

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 87, No. 178

Thursday, September 15, 2022

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

Office of the Secretary

Determination of Total Amount of Fiscal Year 2023 WTO Tariff-Rate Quota for Certain Sugars, Syrups and Molasses

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture announces the establishment of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 (October 1, 2022—September 30, 2023) in-quota aggregate quantity of certain sugars, syrups, and molasses (also referred to as refined sugar) at 222,000 metric tons raw value (MTRV).

DATES: This notice is applicable on September 15, 2022.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Souleymane Diaby, Multilateral Affairs Division, Trade Policy and Geographic Affairs, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Stop 1070, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-1070; by telephone (202) 720-2916; or by email Souleymane.Diaby@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The provisions of paragraph (a)(i) of Additional U.S. Note 5, chapter 17 in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) authorize the Secretary to establish the in-quota tariff-rate quota (TRQ) amounts (expressed in terms of raw value) for imports of raw cane sugar and certain sugars, syrups, and molasses that may be entered under the subheadings of the HTS subject to the lower tier of duties during each fiscal year. The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) is responsible for the allocation of these quantities among supplying countries and areas.

Section 359(k) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, requires that at the beginning of the

quota year the Secretary of Agriculture establish the TRQs for raw cane sugar and refined sugars at the minimum levels necessary to comply with obligations under international trade agreements, with the exception of specialty sugar.

The Secretary's authority under paragraph (a)(i) of Additional U.S. Note 5, chapter 17 in the HTS and section 359(k) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, has been delegated to the Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs (TFAA) (7 CFR 2.15). That authority, in turn, has been delegated to the Deputy Under Secretary for TFAA under certain circumstances (7 CFR 2.600).

Notice is hereby given that I have determined, in accordance with paragraph (a)(i) of Additional U.S. Note 5, chapter 17 in the HTS and section 359(k) of the 1938 Act, that an aggregate quantity of 222,000 MTRV of sugars, syrups, and molasses (refined sugar) may be entered or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption during FY 2023. This quantity includes the minimum amount to which the United States is committed under the WTO Uruguay Round Agreements, 22,000 MTRV, of which 20,344 MTRV is established for any sugars, syrups and molasses, and 1,656 MTRV is reserved for specialty sugar. An additional amount of 200,000 MTRV is added to the specialty sugar TRQ for a total of 201,656 MTRV. The conversion factor is 1 metric ton raw value equals 1.10231125 short tons raw value.

Because the specialty sugar TRQ is first-come, first-served, tranches are needed to allow for orderly marketing throughout the year. The FY 2023 specialty sugar TRQ will be opened in five tranches. The first tranche, totaling 1,656 MTRV, will open October 3, 2022. All specialty sugars are eligible for entry under this tranche. The second tranche of 60,000 MTRV will open on October 10, 2022. The third tranche of 60,000 MTRV will open on January 20, 2023. The fourth tranche of 40,000 MTRV will open on April 14, 2023. The fifth tranche of 40,000 MTRV will open on July 14, 2023. The second, third, fourth, and fifth tranches will be reserved for organic sugar and other specialty sugars not currently produced commercially in

the United States or reasonably available from domestic sources.

Jason Hafemeister,

Acting Deputy Under Secretary, Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2022-19951 Filed 9-14-22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

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 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 October 17, 2022 will be considered. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

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.

Foreign Agricultural Service

Title: Foreign Market Development Cooperator Program (FMD) and Market Access Program (MAP).

OMB Control Number: 0551-0026.

Summary of Collection: The authority for the Foreign Market Development Cooperator Program (FMD) and the Market Access Program (MAP) is contained in Title VII and section 203 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978, 7 U.S.C. 5623, as amended, which took effect October 21, 1978. The programs were reauthorized by the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (section 3201), which became effective December 20, 2018. The primary objective of the FMD and MAP programs is to encourage and aid in the creation, maintenance and expansion of commercial export markets for United States agricultural commodities and products through cost-share assistance to eligible trade organizations. Financial assistance for both programs is made available on a competitive basis. The programs are administered by personnel of the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS).

Need and Use of the Information: The collected information will be used by FAS to manage, plan, evaluate, and account for government resources. Specifically, data is used to assess the extent to which: applicant organizations represent U.S. commodity interests; benefits derived from market development effort will translate back to the broadest possible range of beneficiaries; the market development efforts will lead to increases in consumption and imports of U.S. agricultural commodities; the applicant is able and willing to commit personnel and financial resources to assure adequate development, supervision and execution of project activities; and private organizations are able and willing to support the promotional program with aggressive marketing of the commodity in question. Without the collected information the program could not be implemented.

Description of Respondents: Not-for-profit institutions; State, Local, or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 67.

Frequency of Responses: Recordkeeping; Reporting: Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 88,922.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2022-20022 Filed 9-14-22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Food Safety and Inspection Service**

[Docket No. FSIS-2021-0001]

Eligibility of Lithuania To Export Egg Products to the United States

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: Notice and response to comments.

SUMMARY: FSIS is announcing that Lithuania is eligible to export egg products to the United States. FSIS has reviewed Lithuania's laws, regulations, and inspection system, as implemented, and has determined that Lithuania's egg products inspection system is equivalent to the food safety inspection system for egg products that the United States has established under the Egg Products Inspection Act (EPIA) and its implementing regulations. Therefore, egg products produced in certified Lithuanian establishments are eligible for export to the United States. All such products will be subject to reinspection at U.S. points-of-entry by FSIS inspectors.

DATES: *Applicable:* Lithuania's egg products eligible for import to the United States will be added to the FSIS Import Library (<https://www.fsis.usda.gov/inspection/import-export/import-export-library>) on September 15, 2022. Lithuania will be eligible to export to the United States egg products produced in the country on or after September 15, 2022.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rachel Edelstein, Assistant Administrator, Office of Policy and Program Development, telephone (202) 205-0495.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Background**

On December 28, 2021, FSIS published a notice in the **Federal Register** (86 FR 73721) that announced that FSIS intended to add Lithuania to the list of countries eligible to export egg products to the United States. As explained in the notice, the EPIA prohibits the importation of egg products capable of use as human food into the United States unless they were processed under an approved inspection system of the government of the foreign country of origin and are labeled and packaged in accordance with, and otherwise comply with, the standards of the EPIA and regulations issued thereunder applicable to such articles within the United States (21 U.S.C.

1046(a)(2)). The regulatory requirements for foreign countries to become eligible to export egg products to the United States are provided in 9 CFR 590.910(a).

Section 590.910(a) requires a foreign country's inspection system to be authorized by a legal authority that imposes requirements equivalent to those of the United States, specifically with respect to labeling, packaging, sanitation, processing, facility requirements, and Government inspection. The foreign country's inspection system must ensure that establishments preparing egg products for export to the United States comply with requirements equivalent to those of the EPIA and the regulations promulgated by FSIS under the authority of that statute. The foreign country is required to certify establishments as having met the required standards and to notify FSIS of those establishments that are either certified as eligible to export to the United States or removed from eligibility.

As part of the FSIS initial equivalence review process, FSIS evaluated the country's food safety inspection system for egg products to determine whether it is equivalent to FSIS', and therefore, eligible to export egg products to the United States. This evaluation consisted of two processes: A document review and an onsite review. The document review is an evaluation of the laws, regulations, and other written materials used by the country to affect its inspection program (9 CFR 327.2(a)(2)(iii), 381.196(a)(2)(iii), and 590.910(a)). The onsite review is an FSIS audit to verify the implementation of the country's food safety inspection system. These comprehensive processes are described more fully on the FSIS website at <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/inspection/import-export/equivalence>.

FSIS regulations (9 CFR 590.910(b)) provide that a list of countries eligible to export egg products to the United States be maintained at <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/inspection/import-export/import-export-library>. To verify that products imported into the United States are not adulterated or misbranded, FSIS reinspects all product imported under FSIS jurisdiction and samples a subset of those products for pathogens and residues at points-of-entry before they enter U.S. commerce.

Evaluation of the Lithuanian Egg Products Inspection System

FSIS explained in the December 28, 2021, **Federal Register** notice that FSIS conducted an onsite audit from October 24 to November 2, 2016, to verify that Lithuania's State Food and Veterinary