

GIPSA Seeking Members for Grain Inspection Advisory Committee

WASHINGTON (September 26, 2008) - The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) is seeking nominations for individuals to serve on the USDA Grain Inspection Advisory Committee. Nominations are being sought for six members and three alternates, all of whom will begin serving a three-year term beginning in April 2009.

The Advisory Committee meets twice annually to advise GIPSA on the programs and services it delivers under the U.S. Grain Standards Act. The Act requires that U.S. grain exports be inspected and weighed; prohibits deceptive practices and criminal acts with respect to the inspection and weighing of grain; and provides penalties for violations. Recommendations by the Advisory Committee help GIPSA better meet the needs of its customers who operate in a dynamic and changing marketplace. The Committee is comprised of 15 members and 15 alternate members appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture who represent all facets of the U.S. grain industry.

Members of the Advisory Committee serve without compensation, but are reimbursed for travel expenses. Nominations are open to all individuals without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, mental or physical handicap, marital status, or sexual orientation.

GIPSA will consider nominations received by November 25, 2008. Interested individuals must complete nomination form AD-755. A list of current Advisory Committee members and other relevant information is available on GIPSA's website at <http://www.gipsa.usda.gov>. Under the section "I Want To?" select, "Learn about the Advisory Committee."

For more information, contact Terri Henry, GIPSA, at 202-205-8281 or via email at Terri.L.Henry@usda.gov.

A notice to solicit nominees was published in the September 26, 2008, *Federal Register*.

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