

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

Agricultural Research Service

Notice of Federal Invention Available for Licensing and Intent To Grant Exclusive License

AGENCY: Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability and intent.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Federally owned invention(s) disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 5,122,188, "Vegetable oil-based printing ink", issued on June 16, 1992, Patent No. 5,713,990, "Vegetable oil-based offset printing inks", issued February 3, 1998, and Patent No. 6,583,302, "Chemically modified vegetable oil-based industrial fluid", issued June 24, 2003 are available for licensing and that the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, intends to grant to Agri-Lube, Inc. of Defiance, Ohio, an exclusive license to these inventions.

DATES: Comments must be received within ninety (90) calendar days of the date of publication of this Notice in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to: USDA, ARS, Office of Technology Transfer, 5601 Sunnyside Avenue, Room 4-1174, Beltsville, Maryland 20705-5131.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: June Blalock of the Office of Technology Transfer at the Beltsville address given above; telephone: 301-504-5989.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Government's patent rights to this invention are assigned to the United States of America, as represented by the Secretary of Agriculture. It is in the public interest to so license these inventions as Agri-Lube, Inc. of Defiance, Ohio has submitted a complete and sufficient application for a license. The prospective exclusive license will be royalty-bearing and will comply with the terms and conditions of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. The

prospective exclusive license may be granted unless, within ninety (90) days from the date of this published Notice, the Agricultural Research Service receives written evidence and argument which establishes that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7.

Michael D. Ruff,

Assistant Administrator.

[FR Doc. 04-5709 Filed 3-12-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 04-005N]

Codex Alimentarius Commission: 32nd Session of the Codex Committee on Food Labelling

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting, request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety, United States Department of Agriculture, and the Food And Drug Administration (FDA) of the Department of Health and Human Services, are sponsoring a public meeting on March 30, 2004 to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items that will be discussed at the 32nd Session of the Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL) of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex), which will be held in Montréal, Canada on May 10-14, 2004. The Under Secretary and FDA recognize the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the agenda items that will be debated at this forthcoming Session of the CCFL.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 30, 2004, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held in Room 107-A of the Department of Agriculture, Jamie Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC. To receive copies of the documents referenced in the notice contact the FSIS Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Room 102, Cotton Annex, 300 12th Street, SW.,

Washington, DC 20250-3700. The documents will also be accessible via the World Wide Web at the following address: <http://www.codexalimentarius.net/current.asp>. If you have comments, please send an original and two copies to the FSIS Docket Clerk and reference the Docket # 04-005N. All comments submitted will be available for public inspection in the Docket Clerk's Office between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ellen Matten, International Issues Analyst, U.S. Codex Office, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Room 4861, South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250, phone: (202) 205-7760, fax: (202) 720-3157.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Codex Alimentarius (Codex) was established in 1962 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Codex is the major international organization for protecting the health and economic interests of consumers and encouraging fair international trade in food. Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, Codex seeks to ensure that the world's food supply is sound, wholesome, free from adulteration, and correctly labeled. In the United States, USDA, FDA, and the Environmental Protection Agency manage and carry out U.S. Codex activities.

The Codex Committee on Food Labeling (CCFL) drafts provisions on labeling applicable to all foods; considers, amends if necessary, and endorses specific provisions on labeling of draft standards, codes of practice, and guidelines prepared by other Codex committees; studies specific labeling problems assigned to it by the Commission; and studies problems associated with the advertisement of food with particular reference to claims and misleading descriptions. The Committee is chaired by Canada.

Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The provisional agenda items will be discussed during the public meeting:

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Matters referred by the Codex Alimentarius Commission and other Codex Committees.
3. Consideration of labelling provisions in Draft Codex Standards.
4. Draft guidelines for the use of health and nutrition claims.
5. Guidelines for the production, processing, labelling and marketing of organically produced foods: proposed draft revised sections: Annex 2—Permitted Substances.
6. Labelling of foods and food ingredients obtained through certain techniques of genetic modification/genetic engineering:
 - (a) Draft recommendations for the labelling of foods obtained through certain techniques of genetic modification/genetic engineering (draft amendment to the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods): definitions.
 - (b) Proposed draft recommendations for the labelling of foods obtained through certain techniques of genetic modification/genetic engineering (proposed draft guidelines for the Labelling of Foods and Food Ingredients Obtained through Certain Techniques of Genetic Modification/Engineering): labelling provisions.
7. Proposed draft amendment to the General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods: quantitative declaration of ingredients.
8. Consideration of country of origin labelling.
9. Consideration of food labelling and traceability.
10. Discussion paper on misleading claims.

Each issue listed will be fully described in documents distributed, or to be distributed, by the Canadian Secretariat to the meeting. Members of the public may access or request copies of these documents (*see ADDRESSES*).

Public Meeting

At the March 30, 2004, public meeting, the agenda items will be described, discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Written comments may be offered at the meeting or sent to the FSIS Docket Room (*see ADDRESSES*). Written comments should state that they relate to activities of the 32nd Session of the CCFL, Docket # 04-005N.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is

important. Consequently, in an effort to better ensure that minorities, women, and persons with disabilities are aware of this notice; FSIS will announce it and make copies of this **Federal Register** publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update, which is communicated via Listserv, a free e-mail subscription service. In addition, the update is available on-line through the FSIS Web page located at: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov>. The update is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, recalls, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents and stakeholders. The constituent Listserv consists of industry, trade, and farm groups, consumer interest groups, allied health professionals, scientific professionals, and other individuals that have requested to be included. Through the Listserv and Web page, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience.

For more information contact the Congressional and Public Affairs Office, at (202) 720-9113. To be added to the free e-mail subscription service (Listserv) go to the "Constituent Update" page on the FSIS Web site at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/oa/update/update.htm>. Click on the "Subscribe to the Constituent Update Listserv" link, then fill out and submit the form.

Done in Washington, DC, on March 10, 2004.

F. Edward Scarbrough,

U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.

[FR Doc. 04-5815 Filed 3-12-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Notice of a Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, this notice announces the Department's intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the Export Sales Reporting program.

DATES: Comments should be submitted no later than May 14, 2004.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND COMMENTS: Contact Tim Rocke, Export Sales

Reporting, Program Manager, STOP 1025, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1025, telephone (202) 720-9209, e-mail esr@fas.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Export Sales Reporting Program.
OMB Number: 0551-0007.

Expiration Date of Approval: July 31, 2004.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: Section 602 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978, as amended, requires the reporting of information pertaining to contracts for export sale of certain specified agricultural commodities and other commodities that may be designated by the Secretary. In accordance with Sec. 602, individual weekly reports submitted shall remain confidential and shall be compiled and published in compilation form each week following the week of reporting. Any person who knowingly fails to make a report shall be fined not more than \$25,000 or imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or both. Regulations at 7 CFR part 20 implement the reporting requirements, and prescribe a system for reporting information pertaining to contracts for export sales.

USDA's export sales reporting system has its roots in the unexpected purchase of large amounts of U.S. wheat and corn by the Soviet Union in 1972. To make sure that all parties involved in the production and export of U.S. grain have access to up-to-date export information, the U.S. Congress mandated an export sales reporting requirement in 1973. Prior to the establishment of the export reporting system, it was impossible for the public to obtain information on export sales activity until the actual shipments had taken place. This frequently resulted in considerable delay in the availability of information.

Under the export sales reporting system, U.S. exporters are required to report all large sales of certain designated commodities by 3 p.m. (eastern time) on the next business day after the sale is made. The designated commodities for these daily reports are wheat (by class), barley, corn, grain sorghum, oats, soybeans, soybean cake and meal, and soybean oil. Large sales for all reportable commodities except soybean oil are defined as 100,000 metric tons or more of one commodity in one day to a single destination or 200,000 tons or more of one commodity during the weekly reporting period.