

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Nutrition Monitoring Advisory Council; Notice of Meeting

AGENCIES: Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture; National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services.

ACTION: National Nutrition Monitoring Advisory Council; notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announce the meeting of the National Nutrition Monitoring Advisory Council.

DATES: The Council will meet September 18, 1997 for a full-day meeting (8:30 a.m.–5 p.m. e.s.t.) in the Williamsburg Room, 104–A, of USDA's Jamie L. Whitten Federal Building, 14th and Independence Avenues, SW., Washington, DC 20250.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Junko Alice Tamaki, M.P.H., USDA Co-Executive Secretary to the National Nutrition Monitoring Advisory Council, National Program Staff, Agricultural Research Service, 10300 Baltimore Blvd, Bldg. 005, Room 336, Beltsville, MD 20705, (301) 504–6216 or Ronette Briefel, Dr. P.H., HHS Co-Executive Secretary to the National Nutrition Monitoring Advisory Council, National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services, 6525 Belcrest Road, Room 1000, Hyattsville, MD 20782, (301) 436–3473 x157.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

National Nutrition Monitoring Advisory Council Task

The purpose of the nine member Council, consisting of 5 Presidential appointees and 4 Congressional appointees, is to provide scientific and

technical guidance to improve the National Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research Program and the Ten-Year Comprehensive Plan. The Council was established by an Executive Order of the President of the United States, pursuant to Public Law No. 101–445, the National Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research Act of 1990.

The agenda is in the process of being finalized. The tentative agenda includes discussion of welfare reform and nutrition data needs, survey coordination plans for the NHANES (National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey) and CSFII (Continuing Survey of Food Intakes by Individuals), and food composition-related projects. The final agenda is obtainable from the contact persons listed above after August 22, 1997.

Public Participation at Meeting

The meeting is open to the public. Written comments may be sent to the contact persons listed above before or after the meeting. Please call Junko Tamaki (301–504–6216) by September 5 if you will require a sign language interpreter at the meeting.

Dated: August 22, 1997.

I. Miley Gonzalez,

Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics, Department of Agriculture.

[FR Doc. 97–22987 Filed 8–28–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–03–M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Secretary

National Commission on Small Farms; Meeting

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of Agriculture by Departmental Regulation No. 1043–43 dated July 9, 1997, established the National Commission on Small Farms (Commission) and further identified the Natural Resources Conservation Service to provide support to the Commission. The purpose of the Commission is to gather and analyze information regarding small farms and ranches and recommend to the Secretary of Agriculture a national policy and strategy to ensure their continued viability. The Commission's next meeting is September 15 and 16, 1997.

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF MEETING: The Commission's fourth public meeting is September 15 and 16 at the Beverly Garland Hotel and Conference Center, 1780 Tribute Road, Sacramento, California. The meeting is open to the public. On September 15, the Commission will meet from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. to hear public testimony. On September 16, the Commission will meet from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to conduct Commission business. We are seeking testimony from various sources to arrive at conclusions and recommendations that will ensure the continued viability of small farms. The Commission requests that testimony and comments include ideas and recommendations based on the following questions. Concerns or problems of individual farms that relate to specific USDA programs should be addressed only in the context of a recommendation for the Commission to consider.

The questions are:

1. How are current USDA programs helping or hurting the viability of small farms?

2. What are the needs of small farms in terms of financing, research, extension, marketing and risk management and other areas? What recommendations would you make about these needs that could be part of a long-range strategy to ensure the continued viability of small farms?

3. Are there innovative non-governmental or state efforts to assist beginning and smaller independent farms that might be replicated or supplemented at the Federal level?

4. What changes in USDA policy or practices are needed to make USDA programs in the areas of credit, research, extension, marketing, risk management and other areas more effective in enabling small farms to survive and thrive?

5. What new programs could provide effective and affordable support for small farmers as commodity programs are phased out?

6. What can be done to assist beginning farmers and farm workers to become farm owners?

7. What role should the Federal government play to ensure a diversified, decentralized and competitive farm structure?

8. What do small farms contribute to your community and your state?