

Code of Federal Regulations, but are maintained by USDA, AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, and are available on the internet at www.ams.usda.gov/freshinspection.

AMS is revising the voluntary United States Standards for Grades of Cultivated Ginseng using procedures that appear in Part 36, Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations (7 CFR part 36).

Background

AMS received a request from the GBW on June 8, 2009, to revise the United States Standards for Grades of Cultivated Ginseng. The GBW represents approximately 95% of the cultivated ginseng industry in the U.S. The initial inquiry requested AMS to add “unless otherwise specified” to the size table to accommodate changing market values. AMS believed that by allowing any specified value would undermine the integrity of the standards. To resolve the issue, AMS met with members of the GBW to revise the standards and develop new grades based solely on quality and percentage defects. AMS then initiated the revision process and continued to work closely with the GBW on the proposed standards through electronic communication and site visits. On August 30, 2011, AMS published a notice in the **Federal Register** (76 FR 53875), soliciting comments on a possible revision of the United States Standards for Grades of Cultivated Ginseng. The public comment period closed on September 29, 2011, with no responses.

Based on the information gathered, AMS believes the revisions will bring the standards for cultivated ginseng in line with current marketing practices and thereby improve their usefulness. Therefore, AMS will revise the standards as follows:

The General Section will clarify that the standards apply to cultivated ginseng, such as American ginseng (*Panax quinquefolius*) and Asian ginseng (*Panax ginseng*), but not to wild ginseng.

The U.S. Premium, U.S. Select, U.S. Medium, and U.S. Standard grades will be replaced with U.S. No. 1, U.S. No. 2, U.S. No. 3, U.S. No. 4, U.S. No. 5, U.S. No. 6, and U.S. No. 7.

All the sizes for diameter and length are revised with the following Whole Root Size Categories: Premium, Select, and Standard.

The External Color Section is revised to include: “Color shall be applied to the lot as a whole * * *” Further, the Wrinkle Section is renamed the Texture Section.

A Size Classification Determination Section will be added to provide procedures for determining size. Size will be determined first, followed by inspecting the ginseng for defects.

The formula for the Grade Determination Section is revised to reflect the percentage of defects in a lot.

The definition for “Whole Root” is revised to mean the main root or upper portion of the main root, including any portion growing off the main root that is too large to be a prong. Whole roots must have a tapered top or crown.

The definition for “Diameter” is revised to mean the greatest dimension at right angles to a line from the top of the whole root to the tip. Diameter shall not be measured at the point of attachment of a prong or the area where a prong was removed.

A definition for “Length” will be added to the standards, which means the greatest dimension of the whole root measured in a straight line parallel to the longitudinal axis from the top of the whole root to the tip, not including any portion of the crown or rootlet, if present.

The following terms and definitions will also be removed or revised: The definition for “Similar Varietal Characteristics” will be removed from the standards, since it will not be a requirement of the grade. The definition for “Prong” is revised to include: “A prong cannot exceed more than one half of the diameter of the main root.” The term “Fiber” will be renamed “Rootlet” and defined as small slender roots less than 1/8 inch in diameter. The term “rust” will be removed from the list of defects, since it is the same as discoloration. The definition for “Cull” will be revised to mean more than 50 percent of the whole root is unusable. The definition for “Defects” is revised to include: “In addition, when the cut area left by a clipped or removed prong exceeds one half of the diameter of the root, it shall be a defect.”

An illustration of a ginseng root will be added to the end of the standards, which define the parts of the root, areas to be clipped, and the correct determination for length and diameter.

Various section numbers will be changed to reflect these revisions, including a correction to the notice. The proposed section number for Grade Determination in the notice was “.1332” but will be corrected to “.1333.”

The official grade of a lot of cultivated ginseng covered by these standards will be determined by the procedures set forth in the Regulations Governing Inspection, Certification, and Standards of Fresh Fruits, Vegetables and Other Products (Sec. 51.1 to 51.61).

The United States Standards for Grades of Cultivated Ginseng will be effective 30 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1621–1627.

Dated: March 30, 2012.

Robert C. Keeney,

Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2012–8135 Filed 4–4–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Research Service

Notice of Intent To Request an Extension and Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations, this notice announces the Agricultural Research Service’s (ARS) intention to seek approval to collect information in support of research and related activities.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received on or before June 4, 2012 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Address all comments concerning this notice to Jill Philpot, ARS Webmaster, 5601 Sunnyside Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20705.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Jill Philpot, ARS Webmaster, (301) 504–5683.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Web Forms for Research Data, Models, Materials, and Publications as well as Study and Event Registration.

Type of Request: Extension and Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection.

OMB Number: 0518–0032.

Expiration Date: September 30, 2012.

Abstract: Sections 1703 and 1705 the Government Paperwork Elimination Act (GPEA), Public Law 105–277, Title XVII, require agencies, by October 21, 2003, to provide for the option of electronic submission of information by the public. To advance GPEA goals, online forms are needed to allow the public to request from ARS research data, models, materials, and publications as well as registration for scientific studies and events. For the convenience of the public, the forms itemize the information we need to provide a timely response. Information from forms will

only be used by the Agency for the purposes identified.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 3 minutes per response (range: 1–5 minutes).

Respondents: Agricultural researchers, students and teachers, business people, members of service organizations, community groups, other federal and local government agencies, and the general public.

Estimated Number Respondents: 15,000. This is a reduction from the 25,000 estimated number of respondents in the previous Approved Information Collection due to less actual annual respondents than originally estimated from 2009–2012.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 750 hours.

Copies of forms used in this information collection can be obtained from Jill Philpot, ARS Webmaster, at (301) 504–5683.

The information collection extension requested by ARS is for a period of three years. comments: Are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) 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; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: March 23, 2012.

Edward B. Knipling,

ARS Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2012–8212 Filed 4–4–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–03–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

National Tree-Marking Paint Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The National Tree-Marking Paint Committee will meet in Flagstaff, Arizona on May 15–17, 2012. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the activities related to improvements in, concerns about, and the handling and use of tree-marking paint by personnel of the Forest Service and the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management.

DATES: The meeting will be held May 15–17, 2012, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the USDA Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station, Flagstaff Lab, 2500 South Pine Knoll Drive, Flagstaff, AZ. Persons who wish to file written comments before or after the meeting must send written comments to David Haston, Chairman, National Tree-Marking Paint Committee, Forest Service, USDA, San Dimas Technology and Development Center, 444 East Bonita Avenue, San Dimas, California 91773, or electronically to dhaston@fs.fed.us.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Haston, Sr. Project Leader, San Dimas Technology and Development Center, Forest Service, USDA, (909) 599–1267, extension 294 or dhaston@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Tree-Marking Paint Committee comprises representatives from the Forest Service national headquarters, each of the nine Forest Service regions, the Forest Service San Dimas Technology and Development Center, the National Federation of Federal Employees and the Bureau of Land Management. The Forest Products Laboratory and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health are ad hoc members and provide technical advice to the committee.

A field trip will be held on May 15 and is designed to supplement information related to tree-marking paint. This trip is open to any member of the public participating in the public meeting on May 16–17. However, transportation is provided only for committee members.

The main session of the meeting, which is open to public attendance, will be held on May 16–17.

Closed Sessions

While certain segments of this meeting are open to the public, there will be two closed sessions during the meeting. The first closed session is planned for approximately 10 a.m. to 12:00 noon on May 16, 2012. This session is reserved for individual paint manufacturers to present products and information about tree-marking paint for

consideration in future testing and use by the agency. Paint manufacturers also may provide comments on tree-marking paint specifications or other requirements. This portion of the meeting is open only to paint manufacturers, the Committee, and committee staff to ensure that trade secrets will not be disclosed to other paint manufacturers or to the public. Paint manufacturers wishing to make presentations to the Tree-Marking Paint Committee during the closed session should contact the committee chairperson at the telephone number listed at **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION** in this notice. The second closed session is planned for approximately 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. on May 17, 2012. This session is reserved for Tree-Marking Paint Committee members only.

Any person with special access needs should contact the Chairperson to make those accommodations. Space for individuals who are not members of the National Tree-Marking Paint Committee is limited and will be available to the public on a first-come, first-served basis.

Dated: March 30, 2012.

Faye L. Krueger,

Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest System.

[FR Doc. 2012–8248 Filed 4–4–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–11–P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Sunshine Act Notice

AGENCY: United States Commission on Civil Rights.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

DATE AND TIME: Friday, April 13, 2012; 9:30 a.m. EDT.

PLACE: 624 Ninth Street NW., Room 540, Washington, DC 20425.

Briefing Agenda

This briefing is open to the public.

Sex Trafficking as a Gender-Based Violation of Civil Rights

Introductory Remarks by the Chairman
Panel 1

Panelist Statements
Discussion

Panel 2
Panelist Statements
Discussion

Panel 3
Panelist Statements
Discussion
Adjourn Briefing

Meeting Agenda

This meeting is open to the public.