

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 72, No. 142

Wednesday, July 25, 2007

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 # AMS-FV-2006-0205; FV-06-317]

United States Standards for Grades of Cantaloups

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is soliciting comments on its proposal to revise the voluntary United States Standards for Grades of Cantaloups. AMS is proposing revisions to the "Application of Tolerances" section in the cantaloup standards. Additionally, AMS is removing the "Unclassified" category from the standards. The proposed revisions will update the cantaloup grade standards and better reflect current marketing practices.

DATES: Comments must be received by September 24, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> or to the Standardization Section, Fresh Products Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 1661 South Building, Stop 0240, Washington, DC 20250-0240; Fax (202) 720-8871. Comments should make reference to the dates and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register** and will be made available for public inspection in the above office during regular business hours.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Vincent J. Fusaro, Standardization Section, Fresh Products Branch, (202) 720-2185. The United States Standards for Grades of Cantaloups are available by accessing the Fresh Products Branch

Web site at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/standards/stanfrrfv.htm>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 203(c) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621-1627), 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. AMS makes copies of official standards available upon request. The United States Standards for Grades of Fruits and Vegetables not connected with Federal Marketing Orders or U.S. Import Requirements no longer appear in the Code of Federal Regulations, but are maintained by USDA, AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs.

AMS is proposing to revise the United States Standards for Grades of Cantaloups using the procedures that appear in Part 36, Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations (7 CFR part 36). These standards were last revised in 1968.

Background

On December 28, 2006, AMS published a notice in the **Federal Register** (71 FR 78128-78129) soliciting comments for possible revisions for the United States Standards for Grades of Cantaloups. In response to the notice, AMS received one comment on the proposed revisions. The comment received was from an agricultural trade association and is available by accessing <http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/main> or the AMS, Fresh Products Branch Web site at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/fv/fpbdoctlist.htm>. Based on the comment received and information gathered, AMS developed revised grade standards for cantaloups.

The agricultural trade association favored changing the wording in section 51.480, "Application of Tolerances" of the United States Standards for Grades of Cantaloups. Accordingly, AMS will make revisions to section 51.480 so that the tolerances may be applied to: Either samples of the entire contents of melons in cartons or to samples consisting of at least twenty five melons for cantaloups

packed in bulk bins or other packaging. Specifically within the section, "The contents of individual packages* * *" will be modified to "Samples* * *" and "(a) A package may contain* * *" will be modified to "(a) Samples may contain* * *". These revisions will make the Application of Tolerances applicable to cantaloups shipped in larger containers, such as bulk bins, which may contain several hundred melons, as well as those shipped in smaller containers.

AMS will also eliminate the unclassified category. This category is being removed from all standards when they are revised. This category is not a grade and only serves to show that no grade has been applied to the lot. It is no longer considered necessary.

AMS is also seeking comments regarding how this revision will affect the marketing of cantaloups. Additionally, AMS is interested in learning the costs and/or benefits to the industry by revising the United States Standards for Grades of Cantaloups.

The official grades of cantaloups covered by these standards are determined by the procedures set forth in the Regulations Governing Inspection, Certification, and Standards of Fresh Fruits, Vegetables and Other Products (7 CFR 51.1 to 51.62).

This notice provides for a 60-day comment period for interested parties to comment on the proposed revisions to the standards.

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

Dated: July 19, 2007.

Lloyd C. Day,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. E7-14337 Filed 7-24-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Docket # AMS-FV-2006-0199; FV-07-301]

United States Standards for Grades of Mangos

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is revising the

voluntary United States Standards for Grades of Mangos. Specifically, AMS is revising the standards to allow for longer, up to an inch, attached stem lengths. The revisions would bring the standards for mangos in line with current marketing practices, thereby improving their usefulness in serving the industry.

EFFECTIVE DATES: August 24, 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Vincent J. Fusaro, Standardization Section, Fresh Products Branch; (202) 720-2185. The United States Standards for Grades of Mangos are available either through the address cited above or by accessing the AMS, Fresh Products Branch Web site at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/standards/stanfifv.htm>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 203(c) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621-1627), 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 makes copies of official standards available upon request. The United States Standards for Grades of Fruits and Vegetables that are not requirements of Federal Marketing Orders or U.S. Import Requirements, no longer appear in the Code of Federal Regulations, but are maintained by USDA, AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs.

AMS is revising the voluntary United States Standards for Mangos using the procedures that appear in Part 36, Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations (7 CFR part 36). The standards were developed February 2006.

Background

AMS received two petitions, one from a packer/shipper and another from an importer, requesting a revision to the United States Standards for Grades of Mangos. The petitioners requested a revision to the definition of "well trimmed." The standards currently define "well trimmed" as: The stem is neatly clipped or broken off at a point not more than 1/2 inch beyond the point of attachment. The petitioners requested an increase to the allowable length of the attached stem to one inch from the point of attachment. The packer/shipper stated a change is warranted because a longer stem, up to one inch in length,

would permit healing of the stem end and reduce the amount of latex that leaks out of the fruit. The petitioner further stated incidences of "sunken stem end" would be reduced significantly by allowing a longer stem.

AMS published a notice in the **Federal Register** (72 FR 5259) on February 5, 2007, soliciting comments on the possible revisions to the United States Standards for Grades of Mangos. No comments were received in response to the notice.

Based on the initial request received and the information gathered, AMS is revising the mango standards to bring the standards in line with current marketing practices. The revision to the definition reads as follows: "Well trimmed" means the stem is neatly clipped or broken off at a point not more than 1 inch beyond the point of attachment.

The official grade of a lot of mangos covered by these standards is determined by the procedures set forth in the Regulations Governing Inspection, Certification, and Standards of Fresh Fruits, Vegetables and Other Products (Sec. 51.1 to 51.61).

The revisions to the United States Standards for Grades of Mangos will become effective 30 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

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

Dated: July 19, 2007.

Lloyd C. Day,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. E7-14339 Filed 7-24-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Food Distribution Program: Value of Donated Foods from July 1, 2007 Through June 30, 2008

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the national average value of donated foods or, where applicable, cash in lieu of donated foods, to be provided in school year 2008 (July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008) for each lunch served by schools participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), and for each lunch and supper served by institutions participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).

DATES: The rate in this notice is effective July 1, 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lillie F. Ragan, Assistant Branch Chief, Policy Branch, Food Distribution Division, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22302-1594 or telephone (703) 305-2662.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: These programs are listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under Nos. 10.550, 10.555, and 10.558 and are subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials. (See 7 CFR part 3015, subpart V, and final rule related notice published at 48 FR 29114, June 24, 1983.)

This notice imposes no new reporting or recordkeeping provisions that are subject to Office of Management and Budget review in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507). This action is not a rule as defined by the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601-612) and thus is exempt from the provisions of that Act. This notice was reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Order 12866.

National Average Minimum Value of Donated Foods for the Period July 1, 2007 Through June 30, 2008

This notice implements mandatory provisions of sections 6(c) and 17(h)(1)(B) of the National School Lunch Act (the Act) (42 U.S.C. 1755(c) and 1766(h)(1)(B)). Section 6(c)(1)(A) of the Act establishes the national average value of donated food assistance to be given to States for each lunch served in NSLP at 11.00 cents per meal. Pursuant to section 6(c)(1)(B), this amount is subject to annual adjustments on July 1 of each year to reflect changes in a three-month average value of the Price Index for Foods Used in Schools and Institutions for March, April, and May each year (Price Index). Section 17(h)(1)(B) of the Act provides that the same value of donated foods (or cash in lieu of donated foods) for school lunches shall also be established for lunches and suppers served in CACFP. Notice is hereby given that the national average minimum value of donated foods, or cash in lieu thereof, per lunch under NSLP (7 CFR part 210) and per lunch and supper under CACFP (7 CFR part 226) shall be 18.75 cents for the period July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008.

The Price Index is computed using five major food components in the Bureau of Labor Statistics Producer Price Index (cereal and bakery products;