

Proposed Rules

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

7 CFR Part 29

[Docket No. TB-95-13]

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 April 15–26, 1996, for producers of burley tobacco who sell their tobacco at auction in Horse Cave, Glasgow, and Greensburg, Kentucky, to determine producer approval of the designation of the Horse Cave, Glasgow, and Greensburg tobacco markets as one consolidated auction market.

DATES: The referendum will be held April 15–26, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rebecca Fial, Assistant to the Director, Tobacco Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, United States Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, DC 20090–6456; telephone number (202) 260–0151.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given of a mail referendum on the designation of a consolidated auction market at Horse Cave, Glasgow, and Greensburg, Kentucky. Horse Cave was designated on November 14, 1936, and Glasgow and Greensburg, Kentucky, were designated on October 25, 1941, and June 16, 1950, respectively, (7 CFR 29.8001) as burley 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 February 23, 1995, an application was made to the Secretary of Agriculture to consolidate the designated markets of Horse Cave, Glasgow, and Greensburg. 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 September 13, 1995, a public hearing was held in Cave City, Kentucky, 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 February 26, 1996.

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 April 15–26, 1996. The purpose of the referendum is to determine whether farmers who sold their tobacco on the designated markets at Horse Cave, Glasgow, and Greensburg are in favor of, or opposed to, the designation of the consolidated market for the 1996 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 Horse Cave-Glasgow-Greensburg.

To be eligible to vote in the referendum a tobacco producer must have sold burley tobacco on either the Horse Cave, Glasgow, or Greensburg, Kentucky, auction markets during the 1995 marketing season. Any farmer who believes he or she is eligible to vote in the referendum but has not received a mail ballot by April 15, 1996, should immediately contact Rebecca Fial at (202) 260–0151.

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: March 11, 1996.

Lon Hatamiya,
Administrator.

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7 CFR Part 29

[Docket No. TB-95-15]

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 April 15–26, 1996, for producers of burley tobacco who sell their tobacco at auction in Boone and West Jefferson, North Carolina, and Mountain City, Tennessee, to determine producer approval of the designation of the Boone, West Jefferson, and Mountain City tobacco markets as one consolidated auction market.

DATES: The referendum will be held April 15–26, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rebecca Fial, Assistant to the Director, Tobacco Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, United States Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, DC 20090–6456; telephone number (202) 260–0151.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given of a mail referendum on the designation of a consolidated auction market at Boone and West Jefferson, North Carolina, and Mountain City, Tennessee. Boone, West Jefferson, and Mountain City were designated on October 25, 1941, October 25, 1948, and November 1, 1951, respectively, (7 CFR 29.8001) as burley tobacco auction markets under the Tobacco Inspection Act (7 U.S.C. 511 *et seq.*). Under this Act those markets have been receiving mandatory grading services from USDA.

On July 10, 1995, an application was made to the Secretary of Agriculture to consolidate the designated markets of Boone and West Jefferson, North Carolina, and Mountain City, Tennessee. 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 September 15, 1995, a public hearing was held in Boone, 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