
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions regarding the service contract inventory should be directed to Mrs. Dorothy Lilly in the Procurement Policy Division, of OPPM at 202–690–2064 or Dorothy.Lay@dm.usda.gov.

Dated: January 25, 2011.

Dorothy Lilly,
Division Chief for Procurement Policy, Departmental, Office of Procurement and Property Management.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. No.AMS–FV–10–0096]

Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to notify all interested parties that the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) will hold a Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee (Committee) meeting that is open to the public. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) established the Committee to examine the full spectrum of issues faced by the fruit and vegetable industry and to provide suggestions and ideas to the Secretary of Agriculture on how USDA can tailor its programs to meet the fruit and vegetable industry’s needs. This notice sets forth the schedule and location for the meeting.

DATES: Monday, February 28, 2011, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Tuesday, March 1, 2011, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The Committee meeting will be held at the Hyatt Hotel Crystal City, 2799 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pamela Stanziani, Designated Federal Official, USDA, AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs. Telephone: (202) 690–0182. Facsimile: (202) 720–0016. E-mail: Pamela.stanziani@ams.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (5 U.S.C. App. II), the Secretary of Agriculture established the Committee in August 2001 to examine the full spectrum of issues faced by the fruit and vegetable industry and to provide suggestions and ideas to the Secretary on how USDA can tailor its programs to meet the fruit and vegetable industry’s needs. The Committee was re-chartered March 31, 2009 with new members appointed December 2009 by USDA from industry nominations.

AMS Deputy Administrator for Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Robert C. Keeney, serves as the Committee’s Executive Secretary. Representatives from USDA mission areas and other government agencies affecting the fruit and vegetable industry are called upon to participate in the Committee’s meetings as determined by the Committee Chairperson. AMS is giving notice of the Committee meeting to the public so that they may attend and present their recommendations. The meeting is open to the public. Reference the date and address section of this announcement for the time and place of the meeting.

Topics of discussion at the advisory committee meeting will include the following: GAP harmonization, traceability and audit requirements, food safety updates, local farmer/education initiatives, commodity purchasing programs, and working group reports and recommendations to the full committee.

Those parties that would like to speak at the meeting should contact USDA on or before February 11, 2011. To register as a speaker, please e-mail your name, affiliation, business address, e-mail address, and phone number to Ms. Pamela Stanziani at: Pamela.stanziani@ams.usda.gov or facsimile to (202) 720–0016. Speakers who have registered in advance will be given priority. Groups and individuals may submit comments for the Committee’s consideration to the same e-mail address, or mail to: 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 2085-South, Washington, DC 20250. The meeting will be recorded, and information about obtaining a transcript will be provided at the meeting. All presentations must be provided and displayed electronically, and submitted upon designated due date.

If you require special accommodations as a sign language interpreter, please use either contact name listed above.

Dated: January 26, 2011.

David R. Shipman,
Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Doc No. APHIS–2010–0112]

Notice of Availability of a Pest Risk Analysis for the Importation of Fresh Litchi From the Republic of South Africa Into the Continental United States

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public that we have prepared a pest risk analysis that evaluates the risks associated with the importation of fresh litchi from the Republic of South Africa into the continental United States. Based on that analysis, we have concluded that the application of one or more designated phytosanitary measures will be sufficient to mitigate the risks of introducing or disseminating plant pests or noxious weeds via the importation of litchi from the Republic of South Africa. We are making the pest risk analysis available to the public for review and comment.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before April 4, 2011.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

• Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to http://www.regulations.gov/dcmspublic/component/?main=DocketDetail&d=APHIS-2010-0112 to submit or view comments and to view supporting and related materials available electronically.

• Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery: Please send one copy of your comment to Docket No. APHIS–2010–0112, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A–03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737–1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. APHIS–2010–0112.

Reading Room: You may read any comments that we receive on this docket in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC. Normal reading room...
hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 690–2817 before coming.

Other Information: Additional information about APHIS and its programs is available on the Internet at http://www.aphis.usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Marc Phillips, Import Specialist, Regulatory Coordination and Compliance, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 133, Riverdale, MD 20737; (301) 734–4394.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under the regulations in “Subpart—Fruits and Vegetables” (7 CFR 319.56–1 through 319.56–50, referred to below as the regulations), the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture prohibits or restricts the importation of fruits and vegetables into the United States from certain parts of the world to prevent plant pests from being introduced into and spread within the United States.

Section 319.56–4 contains a performance-based process for approving the importation of commodities that, based on the findings of a pest risk analysis, can be safely imported subject to one or more of the five designated phytosanitary measures listed in paragraph (b) of that section. These measures are:

• The fruits or vegetables are subject to inspection upon arrival in the United States and comply with all applicable provisions of §319.56–3;
• The fruits or vegetables are imported from a pest-free area in the country of origin that meets the requirements of §319.56–5 for freedom from that pest and are accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate stating that the fruits or vegetables originated in a pest-free area in the country of origin;
• The fruits or vegetables are treated in accordance with 7 CFR part 305;
• The fruits or vegetables are inspected in the country of origin by an inspector or an official of the national plant protection organization of the exporting country, and have been found free of one or more specific quarantine pests identified by the risk analysis as likely to follow the import pathway; and/or
• The fruits or vegetables are imported as a commercial consignment.

APHIS received a request from the Government of the Republic of South Africa to allow the importation of fresh litchi fruits, Litchi chinensis, into the continental United States. Currently, fresh litchi fruits are not authorized for entry from the Republic of South Africa. We completed a pest risk assessment to identify pests of quarantine significance that could follow the pathway of introduction if such imports were to be allowed and, based on the pest risk assessment, have prepared a risk management document to identify phytosanitary measures that could be applied to the commodity to mitigate the pest risks. We have concluded that fresh litchi fruits can safely be imported into the continental United States from the Republic of South Africa using one or more of the five designated phytosanitary measures listed in §319.56–4(b). Therefore, in accordance with §319.56–4(c)(2), we are announcing the availability of our pest risk analysis for public review and comment. The analysis may be viewed on the Regulations.gov Web site or in our reading room (see ADDRESSES above for instructions for accessing Regulations.gov and information on the location and hours of the reading room). You may request paper copies of the analysis by calling or writing to the person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT. Please refer to the subject of the analysis that you wish to review when requesting copies.

After reviewing any comments we receive, we will announce our decision regarding the import status of fresh litchi fruits from the Republic of South Africa in a subsequent notice. If the overall conclusions of the analysis and the Administrator’s determination of risk remain unchanged following our consideration of the comments, then we will begin issuing permits for the import of fresh litchi fruits from the Republic of South Africa into the continental United States subject to the requirements specified in the risk management document.


Done in Washington, DC, this 27th day of January 2011.

Kevin Shea,
Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS–2007–0044]

Determination of Regulated Status of Alfalfa Genetically Engineered for Tolerance to the Herbicide Glyphosate; Record of Decision

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service’s (APHIS) record of decision and determination on the petition regarding the regulated status of alfalfa genetically engineered for tolerance to the herbicide glyphosate based on APHIS’ final environmental impact statement.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Rebecca L. Stankiewicz Gabel, Senior Environmental Protection Specialist, Environmental Risk Analysis Programs, BRS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 147, Riverdale, MD 20737–1238; (301) 734–5603. To obtain copies of the record of decision or the final environmental impact statement on which the record of decision is based, contact Ms. Cindy Eck at (301) 734–0667, e-mail: cynthia.a.eck@aphis.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice advises the public that the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has prepared a record of decision and determination on the petition regarding the regulated status of alfalfa genetically engineered for tolerance to the herbicide glyphosate based on an environmental impact statement (EIS) prepared in connection with its determination.

The regulations in 7 CFR part 340, “Introduction of Organisms and Products Altered or Produced Through Genetic Engineering Which Are Plant Pests or Which There Is Reason to Believe Are Plant Pests,” regulate, among other things, the introduction (importation, interstate movement, or release into the environment) of organisms and products altered or produced through genetic engineering that are plant pests or that there is reason to believe are plant pests. Such genetically engineered (GE) organisms and products are considered “regulated articles.”

The regulations in §340.6(a) provide that any person may submit a petition to APHIS seeking a determination that an article should not be regulated under 7 CFR part 340. Paragraphs (b) and (c)