

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

USDA Increases the Fiscal Year 2016 Raw Sugar Tariff-Rate Quota

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture is providing notice of an increase in the fiscal year (FY) 2016 raw cane sugar tariff-rate quota (TRQ) of 127,006 metric tons raw value (MTRV).

DATES: Effective May 18, 2016.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Souleymane Diaby, Import Policies and Export Reporting Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, Stop 1021, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250-1021; or by telephone (202) 720-2916; or by fax to (202) 720-8461; or by email to Souleymane.Diaby@fas.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture is providing notice of an increase in the fiscal year (FY) 2016 (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016) raw cane sugar tariff-rate quota (TRQ) of 127,006 metric tons raw value (MTRV). On June 15, 2015, the Office of the Secretary established the FY 2016 TRQ for raw cane sugar at 1,117,195 MTRV (1,231,497 short tons raw value, STRV *), the minimum to which the United States is committed under the World Trade Organization (WTO) Uruguay Round Agreements. (80 FR 34129). Pursuant to Additional U.S. Note 5 to Chapter 17 of the U.S. Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) and Section 359k of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, the Secretary of Agriculture gives notice of an increase in the quantity of raw cane sugar eligible to enter at the lower

rate of duty during FY 2016 by 127,006 MTRV (140,000 STRV). With this increase, the overall FY 2016 raw sugar TRQ is now 1,244,201 MTRV (1,371,497 STRV). Raw cane sugar under this quota must be accompanied by a certificate for quota eligibility and may be entered until September 30, 2016. The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative will allocate this increase among supplying countries and customs areas.

This action is being taken after a determination that additional supplies of raw cane sugar are required in the U.S. market. USDA will closely monitor stocks, consumption, imports and all sugar market and program variables on an ongoing basis, and may make further program adjustments during FY 2016 if needed.

Dated: May 13, 2016.

Alexis M. Taylor,

Deputy Under Secretary, Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Solicitation of Commodity Board Topics and Contribution of Funding Under the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program

AGENCY: National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of opportunity for commodity boards to submit topics and contribute funding under the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program.

SUMMARY: As part of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's (NIFA) strategy to implement section 7404 of Public Law 113-79, the Agricultural Act of 2014, NIFA is soliciting topics from eligible commodity board entities (Federal and State-level commodity boards, as defined below) which they are willing to equally co-fund with NIFA. Such topics must relate to the established priority areas of the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program (AFRI) to be considered for inclusion in future AFRI Requests for Applications (RFAs).

Commodity boards are those entities established under a commodity promotion law (as such term is defined under section 501(a) of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7401(a)) or a State commodity board (or other equivalent State entity). See the "Supplementary Information" section of this Notice under the heading "Eligibility for Submitting Topics" for further information.

If proposed topics are accepted for inclusion in an AFRI RFA after evaluation by NIFA, they will be incorporated into AFRI competitive grants program RFAs. As a condition of funding grants in a topic, NIFA will require an agreement with the commodity board to provide funds that are equal to the amount NIFA is contributing under the agreed upon topic.

This Notice invites topic submissions from commodity boards as defined above, outlines the process NIFA will use to evaluate the appropriateness of these topics for inclusion in AFRI RFAs, and describes the commitment commodity boards will be required to make in order for NIFA to jointly fund AFRI applications competitively selected for award within a topic area submitted by the commodity boards.

DATES: Topics may be submitted by commodity boards at any time; however, all topics to be considered for the fiscal year 2017 AFRI RFAs must be received by 5:00 p.m., EDT on July 18, 2016. Topics submitted by eligible commodity board entities after this date will be considered for RFAs to be issued in future years. NIFA will hold a webinar and workshop to respond to questions from commodity boards interested in submitting topics. Details including the date and time, and access information will be posted on the NIFA Web site (<http://nifa.usda.gov/commodity-boards/>).

ADDRESSES: You may submit topics, identified by NIFA-2016-0001, by the following method:

Email: commodityboards@nifa.usda.gov.

Instructions: Include NIFA-2016-0001 in the subject line of the message. The topic submission must be attached to the email using the template located at <http://nifa.usda.gov/commodity-boards/>. All topics received must include the agency name and reference

* Conversion factor: 1 metric ton = 1.10231125 short tons.