



United States Department of Agriculture



Dear Stakeholder,

This is a newsletter from the Plant Variety Protection Office (PVPO) providing you with information and updates on the program. In this issue, we are announcing the recently published Plant Variety Protection (PVP) Regulations proposed rule in the U.S. Federal Register (FR).

The 2018 Farm Bill, Public Law No: 115-334, Sec. 10108, December 20, 2018, amended the U.S. PVP Act to add asexually propagated plants, previously not available under the act. The amendment necessitates a revision of the U.S. PVP Regulations. The proposed rule has been published in the FR, which informs the public of the amendment and provides the opportunity for public comment.

Highlights of the changes you will see in the proposed rule:

1. Addition and adjustment throughout the regulations to reflect the addition of asexually reproduced plants.
2. The fee structure was streamlined:
 - Fees for the application, examination, and certificate issuance are now required to be made at the time of filing the application. Appropriate refunds will be made for withdrawals and abandonments.
 - Reduced hourly rate from \$107 to \$97.
3. Germplasm deposit of asexually reproduced material is proposed.

If you are interested in providing comments, please go to <https://www.federalregister.gov/> and search for FR Notice: AMS-ST-19-0004. Comments can be submitted from this website.

Thank you for your interest in the PVPO. The USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender. For more information, please contact:

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