

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Secretary

Meeting Notice of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board

AGENCY: Research, Education, and Economics, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App 2, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) announces a meeting of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board.

DATES: The National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board will meet May 28–30, 2013. The public may file written comments before or up to two weeks after the meeting with the contact person.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will take place at The Liaison Capitol Hill Hotel, 415 New Jersey Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20001. Written comments from the public may be sent to the Contact Person identified in this notice at: The National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board Office, Room 3901 South Building, United States Department of Agriculture, STOP 0321, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250–0321.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shirley Morgan-Jordan, Program Support Coordinator, National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board; telephone: (202) 720–3684; fax: (202)720–6199; or email: Shirley.Morgan@ars.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Honorable Secretary of Agriculture Tom

Vilsack, and the Under Secretary of Research, Education, and Economics Dr. Catherine Woteki have been invited to provide brief remarks and welcome the new Board members during the meeting.

On Tuesday, May 28, 2013, an orientation session for all members will be held from 1:00 p.m.–5:30 p.m. Specific topics of discussion will include a briefing on ethical behavior for federal advisory committee members, briefings regarding the USDA's Research, Education, and Economics Mission Area, a discussion on the role of the Board in advising the Secretary of Agriculture, Land Grant Institutions and Congress, and a discussion on how to most effectively organize the work of the Board and its Committees.

On Wednesday, May 29, 2013 the full Advisory Board will convene at 8:00 a.m. followed shortly thereafter with the appointment of a new Chair of the Advisory Board. The meeting will also include: brief introductions of new Board members, incumbents, and guests; the election of the Vice-Chair of the Advisory Board; comments from a variety of distinguished leaders, experts, and departmental personnel; and items of board business. Specific items on the agenda will include a discussion related to the international programs related to the Research, Education, and Economics Mission Area, and updates from each of the agencies of the Mission Area. The afternoon session will end by 5:00 p.m. An evening session will convene at 6:00 p.m. and include a vote for the fiscal year 2013 executive committee members of the Board. The meeting will adjourn for the day by 8:00 p.m.

On Thursday, May 30, 2013, the Board will reconvene at 8:00 a.m. to: discuss initial recommendations resulting from the meeting and future planning for the Board; to organize the membership of the committees, and working groups of the Advisory Board; and to finalize Board business for the meeting. The Board Meeting will adjourn by 12:00 p.m. (noon).

This meeting is open to the public and any interested individuals wishing to attend. Opportunity for public comment will be offered each day of the meeting. Written comments by attendees or other interested stakeholders will be welcomed for the public record before and up to two weeks following the Board meeting (by

close of business Thursday, June 13, 2013). All statements will become a part of the official record of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board and will be kept on file for public review in the Research, Education, and Economics Advisory Board Office.

Done at Washington, DC, this 16th day of April 2013.

Catherine Woteki,

Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics.

[FR Doc. 2013–10386 Filed 5–1–13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–03–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Secretary

Request for Nominations of Members for the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board

AGENCY: Research, Education, and Economics, USDA.

ACTION: Solicitation for membership.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., the United States Department of Agriculture announces the solicitation for nominations to fill 8 vacancies on the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board.

DATES: All nomination materials should be mailed in a single, complete package and postmarked by June 28, 2013.

ADDRESSES: The nominee's name, resume, and completed Form AD–755 must be sent to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board Office, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 3901, South Building, Washington, DC 20250–2255.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shirley Morgan-Jordan, Program Support Coordinator, National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 3901, South Building, Washington, DC 20250–2255, telephone: 202–720–3684; fax: 202–720–6199; email: shirley.morgan@ars.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 1408 of the National Agricultural

Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3123) was amended by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2008 by deleting six members to the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board, which totals 25 members. Since the Advisory Boards inception by congressional legislation in 1996, each member has represented a specific category related to farming or ranching, food production and processing, forestry research, crop and animal science, land-grant institutions, non-land grant college or university with a historic commitment to research in the food and agricultural sciences, food retailing and marketing, rural economic development, and natural resource and consumer interest groups, among many others. The Board was first appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture in September 1996 and one-third of its members were appointed for a one, two, and three-year term, respectively. The terms for 8 members who represent specific categories will expire September 30, 2013. Nominations for a 3-year appointment for these 8 vacant categories are sought. All nominees will be carefully reviewed for their expertise, leadership, and relevance to a category.

The 8 slots to be filled are:

- F. National Food Animal Science Society
- G. National Crop, Soil, Agronomy, Horticulture, or Weed Science Society
- L. 1890 Land-Grant Colleges and Universities
- P. American Colleges of Veterinary Medicine
- T. Rural Economic Development
- U. National Consumer Interest Group
- V. National Forestry Group
- W. National Conservation or Natural Resource Groups

Individuals and organizations who wish to nominate experts for this or any other USDA advisory committee should submit a letter to the Secretary listing these individuals' names and business address, phone, and email contact information. These individuals may be contacted now or in the future to determine their interest in serving as a committee member.

Candidates who wish to be considered for membership on the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board should submit an AD-755 application form and resume to the Secretary of Agriculture. Cover letters should be addressed to the Secretary of Agriculture. The application form and more information about advisory committees can be found at

www.usda.gov/advisory_committees.xml.

Nominations for one individual who fits several of the categories listed above, or for more than one person who fits one category, will be accepted. In your nomination letter, please indicate the specific membership category for each nominee. Each nominee must fill out a form AD-755, "Advisory Committee Membership Background Information." All nominees will be vetted before selection.

Nominations are open to all individuals without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, mental or physical handicap, marital status, or sexual orientation. To ensure that recommendations of the Advisory Board take into account the needs of the diverse groups served by the Department, membership shall include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent all racial and ethnic groups, women and men, and person with disabilities.

Appointments to the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board will be made by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Done at Washington, DC, this 16th day of April 2013.

Catherine Woteki,

Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics.

[FR Doc. 2013-10392 Filed 5-1-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2012-0004]

Notice of Decision To Authorize the Importation of Fresh Barhi Dates From Israel

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public of our decision to authorize the importation into the United States of fresh dates of the cultivar Barhi from Israel. Based on the findings of a pest risk analysis, which we made available to the public for review and comment through a previous notice, we believe 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 fresh dates of the cultivar Barhi from Israel. In addition, based on the findings

of a treatment evaluation document, we are advising the public of our decision to add a treatment schedule for *Ceratitris capitata* in Barhi dates to the Plant Protection and Quarantine Treatment Manual.

DATES: *Effective Date:* May 2, 2013.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Marc Phillips, Senior Regulatory Policy Specialist, Regulatory Coordination and Compliance, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road, Unit 156, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236; (301) 851-2114.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the regulations in "Subpart—Fruits and Vegetables" (7 CFR 319.56-1 through 319.56-58, 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 of the regulations contains a performance-based process for approving the importation of commodities that, based on the findings of a pest risk analysis (PRA), can be safely imported subject to one or more of the designated phytosanitary measures listed in paragraph (b) of that section. Under that process, APHIS publishes a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing the availability of the PRA that evaluates the risks associated with the importation of a particular fruit or vegetable. Following the close of the 60-day comment period, APHIS may authorize the importation of the fruit or vegetable subject to the identified designated measures if: (1) No comments were received on the PRA; (2) the comments on the PRA revealed that no changes to the PRA were necessary; or (3) changes to the PRA were made in response to public comments, but the changes did not affect the overall conclusions of the analysis and the Administrator's determination of risk.

In accordance with that process, we published a notice¹ in the **Federal Register** on January 9, 2013 (78 FR 1825-1826, Docket No. APHIS-2012-0004), in which we announced the availability, for review and comment, of a PRA that evaluates the risks associated with the importation into the United States of fresh dates (*Phoenix dactylifera* L.) of the cultivar Barhi (referred to below as Barhi dates) from Israel.

¹ To view the notice, supporting documents, and the comment we received, go to <http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=APHIS-2012-0004>.