

USDA Announces Regulatory And Marketing Agencies

A new regulatory agency in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) was announced by Secretary of Agriculture Earl L. Butz Effective April 2, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) was established, and the Consumer and Marketing Service (C&MS) was renamed as the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)

This reorganization of regulatory and marketing services was proposed in January to enable USDA to more effectively carry out its responsibilities for animal and plant health protection, meat and poultry inspection, and marketing service activities

It combines the Meat and Poultry Inspection Program, formerly a part of C&MS, with the Animal and Plant Health Service (APHIS), which had been separated from USDA's Agricultural Research Service in October 1971 Both the new APHIS, and the renamed AMS will report to Richard E. Lyng, assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Consumer Services

Commenting on the change, Secretary Butz said, "fixing responsibility under one Administrator for meat and poultry inspection and animal disease control will provide closer coordination and surveillance of meat and poultry production from the farm to the market—thus assuring even better protection for consumers of what

is now the cleanest and most wholesome supply of meat and poultry products in the world."

Dr Francis J. Mulhern, former administrator of the APHIS, is acting administrator of the new APHIS. Dr Kenneth M. McEnroe, former deputy administrator of C&MS for Meat and Poultry Inspection, is acting associate administrator of APHIS for Meat and Poultry Inspection. Dr Gilbert H. Wise is acting associate administrator for other APHIS functions, which

include veterinary services and plant protection and inspection programs.

George R. Grange, who had been serving as acting administrator of C&MS, will continue to serve in that capacity in the renamed AMS. AMS will continue to carry out the responsibilities for voluntary grading and inspection, market news, egg products inspection, and other commodity and marketing services and related regulatory programs.

New Territory Eligible To Ship Meat to U.S.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced it is adding the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands to the list of countries eligible to ship meat to the United States.

USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service said the Trust Territory's meat inspection laws and regulations conform to U.S. standards Two plants would at present qualify to export, APHIS said, and these would ship virtually all of their output (chilled or frozen beef) to Guam

The Federal Meat Inspection Act requires that a foreign country have a meat inspection program equal to that in the United States before it may

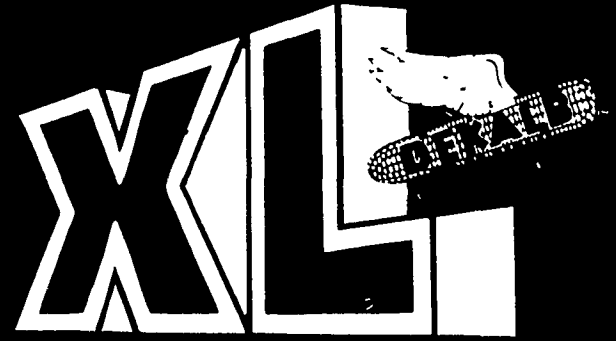
export meat here. Currently, there are 43 eligible meat exporting countries.

The Trust Territory, located about 1,400 miles east of the Philippines, is administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior under a trusteeship granted by the United Nations. The proposal to make the Trust Territory eligible was published in the Federal Register on January 25 The eligibility will be effective on May 6.

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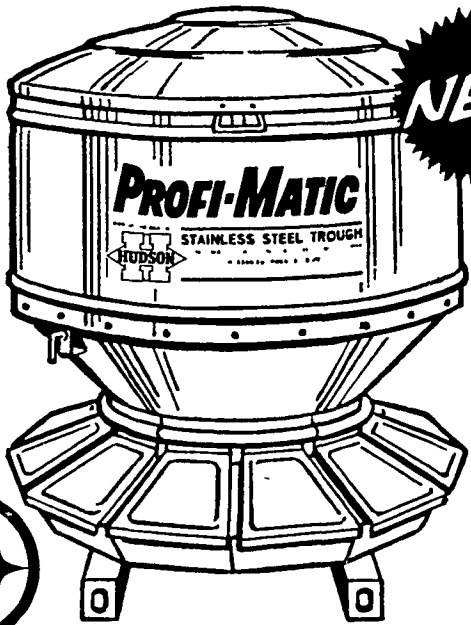
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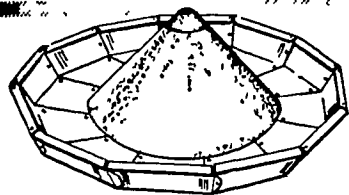
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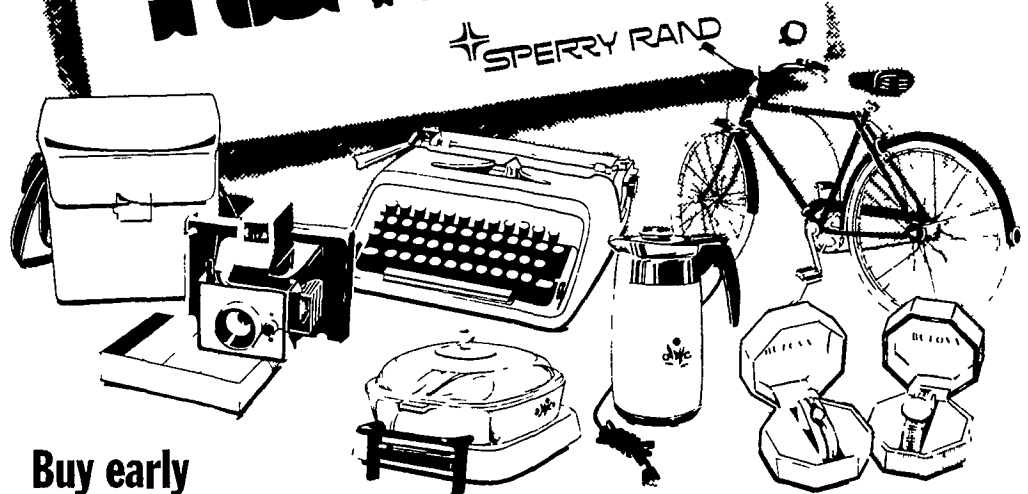


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