

except holidays. Persons wishing to inspect those documents are requested to call before visiting on (202) 690-2817 to facilitate entry into the reading room.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. David Heron, Biotechnology and Biological Analysis, PPQ, APHIS, Suite 5B05, 4700 River Road Unit 147, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236; (301) 734-5141. 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: Kay.Peterson@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On December 5, 1997, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) received a petition (APHIS Petition No. 97-339-01p) from Monsanto Company (Monsanto) of St. Louis, MO, seeking a determination that four NewLeaf® Y potato lines, which have been genetically engineered for resistance to the Colorado potato beetle (CPB) and potato virus Y (PVY) do not present a plant pest risk and, therefore, are not regulated articles under APHIS' regulations in 7 CFR part 340. Subsequently, Monsanto requested that one of the four NewLeaf® Y potato lines, Hilite line HLMT15-46, be withdrawn from consideration in the subject petition.

On July 20, 1998, APHIS published a notice in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 38805-38806, Docket No. 98-067-1) announcing that the Monsanto 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 potato lines and food products derived from them. In the notice, APHIS solicited written comments from the public as to whether these potato lines posed a plant pest risk. The comments were to have been received by APHIS on or before September 18, 1998. During the designated 60-day comment period, APHIS received 6 comments from potato growers and State and national trade associations. All of the comments were in support of the subject petition.

The subject three NewLeaf® Y potato lines include one line of Russet Burbank (RBMT15-101) and two lines of Shepody (SEMT15-02 and SEMT15-15). These three potato lines have been genetically engineered to contain the *cry3A* gene derived from *Bacillus thuringiensis* subsp. *tenebrionis* (BTT), which encodes a protein that is insecticidal to CPB, and the PVY coat protein gene (*PVYcp*), which imparts

resistance to PVY. In addition to the *cry3A* gene and the *PVYcp* gene, the subject potato lines contain and express the *nptII* gene, which is used as a selectable marker in the early stages of plant selection. While the two Shepody lines (SEMT15-02 and SEMT15-15) also contain the *aad* marker gene, tests indicate that this gene is not expressed in the potato plants. The subject potato lines were developed through use of the *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* transformation method, and expression of the added genes is controlled in part by gene sequences derived from the plant pathogens *A. tumefaciens* and figwort mosaic virus.

Russet Burbank potato line RBMT15-101 and Shepody potato lines SEMT15-02 and SEMT15-15 have been considered regulated articles under APHIS' regulations in 7 CFR part 340 because they contain gene sequences derived from plant pathogens. These potato lines have been evaluated in field trials conducted since 1993 under APHIS notifications. In reviewing the notifications, APHIS determined that these field trials, which were conducted under reproductive and physical containment, would not present a risk of plant pest introduction or dissemination.

Determination

Based on its analysis of the data submitted by Monsanto, a review of other scientific data and field tests of the subject potato lines, and an analysis of comments from the public on the subject petition, APHIS has determined that Russet Burbank potato line RBMT15-101 and Shepody potato lines SEMT15-02 and SEMT15-15: (1) Exhibit no plant pathogenic properties and will not pose an increased plant pest risk from the appearance of new plant viruses; (2) are no more likely to become weeds than pest-resistant potato lines developed by traditional plant breeding; (3) are unlikely to increase the weediness potential for any other cultivated or wild species with which they can interbreed; (4) will not harm threatened or endangered species or other organisms, such as bees, that are beneficial to agriculture; and (5) will not cause damage to raw or processed agricultural commodities. Therefore, APHIS has concluded that the subject potato lines and any progeny derived from crosses with other potato varieties will be as safe to grow as potatoes that are not subject to regulation under 7 CFR part 340.

The effect of this determination is that Monsanto's Russet Burbank potato line RBMT15-101 and Shepody potato lines SEMT15-02 and SEMT15-15 are no

longer considered regulated articles 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 the subject potato lines or their progeny. However, importation of Russet Burbank potato line RBMT15-101 and Shepody potato lines SEMT15-02 and SEMT15-15 or seeds capable of propagation are 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 Monsanto's Russet Burbank potato line RBMT15-101 and Shepody potato lines SEMT15-02 and SEMT15-15 and lines developed from them 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 3rd day of March, 1999.

Joan M. Arnoldi,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 99-5780 Filed 3-8-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

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 quantity level applicable to each of those products.

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 9, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cathy S. McKinnell, Multilateral Trade Negotiations Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, room 5530-South Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250-1022 or telephone at (202) 720-6064.

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** the agricultural products subject to safeguards, the price and quantity trigger levels which will be applied to these products, and the relevant period for the quantity based safeguard for each product. On Wednesday, January 4, 1995, the Secretary of Agriculture provided the above information including the definition of each product in the Notice of Safeguard Action published in the **Federal Register** at 60 FR 427. 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, Foreign Agricultural Service, 7 CFR 2.43(a)(2). The quantity trigger levels must be updated annually

based upon import levels during the most recent 3 years. The Annex to this notice contains the updated quantity trigger levels. Additional information on the levels of the additional duties and how they will be applied is provided in subchapter IV of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States. These duties became effective January 1, 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 2d day of March, 1999.

Patrick M. Steel,

Acting Associate 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 on Wednesday, January 4, 1995.

Quantity Based Safeguard Trigger:

Beef	891,203 mt.
Mutton	12,051 mt.
Cream	5,729,263 liters.
Evaporated or Condensed Milk	2,956,168 kilograms.
Nonfat Dry Milk	3,313,542 kilograms.
Dried Whole Milk	1,864,488 kilograms.
Dried Cream	650 kilograms.
Dried Whey/Buttermilk	222,488 kilograms.
Butter	6,193,405 kilograms.
Butter Oil and Butter Substitutes	5,812,414 kilograms.
Dairy Mixtures	2,224,071 kilograms.
Blue Cheese	3,183,782 kilograms.
Cheddar Cheese	11,139,531 kilograms.
American Type Cheese	3,939,843 kilograms.
Edam/Gouda Cheese	6,621,244 kilograms.
Italian-Type Cheese	15,148,033 kilograms.
Swiss Cheese with Eye Formation	33,559,160 kilograms.
Gruyere Process Cheese	7,687,097 kilograms.
Lowfat Cheese	3,874,332 kilograms.
NSPF Cheese	49,366,596 kilograms.
Peanuts	49,248 mt.
Peanut Butter/Paste	23,084 mt.
Raw Cane Sugar	2,366,204 mt.
Refined Sugar and Syrups	25,484 mt.
Blended Syrups	0 mt.
Articles Over 65% Sugar	0 mt.
Articles Over 10% Sugar	80,282 mt.
Sweetened Cocoa Powder	2,445 mt.
Chocolate Crumb	15,324,776 kilograms.
Lowfat Chocolate Crumb	78 kilograms.
Infant Formula Containing Oligosaccharides.	45,383 kilograms.
Mixes and Doughs	5,424 mt.
Mixed Condiments and Seasonings	253 mt.
Ice Cream	49,353 liters.
Animal Feed Containing Milk	1,622,296 kilograms.
Short Staple Cotton	17,211,112 kilograms.
Harsh or Rough Cotton	0 mt.
Medium Staple Cotton	9,664 kilograms.
Extra Long Staple Cotton	32,995 kilograms.

Cotton Waste 13,378 kilograms.
Cotton, Processed, Not Spun 383 kilograms.

[FR Doc. 99-5688 Filed 3-8-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission for OMB Review: Comment Request

DOC has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13.

Bureau: International Trade Administration.

Title: U.S.-Japan Semiconductor Agreement Data Collection Program Report.

Agency Form Number: ITA-4115P.

OMB Number: 0625-0211.

Type of Request: Regular Submission.

Burden: 1,152 hours (burden and record keeping).

Number of Respondents: 32.

Avg. Hours Per Response: 1.

Needs and Uses: The Data Collection Form is the vehicle by which individual "Foreign" (non-Japanese) semiconductor companies voluntarily report their sales to Japan. The information provided by the Data Collection Program (DCP) is used by the U.S. Government to calculate foreign market share in the Japanese semiconductor market to ensure access to the Japanese market gained under the 1986 and 1991 U.S.-Japan Semiconductor Arrangement continues under the 1996 Semiconductor Agreement. The Department of Commerce distributes Form ITA-4115P and the instruction manual to semiconductor companies after their eligibility is checked. The applicant completes the form and then forwards it to Price WaterhouseCoopers, who submits a summary report to the U.S. Department of Commerce/Office of Microelectronics for calculation of foreign (non-Japanese) share of the Japanese market.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for profit institutions.

Frequency: Monthly.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.
OMB Desk Officer: David Rostker, (202) 482-7340.

Copies of the above information collection can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier, Department Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482-3272, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10202, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503 within 30 days of the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: March 4, 1999.

Linda Engelmeier,

Department Forms Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-5771 Filed 3-8-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission for OMB Review: Comment Request

The Department of Commerce (DOC) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: Bureau of Export Administration (BXA).

Title: National Security Assessment of the U.S. Maritime Industry.

Agency Form Number: None.

OMB Approval Number: None.

Type of Request: New collection of information.

Burden: 8,000 hours.

Average Time Per Response: 4 hours per response.

Number of Respondents: 2,000 respondents.

Needs and Uses: Commerce/BXA, in coordination with the Department of the Navy, Carderock Division, and the Department of Transportation,

Maritime Administration is conducting a survey of the U.S. maritime industry in order to assess the health and competitiveness as well as the technology requirements of this critical sector.

Affected Public: Individuals, businesses or other for-profit institutions.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

OMB Desk Officer: David Rostker (202) 395-3897.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier, DOC Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482-3272, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20230. She can be reached by via "e" mail at LEngel@doc.gov.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10202, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20230.

Dated: March 3, 1999.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-5772 Filed 3-8-99; 8:45 a.m.]

BILLING CODE 3510-JT-U

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Economic Development Administration

Notice of Petitions by Producing Firms for Determination of Eligibility To Apply for Trade Adjustment Assistance

AGENCY: Economic Development Administration (EDA)

ACTION: To Give Firms an Opportunity to Comment.

Petitions have been accepted for filing on the dates indicated from the firms listed below.

LIST OF PETITION ACTION BY TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR PERIOD 1/22/99-2/ /99

Firm name	Address	Date petition accepted	Product
P. C. Boards, Inc	3100 S. Santa Fe Ave., Chanute, KS 66720.	01/29/99	Printed circuit boards.
Enhanced Printing Products, Inc., dba Thompson Mfg. Co.	4724 Charles Page Blvd., Tulsa, OK 74127.	01/29/99	Printing machinery.