

recommended to the Secretary that the application be granted and the Secretary approved the application on January 20, 1995.

Before a new market can be officially designated, a referendum must be held to determine that a two-thirds majority of producers favor the designation. It is hereby determined that the referendum will be held by mail during the period of February 6–10, 1995. The purpose of the referendum is to determine whether farmers who sold their tobacco on the designated markets at Tifton and Fitzgerald-Ocilla are in favor of, or opposed to, the designation of the consolidated market for the 1995 and succeeding crop years. Accordingly, if a two-thirds majority of those tobacco producers voting in the referendum favor this consolidation, a new market will be designated as and will be called Tifton-Fitzgerald-Ocilla.

To be eligible to vote in the referendum a tobacco producer must have sold flue-cured tobacco on either the Tifton or Fitzgerald-Ocilla, Georgia, auction markets during the 1994 marketing season. Any farmer who believes he or she is eligible to vote in the referendum but has not received a mail ballot by February 6, 1995, should immediately contact Larry L. Crabtree at (202) 205–0235.

The referendum will be held in accordance with the provisions for referenda of the Tobacco Inspection Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 511d) and the regulations for such referendum set forth in 7 CFR 29.74.

Dated: January 27, 1995.

**Lon Hatamiya,**  
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 95–2584 Filed 2–1–95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–02–P

## 7 CFR Part 29

[TB–94–32]

### Tobacco Inspection—Growers Referendum

**AGENCY:** Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of referendum.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces that a referendum will be conducted by mail during the period of February 6–10, 1995, for producers of flue-cured tobacco who sell their tobacco at auction in Fairmont and Fair Bluff, North Carolina, to determine producer approval of the designation of the Fairmont and Fair Bluff tobacco markets as one consolidated auction market.

**DATES:** The referendum will be held February 6–10, 1995.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Larry L. Crabtree, Deputy Director, Tobacco Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, United States Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, DC 20090–6456; telephone number (202) 205–0235.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given of a mail referendum on the designation of a consolidated auction market at Fairmont and Fair Bluff, North Carolina. Fairmont and Fair Bluff, North Carolina, were designated on June 26, 1942, (7 CFR 29.8001) as flue-cured tobacco auction markets under the Tobacco Inspection Act (7 U.S.C. 511 *et seq.*). Under this Act both have been receiving mandatory grading services from USDA.

On July 14, 1994, an application was made to the Secretary of Agriculture to consolidate the designated markets of Fairmont and Fair Bluff, North Carolina. The application, filed by warehouse operators in those markets, was made pursuant to the regulations promulgated under the Tobacco Inspection Act (7 CFR part 29.1–29.3). On November 10, 1994, a public hearing was held in Fair Bluff, North Carolina, pursuant to the regulations. A Review Committee, established pursuant to § 29.3(h) of the regulations (7 CFR 29.3 (h)), has reviewed and considered the application, the testimony presented at the hearing, the exhibits received in evidence, and other available information. The Committee recommended to the Secretary that the application be granted and the Secretary approved the application on January 20, 1995.

Before a new market can be officially designated, a referendum must be held to determine that a two-thirds majority of producers favor the designation. It is hereby determined that the referendum will be held by mail during the period of February 6–10, 1995. The purpose of the referendum is to determine whether farmers who sold their tobacco on the designated markets at Fairmont and Fair Bluff are in favor of, or opposed to, the designation of the consolidated market for the 1995 and succeeding crop years. Accordingly, if a two-thirds majority of those tobacco producers voting in the referendum favor this consolidation, a new market will be designated as and will be called Fairmont-Fair Bluff.

To be eligible to vote in the referendum a tobacco producer must have sold flue-cured tobacco on either the Fairmont or Fair Bluff, North Carolina, auction markets during the 1994 marketing season. Any farmer who

believes he or she is eligible to vote in the referendum but has not received a mail ballot by February 6, 1995, should immediately contact Larry L. Crabtree at (202) 205–0235.

The referendum will be held in accordance with the provisions for referenda of the Tobacco Inspection Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 511d) and the regulations for such referendum set forth in 7 CFR 29.74.

Dated: January 27, 1995.

**Lon Hatamiya,**  
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 95–2586 Filed 2–1–95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–02–P

## 7 CFR Part 29

[TB–94–37]

### Tobacco Inspection—Growers Referendum

**AGENCY:** Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of referendum.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces that a referendum will be conducted by mail during the period of February 6–10, 1995, for producers of flue-cured tobacco who sell their tobacco at auction in Kingstree and Hemingway, South Carolina, to determine producer approval of the designation of the Kingstree and Hemingway tobacco markets as one consolidated auction market.

**DATES:** The referendum will be held February 6–10, 1995.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Larry L. Crabtree, Deputy Director, Tobacco Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, United States Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, DC 20090–6456; telephone number (202) 205–0235.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given of a mail referendum on the designation of a consolidated auction market at Kingstree and Hemingway, South Carolina. Kingstree and Hemingway, South Carolina, were designated on June 26, 1942, and June 16, 1950, respectively, (7 CFR 29.8001) as flue-cured tobacco auction markets under the Tobacco Inspection Act (7 U.S.C. 511 *et seq.*). Under this Act both have been receiving mandatory grading services from USDA.

On September 6, 1994, an application was made to the Secretary of Agriculture to consolidate the designated markets of Kingstree and Hemingway, South Carolina. The application, filed by warehouse operators in those markets, was made

pursuant to the regulations promulgated under the Tobacco Inspection Act (7 CFR part 29.1-29.3). On November 9, 1994, a public hearing was held in Kingstree, South Carolina, pursuant to the regulations. A Review Committee, established pursuant to § 29.3(h) of the regulations (7 CFR 29.3 (h)), has reviewed and considered the application, the testimony presented at the hearing, the exhibits received in evidence, and other available information. The Committee recommended to the Secretary that the application be granted and the Secretary approved the application on January 20, 1995.

Before a new market can be officially designated, a referendum must be held to determine that a two-thirds majority of producers favor the designation. It is hereby determined that the referendum will be held by mail during the period of February 6-10, 1995. The purpose of the referendum is to determine whether farmers who sold their tobacco on the designated markets at Kingstree and Hemingway are in favor of, or opposed to, the designation of the consolidated market for the 1995 and succeeding crop years. Accordingly, if a two-thirds majority of those tobacco producers voting in the referendum favor this consolidation, a new market will be designated as and will be called Kingstree-Hemingway.

To be eligible to vote in the referendum a tobacco producer must have sold flue-cured tobacco on either the Kingstree and Hemingway, South Carolina, auction markets during the 1994 marketing season. Any farmer who believes he or she is eligible to vote in the referendum but has not received a mail ballot by February 6, 1995, should immediately contact Larry L. Crabtree at (202) 205-0235.

The referendum will be held in accordance with the provisions for referenda of the Tobacco Inspection Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 511d) and the regulations for such referendum set forth in 7 CFR 29.74.

Dated: January 27, 1995.

**Lon Hatamiya,**

*Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 95-2580 Filed 2-1-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

## Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

### 9 CFR Part 94

[Docket No. 94-107-1]

### Switzerland; Change in Disease Status

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** We are proposing to declare Switzerland free of rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease, and Exotic Newcastle disease (VVND). As part of this proposed action, we would add Switzerland to the lists of countries that, although declared free of rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease, and VVND, are subject to restrictions on meat and other animal products offered for importation into the United States. Declaring Switzerland free of rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease, and VVND appears to be appropriate because the last outbreak of rinderpest in Switzerland occurred in 1871, there have been no outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease in Switzerland since 1980, and there have been no outbreaks of VVND in commercial production since 1989. This proposed rule would remove the prohibition on the importation into the United States, from Switzerland, of ruminants and fresh, chilled, and frozen meat of ruminants, although those importations would be subject to certain restrictions. This proposed rule would also relieve certain prohibitions and restrictions on the importation, from Switzerland, of milk and milk products of ruminants and of certain poultry and poultry products.

**DATES:** Consideration will be given only to comments received on or before April 3, 1995.

**ADDRESSES:** Please send an original and three copies of your comments to Chief, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, USDA, P.O. Drawer 810, Riverdale, MD 20738. Please state that your comments refer to Docket No. 94-107-1. Comments received may be inspected at USDA, room 1141, South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons wishing to inspect comments are requested to call ahead on (202) 690-2817 to facilitate entry into the comment reading room.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Kathleen Akin, Senior Staff Veterinarian, Import-Export Products Staff, National Center for Import-Export, Veterinary Services, APHIS, USDA, P.O.

Drawer 810, Riverdale, MD 20738. The telephone number for the agency contact will change when agency offices in Hyattsville, MD, move to Riverdale, MD, during January. Telephone: (301) 436-7830 (Hyattsville); (301) 734-7830 (Riverdale).

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

The regulations in 9 CFR part 94 (referred to below as the regulations) govern the importation into the United States of specified animals and animal products in order to prevent the introduction into the United States of various animal diseases, including rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), and Exotic Newcastle disease (VVND). FMD and rinderpest are dangerous and destructive communicable diseases of ruminants and swine. VVND is a contagious, infectious, and communicable disease of poultry.

Section 94.1(a)(1) of the regulations provides that rinderpest or FMD exists in all countries of the world except those listed in § 94.1(a)(2), which have been declared to be free of both diseases. Section 94.6(a)(1) of the regulations provides that VVND exists in all countries of the world except those listed in § 94.6(a)(2), which have been declared to be free of VVND. We will consider declaring a country to be free of rinderpest, FMD, and VVND if there have been no reported cases of the diseases in that country for at least the previous 1-year period and no vaccinations for rinderpest, FMD, or VVND have been administered to swine, ruminants, or poultry in that country for at least the previous 1-year period.

The last outbreak of rinderpest in Switzerland occurred in 1871. There have been no outbreaks of FMD in Switzerland since 1980, and there have been no vaccinations for FMD in Switzerland since January 1991. There have been no outbreaks of VVND in commercial production since 1989. There was an isolated case this year which occurred in a backyard flock and is unrelated to the commercial poultry industry. Backyard flocks are owned by families for their personal consumption and are separate from commercial production. This case included a flock of 6 birds located in a remote valley in the Swiss Alps. Based on these considerations, the government of Switzerland has requested that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) declare Switzerland free of FMD, rinderpest, and VVND.

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) reviewed