

June 2007

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.

Interim Melamine and Melamine Analogues Safety/Risk Assessment

The interim safety/risk assessment describes the risk to human health associated with eating pork, chicken, fish, and eggs from animals that were inadvertently fed animal feed that contained melamine and its analogues. Comments are due by June 29, 2007. For more details view the May 30, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 103, pages 30014-30015).

International Standard-Setting Activities

The Food Safety and Inspection Service announced a notice to inform the public of the sanitary and phytosanitary standard-setting activities of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. For more details view the June 4, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 106, pages 30743-30753).

Disposition of Hogs and Chickens Fed Melamine and Melamine-Related Compounds

The FSIS has posted a notice on the slaughter for human food of hogs and chickens from farms identified as having purchased or otherwise received pet food scraps that contain melamine and melamine-related compounds. Comments are due by August 28, 2007. For more details view the May 30, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 103, pages 29945-29948).

Availability of Electronic Web-Based Form from FSIS

The FSIS announced the availability of an electronic Web-based version of the FSIS Form on Production Information on Post-Lethality Exposed Ready-to-Eat Products. For details view the May 31, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 104, pages 30333-30335).

Guidance Document for Low-Acid Juice Industry

The FDA is announcing the availability of a guidance document which sets forth the agency's recommendations for ensuring the safety of refrigerated carrot juice and other low-acid refrigerated juices. For more details view the June 5, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 107, pages 31078-31079).

Revision of Currently Approved Information Collection

The Food Safety and Inspection Service is announcing its intention to request a revision of an approved information collection concerning the regulatory requirements relating to specified risk materials in cattle to reflect the most recent plant data. For more details view the June 15, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 115, pages 33192-33193).

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.

The Efficiency and Reliability of the Nation's Energy Supply Shipment

The Surface Transportation Board will hold a public hearing to examine issues related to the efficiency and reliability of rail transportation of the nation's critical energy supplies. For details view the June 11, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 111, pages 32123-32124).

Notice Inviting Applications for Biomass Research and Development

The U.S. Department of Energy and the USDA announce the joint solicitation for applications for the attainment of financial assistance addressing the research and development of biomass based products, bioenergy, biofuels, and other related processes. For more details view the June 11, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 111, pages 32058-32070).

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.

Honey

The Agricultural Marketing Service proposes a new industry-funded research, promotion, consumer education, and information order for honey and honey products. For more details view the June 4, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 106, pages 30923-30940). In addition, the USDA proposes a rule used in conducting a referendum to determine favorability of above rule to industry handlers. For more details view the June 4, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 106, pages 30940-30944).

Grapes

The AMS revises the reporting requirements established under the California desert grape marketing order, which regulates the handling of grapes grown in a designated area of Southeastern California. For more details view the May 30, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 103, pages 29839-29840).

Popcorn

This contains a summary of the results of an Agricultural Marketing Service review of the Popcorn Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Program. For more details view the June 13, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 113, pages 32517-32518).

Bee

Creates an extension of approval of information collection and provides an abstract of the Honeybee Act. For more details view the May 23, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 99, pages 28946-28947).

Lemon Juice from Argentina and Mexico

For details on the postponement of final antidumping duty determinations and extension of provisional measures on lemon juice from Argentina and Mexico view the May 23, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 99, pages 28953-28954).

U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement: Potential Economy-Wide Effects

The Commission rescheduled the public hearing from June 7, 2007, to June 20, 2007. For more details view the May 23, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 99, page 28997).

Antidumping Methodologies in Proceedings Involving Certain Non-Market Economies

The Department of Commerce requests public comment on whether it should consider granting market-economy treatment to individual respondents in antidumping proceedings involving China, the conditions under which individual firms should be granted market-economy treatment, and how such treatment might affect our antidumping calculation for such qualifying respondents. For more details view the May 25, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 101, pages 29302-29304).

Freshwater Crawfish Tail Meat from the People's Republic of China

Notice of extension of the time limit for the preliminary results of the 2005-2006 antidumping duty administrative review and new shipper reviews. For more details view the May 30, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 103, page 29970).

North American Free Trade Agreement, Article 1904 Binational Panel Reviews

Pursuant to the notice of consent motion to terminate the panel review by the case participants, the panel review is terminated as of May 22, 2007. For more details view the May 30, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 103, page 29973).

Individually Quick Frozen Red Raspberries From Chile

The USITC announces the institution of a five-year review concerning the antidumping duty order on individually quick frozen red raspberries from Chile. For details view the June 1, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 105, pages 30625-30627).

United States-Singapore Free Trade Agreement

The rule in the June 11, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 111, pages 31990-32004) amends the Code of Federal Regulations on an interim basis to implement the preferential tariff treatment and other customs-related provisions of the U.S.-Singapore Free Trade Agreement entered into by the United States and the Republic of Singapore.

Export Trade Certificate of Review

The June 11, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 111, pages 32079) lists an application to amend the Export Trade Certificate of Review issued to the American Sugar Alliance.

Shrimp

Notice of final results of changed circumstances review for certain frozen warmwater shrimp from the People's Republic of China. For more details view the June 18, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 116, pages 33447-33449).

Honey from Argentina

Notice of Partial Rescission of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review. For more details view the June 19, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 117, pages 33740-33741). In addition, view the June 11, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 111, pages 32078-32079) for information on the final results of full sunset review of the countervailing duty order.

AMS Information Collection

The Agricultural Marketing Service announces its intention to request approval from the Office of Management and Budget for an extension and revision to the currently approved information collection "Referendum for the Lamb Promotion, Research and Information Order." For more details view the June 1, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 105, pages 30538-30539).

Notice of Privatization of the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center

The Secretary of Agriculture approved the Transition Plan to privatize the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center. For more details view the May 23, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 99, pages 28945-28946).

Coverage Enhancement Option for the Common Crop Insurance Regulations

The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation is proposing to add a section known as the Coverage Enhancement Option. Written comments are due by August 6, 2007. For more details view the June 6, 2007 Federal Register, (Volume 72, Number 108, pages 31199-31202).

Common Crop Insurance Regulations, Tobacco Crop Insurance Provisions

The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation proposes to amend the Common Crop Insurance Regulations by removing the Quota on Tobacco Crop Insurance Provisions. For more details view the May 23, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 99, pages 28895-28901).

Crop Insurance Regulations

The May 24, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 99, pages 28895-28901) contains a correction to the final regulation pertaining to the insurance of mint.

Crop Insurance for Rice

The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation proposes to add a provision providing insurance for cultivated wild rice. For more details view the June 6, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 105, pages 30606-30623).

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.

Funding for Rural Entrepreneurial Outreach and Development Initiative

The USDA Rural Development office has announced the availability of competitive cooperative agreement funds. The Rural Development office is requesting that 1890 Institutions submit requests for these funds. Application deadline is July 30, 2007. For more details view the June 13, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 113 Pages 32609-32616).

Grants Through the Rural Community Development Initiative

The Rural Community Development Initiative will be accepting applications for competitive grant funds through the Rural Housing Service. Application deadline is September 6, 2007. For more detail view the June 8, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 110, pages 31795-31804).

Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Programs

The May 30, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 103, pages 29841-29851) modifies the regulations for the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Programs. The action goes into effect on June 29, 2007.

Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers

The Secretary of Agriculture is renewing the charter of the Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers. This notice invites nominations for persons to serve on the Committee. Nominations are due by July 16, 2007. For more details view the June 15, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 115, page 33191).

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.

Emerald Ash Borer, Quarantined Areas in Maryland

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA is amending the emerald ash borer regulations by adding Prince George's County, MD, to the list of areas quarantined because of emerald ash borer. For more details view the June 1, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 105, pages 30458-30460).

Importation of Emerald Ash Borer Host Material From Canada

USDA APHIS is establishing regulations to prohibit or restrict the importation of certain articles from Canada that present a risk of being infested with emerald ash borer. For more details view the June 1, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 105, pages 30462-30468).

EPA Proposed Tolerance Rules Changes

The EPA is proposing the restructuring of certain tolerance limits for many insecticides, plant growth regulators, fungicides and herbicides. Comments on these proceedings must be received on or before August 13, 2007. For more details view the June 13, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 113, Pages 32570-32582).

A Proposed Expansion to the Pesticide Tolerance Crop Grouping Program

The EPA proposes certain revision to its pesticide tolerance crop grouping regulations. Comments must be received on or before July 23, 2007. For more details view the May 23, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 99, pages 28920-28930).

From the Office of the Chief Economist

The June 6, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 108, page 31269) gives notice on the membership on the Federal Advisory Committee for the Expert Review of Synthesis and Assessment.

Environmental Impact Statements and Regulations

The EPA announces the availability of comments prepared pursuant to the Environmental Review Process. Requests for copies of EPA comments can be directed to the Office of Federal Activities. For more details view the June 8, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 110, page 31821).

Reconsideration of Phase 2 of the 8-Hour Ozone Air Standard

The EPA published, as a proposed rule, a notice of reconsideration for several aspects of the November 29, 2005, Phase 2 of the final rule to implement the 8-hour ozone national ambient air quality standard. For details view the June 8, 2007 (Volume 72, Number 110, pages 31727-31749).

Fish and Wildlife Service

The U.S. will attend the fourteenth regular meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES in The Hague, The Netherlands. For more details view the June 1, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 105, pages 30606-30623).

Coastal Management

The Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management is announcing its intent to evaluate the performance of several estuarine research reserves. For more details view the May 31, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 104, page 30357).

EPA Science Advisory Board Staff Office

The U.S. EPA's Science Advisory Board Staff Office is soliciting nominations for consideration of membership on EPA's Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee, and EPA's Science Advisory Board and its Subcommittees. Nominations are due by July 9, 2007. For details view the June 8, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 110, pages 31819-31820).

Other News

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 Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board

The United States Department of Agriculture announces solicitation for nominations to fill 10 vacancies on the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board. Deadline for Advisory Board member nominations is July 20, 2007. For more details view the May 23, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 99, page 28945).

Advisory Committee Information Hotline

The Food and Drug Administration is announcing that they have revised the Advisory Committee Information Hotline. For more details view the June 5, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 107, pages 31076-31078).

Announcing the Termination of Agriculture Board of Contract Appeals

USDA amends its regulations to reflect the legal termination of the Agriculture Board of Contract Appeals and the creation of a new consolidated Civilian Board of Contract Appeals. For details view the June 7, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 109, pages 31437-31438).

Exchange Visitor Program: Trainees and Interns

The Department of State is revising its regulations regarding, Trainees and Interns to eliminate certain distinctions to establish a new program and modify certain selection criteria. For details view the June 19, 2007 Federal Register (Volume 72, Number 117, pages 33669-33677).

2007 Survey of Business Owners

The Census Bureau plans to conduct the 2007 Survey of Business Owners. For more details view the May 23, 2007 (Volume 72, Number 99, pages 28950-28951).

Survey of Industrial Research and Development

The Department of Commerce invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections. For more details view the May 30, 2007 (Volume 72, Number 103, pages 29958-29959).

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.