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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Secretary

Fiscal Year 2020 Raw Cane Sugar Tariff-Rate Quota Increase and Extension of Entry Period

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Agriculture Department (USDA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (the Secretary) is providing notice of an increase in the fiscal year (FY) 2020 raw cane sugar tariff-rate quota (TRQ) of 90,718 metric tons raw value (MTRV) and an extension of the TRQ entry period.

DATES: The TRQ increase and extension of entry period go into effect September 10, 2020.

ADDRESSES: Multilateral Affairs Division, Trade Policy and Geographic Affairs, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Stop 1070, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-1070.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Souleymane Diaby, (202) 720-2916, Souleymane.Diaby@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On June 27, 2019, the Secretary established the FY 2020 TRQ for raw cane sugar at 1,117,195 MTRV, the minimum to which the United States is committed under the World Trade Organization (WTO) Uruguay Round Agreements. 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 has authority to modify the raw and refined sugar WTO TRQs. On April 3, 2020, the Secretary increased the FY 2020 TRQ for raw sugar by 317,515 MTRV. The Secretary gives notice today of an increase in the quantity of raw cane sugar eligible to enter at the lower rate

of duty during FY 2020 by 90,718 MTRV. The conversion factor is 1 metric ton raw value equals 1.10231125 short tons raw value. With this increase, the overall FY 2020 raw sugar TRQ is now 1,525,428 MTRV. Raw cane sugar under this quota must be accompanied by a certificate for quota eligibility. The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) will allocate this increase among supplying countries and customs areas.

The Secretary also today announces that all sugar entering the United States under the FY 2020 raw sugar TRQ will be permitted to enter U.S. Customs territory through October 31, 2020, a month later than the usual last entry date. Additional U.S. Note 5(a)(iv) of Chapter 17 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States provides: “(iv) Sugar entering the United States during a quota period established under this note may be charged to the previous or subsequent quota period with the written approval of the Secretary.”

These actions are 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 2020 if needed.

Ted A. McKinney,
*Under Secretary, Trade and Foreign
Agricultural Affairs.*

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Secretary

[Docket No. USDA-2020-0008]

Innovative Technologies and Practices for the Agriculture Innovation Agenda

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: Request for written stakeholder input.

SUMMARY: The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is requesting comments and suggestions on the most innovative technologies and practices that can be readily deployed across U.S. agriculture to meet USDA’s goal of increasing agricultural production by 40

percent to meet the needs of the global population in 2050 while cutting the environmental footprint of U.S. agriculture in half. This effort is a part of USDA’s Agriculture Innovation Agenda (AIA), USDA’s commitment to the continued success of American farmers, ranchers, foresters, and producers in the face of current and future challenges. *Note:* Technologies and practices that have potential to address these AIA goals, but that need substantial development or research before deployment, were captured in the recent USDA request for written stakeholder input published in the **Federal Register** on April 1, 2020, and open for comment until August 1st, 2020.

DATES: We will consider comments that we receive by November 9, 2020. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: We invite you to submit comments on this notice. You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Portal:* Go to <https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=USDA-2020-0003> and follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Mail:* Diane Gelburd, Ph.D.; Deputy Chief for Science and Technology, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service; Room 5113, South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250. In your comment, specify the docket ID USDA-2020-0008.

Comments will be available for viewing online at www.regulations.gov. Comments received will be posted without change, including any personal information provided. In addition, comments will be available for public inspection at the above address during business hours from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Diane Gelburd; (202) 720-4527; or email diane.gelburd@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) recognizes that there have been dramatic advances in agricultural production efficiency and conservation performance over the past two decades. As part of the Agriculture Innovation Agenda (AIA), to assist farmers in