# **Rules and Regulations**

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# **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

# Agricultural Marketing Service

# 7 CFR Part 205

[Doc. No. AMS-NOP-15-0012; NOP-15-06] RIN 0581-AD44

# National Organic Program (NOP); **Organic Livestock and Poultry Practices**

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service,

**ACTION:** Final rule; delay of effective date.

**SUMMARY:** Consistent with the Memorandum of January 20, 2017, from the Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff, entitled, "Regulatory Freeze Pending Review," this action delays the effective date for 60 days for the rule, Organic Livestock and Poultry Practices. This rule, published in the **Federal Register** on January 19, 2017, amends the organic livestock and poultry production requirements by adding new provisions for livestock handling and transport for slaughter and avian living conditions; and expands and clarifies existing requirements covering livestock care and production practices and mammalian living conditions. The rule was originally set to take effect on March 20, 2017.

DATES: The effective date of the final rule published on January 19, 2017 (82 FR 7042) is delayed from March 20, 2017, to a new effective date of May 19,

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Lewis, Ph.D., Director, Standards Division. Telephone: (202) 720-3252; Fax: (202) 260–9151.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: AMS is taking this action based on the Memorandum of January 20, 2017, from the Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff, entitled, "Regulatory Freeze

Pending Review." This memorandum directs agencies to extend the effective dates of regulations which have been published in the **Federal Register**, but have not taken effect. This action delays the effective date of the final rule, Organic Livestock and Poultry Practices, 82 FR 7042 (January 19, 2017), by 60

To the extent that 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(A) applies to this action, it is exempt from notice and comment for good cause and the reasons cited above. AMS finds that notice and solicitation of comment regarding the brief extension of the effective date for the final regulation are impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B). AMS also believes that affected entities need to be informed as soon as possible of the extension and its length in order to plan and adjust their implementation process accordingly.

Dated: February 3, 2017.

### **Bruce Summers**

Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2017-02608 Filed 2-8-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

# SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

13 CFR Parts 107, 120, 142, and 146 RIN 3245-AG83

# **Civil Monetary Penalties Inflation Adjustments**

**AGENCY:** Small Business Administration. **ACTION:** Interim final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Small Business Administration (SBA) is amending its regulations to adjust for inflation the amount of certain civil monetary penalties that are within the jurisdiction of the agency. These adjustments comply with the requirement in the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990, as amended by the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015, to make annual adjustments to the penalties.

DATES: Effective Date: This rule is effective February 9, 2017.

Comment Date: Comments must be received on or before April 10, 2017. ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by RIN 3245-AG83 by any of the following methods:

- Federal Rulemaking Portal: http:// www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- Mail or Hand Delivery/Courier: Arlene Embrey, 409 Third Street SW., Washington, DC 20416.

SBA will post all comments on http:// www.regulations.gov. If you wish to submit confidential business information (CBI) as defined in the User Notice at http://www.regulations.gov, please submit the information to Arlene Embrey, Trial Attorney, 409 Third Street SW., Washington, DC 20416, and highlight the information that you consider to be CBI and explain why you believe this information should be held confidential. SBA will review the information and make a final determination as to whether or not the information will be published. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Arlene Embrey, 202-205-6976, or at arlene.embrey@sba.gov.

# SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

# I. Background

On November 2, 2015, the President signed into law the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015 (the 2015 Inflation Adjustment Improvements Act), Public Law 114-74, 129 Stat. 584. This act amended the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990, Public Law 101-410, 104 Stat 890 (the 1990 Inflation Adjustment Act), to improve the effectiveness of civil monetary penalties and to maintain their deterrent effect. The 2015 Inflation Adjustment Improvements Act requires agencies to issue an interim final rule (IFR) to: (1) Adjust the level of civil monetary penalties with an initial "catch-up" adjustment; and (2) make subsequent annual adjustments for inflation no later than January 15 of each subsequent year. The 2015 Inflation Adjustment Improvements Act also authorizes agencies to implement the annual adjustments without regard to the requirements for public notice and comment or delayed effective date under the Administrative Procedures Act, 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B) and (d)(3), respectively.

In addition, based on the definition of a "civil monetary penalty" in the 1990 Inflation Adjustment Act, agencies are to make adjustments only to the civil penalties that (i) are for a specific monetary amount as provided by federal