

Appendix D to Subpart B of Part 532—
Nonappropriated Fund Wage and
Survey Areas

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Ohio

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Greene-Montgomery

Survey Area

Ohio:

Greene
Montgomery

Area of application. Survey area plus:

Ohio:

Clinton
Franklin (Effective date March 8, 1996)
Hamilton
Licking (Effective date March 8, 1996)
Ross (Effective date March 8, 1996)

West Virginia:

Raleigh (Effective date March 8, 1996)
Wayne (Effective date March 8, 1996)

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[FR Doc. 96-1836 Filed 1-30-96; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

7 CFR Part 301

[Docket No. 92-139-9]

Pine Shoot Beetle

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health
Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Affirmation of interim rules as
final rule.

SUMMARY: We are affirming, without
change, the pine shoot beetle
regulations, as established and amended
by a series of interim rules published in
the Federal Register between November
1992 and January 1995. The regulations
quarantine portions of several States
and restrict the interstate movement of
regulated articles from those areas to
prevent the artificial spread of the pine
shoot beetle into noninfested areas of
the United States. The pine shoot beetle
is a highly destructive pest of pine trees.
EFFECTIVE DATE: March 1, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr.
Steve Knight, Senior Operations Officer,
Domestic and Emergency Operations,
PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 134,
Riverdale, MD 20737-1236, (301) 734-
7935.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The pine shoot beetle is a highly
destructive pest of pine trees. The pine
shoot beetle can cause damage in weak

and dying trees, where reproduction
and immature stages of pine shoot
beetle occur, and in the new growth of
healthy trees. During "maturation
feeding," young beetles bore up the
center of pine shoots (usually of the
current year's growth), causing stunted
and distorted growth in the host trees.
The pine shoot beetle is also a vector of
several diseases of pine trees. Adults
can fly at least 1 kilometer, and infested
trees and pine products are often
transported long distances. This pest
damages urban trees and can cause
economic losses to the timber,
Christmas tree, and nursery industries.

Pine shoot beetle hosts include all
pine species. The beetle has been found
in a variety of pine species (*Pinus spp.*)
in the United States. Scotch pine (*P.
sylvestris*) is the preferred host of the
pine shoot beetle.

The Animal and Plant Health
Inspection Service (APHIS) established
regulations at 7 CFR 301.50 through
301.50-10 (referred to below as the
regulations) to prevent the artificial
spread of the pine shoot beetle into
noninfested areas of the United States.

The regulations were established and
refined by a series of interim rules,
beginning with Docket 92-139-1, which
was effective on November 13, 1992,
and published in the Federal Register
on November 19, 1992 (57 FR 54492-
54499). Docket 92-139-1 quarantined
42 counties in Illinois, Indiana,
Michigan, New York, Ohio, and
Pennsylvania, and established
restrictions on the interstate movement
of various articles, including pine trees,
from the quarantined areas. We solicited
comments on the interim rule for 60
days ending January 19, 1993. We
received 96 comments by that date from
nurseries, Christmas tree producers,
State governments, and others. Nearly
all asked us to ease restrictions by
establishing a mechanism for allowing
all pine nursery stock to be certified for
interstate movement by visual
inspection.

Docket 92-139-2, effective January
19, 1993, and published in the Federal
Register on January 28, 1993 (58 FR
6346-6348), established the requested
visual inspection protocol for pine
nursery stock and provided an
alternative treatment for pine Christmas
trees. It also quarantined one additional
county in Illinois. We solicited
comments on the interim rule for 60
days ending March 29, 1993. We
received six comments by that date from
a nursery association, State
governments, and others. One simply
expressed support; the others
encouraged APHIS to continue to

examine treatment and inspection
processes.

In response to these comments APHIS
continued to examine its treatment and
inspection processes. As a result,
Dockets 92-139-3 through 92-139-8
further amended the regulations by
removing fir, larch, and spruce from the
list of regulated articles, relieving
certain restrictions on logs and lumber
of pine, allowing visual certification of
certain pine transplants, providing a
new and less harsh methyl bromide
treatment schedule for cut pine
Christmas trees, and adding pine
stumps and pine bark nuggets
(including bark chips) to the list of
regulated articles. In addition, these
dockets added 8 counties in Illinois, 13
counties in Indiana, 33 counties in
Michigan, 10 counties in New York, 4
counties in Ohio, and 7 counties in
Pennsylvania to the list of quarantined
areas.

These interim rules were effective and
published as follows: Docket 92-139-3,
effective May 13, 1993, and published
May 13, 1993 (58 FR 28333-28335);
Docket 92-139-4, effective June 23,
1993, and published June 29, 1993 (58
FR 34681-34683); Docket 92-139-5,
effective November 23, 1993, and
published November 30, 1993 (58 FR
63024-63027); Docket 92-139-6,
effective August 1, 1994, and published
August 5, 1994 (59 FR 39937-39941);
Docket 92-139-7, effective October 14,
1994, and published October 20, 1994
(59 FR 52891-52894); and Docket 92-
139-8, effective December 29, 1994, and
published January 9, 1995 (60 FR 2321-
2323). We solicited comments on each
interim rule for 60 days, and received a
total of four comments, three in support
and one expressing concern about
enforcement of the regulations. The
enforcement concerns involve the
availability of money and persons to
enforce the regulations, and not the
need for changes in the regulations.

This document affirms, without
change, the pine shoot beetle
regulations, as established and amended
by the interim rules listed above.

This action also affirms the
information contained in the interim
rules concerning Executive Orders
12291 and 12866 and the Regulatory
Flexibility Act, Executive Orders 12372
and 12778, and the Paperwork
Reduction Act.

For this action, the Office of
Management and Budget has waived the
review process required by Executive
Order 12866.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 301

Agricultural commodities, Plant
diseases and pests, Quarantine,

Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Transportation.

Accordingly, we are adopting as a final rule, without change, the regulations at 7 CFR 301.50 through 301.50-10, as established and amended by interim rules published at: 57 FR 54492-54499 on November 19, 1992; at 58 FR 6346-6348 on January 28, 1993; at 58 FR 28333-28335 on May 13, 1993; at 58 FR 34681-34683 on June 29, 1993; at 58 FR 63024-63027 on November 30, 1993; at 59 FR 39937-39941 on August 5, 1994; at 59 FR 52891-52894 on October 20, 1994; and at 60 FR 2321-2323 on January 9, 1995.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 150bb, 150dd, 150ee, 150ff, 161, 162, and 164-167; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.2(c).

Done in Washington, DC, this 25th day of January 1996.

Lonnie J. King,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 96-1855 Filed 1-30-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

12 CFR Part 226

[Regulation Z; Docket No. R-0915]

Truth in Lending

AGENCY: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

ACTION: Notice of adjustment of dollar amount.

SUMMARY: The Board is publishing an adjustment to the dollar amount that triggers certain requirements of Regulation Z (Truth in Lending) for mortgages bearing fees above a certain amount. The Home Ownership and Equity Protection Act of 1994 sets forth rules for creditors offering home-secured loans with total points and fees payable by the consumer at or before loan consummation that exceed the greater of \$400 or 8 percent of the total loan amount. The Board is required to annually adjust the \$400 amount based on the annual percentage change in the Consumer Price Index as reported on June 1. The Board has adjusted the dollar amount from \$400 to \$412.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Hentrel, Staff Attorney, Division of Consumer and Community Affairs, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, at (202) 452-3667. For the users of Telecommunications Device for the Deaf only, please contact Dorothea Thompson at (202) 452-3544.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Truth in Lending Act (TILA; 15 U.S.C. 1601-1666j) requires creditors to disclose credit terms and the cost of consumer credit as an annual percentage rate. The act requires additional disclosures for loans secured by a consumer's home, and permits consumers to cancel certain transactions that involve their principal dwelling. The TILA is implemented by the Board's Regulation Z (12 CFR part 226).

On March 24, 1995, the Board published amendments to Regulation Z implementing the Home Ownership and Equity Protection Act of 1994 (HOEPA), contained in the Riegle Community Development and Regulatory Improvement Act of 1994, Public Law 103-325, 108 Stat. 2160 (60 FR 15463). These amendments, which became effective on October 1, 1995, are contained in § 226.32 of the regulation and impose new disclosure requirements and substantive limitations on certain closed-end mortgage loans bearing rates or fees above a certain percentage or amount. Creditors are required to comply with the rules in § 226.32 if the total points and fees payable by the consumer at or before loan consummation exceed the greater of \$400 or 8 percent of the total loan amount. The TILA and § 226.32(a)(1)(ii) of Regulation Z provide that the \$400 figure shall be adjusted annually on January 1 by the annual percentage change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) that was reported on the preceding June 1. See 15 U.S.C. 1602(aa).

The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes consumer-based indices monthly, but does not "report" a CPI change on June 1; adjustments are reported in the middle of each month. The CPI-U is based on all urban consumers and represents approximately 80 percent of the U.S. population; the CPI-W is based on urban wage earners and clerical workers and represents about 30 percent of the population. The Board believes the index representing the broader population of U. S. consumers—the CPI-U—is the appropriate index to use in any adjustment to the \$400 dollar figure.

The adjustment to the \$400 dollar figure reflects the adjustment reported on May 15 (the rate "in effect" on June 1) which states the percentage increase from April 1994 to April 1995. During that period the CPI-U increased by 3.1 percent which would cause an adjustment of the \$400 to \$412.40. The

Board is rounding that number to whole dollars for ease of compliance.

Adjustment

Effective January 1, 1996, under § 226.32(a), a home mortgage loan is covered by § 226.32 if the total points and fees payable by the consumer at or before loan consummation exceed the greater of \$412 or 8 percent of the total loan amount. The adjustment will be codified in the official staff commentary to Regulation Z.

By order of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, January 25, 1995.

William W. Wiles,

Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 96-1859 Filed 1-30-96; 8:45 am]

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SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

13 CFR Part 107

Small Business Investment Companies

AGENCY: Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This final rule revises the regulations found at 13 CFR Part 107, governing the Small Business Investment Company (SBIC) Program. It eliminates inconsistencies, clarifies procedures, accommodates program experience and industry changes, and provides for more efficient program operation. It also clarifies and shortens regulations where appropriate, eliminates redundant provisions, consolidates and reorganizes sections and clarifies ambiguous language.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This final rule is effective January 31, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Leonard Fagan, Office of Investment; telephone no. (202) 205-6510.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In response to a Memorandum from President Clinton for all federal agencies to simplify their regulations, SBA published a proposed rule on November 28, 1995, to revise the regulations governing the SBIC program. See 60 FR 58530 (November 28, 1995). The public was afforded a thirty-day period in which to submit comments on the proposed rule to SBA. During that period, SBA received over 30 letters containing over 200 comments. After giving careful consideration to the comments and concerns raised in those letters, SBA is today finalizing the proposed rule with certain modifications discussed below. Only those sections which have changed, which were commented on or which