

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 65, No. 220

Tuesday, November 14, 2000

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

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Docket No. DA-98-03]

United States Standards for Dry Whey

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This document gives notice of the availability of revisions to the United States Standards for Dry Whey. The changes will: lower the bacterial estimate of not more than 50,000 per gram to not more than 30,000 per gram; incorporate maximum scorched particle content as a requirement for U.S. grade; expand the "Test Methods" section to allow product evaluation using the latest methods included in the Standard Methods for Examination of Dairy Products, in the Official Methods of Analysis of the Association of Official Analytical Chemists, and in standards developed by the International Dairy Federation; reference the Food and Drug Administration's requirements for dry whey; and make editorial changes that would provide consistency with other U.S. grade standards for dairy products.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This notice is effective December 14, 2000.

ADDRESSES: The revised Standards are available from Duane R. Spomer, Chief, Dairy Standardization Branch, Dairy Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 2746, South Building, Stop 0230, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, DC 20090-6456 or at www.ams.usda.gov/dairy/stand.htm.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Duane R. Spomer, (202) 720-7473.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 203(c) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, as amended, directs and authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture "to develop and improve standards of quality, condition, quantity, grade, and

packaging and recommend and demonstrate such standards in order to encourage uniformity and consistency in commercial practices * * *." AMS is committed to carrying out this authority in a manner that facilitates the marketing of agricultural commodities and will make copies of official standards available upon request. The United States Standards for Dry Whey no longer appear in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR); however, they are maintained by USDA.

AMS is revising the United States Standards for Dry Whey using the procedures it published in the August 13, 1997, **Federal Register** and that appear in Parts 36 of Title 7 of the CFR.

The notice, which included a request for comments on the proposed changes, was published in the **Federal Register** on June 20, 2000 (65 FR 38235-38239), and a correction to the notice was published in the **Federal Register** on July 17, 2000 (65 FR 44024-44025).

The current United States Standards for Dry Whey have been in effect since October 1, 1990. AMS initiated a review of this standard and discussed possible changes with the dairy industry. The American Dairy Products Institute, a trade association representing the dry whey industry, provided specific suggestions, including a suggestion to lower the maximum bacterial content requirement. AMS proposed other changes to reflect improvements in the quality of dry whey that have occurred since the standards were last revised and to promote greater uniformity and consistency in the application of this standard.

AMS published the notice in the **Federal Register** with an outline of the specific proposed changes and provided a comment period of 60 days, which ended on August 21, 2000.

The American Dairy Products Institute filed a comment supporting the proposed changes. No other comments were received.

AMS discovered a typographical error in the ZIP code for the Association of Official Analytical Chemists. The ZIP code that appears in the "Test Methods" section of the revised standard should read 20877-2417. Accordingly, the notice revising the United States Standards for Dry Whey published in the **Federal Register** at 65 FR 38235-38239 on June 20, 2000, the notice of correction published in the **Federal**

Register at 65 FR 44024-44025 on July 17, 2000, and the correction to the ZIP code as made above are incorporated in the revised United States Standards for Dry Whey.

The revised United States Standards for Dry Whey are available either through the above address or by accessing AMS Home Page on the Internet at www.ams.usda.gov/dairy/stand.htm.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1621-1627.

Dated: November 7, 2000.

Kenneth C. Clayton,

Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 00-29024 Filed 11-13-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics; Notice of the Advisory Committee on Agricultural Biotechnology Meeting

AGENCY: Agricultural Research Service, Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice of Meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., the United States Department of Agriculture announces a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Agricultural Biotechnology (ACAB).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The third meeting of the ACAB has been scheduled for November 29-30, 2000. The topics to be discussed will include: (1) The USDA's public seed breeding program and plant germplasm repositories; (2) impacts of gene flow from transgenic crops to other plants and current and potential USDA roles in addressing them; and (3) biotechnology budget priorities for FY 2002. There will in addition be several updates on current biotechnology developments, including the Starlink® corn situation, and on ongoing USDA biotechnology-related activities.

Background information regarding the work of the ACAB is available on the USDA web site at <http://www.usda.gov/agencies/biotech/acab.html>. Members of the public who wish to make oral statements should also inform Dr. Schechtman in writing or via E-mail at the indicated addresses at least three business days before the meeting. On