NOTIFICATION

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| **1.** | **Notifying Member:** United States of America**If applicable, name of local government involved:**  |
| **2.** | **Agency responsible:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) |
| **3.** | **Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable):** Peppers |
| **4.** | **Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:****[ ]** **All trading partners** **[****X] Specific regions or countries:** Korea, Republic of |
| **5.** | **Title of the notified document:** Proposed Rule: Importation of Peppers from the Republic of Korea; Mesh Screening Size [Docket No. APHIS-2016-0094]. **Language(s):** English. **Number of pages:** 3<https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=APHIS_FRDOC_0001-2180> |
| **6.** | **Description of content:** APHIS is proposing to amend the regulations that allow the importation of peppers from the Republic of Korea to increase the mesh size of the screening over vent openings from 0.6 mm to 1.6 mm, and to require the use of colored sticky traps as an additional measure for pest monitoring. We have determined that, when used alongside other mitigations in the regulations, there is no additional pest risk related to the change in mesh size. This action would modify the conditions under which peppers from the Republic of Korea may be imported into the continental United States while continuing to protect against the introduction of quarantine pests. [Federal Register Vol. 83, No. 77 Friday, 20 April 2018 pages 17501-17503] |
| **7.** | **Objective and rationale: [ ]****food safety, [ ]****animal health, [****X] plant protection, [ ]****protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, [ ]****protect territory from other damage from pests.**  |
| **8.** | **Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:****[ ]** **Codex Alimentarius Commission *(e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text)*:****[ ]** **World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) *(e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number)*:** **[ ]** **International Plant Protection Convention *(e.g. ISPM number)*:** **[****X] None****Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?** **[ ]** **Yes [ ]** **No****If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:**  |
| **9.** | **Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:**   |
| **10.** | **Proposed date of adoption *(dd/mm/yy)*:** To be determined.**Proposed date of publication *(dd/mm/yy)*:** To be determined. |
| **11.** | **Proposed date of entry into force: [ ]****Six months from date of publication**, **and/or** ***(dd/mm/yy)*:** To be determined.**[ ]** **Trade facilitating measure**  |
| **12.** | **Final date for comments: [ ]****Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or *(dd/mm/yy)*:** 19 June 2018**Agency or authority designated to handle comments: [ ]****National Notification Authority, [ ]****National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e‑mail address (if available) of other body:** Ms. Carol Kreger, Regulatory Policy Specialist, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 133, Riverdale, MD 20737; +(301) 851 2356; E-mail: Carol.M.Kreger@aphis.usda.gov |
| **13.** | **Text(s) available from: [ ]****National Notification Authority, [ ]****National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e‑mail address (if available) of other body:** <https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=APHIS_FRDOC_0001-2180> |