

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 61, No. 170

Friday, August 30, 1996

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

National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform (FAIR) Act of April 4, 1996 (Public Law 104-127, 110 Stat. 1156-1184), the United States Department of Agriculture has scheduled the initial meeting of:

Name: National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education and Economics Advisory Board.

Date: September 16-17, 1996, September 18, 1996.

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., 8:30 a.m. to Noon.

Place: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 104A-Williamsburg; Jamie L. Whitten Federal Building, 14th and Independence Ave, SW., Washington, DC 20250.

Type of Meeting: Open to the public.

Comments: The public may file written comments before or after the meeting with the contact person listed below.

Purpose: The Secretary of Agriculture has filled the Advisory Board's 30 positions from more than 400 nominations solicited from 600 United States organizations identified as having agricultural research, extension, education, and economic interests. Each member represents one of 30 constituent categories, as identified in the legislation. Members were assigned initial terms of one, two, or three years. A list of Advisory Board appointees will be published in the Federal Register prior to the September 16-18 meeting. The Secretary of Agriculture; Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics; and the Administrators (Agricultural Research Service; Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service; Economic Research Service; and National Agricultural Statistical Service) will serve as Advisory Board ex officio members. The Advisory Board expires September 30, 2002.

Advisory Board duties include reviewing and consulting with the Secretary of Agriculture and land-grant colleges and universities on long-term and short-term national policies and priorities related to agricultural research, extension, education, and economics; evaluating the effectiveness

of those policies and priorities; and reviewing and making recommendations to the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics on elements of the mission area's draft strategic plan.

The initial Advisory Board meeting agenda includes: nomination and election of Executive Committee members; reviewing of the Research, Education, and Economics draft Strategic Plan; recommendation of criteria for allocating research, extension, and education grants for the Fund for Rural America; and development of a slate of nominees to the 15-member "Strategic Planning Task Force."

Contact person for Agenda and more information: Deborah Hanfman, Executive Director, National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Board, Research, Education, and Economics Advisory Board Office, Room 3918, South Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250-2255, Telephone: 202-720-3684.

Done at Washington, DC this 23d day of August 1996.

Catherine E. Woteki,

Acting Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics.

[FR Doc. 96-22157 Filed 8-29-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-22-M

Agricultural Research Service

Government Owned Invention Available for Licensing

AGENCY: Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of government owned invention available for licensing.

SUMMARY: The invention disclosed in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/471,349, "Fiber and Fiber Products Produced from Feathers" is owned by the U.S. Government as represented by the Department of Agriculture, and is available for licensing in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 207 and 37 CFR 404 to achieve expeditious commercialization of results of federally funded research and development. International patent applications have been filed in selected countries to extend market coverage for U.S. companies and may also be available for licensing.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Technical and licensing information on this invention may be obtained by writing to: June Blalock, Technology Licensing Coordinator, USDA, ARS, Room 415, Bldg. 005, BARC-West,

Beltsville, Maryland 20705; Phone 301-504-5989 or Fax 301-504-5060.

June Blalock,

Technology Licensing Coordinator.

[FR Doc. 96-22158 Filed 8-29-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-M

Notice of Availability 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 U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service intends to grant to Agricultural Innovations of Athens, Georgia, an exclusive license to U.S. Patent Number 5,089,701, "Nondestructive Measurement of Soluble Solids in Fruits Having a Rind or Skin," issued February 18, 1992. Notice of Availability was published in the Federal Register on October 23, 1990.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before October 29, 1996.

ADDRESS: Send comments to: USDA, ARS, Office of Technology Transfer, Room 415, Building 005, BARC-West, Baltimore Boulevard, Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2350.

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 this invention as Agricultural Innovations 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 sixty 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.

R.M. Parry, Jr.,

Assistant Administrator.

[FR Doc. 96-22159 Filed 8-29-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-M

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 96-057-1]

Availability of Environmental Assessments and Findings of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public that four environmental assessments and findings of no significant impact have been prepared by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service relative to the issuance of permits to allow the field testing of genetically engineered organisms. The environmental assessments provide a basis for our conclusion that the field testing of the genetically engineered organisms will not present a risk of introducing or disseminating a plant pest and will not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. Based on its findings of no significant impact, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection

Service has determined that environmental impact statements need not be prepared.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the environmental assessments and findings of no significant impact are available for public inspection at USDA, room 1141, South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons wishing to inspect those documents are requested to call ahead on (202) 690-2817 to facilitate entry into the reading room.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Arnold Foudin, Deputy Director, Biotechnology Permits, BBEP, APHIS, Suite 5B05, 4700 River Road Unit 147, Riverdale, MD 20737-1237; (301) 734-7612. For copies of the environmental assessments and findings of no significant impact, contact Mr. Clayton Givens at (301) 734-7612; e-mail: cgivens@aphis.usda.gov. Please refer to the permit numbers listed below when ordering documents.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The regulations in 7 CFR part 340 (referred to below as the regulations) regulate the introduction (importation, interstate movement, and release into the environment) of genetically engineered organisms and products that are plant pests or that there is reason to believe are plant pests (regulated articles). A

permit must be obtained or a notification acknowledged before a regulated article may be introduced into the United States. The regulations set forth the permit application requirements and the notification procedures for the importation, interstate movement, and release into the environment of a regulated article.

In the course of reviewing each permit application, APHIS assessed the impact on the environment that releasing the organisms under the conditions described in the permit application would have. APHIS has issued permits for the field testing of the organisms listed below after concluding that the organisms will not present a risk of plant pest introduction or dissemination and will not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. The environmental assessments and findings of no significant impact, which are based on data submitted by the applicants and on a review of other relevant literature, provide the public with documentation of APHIS' review and analysis of the environmental impacts associated with conducting the field tests.

Environmental assessments and findings of no significant impact have been prepared by APHIS relative to the issuance of permits to allow the field testing of the following genetically engineered organisms:

Permit No.	Permittee	Date issued	Organisms	Field test location
96-094-01	Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.	5-31-96	Corn plants genetically engineered to express resistance to certain diseases.	Iowa and Pennsylvania.
96-051-04	Biosource Technologies, Inc.	6-4-96	Tobacco mosaic virus genetically engineered to contain genes of pharmaceutical interest.	Kentucky.
96-127-02	Washington State University	6-26-96	Wheat stripe fungus genetically engineered to contain a marker gene.	Washington.
96-156-01	Tuskegee University	6-26-96	Sweet potato plants genetically engineered for tolerance to the herbicide glufosinate.	Alabama.

The environmental assessments and findings of no significant impact have been prepared in accordance with: (1) The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA)(42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), (2) Regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), (3) USDA regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR part 1b), and (4) APHIS' NEPA Implementing Procedures (7 CFR part 372).

Done in Washington, DC, this 26th day of August 1996.

Terry L. Medley,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 96-22212 Filed 8-29-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

Forest Service

National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of partially closed meeting.

SUMMARY: The National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council will meet in Overland Park, Kansas, September 19-21, 1996. The Council is comprised of 15 members appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture. The meeting will be chaired by Genni Cross of The Trust for Public Land/California ReLeaf. The purpose of the meeting is to receive status reports on the Council's annual report, continue discussion on emerging issues in Urban and Community Forestry, and vote on the 1997 Challenge Cost-Share grant categories. The Challenge Cost-Share grant categories identified by the Council are advertised annually to