

Availability of FSIS' Salmonella Testing Program's Results

FSIS now agrees with CSPI and NACMCF that release of the *Salmonella* data as sample results are obtained, rather than at the completion of a full sample set, could lead to the generation of data and information that could be used to sort out which, if any, of the many factors that could influence control of enteric pathogens on raw meat and poultry is actually doing so. FSIS also agrees that providing *Salmonella* data to industry as test results are obtained will allow commercial operations to assess their process control more effectively.

Tentative Determinations

In light of the foregoing, FSIS intends to release *Salmonella* testing results to individual establishments as they become available and before the conclusion of the collection and testing of full sample sets. Receiving this information in this way should allow establishments to more readily identify their process control deficiencies and assess the relative efficacy of their process controls.

The Office of Public Health and Science (OPHS), Laboratory Sample Data Management Staff (LSDMS), has developed a double-folded mechanism to forward *Salmonella* testing results to individual establishments as they become available. First, all *Salmonella* testing results will be available via FSIS' Laboratory Electronic Application for Results Notification (LEARN) system. By maneuvering through the components of this electronic program, an inspector can copy the applicable page and forward it to an establishment's management official as "notification" as instructed by the contents of the LEARN directive—10,200.1. In addition, an establishment can elect to provide OPHS, LSDMS, with an e-mail address, and the establishment's *Salmonella* testing results will be e-mailed to them as they are entered into its internal database. If an individual requests *Salmonella* testing data for an establishment, FSIS intends to respond to the request in turn, generally providing the specific existent information requested. Once a sample set is concluded, FSIS will post the results on its Web site on an aggregate basis (e.g., results will be identifiable only by the establishments' state and district locations). As sample sets continue to be collected and tested, FSIS will regularly update the content of the postings (e.g., by season or quarter) throughout the year. FSIS will not make the establishments' sample-by-

sample results available on its Web site because the Agency is not convinced of the value of posting this information. While the value of this information to the tested establishment is clear, the value to the general public is not. FSIS can see the value to the general public of more frequent posting of information about trends in *Salmonella* testing results than the current annual reports that the Agency issues.

Request for Comment

FSIS is seeking comment on its plan to modify its handling of *Salmonella* testing results. The Agency's final decision regarding the availability of *Salmonella* testing results will be published in the **Federal Register**.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, in an effort to better ensure that minorities, women, and persons with disabilities are aware of this notice, FSIS will announce it and make copies of this **Federal Register** publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update. FSIS provides a weekly Constituent Update, which is communicated via Listserv, a free e-mail subscription service. In addition, the update is available on-line through the FSIS web page located at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov>. The update is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, recalls, and any other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents/stakeholders. The constituent Listserv consists of industry, trade, and farm groups, consumer interest groups, allied health professionals, scientific professionals, and other individuals that have requested to be included. Through the Listserv and web page, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience.

For more information contact the Congressional and Public Affairs Office, at (202) 720-9113. To be added to the free e-mail subscription service (Listserv) go to the "Constituent Update" page on the FSIS Web site at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/oa/update/update.htm>. Click on the "Subscribe to the Constituent Update Listserv" link, then fill out and submit the form.

Done at Washington, DC, on April 7, 2003.
Dr. Garry L. McKee,
Administrator.
 [FR Doc. 03-8971 Filed 4-15-03; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Hood/Willamette Resource Advisory Committee (RAC)

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Action of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Hood/Willamette Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will meet on Thursday, May 15, 2003. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. and will conclude at approximately 4 p.m. The meeting will be held at The Resort at the Mountain; 68010 East Fairway; Welches, Oregon; (503) 622-3101. The tentative agenda includes: (1) Report on status of 2002 and 2003 projects; (2) Election of chairperson; (3) Decision on overhead rate for 2004 projects; (4) Presentation of 2004 Projects; and (5) Public Forum.

The Public Forum is tentatively scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. Time allotted for individual presentations will be limited to 3-4 minutes. Written comments are encouraged, particularly if the material cannot be presented within the time limits for the Public Forum. Written comments may be submitted prior to the May 15th meeting by sending them to Designated Federal Official Donna Short at the address given below. A field trip to visit Title II projects is scheduled for the next day, Friday, May 16, 2003 at the same location. The field trip will start at 8.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For more information regarding this meeting, contact Designated Federal Official Donna Short; Sweet Home Ranger District, 3225 Highway 20; Sweet Home, Oregon 97386; (541) 367-9220.

Dated: April 10, 2003.

Dallas J. Emch,
Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 03-9298 Filed 4-15-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Catron County Resource Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Catron County Resource Advisory Committee will meet in Reserve, New Mexico, on May 1, 2003, from 10 a.m. MDST to 4 p.m. MDST. The purpose of the meeting is to review potential projects and adopt operating

guidelines including the next meeting date.

DATES: The meeting will be held May 1, 2003.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Catron County Courtroom of the Catron County Court House, 101 Main Street, Reserve, New Mexico 87830. A period of time will be allocated in the morning and afternoon for the committee to hear public comment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Gardner, Rural Community Assistant Staff, Gila National Forest, (505) 388-8212.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is open to the public. Committee discussion is limited to Forest Service staff and Committee members. However, persons who wish to bring Pub. L. 106-393 related matters to the attention of the Committee will have the opportunity at this meeting. Public input sessions will be provided on the agenda.

Dated: April 10, 2003.

Marcia R. Andre,

Forest Supervisor, Gila National Forest.

[FR Doc. 03-9299 Filed 4-15-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

[Docket No.: 030401077-3077-01]

Notice of Intent to Create an Infrared Spectroscopy Library

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The National Institute of Standards and Technology announces its intent to create a new Infrared Spectroscopic Library. The initial version of the new library will contain between 20,000 and 50,000 spectra from approximately the same number of chemical compounds. The initial version of the library will only be available as images of the original spectra. Interested parties are invited to submit comments to the address below.

DATES: Comments must be received by June 16, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to the attention of Dr. W. Gary Mallard at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, 100 Bureau Drive, Mail Stop 8380, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8380.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. W. Gary Mallard by writing to the above address or by e-mail at gary.mallard@nist.gov or by telephone at (301) 975-2444.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As part of its responsibilities under Title 15 U.S.C. 290 to collect, evaluate and publish high quality Standard Reference Data (SRD), NIST creates and maintains evaluated SRD databases. From time to time exceptional collections from non-governmental sources become available for distribution. One such source of infrared spectral data has become available. The data has been collected over a long period of time by an industrial laboratory, primarily in the condensed phase with a variety of instruments. The industrial laboratory plans to donate the data to NIST. It is the intent of NIST to create digitized images (TIFF or PDF) files of each of these spectra and index them in terms of their chemical identity and structure. The resulting data will be made available over the NIST WebBook (<http://webbook.nist.gov/chemistry>) for general use.

Infrared (IR) spectral data is used to identify unknown compounds. The location of the features of the IR data are characteristic of specific functional groups of the molecule. Large collections of IR data with many different structural features aid in the classification of the compound even if an identification cannot be made from the data.

We invite comments concerning this update.

Dated: April 9, 2003.

Karen H. Brown,

Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. 03-9305 Filed 4-15-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-P

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Determination under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA)

April 10, 2003.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Determination.

SUMMARY: The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA) has determined that handloomed fabric and handmade articles made from such handloomed fabric that are produced in and exported from Namibia qualify for preferential treatment under

Section 112(a) of the African Growth and Opportunity Act. Therefore, imports of eligible products from Namibia with an appropriate AGOA Visa will qualify for duty-free treatment under the AGOA.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 5, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Anna Flaaten, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-3400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The African Growth and Opportunity Act (Title I of the Trade and Development Act of 2000, Pub. L. 106-200)(AGOA) provides preferential tariff treatment for imports of certain textile and apparel products of beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries. In a letter to the Commissioner of Customs dated January 18, 2001, the United States Trade Representative directed Customs to require that importers provide an appropriate export visa from a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country to obtain preferential treatment under section 112(a) of the AGOA (66 FR 7837). The first digit of the visa number corresponds to one of 9 groupings of textile and apparel products that are eligible for preferential tariff treatment. Grouping "9" is reserved for handmade, handloomed, or folklore articles.

In Section 2 of Executive Order 13191 of January 17, 2001, CITA is authorized to "consult with beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries and to determine which, if any, particular textile and apparel goods shall be treated as being handloomed, handmade, or folklore articles" (66 FR 7272). Consultations were held on March 26, 2003 and CITA has now determined that handloomed fabrics and handmade articles made from such handloomed fabrics produced in and exported from Namibia are eligible for preferential tariff treatment under section 112(a) of the AGOA. In the letter published below, CITA directs the Commissioner of Customs and Border Protection to allow entry of such qualifying products from Namibia under Harmonized Tariff Schedule provision 9819.11.27, when accompanied by an appropriate export visa in grouping "9".

James C. Leonard III,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

April 10, 2003.

Commissioner,
Bureau of Customs and Border Protection,
Washington, DC 20229.