

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 65, No. 157

Monday, August 14, 2000

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 Marketing Service

[Docket No. DA-00-05]

United States Standards for Grades of Swiss Cheese, Emmentaler Cheese; Correction

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; Correction.

SUMMARY: The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) published in the **Federal Register** of July 20, 2000 (65 FR 45018) a document (DA-00-05) soliciting comments on a proposal to change the United States Standards for Grades of Swiss Cheese, Emmentaler Cheese. Several errors appeared in the document. The Internet address for AMS' Dairy Programs Home Page was incorrectly listed; a typographical error appears in proposed text for the eye size requirements of Grade B Swiss cheese; the discussion of proposed changes to flavor defect allowances in Grade C Swiss cheese references an incorrect table; and the proposed definition text and discussion of the "small eyed" defect was incomplete. This document corrects these errors.

DATES: August 14, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Duane R. Spomer, Chief, Dairy Standardization Branch, AMS/USDA/ Dairy Programs, Room 2746-South, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, DC 20090-6456; telephone (202) 720-7473; fax (202) 720-2643; email Duane.Spomer@usda.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Department of Agriculture (Department) published a Notice (DA-00-05) in the **Federal Register** of July 20, 2000 (65 FR 45018). The Notice (issued on July 12, 2000) solicited comments on a proposal to change the

United States Standards for Swiss Cheese, Emmentaler Cheese. AMS is proposing changes that would: (1) increase the allowable eye size in Grade A Swiss cheese and define an allowable eye size range for Grade B Swiss cheese; (2) remove the maximum size recommendation for cheeses produced in rindless blocks; (3) add more clarity to the color requirements for Grades A and B Swiss cheese; (4) correct minor errors that currently exist in the tables; and (5) make minor editorial changes that will make the standard more uniform in appearance and easier to use. These changes are being proposed to strengthen the standard by providing Swiss cheese characteristics that incorporate changes in consumer preferences and facilitate the use of automated portioning and packaging equipment. Editorial changes were also proposed to provide consistency with other dairy product standards. This Correction Notice is necessary in order to correct several minor errors which appeared in the original publication. The due date for comments on the proposed changes (September 18, 2000) is unchanged.

Correction

This **Federal Register** Notice makes corrections to the Notice published on July 20, 2000 (65 FR 45018). The Department makes the following corrections:

(1) In the first column, under "Addresses" (FR page 45019), the last paragraph, which begins, "The current United States Standards, along with * * *", change "www.ams.usda.gov/dairystand.htm" to "www.ams.usda.gov/dairy/stand.htm".

(2) In the text of (b)(3) Eyes and Texture (FR page 45022), second column, under "proposed", change "¹¹/₁₆" to "¹³/₁₆".

(3) In the text of (c)(1) Flavor (FR page 45023), third column, under "discussion," change "Table III" to "Table I".

(4) In the text for (h)(4) small eyed (FR page 45029), second column, under "proposed," change "¹¹/₁₆" to "³/₈". In the third column of that page, the "discussion" of the proposed text is revised to read "We propose this change to reflect the proposed lower eye size limit and for editorial clarity of the standard."

Authority: (7 U.S.C. 1621-1627).

Dated: August 8, 2000.

Kathleen A. Merrigan,
Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 00-20491 Filed 8-11-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 00-074-1]

Rangeland Grasshopper and Mormon Cricket Control Activities

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public that we intend to prepare an environmental impact statement regarding the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's rangeland grasshopper and Mormon cricket control activities. The environmental impact statement will analyze the potential environmental effects of various efforts by the agency to control grasshoppers and Mormon crickets on rangelands in the United States. We invite the public to comment on what issues we should address in the environmental impact statement.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive by September 13, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Please send your comment and three copies to: Docket No. 00-074-1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Suite 3C03, 4700 River Road, Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. 00-074-1.

You may read any comments that we receive on this docket in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 690-2817 before coming.

APHIS documents published in the **Federal Register**, and related information, including the names of organizations and individuals who have commented on APHIS dockets, are

available on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/webrepor.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Ron P. Milberg, Operations Officer, Invasive Species and Pest Management, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 134, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; (301) 734-8247.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Grasshoppers and Mormon crickets are members of the Class Insecta, Order Orthoptera, which contains several hundred species, although only about 35 species are perennial pests of plants. Grasshoppers and Mormon crickets have the potential for sudden and explosive population increases, which can be so extreme that all vegetation is consumed in outbreak situations. These infestations are often so extensive that individual land managers alone cannot control the damage.

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) conducts grasshopper and Mormon cricket control activities at the request of States and individuals who are unable to control infestations of grasshoppers and Mormon crickets on rangelands. Rangelands that are affected by grasshopper and Mormon cricket infestations are located in the Western United States.

Significant new information and new grasshopper and Mormon cricket control techniques have become available since we last prepared an environmental impact statement (EIS) relative to APHIS' rangeland grasshopper and Mormon cricket control activities (USDA-APHIS-FEIS; Rangeland Grasshopper Cooperative Management Program; see 52 FR 8938, March 20, 1987). Based on the availability of the new information and techniques, we are planning to prepare a new EIS relative to APHIS' activities related to the control of rangeland grasshoppers and Mormon crickets. The EIS will examine the environmental effects of control alternatives available to the agency, including a no action alternative. It will be used for planning and decisionmaking and to inform the public about the environmental effects of APHIS' rangeland grasshopper and Mormon cricket control activities. It will also provide an overview of APHIS activities to which we can tier site-specific analyses and environmental assessments.

We are asking for written comments that identify significant environmental issues that we should analyze in the EIS. We invite comments from the

public, including private industry, as well as Federal, State, and local governments that have an interest in APHIS' rangeland grasshopper and Mormon cricket control activities.

In the event that Federal land management agencies elect to conduct an analysis of all available rangeland grasshopper and Mormon cricket management alternatives (e.g., chemical control, biological control, range management, integrated pest management, etc.), APHIS will cooperate with those agencies by providing information and analyses related to its rangeland grasshopper and Mormon cricket control activities. Otherwise, APHIS will prepare an EIS analyzing only those control alternatives reasonably available to APHIS, along with a no action alternative.

This notice and the upcoming EIS are intended to fulfill the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. We will publish a notice announcing the availability of the draft EIS for review in the **Federal Register**. The notice will also request comments on the draft EIS.

This notice is issued in accordance with: (1) The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4231 *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 7th day of August 2000.

Bobby R. Acord,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 00-20488 Filed 8-11-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 00-027N]

Availability of Materials on In-Distribution Activities and Initiatives

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is announcing the availability of materials from the June 9, 2000, public meeting on in-distribution (ID) activities and initiatives and is providing an opportunity for public comment on those materials and on the matters

presented at the public meeting. The June 9 meeting was held to discuss the Agency's strategy for addressing the safety of meat and poultry products during distribution and to provide an overview and update on the ID Project.

DATES: The materials will be available in the FSIS docket room and on the FSIS web site. Persons are invited to review and submit comments on the materials. Comments should be received by September 13, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Submit one original and two copies of written comments to FSIS Docket Clerk, Docket #00-027N, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Room 102 Cotton Annex Building, 300 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3700. All comments submitted in response to this notice will be available for public inspection in the Docket Clerk's Office between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Mary Cutshall, National HACCP Small and Very Small Plant Coordinator, at (202) 720-3219, by FAX (202) 690-0824, or by e-mail: mary.cutshall@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As part of the implementation of FSIS' Pathogen Reduction; Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) System final rule (July 25, 1996; 61 FR 38806), the Agency is committed to developing strategies that address food safety hazards throughout the entire food production chain.

Under the Federal Meat Inspection Act and the Poultry Products Inspection Act, FSIS has the authority and responsibility to ensure the safety of meat and poultry products during in-plant production and also through transportation, storage, and other handling. Traditionally, the Agency has assigned the greater majority of its resources to inspection activities in meat and poultry slaughter and processing plants.

FSIS now is looking at strategies for monitoring the safety of meat and poultry products after they leave an inspected plant. One of these strategies is through the ID Project, which explores the effects of redeployment of inspection personnel outside the plant. The Agency has assigned 10 inspection personnel to the ID Project.

FSIS also is working with the State of Minnesota to develop an alternative strategy for addressing food safety hazards and other problems presented by federally inspected product in distribution. Under this approach, the State will advise FSIS of adulterated or misbranded federally inspected