



PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

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USDA SETS HEARING ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ALL FEDERAL MILK ORDERS

WASHINGTON, April 11, 2005 – The U. S. Department of Agriculture today announced that it will hold a national public hearing to consider proposals seeking to amend the Class I fluid milk product definition in all Federal milk marketing orders. The hearing will begin at 8:00 a.m. on June 20, 2005, at the Sheraton Station Square Hotel, 300 West Station Square Drive, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15219-1122.

The hearing was requested by Dairy Farmers of America Inc. (DFA), who asked USDA to reconsider which dairy products should be classified as Class I products. DFA contends that many fluid consumable milk products are currently classified as Class II products because of the current formulation standard.

The hearing notice will be published as a proposed rule in the April 12 Federal Register. Copies of the hearing notice may be obtained from the USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs, STOP 0231 - Rm. 2971, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-0231. The hearing notice is available on AMS' Web site at: www.ams.usda.gov/dairy.

The hearing notice and additional information is available from the following market administrator offices:

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An electronic version of this news release can be obtained via the World Wide Web at:
<http://www.ams.usda.gov/news/newsrel.htm>

This press release has been retyped by the
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