

# Rules and Regulations

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

#### 9 CFR Part 94

[Docket No. APHIS-2007-0142]

#### Addition of Armenia to the List of Regions Where African Swine Fever Exists

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Affirmation of interim rule as final rule.

**SUMMARY:** We are adopting as a final rule, without change, an interim rule that amended the regulations concerning the importation of animals and animal products by adding Armenia to the list of regions where African swine fever exists. We took that action because outbreaks of African swine fever had been confirmed in various locations in the northern portion of Armenia. The interim rule was necessary to prevent the introduction of African swine fever into the United States.

**DATES:** Effective on March 27, 2008, we are adopting as a final rule the interim rule published at 73 FR 1043-1044 on January 7, 2008.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Javier Vargas, Animal Scientist, Regionalization Evaluation Services Staff, National Center for Import and Export, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road, Unit 38, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; (301) 734-0756.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

The regulations in 9 CFR part 94 (referred to below as the regulations) govern the importation of specified animals and animal products to prevent the introduction into the United States

of various animal diseases, including rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, swine vesicular disease, classical swine fever, and African swine fever (ASF). These are dangerous and destructive diseases of ruminants and swine.

Section 94.8 of the regulations lists regions of the world where ASF exists or is reasonably believed to exist and imposes restrictions on the importation of pork and pork products into the United States from those regions.

In an interim rule<sup>1</sup> effective and published in the *Federal Register* on January 7, 2008 (73 FR 1043-1044, Docket No. APHIS-2007-0142), we amended the regulations by adding Armenia to the list in § 94.8 of regions where ASF exists or is reasonably believed to exist. As a result of that action, the importation into the United States of pork and pork products from Armenia is restricted.

Comments on the interim rule were required to be received on or before March 7, 2008. We did not receive any comments. Therefore, for the reasons given in the interim rule, we are adopting the interim rule as a final rule without change.

This action also affirms the information contained in the interim rule concerning Executive Order 12866 and the Regulatory Flexibility Act, Executive Order 12988, and the Paperwork Reduction Act. Further, for this action, the Office of Management and Budget has waived its review under Executive Order 12866.

#### List of Subjects in 9 CFR Part 94

Animal diseases, Imports, Livestock, Meat and meat products, Milk, Poultry and poultry products, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

#### PART 94—RINDERPEST, FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE, FOWL PEST (FOWL PLAGUE), EXOTIC NEWCASTLE DISEASE, AFRICAN SWINE FEVER, CLASSICAL SWINE FEVER, AND BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY: PROHIBITED AND RESTRICTED IMPORTATIONS

■ Accordingly, we are adopting as a final rule, without change, the interim rule that amended 9 CFR part 94 and

<sup>1</sup> To view the interim rule, go to <http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/main?main=DocketDetail&d=APHIS-2007-0142>.

that was published at 73 FR 1043-1044 on January 7, 2008.

Done in Washington, DC, this 21st day of March 2008.

**Kevin Shea,**

*Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. E8-6242 Filed 3-26-08; 8:45 am]

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### 17 CFR Parts 240 and 249

[Release No. 34-57526; File No. S7-06-07]

**RIN 3235-AJ80**

#### Proposed Rule Changes of Self-Regulatory Organizations

**AGENCY:** Securities and Exchange Commission.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") is adopting rule amendments to require Self-Regulatory Organizations ("SROs") that submit proposed rule changes pursuant to Section 19(b)(7)(A) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") to file these rule changes electronically. In addition, the Commission is adopting rule amendments to require SROs to post all such proposed rule changes on their Web sites. Together, the amendments are designed to expand the electronic filing by SROs of proposed rule changes, making it more efficient and cost effective, and to harmonize the process of filings made under Section 19(b)(7)(A) with that for filings made by SROs under Section 19(b)(1) of the Act.

**DATES:** Effective Date: April 28, 2008.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John Roeser, Assistant Director, at (202) 551-5630, Michou Nguyen, Special Counsel, at (202) 551-5634, or Sherry Moore, Paralegal, at (202) 551-5549, Division of Trading and Markets, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549-6628.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Introduction

On February 23, 2007, the Commission proposed to require SROs that submit proposed rule changes pursuant to Section 19(b)(7)(A) of the