

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

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

October 16, 2018.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments are requested regarding (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding this information collection received by November 21, 2018 will be considered. Written comments should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20502. Commenters are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8958.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control

number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Agricultural Research Service

Title: Patent License Application.

OMB Control Number: 0518-0003.

Summary of Collection: Public Law 96-517, HR 209 (Technology Transfer Commercialization Act of 2000), and 37 CFR part 404 requires Federal agencies to use the patent system to promote the utilization of inventions arising from federally supported research and provide the authority to grant patent licenses. 37 CFR 404.8 specifies the information which must be submitted by a patent license applicant to the Federal agency having custody of a patent. Form ADS-761 collects the information specified under 37 CFR 404.8.

Need and Use of the Information: The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) will collect identifying information on the applicant, identifying information for the business, and a detailed description for development and/or marketing of the invention using form AD-761. The information collected is used to determine whether the applicant has both a complete and sufficient plan for developing and marketing the invention and the necessary manufacturing, marketing, technical, and financial resources to carry out the submitted plan.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for profit; Not-for-profit institutions; Individuals or households.

Number of Respondents: 75.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 225.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2018-22876 Filed 10-19-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

U.S. Codex Office

Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs

AGENCY: U.S. Codex Office, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on December 5, 2018. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft United States (U.S.) positions to be discussed at the 4th Session of the Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH) of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, in Thiruvananthapuram, India, January 21-25, 2019. The U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius and the Under Secretary, Office of Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, recognize the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the 4th Session of the CCSCH and to address items on the agenda.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 5, 2018 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will take place at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Jamie L. Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 107-A, Washington, DC 20250. Documents related to the 4th Session of the CCSCH will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <http://www.codexalimentarius.org/meetings-reports/en>.

Dorian LaFond, U.S. Delegate to the 4th Session of the CCSCH invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: Dorian.Lafond@usda.gov.

Call-In-Number: If you wish to participate in the public meeting for the 4th Session of the CCSCH by conference call, please use the call-in-number: 1-888-844-9904.

The participant code will be posted on the following web page: <http://www.usda.gov/codex>.

Registration: Attendees may register to attend the public meeting by emailing Marie.Maratos@osec.usda.gov by

November 20th, 2018. Early registration is encouraged because it will expedite entry into the building. The meeting will take place in a Federal building. Attendees should bring photo identification and plan for adequate time to pass through the security screening systems. Attendees who are not able to attend the meeting in person, but who wish to participate, may do so by phone, as discussed above.

For Further Information about the 4th Session of the CCSCCH Contact: Dorian LaFond, International Standards Coordinator, Fruit and Vegetables Program, Specialty Crop Inspection Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mail Stop 0247, Washington DC 20250-0247. Phone: +1 (202) 690-4944. Email: Dorian.Lafond@ams.usda.gov.

For Further Information about the Public Meeting Contact: Marie Maratos, U.S. Codex Office, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 4861, South Agriculture Building, Washington, DC 20250. Phone: (202) 690-4795, Fax: (202) 720-3157, Email: Marie.Maratos@osec.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Codex was established in 1963 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organization. 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 protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade.

The CCSCCH is responsible for elaborating worldwide standards for spices and culinary herbs in their dried and dehydrated state in whole, ground, and cracked or crushed form and consulting, as necessary, with other international organizations in the standards development process to avoid duplication.

The CCSCCH is hosted by India. The U.S. attends CCSCCH as a member country of Codex.

Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following items on the Agenda for the 4th Session of the CCSCCH will be discussed during the public meeting:

- Dried Roots, Rhizomes and Bulbs—Proposed draft Standard for Dried Dehydrated Ginger
- Proposed Draft Standard for Dried Garlic
- Dried Fruits and Berries—Proposed Draft Standard for Dried Chilli Peppers and Paprika
- Dried Herbs—Proposed Draft Standard for Dried Basil
- Dried Seeds—Proposed Draft Standard for Dried Nutmeg
- Dried Floral Parts—Proposed Draft Standard for Dried Cloves
- Proposed Draft Standard for Dried Saffron
- Proposals for new work
- Other business
- Date and place of the next session

Public Meeting

At the December 6, 2018, public meeting, draft U.S. positions on the agenda items will be described and discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Written comments may be offered at the meeting or sent to Dorian LaFond, U.S. Delegate for the 4th Session of the CCSCCH (see ADDRESSES). Written comments should state that they relate to activities of the 4th Session of the CCSCCH.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, the U.S. Codex Office will announce this **Federal Register** publication on-line through the USDA web page located at: <http://www.usda.gov/codex/>, a link that also offers an email subscription service providing access to information related to Codex. Customers can add or delete their subscription themselves, and have the option to password protect their accounts.

USDA Non-Discrimination Statement

No agency, officer, or employee of the USDA shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, or political beliefs, exclude from participation in, deny the benefits of, or subject to discrimination any person in the United States under any program or activity conducted by the USDA.

How To File a Complaint of Discrimination

To file a complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, which may be accessed online at http://www.usda.gov/ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/Complain_combined_6_8_12.pdf, or write a letter signed by you or your authorized representative. Send your completed complaint form or letter to USDA by mail, fax, or email.

Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410.

Fax: (202) 690-7442, *Email:* program.intake@usda.gov.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

Done at Washington DC on October 16, 2018.

Mary Lowe,

U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.

[FR Doc. 2018-22873 Filed 10-19-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Solicitation of Veterinary Shortage Situation Nominations for the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

AGENCY: National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and solicitation for nominations.

SUMMARY: The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is soliciting nominations of veterinary service shortage situations for the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) for fiscal year (FY) 2019, as authorized under the National Veterinary Medical Services Act (NVMSA). This notice initiates the nomination period and prescribes the procedures and criteria to be used by eligible nominating officials (State, Insular Area, DC and Federal Lands) to nominate veterinary shortage situations. Each year all eligible nominating officials may submit nominations, up to the maximum indicated for each entity in this notice. NIFA is conducting this solicitation of veterinary shortage situation nominations under an approved information collection (OMB Control Number 0524-0050).

DATES: Shortage situation nominations must be submitted not later than 30 days after the publication of this notice.

ADDRESSES: Submissions must be made by clicking the submit button on the Veterinarian Shortage Situation nomination form provided in the