NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1.** | **Notifying Member:** UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  **If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2):** |
| **2.** | **Agency responsible:**  Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), Department of Agriculture (USDA) [1918]  **Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:**  Please submit comments to: USA WTO TBT Enquiry Point, Email: [usatbtep@nist.gov](mailto:usatbtep@nist.gov) |
| **3.** | **Notified under Article 2.9.2 [****],** **2.10.1 [****],** **5.6.2 [****],** **5.7.1 [****], 3.2 [****], 7.2 [****],** **other****[X]:** Pursuant to the Commodity Promotion, Research and Information Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7411-7425) (Act) a referendum is being conducted to ascertain whether continuance of the Honey Packers and Importers Research, Promotion, Consumer Education, and Industry Information Order (7 CFR part 1212) is favored by eligible first handlers and importers of honey or honey products covered under the program. |
| **4.** | **Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable):** Honey and honey products; Domestic safety (ICS code(s): 13.120); Sugar. Sugar products. Starch (ICS code(s): 67.180) |
| **5.** | **Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:** Honey Packers and Importers Research, Promotion, Consumer Education, and Industry Information Order; Continuance Referendum; (1 page(s), in English) |
| **6.** | **Description of content:** Notification of referendum - This document directs that a referendum be conducted among eligible first handlers and importers of honey or honey products to determine whether they favor continuance of the Agriculture Marketing Service's regulations regarding a national honey packers and importers research and promotion program. |
| **7.** | **Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable:** Harmonization; Cost saving and productivity enhancement |
| **8.** | **Relevant documents:**  87 Federal Register (FR) 32328, 31 May 2022; Title 7 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1212:  <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2022-05-31/html/2022-11294.htm>  <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2022-05-31/pdf/2022-11294.pdf>  Copies of the Honey Packers and Importers Research, Promotion, Consumer Education and Industry Information Order may be obtained from: Referendum Agent, Market Development Division, Specialty Crops Program, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 1406-S, Stop 0244, Washington, DC 20250-0244, telephone: (202) 720-9915; or contact Katie Cook at (202) 617-4760 or via electronic mail: [Katie.Cook@usda.gov](mailto:Katie.Cook@usda.gov), Marketing Specialist, MDD, SCP, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 1406-S, Stop 0244, Washington, DC 20250-0244; telephone: (202) 617-4760; or electronic mail: [Katie.Cook@usda.gov](mailto:Katie.Cook@usda.gov). |
| **9.** | **Proposed date of adoption:** To be determined  **Proposed date of entry into force:** To be determined |
| **10.** | **Final date for comments:** 26 August 2022; This referendum will be conducted by express mail and electronic ballot from 8 August 2022 through 26 August 2022. To be eligible to vote, first handlers and importers must have handled or imported 250,000 or more pounds of honey or honey products during the representative period from 1 January through 31 December 2021, are subject to assessments under the Honey Packers and Importers Research, Promotion, Consumer Education and Industry Information Order (Order), and excluding those exempt from assessment under the Order. Ballots delivered via express mail or electronic ballot must show proof of delivery by no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) on 26 August 2022 to be counted. |
| **11.** | **Texts available from: National enquiry point [****]** **or address, telephone and fax numbers and email and website addresses, if available, of other body:**  <https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2022/TBT/USA/22_4372_00_e.pdf> |