

January 2008

The Council Caller

Regulatory Issue

The Council on Food, Agricultural, and Resource Economics (C-FARE) is a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening the application of economics to food, agricultural, and resource issues at the national level. *The Council Caller, Regulatory Issue* is a monthly e-newsletter provided by C-FARE with informational updates for agricultural and applied economists.

Consumer Concerns, Food, Health and Safety

For further information on any of the notices listed below please visit: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html> where you can search using the date of the notice, page number or topic.

Disaster Food Stamp Program Benefit Issuance and Commodity Distribution

The January 2, 2008 Federal Register (Volume 73, Number 1; page 157) invites comments on proposed information collections. The proposed collection is a revision of a collection currently approved for the Food Stamp Program and the Food Distribution Program and revises the collection into two reports that provide information specific to each program. Written comments must be received before March 3, 2008.

Advisory Committees; Tentative Schedule of Meetings for 2008

The Food and Drug Administration is announcing a tentative schedule of forthcoming meetings of its public advisory committees for 2008. For details view the January 15, 2008 Federal Register (Volume 73, Number 10; pages 2507-2509).

Future Technologies and Infrastructure Investments

For further information on any of the notices listed below please visit: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html> where you can search using the date of the notice, page number or topic.

Identification of Countries Under Section 182 of the Trade Act of 1974

Section 182 of the Trade Act of 1974 requires the United States Trade Representative to identify countries that deny adequate and effective protection of intellectual property rights or deny fair and equitable market access to U.S. persons who rely on intellectual property protection. Section 182 of the Trade Act contains a special rule for the identification of actions by Canada affecting United States cultural industries. Comments are requested by February 11, 2008. For details view the January 16, 2008 Federal Register (Volume 73, Number 11; pages 2958-2959).

Agriculture's Global Competitiveness and Profitability

For further information on any of the notices listed below please visit:
<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html> where you can search using the date of the notice,
page number or topic.

US-Sinapore Free Trade Agreement Presidential Document

To view the Presidential Document to adjust the rules of origin under the United States-Chile Free Trade Agreement and the United States-Singapore Free Trade Agreement view the January 8, 2008 Federal Register (Volume 73, Number 5; pages 1437-1441).

Millennium Challenge Corporation Report on the Selection of Eligible Countries

View the December 28, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 248; pages 73885-73887) for a report on eligible countries.

North American Free Trade Agreement, Article 1904 Binational Panel Reviews

Pursuant to the Withdrawal of the Request for Panel Review and the Complaint, the panel review is terminated as of December 20, 2007. A panel has not been appointed to this review. For details visit the December 31, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 249; pages 74272-74273).

Update to Annual Listing of Foreign Government Subsidies on Articles of Cheese

The Department of Commerce, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture provides in the January 3, 2008 Federal Register (Volume 73, Number 2; page 449) a quarterly update of subsidies on articles of cheese that were imported July 1, 2007 through September 30, 2007.

Cane Sugar and Beet Sugar Marketing Allotments and Company Allocations

The Commodity Credit Corporation issued a notice in the January 8, 2008 Federal Register (Volume 73, Number 5; pages 1314-1316) to publish the final 2006-crop cane state allotments and company allocations to sugarcane and sugar beet processors from October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007.

Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee

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 meeting February 7-8, 2008. For more details view the January 17, 2008 Federal Register (Volume 73, Number 12; page 3232).

Commodity Partnerships Program for Risk Management Education

The purpose of this cooperative partnership agreement program is to deliver training and information in the management of production, marketing, and financial risk to U.S. agricultural producers. The program gives priority to educating producers of crops currently not insured under Federal crop insurance, specialty crops, and underserved commodities, including livestock and forage. Application deadline is March 24, 2008. For details view the January 22, 2008 Federal Register: January 22, 2008 (Volume 73, Number 14; pages 3660-3668).

2005-2007 Livestock Compensation and Catfish Grant Programs

The rule in the December 21, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 245; pages 72878-72884) establishes the regulations for the 2007 Emergency Agricultural Assistance. The legislation provides funds for agricultural disaster aid for eligible producers, specifically the continuation of the Livestock Compensation Program and the Catfish Grant Program.

2007 Crop Disaster and Livestock Indemnity Programs

The December 21, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 245; pages 72863-72878) implements legislation that provides funds for agricultural disaster aid for eligible producers, specifically a Crop Disaster Program (CDP) and a 2005-2007 Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP).

Commodity Partnerships for Small Agricultural Risk Management Education Sessions

The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, operating through the Risk Management Agency, announces the availability of funds for Commodity Partnerships for Small Agricultural Risk Management Education Sessions. The purpose of this cooperative partnership agreement program is to deliver training and information in the management of production, marketing, and financial risk to U.S. agricultural producers. Application deadline is March 24, 2008. For details view the January 22, 2008 Federal Register (Volume 73, Number 14; pages 3668-3675).

Crop Insurance Education in Targeted States

The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation announces the availability of funds to deliver crop insurance education to U.S. agricultural producers in certain States that have been designated as historically underserved with respect to crop insurance. Deadline is March 24, 2008. For details view the January 22, 2008 Federal Register (Volume 73, Number 14; pages 3681-3688).

Economic Opportunities in Rural Areas

For further information on any of the notices listed below please visit: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html> where you can search using the date of the notice, page number or topic.

Community Outreach and Assistance Partnership Program

The January 22, 2008 Federal Register (Volume 73, Number 14; pages 3675-3681) posts a request for applications for the Community Outreach and Assistance Partnership Program. Applications are due March 24, 2008.

Environmental and Natural Resource Issues

For further information on any of the notices listed below please visit: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html> where you can search using the date of the notice, page number or topic.

National Organic Program

Sunset of the exempted or prohibited use of substances under the National Organic Program is required by the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990. The December 28, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 248; pages 73667-73671) announces the sunset of 11 exempted substances and 1 prohibited substance added to the National List. Comments are due by January 28, 2008.

Environmental Impact Statements and Regulations; Availability of EPA Comments

Availability of EPA comments prepared pursuant to the Environmental Review Process, under the Clean Air Act and the National Environmental Policy Act as amended. Requests for copies of EPA comments can be directed to the Office of Federal Activities at 202-564-7167. For details view the January 18, 2008 Federal Register (Volume 73, Number 13; page 3463).

Pesticide Chemical Residues in Food--Enforcement Criteria

The Food and Drug Administration is announcing the availability of draft, revised Compliance Policy Guide (CPG). The draft CPG is intended to provide guidance to FDA staff on FDA's internal enforcement processes concerning pesticide chemical residues in food. Submit comments on the draft by March 10, 2008. For more information please view the January 8, 2008 Federal Register (Volume 73, Number 5; pages 1357-1358).

Endangered Species

NMFS has completed a draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment on the Issuance of Endangered Species Act Permits for Scientific Research on Endangered and Threatened Sea Turtles. Comments are due before February 13, 2008. For details view the January 14, 2008 Federal Register (Volume 73, Number 9; page 2223).

EDITORIAL COMMENTS

If you have any feedback for C-FARE or would like to inform us of a research area you have been working on, please contact Tamara Wagester, Executive Director at 202-408-8522 or by e-mail tamarawagester@cfare.org. If you are not currently getting our monthly e-newsletter directly from C-FARE, and would like to subscribe to "The Council Caller", please send an E-mail directly to CFAREinfo@aol.com.

C-FARE is a non-profit, non-partisan association actively working to represent agricultural and applied economists in matters of science policy, priority setting, and budget determination at the federal level, and to collaborate with other scientific organizations and government agencies in these activities.