DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[No. FV-05-377]

Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to notify all interested parties that the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) will hold a Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee (Committee) meeting that is open to the public. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) established the Committee to examine the full spectrum of issues faced by the fruit and vegetable industry and to provide suggestions and ideas to the Secretary of Agriculture on how USDA can tailor its programs to meet the fruit and vegetable industry's needs. This notice sets forth the schedule and location for the meeting.

DATES: Tuesday, July 12, 2005, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Wednesday, July 13, 2005, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The Committee meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, 625 First Street, Alexandria, VA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Andrew Hatch, Designated Federal Official, USDA, AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs. Telephone: (202) 690–0182. Facsimile: (202) 720–0016. Email: andrew.hatch@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (5 U.S.C. App. II), the Secretary of Agriculture established the Committee in August 2001 to examine the full spectrum of issues faced by the fruit and vegetable industry and to provide suggestions and ideas to the Secretary on how USDA can tailor its programs to meet the fruit and vegetable industry's needs. The Committee was re-chartered in July 2003 and new members were appointed from industry nominations.

AMS Deputy Administrator for Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Robert C. Keeney, serves as the Committee's Executive Secretary. Representatives from USDA mission areas and other government agencies affecting the fruit and vegetable industry will be called upon to participate in the Committee's meetings as determined by the Committee Chairperson. AMS is giving notice of the Committee meeting to the public so that they may attend and present their recommendations.

Reference the date and address section of this announcement for the time and place of the meeting.

Topics to be discussed at the advisory committee meeting will include: domestic food security initiatives, Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act organizational restructuring update and electronic invoicing, a Fruit and Vegetable Dispute Resolution Corporation update, Federal-State Inspection Service grading fees and grade standard review update, and marketing order and generic promotion programs.

Those parties that would like to speak at the meeting should register on or before July 5, 2005. To register as a speaker, please e-mail your name, affiliation, business address, e-mail address, and phone number to Mr. Andrew C. Hatch at: andrew.hatch@usda.gov or facsimile to (202) 720-0016. Speakers who have registered in advance will be given priority. Groups and individuals may submit comments for the Committee's consideration to the same e-mail address. The meeting will be recorded, and information about obtaining a transcript will be provided at the meeting.

The Secretary of Agriculture selected a diverse group of members representing a broad spectrum of persons interested in providing suggestions and ideas on how USDA can tailor its programs to meet the fruit and vegetable industry's needs. Equal opportunity practices were considered in all appointments to the Committee in accordance with USDA policies.

If you require special accommodations, such as a sign language interpreter, please use name listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section listed above.

Dated: June 16, 2005.

Kenneth C. Clayton,

Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Docket Number FV-04-309]

United States Standards for Grades of Persian (Tahiti) Limes

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Reopening and extension of the comment period.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the comment period on possible revisions to the United States Standards for Grades of Persian (Tahiti) Limes is reopened and extended.

DATES: Comments must be received by August 22, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments to the Standardization Section, Fresh Products Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Room 1661 South Building, Stop 0240, Washington, DC 20250-0240; fax (202) 720-8871; E-mail FPB.DocketClerk@usda.gov. Comments should make reference to the dates and page number of this issue of the Federal Register and will be made available for public inspection in the above office during regular business hours. The United States Standards for Grades of Persian (Tahiti) Limes is available at either the above address or by accessing the Fresh Products Branch Web site at: http://www.ams.usda.gov/standards/ stanfrfv.htm.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

David L. Priester, at the above address or call (202) 720–2185; E-mail David.Priester@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A notice was published in the Federal Register, March 11, 2005 (70 FR 12174), requesting comments on the possible revisions of the United States Standards for Grades of Persian (Tahiti) Limes. The proposed revisions would simplify the color and juice requirements of the standards which are complex and difficult to apply. Additionally, the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is seeking comments regarding any other revisions that may be necessary to better serve the industry. The comment period ended May 10, 2005.

Three comments were received from industry associations representing Persian (Tahiti) lime handlers, expressing the need for additional time to comment on the possible revisions. The associations requested the comment period be extended to allow the associations an opportunity to meet further with their members to discuss the possible revisions.

After reviewing the request, AMS is reopening and extending the comment period in order to allow sufficient time for interested persons, including the association, to file comments.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1621-1627.