United States
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Selected Speeches and News Releases

Oct. 15 - Oct. 21, 1992

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U.S. Department of Agriculture • Office of Public Affairs

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USDA ANNOUNCES 1992/93 EXPORT ENHANCEMENT PACKAGE FOR VEGETABLE OIL

WILMORE, Ky., Oct. 15—Secretary of Agriculture Edward Madigan today announced a multi-country package of initiatives under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Export Enhancement Program to boost sales of 870,000 metric tons of U.S. vegetable oil, effective immediately.

The new package to 11 countries or regions replaces all EEP vegetable oil initiatives announced previously and includes the addition of Lebanon and Senegal as the 137th and 138th initiatives announced under the EEP. All 11 initiatives remain in effect through Sept. 30, 1993. Additional destinations or quantities may be added later.

"This new package allows U.S. vegetable oil exports, such as soybean oil, sunflowerseed oil and cottonseed oil, to compete this year with highly subsidized vegetable oil from the European Community," Madigan said. "The EC oilseed program provides production subsidies which guarantee EC oilseed producers returns roughly twice the world market level."

"Today's announcement is another step in our efforts to pressure the EC to adopt significant reforms in its oilseed policy," Madigan said. "On two separate occasions, the EC oilseedspolicy has been found to violate global trade rules under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade."

He said that "bundling" of vegetable oil promotions also will help avert sales disruptions, give farmers, exporters and foreign buyers greater certainty on sales and make the United States a more reliable supplier.

Quantities proposed in today's EEP package have been limited to leave room for continuation of previous sales levels by non-subsidizing competitor countries, according to Madigan.

The initiatives are listed below in metric tons:

Country	Metric Tons
Algeria	100,000
China	80,000
Dominican Republic	30,000
Former Soviet Union	150,000
Hong Kong	60,000
Lebanon	20,000
Mexico	40,000
Morocco	150,000
Senegal	20,000
Tunisia	120,000
Turkey	100,000
Total	870,000

Sales of vegetable oil will be made to buyers in these countries through normal commercial channels at competitive world prices. For the former Soviet Union only, USDA also will allow sales to third-country buyers; this permits third-country purchasers of goods exported from the former Soviet Union to act as buyers for vegetable oil destined for the former Soviet Union. The export sales will be facilitated with cash bonus payments. The subsidy will enable U.S. exporters to compete at commercial prices in these markets.

Invitations for each of the countries will be issued in the near future.

For more information call Randy Baxter, (202) 720-5540, or L.T. McElvain, (202) 720-6211.

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USDA ANNOUNCES PREVAILING WORLD MARKET PRICE AND USER MARKETING CERTIFICATE PAYMENT RATE FOR UPLAND COTTON

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15—Keith Bjerke, executive vice president of USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation, today announced the prevailing world market price, adjusted to U.S. quality and location (adjusted world price), for Strict Low Middling (SLM) 1-1/16 inch (micronaire 3.5-3.6 and 4.3-4.9, strength 24-25 grams per tex) upland cotton (base quality), the coarse count adjustment and the user marketing certificate payment rate in effect from 12:01 a.m. Friday, Oct. 16, through midnight Thursday, Oct. 22.

The Agricultural Act of 1949, as amended, provides that the AWP may be further adjusted if: (a) the AWP is less than 115 percent of the current crop year loan rate for base quality upland cotton, and (b) the Friday through Thursday average price quotation for the lowest-priced U.S. growth as quoted for Middling (M) 1-3/32 inch cotton, C.I.F. northern Europe (USNE price) exceeds the Northern Europe (NE) price. The maximum allowable adjustment is the difference between the USNE price and the NE price.

A further adjustment to this week's calculated AWP may be made in accordance with this provision. The calculated AWP is 75 percent of the 1992 upland cotton base quality loan rate, and the USNE price exceeds the NE price by 4.95 cents per pound. Following are the relevant calculations:

I.	Calculated AWP	39.35 cents per pound
	1992 Base Loan Rate	52.35 cents per pound
	AWP as a Percent of Loan Rate	75
II.	USNE Price	58.20 cents per pound
	NE Price	-53.25 cents per pound
	Maximum Adjustment Allowed	4.95 cents per pound

Based on a consideration of the U.S. share of world exports, the current level of cotton export sales and cotton export shipments, and other relevant data, no further adjustment to this week's calculated AWP will be made. This week's AWP and coarse count adjustment are determined as follows:

Adjusted World Price		
NE Price		53.25
Adjustments:		
Average U.S. spot market location	12.04	
SLM 1-1/16 inch cotton	1.55	
Average U.S. location	0.31	
Sum of Adjustments		-13.90
Calculated AWP		39.35
Further AWP Adjustment		- 0
ADJUSTED WORLD PRICE		39.35 cents/lb.

Coarse Count Adjustment	
NE Price	53.25
NE Coarse Count Price	-49.08
	4.17
Adjustment to SLM 1-1/32 inch cotton	-3.95
COARSE COUNT ADJUSTMENT	0.22 cents/lb.

Because the AWP is below the 1990, 1991 and 1992 base quality loan rates of 50.27, 50.77 and 52.35 cents per pound, respectively, the loan repayment rate during this period is equal to the AWP, adjusted for the specific quality and location plus applicable interest and storage charges. The AWP will continue to be used to determine the value of upland cotton that is obtained in exchange for commodity certificates.

Because the AWP is below the 1992-crop loan rate, cash loan deficiency payments will be paid to eligible producers who agree to forgo obtaining a price support loan with respect to the 1992 crop. The payment rate is equal to the difference between the loan rate and the AWP. Producers are allowed to obtain a loan deficiency payment on a bale-by-bale basis.

The USNE price has exceeded the NE price by more than 1.25 cents per pound for four consecutive weeks and the AWP has not exceeded 130 percent of the 1992 crop year base quality loan rate in any week of the 4-week period. As a result, the user marketing certificate payment rate is 3.70 cents per pound. This rate is applicable during the Friday through Thursday period for bales opened by domestic users and for cotton contracts entered into by exporters for delivery prior to September 30, 1993. Relevant data used in determining the user marketing certificate payment rate are summarized below:

Week	For the Friday through Thursday Period	USNE Current Price	NE Current Price	USNE Minus NE	Certificate Payment Rate 1/
1	Sept. 24, 1992	61.55	56.61	4.94	3.69
2	Oct. 1, 1992	58.30	54.55	3.75	2.50
3	Oct. 8, 1992	58.25	53.88	4.37	3.12
4	Oct. 15, 1992	58.20	53.25	4.95	3.70

1/ USNE price minus NE price minus 1.25 cents.

The next announcement of the AWP, coarse count adjustment and user marketing certificate payment rate will be made on Thursday, Oct. 22.

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TWO ARRESTED FOR $6.6 MILLION FOOD STAMP FRAUD IN CLEVELAND, OHIO

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15—The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced that a Cleveland, Ohio, retail grocer and his brother were arrested today for illegally acquiring and redeeming more than $6.6 million in food stamps. The arrests were made by agents of USDA's Office of Inspector General and the Internal Revenue Service.

Inspector General Leon Snead said Amin Salem, 33, former owner of Woodland Eagle Super Market, Cleveland, and his brother, Sami Salem, 31, the market's manager, were charged in the federal warrants with conspiracy, theft, and unlawful acquisition and redemption of food stamps.

According to the affidavit for the arrest warrants, from 1988 through 1991 the Salems conspired with others at Woodland Eagle to illegally acquire and redeem $6.6 million in food stamps. In December 1991, a search warrant was executed at the market and OIG agents seized records documenting food stamp exchanges between Woodland Eagle and 10 other authorized and unauthorized Cleveland area retail grocers.

Food stamps may only be used by eligible recipients to purchase food items at stores authorized to participate in the Food Stamp Program. It is illegal for retail grocers to exchange food stamps between themselves or to exchange food stamps for cash or non-food items.

This investigation was one of a series that targeted retail grocers whose food stamps redemptions greatly exceeded their actual food sales. Earlier this year, a Toledo grocer was convicted in a $7.2 million scheme and three New York City grocers were convicted of an $82 million scheme.

Snead said that the arrests were the result of a joint investigation by OIG, the Internal Revenue Service, U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, U.S. Secret Service, and U.S. Customs Service. U.S. Attorney Joyce J. George, Northern District of Ohio, is coordinating the continuing investigation with these agencies.

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ORLANDO AGRICULTURE STATION COUNTRY'S LARGEST

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16—The U.S. Department of Agriculture will open its largest plant inspection station at Orlando International Airport Oct. 22. The station is expected to meet the demand created by central Florida's expanding agriculture import and export market.

Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Inspection Services Jo Ann Smith will dedicate the 16,000-square-foot station, which is located at the airport's Tradeport. The facility was designed to USDA specifications and constructed by the Greater Orlando Aviation Authority (GOAA).

"The site was selected because more nursery stock, cut flowers and foliage are imported through Florida than any other state, and because Florida is the country's largest producer and exporter of tropical foliage," said Smith.

She praised GOAA's vision and long-range planning.

The Orlando facility is the largest of 16 USDA plant inspection stations. The next largest station is Miami's 8,000-square-foot facility.

The station's inspectors will examine imported agricultural materials for pests and diseases and use prescribed treatments as required. For agricultural items being exported, the station will issue phytosanitary certificates that certify that items comply with the receiving country's agriculture laws.

"Most of our exports will probably be live plants to Europe," said APHIS officer-in-charge Bill Moore. "We anticipate a large volume of our import inspections will be tropical plants from Central and South America."

The new plant inspection station includes state-of-the-art equipment such as fumigation chambers for quarantine treatments and an incinerator for disposal of prohibited plant and animal material.

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USDA RULES GENETICALLY MODIFIED TOMATO SAFE FOR DEREGULATION

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16—The U.S. Department of Agriculture has ruled it will no longer regulate the genetically modified "Flavr Savr" tomato or its descendants, a USDA official announced today.

"Flavr Savr" is the trademark for a tomato developed by Calgene Inc., Davis, Calif., to decrease the rate of fruit ripening and improve flavor.

"This product was regulated because it was developed using DNA from certain plant pathogens," said Terry L. Medley, director of biotechnology, biologics, and environmental protection at USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

"Calgene petitioned us to review the data to determine whether the 'Flavr Savr' is a plant pest. We have done so and see no need to treat the 'Flavr Savr' tomato any differently than other tomatoes," Medley said.

Federal regulations require permits for field testing, importation, or interstate movement of organisms that may present a plant pest risk. APHIS reviews applications for these permits and determines whether the proposed actions pose any risk to agriculture or the environment.

Because "Flavr Savr" tomatoes and their descendants have been determined not to present a plant pest risk, they can be moved or released into the U.S. environment without a USDA permit.

Medley said APHIS made this determination based on analysis of data submitted by Calgene Inc., public comments, scientific literature and expert opinion from the scientific community. This is the first such determination that APHIS has made.

A record of the determination, the Calgene Inc. submission, and written comments may be inspected at USDA, Room 1141-S, 14th St. and Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C., between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. A copy of the determination and the Calgene Inc., petition may be obtained by contacting Kay Peterson at (301) 436-7601.

This ruling will be published in the Federal Register and go into effect on Oct. 19.

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YELLOW-FLOWERED ALFALFA TO BLOOM ON WESTERN RANGE

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16—Alfalfa with drought tolerance and yellow flowers- -instead of the usual purple—could give western ranchers new options for growing this nutritious forage crop without irrigation, said a researcher with the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Colorado.

A new yellow-flowered strain increases the odds ranchers can someday grow this highly nutritious legume to graze livestock in areas with little rainfall, according to Charley E. Townsend of USDA's Agricultural Research Service.

Without irrigation, he said, purple-flowered alfalfa has a hard time taking hold in those regions—and it lacks drought tolerance.

"Seedlings of our new strain of yellow-flowered alfalfa grow about as vigorously as most commercial varieties of the far more common purple-flowered alfalfa," said Townsend, a plant geneticist.

Up to now, weak seedling vigor has dissuaded ranchers from making use of yellow-flowered alfalfa's known ability to withstand drought, he said.

Townsend said his new, more vigorous strain stands a better chance of surviving as a range plant in harsher, semi-arid climates of Montana, the Dakotas, Colorado and western Kansas. But, he said, western growers who irrigate alfalfa—as hay for their animals or as a cash crop—would get better harvests from purple-flowered alfalfa.

Compared to the usual yellow-flowered types, seeds of the new alfalfa hold more energy and nutrients for jump-starting emerging seedlings on unirrigated rangeland, he said. That boost is reflected in the seed's weight—20 percent greater than seed of the parent plants he began working with 10 years ago.

If enough seed of the new strain is harvested this fall, Townsend will provide seed samples to plant breeders to develop commercial varieties. Yellow-flowered alfalfa, he said, could supply more nutrients for grazing livestock and wildlife. Alfalfa has more protein than most grasses. Plus, unlike grass, it uses soil microorganisms to produce its own nitrogen fertilizer.

"I believe further selection of the yellow-flowered strain can improve seedling vigor even more," said Townsend. He bred and tested the new alfalfa at the ARS Crops Research Laboratory in Fort Collins, Colo.

Seed of the parent plants—descendants of yellow alfalfa found in the former Soviet Union—was supplied by the agency's Plant Introduction Station in Ames, Iowa

NOTE TO EDITORS: For details, contact Charley E. Townsend, plant geneticist, Crops Research Laboratory, USDA, ARS, Fort Collins, Colo. 80526. Telephone (303) 498-4231.

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USDA BUYS DRY MILK FOR U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16—Secretary of Agriculture Edward Madigan announced today that the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Commodity Credit Corporation will purchase dry whole milk and nonfat dry milk for use by the Agency for International Development.

The purchases will meet program requirements in November and December and will be used in AID's Vulnerable Groups Assistance Program under the Democratic and Economic Initiatives Project for the new independent states of the former Soviet Union.

CCC will announce contracts for the purchase of 10,475,000 pounds of dry whole milk and 1,575,000 pounds of nonfat dry milk today. The dollar value of these purchases is about $13,781,000.

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USDA ANNOUNCES 1992/93 EXPORT ENHANCEMENT PACKAGE FOR BARLEY

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16—Secretary of Agriculture Edward Madigan today announced a multi-country package of initiatives under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Export Enhancement Program to boost sales of 2,535,000 metric tons of U.S. barley, effective immediately.

The new package of barley initiatives to 12 countries or regions replaces all EEP barley initiatives announced previously and includes the addition of Finland and Morocco. The new initiatives will remain in effect through Sept. 30, 1993. Additional destinations or quantities may be added later.

Barley sales under EEP in fiscal 1992 were about 1.5 million metric tons.

"This package allows U.S. barley exporters a fair chance to compete in a world barley market that has become distorted by subsidized competition from the European Community," Madigan said. "The EC's barley policies have led to record barley stock levels, which has resulted in mounting pressure within the EC to increase exports by increasing subsidies."

"Today's announcement sends a signal to U.S. farmers and the EC that we are prepared to fight to maintain our share of the world barley market," Madigan said.

He said that "bundling" of barley initiatives also will help avert sales disruptions, give farmers, exporters and foreign buyers greater certainty on sales and make the United States a more reliable supplier.

Quantities proposed in today's EEP package have been limited to leave room for continuation of previous sales levels by non-subsidizing competitor countries, according to Madigan.

The package of initiatives announced today, in metric tons, includes:

Country or Region	Metric Tons
Algeria	100,000
Colombia	50,000
Cyprus	150,000
Finland	200,000
Former Soviet Union (12)	350,000
Russia, Byelarus, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Georgia	
Israel	350,000
Jordan	150,000
Malta	35,000
Morocco	250,000
Poland	200,000
Saudi Arabia	600,000
Turkey	100,000
Total	2,535,000

The initiatives for Colombia and Turkey are for malting barley. Sales of barley will be made to buyers in all countries announced today through normal commercial channels at competitive world prices. For the former Soviet Union only, USDA also will allow sales to third-country buyers—this will permit third-country purchasers of goods exported from the former Soviet Union to act as buyers for barley destined for the former Soviet Union. The export sales will be facilitated with cash bonus payments. The subsidy will enable U.S. exporters to compete at commercial prices in these markets.

EEP invitations for each of the countries will be issued immediately. For more information, call Janet M. Kavan, (202) 720-5540, or L.T. McElvain, (202) 720-6211.

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USDA INCREASES FEES FOR EGG, POULTRY AND RABBIT GRADING

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16—The U.S. Department of Agriculture will increase fees for certain grading and inspection services for eggs, poultry, rabbits and egg products, effective Nov. 1.

"Increases in the salaries and benefits of federal employees and federally licensed state employees who provide the services justify raising the fees," said Daniel D. Haley, administrator of USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, the agency that administers the grading program.

Hourly fees for voluntary, industry-requested grading will rise from $21.08 to $22.24 for resident service (work of a grader with a regular tour of duty at a plant); from $28.64 to $30.12 for non-resident service (intermittent, "as-needed," grading); from $29.68 to $30.52 for non-resident grading work on weekends and holidays; and from $30.52 to $32.11 for laboratory work.

The administrative fee for USDA supervision of voluntary grading and for other overhead expenses will decrease from $.031 to $.030 per case of shell eggs and from $.00031 to $.00025 per pound of poultry in plants using the resident grading program. The minimum administrative fee for poultry and eggs per monthly billing period will increase from $155 to $175, and the maximum fee will rise from $1,550 to $1,750. The minimum administrative fee for grading rabbits will rise from $155 to $175 per billing period.

Hourly fees for special inspection services in egg products plants also will rise. Increases are from $24.48 to $25.44 for processing appeals from inspectors' decisions.

The Egg Products Inspection Act requires that costs of services other than basic inspection during a normal 40-hour week be paid by the user. The special inspection fees last increased in May 1991.

Grading services administered by USDA are made available upon request and paid by the users. The Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 requires user fees to be reasonable and, as nearly as possible, equal to the cost of the services. Current fees have been in effect since May 1991.

The grading and inspection fee increases will be published as a final rule in the Oct. 19 Federal Register. Copies are available from Janice L. Lockard, Chief, Standardization Branch, Poultry Division, AMS, USDA, Rm. 3944-S, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456, telephone (202) 720-3506.

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USDA EXTENDS GSM-102 GUARANTEES TO UKRAINE FOR FISCAL 1993

SYCAMORE, Ill., Oct. 19—Secretary of Agriculture Edward Madigan today announced the U.S. Department of Agriculture is making available $200 million in export credit guarantees to finance sales of U.S. agricultural commodities to Ukraine during fiscal 1993.

The credits are being made available under USDA's GSM-102 Export Credit Guarantee Program, which requires repayment of the guaranteed loans within three years or less.

Amounts of specific commodities eligible for sale under the credit offer are: $138.0 million for feed grains (barley, including malting barley, white and/or yellow corn, sorghum and oats); $23.0 million for protein meals (soybean, corn gluten, meat and bone, cottonseed and sunflowerseed meals); and $39.0 million for wheat.

Of the $200 million total, $70 million in credit guarantees for feed grains is available to U.S. exporters immediately. The remaining $130 million will be made operational at a later date.

In fiscal 1992, USDA extended $110 million in credit guarantees to Ukraine.

This announcement offers coverage on a free-alongside-ship (f.a.s.) or free-on-board (f.o.b.) basis on sales of all the specified commodities. USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation will provide coverage on credit extended for freight costs incurred in conjunction with sales made on a C&F or CIF basis.

GSM-102 export credit guarantees will be available to cover only the f.o.b. or f.a.s. value of any commodities that move on ocean going vessels flagged in Ukraine.

Madigan reminded exporters they must maintain records demonstrating that commodities exported under the export credit guarantee program entered Ukraine.

Madigan also said CCC will guarantee 100 percent of the principal on credit extended in connection with sales under this allocation, as well as provide interest coverage equal to the coupon equivalent yield of the 52-week U.S. Treasury bill auction average.

Based on the most recently announced 52-week Treasury bill rate, the applicable guarantee fee on the individual sales under this allocation will be determined, at the time CCC receives the exporter's application for payment guarantee, in accordance with FAS Program Announcement GSM-92-9 released on Aug. 25, 1992. Eligible interest will be determined as of the date of export and thereafter will be subject to adjustment as of each principal and/or interest due date and remain in effect through the next interest and/or principal due date.

All applications for export credit guarantees are subject to price review.

The bank qualified by CCC to issue letters of credit in connection with these guaranteed sales is the Ukraine Export-Import bank.

To be eligible for up to three-year coverage all sales must be registered by Sept. 30, 1993, and exporters' contractual arrangements must call for exports no later than Nov. 30, 1993.

U.S. exporters registering for credit guarantees must report to CCC the actual export period as provided in their credit sale. Exporters should not simply use the final export date listed under announcements authorizing the guarantees.

In accordance with Section 1493.60(d) of the GSM-102 regulations, the final date of exportation to be shown on the payment guarantee will be one month after the contractual deadline for exporting.

U.S. exporters must apply to CCC for coverage before exports are completed and written applications must be accompanied by payment of a guarantee fee.

For further information on program operations, call the FAS Export Credit Office at (202) 720-3224.

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USDA PROPOSES TO CHANGE ANIMAL DISEASE STATUS OF SPAIN

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19—The U.S. Department of Agriculture has proposed to declare Spain free of rinderpest, foot-and-mouth-disease (FMD), hog cholera and swine vesicular disease (SVD).

"Rinderpest and SVD have never been reported in Spain, and the last outbreaks of FMD and hog cholera took place in 1986 and 1985, respectively," said Billy Johnson, deputy administrator for veterinary services with USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. "We now believe it is appropriate to recognize Spain as free of these diseases."

Under the proposal, restrictions on Spanish dairy products would be removed. However, USDA would continue to restrict the entry of live swine and swine products because another serious disease, African swine fever, occurs in Spain.

The importation of meat and meat products from cattle, sheep and goats would similarly remain subject to restrictions because, among other reasons, Spain accepts meat and meat products from countries not recognized as free of rinderpest, FMD or SVD.

The proposal is scheduled for publication in today's Federal Register. Comments will be accepted if they are received on or before Dec. 12. An original and three copies of written comments referring to docket 92-147-1 should be sent to Chief, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, USDA, Room 804 Federal Building, 6505 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, Md. 20782.

Comments may be inspected as soon as received at USDA, Room 1141-S, 14th St. and Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C., between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

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USDA PROTECTS 28 NEW PLANT VARIETIES AND REISSUES ONE CERTIFICATE

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19—The U.S. Department of Agriculture has issued certificates of protection to developers of 28 new varieties of seed-reproduced plants. They include bean, Kentucky bluegrass, corn, lettuce, pea, soybean, tomato and wheat.

Kenneth H. Evans, an official with USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, said developers of the new varieties will have the exclusive right to reproduce, sell, import and export their products in the United States for 18 years. Certificates of protection are granted after a review of the breeders' records and claims that each new variety is novel, uniform and stable.

The following varieties have been issued certificates of protection:

—Etna variety of field bean, developed by the Asgrow Seed Co., Kalamazoo, Mich.;

—Rapids variety of garden bean, developed by the Ferry-Morse Seed Co., San Juan Bautista, Calif.;

—NuBlue and NuStar varieties of Kentucky bluegrass, developed by the Jacklin Seed Co., Post Falls, Idaho;

—LH164 variety of corn, developed by Holden's Foundation Seeds Inc., Williamsburg, Iowa;

—Epic variety of lettuce, developed by Sakata Seed America Inc., Morgan Hill, Calif.;

—Pioneer variety of lettuce, developed by Bruce Church Inc., Salinas, Calif.;

—Basore 920 variety of lettuce, developed by Genecorp Inc., Salinas, Calif.;

—Magnum variety of lettuce, developed by Arthur Yates & Co. Pty. Ltd., Narromine, N.S.W., Australia;

—Gilaben variety of lettuce, developed by the Ferry-Morse Seed Co., San Juan Bautista, Calif.;

—Boomer variety of pea, developed by the Nunhems Seed Corp., Lewisville, Idaho;

—Mariner and Tasman varieties of pea, developed by the Rogers NK Seed Co., Boise, Idaho;

—Epic variety of pea, developed by the Asgrow Seed Co., Kalamazoo, Mich.;

—A2396, A6961 and A3242 varieties of soybean, developed by the Asgrow Seed Co., Kalamazoo, Mich.;

—9171, 9392 and 9583 varieties of soybean, developed by Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc., Johnston, Iowa;

—S64-23 and S61-89 varieties of soybean, developed by the Northrup King Co., Minneapolis, Minn.;

—CX291 variety of soybean, developed by DeKalb Plant Genetics, DeKalb, Ill.;

—FFR 695 variety of soybean, developed by the FFR Cooperative, Bells, Tenn.;

—3615 variety of soybean, developed by the Ciba-Geigy Seeds Division, Greensboro, N.C.;

—BT 1422 variety of soybean, developed by Ziller Seed Co. Inc., Bird Island, Minn.;

—Enduro variety of tomato, developed by the Ferry-Morse Seed Co., San Juan Bautista, Calif.; and

—Bergen variety of wheat, developed by AgriPro Biosciences Inc., Mission, Kan.

A certificate of protection for the Alverda cauliflower variety, owned by Rijk Zwaan Zaadteelt en Zaadhandel B.V. and Meo Voto Beheer B.V., is being reissued at this time.

Certificates of protection fr the Epic lettuce variety and the Bergen wheat variety are being issued for sale by variety name only as a class of certified seed and to conform to the number of generations specified by the owner.

AMS administers the plant variety protection program which provides marketing protection to developers of new and distinctive seed-reproduced plants ranging from farm crops to flowers.

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USDA RESEARCH AGENCY NAMES "DISTINGUISHED SCIENTISTS" FOR 1992

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19—Virginia H. Holsinger, an authority on dairy products, and Vernon G. Pursel, an expert on farm animal breeding, are the "Distinguished Senior Research Scientists of the Year" for 1992, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's chief scientific agency announced today.

The award is the highest given by USDA's Agricultural Research Service for "scientific achievement and leadership," ARS administrator R. Dean Plowman said. He will present awards to them and 14 other agency scientists at a ceremony in USDA's administration building here at 1:30 p.m. Oct. 21.

Plowman said Holsinger and Pursel were selected as co-recipients of the award and each will receive a $7,000 cash award and $40,000 to support their research.

He said the agency began its scientist-of-the-year awards in 1982 to recognize superior research on critical issues in the food and agricultural sciences. He said awards will be made to early-career scientists who have worked at the agency seven years or less, as well as to senior scientists selected from among 122 ARS research locations nationwide.

Holsinger, a chemist, heads the Milk Components Utilization Research Unit at the agency's Eastern Regional Research Center in Philadelphia. Pursel is an animal physiologist at the Gene Evaluation and Mapping laboratory based at the ARS research center in Beltsville, Md.

"Dr. Holsinger's research on a dry milk substitute has helped to alleviate hunger in undernourished children around the world. Her research also has led to new markets for milk and milk products and has enabled many people to drink milk even though they have natural intolerance to it," said Plowman.

"Dr. Pursel's pioneering research in genetic engineering could lead to the custom breeding of farm animals that better resist disease and produce leaner meat. They also could be potential sources of medicines," Plowman said. "His earlier research to preserve swine semen has helped pork producers around the world."

Holsinger is an international authority on the processing and use of dairy products. She showed for the first time that a substitute for dry milk could be made from cheese whey, soy flour, soybean oil and corn-syrup solids. "This formulation, plus added nutrients, replaced then scarce nonfat dry milk in the Food-for-Peace programs, and four million pounds of this life-saving product were commercially produced and shipped to hungry children around the world," said Plowman.

Holsinger and colleagues devised a process for using an enzyme, lactase, to break up the lactose in milk. About 80 percent of the world's adult population has some degree of inability to digest milk's lactose sugar. But the enzymes, now used commercially, solved the problem.

She also found a way to spray-dry milk treated with lactase, forming a dry powder. Currently, she is working to develop a low-lactose, milk-based beverage powder for military rations.

On cheese research, she directed a team effort that resulted in methods to detect adulterated and mislabeled cheeses. This has led to the conviction of companies attempting to sell products to the government or to circumvent cheese import quotas.

"Holsinger has set an example for women achieving scientific success," Plowman said. "She has fostered the careers of other women in federal service and facilitated efforts to increase representation of women and minorities in her research group."

Pursel won international recognition for research that led to the first successful freezing of boar semen for pork producers. That meant semen from genetically superior pigs could be available worldwide. Frozen semen has been exported to swine producers in 49 countries.

Pursel and colleagues developed a technique for inserting genes into pig and sheep embryos, which led to the first genetically engineered farm animals. He has continued this research aimed at producing leaner, healthier pigs.

More recently, Pursel has headed studies to implant in pigs a gene from mice that turns on only when the pig begins producing milk. The work points the way to genetically engineering farm animals to produce rare medical proteins in their milk, such as blood clotting factors for hemophiliacs.

"Outstanding Senior Scientist of the Year" awards will go to Ray D. Jackson and Johnie M. Jenkins. They will receive $5,000 cash awards and $25,000 each in research support.

Jackson, a research physicist at the U.S. Water Conservation Laboratory, Phoenix, Ariz., is an authority on soil water evaporation and remote sensing technology applied to agriculture.

Jenkins, a research geneticist at the Crop Science Research Laboratory, Mississippi State, Miss., directed work to identify chemicals in cotton plants that resist or attract the boll weevil, a major pest of U.S. cotton. This led to development of attractants used in programs to eradicate the insect.

"Area Senior Scientist of the Year" awards of $3,000 cash and $15,000 in research support will be presented to: Leon H. Allen, Jr., soil scientist, Gainesville, Fla.; Donald K. Barnes, geneticist, St. Paul, Minn.; Marvin J. Shaffer, soil scientist, Fort Collins, Colo.; and William T. Wilson, entomologist, Weslaco, Texas.

An "Outstanding Early Career Research Scientist of the Year" award will go to Mohammad Koohmaraie, animal physiologist at the Meats Research Unit, Clay Center, Neb. Koohmaraie uncovered new information on how to promote tenderness of beef. This can shorten the aging process for beef carcasses to one day, instead of the current 14 days. He will receive a cash award of $4,000 and $25,000 in research support.

Seven "Early Career Research Scientists of the Year" will receive $2,500 cash awards and $10,000 in research support: Daniel R. Bush, plant physiologist, Urbana, Ill.; Peter J. Cotty, plant pathologist, New Orleans, La.; Mark C. Jenkins, microbiologist, Beltsville, Md.; Melvin J. Oliver, plant physiologist, Lubbock, Texas; John M. Sivinski, entomologist, Gainesville, Fla.; Michael Wisniewski, plant physiologist, Kearneysville, W.Va.; and Scott R. Yates, soil scientist, Riverside, Calif.

NOTE TO EDITORS: For details, contact Virginia H. Holsinger, research leader, Milk Components Research Unit, USDA, ARS, Wyndmoor, Pa. 19118. Telephone (215) 233-6703; and Vernon G. Pursel, animal physiologist, Gene Evaluation and Mapping Laboratory, USDA, ARS, Beltsville, Md. 20705. Telephone (301) 504-8114. For details on other scientists receiving awards, contact Vince Mazzola, Information Staff, USDA-ARS, Beltsville, Md., 20705. Telephone (301) 504-8712.

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USDA ESTABLISHES GENETIC RESOURCES COUNCIL

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19—Secretary of Agriculture Edward Madigan today announced the appointment of a new National Genetic Resources Advisory Council to provide guidance on the department's National Genetic Resources Program.

Madigan said the program, required by law, governs all aspects of genetic material important to American food and agriculture production and forestry. That includes the genetic resources of plants, farm animals, insects, farm-raised fish and microbiological organisms.

A national data base for genetic resources is being established and will be eventually housed at the USDA National Agricultural Library at Beltsville, Md.

Madigan has named Henry L. Shands to direct the program, which will be administered through USDA's Agricultural Research Service. Sands is the agency's associate deputy administrator for genetic resources.

Madigan said the nine-member council will address all program activities such as research, collection and preservation of genetic material, supplying genetic material to other countries and providing for international scientific exchange. Council members are leaders in science, public policy, trade, international development, law and management.

Members are:

John Hays Barton, George E. Osborne Professor of Law, Stanford Law School, Stanford University, Stanford, Calif.

Rita Rossi Colwell, President, Maryland Biotechnology Institute, University of Maryland, College Park, Md.

Donald N. Duvick, retired from Pioneer Seed Company, Adjunct Professor, Iowa State University, Johnston, Iowa.

Michael S. Greenwood, Ruth Hutchins Professor of Forest Tree Physiology, College of Forest Resources, University of Maine, Orono, Maine.

Robert W. Herdt, Director for Agricultural Sciences, The Rockefeller Foundation, New York, N.Y.

Marjorie A. Hoy, Department of Entomology and Nematology, University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla.

H. David Hurt, Vice President of Research, National Live Stock and Meat Board, Chicago, Ill.

Neal A. Jorgensen, Executive Associate Dean, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis.

Robert E. Walton, Sr., Chairman, American Breeders Service, W.R. Grace & Company, DeForest, Wis.

NOTE TO EDITORS: For details, contact Henry L. Sands, associate deputy administrator, USDA, ARS, Beltsville, Md., 20705. Telephone: (301) 504-5050.

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USDA PROPOSES REDUCTION IN BEEF BOARD MEMBERSHIP

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19—The U.S. Department of Agriculture is proposing a reduction from 111 to 107 members on the Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board.

Daniel D. Haley, administrator of USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, said, "This minor reduction is a result of changes in cattle inventories since the board was reapportioned in 1990."

"Domestic cattle producer representation would decline from 105 to 101, while importer representation would remain at six," Haley said.

In the proposal, Georgia, Missouri, South Dakota and Texas would each lose one board member, while Kentucky would gain one member. The current mid- Atlantic unit, which consists of Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey and Rhode Island, no longer qualifies for a board member. As a result, West Virginia will join Maryland and the District of Columbia to form a new mid-Atlantic unit. Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey and Rhode Island will become part of the Northeast unit which also includes Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont.

The proposed change is based on the recommendation of the board. The reductions are based on requirements of the 1986 Beef Promotion and Research Order, authorized by the Beef Promotion and Research Act of 1985. The order provides for a board review of the geographic distribution of U.S. cattle inventories and the volume of imported cattle, beef and beef products at least every three years and not more than two years. Board membership must then be reapportioned accordingly.

A state or unit must have an inventory of 500,000 head of cattle to obtain a board member and is entitled to an additional board member for each additional 1,000,000 head of cattle. The board used an average of USDA's Jan. 1 cattle inventory for 1990, 1991 and 1992 to determine representation. The revised representation would be effective with nominations and appointments in 1993.

Details of the proposed changes will appear in today's Federal Register. Comments postmarked no later than Nov. 18 may be sent to Ralph L. Tapp, Chief, Marketing Programs Branch, Livestock and Seed Division, AMS, USDA, Rm. 2624-S, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456. Copies of the proposed rule and additional information are available from Tapp.

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USDA ANNOUNCES PREVAILING WORLD MARKET RICE PRICES

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20—Acting Under Secretary of Agriculture Randall Green today announced the prevailing world market prices of milled rice, loan rate basis, as follows:

—long grain whole kernels, 8.88 cents per pound;
—medium grain whole kernels, 7.96 cents per pound;
—short grain whole kernels, 7.93 cents per pound;
—broken kernels, 4.44 cents per pound.

Based upon these prevailing world market prices for milled rice, loan deficiency payment rates and gains from repaying price support loans at the world market price level are:

—for long grain, $1.16 per hundredweight;
—for medium grain, $1.12 per hundredweight;
—for short grain, $1.13 per hundredweight.

The prices announced are effective today at 12:00:01 A.M. EDT until 12:00:00 a.m. EDT Tuesday, Oct. 27. The next scheduled price announcement will be made Oct. 27 at 7 a.m. EDT. The price announced at that time will be effective from 12:00:01 a.m. EDT Tuesday, Oct. 27.

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USDA SPONSORS REGULATORY SCIENCE CURRICULUM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20—This fall, several students at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff are spending Thursday evenings attending the first classes in regulatory science, an entirely new educational program supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The students are pioneers in a program that is expected to expand considerably next year, according to Jo Ann Smith, assistant secretary of agriculture for marketing and inspection services.

Graduates of the program will be well qualified for entry-level employment in four of USDA's regulatory agencies—the Agricultural Marketing Service, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the Food Safety and Inspection Service, and the Federal Grain Inspection Service. These agencies are co-sponsoring the development grant for the regulatory science program.

"A program of regulatory science classes isn't taught anywhere else in the world. Everyone who has seen the curriculum is impressed by how well it has been thought out. We're proud to have contributed to such a promising new venture," Smith said.

Those completing the program will add to the hiring pool of minority and women students that will broaden the diversity of our workforce, Smith said.

"The course work at the university closely follows our areas of interest," Smith added. "Graduates may find work at USDA, and USDA can save time and money on training."

Of the nine core courses included in the regulatory science curriculum, four are entirely new and five have been modified to fit new requirements. The courses cover oral and written communication, interpersonal relations, computer applications, risk communication and assessment, natural and physical sciences and administrative law.

To help the university prepare lesson plans for the new courses, USDA employees, principally from APHIS, have been in steady contact with the university's faculty and administration. University professors attended planning meetings held by the sponsoring regulatory agencies and worked in the field with officials managing regulatory issues.

Support for the regulatory science program comes as a capacity-building grant from funds administered by USDA's Cooperative State Research

Service. An original three-year grant of $173,573 in 1990 provided funds to create the curriculum. A further grant of $199,037, issued just last month, provides scholarships, equipment, supplies and salary support.

The curriculum is offered by the university's school of agriculture, which is planning to do extensive recruiting for participants beginning next year. Several scholarships will be offered.

For more information, telephone Jacquelyn McCray, Deputy Dean of the School of Agriculture, (501) 541-6839; or write her at Box 4005, 1200 N. University Drive, Pine Bluff, Ark. 71601.

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SCIENTIST HAMMERS FARM FIELDS TO FIND FRACTURES UNDERGROUND

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20—A U.S. Department of Agriculture scientist is slamming a 16-pound sledgehammer against the ground, setting off shock waves to reveal cracks in rock layers that farm chemicals could leak through to underground water supplies.

James B. Urban, a geologist, is mapping the fractures in Pennsylvania farm fields, using electronic sensors and a seismograph—an instrument that measures earthquakes.

Such maps would allow farmers to adjust cropping, fertilizer and pesticide practices near trouble spots, said Urban of USDA's Agricultural Research Service at University Park, Pa. They also would show municipalities where not to store road salt, hazardous materials or put septic tanks or landfills, he said.

"That bedrock layer is largely unexplored. Our mapping will help us better understand how water flows through it," Urban said. "This is vital to predicting underground flow and potential contamination in many parts of the country."

As he hunts for fractures, he takes along a sledgehammer and two dozen geophones—sensors that measure tiny oscillations of ground vibrations. He places the geophones on the surface in a straight line, spaced at five to 15 foot intervals. A quick succession of five to 10 hammer blows causes shock waves that the geophones clearly distinguish down to a few hundred feet. Then the shock waves are relayed to a seismograph and timer.

Urban said fractures slow down the shock waves, so waves that take an unusually long time to return reveal large, interconnected breaks in bedrock.

He has found the largest of these fractures are usually at depths of less than 30 feet in the shale formations common to central Pennsylvania watersheds. They extend no farther down than 80 to 100 feet. Rock core samples taken at various depths confirmed this fracturing pattern.

Urban said these fractures provide numerous routes for surface water and contaminants to move quickly down to aquifers used for drinking water.

Such short cuts to aquifers limit the chances that pesticides and nitrate from fertilizer and other sources will be diluted, stored or degraded in the soil, he said. "Fractured rock with little soil cover is an especially bad situation."

"Where large interconnected, shallow fractures are found, all wells should be encased and sealed above 30 feet," Urban said. "People with wells in shale formations with this type of fracturing below 30 feet would be advised to check drinking water drawn from wells up to 100 feet deep," he said. "The deeper wells we've tested have been very low in any type of contamination."

The deeper fractures do not provide a continuous route to the aquifers because they are poorly connected to the shallow fractures or to one another, Urban said.

This means that wells and springs drawing from aquifers more than 100 feet deep—or shallower aquifers not near interconnected fractures—should be less susceptible to the potential threat posed by farm chemicals, he explained. That's because the water has been filtered through soil and weathered rock.

"However," Urban said, "since geologic conditions at most springs are unknown, all spring water should be tested before being used for drinking water. Outdoor recreationists should treat all spring water before drinking it."

NOTE TO EDITORS: For details, contact James B. Urban, geologist, Northeast Watershed Research Laboratory, USDA, ARS, University Park, Pa. 16802. Telephone: (814) 865-2048.

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FGIS AND AOAC RESEARCH INSTITUTE SIGN AGREEMENT ON AFLATOXIN TEST KITS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21—The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Federal Grain Inspection Service and the Association of Official Analytical Chemists International's Research Institute have signed a memorandum of understanding to facilitate the validation of manufacturers' performance claims for test kits that detect aflatoxin in grain and grain products.

Under the memorandum, the institute will use performance standards developed by FGIS to undertake a program to test aflatoxin test kits for commercial use. The institute intends to certify that it has evaluated aflatoxin test kits using FGIS-developed performance standards. FGIS cannot approve or disapprove the institute's test procedures or the kits tested in the program.

The memorandum is limited to evaluations of test kits for aflatoxin in corn, corn germ meals, corn gluten meal, corn meal, corn/soy blend, milled rice, popcorn, sorghum, soybeans, and wheat.

The institute is located in Arlington, Va.

According to FGIS Administrator John C. Foltz, this cooperative effort between the public and private sectors will foster greater uniformity in the testing for aflatoxin in grain and grain products. Future revisions of the memorandum are being considered to cover test kits for other mycotoxins.

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USDA EXTENDS LOS ANGELES JOBS PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21—The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Los Angeles, Calif. jobs program, "Opportunity L.A.," will be extended to Dec. 18, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Ann M. Veneman announced today.

The program is part of the presidential task force's effort to revitalize Los Angeles by employing persons affected by last spring's riots. More than 600 people have been employed by the program.

"Opportunity L.A. has had great success in providing job skills and work experience to urban Los Angeles youth and adults," Veneman said. "It was to expire Oct. 28, but USDA has redirected funding to continue the program into December."

"There is still plenty of work remaining to be done in the next two months, and this extension will give a brighter Christmas to those that are working hard on the four Southern California National Forests," she said.

Employees of Opportunity L.A. are working on such jobs as building maintenance, trail maintenance, fire protection and conservation. Participants receive training to be electricians, mechanics, landscapers and firefighters.

"This experience will be helpful in getting future public or private sector jobs," Veneman said. "It also will help applicants pursue seasonal or permanent work with USDA's Forest Service.

Although Opportunity L.A. was originally designed to hire about 500 people, partnerships with other agencies and private sector donations increased the number of jobs to more than 600.

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ALABAMA FIRM RECALLS CANNED CHICKEN PRODUCT FROM GEORGIA AND TEXAS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21—The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced today that Sweet Sue Kitchen Inc., an Athens, Ala., food processing firm, is voluntarily recalling about 2,100 pounds of its canned "mixing chicken" product. Some of the product was improperly processed and has the potential of causing serious illness if eaten.

The suspect chicken product was distributed to Kroger stores in the Atlanta, Ga., area and to grocery and convenience stores in the San Antonio, Texas, area.

The company is recalling all 5-ounce cans of "Sweet Sue Mixing Chicken in Broth" with the production code "2CM255" printed on the bottom lid of the can. "EST. P-732" appears inside the USDA inspection legend on the label and is stamped on the top lid of the can. No other product is affected by the recall.

"Because of the potential hazard, we strongly urge consumers to avoid opening or tasting the product," said Dr. Donald L. White, associate administrator of USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service. "We urge consumers who have purchased the suspect product to return it unopened to the place of purchase."

USDA discovered the problem after the company noticed swollen cans from one day's production that may have been improperly processed. Laboratory tests conducted by USDA confirmed the presence of potentially harmful microorganisms in the canned product. Although only some of the product was affected by the improper processing, the company is recalling the entire day's production in order to ensure public safety.

The microorganisms that were found can indicate the potential growth of other organisms that can cause serious forms of foodborne illness, White said. Common symptoms of foodborne illness include flu-like symptoms such as fever, chills, headache, backache, and sometimes abdominal pain and diarrhea.

Consumers with questions about the recall may phone the toll-free USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-800-535-4555. The Hotline can be reached from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Eastern time) Monday through Friday. This number also provides access to a telecommunications device for the hearing impaired.

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Oct. 16, 1992

BACKGROUNDER

U.S. INTERNATIONAL FOOD AID, FISCAL 1992

The United States is the world's leading donor of international food assistance. In fiscal 1992, the United States provided 7.8 million metric tons of agricultural commodities valued at $1.5 billion to needy people in 90 countries. Over half of those received commodities under programs administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture; 16 of these countries were first-time participants.

Africa

Food needs in Africa continued at a critical level last year. The United States provided 3 million metric tons—or about 40 percent of total U.S. food aid—to Africa. Three areas on the African continent received the bulk of the aid: Somalia and Kenya, which faced dire food emergencies as a result of refugees fleeing civil strife and drought; southern Africa which suffered from the most severe drought recorded in the area in decades; and Ethiopia and Sudan, along with several other countries in the region, which faced ongoing food shortages.

The Former Soviet Union

In response to urgent food needs in the newly independent states of the former Soviet Union, the United States donated 630,000 metric tons valued at $200 million in fiscal 1992. Private voluntary organizations mobilized to help deliver this food assistance to orphans, the elderly and others with special needs. The destinations included such distant locations as Turkmenistan, Byelarus, the Russian Far East, including parts of Siberia and the Ural Mountains, Kazakhstan, Georgia and Armenia. This marked the first time the United States has made food aid available to these countries.

Commodities Provided

Wheat (3.1 million metric tons) and corn (2.5 million metric tons) represented the largest tonnage shipped under U.S food aid programs in fiscal 1992. Other commodities included vegetable oil, rice, sorghum, soybean meal, peas, beans, lentils, butter/butter oil, corn soya blend, nonfat dry milk and infant formula.

U.S. Food Aid Programs

The U.S. Department of Agriculture provides international food aid through the following three programs: Food for Peace, Title I; Food for Progress; and Section 416(b) of the Agricultural Act of 1949.

Title I of the Food for Peace Program (Public Law 480) allows USDA to provide agricultural commodities under long-term concessional sales to developing countries with insufficient foreign exchange. These concessional sales help provide food and promote the development of long-term markets for U.S. commodities in the recipient nations.

The Food for Progress Program allows USDA to donate food to support countries that are trying to introduce or expand free enterprise in their agricultural economies. Working through private U.S. voluntary organizations, non-profit U.S. agricultural organizations and cooperatives, and some participating governments, this program was used to respond to the food needs in the newly independent states of the former Soviet Union.

The Section 416(b) foreign donations program provides a mechanism for donating excess commodities in the inventory of USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation to help meet urgent food needs in other countries. Section 416(b) commodities were donated to African relief through the World Food Program, the principal vehicle for multilateral food aid within the United Nations system.

In addition to these three programs operated by USDA, the United States provides international food aid through Title II and Title III of the Food for Peace Program. These two programs are operated by the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Title II of P.L. 480 allows AID to provide humanitarian food donations for needy people in over 65 countries around the world.

Title III of P.L. 480 allows AID to provide food assistance to the world's least developed countries to help promote economic development.

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