

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

Office of the Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics; Secretary's Advisory Committee on Agricultural Biotechnology

AGENCY: Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: We are giving notice that the Secretary of Agriculture has reestablished the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Agricultural Biotechnology. The Secretary of Agriculture has determined that the Committee is necessary and in the public interest.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Michael Schechtman, Designated Federal Official, Office of the Deputy Secretary, USDA, 202B Jamie L. Whitten Federal Building, 12th and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250; Telephone (202) 720-3817; Fax (202) 690-4265; E-mail mschechtman@ars.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Agricultural Biotechnology is to advise the Secretary of Agriculture on a broad range of policy issues related to expanding dimensions and importance of agricultural biotechnology.

Done in Washington, DC, this 2d day of July, 2001.

Lou Gallegos,

Assistant Secretary for Administration.

[FR Doc. 01-17650 Filed 7-13-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-U

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Research Service

Office of the Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics; Notice of the Advisory Committee on Agricultural Biotechnology Meeting

AGENCY: Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., the United States Department of Agriculture announces a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Agricultural Biotechnology (ACAB).

DATES: August 1 and 2, 2001, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. both days.

ADDRESSES: John Jay Room at the Hay-Adams Hotel, 16th and H Streets, NW., Washington, DC 20006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Schechtman, Designated Federal Official, Office of the Deputy Secretary, USDA, 202B Jamie L. Whitten Federal Building, 12th and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250; Telephone (202) 720-3817; Fax (202) 690-4265; E-mail mschechtman@ars.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The fifth meeting of the ACAB has been scheduled for August 1-2, 2001. The topics to be discussed will include: (1) USDA biotechnology budget priorities for the FY 2003 budget; (2) continued discussion on a draft ACAB report on the future of public plant breeding programs; and (3) continued discussion on gene flow from transgenic crops to other plants and current and potential USDA roles in addressing the issues presented. There will in addition be several updates on current biotechnology developments and on ongoing USDA biotechnology-related activities.

Background information regarding the work of the ACAB is available on the USDA web site at <http://www.usda.gov/agencies/biotech/acab.html>. Members of the public who wish to make oral statements should also inform Dr. Schechtman in writing or via E-mail at the indicated addresses at least three business days before the meeting. On August 1, 2001, if time permits, reasonable provision will be made for

oral presentations of no more than five minutes each in duration.

The meeting will be open to the public, but space is limited. If you would like to attend the meetings, you must register by contacting Ms. Vanessa Simon at (202) 690-8647, by fax at (202) 720-3191 or by E-mail at vsimon@ars.usda.gov at least 5 days prior to the meeting. Please provide your name, title, business affiliation, address, telephone, and fax number when you register. If you require a sign language interpreter or other special accommodation due to disability, please indicate those needs at the time of registration.

Edward B. Knipling,

Associate Administrator.

[FR Doc. 01-17651 Filed 7-13-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-U

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Request for Public Comments on Administration of the Specialty Sugar Allocation of the Refined Sugar Tariff-Rate Quota

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Request for public comments.

SUMMARY: This notice requests public comments on the administration of the allocation of the speciality sugar tariff-rate quota (TRQ), which is an administrative breakout of the refined sugar TRQ provided for in Additional U.S. Note 5 (a)(i) of Chapter 17 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS).

DATES: Comments should be received on or before July 31, 2001 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be mailed or delivered to the Director, Import Policies and Programs Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., AgStop 1021, Washington DC 20250-1021, or e-mailed to Blabey@fas.usda.gov. Comments received may be inspected between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. at room 5531-S, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Blabey at the address above, or

telephone at (202) 720-2916, or e-mail at Blabey@fas.usda.gov. Persons with disabilities who require this request for comment in an alternative means of communication (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: USDA is preparing to establish the FY 2002 specialty sugar allocation under which imports may enter under subheadings 1701.12.10, 1701.91.10, 1701.99.10, 1702.90.10, 2106.90.44 of the HTS. Imports must be accompanied by a specialty sugar certificate issued by the USDA Certifying Authority to be eligible to enter under his TRQ allocation.

USDA is proposing to administer the specialty sugar TRQ in two tranches. The first tranche would permit imports not exceeding 1,656 metric tons raw value to enter under this TRQ beginning in October 2001. All specialty sugars identified in 15 CFR 201.11, Subpart B would be eligible for entry. When combined with other refined sugars, syrups, and molasses entered under the above HTS subheadings, this tranche would permit sufficient imports of specialty sugar to satisfy the requirement of Additional U.S. Note 5 of Chapter 17 of the HTS that the Secretary establish a TRQ of not less than 22,000 metric tons raw value annually for refined sugar.

A second tranche would permit entry of specialty sugars not currently commercially produced in the United States or reasonably available from domestic sources. For FY 2002, USDA proposes to establish the quantity permitted entry under the second tranche at a level sufficient to assure that supplies of various types of specialty sugars meet domestic demand at reasonable prices. USDA would make known the size of the second tranche in its press release announcing the establishment of the FY 2002 refined sugar TRQ. The second tranche would be adjusted annually thereafter to reflect changing market conditions.

USDA also proposes that beginning in FY 2002 all imports of specialty sugar entered under the TRQ must be entered in bags containing not more than 50 kilos of sugar stowed in containers. This is the traditional method of importing specialty sugars and is intended to

facilitate enforcement of the Regulation for specialty sugar.

USDA is soliciting comments on the above proposals for administering the specialty sugar TRQ and, in particular, solicits comments regarding appropriate dates for announcing the refined sugar TRQ and for opening of the second specialty sugar tranche.

Signed at Washington, DC, on June 22, 2001.

Mattie R. Sharpless,

Acting Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.

[FR Doc. 01-17649 Filed 7-13-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Uruguay Round Agricultural Safeguard Trigger Levels

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of product coverage and trigger levels for safeguard measures provided for in the Uruguay Round Agreement on Agriculture.

SUMMARY: This notice lists the updated quantity trigger levels for products which may be subject to additional import duties under the safeguard provisions of the Uruguay Round Agreement on Agriculture. It also includes the relevant period applicable for trigger levels on each of those products.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 16, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Charles K. Bertsch, Multilateral Trade Negotiations Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, room 5530—South Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250-1022, telephone at (202) 720-6278, or email bertschc@fas.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Article 5 of the Uruguay Round Agreement on Agriculture provides that additional import duties may be imposed on imports of products subject to tariffication during the Uruguay Round if certain conditions are met. The agreement permits additional duties to be charged if the price of an individual shipment of imported products falls

below the average price for similar goods imported during the years 1986-88 by a specified percentage. It also permits additional duties to be imposed if the volume of imports of an article exceeds the average of the most recent 3 years for which data are available by 5, 10, or 25 percent, depending on the article. These additional duties may not be imposed on quantities for which minimum or current access commitments were made during the Uruguay Round negotiations, and only one type of safeguard, price or quantity, may be applied at any given time to an article.

Section 405 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act requires that the President cause to be published in the **Federal Register** information regarding the price and quantity safeguards, including the quantity trigger levels, which must be updated annually based upon import levels during the most recent 3 years. The President delegated this duty to the Secretary of Agriculture in Presidential Proclamation No. 6763, dated December 23, 1994. The Secretary of Agriculture further delegated the duty to the Administrator of the Foreign Agricultural Service (7 CFR 2.43(a)(2)). The Annex to this notice contains the updated quantity trigger levels.

Additional information on the products subject to safeguards and the additional duties which may apply can be found in subchapter IV of Chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States and in the Secretary of Agriculture's Notice of Safeguard Action, published in the **Federal Register** at 60 FR 427, January 4, 1995.

Notice: As provided in section 405 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, consistent with Article 5 of the Agreement on Agriculture, the safeguard quantity trigger levels previously notified are superseded by the levels indicated in the Annex to this notice.

Issued at Washington, DC, this 27th day of June, 2001.

Mattie R. Sharpless,

Acting Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.

Annex

The definitions of these products were provided in the Notice of Safeguard Action published in the **Federal Register**, at 60 FR 427, January 4, 1995.

QUANTITY BASED SAFEGUARD TRIGGER

Product	Trigger level	Period
Beef	1,062,131 mt	January 1, 2001 to December 31, 2001.
Mutton	14,101 mt	January 1, 2001 to December 31, 2001.
Cream	6,599,822 liters	January 1, 2001 to December 31, 2001.
Evaporated or Condensed Milk	6,199,769 kilograms	January 1, 2001 to December 31, 2001.