

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

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 98-066-1]

Horse Protection Certified Designated Qualified Person (DQP) Programs and Licensed DQP's

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the general public and the horse industry of the Designated Qualified Person (DQP) programs currently certified by the Department of Agriculture, and the currently licensed DQP's under each certified program.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Dick Watkins, Initiatives Coordinator, Animal Care, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 84, Riverdale, MD 20737-1234, (301) 734-7712; or e-mail: ace@aphis.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The practice known as "soring" is the causing of suffering in show horses to affect their performance in the show ring. In 1970, Congress passed the Horse Protection Act (15 U.S.C. 1821-1831), referred to below as the Act, to eliminate the practice of soring by prohibiting the showing or selling of sored horses. Exercising our rulemaking power under the Act, we issued regulations at 9 CFR part 11, referred to below as the regulations, that prohibit devices and methods that might sore horses.

In 1979, in response to an amendment to the Act, we established regulations under which show management must, to avoid liability for any sore horses that are shown, appoint individuals trained to conduct preshow inspections to detect or diagnose sored horses. The individuals, referred to as Designated Qualified Persons (DQP's), are trained

and licensed under industry sponsored DQP programs that we certify and monitor. The requirements for DQP programs and licensing of DQP's are set forth in § 11.7 of the regulations.

Section 11.7 also requires that, at least once each year, we publish in the **Federal Register** a current list of certified DQP programs and licensed DQP's. Following is that list:

Heart of America Walking Horse Association, Route 2, Box 6B, Barry, IL 62312

Licensed DQP's: Chadwick Campbell, Jennifer Campbell, Larry Carriger, William H. Cox, A.L. Fogey, Lawanda Foust, R. Dewey Foust, Robert Foust, Fred Gebbany, Billy Grooms, Floyd Hampsmire, Phillip Manker, Steve Mullins, Ted Nichols, Wendell Pig, Billie Schafer, Linda Scrivner, Scott Skopce, Charlie Smartt, Robert H. Smith, William Stotler, John Williams

Horse Protection Commission, Inc., P.O. Box 1330, Frazier Park, CA 93225

Licensed DQP's: Donna Benefield, Larry Connelly, Kathy Hester, Tom Hester, Sebastian Kolbusz, Robert Lauer, Donna Moore, Cherie Pitts, Chad Shepherd

Missouri Fox Trotting Horse Breed Association, Inc., P.O. Box 1027, Ava, MO 65608

Licensed DQP's: Richard Carr, Daryl L. Caswell, Pat Harris, Edward Lee, Ken Williams, Lee Yates,

National Horse Show Commission, Inc., P.O. Box 167, Shelbyville, TN 37160

Licensed DQP's: Lonnie D. Adkins, Melanie Allen, Nolan Benton, Johny Black, Ray Cairnes, Ronnie Campbell, Rick Carl, Richard Carr, Harry Chaffin, John Cordell, Joe L. Cuningham, Sr., Eddie Ray Davis, Jessie Davis, Jerry Eaton, William Edwards, Robert Estes, Anthony Eubanks, James Fields, Bob Flynn, Kathy Givens, Iry Gladney, Grover Hatton, Jimmy House, Dave Jividen, Gary Kimmons, Dana Kyte, Larry R. Landreth, William (Bill) Lones, Malcom G. Lutrell, John Marsee, G. K. Mease, Earl Melton, Andy Messick, Lonnie Messick, Richard Messick, Percy Moss, Cary C. Myers, Harlan Pennington, Curtis Pittman, Ted Poland, Barney Porter, Dickey Reece, Ricky D. Rutledge, Vernon Shearer, Ronnie Slack,

Ricky L. Statham, Don Steen, J. N. Syrcle, Charles Thomas, Mark Thomas, Steven Thomas, Virginia Wagner, Arnold "Sarge" Walker, Doug Watkins, Tommy Willett, Willie Gene Williams, John F. Wilson

Spotted Saddle Horse Breeders and Exhibitors Association, P.O. Box 1046, Shelbyville, TN 37162

Licensed DQP's: Earl M. "Marty" Coleman, Danny Ray Davis, Boyd Melton, Lucky Thornton, Don Woodson

Western International Walking Horse Association 18525 SE 346, Auburn, WA 98092,

Licensed DQP's: Larry Corbett, Don Douglas, Ross Fox, Dennis Izzi, Terry Jerke, Dave Swingley, Kim Swingley.

Done in Washington, DC, this 19th day of June 1998.

Craig A. Reed,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 98-16962 Filed 6-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service; Solicitation of Input From Stakeholders Regarding the Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems; Public Meeting

AGENCY: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998, creates a new research, education, and extension program called the Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems (the Initiative). By this notice, the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES), acting on behalf of the Secretary of Agriculture, is soliciting public comment from persons who conduct or use agricultural research, extension or education regarding the priorities to be addressed by this new program as required by Section 401(f)(1)(D) of the Act. The Initiative is authorized with mandatory funds at the level of \$120 million per year from fiscal year 1999 through fiscal year

2003. This funding will support competitive research, education, and extension grants as well as activities carried out under the Alternative Agricultural Research and Commercialization Act of 1990.

The Secretary of Agriculture is soliciting public comment regarding establishing priorities for the research, education, and extension grant purposes of the Initiative. Statutory purposes of the grant program are defined as "critical emerging agricultural issues related to:

- (i) Future food production;
- (ii) Environmental quality and natural resource management; or
- (iii) Farm income" which also address "priority mission areas related to:
 - (A) Agricultural genome;
 - (B) Food safety, food technology, and human nutrition;
 - (C) New and alternative uses and production of agricultural commodities and products;
 - (D) Agricultural biotechnology;
 - (E) Natural resource management, including precision agriculture; and
 - (F) Farm efficiency and profitability, including the viability and competitiveness of small- and medium-sized dairy, livestock, crop, and other commodity operations."

The meeting is open to the public. Written comments and suggestions on issues that may be considered in the meeting may be submitted to the CSREES Docket Clerk at the address below.

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

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Jefferson Auditorium, United States Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Persons wishing to orally present comments at this meeting are requested to pre-register by contacting Ms. Sarah Poythress at (202) 720-4423, by fax at (202) 720-8987 or by e-mail to spoythress@reeusda.gov. Participants may reserve a 5-minute comment period when they register. More time may be available, depending on the number of people wishing to make a presentation and the time needed for questions, following the presentations. Reservations will be confirmed on a first-come, first-served basis. All other attendees may register at the meeting. Written comments may also be submitted for the record at the meeting or mailed to Ms. Sarah Poythress,

USDA/CSREES, Room 305A, Jamie L. Whitten Federal Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-2201. Please provide three copies of the comments. Written comments must be received by Friday, July 24, 1998, to be considered. All comments and the official transcript of the meeting, when it becomes available, will be available for review for six months at the address listed above from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Participants who require a sign language interpreter or other special accommodations should contact Ms. Poythress as directed above.

Done in Washington, DC, on this 23rd day of June, 1998.

Colien Hefferan,

Acting Administrator, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service.
[FR Doc. 98-17109 Filed 6-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Official Moisture Meter for Corn, Soybeans, and Sunflower Seeds

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) is announcing that as of August 1, 1998, and thereafter, all official moisture content measurements of corn, soybeans, and sunflower seed inspected under the United States Grain Standards Act will be made with the Grain Analysis Computer Model 2100 (GAC 2100). Official moisture content measurements of other grains and agricultural commodities will continue to be made with the Motomco Model 919 Moisture Meter until the changeover date for those grains is announced.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 1, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven N. Tanner, Director, Technical Services Division, GIPSA, USDA, 10383 N. Executive Hills Boulevard, Kansas City, Missouri 64153; telephone (816) 891-0401; fax (816) 891-0478.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) announced the selection of the Grain Analysis Computer Model 2100 (GAC 2100), manufactured by Dickey-john

Corporation, Auburn, Illinois, to replace the Motomco Model 919 Moisture Meter for official moisture content measurements in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 17356) on April 9, 1998. Implementation of the new instruments for official measurements of grains, oilseeds, and processed commodities will be phased in, product by product, over a period of at least 2 years. For any given product, all official moisture measurements will be performed using the Motomco Model 919 until the transition date for that product; the GAC 2100 will be used exclusively thereafter. Transition dates for each product will be selected to minimize the impact of the changes on the value of carry-over stocks and will be announced by GIPSA through a Notice in the **Federal Register** prior to the transition.

The transition date for corn, soybeans, and oil-type sunflower seeds is hereby designated as August 1, 1998. The GAC 2100 will be used for all official moisture determinations on these grains after July 31, 1998. Official calibrations for the GAC 2100 to be used with corn (8% to 20% moisture), high moisture corn (19% to 40% moisture), soybeans (6% to 24% moisture), and oil-type sunflower seeds (4% to 20% moisture) are provided in GIPSA Directive 9180.61, dated May 5, 1998.

The tentative transition date for barley, oats, rough rice, sorghum, and all wheats is May 1, 1999. Transition dates for peas, beans, lentils, and other commodities may lie beyond 1999.

GIPSA's decision to use the GAC 2100 for official moisture measurements does not mean that the Agency endorses or recommends this instrument for unofficial purposes over other similar instruments that are not approved for the official system. The Agency's selection of this instrument was based on GIPSA's unique operational needs. Other instrument models may be as suitable or more suitable for a commercial entity's needs.

In addition, this document corrects the authority citation as published in the April 9, 1998, **Federal Register**, 63 FR 17356, in the first column of page 17357, in a notice concerning implementation of a new official moisture meter. That notice inadvertently omitted reference to the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 in the authority citation. The April 9, 1998, citation should read the same as the authority citation for this document.

Authority: Pub. L. 94-582, 90 Stat. 2867, as amended (7 U.S.C. 71 *et seq.*); and Secs. 202-208, 60 Stat. 1087, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1621 *et seq.*).