

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. FV-03-376]

Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to notify all interested parties that the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) will hold a Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee (Committee) meeting that is open to the public. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) established the Committee to examine the full spectrum of issues faced by the fruit and vegetable industry and provide suggestions and ideas to the Secretary of Agriculture on how USDA can tailor its programs to meet the fruit and vegetable industry's needs. This notice sets forth the schedule and location for the meeting.

DATES: The Committee meeting, which is open to the public, will be held on Tuesday, April 1, 2003, from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The Committee meeting will be held at the Sheraton Reston Hotel, 11810 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia 20191.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert C. Keeney, Deputy Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 2077-S, Stop 0235, Washington, DC 20250-0235. Telephone: (202) 720-4722. Facsimile: (202) 720-0016. E-mail: robert.keeney@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (5 U.S.C. App.), the Secretary of Agriculture established the Committee to examine the full spectrum of issues faced by the fruit and vegetable industry

and to provide suggestions and ideas to the Secretary on how USDA can tailor its programs to meet the fruit and vegetable industry's needs.

The Chairperson of the Committee is Maureen Marshall and Vice-Chairperson is Karen Caplan. AMS Deputy Administrator for Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Robert C. Keeney, serves as the Committee's Executive Secretary and Andrew Hatch as the Designated Federal Official. Representatives from USDA mission areas and other government agencies affecting the fruit and vegetable industry will be called upon to participate in the Committee's meetings as determined by the Committee Chairperson. AMS is giving notice of the committee meeting to the public so that they may wish to attend and present their recommendations. The meeting is scheduled from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, April 1, 2003, at the Sheraton Reston Hotel, 11810 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia 20191.

Topics to be discussed at the meeting will include: USDA programs that encourage increased consumption of fruits and vegetables; a pilot project to increase purchases of fresh produce for domestic feeding programs; labor issues; and the Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Good Handling Practices (GHP) Audit Program.

Those parties that wish to speak at the meeting should register on or before March 30, 2003. To register as a speaker or attend as an observer, please e-mail andrew.hatch@usda.gov or facsimile to (202) 720-0016. Registrants should include their name, address, and daytime telephone number. Depending on the number of registered speakers, time limits may be imposed on speakers. Speakers who have registered in advance will be given priority.

If you require special accommodations, such as a sign language interpreter, please contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. The meeting will be recorded, and information about obtaining a transcript will be provided at the meeting.

The Secretary of Agriculture has selected a diverse group of members representing a broad spectrum of persons interested in providing suggestions and ideas on how USDA can tailor its programs to meet the fruit and vegetable industry's needs. Equal opportunity practices were considered

in all appointments to the Committee in accordance with USDA policies.

Dated: March 11, 2003.

A.J. Yates,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 03-6387 Filed 3-17-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

[Docket No.: 030123018-3018-01]

RIN 0693-ZA51

Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program; Availability of Funds

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Institute of Standards and Technology invites proposals from qualified organizations for funding projects that provide manufacturing extension services to small- and medium-sized manufacturers in the United States. These projects will establish Manufacturing Technology Centers under the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) Program.

Proposals are invited for the expansion of manufacturing extension service capacity within three discrete geographic areas in the United States. The first area encompasses the entirety of the state of Florida. The second area encompasses the entirety of the state of Hawaii. The third area encompasses the entirety of the state of South Dakota. All organizations meeting the eligibility requirements provided herein are invited to submit proposals. As these states had previous MEP centers, applicants are required to provide 66 2/3% or more of the operating costs for providing these manufacturing extension services.

DATES: Proposals must be received no later than 5 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on May 19, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Applicants must submit one signed original and two (2) copies of their proposal along with a Standard Form 424, 424-A, and 424-B (Rev 7/97), Form CD-511 (Rev 7/91), and Form CD-346 to the National Institute of Standards and Technology,