50, nor more than \$500 for the first offense and not less than \$200 nor more than \$1,000 for the 2nd and each subsequent offense, or, for each offense, imprisoned not less than one month nor more than 6 months or both.

(5) **SPECIAL REMEDY.** In addition to the penalties under sub. (4):

(a) It is the duty of the several district attorneys to institute proceedings in equity to prevent and restrain violations of this section.

(b) The department may also bring an action to enjoin violations of this section. Such action may be commenced and prosecuted by the department in the name of the state in any court having equity jurisdiction, either in the county where the offense occurred or in Dane county, without being compelled to allege or prove that an adequate remedy at law does not exist.

(c) Any person damaged, or who is threatened with loss or injury, by reason of a violation of this section, shall be entitled to sue for and have injunctive relief in any court of competent jurisdiction against any damage or threatened loss or injury by reason of a violation hereof and, upon granting of such relief, the person initiating such action shall be entitled to recover all costs including a reasonable attorney's fee.

100.30 MARKETING; WAREHOUSES; TRADE PRACTICES

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(6) **EXCEPTIONS.** (a) The provisions of this section shall not apply to sales at retail or sales at wholesale where:

1. Merchandise is sold in bona fide clearance sales.

2. Perishable merchandise must be sold promptly in order to forestall loss.

3. Merchandise is imperfect or damaged or is being discontinued.

4. Merchandise is sold upon the final liquidation of any business.

5. Merchandise is sold for charitable purposes or to relief agencies.

6. Merchandise is sold on contract to departments of the government or governmental institutions.

7. The price of merchandise is made in good faith to meet an existing price of a competitor and is based on evidence in the possession of the seller in the form of an advertisement, proof of sale or receipted purchase.

8. Merchandise is sold by any officer acting under the order or direction of any court.

(b) No person may claim the exemptions under par. (a) 1 to 4 if he limits or otherwise restricts the quantity of such merchandise which can be purchased by any buyer or if he fails to conspicuously disclose the reason for such sale in all advertisements relating thereto and on a label or tag on such merchandise or on a placard where the merchandise is displayed for sale.

History: 1973c 310

100.35 Furs to be labeled. (1) No person shall sell or offer or display for sale any coat, jacket or other garment made wholly or partially of fur without having attached thereto and conspicuously displayed a tag or label bearing in plain print in English the species of fur or pelt used therein. This section shall not apply to such garments as are displayed or offered for sale or sold at a price of less than \$50.

(2) Any person violating this section shall be punished as in section 100.26 (1).

100.36 Frauds; substitute for butter; advertisement. No person shall use the word "butter" in any way in connection or association with the sale or exposure for sale or advertisement of any substance designed to be used as a substitute for butter. No person shall use terms such as "cream", "creamery" or "dairy", or the name or representation of any breed of dairy cattle, or any combination of such words and representation, or any other words or symbols or combinations thereof commonly used in the sale of butter unless at least 40% of the substitute is butterfat. If the term "butter" is used in connection with the name of any such product, it

shall be qualified so as to distinguish it from butter as defined in s. 97.01 (12).

100.37 Hazardous substances act. (1) In this section:

(a) "Hazardous substance" means:

1. Any substance or mixture of substances, including a toy or other article intended for use by children, which is toxic, is corrosive, is an irritant, is a strong sensitizer, is flammable or generates pressure through decomposition, heat or other means, if such substance or mixture of substances may cause substantial personal injury or substantial illness during or as a proximate result of any customary or reasonably foreseeable handling or use, including reasonably foreseeable ingestion by children.

2. Any substances which the department by rule finds, pursuant to sub. (2) (a), meet the requirements of subd. 1.

3. Any radioactive substance, if, with respect to such substance as used in a particular class of article or as packaged, the department determines by rule that the substance is sufficiently hazardous to require labeling in accordance with this section in order to protect the public health.

4. "Hazardous substance" shall not apply to pesticides subject to ss. 94.67 to 94.71, to foods, drugs and cosmetics, nor to substances intended for use as fuels when stored in containers and used in the heating, cooking or refrigeration system of a house, nor shall it include any source material, special nuclear material or by-product material as defined in the atomic energy act of 1954, as amended, and regulations issued pursuant thereto by the atomic energy commission.

(b) "Toxic" applies to any substance, other than a radioactive substance, which has the capacity to produce personal injury or illness to man through ingestion, inhalation, or absorption through any body surface.

(c) "Highly toxic" means any substance which falls within any of the following categories: Produces death within 14 days in half or more of a group of 10 or more laboratory white rats each weighing between 200 and 300 grams, at a single dose of 50 milligrams or less per kilogram of body weight, when orally administered; or produces death within 14 days in half or more of a group of 10 or more laboratory white rats each weighing between 200 and 300 grams, when inhaled continuously for a period of one hour or less at an atmosphere concentration of 200 parts per million by volume or less of gas or vapor or 2 milligrams per liter by volume or less of mist or dust, provided such concentration is likely to be encountered by man when the substance is used in any reasonably foreseeable manner; or produces death within 14 days in half

or more of a group of 10 or more rabbits tested in a dosage of 200 milligrams or less per kilogram of body weight, when administered by continuous contact with the bare skin for 24 hours or less. If the department finds that available data on human experience with any substance indicate results different from those obtained on animals in the above named dosages or concentrations, the human data shall take precedence.

(d) "Corrosive" means any substance which in contact with living tissue will cause destruction of tissue by chemical action, but does not refer to action on inanimate surfaces.

(e) "Irritant" means any substance not corrosive which on immediate, prolonged or repeated contact with normal living tissue will induce a local inflammatory reaction.

(f) "Strong sensitizer" means a substance which will cause on normal living tissue, through an allergic or photodynamic process, a hypersensitivity which becomes evident on reapplication of the same substances and which is designated as such by the department. Before designating any substance as a strong sensitizer, the department, upon consideration of the frequency of occurrence and severity of the reaction, shall find that the substance has a significant potential for causing hypersensitivity.

(g) "Extremely flammable" applies to any substance which has a flash point at or below 20 degrees Fahrenheit as determined by the Tagliabue open cup tester, and "flammable" applies to any substance which has a flash point of above 20 degrees to 80 degrees Fahrenheit, as determined by the Tagliabue open cup tester, but the flammability of solids and of the contents of self-pressurized containers shall be determined by methods found by the department to be generally applicable to such materials or containers, and established by rules issued by the department, which shall also define "flammable" and "extremely flammable" in accordance with such methods.

(h) "Radioactive substance" means a substance which emits ionizing radiation.

(i) "Label" means a display of written, printed or graphic matter upon the immediate container of any substance or upon an article or tag attached thereto in the case of unpackaged articles; and a requirement made by or under authority of this section that any word, statement or other information appear on the label shall not be considered to be complied with unless such word, statement or other information also appears on the outside container or wrapper, if there is any, unless it is easily legible through the outside container or wrapper, and on all accompanying literature where there are directions for use, written or otherwise.

(j) "Immediate container" does not include package liners.

(k) "Misbranded package" or "misbranded package of a hazardous substance" means a hazardous substance in a container intended or suitable for household use, and includes a toy or other article intended for use by children whether or not in package form, which, except as otherwise provided under sub. (2), fails to bear a label:

1. Which states conspicuously the name and place of business of the manufacturer, packer, distributor or seller; the common or usual name, or the chemical name if there is no common or usual name, of the hazardous substance or of each component which contributes substantially to its hazard, unless the department by rule permits or requires the use of a recognized generic name; the signal word "DANGER" on substances which are extremely flammable, corrosive or highly toxic; the signal word "WARNING" or "CAUTION" on all other hazardous substances; an affirmative statement of the principal hazards, such as "Flammable," "Vapor harmful," "Causes burns," "Absorbed through skin" or similar wording descriptive of the hazard; precautionary measures describing the action to be followed or avoided, except when modified by rule of the department pursuant to sub. (2); instruction, when necessary or appropriate, for first-aid treatment; the word "poison" for any hazardous substance which is highly toxic; instructions for handling and storage of packages which require special care in handling or storage; and the statement "Keep out of the reach of children," or its practical equivalent; and

2. On which any statements required under subd. 1 are located prominently and are in the English language in conspicuous and legible type in contrast by typography, layout or color with other printed matter on the label.

(2) (a) Whenever in the judgment of the department such action will promote the objectives of this section by avoiding or resolving uncertainty as to its application, the department may by rule declare to be a hazardous substance, for the purposes of this section, any substance or mixture of substances which it finds meets the requirements of sub. (1) (a) 1.

(b) If the department finds that the requirements of sub. (1) (k) 1 are not adequate for the protection of the public health and safety in view of the special hazard presented by any particular hazardous substance, it may by rule establish such reasonable variations or additional label requirements as it finds necessary for the protection of the public health and safety; and any hazardous substance, intended or suitable for household use, or toy or other article intended

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for use by children, which fails to bear a label in accordance with such rules is deemed to be a misbranded package of a hazardous substance.

(c) If the department finds that, because of the size of the package involved or because of the minor hazard presented by the substance contained therein, or for other good and sufficient reasons, full compliance with the labeling requirements otherwise applicable under this section is impracticable or is not necessary for the adequate protection of the public health and safety, it may exempt such substances from these requirements to the extent it determines to be consistent with adequate protection of the public health and safety.

(d) The department may by rule prohibit the sale of a hazardous substance if it finds that notwithstanding cautionary labeling that is or may be required the degree or nature of the hazard involved in the presence or use of such substance is such that the public health and safety can only be protected by keeping such substance out of the channels of commerce in this state.

(3) The following acts and the causing thereof are prohibited:

(a) The sale, or offering or exposing for sale of any misbranded package of a hazardous substance.

(b) The alteration, mutilation, destruction, obliteration or removal of the whole or any part of the label of, or the doing of any other act with respect to, a hazardous substance, if such act is done while the substance is held for sale, and results in the hazardous substance being in a misbranded package.

(c) The sale, or offering or exposing for sale of a hazardous substance in a re-used food, drug or cosmetic container or in a container which, though not a re-used container, is identifiable as a food, drug or cosmetic container by its labeling or by other identification. The re-use of a food, drug or cosmetic container as a container for a hazardous substance shall be deemed to be an act which results in the hazardous substance being in a misbranded package.

(d) The sale of any substance which the department has prohibited under sub. (2) (d).

(4) The department may apply to any court of competent jurisdiction for a temporary or permanent injunction restraining any person from violating sub. (3); irrespective of whether or not there exists an adequate remedy at law.

(5) If the department has reasonable cause to believe that any substance is in violation of this section, it may deliver to the owner or custodian thereof an order prohibiting the sale or movement of such substance until an analysis or examination has been completed. Such holding order shall not be effective for more than 14 days

from the time of delivery thereof. The substance described in any such holding order shall not be sold or moved for any purpose without the approval of the department. If the department, after analysis or examination, determines that the substance described in such order is not in violation of this section, it shall promptly notify, by registered mail, the owner or custodian thereof and such notice shall terminate the holding order. If the analysis or examination shows that the substance is in violation of this section, the owner or custodian thereof shall be so notified, by registered mail, within the effective time of the holding order. Upon receipt of such notice the owner or custodian may dispose of the substance only as authorized by the department. The owner or custodian may within 10 days of receipt of such notice petition for a hearing as provided in s. 93.18.

(6) Nothing in this section shall affect the application of any law of this state specifically regulating any substance regulated by this section.

100.38 Antifreeze. (1) DEFINITION. "Antifreeze" includes all substances intended for use as the cooling medium, or to be added to the cooling liquid, in the cooling system of internal combustion engines in order to prevent freezing of the cooling liquid, or to lower its freezing point.

(2) ADULTERATION. An antifreeze is adulterated if:

(a) It consists in whole or in part of any substance which will render it injurious to the cooling system of an internal combustion engine; or

(b) It will make the operation of an engine dangerous to the user; or

(c) Its strength, quality or purity falls below the standards represented.

(3) MISBRANDING. An antifreeze shall be deemed to be misbranded if:

(a) Its labeling is false or misleading in any particular; or

(b) When in package form it does not bear a label containing the name and place of business of the manufacturer, packer, seller or distributor, together with an accurate statement of the quantity of the content in terms of weight and measure on the outside of the package; or

(c) It does not bear a statement warning of any hazard of substantial injury to human beings which may result from the intended use or reasonably foreseeable misuse of the antifreeze, and which complies with the requirements of the hazardous substances labeling act under s. 100.37.

(4) PERMIT. No antifreeze shall be sold in this state unless a permit has been issued by the

department for each brand. Upon the issuance of a permit for any brand of antifreeze no other person shall be required to secure a permit for such brand. The manufacturer or any seller may make application for a permit. Such application shall be accompanied by a copy of the label and an annual fee of \$20 for each brand. Permits shall expire on June 30 of each year. The department may revoke a permit if it finds that an antifreeze is adulterated, misbranded, or sold under a brand name or trademark other than the name stated in the application for permit or otherwise fails to comply with this section.

(5) **INSPECTION.** The department shall enforce this section by inspection, chemical analyses or any other appropriate method and the department may promulgate such rules as are necessary to effectively enforce this section.

(6) **ENFORCEMENT.** It is unlawful to sell any antifreeze unless a permit has been issued for such antifreeze or to sell any antifreeze which is adulterated or misbranded. In addition to the penalties provided herein, the department may bring an action to enjoin violations of this section.

(7) **PENALTY.** Any person violating this section may be fined not less than \$50 or not more than \$500 for each offense.

History: 1971 c. 40 s. 93.

100.39 Potato industry act. (1) **DEFINITIONS.** In this section:

(a) "Board" means the potato industry board.

(b) "Handle" means to grade, pack, process, sell, transport, purchase or in any other way to place potatoes or cause potatoes to be placed in the current of commerce, except the transportation or delivery of field-run potatoes by the producer of such potatoes to a handler for grading, storage or processing.

(c) "Handler" means any person, except a common or contract carrier of potatoes owned by another person, who handles potatoes, including a producer who handles potatoes of his own production.

(d) "Hundredweight" means each 100 pounds of bulk, package or combination of packages making 100 pounds of any shipment of potatoes placed in the current of commerce and may be based on invoice, bill of lading manifest or both.

(e) "Potatoes" means all varieties of Irish potatoes grown by producers in this state.

(f) "Producer" means any person engaged in the growing of 5 or more acres of potatoes who owns or shares the ownership and risk of loss of such potato crop.

(2) **BOARD; MEMBERSHIP AND DISTRICTS.** (a) **Qualifications.** A board member shall be a

potato grower who is actually engaged and who has been engaged in growing and producing potatoes within this state for at least 2 consecutive years immediately prior to his appointment, and have derived a substantial portion of his income from such activity. A member shall be a resident of the district he represents.

(b) **Nominations.** The board shall hold a meeting or meetings of producers prior to May 31 of each year to nominate members to fill vacancies on the board resulting from expiration of terms. The board shall give producers at least 10 days written notice of such a meeting. The board shall make nominations to fill other kinds of vacancies. The board chairman shall submit at least 2 nominations for any vacancy to the secretary in written form.

(c) **Secretary; appointments.** The secretary may appoint board members from those persons whose nominations are confirmed to him under par. (b). The appointees shall be from the districts defined in par. (d) as follows: one each from districts 1, 4 and 5 and 2 each from districts 2 and 3.

(d) **Appointive districts.** The appointive districts for board membership shall consist of the following counties, respectively:

1. "District 1": Kenosha, Racine, Milwaukee, Walworth, Lafayette, Waukesha, Ozaukee, Washington, Dodge, Grant, Jefferson, Rock, Green, Dane, Crawford, Columbia, Sauk, Richland and Iowa.

2. "District 2": Sheboygan, Fond du Lac, Manitowoc, Calumet, Winnebago, Outagamie, Waupaca, Waushara, Green Lake, Marquette, Adams, Juneau, Portage, Wood, Monroe, La Crosse, Trempealeau, Brown, Kewaunee, Jackson and Vernon.

3. "District 3": Door, Oconto, Shawano, Langlade, Marathon, Clark, Florence, Forest, Marinette and Menominee.

4. "District 4": Oneida, Vilas, Iron, Lincoln, Price and Taylor.

5. "District 5": Douglas, Bayfield, Burnett, Polk, Washburn, Barron, St. Croix, Pierce, Dunn, Rusk, Sawyer, Ashland, Buffalo, Chippewa, Eau Claire and Pepin.

(e) **Rules of order.** The board shall operate under the rules prescribed in the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order, except where otherwise provided by law.

(3) **BOARD POWERS.** The board may:

(a) Adopt, amend or repeal rules appropriate and necessary to effect the board's purposes, subject to ch. 227.

(b) Issue both general and special orders as provided under s. 93.18.

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(c) Develop programs to stabilize and protect the potato industry and to safeguard the interest of potato consumers.

(d) Cooperate with any public or private organization or agency engaged in potato industry programs similar to those of the board.

(e) Accept gifts, donations, grants, bequests and devise to carry out the purposes for which made.

(f) Make, conduct or carry on studies and research with established institutions and agencies in connection with the raising, production and marketing of potatoes, including study and research dealing with industrial and other uses of potatoes and their by-products, and the extension and stabilization of markets for such commodities and disseminate information with respect to such study and research.

(g) Advertise or conduct publicity, sales promotions and contract for such services if necessary, to foster the growth of the potato industry.

(h) Aid, educate and inform the industry in production and marketing of potatoes.

(4) ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT.

(a) The department shall provide all necessary administrative and personnel support to the board in the execution of its functions under this section, collect, receive and disburse all moneys paid or payable to the board and enforce the board's rules and orders, all under the guidance and direction of the board.

(b) The board shall reimburse the department for all actual and necessary expenses incurred by the department which are wholly attributable to carrying out the department's responsibilities under this section. Reimbursement for any such expense shall be made within 2 years from the date the expense is incurred from the appropriation under s. 20.115 (3) (k).

(5) REPORTS; BOOKS AND RECORDS. (a) The secretary shall maintain accurate books, records and accounts of all board transactions, which books, records and accounts shall be subject to audit by the department auditor.

(b) Each handler shall maintain a separate record for each producer for whom he handled potatoes and for potatoes handled which he himself produced. He shall report to the board pursuant to board rule or request. Such reports may include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

1. Total quantity of potatoes handled for each producer and for himself, including those exempt under this section.

2. Total quantity of potatoes handled for each producer and for himself subject to this section.

3. Name and address of each person from whom he collected an assessment and the respective amounts collected.

4. Date collection was made from each person listed.

(c) Each handler shall maintain and make available for inspection by the board, the secretary, or their authorized agents such books and records as are necessary to effect the purposes of this section. Such records shall be maintained for at least 2 years beyond the marketing year of their applicability.

(d) All information obtained from such books, records or reports shall be confidential and only the secretary may authorize disclosure, and then only in a suit or administrative hearing brought at the direction or request of the secretary or involving any officer of this state as a party, and involving this section.

(e) Nothing in this section shall prohibit:

1. The issuance of general statements based upon reports of a number of handlers, which statements shall not identify the person furnishing the information.

2. The publication, by direction of the secretary, of the name of any person violating this section, together with a statement of the nature of the charge and details of the violation.

(f) The secretary shall mail a financial report for the prior fiscal year, together with a summary of the proposed budget for the current fiscal year, to each grower no later than August 1 each year.

(6) ASSESSMENTS. (a) An assessment not to exceed the rate of one cent per hundredweight on all potatoes grown in this state and entered into the current of commerce shall be levied and imposed upon all growers and shippers within this state. The assessment shall not be imposed upon potatoes retained by a grower to be used for seed purposes or for home consumption.

(b) An assessment not to exceed the rate of one cent per hundredweight may be levied and imposed upon such class or classes of handlers as the board may prescribe by rule. Not more than one such assessment may be collected on any potatoes.

(c) Each handler designated by the board to pay assessments shall pay assessments on all potatoes handled by him, including potatoes he produced. Assessments shall be paid at such time and in such manner as the board prescribes by rules adopted under this section. The designated handler may collect the assessments from the producer, or deduct such assessments from the proceeds paid to the producer on whose potatoes the assessments are made.

(d) The board may exempt potatoes used for nonfood purposes from this section and shall establish adequate safeguards against improper use of such exemptions.

(7) PRODUCER REFUNDS. Any producer who has paid an assessment under this section and

who is not in favor of supporting the program developed under this section shall have the right to demand and receive from the board a refund of such assessment upon submission of proof satisfactory to the board that he paid the assessment for which refund is sought. Any such demand shall be made personally by such producer on a form and within a time period prescribed by the board pursuant to regulations. Such time period shall give the producer at least 90 days from the date of collection to submit the refund request form to the board. The secretary, with the consent of the board, shall make such refund within 60 days after demand. No handler shall be eligible for a refund except on potatoes produced by him.

(8) NONPAYMENT OF ASSESSMENTS. If any handler, dealer or grower, fails, neglects or refuses to make collection, file a required report or pay any assessment within the time required by board order or rule, the department may, by appropriate proceedings, recover the amount of any assessments due under sub. (6), together with the costs, disbursements and attorney's fees in the action.

(9) TERMINATION; REFERENDUM. (a) Upon written petition of at least 10% of the potato producers participating in the assessment program under this section, the secretary shall hold a referendum to determine if potato producers favor termination of the board and its programs. If a majority of those voting in such referendum favor termination, the secretary shall prepare

and submit to the legislature a request for legislation terminating the board and its programs. Pending legislative and executive approval or disapproval of such requested legislation, the secretary and board shall suspend all board operations.

(b) If the board and its programs are terminated by legislative action, the board shall, to the extent practicable, refund unencumbered assessments and other funds to those persons who paid such amounts to the board.

(10) SUSPENSION. The board, with the consent of the secretary, may suspend operations under this section when in the public interest because of national emergency or other reason deemed meritorious by the secretary. The secretary shall implement such suspension until directed otherwise by the board. This subsection shall not apply to sub. (2).

(11) APPLICATION OF FUNDS. All money collected or otherwise received pursuant to this section shall be used solely for administration of this section.

(12) INJUNCTIONS. The board, in addition to or in lieu of any other remedies provided under this section, may apply to a circuit court for a temporary or permanent injunction to prevent, restrain or enjoin any person from violating this section or any special order of the board issued under this section, without being compelled to allege or prove that an adequate remedy at law does not exist.

History: 1973 c 299