

2. In § 989.154, paragraph (a) is revised to read as follows:

989.154 Marketing policy computations.

(a) *Desirable carryout levels.* The desirable carryout level to be used in computing and announcing a crop year's marketing policy for Natural (sun-dried) Seedless raisins shall be equal to the total shipments of free tonnage during August and September for each of the past 5 crop years, converted to a natural condition basis, dropping the high and low figures, and dividing the remaining sum by three, or 60,000 natural condition tons, whichever is higher. The desirable carryout level to be used in computing and announcing a crop year's marketing policy for all other varietal types of raisins specified in § 989.110 shall be equal to the total shipments of free tonnage during August, September, and one-half of October for each of the past 5 crop years, for each such varietal type, converted to a natural condition basis, dropping the high and low figures, and dividing the remaining sum by three.

* * * * *

Dated: August 8, 2002.

A.J. Yates,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 02-20440 Filed 8-8-02; 12:46 pm]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

9 CFR Part 93

[Docket No. 01-023-2]

Microchip Implants as an Official Form of Identification for Pet Birds

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: We are amending the regulations to allow the use of microchip implants as an acceptable form of identification for pet birds of U.S. origin returning to this country after being outside the United States. The regulations have previously provided only for the use of leg bands or tattoos to identify such birds, but microchips have become the preferred method of identification used by avian veterinary practitioners. This action provides for the use of an additional means of identifying certain U.S. origin pet birds while continuing to provide protection against the introduction of

communicable poultry diseases into the United States.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 11, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Sara Kaman, Senior Staff Veterinarian, Technical Trade Services, National Center for Import and Export, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 39, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; (301) 734-8364.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The regulations in 9 CFR part 93 (referred to below as the regulations) regulate the importation of certain animals and birds, including pet birds, to prevent the introduction of communicable diseases of livestock and poultry.

On January 11, 2002, we published in the **Federal Register** (67 FR 1418-1419, Docket No. 01-023-1) a proposal to amend the regulations to allow the use of microchip implants as an acceptable form of identification for pet birds of U.S. origin returning to this country after being outside the United States.

We solicited comments concerning our proposal for 60 days ending March 12, 2002. We received four comments by that date. They were from private citizens, one breeder, and one group of students who had conducted an informal survey of seven local avian veterinarians and pet stores. All of the commenters were in favor of allowing the use of microchip implants as an acceptable form of identification for pet birds of U.S. origin returning to this country after being outside the United States. One commenter did suggest that a public hearing might be necessary "to provide affected parties an opportunity to present information that will later go into consideration as the final amendment is made." Given the limited scope of the rulemaking and the small number of commenters who responded to the proposal, we find that a public hearing is unnecessary.

Therefore, for the reasons given in the proposed rule and in this document, we are adopting the proposed rule as a final rule, without change.

Executive Order 12866 and Regulatory Flexibility Act

This rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12866. The rule has been determined to be not significant for the purposes of Executive Order 12866 and, therefore, has not been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget.

We are amending the regulations to allow the use of microchip implants as an acceptable form of identification for pet birds of U.S. origin returning to this

country after being outside the United States. The regulations have previously provided only for the use of leg bands or tattoos to identify such birds, but microchips have become the preferred method of identification used by avian veterinary practitioners. This action provides for the use of an additional means of identifying certain U.S. origin pet birds.

The groups affected by this action are pet bird owners who travel with their birds outside the United States and microchip manufacturers. According to the port of entry records of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), approximately 400 bird owners traveled outside of the United States with their pet birds in calendar year 2000. Under this final rule, those bird owners will be allowed to use microchip identification instead of the leg bands or tattoos that had been provided for by the regulations. Bird owners will benefit from this change because it is becoming more difficult to find a veterinarian who carries leg bands for pet bird identification, and tattoos are rarely used to identify birds any more. Microchips will thus make the task of identifying a pet bird before leaving the United States more convenient. In most cases, an APHIS inspector at the port of entry will be able use a microchip scanner to confirm the identity of the bird without handling the bird or removing it from the cage, thus avoiding additional stress on the bird.

Bird owners who choose to identify their birds with a microchip will have to pay \$25 to \$40 per microchip plus the cost of the veterinary office visit to insert the microchip. The cost of the microchips is projected to be slightly higher than the conventional leg band, although current costs for leg bands and tattoos are not available due to the lack of veterinarians who will perform these services.

Microchip manufacturers may benefit from a slight increase in microchip sales generated by this rule. It appears that all potentially affected microchip manufacturers (NAICS code 334111) are small entities, according to Small Business Administration criteria (i.e., 1,000 or fewer employees).

In summary, this rule provides pet bird owners with an additional means of identifying their pet birds while allowing APHIS to maintain the high level of security required in order to keep avian diseases, such as exotic Newcastle disease and highly pathogenic avian influenza, from entering the United States.

Under these circumstances, the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has determined that this action will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

Executive Order 12988

This final rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12988, Civil Justice Reform. This rule: (1) Preempts all State and local laws and regulations that are inconsistent with this rule; (2) has no retroactive effect; and (3) does not require administrative proceedings before parties may file suit in court challenging this rule.

Paperwork Reduction Act

This final rule contains no new information collection or recordkeeping requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

List of Subjects in 9 CFR Part 93

Animal diseases, Imports, Livestock, Poultry and poultry products, Quarantine, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Accordingly, we are amending 9 CFR part 93 as follows:

PART 93—IMPORTATION OF CERTAIN ANIMALS, BIRDS, AND POULTRY, AND CERTAIN ANIMAL, BIRD, AND POULTRY PRODUCTS; REQUIREMENTS FOR MEANS OF CONVEYANCE AND SHIPPING CONTAINERS

1. The authority citation for part 93 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1622; 19 U.S.C. 1306; 21 U.S.C. 102–105, 111, 114a, 134a, 134b, 134c, 134d, 134f, 136, and 136a; 31 U.S.C. 9701; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.4.

§ 93.101 [Amended]

2. In § 93.101, paragraph (c)(2)(i) is amended by removing the words “leg band or tattoo number” and adding the words “number from the leg band, tattoo, or microchip” in their place and by removing the words “leg band or tattoo on” and adding the words “number from the leg band, tattoo, or microchip on” in their place.

Done in Washington, DC, this 7th day of August 2002.

Peter Fernandez,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 02–20329 Filed 8–9–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 2002–NM–135–AD; Amendment 39–12841; AD 2002–16–02]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier Model CL–600–2B19 Series Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Final rule; request for comments.

SUMMARY: This amendment adopts a new airworthiness directive (AD) that is applicable to all Bombardier Model CL–600–2B19 series airplanes. This action requires revising the Airworthiness Limitations section of the maintenance requirements manual to incorporate life limits for certain horizontal stabilizer trim actuators (HSTAs), and replacing the HSTAs with new or serviceable HSTAs. This action is necessary to prevent failure of key components of the HSTAs, which could result in loss of horizontal trim control and consequent reduced controllability of the airplane. This action is intended to address the identified unsafe condition.

DATES: Effective August 27, 2002.

The incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the regulations is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of August 27, 2002.

Comments for inclusion in the Rules Docket must be received on or before September 11, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM–114, Attention: Rules Docket No. 2002–NM–135–AD, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055–4056. Comments may be inspected at this location between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Comments may be submitted via fax to (425) 227–1232. Comments may also be sent via the Internet using the following address: 9-anm-iarcomment@faa.gov. Comments sent via the Internet must contain “Docket No. 2002–NM–135–AD” in the subject line and need not be submitted in triplicate. Comments sent via fax or the Internet as attached electronic files must be formatted in Microsoft Word 97 for Windows or ASCII text.

The service information referenced in this AD may be obtained from Bombardier, Inc., Canadair, Aerospace

Group, P.O. Box 6087, Station Centre-ville, Montreal, Quebec H3C 3G9, Canada. This information may be examined at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; or at the FAA, New York Aircraft Certification Office, 10 Fifth Street, Third Floor, Valley Stream, New York; or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., suite 700, Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dan Parrillo, Aerospace Engineer, Systems and Flight Test Branch, ANE–172, FAA, New York Aircraft Certification Office, 10 Fifth Street, Third Floor, Valley Stream, New York 11581; telephone (516) 256–7505; fax (516) 568–2716.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Transport Canada Civil Aviation (TCCA), which is the airworthiness authority for Canada, recently notified the FAA that an unsafe condition may exist on all Bombardier Model CL–600–2B19 series airplanes. TCCA advises that endurance test results indicate that Appendix B—Airworthiness Limitations, Part 2, of the Canadair Regional Jet Maintenance Requirements Manual must be revised to incorporate life limits for certain horizontal stabilizer trim actuators (HSTAs), and replacement of those HSTAs to prevent failure of key components. Such failure, if not corrected, could result in loss of horizontal trim control and consequent reduced controllability of the airplane.

Explanation of Relevant Service Information

Bombardier has issued Canadair Regional Jet Temporary Revision (TR) 2B–816, dated November 28, 2001, which describes procedures for incorporating life limits for the HSTAs, Canadair part number (P/N) 601R92305–1 (vender P/N 8396–2), and Canadair P/N 601R92305–3 (vender P/N 8396–3), into Appendix B—Airworthiness Limitations, Part 2, of the Canadair Regional Jet Maintenance Requirements Manual. Accomplishment of the action specified in the TR is intended to adequately address the identified unsafe condition. TCCA classified this service information as mandatory and issued Canadian airworthiness directive CF–2002–20, dated March 20, 2002, in order to assure the continued airworthiness of these airplanes in Canada.

FAA's Conclusions

This airplane model is manufactured in Canada and is type certificated for operation in the United States under the provisions of § 21.29 of the Federal