

Notices

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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

Office of the Secretary

Notice of Establishment of New Advisory Committee and Solicitation for Nomination to the Research, Education, and Economics Task Force

AGENCY: Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture.

ACTION: Establishment and Solicitation for Nominations.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. II, the United States Department of Agriculture announces the establishment of the Research, Education, and Economics Task Force and the solicitation for nominations to fill the 8 membership positions.

DATES: Deadline for Task Force member nominations is August 30, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Address all nominations to Marshall Tarkington, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., 351-A Jamie Whitten Building, Washington, DC 20250 or fax the information to 202-720-6882.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marshall Tarkington, 202-720-3173.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Sec. 7404 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, Pub. L. 107-171, authorized the creation of a Task Force comprised of 8 members, primarily from the private sector and having broad-based background in plant, animal, and agricultural sciences research, food, nutrition, biotechnology, crop production methods, environmental science, or related disciplines. The members must also be familiar with the role and infrastructure used to conduct Federal and private research, including the Agricultural Research Service; the National Institutes of Health; the National Science Foundation; the National Aeronautics

and Space Administration; the Department of Energy laboratory system; or the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service. Nominees will be carefully reviewed for their broad expertise, leadership, and relevance to this criteria. Additional information regarding the Task Force mandate and membership is in the attached charter.

Nominations are being accepted from individuals, organizations, associations, societies, councils, federations, groups, and companies that represent a wide variety of food and agricultural interests. Please indicate the specific qualification(s) for each nominee. Each nominee must fill out a form AD-755, "Advisory Committee Membership Background Information", which can be obtained on the following web link: (http://www.ars.usda.gov/newla/ree_task.html). Each nomination submission must include the nominee's name, resume, and completed AD-755. Incomplete nomination documentation will not be considered and all nominations will be vetted before selection by the Secretary.

Dated: August 6, 2002.

Edward B. Knipping,

Acting Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Sheep Industry Improvement Center; Inviting Grant Proposals for the Sheep and Goat Industry Grant Initiative

AGENCY: National Sheep Industry Improvement Center, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Sheep Industry Improvement Center (NSIIC) announces the availability of approximately \$200,000 in competitive grants for product or business development, producer information or education, marketing and promotion for sheep or goats or their products, genetic retention or animal health. Funds have been made available by the Board of Directors of the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center (NSIIC) to be awarded in Fiscal Year (FY) 2003 with projects completed by the end of FY 2004. The intent is to fund a variety of

proposals that will benefit the U.S. sheep and goat industries.

DATES: Completed proposals must be received no later than October 15, 2002. Proposals received after that date will not be considered.

ADDRESSES: Completed proposals and other required materials should be submitted to Jay B. Wilson, Executive Director, National Sheep Industry Improvement Center, U.S. Department of Agriculture, PO Box 23483, Washington, DC 20026-3483 if using the US Postal Service or Room 2117, South Agriculture Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250 if using other carriers. Telephone (202) 690-0632 or (207) 236-6567.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jay B. Wilson, Executive Director, National Sheep Industry Improvement Center, U.S. Department of Agriculture, PO Box 23483, Washington, DC 20026-3483 if using the US Postal Service or Room 2117, South Agriculture Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250 if using other carriers. Telephone (202) 690-0632 or (207) 236-6567.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

General Information

The Board of Directors of the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center (NSIIC) makes this grant initiative of up to \$200,000 available. The NSIIC is authorized under section 375 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 2008j). A fund is established in the Treasury of the United States, without fiscal year limitations, to provide funds for the enhancement and marketing of sheep or goat products in the United States. Grants are authorized by section 375(e)(3)(A) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act.

Projects that are submitted in the proposals should be completed in a timely fashion as provided in the proposal, but under no circumstances later than September 30, 2004. The primary objective of the Sheep and Goat Industry Grant Initiative (SGIGI) is to fund a number of diverse projects that will benefit the U.S. sheep or goat industries through product or business development, producer information or education, marketing and promotion for sheep or goats or their products, genetic retention or animal health at the