



Proposed Rule for Importation of Blueberries From Uruguay Published

APHIS to consider all public comments submitted on or before July 20, 2007

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Today, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA APHIS) announced the publication in the Federal Register of the proposed rule for the importation of blueberries from Uruguay to the continental United States. USDA APHIS also congratulated the Uruguayan Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries - General Direction of Agricultural Services (MGAP DGSA) for their job in sharing and communicating to APHIS the sanitary information of this crop in Uruguay.



Due to the joint effort between DGSA and APHIS the pest risk assessment and the proposed rule were finalized in record time. This proposed rule will allow, once the comments are analyzed and answered, the publication of the final rule for the importation of fresh blueberries into the U.S.

The rule, *Importation of Blueberries From South Africa, Uruguay, and Argentina With Cold Treatment*, is available and open for public comment online at <http://www.regulations.gov/>, by selecting "Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service" from the agency drop-down menu, then click "Submit." In the Docket ID column, select APHIS-2007-0061 to submit or view public comments and to view supporting and related materials available electronically. APHIS will consider all public comments regarding this proposed rule that are received on or before July 20, 2007.

The APHIS office in Montevideo is available to answer any questions regarding this rule, either by phone at 1770-2441 or by email to: Ricardo.Romero@aphis.usda.gov.

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