

livestock products provides a strong foundation upon which to expand.

Voluntary Market-Based Process Verification Program for Seeds

Under the authority of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, 7 U.S.C. 1621–1627, USDA's AMS anticipates that it will propose a voluntary, audit-based system of process verification for the production and labeling of seed. This program would be based on existing seed certification (or equivalent) standards and procedures, and existing AMS process verification programs, with additional quality assurance criteria as needed to substantiate label claims regarding seed quality, including genetic purity. This program will be based on market need and is expected to be of particular benefit to participants who intend to market seeds that have regulatory restrictions or concerns with transgenic event(s) that have been deregulated and commercialized in the United States but not in certain other markets.

Under this program, AMS would verify that minimum criteria for seed production and handling have been followed, thus providing a reasonable assurance that claims regarding seed quality and genetic purity are truthful. AMS will use auditing documentation and onsite monitoring in the process verification program for seeds. AMS will certify that the seed lots produced under this program have met established quality assurance criteria. A statement could be included on a seed label to the effect that USDA-approved quality assurance procedures have been followed. Seed buyers will be assured that appropriate production and handling practices were followed to ensure the accuracy of seed quality claims.

Further, minimum seed certification standards and procedures, as well as labeling requirements, are published in the Federal Seed Act regulations (7 CFR 201). The Federal Seed Act, 7 U.S.C. 1592 *et seq.*, is a truth-in-labeling law that applies to agricultural and vegetable seed in interstate commerce. In addition to labeling requirements of the Federal Seed Act, additional information is allowed on the seed label, provided the claims are truthful. Additional label claims could include information pertaining to identity preservation of the seed lot, specific claims regarding genetic purity or maximum level of occurrence of transgenic material. Under the Federal Seed Act, techniques similar to those under the prospective 1946 Act program, could be used to support any additional claims.

Voluntary Market-Based Process Verification Program for Agricultural Commodities

Under the authority of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, USDA's GIPSA anticipates that it will propose a voluntary, audit-based system of process verification for grains, oilseeds, rice, pulses, and products derived from these products. The proposed system will involve defining minimum requirements for process-based programs to provide assurances through third party process verification services. This program will be based on internationally-recognized quality management system standards. The program will verify existing quality system plans developed by the private sector. It will be flexible enough to incorporate, where appropriate, already existing standards and procedures such as those developed by private organizations. At the same time, the program will have sufficient safeguards to ensure the integrity of its results. This program will be based on market need and is expected to be of particular benefit to participants who intend to market commodities with specific end-use attributes or that have regulatory restrictions or concerns with transgenic event(s) that have been deregulated and commercialized in the United States but not in certain other markets.

Under this prospective program, GIPSA would verify that minimum requirements for commodity production, handling, and processing have been followed. GIPSA will verify compliance with the requirements by reviewing required process documentation plans and auditing the performance adherence to the prescribed plan to ensure the plan is followed. GIPSA will certify as to the market participants' adherence to their processes, when applicable.

GIPSA and AMS plan to propose process verification service programs in the **Federal Register** in the near future.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 71 *et seq.* and 7 U.S.C. 1621 *et seq.*

Dated: July 31, 2002.

Donna Reifschneider,

Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.

A.J. Yates,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Revision of the Land and Resource Management Plan for the Tonto National Forest located in Gila, Maricopa, Pinal and Yavapai Counties, AZ

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Cancellation Notice.

SUMMARY: On September 30, 1999, a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an environmental impact statement of the revision of the Land and Management Plan for the Tonto National forest was published in the **Federal Register** (64 FR 52765–52766). This 1999 NOI is hereby rescinded.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eddie Alford, Planning Group Leader or Paul Stewart, Acting Team Leader, Tonto National Forest, 2324 E. McDowell Road, Phoenix, AZ 85006, telephone (602) 225–5200.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On November 30, 2001 (66 FR 59775–59777), the Chief of the Forest Service, as required by the Land and Resource Management Planning Rule adopted in November 2000, published in plan revision schedule for National Forest System units that have not completed revisions of their plans. This notice set out the schedule for revisions and an explanation of some of the factors that affected scheduling decisions. This schedule indicates a revision initiation date for the Tonto National Forest of 2005. A new notice of intent to revise will be published with the initiation of the plan revision process.

Dated: July 16, 2002.

Lucia M. Turner,
Regional Forester.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Tuolumne County Resource Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Tuolumne County Resource Advisory Committee will meet on August 5, 2002, at the City of Sonora Fire Department, in Sonora, California. The purpose of the meeting is to receive and review final project proposal submissions for 2002 funds.

DATES: The meeting will be held August 5, 2002, from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.