until the earliest of the 20 quotas ended. However, Presidential Proclamation 6948 dated October 29, 1996, added six new HTS subheadings for quotas—21 through 26. A maximum of 26 quotas may now be in effect at one time.

To be effective as soon as possible, Quota 25 is established as of June 9, 1997, and applies to upland cotton purchased not later than September 6, 1997, and entered into the United States not later than December 5, 1997. The quota amount, 45,207,456 kilograms (99,665,462 pounds), is equal to 1 week's consumption of upland cotton by domestic mills at the seasonally-adjusted average rate of the most recent 3 months for which data are available—December 1996 through February 1997. The special import quota identifies a quantity of imports that is not subject to the over-quota tariff rate of a tariff-rate quota. The quota is not divided by staple length or by country of origin. The quota does not affect existing tariff rates or phytosanitary regulations. The quota does not apply to Extra Long Staple cotton.

Authority: Sec. 136, Pub. L. 104–127 and U.S. Note 6(a), Subchapter III, Chapter 99 of the HTS.

Signed at Washington, DC, on May 27, 1997.

Dan Glickman,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97–14323 Filed 5–30–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–05–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Secretary of Agriculture's Special Cotton Import Quota Announcement Number 23

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: A special import quota for upland cotton equal to 45,616,931 kilograms (100,568,201 pounds) is established in accordance with section 136(b) of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (the 1996 Act) under Presidential Proclamation 6301 of June 7, 1991, and Presidential Proclamation 6948 of October 29, 1996. The quota is referenced as the Secretary of Agriculture's Special Cotton Import Quota Announcement Number 23, effective May 26, 1997, and is set forth in subheading 9903.52.23, subchapter III, chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS).

DATES: The quota is effective as of May 26, 1997, and applies to upland cotton purchased not later than August 23, 1997 (90 days from the date the quota is established), and entered into the United States not later than November 21, 1997 (180 days from the date the quota is established).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gene Rosera, Farm Service Agency, United States Department of Agriculture, Stop 0518, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013–2415 or call (202) 720–3452.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The 1996 Act requires that a special import quota for upland cotton be determined and announced immediately if, for any consecutive 10-week period, the Friday through Thursday average price quotation for the lowest-priced U.S. growth, as quoted for Middling 1 3/32 inch cotton, C.I.F. northern Europe (U.S. Northern Europe price), adjusted for the value of any cotton user marketing certificates issued, exceeds the Northern Europe price by more than 1.25 cents per pound. This condition was met during the consecutive 10-week period that ended March 20, 1997. Therefore, a quota referenced as the Secretary of Agriculture's Special Cotton Import Quota Announcement Number 23, effective May 26, 1997, is hereby established.

Previously there were only 20 subheadings available for designating upland cotton special import quotas in subchapter III of chapter 99 of the HTS. Therefore, at most, only 20 such quotas could be in effect at one time and any additional quota which had been triggered could not become effective until the earliest of the 20 quotas ended. However, Presidential Proclamation 6948 dated October 29, 1996, added six new HTS subheadings for quotas—21 through 26. A maximum of 26 quotas may now be in effect at one time.

To be effective as soon as possible, Quota 23 is established as of May 26, 1997, and applies to upland cotton purchased not later than August 23, 1997, and entered into the United States not later than November 21, 1997. The quota amount, 45,616,931 kilograms (100,568,201 pounds), is equal to 1 week's consumption of upland cotton by domestic mills at the seasonally-adjusted average rate of the most recent 3 months for which data are available—November 1996 through January 1997. The special import quota identifies a quantity of imports that is not subject to the over-quota tariff rate of a tariff-rate quota. The quota is not divided by staple length or by country of origin. The quota does not affect existing tariff rates or phytosanitary regulations. The quota does not apply to Extra Long Staple cotton.

Authority: Sec. 136, Pub. L. 104–127 and U.S. Note 6(a), Subchapter III, Chapter 99 of the HTS.

Signed at Washington, DC, on May 27, 1997.

Dan Glickman,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97–14324 Filed 5–30–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–05–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Secretary of Agriculture's Special Cotton Import Quota Announcement Number 22

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: A special import quota for upland cotton equal to 45,616,931 kilograms (100,568,201 pounds) is established in accordance with section 136(b) of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (the 1996 Act) under Presidential Proclamation 6301 of June 7, 1991, and Presidential Proclamation 6948 of October 29, 1996. The quota is referenced as the Secretary of Agriculture's Special Cotton Import Quota Announcement Number 22, effective May 19, 1997, and is set forth in subheading 9903.52.22, subchapter III, chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS).

DATES: The quota is effective as of May 19, 1997, and applies to upland cotton purchased not later than August 16, 1997 (90 days from the date the quota is established), and entered into the United States not later than November 14, 1997 (180 days from the date the quota is established).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gene Rosera, Farm Service Agency, United States Department of Agriculture, Stop 0518, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013–2415 or call (202) 720–3452.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The 1996 Act requires that a special import quota for upland cotton be determined and announced immediately if, for any consecutive 10-week period, the Friday through Thursday average price quotation for the lowest-priced U.S. growth, as quoted for Middling 1–3/32 inch cotton, C.I.F. northern Europe (U.S. Northern Europe price), adjusted for the value of any cotton user marketing certificates issued, exceeds the Northern Europe price by more than 1.25 cents per pound. This condition was met during the consecutive 10-week period that ended March 6, 1997. Therefore, a quota referenced as the Secretary of Agriculture's Special Cotton Import