FDA now has received three requests for additional extensions of the comment period. These requests are on file with the Dockets Management Branch.

1. FDA received a request on behalf of the Task Force on European Net Weight Enforcement of the Industry Committee on Packaging and Labeling for a 90-day extension of the comment period so that FDA may include in the administrative record any relevent recommendations resulting from the January meeting of the National Conference of Weights and Measures' Select Committee on Uniformity of State Laws. These recommendations would concern the National Conference's consideration of whether individual States in the United States should adopt an enforcement approach that currently is followed by the European Economic Community (EEC) that relies on point-of-packing regulation of the net weight of prepackaged food commodities imported from other EEC countries. Although FDA has a general interest in the outcome of the National Conference's meeting, the question of whether the United States should adopt an approach similar to that of the EEC is beyond the scope of the proposed regulations and, even if such adoption were desirable, it would have to be separately proposed. If the January meeting of the National Conference results in a recommendation for a regulatory approach suitable for adoption at the Federal level, any interested person may submit a citizen's petition under § 10.30 (21 CFR 10.30) requesting FDA to propose a regulation adopting this approch. If the meeting of the National Conference or another source develops information relevent to this rulemaking, any interested person may submit a citizen's petition asking FDA to reopen the administrative record in this rulemaking to allow receipts of this information. However, it is inappropriate to extend the comment period now given the uncertainty that the meeting will yield information relevant to this rulemaking proceeding.

This request for extension also included comments about alleged legal deficiencies in the proposal that will be considered and addressed along with other comments.

2. FDA has also received requests from the Grocery Manufactures of American, Inc., (GMA) and Saluto Foods Corp. (Saluto) requesting additional time to compile and submit moisture loss data on several food classes not covered by the proposals. GMA requested 60 additional days, and Saluto requested 90 additional days.

After carefully evaluating the merits of the requests, FDA has concluded that a general extension of the comment period on the proposed rulemaking has not been justified, and is giving notice that the comment period ends on January 5, 1981.

The agency believes, however, that it is in the interest of consumers that the additional moisture loss data that are now being collected by industry for submission to FDA and that will be available in the near future be considered in the preparation of the final rule. These additional data may make it possible for FDA to act more quickly to expand the number of products or product classes of food subject to moisture loss for which FDA has quantitatively defined permissible "reasonable variations" from stated net weight.

It is in the interest of consumers and regulated industry to have as many products or product classes with specific moisture variation standards as possible, to assure fair competition and fulfillment of consumer expectations. The agency concludes that a 60-day extension is adequate for the submission of pertinent data on moisture loss characteristics and is extending the deadline for submitting such data to March 6, 1981. FDA encourages manufacturers and trade associations that hope to submit such data to discuss their data collection procedures with Bureau of Foods representatives early in this 60-day period. These discussions may be arranged by calling the contact person identified above.

With this extension, FDA has provided a total of 180 days as a part of this rulemaking for the submission of pertinent data on moisture loss characteristics. FDA advises interested persons that it will grant no further extension of the comment period beyond this 60-day period for submission of moisture loss data granted in this notice. If the relevant data are available after the date, they must be submitted as a citizen's petition in accordance with 21 CFR 10.30 to initiate a separate rulemaking.

Accordingly, interested persons may, on or before March 6, 1981, submit to the Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, Rm. 4-62, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, pertinent data on moisture loss characteristics of food. Four copies of all data shall be submitted, except that individuals may submit single copies. The submissions are to be indentified with the docket number found in brackets in the heading of this document. All submissions received may be seen in the office above between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Dated: January 2, 1981.

Joseph P. Hile,

Associate Commissioner for Regulatory Affairs.

[FR Doc. 81-582 Filed 1-5-81; 2:21 pm]

BILLING CODE 4110-03-M

---

21 CFR Part 310

[Docket No. 80N-0395]

Hypophosphatemia and Hyperphosphatemia Drug Products for Over-the-Counter Human Use; Proposed Rulemaking

Correction

In FR Doc. 80-37893, published at page 81154, in the issue of Tuesday, December 9, 1980, make the following corrections:

1. On page 81154, second column, second paragraph, beginning with "should FDA accept * * *", the first word in the fifth line now reading "hyperphosphatemia" should read "hypophosphatemia". In the ninth line of that paragraph, the first word now reading "hypophosphatemia" should read "hyperphosphatemia".

2. On page 81155, first column, ninth line, the date now reading "January 8, 1971" should read "January 8, 1981".

BILLING CODE 1505-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Bureau of Consular Affairs

22 CFR Part 41

[SD-160]

Documentation of Nonimmigrants Under the Immigration and Nationality Act, as Amended

Correction

In FR Doc. 80-38022 in the issue for Monday, December 8, 1980, in the document heading, the bracketed information "[SD-160]" was left out. As corrected, the heading reads as set forth above.

BILLING CODE 1505-01-M