

Expiration Date of Approval: June 30, 1996.

Type of Request: Intent to extend and revise a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The primary objective of the National Agricultural Statistics Service is to prepare and issue State and national estimates of crop and livestock production. The Agricultural Labor Survey provides statistics on the number of agricultural workers, hours worked, and wage rates. Number of workers and hours worked are used to estimate agricultural productivity. Wage rates are used in the administration of the "H-2A" Program and for setting Adverse Effect Wage Rates. Agricultural Labor Survey data are also used to carry out provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response.

Respondents: Farms and businesses.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 47,100.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 11,800 hours.

Copies of this information collection and related instructions can be obtained without charge from Larry Gambrell, the Agency OMB Clearance Officer, at (202) 720-5778.

Comments: 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 the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to: Larry Gambrell, Agency OMB Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Room 4162, South Building, Washington, D.C. 20250-2000.

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.

Signed at Washington, D.C., March 1, 1996.

Donald M. Bay,

Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

[FR Doc. 96-5318 Filed 3-6-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-20-M

ARCTIC RESEARCH COMMISSION

Meetings

February 21, 1996

Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Arctic Research Commission will hold its 42nd Meeting in Washington, DC, on March 25 and 26, 1996. On Monday, March 25, the Commission will meet in joint session with the Board of Directors of the Arctic Research Consortium of the United States (ARCUS) to explore issues of common interest (this meeting is open to the public). A Business Session open to the public will convene at 1:00 p.m. in the William Penn Room of the Wyndham Bristol Hotel, 2430 Pennsylvania Ave., NW. Agenda items include:

- (1) Call to order and approval of the Agenda.
- (2) Approval of the minutes of the 41st Meeting.
- (3) Reports of Congressional Liaisons.
- (4) Agency Reports.
- (5) Information Items
 - (a) International Research in the Sea of Okhotsk
 - (b) The Komi Oil Spill Cleanup.

The business meeting will be followed by an Executive Session.

On Tuesday, March 26, the Commission will receive a briefing on programs of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. followed by adjournment of the 42nd Meeting.

Any person planning to attend this meeting who requires special accessibility features and/or auxiliary aids, such as sign language interpreters must inform the Commission in advance of those needs.

Contact Person for More Information: Dr. Garrett W. Brass, Executive Director, Arctic Research Commission, 703-525-0111 or TDD 703-306-0090.

Garrett W. Brass,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 96-5324 Filed 3-6-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Final Certification for the Consolidation of Four (4) Weather Service Offices (WSOs)

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 7, 1996.

ADDRESS: Requests for copies of the final consolidation certification packages should be sent to Janet Gilmer, Room 12316, 1325 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie Scanlon at 301-713-1413.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On February 27, 1996 the Secretary of Commerce approved and transmitted the following four (4) certifications to Congress:

- (1) Residual New Orleans WSO;
- (2) Residual Tulsa WSO;
- (3) Residual Oklahoma City WSO; and
- (4) Residual Phoenix WSO.

The NWS is now completing the certification requirements by publishing the final consolidation Certifications in the Federal Register. There were no public comments received for consideration.

Dated: March 4, 1996.

Elbert W. Friday, Jr.,

Assistant Administrator for Weather Services.

[FR Doc. 96-5409 Filed 3-6-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-12-M

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Coffee, Sugar and Cocoa Exchange: Proposed Amendments Relating to the Quality Standards, Delivery Ports, Packaging, Demurrage, and Trading Month Specifications for the White Sugar Futures Contract

AGENCY: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

ACTION: Notice of proposed contract rule change.

SUMMARY: The Coffee, Sugar and Cocoa Exchange ("CSCE or Exchange") has submitted proposed amendments to its white sugar futures contract. The primary amendments will: (1) Change the quality specifications by increasing the maximum color and moisture allowable in deliverable sugar, and eliminating the maximum ash content

standard; (2) add 52 ports to the existing list of 20 ports at which delivery may be made; (3) change the packaging material in which sugar must be delivered; (4) establish a schedule of fees payable by the deliverer to the receiver over and above the demurrage fees when vessels remain on demurrage for a period exceeding 15 days; and (5) add September and November and delete October from the list of delivery months.

In accordance with Section 5a(a)(12) of the Commodity Exchange Act and acting pursuant to the authority delegated by Commission Regulation 140.96, the Acting Director of the Division of Economic Analysis ("Division") of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("Commission") has determined, on behalf of the Commission, that the proposed amendments are of major economic significance. On behalf of the Commission, the Division is requesting public comment on the proposal.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before March 14, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons should submit their views and comments to Jean A. Webb, Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street NW., Washington, DC 20581. Reference should be made to the proposed amendments relating to changes in the quality, delivery ports, packaging, demurrage, and trading month specifications for the white sugar futures contract.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Frederick V. Linse, Division of Economic Analysis, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street NW., Washington, DC 20581, telephone (202) 418-5273.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The white sugar futures contract currently requires delivery of 50 metric tons of white sugar, in sound jute bags, meeting specified physical and chemical standards for polarization, moisture, ash content, and color. Delivery is effected by loading white sugar FOB-stowed aboard the receiver's vessel at a port selected by the deliverer from a list of 20 designated ports located in the European Community (Belgium, France, Germany, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom), the United States, Poland, Korea, Thailand, and Brazil.¹

¹ The contract's existing delivery ports are: Antwerp, Belgium; Rouen, France; Hamburg, Germany; Rotterdam and Flushing, Netherlands; Gydansk/Gdynia, Poland; Immingham, United Kingdom; Baltimore, Galveston, New Orleans, New York and Savannah, United States; Imbituba/Itajai,

The delivery months are January, March, May, July, and October.

The proposed amendments will change the contract's quality specifications for deliverable sugar by increasing to 100 from 60 the maximum allowable number of color units using ICUMSA test method No.4, increasing to .08 from .06 percent the maximum moisture content, and eliminating the maximum ash content standard (the polarization standard will not change). The amendments will also require that the sugar delivered under the contract shall be from the crop or season current at the time of shipment. Currently, the rules require that the sugar be manufactured within the past twelve months.

The proposed amendments will increase by 52 the number of delivery ports. Under the proposal, 40 new delivery ports would be specified for 23 countries that currently do not have delivery ports.² In addition, a total of 12 new delivery ports would be added for six countries that currently have delivery ports.³

The proposed amendments will also establish a new requirement that a minimum of one hundred contracts be delivered for each delivery port designated on a delivery notice. In addition, receivers will be required to provide a minimum five-ton geared vessel for loading or, if the vessel provided is gearless, the receiver shall be responsible for providing loading facilities. The proposal also will require that sugar be delivered in woven polypropylene bags rather than in sound jute bags, as currently specified.

The proposal will establish a schedule of daily fees that will accrue to the receiver from the deliverer, over and above demurrage, if the vessel is not loaded by the expiration of lay time for the declared vessel. The proposed schedule of daily fees, which is

Maceio, Recife, and Santos, Brazil; Inchon, Pusan, and Ulsan, Korea; and Kosichang, Thailand.

² The proposed new delivery ports for the 23 new countries are: Porkkala and Helsinki, Finland; Lisbon, Portugal; Malmo, Sweden; Odessa and Nikolayev, Ukraine; Dubai, Dubai; Jeddah, Saudi Arabia; Mersin, Turkey; Nacala and Beira, Malawi; Durban, South Africa; Maputo, Swaziland; Maputo and Beira, Zimbabwe; Buenos Aires, Argentina; Buenaventura, Columbia; Axajutla, El Salvador; Quetzal, Guatemala; Vera Cruz, Manzanillo and Mazatlan, Mexico; Corinto, Nicaragua; Brisbane, Bundaberg, Fremantle, Mackay, Melbourne, and Townsville, Australia; Shanghai, Dalian, and Huangpu, China; Bombay and Madras, India; Penang, Malaysia; Singapore; and Iliolo, Manila, and Ormoc, Philippines.

³ The proposed new delivery ports for specified countries that currently have existing delivery ports are: Calais and Le Harve, France; Rostock, Germany; Amsterdam and Eemshaven, Netherlands; Crockett, United States; Parangua and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; and Bangkok and Laem Chabang, Thailand.

expressed as specified percentages of the daily demurrage rate that increase with the number of calendar days that the vessel is subject to demurrage, is shown below:

1st 15 days: 0% of the daily demurrage rate
2nd period of 15 days: 50% of the daily demurrage rate
All days thereafter: 100% of the daily demurrage rate.

The proposed amendments also will add September and November to, and delete October from, the list of delivery months.

The proposed amendments will give the receiver the right to observe the weighing, sampling, and testing procedures for the delivery sugar by a superintendent appointed by the deliverer.⁴ In addition, the amendments will give the receiver the right to request that another superintendent weigh, sample, and test the sugar if a dispute arises, and the decision of this superintendent shall be binding.

The CSCE intends to apply the proposed amendments only to newly listed contract months following Commission approval.

In support of the proposal to specify new quality and packaging standards, and increase the number of delivery ports, the Exchange states that these changes reflect commercial practices and will increase the supply of white sugar available for delivery on the futures contract. The CSCE stated that the proposal to replace the October delivery month with September and November contract months will better serve the hedging needs of the sugar industry. The CSCE indicates that the proposal to require the delivery of at least 100 contracts per port is justified because delivery of smaller quantities at individual ports would be relatively expensive for receivers to transport and would not be consistent with commercial practice. The Exchange also said that the proposed procedure for third party testing of sugar in the event of a dispute reflects commercial practice.

On behalf of the Commission, the Division is requesting comment on the proposed amendments. Commenters are requested to address the extent to which the proposed amendments reflect commercial practices and the effect (if any) the proposed amendments would have on the quantity of white sugar likely to be economically available for delivery on the contract. In addition,

⁴ The contract's current terms require the deliverer to provide an internationally recognized or State superintendent to weigh, sample, and test sugar.

comments specifically are requested regarding the following matters: (1) the extent to which the proposal to permit delivery at par of all sugar which has a color value equal to or less than 100 color units and has a moisture content equal to or less than .08 percent reflects cash market pricing relationships; (2) the extent to which the CSCE's proposal to permit delivery at par at each proposed delivery port reflects cash market pricing conditions between each such port and all other existing and proposed delivery ports; and (3) the extent to which the proposal to require the delivery of a minimum of 100 contracts at each delivery port reflects commercial practices and whether it would act as an impediment to delivery on the contract.

Copies of the proposed amendments will be available for inspection at the Office of the Secretariat, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street NW., Washington, D.C. 20581. Copies of the proposed amendments also can be obtained through the Office of the Secretariat by mail at the above address or by phone at (202) 418-5097.

The materials submitted by the CSCE in support of the proposed amendments may be available upon request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Commission's regulations thereunder (17 C.F.R. Part 145 (1987)). Requests for copies of such materials should be made to the FOI, Privacy and Sunshine Act Compliance Staff of the Office of the Secretariat at the Commission's headquarters in accordance with C.F.R. 145.7 and 145.8.

Any person interested in submitting written data, views or arguments on the proposed amendments should send such comments to Jean A. Webb, Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street NW., Washington, D.C. 20581 by the specified date.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on February 29, 1996.

Blake Imel,

Acting Director.

[FR Doc. 96-5321 Filed 3-6-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-P

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING:
Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

TIME AND DATE: 11:00 a.m., Friday, March 29, 1996.

PLACE: 1155 21st St., N.W., Washington, D.C., 9th Floor Conference Room.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Surveillance matters.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Jean A. Webb, 202-418-5100.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 96-5609 Filed 3-5-96; 4:00 pm]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-M

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING:
Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

TIME AND DATE: 11:00 a.m., Friday, March 22, 1996.

PLACE: 1155 21st St., N.W., Washington, D.C., 9th Floor Conference Room.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Surveillance matters.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Jean A. Webb, 202-418-5100.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 96-5610 Filed 3-5-96; 4:00 pm]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-M

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING:
Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

TIME AND DATE: 11:00 a.m., Friday, March 15, 1996.

PLACE: 1155 21st St., NW., Washington, D.C., 9th Floor Conference Room.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Surveillance matters.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Jean A. Webb, 202-418-5100.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 96-5611 Filed 3-5-96; 4:00 pm]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-M

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING:
Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

TIME AND DATE: 11:00 a.m., Friday, March 8, 1996.

PLACE: 1155 21st St., N.W., Washington, D.C., 9th Floor Conference Room.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Surveillance matters.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Jean A. Webb, 202-418-5100.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 96-5612 Filed 3-5-96; 4:00 pm]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-M

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING:
Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

TIME AND DATE: 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 26, 1996.

PLACE: 1155 21st St., N.W., Washington, D.C., 9th Floor Conference Room.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Rule enforcement review.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Jean A. Webb, 202-418-5100.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 96-5613 Filed 3-5-96; 4:00 pm]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-M

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING:
Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

TIME AND DATE: 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 26, 1996.

PLACE: 1155 21st St., N.W., Washington, D.C., 9th Floor Conference Room.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Enforcement objectives.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Jean A. Webb, 202-418-5100.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 96-5614 Filed 3-5-96; 4:00 pm]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-M

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING:
Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

TIME AND DATE: 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 26, 1996.

PLACE: 1155 21st St., N.W., Washington, D.C., 9th Floor Conference Room.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Enforcement matters.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Jean A. Webb, 202-418-5100.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 96-5615 Filed 3-5-96; 4:00 pm]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-M