

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Agricultural Marketing Service**

[No. FV-05-377]

Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee**AGENCY:** Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to notify all interested parties that the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) will hold a Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee (Committee) meeting that is open to the public. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) established the Committee to examine the full spectrum of issues faced by the fruit and vegetable industry and to provide suggestions and ideas to the Secretary of Agriculture on how USDA can tailor its programs to meet the fruit and vegetable industry's needs. This notice sets forth the schedule and location for the meeting.

DATES: Tuesday, July 12, 2005, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Wednesday, July 13, 2005, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The Committee meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, 625 First Street, Alexandria, VA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew Hatch, Designated Federal Official, USDA, AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs. Telephone: (202) 690-0182. Facsimile: (202) 720-0016. E-mail: andrew.hatch@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (5 U.S.C. App. II), the Secretary of Agriculture established the Committee in August 2001 to examine the full spectrum of issues faced by the fruit and vegetable industry and to provide suggestions and ideas to the Secretary on how USDA can tailor its programs to meet the fruit and vegetable industry's needs. The Committee was re-chartered in July 2003 and new members were appointed from industry nominations.

AMS Deputy Administrator for Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Robert C. Keeney, serves as the Committee's Executive Secretary. Representatives from USDA mission areas and other government agencies affecting the fruit and vegetable industry will be called upon to participate in the Committee's meetings as determined by the Committee Chairperson. AMS is giving notice of the Committee meeting to the public so that they may attend and present their recommendations.

Reference the date and address section of this announcement for the time and place of the meeting.

Topics to be discussed at the advisory committee meeting will include: domestic food security initiatives, Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act organizational restructuring update and electronic invoicing, a Fruit and Vegetable Dispute Resolution Corporation update, Federal-State Inspection Service grading fees and grade standard review update, and marketing order and generic promotion programs.

Those parties that would like to speak at the meeting should register on or before July 5, 2005. To register as a speaker, please e-mail your name, affiliation, business address, e-mail address, and phone number to Mr. Andrew C. Hatch at: andrew.hatch@usda.gov or facsimile to (202) 720-0016. Speakers who have registered in advance will be given priority. Groups and individuals may submit comments for the Committee's consideration to the same e-mail address. The meeting will be recorded, and information about obtaining a transcript will be provided at the meeting.

The Secretary of Agriculture selected a diverse group of members representing a broad spectrum of persons interested in providing suggestions and ideas on how USDA can tailor its programs to meet the fruit and vegetable industry's needs. Equal opportunity practices were considered in all appointments to the Committee in accordance with USDA policies.

If you require special accommodations, such as a sign language interpreter, please use name listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section listed above.

Dated: June 16, 2005.

Kenneth C. Clayton,

Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 05-12257 Filed 6-21-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Agricultural Marketing Service**

[Docket Number FV-04-309]

United States Standards for Grades of Persian (Tahiti) Limes**AGENCY:** Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.**ACTION:** Reopening and extension of the comment period.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the comment period on possible revisions to the United States Standards for Grades of Persian (Tahiti) Limes is reopened and extended.

DATES: Comments must be received by August 22, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments to the Standardization Section, Fresh Products Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Room 1661 South Building, Stop 0240, Washington, DC 20250-0240; fax (202) 720-8871; E-mail FPB.DocketClerk@usda.gov. Comments should make reference to the dates and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register** and will be made available for public inspection in the above office during regular business hours. The United States Standards for Grades of Persian (Tahiti) Limes is available at either the above address or by accessing the Fresh Products Branch Web site at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/standards/stanfrfv.htm>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

David L. Priester, at the above address or call (202) 720-2185; E-mail David.Priester@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A notice was published in the **Federal Register**, March 11, 2005 (70 FR 12174), requesting comments on the possible revisions of the United States Standards for Grades of Persian (Tahiti) Limes. The proposed revisions would simplify the color and juice requirements of the standards which are complex and difficult to apply. Additionally, the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is seeking comments regarding any other revisions that may be necessary to better serve the industry. The comment period ended May 10, 2005.

Three comments were received from industry associations representing Persian (Tahiti) lime handlers, expressing the need for additional time to comment on the possible revisions. The associations requested the comment period be extended to allow the associations an opportunity to meet further with their members to discuss the possible revisions.

After reviewing the request, AMS is reopening and extending the comment period in order to allow sufficient time for interested persons, including the association, to file comments.

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

Dated: June 16, 2005.

Kenneth C. Clayton,

Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 05-12255 Filed 6-21-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Docket Number FV-05-302]

United States Standards for Grades of Snap Beans

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; withdrawal.

SUMMARY: The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is withdrawing the notice soliciting comments on its proposal to amend the voluntary United States Standards for Grades of Snap Beans. After reviewing and considering the comments received, the Agency has decided not to proceed with this action.

DATES: Effective Date: June 22, 2005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

David Priester, Standardization Section, Fresh Products Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 1661 South Building, STOP 0240, Washington, DC 20250-0240, Fax (202) 720-8871 or call (202) 720-2185; E-mail

David.Priester@usda.gov. The United States Standards for Grades of Snap Beans are available either through the address cited above or by accessing the Fresh Products Branch Web site at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/standards/stanfrfv.htm>.

Background

At a 2003 meeting with the Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee, AMS was asked to review all the fresh fruit and vegetable grade standards for their usefulness in serving the industry. AMS had identified the United States Standards for Grades of Snap Beans for a possible revision. The United States Standards for Grades of Snap Beans were last amended July 5, 1990.

On March 11, 2005, a notice requesting comments on the possible revision of the standards by allowing percentages to be determined by count and not weight as well as other changes was published in the **Federal Register** (70 FR 12175) with the comment period ending May 10, 2005.

Three comments were received during the official period for comment. One comment from an industry member

supported the proposed revision. Two comments from industry groups did not support revising the standard. Both of the comments not supporting the revision noted concerns over the accuracy or representative nature of a count-based inspection. The industry groups also noted that size variation of the individual bean as well as foreign material or debris in the sample could affect the inspection in a different manner if inspected on a count and not a weight basis. In view of the concerns from the industry, the proposed changes are not warranted at this time, thus the notice is being withdrawn. This withdrawal will provide industry representatives with an opportunity for further discussions in the areas of concern.

After reviewing and considering the comments received, the Agency has decided not to proceed with the action. Therefore, the notice published March 11, 2005, (70 FR 12172) is withdrawn.

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

Dated: June 16, 2005.

Kenneth C. Clayton,

Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 05-12256 Filed 6-21-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Methow Valley Ranger District, Okanogan & Wenatchee National Forests, WA, Pack Stock Outfitter Guide Special Use Permits Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the USDA, Forest Service will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement that will evaluate alternatives to provide pack stock outfitter and guide services on the Methow Valley, Chelan and Tonasket Ranger Districts of the Okanogan and Wenatchee National Forests. The proposed action is to issue ten-year, pack stock outfitter and guide special use permits to nine companies to operate on these three Districts. A maximum of 4,900 client days will be shared between these companies. Outfitting and guiding would take place both in the Lake Chelan-Sawtooth and Pasayten Wildernesses, and outside of wilderness.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received by July

15, 2005. The draft environmental impact statement is expected December 2005 and the final environmental impact statement is expected May 2006.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Jennifer Zbyszewski, Recreation & Wilderness Program Manager, Methow Valley Ranger District, 24 W. Chewuch Rd., Winthrop WA 98862, or by e-mail to jzbyszewski@fs.fed.us.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct questions to Jennifer Zbyszewski, Recreation & Wilderness Program, Manager, Methow Valley Ranger District, 24 W. Chewuch Rd., Winthrop WA 98862, (509) 996-4021, or by e-mail to jzbyszewski@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purposed and Need for Action

Nine companies have applied to the Forest Service for ten year permits to outfit and guide on the Methow Valley, Chelan and/or Tonasket Ranger District of the Okanogan and Wenatchee National Forests. North Cascade Safari, Cascade Wilderness Outfitters, North Cascade Outfitters, Rocking Horse Ranch, and Backcountry Burros have operated under five-year term special use permits in the past, but these permits expired in 2000. The companies have been operating under short-term permits since then. Each of these companies have operated for at least 20 years on the Okanogan and Wenatchee National Forests. Deli-Llamas and Pasayten Llamas have operated under short-term permits since 1993. Sawtooth Outfitters has operated under short-term permits since 1993. Early Winters Outfitting's term permit expired in 2004.

In order for an outfitter-guide business to be successful, and justify financial commitments, such as purchasing and caring for stock animals, and hiring experienced guides, these businesses need multi-year permits. Multi-year permits are needed to respond to the applications, and continue the professional relationship that has been established with these companies to provide service to the public.

The Forest Service has identified a need for outfitting and guiding services on these Districts to access to the Wilderness and backcountry. The "Assessment for Need For Outfitting/ Guiding Assistance, Okanogan National Forest, Chelan Ranger District Portion of Wenatchee National Forest North of Lake Chelan" (the Needs Assessment) was completed by the Okanogan and Wenatchee National Forests in 1996. That document provides overall guidance relating to issuing permits.