

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS–2021–0049]

Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for Release of *Lophodiplosis indentata* for Biological Control of *Melaleuca quinquenervia* (Myrtaceae) in the Contiguous United States

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public that we have prepared a final environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact relative to permitting the release of the insect *Lophodiplosis indentata* for the biological control of *Melaleuca quinquenervia* (Myrtaceae) in the contiguous United States. Based on our finding of no significant impact, we have determined that an environmental impact statement need not be prepared.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Robert S. Pfannenstiel, Ph.D., Senior Entomologist, Biological Control, Pests, Pathogens and Biocontrol Permitting, Plant Health Programs, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road, Unit 133, Riverdale, MD 20737–1231; (301) 851–2198; email: bob.pfannenstiel@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is issuing permits for the release of the insect, a fly, *Lophodiplosis indentata* in the contiguous United States for the biological control of *Melaleuca quinquenervia* (Myrtaceae), hereinafter referred to as melaleuca.

Melaleuca, a large tree native to Australia, New Caledonia, and Papua New Guinea, was imported into Florida in the late 19th century. It was planted

extensively in Palm Beach, Broward, Collier, and Miami-Dade Counties. Unsuccessful treatment campaigns during the 1970s and 1980s culminated in Federal and State listing of melaleuca as a noxious weed. By the 1990s, melaleuca covered more than 200,000 hectares of wetlands in south Florida. It dramatically disrupted normal water cycles, fire cycles, disturbance recovery cycles, nutrient cycling, light availability, and tree canopy.

Permitting the release of the fly, *Lophodiplosis indentata*, a gall-forming melaleuca specialist that lays eggs on new foliage of the tree, will add to the impact of three previously released biological control agents in reducing severity of melaleuca infestations. When the eggs of *L. indentata* hatch, the emerging larva bore into leaf tissue, instigating the gall (an abnormal growth) to form around them. These galls distort young foliage and result in reduced sapling height.

On December 16, 2021, we published in the **Federal Register** (86 FR 71417, Docket No. APHIS–2021–0049) a notice¹ in which we announced the availability, for public review and comment, of an environmental assessment (EA) that examined the potential environmental impacts associated with the release of *L. indentata* in the contiguous United States for the biological control of melaleuca. Comments on the notice were required to be received on or before January 18, 2022. We received five comments on the EA by that date, as noted on page 6 of the final EA. Four comments were in favor of the environmental release of *L. indentata*, and one comment was neither for nor against it and raised no concerns.

In this document, we are advising the public of our finding of no significant impact (FONSI) regarding the field release of the fly, *L. indentata*, for biological control of melaleuca in the contiguous United States. Our finding, which is based on the EA, reflects our determination that release of *L. indentata* for the biological control of melaleuca in the contiguous United States will not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. Based on this finding, we

¹To view the notice, supporting documents, and the comments we received, go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and enter APHIS–2021–0049 in the Search field.

have issued a permit for the release of *L. indentata* for the biological control of melaleuca in the contiguous United States.

The final EA and FONSI may be viewed on the *Regulations.gov* website (see footnote 1). Copies of the final EA and FONSI are also available for public inspection in room 1620 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons wishing to inspect copies are requested to call ahead on (202) 799–7039 to facilitate entry into the reading room. In addition, copies may be obtained by calling or writing to the individual listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

The final EA and FONSI have been prepared in accordance with: (1) The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*); (2) regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500–1508); (3) USDA regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR part 1b); and (4) APHIS' NEPA Implementing Procedures (7 CFR part 372).

Done in Washington, DC, this 29th day of July 2024.

Michael Watson,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–17674 Filed 8–8–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

U.S. Codex Office

Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex Committee on Food Labelling

AGENCY: U.S. Codex Office, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on October 9, 2024. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 48th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL48) of the Codex Alimentarius

Commission (CAC). CCFL48 will be held in Quebec City, Canada, from October 27–November 1, 2024. The U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius and the Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs recognize the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the 48th Session of the CCFL and to address items on the agenda.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2024, from 1–4 p.m. ET.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will take place via Video Teleconference only. Documents related to the 48th Session of the CCFL will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codex-alimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCFL&session=48>.

Dr. Douglas Balentine, U.S. Delegate to the 48th Session of the CCFL, invites interested U.S. parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: douglas.balentine@fda.hhs.gov.

Registration: Attendees may register to attend the public meeting here: <https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltdeGspz4sGTffT2fy17VYU0VHQWyD2eg>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

For further information about the 48th Session of the CCFL, contact U.S. Delegate, Dr. Douglas Balentine, Senior Science Advisor, International Nutrition Policy, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, 5001 Campus Drive (HFS-830), College Park, MD 20740; phone: +1 (240) 672-7292; email: douglas.balentine@fda.hhs.gov. For further information about the public meeting, contact the U.S. Codex Office by email at: uscodex@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Codex Alimentarius Commission was established in 1963 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, Codex seeks to protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade.

The Terms of Reference of the Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL) are:

(a) to draft provisions on labeling applicable to all foods;

(b) to consider, amend if necessary, and endorse draft specific provisions on labeling prepared by the Codex Committees drafting standards, codes of practice and guidelines;

(c) to study specific labeling problems assigned to it by the Commission; and

(d) to study problems associated with the advertisement of food with particular reference to claims and misleading descriptions.

The CCFL is hosted by Canada. The United States attends the CCFL as a member country of Codex.

Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following items from the agenda for the 48th Session of the CCFL will be discussed during the public meeting:

- Matters referred to the Committee by the Codex Alimentarius Commission and/or its subsidiary bodies
- Matters of interest from FAO and WHO
- Consideration of labeling provisions in draft Codex Standards (endorsement)
- Food allergen labeling
- Revision to the *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (CXS 1–1985): Provisions relevant to allergen labeling
- Guidelines on the use of precautionary allergen labeling
- Guidelines on the provision of food information for pre-packaged foods to be offered via e-commerce
- Guidelines on the use of technology to provide food information in food labeling
- Amendments to the *General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods* (CXS 1–1985): Provisions relevant to joint presentation and multipack formats
- Discussion Papers on the following:
 - Labeling of alcoholic beverages
 - Application of food labeling provisions in emergencies
 - Trans fatty acids (TFAs)
 - Sustainability labeling claims
 - Sugar Labeling—definition for “added sugars”
- Future work and emerging issues
- Approach and criteria for evaluation and prioritization of the work of CCFL
- Other business

Public Meeting

At the October 9, 2024, public meeting, draft U.S. positions on the agenda items will be described and discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Written comments may be offered at the meeting or sent to Dr.

Douglas Balentine, U.S. Delegate to the 48th Session of the CCFL, at douglas.balentine@fda.hhs.gov. Written comments should state that they relate to activities of the 48th Session of the CCFL.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, the U.S. Codex Office will announce this **Federal Register** publication on-line through the USDA Codex web page located at: <http://www.usda.gov/codex>, a link that also offers an email subscription service providing access to information related to Codex. Customers can add or delete their subscriptions themselves and have the option to password protect their accounts.

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Done at Washington, DC, on August 6, 2024.

Julie A. Chao,

Deputy U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.
[FR Doc. 2024-17772 Filed 8-8-24; 8:45 am]

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