

# Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 63, No. 40

Monday, March 2, 1998

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

### Research, Education, and Economics

#### Notice of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board Meeting

**AGENCY:** Research, Education, and Economics, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., the United States Department of Agriculture announces a meeting of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board, which represents 30 constituent categories, as specified in section 802 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (Pub. L. No. 104-127), has scheduled a National Stakeholder Symposium for March 11, 1998, and a General Advisory Board Meeting, March 12-13, 1998.

The National Stakeholder Symposium will engage stakeholders (producers, industry, academia, rural Americans, consumer public interest groups, general public, and others) in priority-setting discussions and topic-related briefings for USDA Research, Education, and Economics (REE). Non-rated priority topics include: (1) National Agricultural Genome Initiative; (2) Emerging Animal and Plant Issues—Preparedness & Response Initiative; (3) Environmental Stewardship Initiative; (4) Precision Agriculture Initiative; (5) Added Value and New Use Products Initiative; (6) Education and Outreach Initiative; (7) Nutrition Research Initiative; (8) Food Safety Research Initiative; and an over-arching Agriculture Communication and Outreach Initiative.

Stakeholders will be invited to make statements and to hear from a variety of experts about some of the state-of-the-art research to date, challenges ahead, and projected future benefits to the agricultural community. Also time will be allowed at the end of the Symposium for open discussion and audience participation.

The General Advisory Board Meeting on March 12-13 will (a) bring together the input from the Stakeholder Symposium; (b) link priorities to the FY 2000 budget for USDA Research, Education, and Economics; (c) report on Board recommendations to the Secretary on public communications; (d) discuss the future of the Fund for Rural America program; (e) plan for the July 1998 Regional Meeting in Utah; and (f) update Board members on Working Group activities.

**Dates:** National Stakeholder Symposium: March 11, 1998, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., General Meeting: March 12-13, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Place:** Holiday Inn—National Airport (Crystal City), 1489 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202, Grand Ballroom.

**Type of Meeting:** Open to the public.

**Comments:** The public may file written comments before or after the meeting with the contact person. All statements will become a part of the official records of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board and will be kept on file for public review in the Office of the Advisory Board; Research, Education, and Economics; U.S. Department of Agriculture; Washington, D.C. 20250-2255.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Deborah Hanfman, Executive Director, National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board, Research, Education, and Economics Advisory Board Office, Room 3918 South Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP: 2255, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-2255. Telephone: 202-720-3684. Fax: 202-720-6199, or e-mail: lshea@reeusda.gov.

Done at Washington, D.C. this 11th day of February 1998.

**I. Miley Gonzalez,**

*Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics.*

[FR Doc. 98-5194 Filed 2-27-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-22-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Agricultural Marketing Service

[S&T98-001]

#### Plant Variety Protection Advisory Board; Open Meeting

**AGENCY:** Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of a forthcoming meeting of the Plant Variety Protection Advisory Board.

**DATES:** March 25, 1998, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., open to the public.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held in the National Agricultural Library Building, Conference Room 1400 (Fourteenth Floor), Beltsville, Maryland.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Acting Commissioner, Plant Variety Protection Office, Room 500, National Agricultural Library Building, Beltsville, Maryland 20705 (301/504-5518).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to the provisions of section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub.L. No. 92-463 5 U.S.C. App.), this notice is given concerning a Plant Variety Protection Advisory Board meeting. The Board is constituted under section 7 of the Plant Variety Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 2327).

The proposed agenda for the meeting will include discussions of: Plant Variety Protection Office Application Process, Plant Variety Protection Office Progress Report, and other related topics. Written comments may be submitted to the contact person listed above before or after the meeting.

Dated: February 25, 1998.

**Enrique E. Figueroa,**

*Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.*

[FR Doc. 98-5251 Filed 2-27-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P