

and trapping for avocado pests and fruit flies by Mexican plant health officials.

Registration: Growers and packinghouse operators participating in this program must register with the Mexican Ministry of Agriculture's avocado export program. Registration ensures that participating orchards and packinghouses are adhering to a specific set of APHIS requirements.

Infestation Information: If certain plant pests are detected in a participating orchard, packinghouse, or municipality, the Mexican Ministry of Agriculture must supply us with information concerning the circumstances of the infestation and the pest risk mitigation measures that are being implemented.

Seals: Boxes of avocados must be placed in a refrigerated truck or refrigerated container and remain there while in transit through Mexico to the port of first arrival in the United States. Before leaving the packinghouse, a representative from the Mexican Ministry of Agriculture must secure the truck or container with a seal that must remain unbroken until arriving in the United States.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning these information collection activities. We need this outside input to help us:

(1) Evaluate whether the information collection is necessary for the proper performance of our agency's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the information collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the information collection on those who are to respond, through the use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other collection technologies, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Estimate of burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.0002 hours per response.

Respondents: U.S. importers, growers and packinghouse operators in Mexico, Mexican plant protection authorities.

Estimated number of respondents: 157.

Estimated number of responses per respondent: 51,130.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 3,098.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Done in Washington, DC, this 27th day of March 1997.

Donald W. Luchsinger,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 97-8174 Filed 3-31-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Opportunity for Designation in the Minot (ND), Southern Illinois (IL), and Tri-State (OH) Areas

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (Act), provides that official agency designations will end not later than triennially and may be renewed. The designations of Minot Grain Inspection, Inc. (Minot), Southern Illinois Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Southern Illinois), and Tri-State Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Tri-State), will end September 30, 1997, according to the Act. GIPSA is asking persons interested in providing official services in the Minot, Southern Illinois, and Tri-State areas to submit an application for designation.

DATES: Applications must be postmarked or sent by telecopier (FAX) on or before April 30, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Applications must be submitted to USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-3604.

Applications may be submitted by FAX on 202-690-2755. If an application is submitted by FAX, GIPSA reserves the right to request an original application. All applications will be made available for public inspection at this address located at 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., during regular business hours.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet M. Hart, telephone 202-720-8525.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

This action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512-1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this action.

Section 7(f)(1) of the Act authorizes GIPSA's Administrator to designate a

qualified applicant to provide official services in a specified area after determining that the applicant is better able than any other applicant to provide such official services. GIPSA designated Minot, main office located in Minot, North Dakota; Southern Illinois, main office located in O'Fallon, Illinois; and Tri-State, main office located in Cincinnati, Ohio, to provide official inspection services under the Act on October 1, 1994.

Section 7(g)(1) of the Act provides that designations of official agencies shall end not later than triennially and may be renewed according to the criteria and procedures prescribed in Section 7(f) of the Act. The designations of Minot, Southern Illinois, and Tri-State end on September 30, 1997, according to the Act.

Pursuant to Section 7(f)(2) of the Act, the following geographic area, in the State of North Dakota, is assigned to Minot.

Bounded on the North by the North Dakota State line east to State Route 14;

Bounded on the East by State Route 14 south to State Route 5; State Route 5 east to State Route 60; State Route 60 southeast to State Route 3; State Route 3 south to State Route 200;

Bounded on the South by State Route 200 west to State Route 41; State Route 41 south to U.S. Route 83; U.S. Route 83 northwest to State Route 200; State Route 200 west to U.S. Route 85; U.S. Route 85 south to Interstate 94; Interstate 94 west to the North Dakota State line; and

Bounded on the West by the North Dakota State line.

The following grain elevators, located outside of the above contiguous geographic area, are part of this geographic area assignment: Harvey Farmers Elevator, Harvey, Wells County (located inside Grand Forks Grain Inspection Department, Inc.'s, area); and Benson Quinn Company, Underwood, and Missouri Valley Grain Company, Washburn, all in McLean County (located inside Grain Inspection, Inc.'s, area).

Pursuant to Section 7(f)(2) of the Act, the following geographic area, in the State of Illinois, is assigned to Southern Illinois.

Bounded on the East by the eastern Cumberland County line; the eastern Jasper County line south to State Route 33; State Route 33 east-southeast to the Indiana-Illinois State line; the Indiana-Illinois State line south to the southern Gallatin County line;

Bounded on the South by the southern Gallatin, Saline, and Williamson County lines; the southern Jackson County line west to U.S. Route

51; U.S. Route 51 north to State Route 13; State Route 13 northwest to State Route 149; State Route 149 west to State Route 3; State Route 3 northwest to State Route 51; State Route 51 south to the Mississippi River;

Bounded on the West by the Mississippi River north to Interstate 270; Interstate 270 east to Interstate 70; Interstate 70 east to State Route 4; State Route 4 north to Macoupin County; the southern Macoupin County line; the eastern Macoupin County line north to a point on this line which intersects with a straight line, from the junction of State Route 111 and the northern Macoupin County line to the junction of Interstate 55 and State Route 16 (in Montgomery County); and

Bounded on the North from this point southeast along the straight line to the junction of Interstate 55 and State Route 16; State Route 16 east-northeast to a point approximately 1 mile northeast of Irving; a straight line from this point to the northern Fayette County line; the northern Fayette, Effingham, and Cumberland County lines.

Pursuant to Section 7(f)(2) of the Act, the following geographic area, in the States of Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio, is assigned to Tri-State.

Dearborn, Decatur, Franklin, Ohio, Ripley, Rush (south of State Route 244), and Switzerland Counties, Indiana.

Bath, Boone, Bourbon, Bracken, Campbell, Clark, Fleming, Gallatin, Grant, Harrison, Kenton, Lewis (west of State Route 59), Mason, Montgomery, Nicholas, Owen, Pendleton, and Robertson Counties, Kentucky.

In Ohio:

Bounded on the North by the northern Preble County line east; the western and northern Miami County lines east to State Route 296; State Route 296 east to State Route 560; State Route 560 south to the Clark County line; the northern Clark County line east to U.S. Route 68;

Bounded on the East by U.S. Route 68 south to U.S. Route 22; U.S. Route 22 east to State Route 73; State Route 73 southeast to the Adams County line; the eastern Adams County line;

Bounded on the South by the southern Adams, Brown, Clermont, and Hamilton County lines; and

Bounded on the West by the western Hamilton, Butler, and Preble County lines.

Interested persons, including Minot, Southern Illinois, and Tri-State, are hereby given the opportunity to apply for designation to provide official services in the geographic areas specified above under the provisions of Section 7(f) of the Act and section 800.196(d) of the regulations issued thereunder. Designation in the Minot,

Southern Illinois, and Tri-State areas is for the period beginning October 1, 1997, and ending September 30, 2000.

Persons wishing to apply for designation should contact the Compliance Division at the address listed above for forms and information.

Applications and other available information will be considered in determining which applicant will be designated.

Authority: Pub. L. 94-582, 90 Stat. 2867, as amended (7 U.S.C. 71 *et seq.*)

Dated: March 12, 1997.

Neil E. Porter,

Director, Compliance Division.

[FR Doc. 97-7741 Filed 3-31-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-EN-F

Designations for the Lincoln (NE), Memphis (TN), and Omaha (NE), Areas

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: GIPSA announces the designation of Lincoln Inspection Service, Inc. (Lincoln), Memphis Grain Inspection Service (Memphis), and Omaha Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Omaha), to provide official services under the United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (Act).

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 1, 1997.

ADDRESSES: USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-3604.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet M. Hart, telephone 202-720-8525.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

This action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512-1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this action.

In the October 22, 1996, **Federal Register** (61 FR 54760), GIPSA asked persons interested in providing official services in the geographic areas assigned to Lincoln, Memphis, and Omaha to submit an application for designation. Applications were due by December 2, 1996. Lincoln, Memphis, and Omaha, the only applicants, each applied for designation to provide official services in the entire area currently assigned to them.

Since Lincoln, Memphis, and Omaha were the only applicants for the respective areas, GIPSA did not ask for comments on the applicants.

GIPSA evaluated all available information regarding the designation criteria in Section 7(f)(l)(A) of the Act; and according to Section 7(f)(l)(B), determined that Lincoln, Memphis, and Omaha are able to provide official services in the geographic areas for which they applied. Effective May 1, 1997, and ending April 30, 2000, Lincoln and Omaha are designated to provide official services in the geographic areas specified in the October 22, 1996, **Federal Register**. Effective June 1, 1997, and ending April 30, 2000, Memphis is designated to provide official services in the geographic area specified in the October 22, 1996, **Federal Register**.

Interested persons may obtain official services by contacting Lincoln at 402-435-4386, Memphis at 901-942-3216, and Omaha at 402-341-6739.

Authority: Pub. L. 94-582, 90 Stat. 2867, as amended (7 U.S.C. 71 *et seq.*)

Dated: March 12, 1997.

Neil E. Porter,

Director, Compliance Division.

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BILLING CODE 3410-EN-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census

Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders (M3) Survey

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before June 2, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Stephen Andrews, Bureau of the Census, FOB #4 Room 2102, Washington, DC 20233-6913, (301) 457-4602.