

Note 1: If the manufacturer publishes AFM temporary or general revisions that include the corresponding procedures required by paragraphs (a) through (f) of this AD, those revisions may be incorporated into the AFM, provided the information in the revisions is identical to that in the Figures of this AD; and those Figures may be removed from the AFM.

Alternative Methods of Compliance

(g) An alternative method of compliance or adjustment of the compliance time that provides an acceptable level of safety may be used if approved by the Manager, International Branch, ANM-116, Transport Airplane Directorate, FAA. Operators shall submit their requests through an appropriate FAA Principal Operations Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, International Branch, ANM-116.

Note 2: Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the International Branch, ANM-116.

Special Flight Permits

(h) Special flight permits may be issued in accordance with §§ 21.197 and 21.199 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199) to operate the airplane to a location where the requirements of this AD can be accomplished.

Note 3: The subject of this AD is addressed in French airworthiness directive 2000-536-032(B), dated December 27, 2000.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on April 9, 2001.

Donald L. Riggan,

Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.
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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms

27 CFR Part 4

[Notice No. 915]

RIN: 1512-AC26

Proposed Addition of New Grape Variety Names for American Wines (2000R-307P)

AGENCY: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms has received petitions proposing to add two new names, "Counoise" and "St. Laurent," to the list of prime grape variety names for use in designating American wines.

DATES: Written comments must be received by June 18, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to: Chief, Regulations Division, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, P.O. Box 50221, Washington, DC 20091-0221 (Attn: Notice No. 915).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jennifer Berry, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Regulations Division, 111 W. Huron Street, Room 219, Buffalo, NY 14202-2301; Telephone (716) 551-4048.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Background

Under 27 CFR 4.23 (b), a wine bottler may use a grape variety name as the designation of a wine if not less than 75 percent of the wine (51 percent in circumstances detailed in § 4.23(c)) is derived from that grape variety. Under § 4.23(d), a bottler may use two or more grape variety names as the designation of a wine if:

- All grapes used to make the wine are the labeled varieties;
- The percentage of the wine derived from each grape variety is shown on the label; and
- If labeled with multiple appellations, the percentage of the wine derived from each varietal from each appellation is shown on the label.

Treasury Decision ATF-370 (61 FR 522), January 8, 1996, adopted a list of grape variety names that ATF has determined to be appropriate for use in designating American wines. The list of prime grape names and their synonyms appears at § 4.91, while additional alternative grape names temporarily authorized for use are listed at § 4.92.

ATF has received petitions proposing that new grape variety names be listed in § 4.91. Under § 4.93 any interested person may petition ATF to include additional grape varieties in the list of prime grape names. Information with a petition should provide evidence of the following:

- Acceptance of the new grape variety;
- The validity of the name for identifying the grape variety;
- That the variety is used or will be used in winemaking; and
- That the variety is grown and used in the United States.

For the approval of names of new grape varieties, the petition may include:

- A reference to the publication of the name of the variety in a scientific or professional journal of horticulture or a published report by a professional, scientific or winegrowers' organization;
- A reference to a plant patent, if patented; and

- Information about the commercial potential of the variety, such as the acreage planted and its location or market studies.

Section 4.93 also places certain eligibility restrictions on the approval of grape variety names. A grape variety name will not be approved:

- If the name has previously been used for a different grape variety;
- If the name contains a term or name found to be misleading under § 4.39; or
- If the name of a new grape variety contains the term "Riesling."

The Director reserves the authority to disapprove the name of a new grape variety developed in the United States if the name contains words of geographical significance, place names, or foreign words which are misleading under § 4.39. The Director will not approve the use of a grape variety name that is misleading.

2. Petitions

Counoise Petition

Tablas Creek Vineyard in Paso Robles, California, has petitioned ATF proposing the addition of the name "Counoise" to the list of prime grape variety names approved for the designation of American wines. Counoise is a red varietal originally from the Rhône region of France, where it has traditionally been a component of Châteauneuf-du-Pape.

The petitioner has submitted the following published references to Counoise to establish its acceptance as a grape and the validity of its name:

- Cépages et Vignobles de France, Volume II, by Pierre Galet, 1990, pp. 106-107.
- Catalogue of Selected Wine Grape Varieties and Clones Cultivated in France, published by the French Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, 1997, pp. 67 & 216.
- Traité General de Viticulture Ampelographie, Volume II, by P. Viala and V. Vermoral, 1991, pp. 78-80.
- Guide to Wine Grapes, Oxford University Press, 1996, by Jancis Robinson, p. 61.

The first three references are scientific articles that discuss the grape's origin, cultivation, and ampelography (the study and classification of grapevines). The *Guide to Wine Grapes*, intended for the general reader, discusses the cultivation of Counoise in the Rhône region and notes that it is "one of the more rarefied ingredients in red Châteauneuf-du-Pape."

Tablas Creek Vineyard states that it imported the Counoise plant into the USDA station in Geneva, New York, in 1990. The plant was declared virus free

in 1993 and shipped bare-root to Tablas Creek Vineyard in Paso Robles, California in February 1993. The winery multiplied, grafted and started planting Counoise in 1996.

The petitioner states that the Counoise grape is currently grown and used in the United States in winemaking. It reports that in 1999 and 2000, it shipped several orders for Counoise grafted vines, own-root plants and budwood to vineyards in California, Washington, and Arizona. When ATF contacted some of these vineyards, they reported that the plants are doing well and that they plan to produce wine from the resulting grapes.

In addition, the petitioner states that Counoise has enormous commercial potential in California. The variety is easy to graft and moderately vigorous. It is well adapted to most California regions, ripening fairly late in the cycle, after Grenache but before Mourvèdre and Cabernet Sauvignon. Tablas Creek has had three crops off their 3.5 acre planting. The winery reports that the 1998 harvest had a brix of 23.6 with a pH of 3.4, while the 1999 harvest had a brix of 26.9 with a pH of 3.4. The petitioner further states that the wine is well-colored and rich, with excellent aromatics and spice.

St. Laurent Petition

Mr. Robin Partch of Northern Vineyards Winery in Stillwater, Minnesota, has petitioned ATF for the addition of the name "St. Laurent" to the list of prime grape variety names approved for the designation of American wines. St. Laurent is a red *Vitis vinifera* grape originally from France, but now grown mainly in central Europe, especially Austria.

The petitioner has submitted several published references to St. Laurent as evidence of its acceptance and name validity, including the following:

- The Oxford Companion to Wine, 1st edition, edited by Jancis Robinson, 1994, pp. 839–840.
- Production of Grapes and Wine in Cool Climates, by David Jackson and Danny Schuster, 1994, pp. 105–106.
- Vines, Grapes and Wines, by Jancis Robinson, 1986, p. 221.

According to these references, St. Laurent is a deeply colored grape with a thick skin, which makes it disease resistant. It buds early and is thus susceptible to spring frosts, but it also ripens early.

The petitioner has offered the following evidence that the St. Laurent grape is grown and used in the U.S. for winemaking. According to the petitioner, one commercial grower in

Minnesota, a member of the Minnesota Winegrowers Cooperative, planted about ¼ an acre of St. Laurent in 1995. The petitioner has made wine from the 1999 crop and is pleased with the results. The grower reports that the grape's disease-resistance and tendency to ripen early make it suitable for cooler climates with a short growing season.

The petitioner reports that St. Laurent plants are also being grown in the collection of the University of Minnesota. This was confirmed by Peter Hemstad, a research viticulturist at the University's Horticulture Research Center, who reports that he has made a good quality red wine from the university's grapes. Mr. Hemstad states that he expects St. Laurent to become more widely planted in the U.S., especially in cooler climates. He further states that he would recommend St. Laurent to growers in cooler climate states such as Minnesota, Michigan, and New York.

Based on the evidence submitted by the petitioner, ATF proposes to add the grape variety "St. Laurent" to the list of prime grape names in § 4.91.

3. Public Participation

Who May Comment on This Notice?

ATF requests comments from all interested parties. We will carefully consider all comments we receive on or before the closing date. We will also carefully consider comments we receive after that date if it is practical to do so, but we cannot assure consideration for late comments. ATF specifically requests comments on the clarity of this proposed rule and how it may be made easier to understand.

Can I Review Comments Received?

Copies of the petitions and written comments in response to this notice of proposed rulemaking will be available for public inspection during normal business hours at: ATF Reference Library, Office of Liaison and Public Information, Room 6480, 650 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20226.

Will ATF Keep My Comments Confidential?

ATF cannot recognize any material in comments as confidential. All comments and materials may be disclosed to the public. If you consider your material to be confidential or inappropriate for disclosure to the public, you should not include it in the comments. We may also disclose the name of any person who submits a comment. A copy of this notice and all comments will be available for public

inspection during normal business hours at: ATF Reference Library, Office of Liaison and Public Information, Room 6480, 650 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20226.

How Do I Send Facsimile Comments?

You may submit comments of not more than three pages by facsimile transmission to (202) 927–8525.

Facsimile comments must:

- Be legible.
- Reference this notice number.
- Be 8½" × 11" in size.
- Contain a legible written signature.
- Be not more than three pages.

We will not acknowledge receipt of facsimile transmissions. We will treat facsimile transmissions as originals.

How Do I Send Electronic Mail (E-mail) Comments?

You may submit comments by e-mail by sending the comments to nprm@atfhq.atf.treas.gov. You must follow these instructions. E-mail comments must:

- Contain your name, mailing address, and e-mail address.
- Reference this notice number.
- Be legible when printed on not more than three pages 8½" × 11" in size.

We will not acknowledge receipt of e-mail. We will treat e-mail as originals.

How Do I Send Comments to the ATF Internet Web Site?

You may also submit comments using the comment form provided with the online copy of the proposed rule on the ATF Internet web site at <http://www.atf.treas.gov/core/regulations/rules.htm>.

3. Regulatory Analyses and Notices

Does the Paperwork Reduction Act Apply to This Proposed Rule?

The provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, and its implementing regulations, 5 CFR part 1320, do not apply to this notice because no requirement to collect information is proposed.

How Does the Regulatory Flexibility Act Apply to This Proposed Rule?

It is hereby certified that this proposed regulation will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. This proposed regulation would permit the use of the grape varietal names "Counoise" and "St. Laurent." No negative impact on small entities is expected. No new requirements are proposed. Accordingly, a regulatory flexibility analysis is not required.

Is This a Significant Regulatory Action as Defined by Executive Order 12866?

This is not a significant regulatory action as defined by Executive Order 12866.

Therefore, a regulatory assessment is not required.

4. Drafting Information

The principal author of this document is Jennifer Berry, Regulations Division, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

List of Subjects in 27 CFR Part 4

Advertising, Consumer protection, Customs duties and inspections, Imports, Labeling, Packaging and containers, Wine.

Authority and Issuance

Accordingly, 27 CFR part 4, Labeling and Advertising of Wine, is amended as follows:

Paragraph 1. The authority citation for part 4 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 27 U.S.C. 205.

Para. 2. Section 4.91 is amended by republishing the introductory text and by adding the names "Counoise" and "St. Laurent," in alphabetical order, to the list of prime grape names, to read as follows:

§ 4.91 List of approved prime names.

The following grape variety names have been approved by the Director for use as type designations for American wines. When more than one name may be used to identify a single variety of grape, the synonym is shown in parentheses following the prime name. Grape variety names may appear on labels of wine in upper or in lower case, and may be spelled with or without the hyphens or diacritic marks indicated in the following list.

* * * * *

Counoise

* * * * *

St. Laurent

Dated: March 16, 2001.

Bradley A. Buckles,
Director.

Approved: March 26, 2001.

Timothy E. Skud,

Deputy Assistant Secretary, (Regulatory,
Tariff & Trade Enforcement).

[FR Doc. 01-9479 Filed 4-16-01; 8:45 am]

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POSTAL SERVICE

39 CFR Part 111

Proposed Domestic Mail Manual Changes for First-Class Mail, Standard Mail, and Bound Printed Matter Flats

AGENCY: Postal Service.

ACTION: Proposed Rule; reopening of comment period.

SUMMARY: The Postal Service is seeking comments on the following proposed mail preparation changes to the Domestic Mail Manual (DMM): Packages of First-Class Mail Presorted rate flats and automation rate flats that are part of the same mailing job would be required to be co-trayed according to the standards in M910; packages of Standard Mail Presorted rate flats and automation rate flats that are part of the same mailing job would be required to be co-sacked according to the standards in M910; Standard Mail Enhanced Carrier Route and 5-digit flats would be required to be sacked or palletized using the labeling list L001 scheme sort (including the scheme sorts included in the optional preparation methods in M920, M930, and M940); and Bound Printed Matter Carrier Route and 5-digit flats would be required to be sacked or palletized using the labeling list L001 scheme sort.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before May 4, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to the Manager, Mail Preparation and Standards, US Postal Service, 1735 N Lynn Street, Rm 3025, Arlington, VA 22209-6038. Written comments may be submitted via fax at 703-292-4058. Copies of all written comments are available via fax or mail by calling Anne Emmerth at the number listed below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Anne Emmerth, 703-292-3641, aemmerth@email.usps.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Postal Service is extending the comment period on proposed changes to the Domestic Mail Manual (DMM) that would change mail preparation standards for flats. The changes themselves are outlined below by class of mail; the proposed DMM language follows at the end of this proposed rule. The proposed implementation date for these standards is September 1, 2001.

This proposed rule was published previously in the **Federal Register** on March 16, 2001 (66 FR 15206); the original comment period ended on April 13, 2001. As of that date, no comments were received. As a convenience, the entire text of the proposed rule is reproduced here.

Generally, the changes in this proposed rule are intended to align mail preparation more closely with the way that the Postal Service transports and processes flat-sized mail. The co-traying requirements for First-Class Mail flats and the co-sacking requirements for Standard Mail flats should result in fewer less-than-full trays and sacks and an overall reduction in the number of trays and sacks prepared by mailers and processed by the Postal Service. For Presorted rate Standard Mail, with sack-based rates, this may also result in lower postage rates for some mail that will move to a finer sack presort level. Requiring the use of labeling list L001 for sacked carrier route Standard Mail and Bound Printed Matter flats also will result in fewer sacks prepared by mailers. For mail on pallets, use of L001 should create more 5-digit level pallets, resulting in fewer package handlings for the Postal Service and better service for mailers.

The changes proposed are as follows:

1. First-Class Mail

Required Co-Traying

Currently, mailers have the option to use M910 to co-tray packages of Presorted rate flats and automation rate flats that are part of the same mailing job (current M130.1.6 and M820.1.9). This proposal would make the current option a requirement. If this proposal is adopted, any First-Class Mail mailing job that contains packages of Presorted rate flats and packages of automation rate flats must be co-trayed using M910.1.0.

2. Standard Mail

a. Scheme Sort

Currently, Standard Mail Enhanced Carrier Route flats are sorted to two required sack levels and one optional sort level (required carrier route, optional 5-digit scheme carrier routes, and required 5-digit carrier routes under M620.4.0). This proposal would make the optional 5-digit scheme carrier routes sort level (using labeling list L001) a required level. If this proposal is adopted, all Enhanced Carrier Route Standard Mail flats would be required to be sorted to all three sack levels.

Current M620.4.0 contains sack preparation requirements for Standard Mail Enhanced Carrier Route flats and irregular parcels. In order to apply the L001 scheme sort only to flats, the sacking requirements for flats have been separated into a different section. Therefore, the sack preparation requirements for irregular parcels are included in this proposed rule only to show renumbering and reorganization.