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

Minority Farmers and Ranchers Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Office of Advocacy and Outreach, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Public Meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), the Office of Advocacy and Outreach (OAO) is announcing a meeting of the Minority Farmers and Ranchers Advisory Committee’s (MFAC). The committee is being convened to consider issues involving minorities. The members will deliberate on recommendations to be prepared for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretarial consideration.

DATES: The committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 22 through Thursday, September 24, 2015, from 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. EST. The meeting will be open to the public. All persons wishing to make comments during this meeting must check in between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. EST each day, at the registration table. All public commenters will be allowed a maximum of 5 minutes. If the number of registrants requesting to speak is greater than what can be reasonably accommodated during the scheduled open public meeting timeframe, speakers will be scheduled on a first-come basis. Public written comments for the committee’s consideration may be submitted by close of business on September 17, 2015, to Mrs. Kenya Nicholas, Designated Federal Official, USDA OAO, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 520–A, Washington, DC 20250–0170, Phone: (202) 720–6350, Fax: (202) 720–7704, Email: Kenya.nicholas@osec.usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions should be directed to Phyllis Morgan, Executive Assistant, OAO, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Whitten Bldg., 520–A, Washington, DC 20250, Phone: (202) 720–6350, Fax: (202) 720–7136, email: Phyllis.Morgan@osec.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Secretary tasked the MFAC with providing recommendations on access to USDA programs and services by minority farmers and ranchers. Please visit our Web site at: http://www.outreach.usda.gov/sdfr/FAC.htm for additional information on the MFAC.

The public is asked to pre-register for the meeting by September 17, 2015. You may pre-register for the public meeting by submitting an email to acmf@osec.usda.gov with your name, organization or affiliation, or any comments for the committee’s consideration. You may also fax this information to (202) 720–7704. Members of the public who wish to make comments during the committee meeting must register at the check-in table.

The agenda is as follows: Day 1: USDA presentations and public comments; Day 2: Committee discussions, public comments. Day 3: Committee deliberations and public comment. Please visit the Minority Farmers and Ranchers Advisory Committee Web site for the full agenda. All agenda topics and documents will be made available to the public at: http://www.outreach.usda.gov/sdfr/FAC.htm. Copies of the agenda will also be distributed at the meeting.

Meeting Accommodations: USDA is committed to ensuring that everyone is accommodated in our work environment, programs, and events. If you are a person with a disability and request reasonable accommodations to participate in this meeting, please note the request in your registration and you may contact Mrs. Kenya Nicholas in advance of the meeting by or before close of business on September 15, 2015, by phone at (202) 720–6350, fax (202) 720–7704, or email: kenya.nicholas@osec.usda.gov.

Issued in Washington, DC, this 1st day of September 2015.

Christian Ohineme,
Associate Director, Office of Advocacy and Outreach.

[FR Doc. 2015–22623 Filed 9–8–15; 8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS–2015–0001]

Notice of Decision To Authorize the Importation of Fresh Cranberries From Chile Into the Continental United States

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public of our decision to authorize the importation of fresh cranberries from Chile into the continental United States. Based on the findings of a pest risk assessment, which we made available for the public to review and comment through a previous notice, we have concluded that the application of one or more designated phytosanitary measures will be sufficient to mitigate the risks of introducing or disseminating plant pests or noxious weeds via the importation of fresh cranberries from Chile.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Claudia Ferguson, Senior Regulatory Policy Coordinator, Regulatory Policy and Coordination, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 133, Riverdale, MD 20737–1231; (301) 851–2352.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the regulations in “Subpart—Fruits and Vegetables” (7 CFR 319.56–1 through 319.56–72, referred to below as the regulations), the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) prohibits or restricts the importation of fruits and vegetables into the United States from certain parts of the world to prevent plant pests from being
introduced into or disseminated within the United States.

Section 319.56–4 contains a performance-based process for approving the importation of certain fruits and vegetables that, based on the findings of a pest risk analysis, can be safely imported subject to one or more of the designated phytosanitary measures listed in paragraph (b) of that section.

In accordance with that process, we published a notice1 in the Federal Register on March 12, 2015 (80 FR 12976–12977, Docket No. APHIS–2015–0001), in which we announced the availability, for review and comment, of a pest risk assessment (PRA) that identifies pests of quarantine significance that could follow the pathway of importation of cranberries from Chile into the continental United States. Based on the PRA, a risk management document (RMD) was prepared to identify phytosanitary measures that could be applied to the cranberries to mitigate the pest risk. We solicited comments on the PRA and RMD for 60 days, ending on May 11, 2015. We received six comments by that date, from an organization of State plant regulatory agencies, importers, the Chilean Government, and private citizens. All comments we received supported the importation of cranberries from Chile into the continental United States.

Therefore, in accordance with § 319.56–4(c)(2)(iii), we are announcing our decision to authorize the importation of cranberries from Chile into the continental United States subject to the following phytosanitary measures:

- The cranberries must be imported as commercial consignments only;
- Each consignment of cranberries must be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate issued by the national plant protection organization of Chile; and
- Each consignment of cranberries is subject to inspection upon arrival at the port of entry to the United States.

These conditions will be listed in the Fruits and Vegetables Import Requirements database (available at http://www.aphis.usda.gov/favir). In addition to these specific measures, cranberries from Chile will be subject to the general requirements listed in § 319.56–3 that are applicable to the importation of all fruits and vegetables.


Done in Washington, DC, this 2nd day of September 2015.

Michael C. Gregoire,
Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

For status of the meeting prior to October 14, 2015 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time (EDT). The meeting is subject to cancellation. For status of the meeting prior to attendance, please contact the person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.

DATES: The teleconference will be held on October 14, 2015 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time (EDT). The meeting is subject to cancellation. For status of the meeting prior to attendance, please contact the person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via teleconference. For anyone who would like to attend the teleconference, please visit the Web site listed in the SUMMARY section or contact Andrea Bedell-Loucks at abedelloucks@fs.fed.us for further details. Written comments may be submitted as described under SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION. All comments, including names and addresses when provided, are placed in the record and are available for public inspection and copying. The public may inspect comments placed on the Committee’s Web site listed above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrea Bedell-Loucks, Designated Federal Officer, Cooperative Forestry staff, 202–205–1190. Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the meeting is to:

1. Review and discuss outreach efforts to USDA leadership, partners, and other federal agencies, and

2. Develop draft agenda for December meeting.

The teleconference is open to the public. However, the public is strongly encouraged to RSVP prior to the teleconference to ensure all related documents are shared with public meeting participants. The agenda will include time for people to make oral statements of three minutes or less. Individuals wishing to make an oral statement should submit a request in writing 10 days before the planned meeting to be scheduled on the agenda. Anyone who would like to bring related matters to the attention of the Committee may file written statements with the Committee staff before or after the meeting. Written comments and time requests for oral comments must be sent to Laurie Schoonhoven, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mailstop 1123, Washington, DC 20250 or by email to lschoonhoven@fs.fed.us. A summary of the meeting will be posted on the Web site listed above within 21 days after the meeting.

Meeting Accommodations: If you are a person requiring reasonable accommodation, please make requests in advance for sign language interpreting, assistive listening devices or other reasonable accommodation for access to the facility or proceedings by contacting the person listed in the section titled For Further Information Contact. All reasonable accommodation requests are managed on a case by case basis.

Dated: September 1, 2015.

Victoria Christiansen,
Associate Deputy Chief, State and Private Forestry.

For Further Information Contact: Andrea Bedell-Loucks at abedelloucks@fs.fed.us for further details. Written comments may be submitted as described under SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION. All comments, including names and addresses when provided, are placed in the record and are available for public inspection and copying. The public may inspect comments placed on the Committee’s Web site listed above.

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