

## *News Release*

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### **USDA SUGAR MARKETING ALLOTMENTS IN EFFECT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004**

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1, 2003 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced that sugar beet and sugarcane marketing allotments will be in effect for fiscal year 2004, the period Oct. 1, 2003, through Sept. 30, 2004.

This decision is in accordance with provisions of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 that requires USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) to make preliminary estimates of 2003-crop sugar consumption, production, imports, reasonable carryover stocks (the level likely to avoid CCC sugar loan forfeiture) and carry-in stocks.

CCC will issue the overall allotment quantity after the 2003 USDA World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE Report) are released on August 12. A hearing is scheduled on August 25 in Washington, D.C., to discuss the 2003 sugar allotments.

NOTE: USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) sugar and sweetener news releases and related topics are available on FSA's Web site at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/ao/epas/dsa.htm>.

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Note: Farm Service Agency (FSA) news releases and media advisories are available on the World Wide Web at FSA's home page: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.