

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Estimate of burden: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2.2063 hours per response.

Respondents: U.S. importers of biological products, shippers, operators of establishments that produce or test biological products or that engage in product research and development.

Estimated number of respondents: 114.

Estimated number of responses per respondent: 298.73.

Estimated annual number of responses: 34,056.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 75,138 hours. (Due to rounding, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the average reporting burden per response.)

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Done in Washington, DC, this 28th day of November.

Craig A. Reed,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 97-31903 Filed 12-4-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 97-052-2]

Monsanto Co. and Dekalb Genetics Corp.; Availability of Determination of Nonregulated Status for Genetically Engineered Corn Line

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public of our determination that a corn line developed by Monsanto Company and Dekalb Genetics Corporation designated as GA21, which has been genetically

engineered for tolerance to the herbicide glyphosate, is no longer considered a regulated article under our regulations governing the introduction of certain genetically engineered organisms. Our determination is based on our evaluation of data submitted by Monsanto Company and Dekalb Genetics Corporation in their petition for a determination of nonregulated status and an analysis of other scientific data. This notice also announces the availability of our written determination document and its associated environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact.

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 18, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The determination, an environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact, the petition, and any written comments received regarding the petition may be inspected 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 asked to call in advance of visiting at (202) 690-2817 to facilitate entry into the reading room.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Ray Dobert, Biotechnology Evaluation, BSS, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 147, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236; (301) 734-8365. To obtain a copy of the determination or the environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact, contact Ms. Kay Peterson at (301) 734-4885; e-mail: mkpeterson@aphis.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On April 9, 1997, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) received a petition (APHIS Petition No. 97-099-01p) from Monsanto Company of St. Louis, MO, and Dekalb Genetics Corporation of Mystic, CT (Monsanto/Dekalb), seeking a determination that a corn line designated as GA21, which has been genetically engineered for tolerance to the herbicide glyphosate, does not present a plant pest risk and, therefore, is not a regulated article under APHIS' regulations in 7 CFR part 340.

On August 13, 1997, APHIS published a notice in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 43311-43312, Docket No. 97-052-1) announcing that the Monsanto/Dekalb petition had been received and was available for public review. The notice also discussed the role of APHIS, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Food and Drug Administration in regulating the subject corn line and food

products derived from it. In the notice, APHIS solicited written comments from the public as to whether the subject corn line posed a plant pest risk. The comments were to have been received by APHIS on or before October 14, 1997. APHIS received no comments on the subject petition during the designated 60-day comment period.

Analysis

Corn line GA21 has been genetically engineered to contain a modified corn 5-enolpyruvylshikimate-3-phosphate-synthase (EPSPS) gene, which, when expressed in the plant, confers tolerance to the herbicide glyphosate. The modified corn EPSPS gene was introduced into the parental inbred corn line AT by the particle acceleration method, and its expression is controlled in part by the rice actin promoter and intron and the NOS 3' termination sequence derived from the plant pathogen *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*.

Corn line GA21 has been considered a regulated article under APHIS' regulations in 7 CFR part 340 because it contains gene sequences derived from a plant pathogen. However, evaluation of field data reports from field tests of the subject corn line conducted under APHIS notifications since 1994 indicates that there were no deleterious effects on plants, nontarget organisms, or the environment as a result of the subject corn plants' release into the environment.

Determination

Based on its analysis of the data submitted by Monsanto/Dekalb, and a review of other scientific data and field tests of the subject corn line, APHIS has determined that corn line GA21: (1) Exhibits no plant pathogenic properties; (2) is no more likely to become a weed than corn developed by traditional breeding techniques; (3) is unlikely to increase the weediness potential for any other cultivated or wild species with which it can interbreed; (4) will not harm other organisms, including agriculturally beneficial organisms and threatened and endangered species; and (5) should not cause damage to raw or processed agricultural commodities. Therefore, APHIS has concluded that corn line GA21 and any progeny derived from hybrid crosses with nontransformed corn varieties will be just as safe to grow as traditionally bred corn lines that are not regulated under 7 CFR part 340.

The effect of this determination is that the Monsanto/Dekalb corn line designated as GA21 is no longer considered a regulated article under APHIS' regulations in 7 CFR part 340.

Therefore, the requirements pertaining to regulated articles under those regulations no longer apply to the field testing, importation, or interstate movement of corn line GA21 or its progeny. However, importation of the subject corn line or seeds capable of propagation is still subject to the restrictions found in APHIS' foreign quarantine notices in 7 CFR part 319.

National Environmental Policy Act

An environmental assessment (EA) has been prepared to examine the potential environmental impacts associated with this determination. The EA was prepared in accordance with: (1) The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended (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). Based on that EA, APHIS has reached a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) with regard to its determination that the Monsanto/Dekalb corn line GA21 and lines developed from it are no longer regulated articles under its regulations in 7 CFR part 340. Copies of the EA and the FONSI are available upon request from the individual listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Done in Washington, DC, this 28th day of November 1997.

Craig A. Reed,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 97–31901 Filed 12–4–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

ASSASSINATION RECORDS REVIEW BOARD

Sunshine Act Meeting

DATE: December 15, 1997.

PLACE: National Archives at College Park, MD.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Review of Assassination Records
2. Other Business

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Eileen Sullivan, Press Officer, 600 E Street, NW, Second Floor, Washington, DC 20530. Telephone: (202) 724–0088; Fax: (202) 724–0457.

T. Jeremy Gunn,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 97–32016 Filed 12–3–97; 10:50 am]

BILLING CODE 6118–01–P

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Proposed Additions and Deletions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled

ACTION: Proposed additions to and deletions from Procurement List

SUMMARY: The Committee has received a proposal to add to the Procurement List commodities and services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and to delete a commodity and services previously furnished by such agencies. **COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE:** January 5, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Gateway 3, Suite 310, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202–4302.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beverly Milkman (703) 603–7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 47(a)(2) and 41 CFR 51–2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on the possible impact of the proposed actions.

Additions

If the Committee approves the proposed addition, all entities of the Federal Government (except as otherwise indicated) will be required to procure the commodities and services listed below from nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the commodities and services to the Government.

2. The action does not appear to have a severe economic impact on current contractors for the commodities and services.

3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the commodities and services to the Government.

4. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish

the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46–48c) in connection with the commodities and services proposed for addition to the Procurement List. Comments on this certification are invited. Commenters should identify the statement(s) underlying the certification on which they are providing additional information.

The following commodities and services have been proposed for addition to Procurement List for production by the nonprofit agencies listed:

Commodities

Office and Miscellaneous Supplies (Requirements for the Marine Corps Air Station, Yuma, Arizona)

NPA: Arizona Industries for the Blind, Phoenix, Arizona

Office and Miscellaneous Supplies (Requirements for the Marine Corps Air Station, Beaufort, North Carolina)

NPA: Lions Club Industries, Inc., Durham, North Carolina

Services

Janitorial/Custodial

Federal Building

648 Mission

Ketchikan, Alaska

NPA: REACH, Inc., Juneau, Alaska

Janitorial/Custodial

for the following Grand Rapids,

Michigan locations:

VA Outpatient Clinic, 3019 Coit Avenue

Special Mental Health Clinic, 3000

Monroe Street

NPA: Hope Network, Grand Rapids,

Michigan

Deletions

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities.

2. The action does not appear to have a severe economic impact on future contractors for the commodity and services.

3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the commodity and services to the Government.

4. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46–48c) in connection with the commodity and services proposed for deletion from the Procurement List.