

Proposed Rules

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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.

NORTHEAST DAIRY COMPACT COMMISSION

7 CFR Chapter XIII

Notice of Special Meeting for Action on Proposed Rule

AGENCY: Northeast Dairy Compact Commission.

ACTION: Notice of special meeting for action on proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Compact Commission will hold a Special Meeting to review comment on the Proposed Rule to adopt a compact over-order price regulation issued on April 28, 1997 and to debate whether to adopt the proposed rule as a final rule in light of the comment received. The Commission will also consider certain matters relating to administrative matters and the referendum procedure.

DATES: The meeting is scheduled for May 14, 1997 commencing at 10 am to adjournment.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn, Capitol Conference Room, 172 North Main, Concord, NH. (Exit 14 off Interstate 93.)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel Smith, Executive Director, Northeast Dairy Compact Commission, 43 State Street, PO Box 1058, Montpelier, VT, 05601-1058. Telephone 802-229-1941.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that the Northeast Dairy Compact Commission will hold a Special Meeting, pursuant to Article V(C)(3) of the Northeast Interstate Dairy Compact, to debate the adoption of a compact over-order price regulation as a final rule.

On April 16, 1997 the Northeast Dairy Compact Commission adopted a Proposed Rule to establish a Compact Over-Order Price Regulation, as published in 62 FR 23031, April 28, 1997. At the Special Meeting, the Compact Commission will consider the comment received on the proposed rule. The Commission will also debate

whether to adopt the proposed rule as a final rule, in light of the comment received.

The Commission will also consider and possibly act upon certain matters relating to its administrative operation and the referendum procedure.

Authority: (a) Article V, Section 11 of the Northeast Interstate Dairy Compact, and all other applicable Articles and Sections, as approved by Section 147, of the Federal Agricultural Improvement and Reform Act (FAIR ACT), Pub. L. 104-127, and as thereby set forth in S.J. Res. 28(1)(b) of the 104th Congress; Finding of Compelling Public Interest by United States Department of Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman, August 8, 1996 and March 20, 1997.

(b) Bylaws of the Northeast Dairy Compact Commission, adopted November 21, 1996.

Daniel Smith,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 97-11844 Filed 5-6-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

7 CFR Parts 319, 321, and 330

[Docket No. 97-010-1]

Foreign Potatoes

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: We are proposing to amend our regulations concerning imported plants and plant products to prohibit the importation of potato tubers from Bermuda and to prohibit the importation of potato plants from Newfoundland and a portion of Central Saanich, British Columbia, Canada. These changes appear necessary to prevent the introduction of foreign potato diseases and insect pests into the United States. We are also proposing to reorganize and streamline the regulations concerning the importation of potatoes into the United States. These changes would remove unnecessary regulations and relieve restrictions that no longer appear warranted.

DATES: Consideration will be given only to comments received on or before July 7, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Please send an original and three copies of your comments to

Docket No. 97-010-1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, suite 3C03, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comments refer to Docket No. 97-010-1. 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:** Mr. James Petit de Mange, Staff Officer, Import-Export Team, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road, Unit 140, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236; (301)-734-6799; fax (301)-734-5786; E-mail: jpdmanage@aphis.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The regulations concerning the importation of foreign potato tubers are contained in 7 CFR part 321, Restricted Entry Orders, Subpart—Foreign Potatoes (referred to below as the Foreign Potatoes regulations). The Foreign Potatoes regulations allow the importation of potato tubers from Bermuda and Canada (except for Newfoundland and a portion of South Saanich, British Columbia) without restriction. The Foreign Potatoes regulations also contain provisions for importing potato tubers from other countries that are free of injurious potato diseases and insect pests that are new to or not widely distributed throughout the United States. At present there are no countries considered free of injurious potato diseases and insect pests except Bermuda and parts of Canada.

The regulations concerning the importation of foreign potato plants are contained in 7 CFR 319.37 through 319.37-14, Subpart—Nursery Stock, Plants, Roots, Bulbs, Seeds, and Other Plant Products (referred to below as the Nursery Stock regulations). The Nursery Stock regulations prohibit the importation of potato plants from all parts of the world except Canada.

The regulations concerning the importation of most foreign fruits and vegetables are contained in 7 CFR 319.56 through 319.56-8, Subpart—Fruits and Vegetables (referred to below