

unanimously recommended by the Committee at a public meeting and is similar to other assessment rate actions issued in past years; and (4) an interim final rule was published on this action and provided for a 30-day comment period, no comments were received.

#### List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 915

Avocados, Marketing agreements, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

### PART 915—AVOCADOS GROWN IN SOUTH FLORIDA

Accordingly, the interim final rule amending 7 CFR part 900 which was published at 61 FR 19512 on May 2, 1996, is adopted as a final rule without change.

Dated: July 29, 1996.

Robert C. Keeney,

*Director, Fruit and Vegetable Division.*

[FR Doc. 96-19636 Filed 8-01-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

#### 9 CFR Part 94

[Docket No. 96-014-2]

### Change in Disease Status of The Netherlands Because of Hog Cholera and Swine Vesicular Disease

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

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** We are declaring The Netherlands free of hog cholera and swine vesicular disease. As part of this action, we are adding The Netherlands to the list of countries that, although declared free of swine vesicular disease, are subject to restrictions on pork and pork products offered for importation into the United States. Declaring The Netherlands free of hog cholera and swine vesicular disease is appropriate because there have been no confirmed outbreaks of hog cholera or swine vesicular disease in The Netherlands since 1992 and 1994, respectively. This rule relieves certain restrictions on the importation of pork and pork products into the United States from The Netherlands. However, because The Netherlands shares common land borders with countries affected by swine vesicular disease, the importation into the United States of pork and pork products from The Netherlands will continue to be restricted.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** August 19, 1996.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. John Coughill, Staff Veterinarian, Products Program, National Center for Import and Export, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 40, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231, (301) 734-8688; or e-mail: jcoughill@aphis.usda.gov.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

The regulations in 9 CFR part 94 (referred to below as the regulations) govern the importation into the United States of specified animals and animal products in order to prevent the introduction of various animal diseases, including rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease, African swine fever, hog cholera, and swine vesicular disease (SVD). These are dangerous and destructive communicable diseases of ruminants and swine.

Sections 94.9(a) and 94.10(a) of the regulations provide that hog cholera exists in all countries of the world except those listed in §§ 94.9(a) and 94.10(a), which are declared to be free of hog cholera. Section 94.12(a) of the regulations provides that SVD is considered to exist in all countries of the world except those listed in § 94.12(a), which are declared to be free of SVD.

On April 4, 1996, we published in the Federal Register (61 FR 14999-15000, Docket No. 96-014-1) a proposal to amend the regulations by adding The Netherlands to the lists of countries in §§ 94.9(a), 94.10(a), and 94.12(a) of the regulations that have been declared free of hog cholera and SVD. We further proposed to add The Netherlands to the list of countries in § 94.13 that, although declared free of swine vesicular disease, are subject to restrictions on pork and pork products offered for importation into the United States. These actions would relieve certain restrictions on the importation of pork and pork products into the United States from The Netherlands.

We solicited comments concerning our proposal for 60 days ending June 3, 1996. We did not receive any comments. The facts presented in the proposed rule still provide the basis for this final rule.

Therefore, based on the rationale set forth in the proposed rule, we are adopting the provisions of the proposal as a final rule without change.

##### Effective Date

This is a substantive rule that relieves restrictions and, pursuant to the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553, may be made effective less than 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. This rule relieves certain restrictions on

the importation of pork and pork products into the United States from The Netherlands. We have determined that approximately 2 weeks are needed to ensure that the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service personnel at ports of entry receive official notice of this change in the regulations.

Therefore, the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has determined that this rule should be effective 15 days after publication in the Federal Register.

Executive Order 12866 and Regulatory Flexibility Act

This rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12866. For this action, the Office of Management and Budget has waived its review process required by Executive Order 12866.

This rule amends the regulations in part 94 by adding The Netherlands to the lists of countries that have been declared free of hog cholera and SVD. This action relieves certain restrictions on the importation of pork and pork products into the United States from The Netherlands. However, the importation of pork and pork products into the United States from The Netherlands will continue to be restricted because The Netherlands shares a common land border with Belgium, where SVD is considered to exist. While there are inspection and certification procedures for ensuring that commingling of pork and pork products from the two countries does not take place, these procedures are not without cost. Therefore, recognition of The Netherlands as free of hog cholera and SVD is not expected to significantly affect pork exports to the United States. The total value of pork exported to the United States from The Netherlands in 1994 was \$13.2 million (less than two percent of the value of all U.S. pork imports). There were no live swine exported from The Netherlands to the United States in 1994.

Under these circumstances, the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has determined that this action will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

##### Executive Order 12988

This rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12988, Civil Justice Reform. This rule: (1) Preempts all State and local laws and regulations that are inconsistent with this rule; (2) has no retroactive effect; and (3) does not require administrative proceedings before parties may file suit in court challenging this rule.

**Paperwork Reduction Act**

This rule contains no new information collection or recordkeeping requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

**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.

Accordingly, 9 CFR part 94 is amended as follows:

**PART 94—RINDERPEST, FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE, FOWL PEST (FOWL PLAGUE), VELOGENIC VISCEROTROPIC NEWCASTLE DISEASE, AFRICAN SWINE FEVER, HOG CHOLERA, AND BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY: PROHIBITED AND RESTRICTED IMPORTATIONS**

1. The authority citation for part 94 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 147a, 150ee, 161, 162, and 450; 19 U.S.C. 1306; 21 U.S.C. 111, 114a, 134a, 134b, 134c, 134f, 136, and 136a; 31 U.S.C. 9701; 42 U.S.C. 4331 and 4332; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.2(d).

**§ 94.9 [Amended]**

2. In § 94.9, paragraph (a) is amended by adding "The Netherlands," immediately after "Iceland,".

**§ 94.10 [Amended]**

3. In § 94.10, paragraph (a) is amended by adding "The Netherlands," immediately after "Iceland,".

**§ 94.12 [Amended]**

4. In § 94.12, paragraph (a) is amended by adding "The Netherlands," immediately after "Mexico,".

**§ 94.13 [Amended]**

5. In § 94.13, the introductory text, the first sentence is amended by adding "The Netherlands," immediately after "Luxembourg,".

Done in Washington, DC, this 29th day of July 1996.

A. Strating,

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

[FR Doc. 96-19720 Filed 8-1-96; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY****Office of the Comptroller of the Currency****12 CFR Part 26**

[Docket No. 96-15]

RIN 1557-AB39

**FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD****12 CFR Part 212**

[Docket No. R-0907]

**FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION****12 CFR Part 348**

RIN 3064-AB71

**DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY****Office of Thrift Supervision****12 CFR Part 563f**

[Docket No. 96-62]

RIN 1150-AA95

**Management Official Interlocks**

**AGENCIES:** Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Treasury; Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; Office of Thrift Supervision, Treasury.

**ACTION:** Joint final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Board), Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), and Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS) (collectively, the agencies) are revising their rules regarding management interlocks. This final rule conforms the interlocks rules to recent statutory changes, modernizes and clarifies the rules, and reduces unnecessary regulatory burdens where feasible, consistent with statutory requirements. In so doing, it reflects comments received on the proposed rule and the agencies' further internal considerations.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This joint rule is effective October 1, 1996.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:**

OCC: Sue E. Auerbach, Senior Attorney, Bank Activities and Structure Division (202) 874-5300; Emily R. McNaughton, National Bank Examiner, Credit & Management Policy (202) 874-5170; Jackie Durham, Senior Licensing Policy Analyst (202) 874-5060; or Mark J. Tenhundfeld, Senior Attorney,

Legislative and Regulatory Activities (202) 874-5090, 250 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20219.

Board: Thomas M. Corsi, Senior Attorney (202/452-3275), or Tina Woo, Attorney (202/452-3890), Legal Division, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. For the hearing impaired only, Telecommunication Device for Deaf (TDD), Dorothea Thompson (202/452-3544), Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 20th and C Streets, NW., Washington DC 20551.

FDIC: Curtis Vaughn, Examination Specialist, Division of Supervision, (202) 898-6759; or Mark Mellon, Counsel, Regulation and Legislation Section, Legal Division, (202) 898-3854, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 550 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20429.

OTS: David Bristol, Senior Attorney, Business Transactions Division, (202) 906-6461; or Donna Deale, Program Manager, Supervision Policy, (202) 906-7488.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Background**

*Section 303 of the Riegle Community Development and Regulatory Improvement Act of 1994 (CDRI Act)*

Section 303(a) of the CDRI Act (12 U.S.C. 4803(a)) requires the agencies to review their regulations in order to streamline and modify the regulations to improve efficiency, reduce unnecessary costs, and eliminate unwarranted constraints on credit availability. Section 303(a) also requires the agencies to work jointly to make uniform all regulations and guidelines implementing common statutory or supervisory policies. The agencies have reviewed their respective management interlocks regulations with these purposes in mind and are amending the regulations in ways designed to meet the goals of section 303(a).

The agencies have made the following changes to their respective management interlocks rules in order to comply with the mandate of section 303(a):

- The final rules revise the definition of "senior management official" to eliminate uncertainty as to when an employee of a depository institution will be considered to be a senior management official for purposes of the Depository Institution Management Interlocks Act (12 U.S.C. 3201-3208) (Interlocks Act). Moreover, the final rules conform this definition to definitions of similar terms used elsewhere in the agencies' regulations.
- The final rules revise the definition of "representative or nominee" to clarify