or Release Friday, Jvember 15, 1940

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JABOR WAGE /ND HOUR DIVISION Washington

MILLING OF ARTIFICIALLY DRIED ALFALFA SCHEDULED FOR SEASONAL EXEMPTION

A seasonal exemption from the hours provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act for the combined dehydrating and milling of artificial dried alfalfa into meals was indicated in a preliminary determination issued today (Federal Register November 15, 1940) by Colonel Philip B. Fleming, Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Department of Labor. If no objection is received within 15 days the determination will be made final.

Applications filed by Saunders Mills, Inc. of Walbridge, Ohio, the Arizona Flour Mills, Phoenix, Arizona and others showed that a prima facie case existed for granting an exemption under Soc. 7 (b)(3) of the Act and Regulations, Part 526 issued thoreunder to "the combined dehydrating and milling of artificially dried alfalfa into alfalfa, alfalfa, leaf, or alfalfa stem meals". Under this "seasonal" exemption the exempt processes may be carried on for 12 hours a day, or 56 hours a week for a period or periods not exceeding 14 workweeks in any calendar year before the overtime provisions of the Act become effective.

Artificial drying and milling of alfalfa must be done immediately after the alfalfa is cut, hence the season is limited to the brief periods when the green alfalfa matures. The meal obtained from this artificially dried alfalfa is considered to have a higher vitamin A content than the sun-dried. It is used for dairy and poultry feed, and also in certain baby foods, breakfast foods, etc.

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