

demonstrate such standards in order to encourage uniformity and consistency in commercial practices." AMS is committed to carrying out this authority in a manner that facilitates the marketing of agricultural commodities. AMS makes copies of official standards available upon request. The United States Standards for Grades of Fruits and Vegetables not connected with Federal Marketing Orders or U.S. Import Requirements no longer appear in the Code of Federal Regulations, but are maintained by USDA, AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs.

AMS is proposing to revise the voluntary United States Standards for Grades of Parsley using procedures that appear in Part 36, Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations (7 CFR part 36). These standards were last published on July 30, 1930.

Background

Prior to undertaking research and other work associated with revision of the grade standards, AMS published a notice in the **Federal Register** (71 FR 41755) on July 24, 2006, soliciting comments on the possible revision to the United States Standards for Grades of Parsley.

In response to our request for comments, AMS received one comment from an industry group representing receivers. The comment is available by accessing AMS's Fresh Products Branch Web site at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/fv/fpbdoctlist.htm>. The commenter was in favor of the proposed revision to allow the percentages for tolerances and defects to be determined by count rather than weight, and further stated that as for the "Unclassified" category, some members requested that it be preserved, while others did not. However, this section is being removed in all standards when they are revised, as this category is not a grade and it only serves to show that no grade has been applied to the lot. It is no longer considered necessary. Therefore, AMS will eliminate the "Unclassified" category.

The proposed revision will allow percentages for tolerances and defects to be determined by count rather than weight. Currently, parsley is packed and marketed by count and weight. Taking into account these marketing practices, this proposal will bring the standards for parsley in line with current marketing practices, thereby, improving the usefulness of the standards in serving the industry.

The official grade of a lot of parsley covered by these standards is determined by the procedures set forth in the Regulations Governing Inspection, Certification, and Standards

of Fresh Fruits, Vegetables and Other Products (Sec. 51.1 to 51.61).

This notice provides for a 60-day comment period for interested parties to comment on the proposed changes to the United States Standards for Grades of Parsley.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1621–1627.

Dated: December 19, 2006.

Lloyd C. Day,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. E6–22048 Filed 12–22–06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Forestry Research Advisory Council

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Forestry Research Advisory Council will meet in Madison, WI, January 23–25, 2007. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss emerging issues in forestry research.

DATES: The meeting will be held January 23–25, 2007. On January 23 the meeting will be from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on January 25 from 8:30–noon.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Forest Products Laboratory, One Gifford Pinchot Drive, Madison WI. Individuals who wish to speak at the meeting or to propose agenda items must send their names and proposals to Daina Apple, Designated Federal Officer, Forestry Research Advisory Council, USDA Forest Service Research and Development, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington DC 20250–1120. Individuals also may fax their names and proposed agenda items to (202) 205–1530.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Daina Apple, Forest Service Office of the Deputy Chief for Research and Development, (202) 205–1665.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is open to the public. Council discussion is limited to Forest Service, Cooperative State Research Education, and Extension Service staff and Council members. However, persons who wish to bring forestry research matters to the attention of the Council may file written statements with the Council staff before or after the meeting.

Dated: December 15, 2006.

Jimmy L. Reaves,

Acting Deputy Chief, Research & Development.

[FR Doc. E6–22060 Filed 12–22–06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Procedures for Third Party Facilitated Land Exchanges

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Issuance of Agency Interim Directive.

SUMMARY: The Forest Service is issuing an interim directive to Forest Service Handbook (FSH) 5409.13—Land Acquisition Handbook to provide additional guidance to its employees for using third party facilitators in a real estate action.

DATES: This interim directive is effective December 26, 2006.

ADDRESSES: This interim directive (id_5409.13–2006–1) is available electronically from the Forest Service via the World Wide Web/Internet at <http://www.fs.fed.us/im/directives>. Single paper copies of the interim directive are also available by contacting Maryanne Kurtinaitis, Lands Staff (Mail Stop 1124), Forest Service, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250–1124 (telephone 202–205–1264).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Maryanne Kurtinaitis, Lands Staff, (202) 205–1264.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The interim directive to Forest Service Handbook (FSH) 5409.13, section 32.2 provides additional guidance when a third party facilitator is used in a real estate action. Several problems have been identified with facilitated land exchanges, including third party facilitators not being legally authorized in writing by non-Federal landowners to represent their interests, and non-Federal landowners not being adequately informed and involved by the third party facilitator and the Forest Service.

The effect of these situations may be that while the Forest Service incurs appraisal, environmental analysis, and other costs associated with a proposed exchange, the facilitator may not have bound the non-Federal landowner or lands to enable completion of the exchange upon an affirmative decision.

Dated: December 19, 2006.

Dale N. Bosworth,
Chief, Forest Service.

[FR Doc. E6–22063 Filed 12–22–06; 8:45 am]

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