



U S CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

Area Port of Jacksonville

PUBLIC BULLETIN

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SUBJECT: APHIS User Fee Increase Notification

In accordance with 7 CFR 354.3, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) user fees for certain commercial conveyances and international passengers will increase according to an interim rule published on Monday September 28, 2009 in the Federal Register. This interim rule can be found at:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2009-09-28/html/E9-23387.htm>

USDA APHIS is amending the user fee regulations by adjusting the fees charged for certain agricultural quarantine and inspection (AQI) services that are provided in connection with certain commercial vessels, commercial trucks, commercial railroad cars, commercial aircraft, and international airline passengers arriving at ports in the customs territory of the United States. The recent downturn in the U.S. economy has negatively impacted travel volumes, and, as a result, USDA APHIS user fee collections, which fund these services, have diminished. Although the volume of international travel and trade has decreased, inspection and related support services continue to be provided at their existing levels, so expenses have not decreased. As a result, USDA APHIS user fee collections have not been sufficient to provide those services and maintain a reasonable reserve balance. USDA APHIS is therefore increasing the AQI user fees in order to provide adequate funds for these purposes.

Beginning October 01, 2009, the APHIS user fee increases are as follows:

- Commercial Vessels will increase from \$494.00 to \$544.00
- Commercial Aircraft will increase from \$70.75 to \$78.00
- Commercial Trucks will increase from \$5.25 to \$6.00
- Commercial Railroad Cars will increase from \$7.75 to \$8.75
- International Air Passengers will increase from \$5.00 to \$5.50
- Commercial truck transponders will increase from \$105.00 to \$120.00

Any questions related to this matter should be directed to AAPD Douglas Straatsma at (904) 360-5029.

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