

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

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Docket No. AMS-ST-08-0028]

Plant Variety Protection Board; Open Teleconference Meeting

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of teleconference meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of a forthcoming teleconference meeting of the Plant Variety Protection Board. Notice of this meeting is required under section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. This document is intended to notify the general public of their opportunity to attend the meeting.

DATES: May 1, 2008; 1 p.m.–3 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service Conference Room, Room 3074, South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janice M. Strachan, Plant Variety Protection Office (PVPO), Science and Technology Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, United States Department of Agriculture, telephone number (301) 504–5518, fax (301) 504–5291, or e-mail PVPOmail@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Plant Variety Protection (PVP) Board is authorized under section 7 of the Plant Variety Protection Act (7 U. S. C. 2327). The Board advises the Secretary of Agriculture on rules and regulations implementing the Act. On May 1, 2008, the Board will conduct a teleconference meeting to discuss improving the Plant Variety Protection Office Application Process and other related topics.

The tentative agenda for the teleconference meeting includes: (1)

Welcome and opening remarks; (2) Action on general recommendations from Board minutes of November 14 and 15, 2007 meeting; (3) Financial status of the PVP Office, (4) PVP Office information technology infrastructure, and (5) Adjournment.

The public may attend the teleconference at the following address: USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service Conference Room, Room 3074, South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250. All attendees are required to register with the PVP Office at 301–504–5518 before April 30, 2008. Identification will be required to be admitted to the USDA's South Building.

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation should be directed to the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Minutes of the teleconference will be posted on the Internet Web site <http://www.ams.usda.gov/PVPO>.

Dated: April 16, 2008.

Lloyd C. Day,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. E8–8553 Filed 4–18–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Research Service

United States National Arboretum (USNA); Notice of Intent To Renew Information Collection

AGENCY: Agricultural Research Service; USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Agriculture (USDA) seeks comments on the intent of the USNA to renew an information collection that expires September 30, 2008. The information collection serves as a means to collect for certain uses of the facilities, grounds, and services. This includes fees for use of the grounds and facilities, as well as for commercial photography and cinematography. Fees generated will be used to defray USNA expenses or to promote the missions of the USNA.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before June 25, 2008.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by [docket number and/or

RIN Number _____] by any of the following methods:

Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
E-mail: tom.elias@ars.usda.gov. Include [docket number and/or RIN Number _____] in the subject line of text. Fax: 202–245–4514.

Mail: Director, U.S. National Arboretum, Beltsville Area, Agricultural Research Service, 3501 New York Avenue, NE., Washington, DC 20002.

Hand Delivery/Courier: Director, U.S. National Arboretum, Beltsville Area, Agricultural Research Service, 3501 New York Avenue, NE., Washington, DC 20002.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Intent to Renew Information Collection.

OMB Number: 0518–0024, expiration date of approval, September 30, 2008.

Type of Request: To extend an approved information collection.

Abstract: The mission of the U.S. National Arboretum (USNA) is to serve the public need for scientific research, education, and gardens that conserve and showcase plants to enhance the environment. The USNA is a 446-acre facility, open to the general public for purposes of education and passive recreation. The USNA is a national center for public education that welcomes visitors in a stimulating and aesthetically pleasing environment. The USNA receives approximately 500,000 visitors on the grounds each year. Many garden clubs and societies utilize the USNA grounds to showcase their activities. The USNA is a national center for public education that welcomes visitors in a stimulating and aesthetically pleasing environment.

Section 890(b) of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, Public Law 104–127 (1996 Act), expanded the authorities of the Secretary of Agriculture to charge reasonable fees for the use of USNA facilities and grounds. These authorities included the ability to charge fees for temporary use by individuals or groups of USNA facilities and grounds in furtherance of the mission of the USNA. Also, authority was provided to charge fees for tram tours and for the use of the USNA for commercial photography and cinematography. All rules and regulations noted in 7 CFR 500, subpart 2A, conducted on the USNA property,

will apply to individuals or groups granted approval to use the facilities and grounds. In order to administer the use of the USNA facilities and to determine if the requested use is consistent with the mission of the USNA, it is necessary for the USNA to obtain information from the requestor. Each request will require the completion of an application and submission of an application fee. The application is simple and requires only information readily available to the requestor. The requestor is asked to indicate by whom and for what purpose the USNA facilities are to be used. Applications are available in hard copy format as well as electronic format on the USNA Web site (<http://www.usna.usda.gov>). Completed permit requests are received in person, by mail, and by facsimile.

Paperwork Reduction Act: In accordance with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations (5 CFR part 1320) implementing the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the information collection and recordkeeping requirements that will be imposed will be submitted to OMB for approval. These requirements will not become effective prior to OMB approval.

Estimate of Burden:

Estimated Number of Responses: The USNA estimates 420 requests for the use of facilities and 25 for photography and cinematography on an annual basis.

Estimated Burden per Responses: The estimated completion time for the application is less than 15 minutes.

Estimate of Total Annual Burden on Respondents: The total cost for responding is \$2,507 for 109 hours of time at \$23 per hour.

Obtaining Permit Requests: In addition to the current process of obtaining the permit requests in person, by mail, and by facsimile (and receiving them back in a like manner), the application for photography and cinematography is available on the USNA Web site (<http://www.usna.usda.gov/Information/facilitiesuse/photographyapp.pdf>). The application for the use of facilities will be available on the Web site by the end of the calendar year. Completed permit requests can be submitted to the Administrative Group, USDA, ARS, U.S. National Arboretum, 3501 New York Avenue, NE., Washington, DC 20002.

Comments: Comments are invited on whether the proposed collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the

proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of collection on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technology.

Done at Washington, DC, this 14th day of April, 2008.

Edward B. Knipling,

Administrator, Agricultural Research Service.

[FR Doc. E8-8552 Filed 4-18-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. FSIS-2008-0012]

Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

AGENCY: Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA, are sponsoring a public meeting on April 25, 2008. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft United States positions that will be discussed at the 14th Session of the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (CCFFV) of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex), which will be held in Mexico City, Mexico, from May 12-17, 2008. The Under Secretary for Food Safety and AMS recognize the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the 14th Session of the CCFFV and to address items on the agenda.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 25, 2008, at 10 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held in Room 2068, USDA South Building, at 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250. Documents related to the 14th Session of the CCFFV will be accessible via the World Wide Web at the following address: <http://www.codexalimentarius.net/current.asp>.

The U.S. Delegate to the 14th Session of the CCFFV, Mr. Dorian LaFond, AMS,

invites interested U.S. parties to submit their comments electronically to the following e-mail address: dorian.lafond@usda.gov.

Registration: You may register electronically to dorian.lafond@usda.gov. Early registration is encouraged because it will expedite entry into the building. Because the meeting will be held in a Federal building, you should also bring photo identification and plan for adequate time to pass through security screening systems.

For Further Information About the 14th CCFFV Session Contact: Mr. Dorian LaFond, International Standards Coordinator, AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Stop 0235, 1400 Independence Ave, SW., Washington, DC 20250, Phone: (202) 690-4944, e-mail: dorian.lafond@usda.gov.

For Further Information About the Public Meeting Contact: Syed Ali, Staff Officer, U.S. Codex Office, Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), Room 4861, South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250, Phone: (202) 720-0574, Fax: (202) 720-3157, e-mail: syed.ali@fsis.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex) was established in 1963 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organization. Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, Codex seeks to protect the health of consumers and ensure that fair practices are used in trade. The CCFFV elaborates world wide standards and codes of practice for fresh fruits and vegetables. The CCFFV is hosted by Mexico.

Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following items on the agenda for the 14th CCFFV Session will be discussed during the public meeting:

- Matters referred to the CCFFV from the Codex Alimentarius Commission and other Codex bodies.
- Matters arising from other international organizations on the Standardization of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables.
- Proposed Layout for Codex Standards for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables.
- Draft Codex Standard for Tomatoes.