

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/USA/1039

28 February 2005

(05-0833)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1. Member to Agreement notifying: <u>UNITED STATES</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2. Agency responsible: U.S. Department of Agriculture-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service-(APHIS)
3. Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): Wheat
4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: Trading Partners
5. Title, language and number of pages of the notified document: <u>Karnal Bunt, Revision of Regulations for importing Wheat</u> Federal Register: 18 February 2005 (Volume 70, Number 33) Pages 8229-8233. http://frwebgate3.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/waisgate.cgi?WAISdocID=17854929887+0+0+0&WAIAction=retrieve or www.aphis.usda/ppd/rad/webrepor.html Available in English. 5 pages.
6. Description of content: <p>The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is amending its regulations regarding the importation of wheat from regions affected with Karnal bunt (KB). The amendments, among other things, list such regions, as well as articles regulated for KB; increase the flexibility of the regulations so that they provide more readily for the recognition of areas where KB is not known to occur within regions where KB is known to be present; describe conditions, including requirements for phytosanitary certificates, under which wheat and related articles from regions affected with KB are imported into the United States; and specify cleaning and/or disinfection requirements for imported farm machinery and other equipment used to handle or store KB-positive seed or host crops. The changes make our regulations regarding the importation of wheat and related articles from regions affected with Karnal bunt substantively equivalent to our domestic Karnal bunt regulations and make the former consistent with international agreements.</p>
7. Objective and rationale: [] food safety, [] animal health, [X] plant protection, [] protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, [] protect territory from other damage from pests

<p>8. International standard, guideline or recommendation: <input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission, <input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention, <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations: International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) No. 4, "Requirements for the establishment of pest free areas."</p>
<p>9. Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: On 3 March 2004, APHIS published in the <u>Federal Register</u> (69 FR 9976-9982) a proposal to amend the regulations regarding karnal bunt.</p> <p>On 18 February 2005, APHIS published in the <u>Federal Register</u> (70 CFR 8229-8233) the final rule.</p>
<p>10. Proposed date of adoption: 21 March 2005</p>
<p>11. Proposed date of entry into force: 21 March 2005</p>
<p>12. Final date for comments:</p> <p>Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:</p> <p>Julie Morin United States SPS Enquiry Point Officer Food Safety & Technical Services Division USDA Foreign Agricultural Service Telephone: 202 720 4051 Fax: 202 690 0677 Email: fstd@fas.usda.gov</p>
<p>13. Texts available from: <input type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:</p> <p>Julie Morin United States SPS Enquiry Point Officer Food Safety & Technical Services Division USDA Foreign Agricultural Service Telephone: 202 720 4051 Fax: 202 690 0677 Email: fstd@fas.usda.gov</p>