

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

Agricultural Marketing Service

[TM-98-00-3]

Notice of Meeting of the National Organic Standards Board

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) announces a forthcoming meeting of the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB).

DATES: March 16, 1998, at 12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.; March 17, 1998, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; March 18, 1998, from 8:00 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and March 19, 1998, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for the NOSB.

PLACE: Doubletree Hotel Ontario Airport, 222 N. Vineyard, Ontario, California 91764. Phone: (909) 983-0909.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael I. Hankin, Senior Marketing Specialist, Room 2510 South Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture, AMS, Transportation and Marketing, National Organic Program Staff, PO Box 96456, Washington, DC 20090-6456. Phone (202) 720-3252.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 2119 (7 U.S.C. 6518) of the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (OFPA), as amended (7 U.S.C. 6501 *et seq.*) requires the establishment of the NOSB. The purpose of the NOSB is to assist in the development of standards for substances to be used in organic production and to advise the Secretary on any other aspects of the implementation of OFPA. The NOSB met for the first time in Washington, D.C., in March 1992 and currently has six committees working on various aspects of the program. The committees are: Crops Standards; Processing,

Labeling and Packaging; Livestock Standards; Accreditation; Materials; and International Issues. In August 1994, the NOSB provided its initial recommendations for the National Organic Program (NOP) to the Secretary of Agriculture and since that time has submitted 30 addenda to the recommendations and reviewed more than 170 substances for inclusion on the National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances. The last meeting of the NOSB was held in September 1996, in Indianapolis, Indiana. The Department of Agriculture (USDA) published its proposed rule for the NOP in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 65849) on December 16, 1997. An extension of the comment period on the proposed rule was published in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 6498-6499) on February 9, 1998. The comment period has been extended until April 30, 1998.

Purpose and Agenda

The main purposes of this meeting are to provide an opportunity for the NOSB to listen to comments from interested persons regarding the proposed rule for the NOP, for the NOSB to review its Committee reports on the proposed rule, and for the NOSB to prepare comments on the proposed rule to be submitted to USDA. Minutes of the NOSB meeting, including minutes of oral presentations to the NOSB, will be included in the public record of comments for the proposed rule.

A final agenda for this meeting will be available on March 2, 1998. Persons requesting copies of the final agenda should contact Ms. Karen Thomas at the above address or phone (202) 720-3252.

Type of Meeting

All meetings will be open to the public. Individuals and organizations wishing to provide oral presentations to the NOSB on issues related to the proposed rule should forward the request to Ms. Karen Thomas at the above address or by FAX to (202) 690-3924 by March 10, 1998, in order to be scheduled. The NOSB has scheduled time for public input on March 16, 1998, beginning at 1 p.m. and continuing until 5 p.m. While persons wishing to make a presentation may sign up at the door, advance registration will ensure an opportunity to speak during the allotted time period and will help the NOSB better manage the meeting and accomplish the agenda. It

is our intention to give each individual or organization approximately 5 minutes to present orally their views on the key issues of concern. All persons making an oral presentation are asked also to provide their views in writing. Such written submissions may of course supplement the oral presentation with additional material. Attendees who do not wish to make an oral presentation are invited to submit written comments to the NOSB at this meeting. Those persons submitting written comments should provide 20 copies to the NOSB. All such comments will be included in the minutes of the meeting and placed in the rulemaking record.

Dated: February 9, 1998.

Eileen S. Stommes,

Deputy Administrator, Transportation and Marketing.

[FR Doc. 98-3868 Filed 2-13-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commodity Credit Corporation

Announcement of the Market Access Program for FY 1998

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the availability of funds for the Fiscal Year 1998 Market Access Program (MAP).

DATES: All applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Savings Time, April 20, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marketing Operations Staff, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 1042, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250, (202) 720-4327.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Introduction

The Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) announces that applications are being accepted for participation in the Fiscal Year 1998 MAP. The MAP is designed to encourage the development, maintenance, and expansion of commercial export markets for U.S. agricultural commodities and products. Cost-share assistance is provided to eligible trade organizations to implement approved market