

2. Subpart—Cut Flowers is revised to read as follows:

Subpart—Cut Flowers

319.74-1 Definitions.

319.74-2 Conditions governing the entry of cut flowers.

319.74-3 Importations by the Department.

319.74-4 Costs and charges.

Subpart—Cut Flowers

§ 319.74-1 Definitions.

Administrator. The Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, United States Department of Agriculture, or any employee of the United States Department of Agriculture delegated to act in his or her stead.

Cut flower. The highly perishable commodity known in the commercial flower-producing industry as a cut flower, which is the severed portion of a plant, including the inflorescence and any parts of the plant attached to it, in a fresh state. This definition does not include dried, bleached, dyed, or chemically treated decorative plant materials; filler or greenery, such as fern fronds and asparagus plumes, frequently packed with fresh cut flowers; or Christmas greenery, such as holly, mistletoe, and Christmas trees.

Inspector. Any individual authorized by the Administrator to enforce this subpart.

United States. All of the States, the District of Columbia, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands of the United States, and all other territories or possessions of the United States.

§ 319.74-2 Conditions governing the entry of cut flowers.

(a) *Inspection.* All cut flowers imported into the United States must be made available to an inspector for examination at the port of first arrival and must remain at the port of first arrival until released, or authorized further movement, by an inspector.

(b) *Actions to prevent the introduction of plant pests; notice by an inspector.* If an inspector orders any disinfection, cleaning, treatment, reexportation, or other action with regard to imported cut flowers that are found to be infested with injurious plant pests or infected with diseases, the inspector will provide an emergency action notification (PPQ Form 523) to the importer, owner, or agent or representative of the importer or owner of the cut flowers. The importer, owner, or agent or representative of the importer or owner must, within the time specified in the PPQ Form 523 and at his or her own expense, destroy the cut flowers, ship them to a point outside the United

States, move them to an authorized site, and/or apply treatments, clean, or apply other safeguards to the cut flowers as prescribed by the inspector on the PPQ Form 523. Further, if the importer, owner, or agent or representative of the importer or owner fails to follow the conditions on PPQ Form 523 by the time specified on the form, APHIS will arrange for destruction of the cut flowers, and the importer, owner, or agent or representative of the importer or owner will be responsible for all costs incurred. Cut flowers that have been cleaned or treated must be made available for further inspection, cleaning, and treatment at the option of the inspector at any time and place indicated by the inspector before the requirements of this subpart will have been met. Neither the Department of Agriculture nor the inspector may be held responsible for any adverse effects of treatment on imported cut flowers.

(c) *Fumigation for agromyzids.* (1) Cut flowers imported from any country or locality and found upon inspection to be infested with agromyzids (insects of the family Agromyzidae) must be fumigated at the time of importation with methyl bromide in accordance with paragraph (c)(2) of this section, with the following exceptions:

(i) Fumigation will not be required for cut flowers imported from Canada (including Labrador and Newfoundland) or Mexico because of the finding of agromyzids.

(ii) Fumigation will not be required for cut flowers of *Chrysanthemum* spp. imported from Colombia or the Dominican Republic because of the finding of agromyzids, when such agromyzids are identified by an inspector to be only agromyzids of the species *Liriomyza trifolii* (Burgess).

(2) *Fumigation schedules.* Fumigation of cut flowers for agromyzids (insects of the family Agromyzidae) must consist of fumigation with methyl bromide at normal atmospheric pressure in a chamber or under a tarpaulin in accordance with one of the following schedules:

1½ lbs. per 1,000 cu. ft. for 2 hours at 80–90 °F.

(19 oz. concentration at first ½ hour)

(12 oz. concentration at 2 hours); or

2 lbs. per 1,000 cu. ft. for 2 hours at 70–79 °F.

(24 oz. concentration at first ½ hour)

(16 oz. concentration at 2 hours); or

2½ lbs. per 1,000 cu. ft. for 2 hours at 60–69 °F.

(30 oz. concentration at first ½ hour)

(20 oz. concentration at 2 hours); or

3 lbs. per 1,000 cu. ft. for 2 hours at 50–59 °F.

(36 oz. concentration at first ½ hour)
(24 oz. concentration at 2 hours); or
3½ lbs. per 1,000 cu. ft. for 2 hours at 40–49 °F.

(41 oz. concentration at first ½ hour)
(27 oz. concentration at 2 hours)

Note: There is a possibility that some cut flowers could be damaged by such fumigation.

(d) *Refusal of entry.* If an inspector finds that imported cut flowers are so infested with a plant pest or infected with disease that, in the judgment of the inspector, they cannot be cleaned or treated, or if they contain soil or other prohibited contaminants, the entire lot may be refused entry into the United States.

§ 319.74-3 Importations by the Department.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture may import cut flowers for experimental or scientific purposes under such conditions and restrictions as the Administrator may prescribe to prevent the dissemination of plant pests.

§ 319.74-4 Costs and charges.

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, will be responsible only for the costs of providing the services of an inspector during regularly assigned hours of duty and at the usual places of duty (provisions relating to costs for other services of an inspector are contained in 7 CFR part 354). The importer, owner, or agent or representative of the importer or owner of cut flowers is responsible for all additional costs of inspection, treatment, movement, storage, or destruction ordered by an inspector under this subpart, including the costs of any labor, chemicals, packing materials, or other supplies required.

Done in Washington, DC, this 9th day of July 1999.

A. Cielo,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 99-18049 Filed 7-14-99; 8:45 am]

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FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

12 CFR Part 615

RIN 3052-AB76

Funding and Fiscal Affairs, Loan Policies and Operations, and Funding Operations; Investment Management; Effective Date

AGENCY: Farm Credit Administration.

ACTION: Notice of effective date.

SUMMARY: The Farm Credit Administration (FCA) published a final rule under part 615 on May 28, 1999 (64 FR 28884). The final rule amends the regulations to help Farm Credit System banks and associations respond to rapid and continual changes in financial markets and instruments. In accordance with 12 U.S.C. 2252, the effective date of the final rule is 30 days from the date of publication in the **Federal Register** during which either or both Houses of Congress are in session. Based on the records of the sessions of Congress, the effective date of the regulations is July 15, 1999.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The regulation amending 12 CFR part 615 published on May 28, 1999 (64 FR 28884) is effective July 15, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Laurie A. Rea, Senior Policy Analyst,
Office of Policy Analysis, Farm Credit
Administration, McLean, VA 22102-
5090, (703) 883-4498;

or

Richard Katz, Senior Attorney, Office of
General Counsel, Farm Credit
Administration, McLean, VA 22102-
5090, (703) 883-4020, TDD (703) 883-
4444.

(12 U.S.C. 2252(a)(9) and (10))

Dated: July 9, 1999.

Vivian L. Portis,

Secretary, Farm Credit Administration Board.
[FR Doc. 99-18096 Filed 7-14-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

14 CFR Parts 257 and 258

[Docket Nos. OST-95-179, OST-95-623,
and OST-95-177]

RIN: 2105-AC10, 2105-AC17

Petitions Involving the Effective Dates of the Disclosure of Code-Sharing Arrangements and Long-Term Wet Leases Final Rule and the Disclosure of Change-of-Gauge Services Final Rule

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary (OST),
Transportation.

ACTION: Final rule and notice of
proposed disposition of petitions.

SUMMARY: Two new rules that the Department of Transportation adopted on March 15, 1999, the Final Rule on Disclosure of Code-Sharing Arrangements and Long-Term Wet Leases, 14 CFR part 257 ("Code-Share Rule"), and the Final Rule on Disclosure

of Change-of-Gauge Services, 14 CFR part 258 ("Change-of-Gauge Rule"), are both scheduled to go into effect on July 13, 1999. These rules will enable consumers to make informed choices about their air transportation and to travel without undue confusion. We have received one petition requesting a waiver until October 15, 1999, of the Code-Share Rule's requirement that the transporting carrier's corporate and network names be disclosed. We grant this petition. We have also received seven petitions requesting delay of both rules' effective date, one to mid-October, 1999, and six to March 15, 2000; one of these seeks an additional grace period until September 15, 2000, for tour operators. These latter petitions cite Computer Reservations Systems' ("CRSs") and other information systems' programming and software problems related to the year 2000 ("Y2K") as justification for delaying the rules' effective date. We are postponing the effective date of both rules until August 25, 1999, and we are requesting comments on our tentative findings that those parts of the rules that are not affected by CRS reprogramming should take effect on August 25, that the effective date of those parts of the rules that are affected by CRS reprogramming should be further postponed until March 15, 2000, and that as a matter of discretion we should refrain from enforcing both rules in their entirety against the tour operators for an additional grace period of six months.

DATES: *Effective Dates:* The effective date of the rule adding 14 CFR part 257 and removing 14 CFR 399.88, published at 64 FR 12838 on March 15, 1999, is delayed until August 25, 1999. The effective date of the rule adding 14 CFR part 258, published at 64 FR 12854 on March 15, 1999, is delayed until August 25, 1999.

Comment Date: Comments on further delaying the effective date of these rules, or particular provisions of these rules, must be received by July 30, 1999 for consideration to be assured. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable. If the Department decides to further delay the effective date of these rules, or particular provisions of these rules, it will publish a document in the **Federal Register** announcing the new effective date.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by one of the following methods:

(1) By mail to the Docket Management Facility (OST-95-179, OST-95-623, OST-95-177), U.S. Department of Transportation, Room PL-401, 400

Seventh St. SW, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

(2) By hand delivery to room PL-401 on the Plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh St. SW, Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is 202-366-9329.

(3) By fax to Docket Management Facility at 202-366-2251.

(4) Electronically through the Web Site for the Docket Management System at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Betsy L. Wolf, Senior Trial Attorney,
Office of Aviation Enforcement and
Proceedings (202-366-9359), Office of
the General Counsel, U.S. Department of
Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW,
Washington, DC 20590.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On March 15, 1999, the Department issued two new rules under 49 U.S.C. 41712, our authority to prohibit unfair and deceptive practices and unfair methods of competition. These rules will protect consumers of air transportation in two ways: by ensuring that they are told what kind of service they are considering before they decide to buy it and by giving them written information that will help them avoid confusion and other mishaps in the course of their transportation. Among other things, the Code-Share Rule requires air carriers involved in code-sharing arrangements or long-term wet leases to identify these arrangements in the written or electronic schedule information they provide to the public, in the Official Airline Guide ("OAG") and comparable publications, and in CRSs with an asterisk or comparable mark and to disclose the transporting carrier's corporate name and any other name under which the service is held out to the public. The rule also requires air carriers and ticket agents to disclose this same information orally to prospective passengers before booking transportation, and it requires these sellers to provide this information in a written notice once a consumer has booked a flight involving a code-share arrangement or a long-term wet lease.¹ The Change-of-Gauge rule has

¹ In the interest of clarity and brevity, in the remainder of this notice, we refer in most instances to the disclosures that the Code-Share Rule specifically requires and that are not specifically required under existing law or policy—namely, disclosure of the transporting carrier's corporate name and any other name under which a code-share or long-term wet-lease service is held out to the public—as "the new code-share and long-term wet-lease disclosures."