

OSDBU and the contracting officer immediately upon receipt of notice from the protégé;

(4) A description of the type of developmental program that will be provided by the mentor firm to the protégé firm, to include a description of the subcontract work, a schedule for providing assistance, and criteria for evaluation of the protégé's developmental success;

(5) A listing of the number and types of subcontracts to be awarded to the protégé firm;

(6) Program participation term;

(7) Termination procedures;

(8) Plan for accomplishing work should the agreement be terminated; and

(9) Other terms and conditions, as appropriate.

#### Review of Agreement

(1) OSDBU will review the information to ensure the mentor and protégé are both eligible and the information that is required in this Mentor-Protégé Program Guide is included. OSDBU may consult with the Contracting Officer on the adequacy of the proposed mentor-protégé arrangement, and its review will be completed no later than 30 calendar days after receipt by OSDBU.

(2) Upon completion of the review, the mentor may implement the developmental assistance program.

(3) The agreement defines the relationship between the mentor and protégé firms only. The agreement itself does not create any privity of contract between the mentor or protégé and the USAID.

(a) An approved agreement will be incorporated into the mentor or protégé firm's contract with the USAID. It should be added to the subcontracting plan of the contract.

(b) If the application is disapproved, the mentor may provide additional information for reconsideration. OSDBU will complete review of any supplemental material no later than 30 days after receipt. Upon finding deficiencies the USAID considers correctable, OSDBU will notify the mentor and request information regarding correction of deficiencies to be provided within 30 days.

#### Annual Reporting Burden:

Total annual responses: 20.

Total annual hours requested: 5.

Dated: January 10, 2006.

**Joanne Paskar,**

Chief, Information and Records Division,  
Office of Administrative Services, Bureau for  
Management.

[FR Doc. 06-448 Filed 1-17-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6116-01-M

## AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### Board for International Food and Agricultural Development, One Hundred and Forty-Sixth Meeting; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, notice is hereby given of the one hundred and forty-sixth meeting of the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD). The meeting will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on February 2, 2006 in the ground floor meeting room of the National Association of State Universities & Land Grant Colleges (NASULGC), at 1307 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC.

The BIFAD will hear USAID's briefings on the status and future of USAID's Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade and on the Bureau for Africa's regional strategic framework; discussions on possible topics for policy papers to be commissioned by BIFAD; the status of portfolio of the Collaborative Research Support Programs (CRSPs), and other items of current interest.

The meeting is free and open to the public. Those wishing to attend the meeting or obtain additional information about BIFAD should contact John Rifenbark, the Designated Federal Officer for BIFAD. Write him in care of the U.S. Agency for International Development, Ronald Reagan Building, Office of Agriculture, Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Room 2.11-085, Washington, DC 20523-2110 or telephone him at (202) 712-0163 or fax (202) 216-3010.

**John T. Rifenbark,**

USAID Designated Federal Officer for BIFAD,  
Office of Agriculture, Bureau for Economic  
Growth, Agriculture & Trade, U.S. Agency  
for International Development.

[FR Doc. 06-458 Filed 1-17-06; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 04-105-2]

#### Melaleuca; Availability of an Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** We are advising the public that an environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact have been prepared by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service relative to the issuance of a permit for the environmental release of the nonindigenous fly *Fergusonina turneri* Taylor and its obligate nematode *Fergusonina quinqueriviae* Davies and Giblin-Davis, which are potential biological control agents of *Melaleuca quinqueriviae*. The environmental assessment documents our review and analysis of environmental impacts associated with, and alternatives to, issuing a permit for the environmental release of the fly and its obligate nematode in the continental United States. Based on its finding of no significant impact, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has determined that an environmental impact statement need not be prepared.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact are available for public inspection in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 690-2817 before coming.

The environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact are also available on the Regulations.gov Web site. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>, click on the "Advanced Search" tab, and select "Docket Search." In the Docket ID field, enter APHIS-2005-0120 then click on "Submit" to view the documents.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. L. Joseph Vorgetts, Permits Evaluation Specialist, Plant Health Programs, PPH, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 133, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236; (301) 734-5405.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

The Australian broad-leaved paperbark tree, *Melaleuca quinqueriviae*, commonly called melaleuca, has become a successful invasive weed in southern Florida because of its ability to produce large quantities of seed. Individual trees bear up to 100 million seeds. Massive, simultaneous seed release occurs after fire or when some other event causes drying of the seed capsules, but a steady seed rain occurs even without such an event. Densities of seedlings may be as

high as 10 million seedlings/hectare (ha), and growth and development of the trees, along with simultaneous self-thinning produces mature stands of 10,000 to 15,000 trees/ha. Individual trees can grow into localized stands. These stands merge with other stands to form expansive monocultures often covering hundreds of acres. Melaleuca has invaded more than a half-million acres in southern Florida and over \$25 million has been spent over the past decade to manage it, yet it continues to spread.

Melaleuca was first imported to southern Florida as an ornamental tree around 1900. Later, it was widely planted in wetlands as an inexpensive production method for the nursery trade in an attempt to produce a harvestable commodity. By the late 1970s, melaleuca became recognized as an invasive weed due to its ability to produce large quantities of seed. It was added to the Florida Prohibited Plant List in 1990, and to the Federal Noxious Weed List in 1992.

On October 26, 2004, we published in the **Federal Register** (69 FR 62432–63433, Docket No. 04–105–1) a notice in which we announced the availability, for public review and comment, of an environmental assessment documenting our review and analysis of environmental impacts associated with issuing a permit for the release of the nonindigenous fly *Fergusonina turneri* Taylor (Diptera: Fergusoninidae) and its obligate nematode *Fergusobia quinquenerviae* Davies and Giblin-Davis (Tylenchida: Sphaerulariidae) as biological control agents of melaleuca in the continental United States.

The fly *F. turneri* and the nematode *F. quinquenerviae* have a mutualistic biology that causes galls on plant buds and young leaves of melaleuca. Female flies are infected with parasitic female nematodes, nematode eggs, and nematode juveniles that persist through the life of the female fly. The female fly deposits multiple eggs along with the juvenile nematodes into developing melaleuca buds. These nematodes induce the formation of galls in the bud. Fly larvae then feed on the gall tissue and complete development within the gall. The adult fly will later emerge from a “window” in the gall wall, starting the cycle all over again. This process hampers the ability of melaleuca to regenerate by decreasing seed production and reducing survival of melaleuca seedlings and saplings.

We solicited comments on the environmental assessment for 30 days ending on November 26, 2004. We received three comments by that date. One of the commenters supported the

recommendations of the environmental assessment. The other two commenters did not address the environmental assessment. Therefore, we are making no changes to the environmental assessment in response to these comments.

In this document, we are advising the public of our decision and finding of no significant impact regarding the use of *F. turneri* and *F. quinquenerviae* to control melaleuca in the continental United States. This decision, which is based on the findings in the environmental assessment, will enable the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service to issue permits for the field release of *F. turneri* and *F. quinquenerviae* without management constraints or mitigating measures.

The environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact may be viewed on the Regulations.gov Web site and in our reading room (see **ADDRESSES** above for instructions for accessing Regulations.gov and information on the location and hours of the reading room). You may request paper copies of the environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact by calling or writing to the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Please refer to the title of the environmental assessment when requesting copies.

The environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact have been prepared in accordance with: (1) The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), (2) regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500–1508), (3) USDA regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR part 1), and (4) APHIS' NEPA Implementing Procedures (7 CFR part 372).

Done in Washington, DC, this 11th day of January 2006.

**Paul R. Eggert,**

*Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. E6–446 Filed 1–17–06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410–34–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS–2006–0003]

#### Horse Protection; Public Meeting

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** We are advising the public that the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's Animal Care program will host a meeting to present current information on the enforcement of the Horse Protection Act (HPA) and provide a forum for horse industry members and other interested persons to comment on the Horse Protection Program, development of the HPA Operating Plan for 2007 and beyond, and other Horse Protection matters. This notice provides the meeting's agenda, location, and date.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on February 8, 2006. Registration will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Blue Ribbon Circle Club, 1110 Evans Street, Shelbyville, TN 37160.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Darby G. Holladay, APHIS Legislative and Public Affairs, 4700 River Road Unit 51, Riverdale, MD 20737; (301) 734–3265.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Animal Care, is announcing a meeting to discuss the enforcement of the Horse Protection Act (HPA). This meeting is designed to provide a forum for information dissemination on current initiatives by Animal Care. Further, this meeting will provide the opportunity for industry members and other interested parties to provide suggestions for the HPA Operating Plan for 2007 and beyond and comments on other Horse Protection Program matters during the listening session period on the agenda. Each speaker will indicate at registration their intention to address the Deputy Administrator during the listening session and will be allotted a set amount of time. Additional meetings of this type are tentatively scheduled to occur on the following dates and times: March 13, 2006, in Springfield, MO; April 19, 2006 in Dallas, TX; June 12, 2006, in Pomona, CA; September 11, 2006, in Chattanooga, TN; and December 11, 2006, in Riverdale, MD. These meetings will be announced in future **Federal Register** notices.

The meeting will, with the exception of possible minor modifications, follow the agenda below:

8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m.—Registration

9 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.—Welcome and Overview

9:15 a.m. to 11 a.m.—Horse Protection Program Update

11 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.—Listening Session

12:45 p.m. to 1 p.m.—Remarks and Closing