

Appendix C to Subpart B of Part 532—Appropriated Fund Wage and Survey Areas

■ 2. Appendix C to subpart B is amended by revising the wage area listings for the Fort Wayne-Marion, IN, Detroit, MI, and Southwestern Wisconsin wage areas to read as follows:

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INDIANA
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Fort Wayne-Marion Survey Area

Indiana: Adams, Allen, DeKalb, Grant, Huntington, Wells
Area of Application. Survey area plus:

Indiana: Blackford, Case, Elkhart, Fulton, Jay, Kosciusko, Lagrange, Marshall, Miami, Noble, St. Joseph, Steuben, Wabash, White, Whitley
Ohio: Allen, Defiance, Henry, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Van Wert, Williams

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MICHIGAN
* * * * *

Detroit Survey Area

Michigan: Lapeer, Livingston, Macomb, Oakland, St. Clair, Wayne
Area of Application. Survey area plus:

Michigan: Arenac, Bay, Clare, Clinton, Eaton, Genesee

Gladwin, Gratiot, Huron, Ingham, Isabella, Lenawee, Midland, Monroe, Saginaw, Sanilac, Shiawassee, Tuscola, Washtenaw
Ohio: Fulton, Lucas, Wood

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WISCONSIN Southwestern Wisconsin Survey Area

Wisconsin: Chippewa, Eau Claire, La Crosse, Monroe, Trempealeau
Area of Application. Survey area plus:

Minnesota: Fillmore, Houston, Winona
Wisconsin: Barron, Buffalo, Clark, Crawford, Dunn, Florence, Forest, Jackson, Juneau, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Marinette, Menominee, Oneida, Pepin, Portage, Price, Richland, Rusk, Shawano, Taylor, Vernon, Vilas, Waupaca, Wood

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OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

5 CFR Part 843
RIN 3206-AM99

Federal Employees' Retirement System; Present Value Conversion Factors for Spouses of Deceased Separated Employees

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is issuing a proposed rule to revise the table of reduction factors for early commencing dates of survivor annuities for spouses of separated employees who die before the date on which they would be eligible for unreduced deferred annuities, and to revise the annuity factor for spouses of deceased employees who die in service when those spouses elect to receive the basic employee death benefit in 36 installments under the Federal Employees' Retirement System (FERS) Act of 1986. These rules are necessary to ensure that the tables conform to the economic and demographic assumptions adopted by the Board of Actuaries and published in the Federal Register on May 21, 2014, as required by 5 U.S.C. 8461(i).

DATES: We must receive your comments by September 16, 2014.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number and/or RIN number 3206-AM99, by any of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
Email: combox@opm.gov. Include RIN number 3206-AM99 in the subject line of the message.
Mail: Jim Giuseppe, Retirement Policy, Retirement Services, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E. Street NW., Washington, DC 20415-3200.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Roxann Johnson, (202) 606-0299.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On May 21, 2014, OPM published a notice in the Federal Register to revise the normal cost percentages under the Federal Employees' Retirement System (FERS) Act of 1986, Public Law 99-335, 100 Stat. 514, as amended, based on economic assumptions and demographic factors adopted by the Board of Actuaries of the Civil Service Retirement System. 79 Fed. Reg. 29,224 (May 21, 2014). By statute under 5 U.S.C. 8461(i), the demographic factors

and economic assumptions require corresponding changes in factors used to produce actuarially equivalent benefits when required by the FERS Act.

Section 843.309 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, regulates the payment of the basic employee death benefit. Under 5 U.S.C. 8442(b), the basic employee death benefit may be paid as a lump sum or as an equivalent benefit in 36 installments. These rules amend 5 CFR 843.309(b)(2) to conform the factor used to convert the lump sum to 36-installment payments with the revised economic assumptions.

Section 843.311 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, regulates the benefits for the survivors of separated employees under 5 U.S.C. 8442(c). This section provides a choice of benefits for eligible current and former spouses. If the current or former spouse is the person entitled to the unexpended balance under the order of precedence under 5 U.S.C. 8424, he or she may elect to receive the unexpended balance instead of an annuity.

Alternatively, an eligible current or former spouse may elect to receive an annuity commencing on the day after the employee's death or on the deceased separated employee's 62nd birthday. If the annuity commences on the deceased separated employee's 62nd birthday, the annuity will equal 50 percent of the annuity that the separated employee would have received had he or she attained age 62. If the current or former spouse elects the earlier commencing date, the annuity is reduced using the factors in Appendix A to subpart C of part 843 to make the annuity actuarially equivalent to the present value of the annuity that the spouse or former spouse would have received if the annuity had commenced on the retiree's 62nd birthday. These rules amend that appendix to conform to the revised economic assumptions.

Executive Order 12866, Regulatory Review

This rule has been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget in accordance with Executive Order (E.O.) 12866, as amended by E.O. 13258 and E.O. 13422.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

I certify that this regulation will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities because the regulation will only affect retirement payments to surviving current and former spouses of former employees and Members who separated from Federal service with title to a deferred annuity.

List of Subjects in 5 CFR Part 843

Air traffic controllers, Disability benefits, Firefighters, Government employees, Law enforcement officers, Pensions, Retirement.

U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

Katherine Archuleta,
Director.

For the reasons stated in the preamble, the Office of Personnel Management proposes to amend 5 CFR part 843 as follows:

PART 843—FEDERAL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM—DEATH BENEFITS AND EMPLOYEE REFUNDS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 843 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 8461; §§ 843.205, 843.208, and 843.209 also issued under 5 U.S.C. 8424; § 843.309 also issued under 5 U.S.C. 8442; § 843.406 also issued under 5 U.S.C. 8441.

Subpart C—Current and Former Spouse Benefits

■ 2. In § 843.309, revise paragraph (b)(2) to read as follows:

§ 843.309 Basic employee death benefit.

* * * * *

(b) * * *

(2) For deaths occurring on or after October 1, 2014, 36 equal monthly installments of 2.99522 percent of the amount of the basic employee death benefit.

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■ 3. Revise Appendix A to subpart C of part 843 to read as follows:

Appendix A to Subpart C of Part 843—Present Value Conversion Factors for Earlier Comencing Date of Annuities of Current and Former Spouses of Deceased Separated Employees

With at least 10 but less than 20 years of creditable service—

Age of separated employee at birthday before death	Multiplier
26	.0638
27	.0700
28	.0764
29	.0831
30	.0902
31	.0978
32	.1058
33	.1142
34	.1233
35	.1331
36	.1435
37	.1547
38	.1667
39	.1794
40	.1931
41	.2079
42	.2236

Age of separated employee at birthday before death	Multiplier
43	.2406
44	.2588
45	.2784
46	.2993
47	.3218
48	.3463
49	.3725
50	.4008
51	.4313
52	.4644
53	.5001
54	.5387
55	.5806
56	.6262
57	.6756
58	.7295
59	.7882
60	.8525
61	.9228

With at least 20, but less than 30 years of creditable service—

Age of separated employee at birthday before death	Multiplier
36	.1693
37	.1825
38	.1966
39	.2116
40	.2276
41	.2449
42	.2634
43	.2833
44	.3047
45	.3276
46	.3523
47	.3787
48	.4073
49	.4380
50	.4712
51	.5070
52	.5457
53	.5875
54	.6327
55	.6818
56	.7351
57	.7930
58	.8560
59	.9248

With at least 30 years of creditable service—

Age of separated employee at birthday before death	Multiplier by separated employee's year of birth	
	After 1966	From 1950 through 1966
46	.4457	.4811
47	.4790	.5170
48	.5151	.5559
49	.5538	.5976
50	.5955	.6426
51	.6405	.6911
52	.6892	.7435
53	.7417	.8001
54	.7986	.8614
55	.8603	.9279
56	.9272	1.0000

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

7 CFR Part 319

[Docket No. APHIS-2014-0003]

RIN 0579-AD89

Importation of Apples From China

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: We are proposing to amend the fruits and vegetables regulations to allow the importation of fresh apples (*Malus pumila*) from China into the continental United States. As a condition of entry, apples from areas in China in which the Oriental fruit fly (*Bactrocera dorsalis*) is not known to exist would have to be produced in accordance with a systems approach that would include requirements for registration of places of production and packinghouses, inspection for quarantine pests at set intervals by the national plant protection organization of China, bagging of fruit, safeguarding, labeling, and importation in commercial consignments. Apples from areas in China in which Oriental fruit fly is known to exist could be imported into the continental United States if, in addition to these requirements, the apples are treated with fumigation plus refrigeration. All apples from China would also be required to be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate with an additional declaration stating that all conditions for the importation of the apples have been met and that the consignment of apples has been inspected and found free of quarantine pests. This action would allow for the importation of apples from China into the continental United States while continuing to provide protection against the introduction of quarantine pests.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before September 16, 2014.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov/#/docketDetail;D=APHIS-2014-0003>.

- *Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:* Send your comment to Docket No. APHIS-2014-0003, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station

3A-03.8, 4700 River Road, Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238.

Supporting documents and any comments we receive on this docket may be viewed at <http://www.regulations.gov/#/docketDetail;D=APHIS-2014-0003> or in our reading room, which is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 799-7039 before coming.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Marc Phillips, Senior Regulatory Policy Specialist, Regulatory Coordination and Compliance, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road, Unit 156, Riverdale, MD 20737; (301) 851-2114.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The regulations in “Subpart—Fruits and Vegetables” (7 CFR 319.56–1 through 319.56–68, referred to below as the regulations) prohibit or restrict the importation of fruits and vegetables into the United States from certain parts of the world to prevent the introduction and dissemination of plant pests that are new to or not widely distributed within the United States.

The national plant protection organization (NPPO) of China has requested that the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) amend the regulations to allow apples (*Malus pumila*) from China to be imported into the continental United States.

As part of our evaluation of China’s request, we have prepared a pest risk assessment (PRA), titled “Importation of Apples (*Malus pumila*) from China into the Continental United States” (June 10, 2013).

The PRA evaluates the risks associated with the importation of apples into the continental United States from China. Copies of the PRA may be obtained by contacting the individual listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** or viewed on the Regulations.gov Web site (see **ADDRESSES** above for instructions for accessing Regulations.gov). The PRA identifies 21 pests of quarantine significance present in China that could be introduced into the continental United States through the importation of Chinese apples:

- *Adoxophyes orana* (Fischer von Röslerstamm), summer fruit tortix.
- *Archips micaceana* (Walker), a moth.
- *Argyrotaenia ljungiana* (Thunberg), grape tortix.

- *Bactrocera dorsalis* (Hendel), Oriental fruit fly.
- *Carposina sasakii* Matsumura, peach fruit moth.
- *Cenopalpus pulcher* (Canestrini & Fanzago), flat scarlet mite.
- *Cryptoblabes gnidiella* (Millière), honeydew moth.
- *Cydia funebrana* (Treitschke), plum fruit moth.
- *Euzophera bigella* (Zeller), quince moth.
- *Euzophera pyriella* Yang, a moth.
- *Grapholita inopinata* Heinrich, Manchurian fruit moth.
- *Leucoptera malifoliella* (Costa), apple leaf miner.
- *Monilia polystroma* van Leeuwen, Asian brown rot.
- *Monilinia fructigena* Honey, brown fruit rot.
- *Rhynchites auratus* (Scopoli), apricot weevil.
- *Rhynchites bacchus* (L.), peach weevil.
- *Rhynchites giganteus* Krynicky, a weevil.
- *Rhynchites heros* Roelofs, a weevil.
- *Spilonota albicana* (Motschulsky), white fruit moth.
- *Spilonota prognathana* Snellen, a moth.
- *Ulodemia trigrapha* Meyrick, a moth.

The PRA states that measures beyond standard port-of-entry inspection are required to mitigate the risks posed by these plant pests. After consideration of potential mitigation options, we have prepared a risk management document (RMD) to recommend specific measures to mitigate these risks. Copies of the RMD may be obtained from the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** or viewed on the Regulations.gov Web site.

Based on the recommendations of the RMD, we are proposing to allow the importation of apples from China into the continental United States only if they are produced in accordance with a systems approach; we are proposing to add the systems approach to the regulations in a new § 319.56–69 governing the importation of apples from China.

Proposed Systems Approach

General Requirements

Paragraph (a) of § 319.56–69 would set out general requirements for the NPPO of China and for growers and packers producing apples for export to the continental United States.

Paragraph (a)(1) would require the NPPO of China to provide an operational workplan to APHIS that details the activities that the NPPO will, subject to APHIS’ approval of the workplan, carry out to meet the requirements of proposed § 319.56–69. As described in a notice we published on May 10, 2006, in the **Federal Register** (71 FR 27221–27224, Docket No. APHIS-2005-0085), an operational workplan is an agreement between