

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agriculture Marketing Service

[Doc. No. TM-03-10]

Notice of Agricultural Marketing Assistance Organic Certification Cost Share Program

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This Notice invites eligible States to submit a Standard Form 424, Application for Federal Assistance, and to enter into a Cooperative Agreement with the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) for the Allocation of Organic Certification Cost-Share Funds. The AMS has allocated \$1.0 million for this organic certification cost-share program in Fiscal Year 2003. Funds will be available under this program to 15 designated States to assist organic crop and livestock producers certified by the Department of Agriculture (USDA) accredited certifying agents to the National Organic Program (NOP). Eligible States interested in obtaining cost-share funds for their organic producers will have to submit an Application for Federal Assistance, and will have to enter into a cooperative agreement with AMS for the allocation of such funds.

DATES: Completed applications for federal assistance along with signed cooperative agreements must be received by November 21, 2003 in order to participate in this program.

ADDRESSES: Applications for federal assistance and cooperative agreements shall be requested from and submitted to: Robert Pooler, Agricultural Marketing Specialist, National Organic Program, USDA/AMS/TMP/NOP, Room 4008-South, Ag Stop 0268, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0264; Telephone: (202) 720-3252; Fax: (202)

205-7808; E-mail: bob.pooler@usda.gov. Additional information may be found through the National Organic Program's Home page at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Robert Pooler, Agricultural Marketing Specialist, National Organic Program, USDA/AMS/TM/NOP, Room 4008-South, Ag Stop 0268, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-0264; Telephone: (202) 720-3252; Fax: (202) 205-7808; E-mail: bob.pooler@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This Organic Certification Cost-Share Program is part of the Agricultural Management Assistance Program authorized under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (FCIA), as amended, (7 U.S.C. 1521). Under the applicable FCIA provisions, the Department is authorized to provide cost share assistance to producers in the States of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming. This organic certification cost share program provides financial assistance to organic producers certified to the National Organic Program authorized under the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990, as amended (7 U.S.C. 6501 *et seq.*)

To participate in the program, eligible States must complete a Standard Form 424, Application for Federal Assistance, and enter into a written cooperative agreement with AMS. The program will provide cost-share assistance, through participating States, to organic crop and livestock producers receiving certification or update of certification by a USDA accredited certifying agent from October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2004. The Department has determined that payments will be limited to 75 percent of an individual producer's certification costs up to a maximum of \$500.00.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1521.

Dated: October 2, 2003.

A.J. Yates,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 03-25458 Filed 10-6-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. # TM-03-09]

Notice of Meeting of the National Organic Standards Board

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is announcing a forthcoming meeting of the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB).

DATES: The meeting dates are: Wednesday, October 22, 2003, 1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Thursday, October 23, 2003, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Friday, October 24, 2003, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Requests from individuals and organizations wishing to make an oral presentation at the meeting are due by the close of business on October 7, 2003. A closed session will be held on Wednesday, October 22, 2003, 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., at which administrative matters will be handled.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will take place at the Radisson Barceló Hotel Washington, The Phillips Ballroom, 2121 P Street, NW., Washington, DC. Requests for copies of the NOSB meeting agenda, requests to make an oral presentation at the meeting, or written comments may be sent to Ms. Katherine Benham at USDA-AMS-TMD-NOP, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 4008-SO., Ag Stop 0268, Washington, DC 20250-0200. Requests to make an oral presentation at the meeting may also be sent electronically to Ms. Katherine Benham at katherine.benham@usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Mathews, Program Manager, National Organic Program, (202) 720-3252.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 2119 (7 U.S.C. 6518) of the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (OFPA), as amended (7 U.S.C. Section 6501 *et seq.*) requires the establishment of the NOSB. The purpose of the NOSB is to make recommendations about whether a substance should be allowed or prohibited in organic production or handling, to assist in the development of standards for substances to be used in

organic production and to advise the Secretary on other aspects of the implementation of the OFPA. The NOSB met for the first time in Washington, DC, in March 1992, and currently has six committees working on various aspects of the organic program. The committees are: Compliance, Accreditation, and Certification; Crops; Livestock; Materials; Handling; and Policy Development.

In August of 1994, the NOSB provided its initial recommendations for the National Organic Program (NOP) to the Secretary of Agriculture. Since that time, the NOSB has submitted 50 addenda to its recommendations and reviewed more than 256 substances for inclusion on the National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances. The last meeting of the NOSB was held on May 13–14, 2003, in Austin, Texas.

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) published its final National Organic Program regulation in the **Federal Register** on December 21, 2000 (65 FR 80548). The rule became effective April 21, 2001.

The principal purposes of the meeting are to provide an opportunity for the NOSB to hear a presentation from FDA on their substance approval process for livestock; to hear recommendations from contractors, past and present, for enhancing petitions for the addition or removal of substances from the National List and for enhancing the statement of work between contractors and USDA; receive public comment regarding what constitutes compatibility/consistency with a system of sustainable agriculture/organic production and handling relative to substance review and evaluations; to develop a statement for public distribution on what constitutes compatibility/consistency with a system of sustainable agriculture/organic production and handling relative to substance review and evaluations; and finally to document and clarify, for the NOP, substance recommendations from the May 2003 NOSB meeting in Austin, Texas.

For further information, see <http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop>. Copies of the NOSB meeting agenda can be requested from Ms. Katherine Benham by telephone at (202) 205–7806; or by accessing the NOP Web site at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop>.

The meeting is open to the public. The NOSB has scheduled time for public input on Thursday, October 23, 2003, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., for individuals to speak on the issue of what constitutes compatibility/consistency with a system of sustainable agriculture/organic production and handling. Individuals

and organizations wishing to make an oral presentation at the meeting may forward their request by facsimile to Ms. Katherine Benham at (202) 205–7808. While persons wishing to make a presentation may sign up at the door, advance registration will ensure that a person has the opportunity to speak during the allotted time period and will help the NOSB to better manage the meeting and to accomplish its agenda. Individuals or organizations will be given approximately 5 minutes to present their views. All persons making an oral presentation are requested to provide their comments in writing. Written submissions may contain information other than that presented at the oral presentation.

Written comments may also be submitted at the meeting. Persons submitting written comments at the meeting are asked to provide 30 copies.

Interested persons may visit the NOSB portion of the NOP Web site <http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop> to view available documents prior to the meeting. Approximately 6 weeks following the meeting interested persons will be able to visit the NOSB portion of the NOP Web site to view documents from the meeting.

Dated: October 1, 2003.

A.J. Yates,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 03–25311 Filed 10–6–03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Newspapers Used for Publication of Legal Notices by the Intermountain Region; Utah, Idaho, Nevada, and Wyoming

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice lists the newspapers that will be used by the ranger districts, forests and regional office of the Intermountain Region to publish legal notices required under 36 CFR part S. 215 and 217. The intended effect of this action is to inform interested members of the public which newspapers the Forest Service will use to publish notices of proposed actions and notices of decision. This will provide the public with constructive notice of Forest Service proposals and decisions, provide information on the procedures to comment or appeal, and establish the date that the Forest Service

will use to determine if comments or appeals were timely.

DATES: Publication of legal notices in the listed newspapers will begin on or after October 1, 2003. The list of newspapers will remain in effect until April 1, 2004, when another notice will be published in **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Priscilla McLain, Regional Appeals Coordinator, Intermountain Region, 324 25th Street, Ogden, UT 84401, and phone (801) 625–5146.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The administrative procedures at 36 CFR parts 215 and 217 require the Forest Service to publish notices in a newspaper of general circulation. The content of the notices is specified in 36 CFR part 215 and 217. In general, the notices will identify: the decision or project, by title or subject matter; the name and title of the official making the decision; how to obtain additional information; and where and how to file comments or appeals. The date the notice is published will be used to establish the official date for the beginning of the comment or appeal period. The newspapers to be used are as follows:

Regional Forester, Intermountain Region

For decisions made by the Regional Forester affecting national Forests in Idaho:

The Idaho Statesman, Boise, Idaho

For decisions made by the Regional Forester affecting National Forests in Nevada:

The Reno Gazette-Journal, Reno, Nevada

For decisions made by the Regional Forester affecting National Forests in Wyoming:

Casper Star-Tribune, Casper, Wyoming

For decisions made by the Regional Forester affecting National Forests in Utah:

Salt Lake Tribune, Salt Lake City, Utah

For the decisions made by the Regional Forester that affect all National Forests in the Intermountain Region:

Salt Lake Tribune, Salt Lake City, Utah

Ashley National Forest

Ashley Forest Supervisor decisions:

Vernal Express, Vernal, Utah

Duchesne District Ranger decisions:

Uinta Basin Standard, Roosevelt, Utah