

time required generating and maintaining the required records to be approximately 1 hour per month.

Although AMS recognizes that many large-scale producers, such as large cattle feedlots, will require substantial more time than these estimates, AMS believes that the overall averages presented here to be accurate. For the purposes of this program, AMS also estimates the hourly rate, or value of time for a producer to be \$25 per hour.

Accordingly, AMS estimates that the total burden for producers to develop a recordkeeping system that would comply with these guidelines to be 2 million producers \times \$25 per hour \times 8 hours, or \$400 million. In addition, AMS estimates that the total annual burden for producers to generate and maintain the records required to comply with these voluntary guidelines to be 2 million producers \times \$25 per hour \times 12 hours, or \$600 million. Therefore, the total potential burden of this program on producers in the first year could be \$400 million + \$600 million, or \$1 billion.

Food Handlers (including packers, processors, importers, wholesalers, and distributors): AMS estimates that there are 100,000 food handlers. Although a number of these food handlers may not process or handle products that are covered by these guidelines or sell to outlets that would require their suppliers to adopt these guidelines, this analysis assumes that all of these food handlers will implement a system for the voluntary labeling of the country of origin for the products they process or handle. AMS estimates that the time required for a food handler to develop a recordkeeping system that would meet the requirements of these guidelines to be 2 days. AMS estimates that the ongoing time required generating and maintaining the required records to be approximately 1 hour per week. Although AMS recognizes that many large facilities, such as large-scale meatpackers, will require substantially more time than these estimates, AMS believes that the overall averages presented here to be accurate. For the purposes of this program, AMS also estimates the hourly rate, or value of time for a food handler to be \$50 per hour.

Accordingly, AMS estimates that the total burden for food handlers to develop a recordkeeping system that would comply with these guidelines to be 100,000 food handlers \times \$50 per hour \times 16 hours, or \$80 million. In addition, AMS estimates that the total annual burden for food handlers to generate and maintain the records required to comply with these voluntary guidelines

to be 100,000 food handlers \times \$50 per hour \times 52 hours, or \$260 million. Therefore, the total potential burden of this program on food handlers in the first year could be \$80 million + \$260 million, or \$340 million.

Retailers: There are currently approximately 31,000 Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act licensee outlets that would be considered retailers and covered by these voluntary guidelines. Although a number of these retailers may choose not to adopt these guidelines, this analysis assumes that all of these retailers will implement a system for the voluntary labeling of the country of origin for the products they sell. AMS estimates that the time required for a retailer to develop a recordkeeping system that would meet the requirements of these guidelines to be 5 days. AMS estimates that the ongoing time required generating and maintaining the required records to be approximately 1 hour per day. Although AMS recognizes that many large retailers, such as supermarkets, will require substantially more time than these estimates, AMS believes that the overall averages presented here to be accurate. For the purposes of this program, AMS also estimates the hourly rate, or value of time for the employee of a retailer to be \$50 per hour and that a retailer will work 7 days a week.

Accordingly, AMS estimates that the total burden for retailers to develop a recordkeeping system that would comply with these guidelines to be 31,000 retailers \times \$50 per hour \times 40 hours, or \$62 million. In addition, AMS estimates that the total annual burden for retailers to generate and maintain the records required to comply with these voluntary guidelines to be 31,000 retailers \times \$50 per hour \times 365 hours, or \$565.75 million. Therefore, the total potential burden of this program on retailers in the first year could be \$62 million + \$565.75 million, or \$627.75 million.

Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Burden for the First Year:

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2,131,000.

Total Annual Hours: 59,355,000.

Total Cost: \$1,967,750,000.

Comments. Comments are requested on these recordkeeping requirements. Comments are specifically invited on: (1) Whether the recordkeeping is necessary for the proper operation of this voluntary program, including whether the information would have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of USDA's estimate of the burden of the recordkeeping requirements, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance

the quality, utility, and clarity of the records to be maintained; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the recordkeeping on those who are to maintain and/or make the records available, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological recordkeeping techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: November 14, 2002.

A.J. Yates,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. # TM-02-09]

Notice of Program Continuation

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice Inviting Proposals for fiscal year (FY) 2003 grant funds under the Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that for the Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program (FSMIP) for FY 2003 the Continuing Budget Resolution as well as U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate Appropriations Bills provide \$1,347,000, the same amount as for FY 2002. States interested in obtaining funds under the program are invited to submit proposals. While only State Departments of Agriculture or other appropriate State Agencies are eligible to apply for funds, State Agencies are encouraged to involve industry groups and community-based organizations in the development of proposals and the conduct of projects.

DATES: Funds will be allocated on the basis of one round of consideration. Proposals will be accepted through February 14, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Proposals may be sent to: FSMIP Staff, Transportation and Marketing Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 4009 South Building, Washington, DC 20250.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janise Zygmunt, FSMIP Staff Officer, (202) 720-2704.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: FSMIP is authorized under Section 204(b) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621 *et seq.*). FSMIP provides matching grants on a competitive basis

to assist State Departments of Agriculture or other appropriate State agencies in conducting studies or developing innovative approaches related to the marketing of U.S. food and agricultural products. Other organizations interested in participating in this program should contact their State Department of Agriculture's Marketing Division to discuss their proposal.

Proposals are submitted by the State Agency and must be accompanied by completed Standard Forms (SF)—424 and SF—424A. Under this program, AMS will not approve the use of funds for advertising or, with limited exceptions, for the purchase of equipment or facilities. Detailed program guidelines may be obtained from your State Department of Agriculture, the above AMS contact, or the FSMIP Web site: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/tmd/fsmip.htm>.

FSMIP funds can be requested for a wide range of marketing research and marketing service activities, including projects aimed at:

(1) Developing and testing new or more efficient methods of processing, packaging, handling, storing, transporting, and distributing food and other agricultural products;

(2) Assessing customer response to new or alternative agricultural products or marketing services and evaluating potential opportunities for U.S. producers, processors and other agribusinesses, in both domestic and international markets; and,

(3) Identifying problems and impediments in existing channels of trade between producers and consumers of agricultural products and devising improved marketing practices, facilities, or systems to address such problems.

While all proposals which fall within the FSMIP guidelines will be considered, States are encouraged to submit proposals that have regional or national significance and that foster innovation in the following arenas:

(1) Global Economy—preparing U.S. producers to market profitably in a rapidly changing global environment where 96 percent of the world's consumers reside outside the United States;

(2) Consumer-Driven Agriculture—responding to consumer concerns about health and food safety; developing new products that address the needs of the mobile, time-pressed consumer; and studying the uses and value to consumers of food labeling and packaging alternatives;

(3) Agricultural Diversity—identifying niche market opportunities; exploring new markets for agricultural products,

such as for industrial and nutraceutical applications; developing value-added products that meet consumer needs while enabling producers to retain a larger share of the food dollar; and developing marketing tools and strategies that will foster long term sustainability of the environment and viable rural communities;

(4) Technical Innovation—using technology to improve food quality, develop new products or processing methods, and address food safety concerns through improved handling processing, or and packaging; and

(5) Transportation and Distribution—fostering efficiencies in the transportation and distribution of U.S. food and agricultural products both domestically and overseas; addressing challenges to exporters of identity-preserved grain and other specialty commodities; assisting small and medium scale producers overcome barriers to accessing new or expanded markets; and applying supply chain management in the marketing system.

FSMIP is listed in the "Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance" under number 10.156 and subject agencies must adhere to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which bars discrimination in all Federally assisted programs.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1621–1627.

Dated: November 13, 2002.

A. J. Yates,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Uruguay Round Agricultural Safeguard Trigger Levels

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notification of Special Safeguard Duty on Imports of American-type Cheese.

SUMMARY: After reviewing the volume of American-type cheese imports, the Secretary of Agriculture determined that the yearly special safeguard trigger level had been met and a special safeguard duty on imports of American-type cheese would be imposed effective from the date of this notification through December 31, 2002. This additional duty, as described in subheading 9904.05.82 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS), is 35.2 cents per kilogram.

DATES: The additional duty will be effective November 21, 2002 through December 31, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Charles R. Bertsch, Multilateral Trade Negotiations Division, STOP 1022, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250–1022, or telephone (202) 720–6278.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: U.S. Notes 1 and 2 to Subchapter IV, of Chapter 99 of the HTS, contain the safeguard measures established pursuant to Article 5 of the Agreement on Agriculture (as approved by section 101 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act). These safeguard measures include the imposition of additional duties based upon the volume of imports into the United States for certain products, including American-type cheese. Subheading 9904.05.82 provides for the imposition of 35.2 cents per kilogram additional duty on imports of American-type cheese upon notification in the **Federal Register** by the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary's designated representative that a specific volume of imports has been exceeded (the trigger level for 2002 is 16,528,242 kg).

Subheading 9904.05.82 covers American-type cheese, which enters under subheadings 0406.10.38, 0406.20.39, 0406.20.71, 0406.30.38, 0406.30.71, 0406.90.54, and 0406.90.84 of Chapter 4 of the HTS.

Section 405(a) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act requires, among other things, that the President shall determine and cause to be published in the **Federal Register** the list of special safeguard agricultural goods and the applicable trigger prices and, on an annual basis, trigger levels. Section 405(b) of that Act provides, in relevant part, that if the President determines with respect to a special safeguard agricultural good that it is appropriate to impose the volume-based safeguard, then the President shall determine the amount of the duty to be imposed, the period such duty shall be in effect, and any other terms and conditions applicable to the duty.

Further to the application of such special agricultural safeguard duties, the President proclaimed on December 23, 1994 (Presidential Proclamation No. 6763) the provisions of U.S. Notes 1 and 2 to Subchapter IV, Chapter 99, of the HTS as well as the automatically applicable safeguard duties set forth in such subchapter upon satisfaction of the requisite conditions. Such U.S. Notes 1 and 2 set forth the other terms and