

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

Office of the Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics; Notice of the Advisory Committee on Biotechnology and 21st Century Agriculture Meeting

AGENCY: Agricultural Research Service.

ACTION: Notice of meeting; correction.

SUMMARY: This document corrects a notice appearing in the **Federal Register** on June 2, 2003 (68 FR 32725), which announced the first meeting of the Advisory Committee on Biotechnology and 21st Century Agriculture. This action is necessary to correct erroneous dates listed for the meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Schechtman, Designated Federal Official, Office of the Deputy Secretary, USDA, 202B Jamie L. Whitten Federal Building, 12th and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250; Telephone (202) 720-3817; Fax (202) 690-4265; E-mail mschechtman@ars.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The announcement of the first meeting of the USDA Advisory Committee on Biotechnology and 21st Century Agriculture in the June 2, 2003 edition of the **Federal Register** incorrectly listed the dates for the meeting. The correct dates for the meeting are June 16-17, 2003, from 8:30 am to 5 pm each day. On June 16, 2003, if time permits, reasonable provision will be made for oral presentations of no more than five minutes each in duration from members of the public who wish to make statements. Individuals wishing to make such statements should also inform Dr. Schechtman in writing or via E-mail at

the indicated addresses at least three business days before the meeting.

Michael G. Schechtman,

Designated Federal Official, Advisory Committee on Biotechnology and 21st Century Agriculture.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commodity Credit Corporation 2003- Crop Year Beet Sugar Marketing Allocations

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public hearing.

SUMMARY: The Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) will hold a public hearing to receive comments on (1) a new entrant's beet sugar allocation request and possible impacts on existing beet processors and producers, and (2) increasing an existing beet processor's allocation beginning in FY 2004.

DATES: The public hearing will be held June 16, 2003, in room 107-A of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Jamie L. Whitten Federal Building, 12th and Jefferson Drive, SW., Washington, DC. The hearing will start at 9:30 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT).

ADDRESSES: Barbara Fecso, Dairy and Sweeteners Analysis Group, Economic Policy and Analysis Staff, Farm Service Agency, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., STOP 0516, Washington, DC 20250-0516; telephone (202) 720-4146; FAX (202) 690-1480; e-mail: barbara.fecso@usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barbara Fecso at (202) 720-4146.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: USDA will hold a public hearing regarding the application of Cargill, Inc. (Cargill), for a new entrant beet sugar marketing allocation for the 2003 crop year. Cargill is requesting a 2003-crop year allocation of 80,000 short tons, raw value, annually, for years 2003 through 2007. The facility will be located in Renville, Minnesota.

Section 359d(b)(2)(H)(i) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, authorizes CCC to assign an allocation for beet sugar to any entity who (1) starts processing sugar beets after the

date of enactment of this section, and (2) does not already have an allocation of beet sugar. The statute provides that the allocation of beet sugar to the new entrant shall provide a fair and equitable distribution of the allocations for beet sugar while reducing the allocations of beet sugar of all other processors on a pro rata basis to reflect the new allocation.

Cargill has requested a beet sugar marketing allocation as a new entrant through an agreement with Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative's (Southern Minnesota) growers for a beet supply and a tolling agreement with Southern Minnesota to extract the sugar from Cargill's beets.

CCC will also use this hearing to collect comments on any adverse effects that the allocation to Cargill would have on existing sugar beet processors and producers.

In addition, CCC will hear comments on the request by the Pacific Northwest Sugar Company, LLC (PNS) to increase its allocation 1.5 percent of the sum of all beet sugar producers' production history. Of this increase, 0.25 percent is requested based on the opening of a molasses desugaring facility in summer 1999. The balance, 1.25 percent, is based on PNS's request for a 1998-crop quality loss adjustment as required by Section 359d(b)(2)(D)(ii)(IV) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended. CCC notes that PNW certified on September 13, 2002, to CCC that it had not opened an eligible desugaring facility or suffered an eligible quality loss when they were surveyed about those issues.

The hearing will be held on June 16, 2003, from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. EDT in room 107-A of the Jamie L. Whitten Building, 12th and Jefferson Drive, SW., Washington, DC. Attendance is open to interested parties.

Anyone wishing to make an oral statement may do so, time permitting. Each comment will be limited to 5 minutes. A sign up sheet for oral statements will be available at the entrance of room 107-A one hour before the hearing begins. Oral statements will be made in the order the requests are received. Anyone wishing to make a written statement in lieu of or in addition to an oral statement should send their statement to Barbara Fecso, Dairy and Sweeteners Analysis Group, Economic Policy and Analysis Staff,