

GIPSA's Grain Inspection Advisory Committee to Meet

Washington, DC, April 25, 2008 - The USDA Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration's Grain Inspection Advisory Committee will meet May 13-14, 2008, at the Minneapolis Marriott City Center, 30 South Seventh Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The meeting will take place from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. on May 13, 2008, and 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. on May 14, 2008.

The agenda will include discussions about the agency's financial status, the agency's work in assessing wheat functionality, the program that is capturing first-point-of sale grading quality data via the Farm Gate Quality assessments, the status of export services contracts, a collaborative inspector training program, international trade issues, centralization of oversight programs, and FGISonline, which is GIPSA's initiative to bring modernized business operations to the web better serve our customers.

The Advisory Committee provides advice to the Administrator of the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration with respect to the implementation of the U.S. Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 71 et seq.). Information about the Committee is available on the GIPSA Web site (<http://www.gipsa.usda.gov>), by selecting "Learn about the Grain Inspection Advisory Committee" in the "I Want To" section.

Public participation will be limited to written statements, unless permission is received from the Committee Chair to orally address the Committee. The meeting will be open to the public. Requests to address the Committee at the meeting or in writing may be sent to: Administrator, GIPSA, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., STOP 3601, Washington, DC 20250-3601, or faxed to (202) 690-2173.

For more information, and for those persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication of program information or related accommodations. please contact Terri Henry, (202) 205-8281. FAX (202) 690-2173, or by e-mail Terri.L.Henry@usda.gov.

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