NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

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| **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) [1665]  **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 [****],** **other** **[X]:** |
| **4.** | **Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable):** Organic products; Farming and forestry (ICS 65.020), Processes in the food industry (ICS 67.020), Food products in general (ICS 67.040) |
| **5.** | **Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:** National Organic Program; Strengthening Organic Enforcement (57 page(s), in English) |
| **6.** | **Description of content:** Proposed rule - The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) proposes amending the USDA organic regulations to strengthen oversight and enforcement of the production, handling, and sale of organic agricultural products. The proposed amendments are intended to protect integrity in the organic supply chain and build consumer and industry trust in the USDA organic label by strengthening organic control systems, improving farm to market traceability, and providing robust enforcement of the USDA organic regulations. Topics addressed in this proposed rule include: Applicability of the regulations and exemptions from organic certification; National Organic Program Import Certificates; recordkeeping and product traceability; certifying agent personnel qualifications and training; standardized certificates of organic operation; unannounced on-site inspections of certified operations; oversight of certification activities; foreign conformity assessment systems; certification of grower group operations; labeling of nonretail containers; annual update requirements for certified operations; compliance and appeals processes; and calculating organic content of multi-ingredient products. |
| **7.** | **Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable:** Consumer information, labelling; Prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection; Quality requirements |
| **8.** | **Relevant documents:**   * 85 Federal Register (FR) 47536, 5 August 2020; Title 7 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 205:   [<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-08-05/html/2020-14581.htm>](https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-08-05/html/2020-14581.htm)  [<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-08-05/pdf/2020-14581.pdf>](https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-08-05/pdf/2020-14581.pdf)  This proposed rule is identified by Docket Number AMS-NOP-17-0065. The Docket Folder is available on [Regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) at <https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=AMS-NOP-17-0065>, and provides access to primary and supporting documents as well as comments received. Documents are also accessible from [Regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) by searching the Docket Number. WTO Members and their stakeholders are asked to submit comments to the [USA TBT Enquiry Point](mailto:usatbtep@nist.gov). Comments received by the USA TBT Enquiry Point from WTO Members and their stakeholders will be shared with the regulator and will also be submitted to the Docket on [Regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) if received within the comment period.  <https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=AMS-NOP-17-0065> |
| **9.** | **Proposed date of adoption:** To be determined  **Proposed date of entry into force:** To be determined |
| **10.** | **Final date for comments:** 5 October 2020 |
| **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/2020/TBT/USA/20_4777_00_e.pdf> |