

*Citrus Seeds From Gabon and Iran*

This rule requires that seeds of all species of the plant family *Rutaceae* (citrus) from Gabon and Iran be treated for citrus canker upon arrival in the United States. This change should have no effect on U.S. consumers, producers, or importers, since imports of *Rutaceae* (citrus) from the two affected countries are nonexistent. Trade data for 1995 to 1997 show no U.S. imports of citrus fruit (fresh or dried) or seeds, fruit, or spores for propagation from either of the two regions.

*Growing Requirements for Hops*

This rule requires that imported hops plants and plant parts be grown and observed in postentry quarantine in an isolated growth chamber for 6 months, and then transferred to a greenhouse to be grown for an additional year.

Researchers and universities comprise the overwhelming bulk of entities in the United States that grow imported hop plants and plant parts. This change should have little or no effect on researchers, since most already have the equipment and facilities to comply with the rule's requirements. Accordingly, for most of the affected entities, the cost to comply with the requirements will be minimal.

*Commercial Shipments of Bulbs*

This rule allows the importation of bulbs of the genera *Crocasmia*, *Gladiolus*, and *Watsonia* in commercial shipments from Brazil, France, Italy, Malta, Mauritius, and Portugal.

In 1998, the United States imported over \$175 million worth of bulbs and tubers. Imports from Brazil, France, Italy, Malta, Mauritius, and Portugal together accounted for less than 1 percent of the total bulb and tuber imports. Data on potential imports of bulbs that would result from this change are not available. However, given the export history of the countries affected, it is unlikely that this change will have a significant impact on domestic bulb producers or bulb importers.

*Additional Approved Growing Media and Packing Material*

This rule adds stockosorb superabsorbent polymer, zeolite, coir, and coal cinder to the list of growing media approved for the importation of certain plants.

This change is not expected to result in increased U.S. imports of plants in growing media; the expected result is a redistribution of the existing volume of plant imports among a larger number of approved growing media. Accordingly, the addition of these types of growing media should have no economic effect

on U.S. consumers, producers, or importers.

This rule also adds stockosorb superabsorbent polymer to the list of approved packing material. We cannot determine what entities could be affected by this change, but we believe that it will not likely have a significant economic effect on any U.S. entities.

*List of Ports of Entry*

This rule amends the regulations to reflect that the port of El Paso, TX, no longer operates as a Federal plant inspection station. This port no longer operates as a plant inspection station because it does not have the capacity to perform treatments and provide the other services that are needed at Federal plant inspection stations. We believe that this change will not have any significant impact on any U.S. entities, whether small or large.

*Other Changes*

We are also making several other amendments to the regulations, including changes in plant taxonomy, postentry quarantine protocol, labeling requirements, and risk assessment policy, as well as other editorial changes, which will not have any economic effects on U.S. entities, whether small or large.

This final rule contains information collection requirements, which have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (see "Paperwork Reduction Act" below).

**Executive Order 12988**

This final rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12988, Civil Justice Reform. This rule: (1) Preempts all State and local laws and regulations that are inconsistent with this rule; (2) has no retroactive effect; and (3) does not require administrative proceedings before parties may file suit in court challenging this rule.

**Paperwork Reduction Act**

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the information collection or recordkeeping requirements included in this rule have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under OMB control number 0579-0190.

**Government Paperwork Elimination Act Compliance**

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is committed to compliance with the Government Paperwork Elimination Act (GPEA), which requires government agencies in general to provide the public the option

of submitting information or transacting business electronically to the maximum extent possible. For information pertinent to GPEA compliance related to this rule, please contact Mrs. Celeste Sickles, APHIS' Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 734-7477.

**List of Subjects***7 CFR Part 300*

Incorporation by reference, Plant diseases and pests, Quarantine.

*7 CFR Part 319*

Bees, Coffee, Cotton, Fruits, Honey, Imports, Incorporation by reference, Nursery stock, Plant diseases and pests, Quarantine, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Rice, Vegetables.

■ Accordingly, we are amending 7 CFR parts 300 and 319 as follows:

**PART 300—INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE**

■ 1. The authority citation for part 300 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 7 U.S.C. 7701–7772; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.3.

■ 2. In § 300.1, paragraph (a) is amended as follows:

■ a. In paragraph (a)(6), by removing the word "and".

■ b. In paragraph (a)(7), by removing the period and adding a semicolon in its place.

■ c. By adding new paragraphs (a)(8) and (a)(9) to read as follows:

**§ 300.1 Plant Protection and Quarantine Treatment Manual.**

(a) \* \* \*

(8) Treatment T412—a, dated July 2003; and

(9) Dry Heat Treatment Facilities for Niger (*Guizotia abyssinica*), dated July 2003.

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**PART 319—FOREIGN QUARANTINE NOTICES**

■ 3. The authority citation for part 319 is revised to read as follows:

**Authority:** 7 U.S.C. 450 and 7701–7772; 21 U.S.C. 136 and 136a; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.3.

■ 4. In § 319.37–2(a), the table is amended as follows:

■ a. By adding, in alphabetical order, entries for "*Brugmansia* spp.", "*Crocasmia* spp. (montebredia), except bulbs in commercial shipments", "*Datura* spp. (woody species)", "*Gladiolus* spp. (gladiolus), except bulbs in commercial shipments", "*Leucanthemella serotina*",