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 |
| **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):** Fresh cape gooseberry |
| **4.** | **Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:****[ ]** **All trading partners** **[****X] Specific regions or countries:** Ecuador |
| **5.** | **Title of the notified document:** Proposed Rule: Importation of Fresh Cape Gooseberry Fruit from Ecuador to the Continental United States [Docket No. APHIS–2016–0009]. **Language(s):** English. **Number of pages:** 4<https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=APHIS_FRDOC_0001-2183> |
| **6.** | **Description of content:** APHIS is proposing to amend the fruits and vegetables regulations to allow the importation of fresh cape gooseberry fruit from Ecuador into the continental United States. As a condition of entry, fresh cape gooseberry fruit from Ecuador would be subject to a systems approach that would include requirements for establishment of pest-free places of production and the labeling of boxes prior to shipping. Fresh cape gooseberry fruit from non pest-free places of production would have to undergo approved cold treatment or irradiation. The fresh cape gooseberry fruit would also have to be imported in commercial consignments and accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate issued by the national plant protection organization of Ecuador certifying that the fruit has been produced in accordance with the systems approach. Fresh cape gooseberry fruit that does not meet the conditions of the systems approach would be allowed to be imported into the continental United States subject to treatment. This action would allow for the importation of fresh cape gooseberry fruit from Ecuador into the continental United States while continuing to provide protection against the introduction of plant pests. [Federal Register Vol. 83, No. 77 Friday, 20 April 2018 pages 17503-17506] |
| **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 Claudia Ferguson, Senior Regulatory Policy Specialist, Regulatory Coordination and Compliance, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 133, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236; +(301) 851 2352 |
| **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_0001-2183> |