

Notices

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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

[Docket No. 98-021N]

National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria for Foods

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Meat and Poultry Subcommittee of the National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria for Food (NACMCF) will meet on May 6 and 7, 1998, to discuss a number of issues that have been raised with regard to the Committee's Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Principles and Application Guidelines, a document that was adopted August 1997 at the NACMCF meeting in Seattle, Washington. On May 6, the Subcommittee will have further discussion of such issues as Good Manufacturing Practices, Hazard Identification, Critical Control Points, Corrective Actions, Verification, and Monitoring. On May 7, the Subcommittee plans to work on further development of HACCP guidelines for very small establishments.

DATES: The meeting will be held on May 6 and 7, 1998, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Department of Agriculture/Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Conference Center, 4700 River Road, in Conference Rooms A and B, Riverdale, Maryland 20737.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Subcommittee is encouraging persons with information on the discussion items in the **SUMMARY** to present their comments and recommendations to the group. Persons interested in making presentations, submitting technical papers, or providing comments should submit them by April 27, 1998, to Dr. Richard L. Ellis, Suite 6913 Franklin Court, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW,

Washington DC 20250-3700. The materials should be in a format suitable for preparing hard copy for review by Subcommittee members. Persons requiring a sign language interpreter or other special accommodation should contact Ms. Amelia Wright at the above address or by telephone (202) 501-7343 by April 27, 1998. All technical papers, comments, and data about the meeting will be available for public viewing beginning May 21, 1998, in the FSIS Docket Room, Room 102, Cotton Annex Building, 300 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20250-3700.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The meeting is open to the public on a space-available basis. Comments may be made before or after the meeting is held. All comments will become part of the public record on this meeting.

The Committee was established in April 1988. It provides advice and recommendations to the Secretaries of Agriculture and Health and Human Services concerning microbiological and epidemiological aspects of food safety and foodborne diseases and also provides specific information to the Departments of Defense and Commerce.

Done at Washington, DC, on April 15, 1998.

Thomas J. Billy,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-10602 Filed 4-21-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 98-022N]

Codex Alimentarius: Meeting of the Codex Committee on Milk and Milk Products

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) and the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA); and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, are sponsoring a public meeting on May 8, 1998, to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items that will be discussed at the *Codex* Committee on

Milk and Milk Products Meeting. The meeting will be held in Montevideo, Uruguay, May 18-22, 1998.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 8, 1998, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held in Room 0745, South Agriculture Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patrick J. Clerkin, Director, U.S. Codex Office, Food Safety and Inspection Service; Telephone: (202) 205-7760; Fax: (202) 720-3157.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Codex was established in 1962 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organization. *Codex* is the major international organization for encouraging fair international trade in food and protecting the health and economic interests of consumers. Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, *Codex* seeks to ensure that the world's food supply is sound, wholesome, free from adulteration and correctly labeled.

The *Codex* Committee on Milk and Milk Products was established to elaborate codes and standards for Milk and Milk Products. The Government of New Zealand hosts this committee and will chair the committee meeting.

Issues to be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following specific issues will be discussed during the public meeting:

1. Matters referred by the *Codex Alimentarius Commission* and other *Codex* committees.
2. Draft Code of Principles Concerning Milk and Milk Products.
3. Common Labeling Provisions of Milk Products Standards.
4. Review of the Draft and Draft Revised Standards: Butter; Milk Products; Evaporated Milks; Sweetened Condensed Milks; Milk and Cream Powders; Cheese; Whey Cheese; Cheese in Brine; and Unripened Cheeses; at Step 7.

5. Review of the Proposed Draft and Proposed Draft Revised Standards: Criteria for Elaboration or Revocation of Individual Standards for Cheeses; Cream; Dairy Spreads; Fermented Milk Products; and Processed Cheese; at Step 4.

6. Heat Treatment Definitions.

7. Model Export Certificate for Milk Products.

8. Review of Proposed Standard for "Parmesan."

Done at Washington, DC: April 16, 1998.

F. Edward Scarbrough,

U.S. Manager for Codex.

[FR Doc. 98-10652 Filed 4-21-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 98-023N]

HACCP Implementation for Small Plants

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is holding a public meeting to discuss ways to help owners and managers of small plants prepare for the HACCP implementation date of January 25, 1999. The meeting will give all stakeholders an opportunity to hear what is currently being done to help small plants and to discuss additional ways of ensuring that small plants receive the assistance they need to make the transition to HACCP.

DATES: The meeting will be held on May 7, 1998, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 14th and K Streets, NW, Washington, DC; telephone (202) 682-0111.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To register for the meeting, contact Ms. Sheila Johnson of the Planning Staff, FSIS, at (202) 501-7138 or by FAX at (202) 501-7642. If a sign language interpreter or another special accommodation is required, please contact Ms. Johnson at (202) 501-7138 by April 30, 1998.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On July 25, 1996, FSIS published a final rule, "Pathogen Reduction; Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Systems (61 FR 38806). The rule established a HACCP implementation schedule for establishments based on their size. Large plants began implementing HACCP on January 26, 1998. Medium to small plants have a

scheduled implementation date of January 25, 1999, and very small plants are required to implement HACCP by January 25, 2000.

Since publication of the final rule, FSIS has been holding a series of public meetings to facilitate implementation of HACCP plans, especially by small and very small establishments. The Agency also has provided extensive information and technical assistance that would be helpful to plant managers in development of their HACCP systems. The Agency also has developed and distributed generic HACCP models and guidance materials specifically to aid small plant managers.

The May 7 meeting will include presentations on what assistance the Agency is currently providing and what additional help will be offered. There also will be a panel discussion on the role of the private sector and general discussion on what else can be done to assist small plants with HACCP implementation. The meeting is open to the public on a space-available basis.

Done in Washington, DC, on April 15, 1998.

Thomas J. Billy,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-10603 Filed 4-21-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Newspapers Used for Publication of Legal Notice of Appealable Decisions for the Northern Region; Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, and Portions of South Dakota and Eastern Washington

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice lists the newspapers that will be used by all Ranger Districts, Forests, and the Regional Office of the Northern Region to publish legal notice of all decisions subject to appeal under 36 CFR 215 and 217 and to publish notices for public comment and notice of decision subject to the provisions of 36 CFR 215. The intended effect of this action is to inform interested members of the public which newspapers will be used to publish legal notices for public comment or decisions; thereby allowing them to receive constructive notice of a decision, to provide clear evidence of timely notice, and to achieve consistency in administering the appeals process.

DATES: Publication of legal notices in the listed newspapers will begin with decisions subject to appeal that are made on or after April 23, 1998. The list of newspapers will remain in effect until another notice is published in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kristine M. Lee; Regional Appeals and Litigation Coordinator; Northern Region; P.O. Box 7669; Missoula, Montana 59807. Phone: (406) 329-3647.

The newspapers to be used are as follows:

Northern Regional Office

Regional Forester decisions in Montana:

The Missoulian, Great Falls Tribune, and The Billings Gazette.

Regional Forester decisions in Northern Idaho and Eastern Washington:

The Spokesman Review.

Regional Forester decisions in North Dakota: Bismarck Tribune.

Regional Forester decisions in South Dakota: Rapid City Journal.

Beaverhead/Deerlodge—Montana Standard

Bitterroot—Ravalli Republic

Clearwater—Lewiston Morning Tribune

Custer—Billings Gazette (Montana)

Bismarck Tribune (North Dakota)

Rapid City Journal (South Dakota)

Flathead—Daily Interlake

Gallatin—Bozeman Chronicle

Helena—Independent Record

Idaho Panhandle—Spokesman Review

Kootenai—Daily Interlake

Lewis & Clark—Great Falls Tribune

Lolo—Missoulian

Nez Perce—Lewiston Morning Tribune

Supplemental notices may be placed in any newspaper, but time frames/deadlines will be calculated based upon notices in newspapers of record listed above.

Dated: April 15, 1998.

Kathleen A. McAllister,

Deputy Regional Forester.

[FR Doc. 98-10641 Filed 4-21-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Nutrient Management Technical and Program Assistance Activities

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice of proposed policy revision.