

13 May 2016

Original: English

(16-2665) Page: 1/2

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

NOTIFICATION

- Notifying Member: <u>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</u>

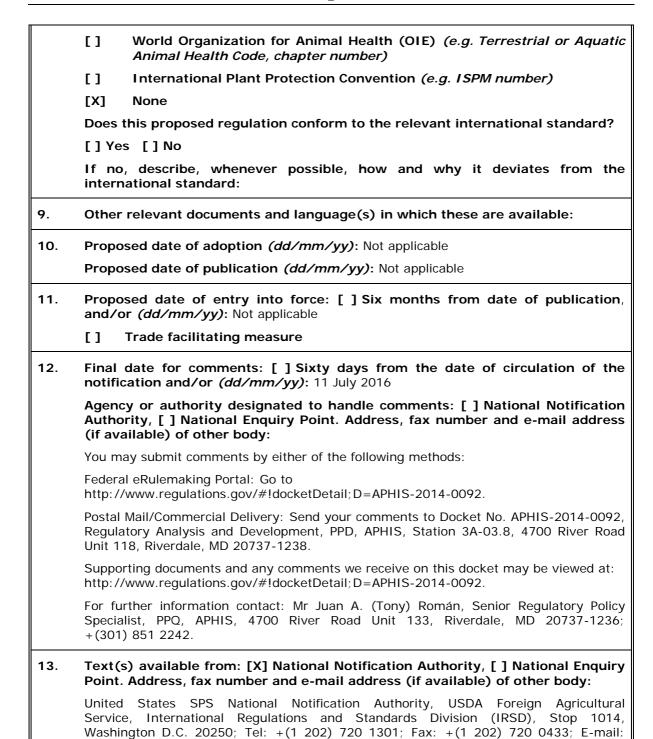
 If applicable, name of local government involved:
- 2. Agency responsible: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)
- 3. Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): Lemons
- 4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:
 - [] All trading partners
 - [X] Specific regions or countries: Argentina
- 5. Title of the notified document: Proposed Rule: Imports: Lemons from Northwest Argentina (Docket No. APHIS--2014-0092) Language(s): English Number of pages: 7

https://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=APHIS-2014-0092-0001

6. Description of content: The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is proposing to amend the fruits and vegetables regulations to allow the importation of lemons from northwest Argentina into the continental United States. As a condition of entry, lemons from northwest Argentina would have to be produced in accordance with a systems approach that would include requirements for importation in commercial consignments; registration and monitoring of places of production and packinghouses; pest-free places of production; grove sanitation, monitoring, and pest control practices; treatment with a surface disinfectant; lot identification; and inspection for quarantine pests by the Argentine national plant protection organization. Additionally, lemons from northwest Argentina would have to be harvested green and within a certain time period, or treated for Medfly in accordance with an approved treatment schedule. Lemons from northwest Argentina would also be required to be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate with an additional declaration stating that the lemons have been inspected and found to be free of quarantine pests and were produced in accordance with the proposed requirements. This action would allow for the importation of lemons from northwest Argentina into the United States while continuing to provide protection against the introduction of quarantine pests.

Federal Register/Vol. 81, No. 90/Tuesday, 10 May 2016/pgs. 28758-28764.

- 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.
- 8. Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:
 - [] Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text)



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