

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

Agricultural Marketing Service

[DOC. NO. AMS-FGIS-19-0107]

Grain Fees for Official Inspection and Weighing Services Under the United States Grain Standards Act (USGSA)

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is announcing the 2020 fee schedule for official inspection and weighing services performed under the USGSA, as amended, in order to comply with agency regulations and the Agriculture Reauthorizations Act of 2015. This action publishes the annual review of Schedule A fees calculation and the resulting fees.

DATES: The new fees went into effect on January 1, 2020.

ADDRESSES: Prospective customers can find the fee scheduled posted on the Agency's public website.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Denise Ruggles, FGIS Executive Program Analyst, USDA AMS; Telephone: (816) 659-8406; Email: Denise.M.Ruggles@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The United States Grain Standards Act (USGSA) provides the Secretary of Agriculture with the authority to charge and collect reasonable fees to cover the costs of performing official services and the costs associated with managing the program. The regulations require that Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) annually review the national tonnage fees, local tonnage fees, and fees for service. After calculating the tonnage fees according to the regulatory formula in 7 CFR 800.71(b)(1), FGIS then reviews the amount of funds in the operating reserve at the end of the fiscal year (FY2019 in this case) to ensure that it has 4½ months of operating expenses as required by section 800.71(b)(2) of the regulations. If the operating reserve has more, or less than 4½ months of operating expenses, then FGIS must

adjust all Schedule A fees. For each \$1,000,000, rounded down, that the operating reserve varies from the target of 4½ months, FGIS will adjust all Schedule A fees by 2 percent. If the operating reserve exceeds the target, all Schedule A fees will be reduced. If the operating reserve does not meet the target, all Schedule A fees will be increased. The maximum annual increase or decrease in fees is 5 percent (7 CFR 800.71(b)(2)(i)-(ii)).

Tonnage fees for the 5-year rolling average tonnage were calculated on the previous 5 fiscal years 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019. Tonnage fees consist of the national tonnage fee and local tonnage fee and are calculated and rounded to the nearest \$0.001 per metric ton. The tonnage fees are calculated as following:

National tonnage fee. The national tonnage fee is the national program administrative costs for the previous fiscal year divided by the average yearly tons of export grain officially inspected and/or weighed by delegated States and designated agencies, excluding land carrier shipments to Canada and Mexico, and outbound grain officially inspected and/or weighed by FGIS during the previous 5 fiscal years.

$$\text{National Tonnage Fee} = \frac{\text{FY2019 National Administrative Costs}}{\text{5 Year Rolling Average Export Tons}}$$

Fiscal year	Metric tons
2015	118,758,937
2016	122,330,979
2017	135,017,935
2018	129,687,652
2019	107,896,235
5-year Rolling Average	122,738,348

The national program administrative costs for fiscal year 2019 were \$6,836,376. The fiscal year 2020 national tonnage fee, prior to the operating reserve review, is calculated to be at \$0.056 per metric ton.

Local tonnage fee. The local tonnage fee is the field office administrative

costs for the previous fiscal year divided by the average yearly tons of outbound grain officially inspected and/or weighed by the field office during the previous 5 fiscal years.

$$\text{Local Tonnage} = \frac{\text{FY2019 Field Office Administrative Costs}}{\text{5 Year Rolling Average Export Tons (Local)}}$$

The field offices fiscal year tons for the previous 5 fiscal years and

calculated 5-year rolling average are as follows:

Field office	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	5-year rolling average
New Orleans	65,244,517	66,077,535	70,439,862	66,996,126	57,807,378	65,313,084
League City	12,474,343	12,581,236	13,307,780	8,424,216	7,939,994	10,945,514
Portland	4,111,533	4,645,754	5,175,459	4,643,241	2,530,648	4,221,327

Field office	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	5-year rolling average
Toledo	2,484,604	2,030,506	2,229,920	1,802,762	1,597,584	2,029,075

The local field office administrative costs for fiscal year 2019 and the fiscal year 2020 calculated local field office

tonnage fee, prior to the operating reserve review, are as follows:

Field office	FY 2019 local administrative costs	Calculated FY 2020 local tonnage fee
New Orleans	\$1,517,733	\$0.023
League City	755,374	0.069
Portland	329,221	0.078
Toledo	236,158	0.116

Operating reserve. In order to maintain an operating reserve not less than 3 and not more than 6 months, FGIS reviewed the value of the operating reserve at the end of FY2019 to ensure that an operating reserve of 4½ months is maintained.

The program operating reserve at the end of fiscal year 2019 was \$15,543,893 with a monthly operating expense of \$3,159,182. The target of 4.5 months of operating reserve is \$14,216,321. Therefore, the operating reserve is greater than 4.5 times the monthly operating expenses by \$1,327,572. For each \$1,000,000, rounded down, above the target level, all Schedule A fees must be reduced by 2 percent. The operating reserve is \$1.3 million above the target level resulting in a calculated 2 percent reduction, as required by 800.71(b)(2)(ii). Therefore, for 2020, FGIS is reducing all the 2019 Schedule A fees for service in Schedule A in paragraph (a)(1) by 2 percent. All Schedule A fees for service are rounded to the nearest \$0.10, except for fees based on tonnage or hundredweight. The fee Schedule A has been published on the agency's public website.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 71–87k.

Dated: February 10, 2020.

Bruce Summers,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2020–02948 Filed 2–13–20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Research Service

Notices of Prospective Exclusive, Co-Exclusive or Partially Exclusive Domestic or Foreign Licenses of Government-Owned Inventions

AGENCY: Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Currently, the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) publishes notices of prospective exclusive, co-exclusive or partially exclusive domestic or foreign licenses of Government owned inventions of USDA (including, but not limited to, Agricultural Research Service, Forest Service and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service) in the **Federal Register**.

DATES: ARS is announcing that starting on March 15, 2020, it will begin publishing such notices at the Federal Laboratory Consortium for Technology Transfer website (<https://www.federallabs.org/licenses-list>), providing opportunity for filing written objections within at least a 15-day period.

ADDRESSES: Questions related to this notice may be submitted to USDA, ARS, Office of Technology Transfer, 5601 Sunnyside Avenue, Rm. 4–1174, Beltsville, Maryland 20705–5131.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian T. Nakanishi of the Office of Technology Transfer at the Beltsville address given above; telephone: 301–504–5989.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to 37 CFR 404.7(a)(1)(i), an exclusive, co-exclusive or partially exclusive domestic license, and, pursuant to 37 CFR 404.7(b)(1)(i), an exclusive, co-exclusive or partially exclusive foreign

license, may be granted on Government owned inventions only if notice of a prospective license has been published in the **Federal Register** or other appropriate manner, providing opportunity for filing written objections within at least a 15-day period.

ARS provides notice that it will publish future notices of prospective exclusive, co-exclusive or partially exclusive domestic or foreign licenses at the Federal Laboratory Consortium for Technology Transfer website (<https://www.federallabs.org/licenses-list>), providing opportunity for filing written objections within at least a 15-day period.

Authority: 35 U.S.C. 200 *et seq.*

Mojdeh Baharm,

Assistant Administrator,

[FR Doc. 2020–03011 Filed 2–13–20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–03–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

February 11, 2020.

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: 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; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to