Later than June 1 of the year in which the fee applies; and (4) In establishing the amount of fees under this section, the Secretary shall consult with representatives of the United States cotton industry. At pages 313–314, the Joint Explanatory Statement of the committee of conference for section 14201 stated the expectation that the cotton classification fee would be established in the same manner as was applied during the 1992 through 2007 fiscal years. The classification fee should continue to be a basic, uniform fee per bale fee as determined necessary to maintain cost-effective cotton classification service. Further, in consulting with the cotton industry, the Secretary should demonstrate the level of fees necessary to maintain effective cotton classification services and provide the Department of Agriculture with an adequate operating reserve, while also working to limit adjustments in the year-to-year fee.

Under the provisions of section 14201, this final rule establishes a user fee (dollar per bale classed) for the 2010 cotton crop that, when combined with other sources of revenue, will result in projected revenues sufficient to reasonably cover budgeted costs—adjusted for inflation—and allow for adequate operating reserves to be maintained. Costs considered in this method include salaries, costs of equipment and supplies, and other overhead costs, such as facility costs and costs for administration and supervision. In addition to covering expected costs, the user fee is set such that projected revenues will generate an operating reserve adequate to effectively manage uncertainties related to crop size and cash-flow timing while meeting minimum reserve requirements set by the Agricultural Marketing Service, which require maintenance of a reserve fund amount equal to four months of projected operating costs.

Extensive consultations regarding the establishment of the classification fee with U.S. cotton industry representatives were held during the period from September 2009 through January 2010 during numerous publicly held meetings. Representatives of all segments of the cotton industry, including producers, ginners, bale storage facility operators, merchants, cooperatives, and textile manufacturers were addressed in various industry-sponsored forums.

The user fee established to be charged cotton producers for cotton classification in 2010 is $2.20 per bale, which is the same fee charged for the 2009 crop. This fee is based on the pre-season projection that 14.5 million bales will be classed by the United States Department of Agriculture during the 2010 crop year.

Accordingly, § 28.909, paragraph (b) will reflect the continuation of the cotton classification fee at $2.20 per bale.

As provided for in the 1987 Act, a 5 cent per bale discount will continue to be applied to voluntary centralized billing and collecting agents as specified in § 28.909(c). Growers or their designated agents receiving classification data will continue to incur no additional fees if classification data is requested only once. The fee for each additional retrieval of classification data in § 28.910 will remain at 5 cents per bale. The fee in § 28.910(b) for an owner receiving classification data from the National database will remain at 5 cents per bale, and the minimum charge of $5.00 for services provided per monthly billing period will remain the same. The provisions of § 28.910(c) concerning the fee for new classification memoranda issued from the National Database for the business convenience of an owner without reclassification of the cotton will remain the same at 15 cents per bale or a minimum of $5.00 per sheet. The fee for review classification in § 28.911 will remain at $2.20 per bale. The fee for returning samples after classification in § 28.911 will remain at 50 cents per sample.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 533, good cause exists for not postponing the effective date of this final rule until 30 days after publication in the Federal Register because this rule maintains uniform user fees for 2010 crop cotton classification services as mandated by the Cotton Statistics and Estimates Act, as the same level as 2009 and only one comment was received during the public comment period provided in the proposed rule.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 28

Administrative practice and procedure, Cotton, Cotton samples, Grades, Market news, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Standards, Staples, Testing, Warehouses.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, 7 CFR part 28 is amended as follows:

PART 28—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for 7 CFR part 28, Subpart D, continues to read as follows:


2. In § 28.909, paragraph (b) is revised as follows:

§ 28.909 Costs.

* * * * *

(b) The cost of High Volume Instrument (HVI) cotton classification service to producers is $2.20 per bale.

* * * * *
Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A-03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. APHIS-2010-0004.

Reading Room: You may read any comments that we receive on this docket 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.

Other Information: Additional information about APHIS and its programs is available on the Internet at (http://www.aphis.usda.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Claudia Ferguson, Regulatory Policy Specialist, Regulations, Permits, and Import Manuals, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 133, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; (301) 734-0754.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Asian longhorned beetle (ALB, Anoplophora glabripennis), an insect native to China, Japan, Korea, and the Isle of Hainan, is a destructive pest of hardwood trees. It attacks many healthy hardwood trees, including maple, horse chestnut, birch, poplar, willow, and elm. In addition, nursery stock, logs, green lumber, firewood, stumps, roots, branches, and wood debris of half an inch or more in diameter are subject to infestation. The beetle bores into the heartwood of a host tree, eventually killing the tree. Immature beetles bore into tree trunks and branches, causing heavy sap flow from wounds and sawdust accumulation at tree bases. They feed on, and over-winter in, the interiors of trees. Adult beetles emerge in the spring and summer months from round holes approximately three-eighths of an inch in diameter (about the size of a dime) that they bore through branches and trunks of trees. After emerging, adult beetles feed for 2 to 3 days and then mate. Adult females then lay eggs in oviposition sites that they make on the branches of trees. A new generation of ALB is produced each year. If this pest moves into the hardwood forests of the United States, the nursery, maple syrup, and forest product industries could experience severe economic losses. In addition, urban and forest ALB infestations will result in environmental damage, aesthetic deterioration, and a reduction of public enjoyment of recreational spaces.

Quarantined Areas

The regulations in 7 CFR 301.51-1 through 301.51-9 restrict the interstate movement of regulated articles from quarantined areas to prevent the artificial spread of ALB to noninfested areas of the United States. Surveys conducted in Massachusetts by inspectors of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) have revealed that infestations of ALB have occurred outside the existing quarantined area in Worcester County. Officials of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and officials of State, county, and city agencies in Massachusetts are conducting intensive survey and eradication programs in the infested area. The State of Massachusetts has quarantined the infested area and is restricting the intrastate movement of regulated articles from the quarantined area to prevent the spread of ALB within the State. However, Federal regulations are necessary to restrict the interstate movement of regulated articles from the quarantined area to prevent the spread of ALB to other States and other countries.

The regulations in § 301.51-3(a) provide that the Administrator of APHIS will list as a quarantined area each State, or each portion of a State in which ALB has been found by an inspector, where the Administrator has reason to believe that ALB is present, or where the Administrator considers regulation necessary because of its inseparability for quarantine enforcement purposes from localities where ALB has been found. Less than an entire State will be quarantined only if (1) the Administrator determines that the State has adopted and is enforcing restrictions on the interstate movement of regulated articles that are equivalent to those imposed by the regulations on the interstate movement of regulated articles and (2) the designation of less than an entire State as a quarantined area will be adequate to prevent the artificial spread of ALB. In accordance with these criteria and the recent ALB findings described above, we are amending the list of quarantined areas in § 301.51-3(c) to update the previously quarantined area in Worcester County, MA. The updated quarantined area is described in the regulatory text at the end of this document.

Regulated Articles

Section 301.51-2 of the regulations designates certain items as regulated articles. Regulated articles may not be moved interstate from quarantined areas except in accordance with the conditions specified in §§ 301.51-4 through 301.51-9 of the regulations. Regulated articles listed in § 301.51-2(a) have included green lumber and other material living, dead, cut, or fallen, inclusive of nursery stock, logs, stumps, roots, branches, and debris of half an inch or more in diameter of the following genera: Acer (maple), Aesculus (horse chestnut), Albizia (mimosa), Betula (birch), Celtis (hackberry), Fraxinus (ash), Platanus (sycamore), Populus (poplar), Salix (willow), Sorbus (mountain ash), and Ulmus (elm). This list of genera was based on scientific literature provided by government officials, scientists, and government and individual researchers from China as well as survey information collected in the United States since the time of discovery of the pest.

Based on additional survey experience and research, we are amending the list of regulated articles by adding Katsura (Cercidiphyllum spp.). This action is necessary because inspectors have found ALB completing its development in trees of this genus within the quarantined area.

Emergency Action

This rulemaking is necessary on an emergency basis to prevent the artificial spread of ALB to noninfested areas of the United States. Under these circumstances, the Administrator has determined that prior notice and opportunity for public comment are contrary to the public interest and that there is good cause under 5 U.S.C. 553 for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the Federal Register.

We will consider comments we receive during the comment period for this interim rule (see DATES above). After the comment period closes, we will publish another document in the Federal Register. The document will include a discussion of any comments we receive and any amendments we are making to the rule.

Executive Order 12866 and Regulatory Flexibility Act

This interim rule is subject to Executive Order 12866. However, for this action, the Office of Management and Budget has waived its review under Executive Order 12866.

We have prepared an economic analysis for this action. The action identifies nurseries, site developers or construction companies, tree service companies or landscapers, garden centers, firewood dealers, and utility
companies as the small entities most likely to be affected by this action and considers the costs associated with complying with the inspection and other requirements imposed by the regulations on the interstate movement of regulated articles from quarantined areas. Based on the information presented in the analysis, we expect that affected entities would not experience any additional compliance costs as a result of this rule because a State-imposed quarantine is already in place that applies the same movement restrictions and inspection requirements. We invite comment on our economic analysis, which is posted with this interim rule on the Regulations.gov Web site (see ADDRESSES above for instructions for accessing Regulations.gov) and may be obtained from the person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.

Executive Order 12372

This program/activity is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.025 and is subject to Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials. (See 7 CFR part 3015, subpart V.)

Executive Order 12988

This rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12988, Civil Justice Reform. This rule: (1) Preempts all State and local laws and regulations that are inconsistent with this rule; (2) has no retroactive effect; and (3) does not require administrative proceedings before parties may file suit in court challenging this rule.

Paperwork Reduction Act

This rule contains no new information collection or recordkeeping requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.).

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 301

Agricultural commodities, Plant diseases and pests, Quarantine, Reporting, and recordkeeping requirements, Transportation.

Accordingly, we are amending 7 CFR part 301 as follows:

PART 301—DOMESTIC QUARANTINE NOTICES

1. The authority citation for part 301 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 7701-7772 and 7781-7786; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.3.

Section 301.75-15 issued under Sec. 204, Title II, Public Law 106-113, 113 Stat. 1501A-293; sections 301.75-15 and 301.75-16 issued under Sec. 203, Title II, Public Law 106-224, 114 Stat. 400 (7 U.S.C. 1421 note).

2. In § 301.51-2, paragraph (a) is revised to read as follows:

§ 301.51-2 Regulated articles.

(a) Firewood (all hardwood species), and green lumber and other material living, dead, cut, or fallen, inclusive of nursery stock, logs, stumps, roots, branches, and debris of half an inch or more in diameter of the following genera: Acer (maple), Aesculus (horse chestnut), Albizia (mimosa), Betula (birch), Celtis (hackberry), Cercidiphyllum (katsura), Fraxinus (ash), Platanus (sycamore), Populus (poplar), Salix (willow), Sorbus (mountain ash), and Ulmus (elm).

3. In § 301.51-3, paragraph (c), under the heading “Massachusetts,” the entry for Worcester County is revised to read as follows:

§ 301.51-3 Quarantined areas.

(c) * * * * *

Massachusetts

Worcester County. The portion of Worcester County, including the municipalities of Worcester, Holden, West Boylston, Boylston, and Shrewsbury, that is bounded by a line starting at the intersection of Route 140 (Grafton Circle) and Route 9 (Belmont Street) in Shrewsbury; then north and northwest on Route 140 through Boylston into West Boylston until it intersects Muddy Brook (body of water); then east along Muddy Brook to the Wachusett Reservoir; then along the shoreline of the Wachusett Reservoir in an easterly, northerly, and then westerly direction until it intersects the West Boylston Town boundary; then along the West Boylston Town boundary until it intersects Interstate 190 at River Road; then south along Interstate 190 to Malden Street; then west on Malden Street to Bullard Street in Holden; then west on Bullard Street to Wachusett Street; then northwest on Wachusett Street to Union Street; then southwest on Union Street until it becomes Highland Street; then southwest on Highland Street to Main Street; then southeast on Main Street to Bailey Road; then south on Bailey Road to Chapin Road; then south on Chapin Road to its end; then continuing in a southeasterly direction to Fisher Road; then southwest on Fisher Road to Stonehouse Hill Road; then south on Stonehouse Hill Road to Reservoir Street; then southeast on Reservoir Street until it intersects the Worcester City boundary; then along the Worcester City boundary until it intersects Route 20 (Harford Turnpike); then east on Route 20 to Lake Street, then north and northeast on Lake Street to Route 9 (Belmont Street), then east on Route 9 to the point of beginning.

Done in Washington, DC, this 14th day of June 2010.

Kevin Shea,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[Docket No. APHIS-2008-0015]

RIN 0579-AC85

Citrus Greening and Asian Citrus Psyllid; Quarantine and Interstate Movement Regulations

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Interim rule and request for comments.

SUMMARY: We are quarantining the States of Florida and Georgia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, two parishes in Louisiana, and two counties in South Carolina due to the presence of citrus greening and quarantining Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Guam, Hawaii, Louisiana, Mississippi, Puerto Rico, Texas, the U.S. Virgin Islands, three counties in South Carolina, portions of one county in Arizona, and all of three and portions of an additional three counties in California due to the presence of Asian citrus psyllid, a vector of the bacterial pathogen that causes citrus greening. This action follows the discovery of these pests in the respective quarantined areas. We are also establishing restrictions on the interstate movement of regulated articles from the quarantined areas. This action is necessary on an emergency basis in order to prevent the spread of the disease and its vector to noninfested areas of the United States.

DATES: This interim rule is effective June 17, 2010, except for § 301.76-4 which is effective September 15, 2010. We will consider all comments that we receive on or before August 16, 2010.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to (http://www.regulations.gov/)

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

7 CFR Parts 301 and 305

[FR Doc. 2010-14658 Filed 6-16-10; 2:08 pm]