Form Approved - OMB No. 0551-0040

FAS-930
(08-26-03)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Foreign Agricultural Service

TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE (TAA) FOR FARMERS
PETITION FOR CERTIFICATION AND ELIGIBILITY FOR A GROUP OF PRODUCERS

NOTE: *The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a) and the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, as amended. The authority for requesting the following information is the Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers, (Pub. L. 107-210). The information will be used to determine program eligibility. Furnishing the requested information is voluntary. Failure to furnish the requested information will result in denial of program benefits. This information may be provided to other agencies.*

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0551-0040 The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 6 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. ***RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO THE ADDRESS LISTED BELOW.***

Please complete all requested information in this form and return it to the following address or fax to (202) 720-0876.

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Import Policies and Programs Division/FAS
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Stop 1021
Washington, DC 20250-1021

If you need assistance, telephone (202) 720-2916 or e-mail your questions to:
trade.adjustment@fas.usda.gov.

1. Name of Authorized Representative or Primary Contact Dwight Roberts	2. Name and Business Address *(Including City, State, and Zip Code)* US Rice Producers Association 2900 Wilcrest Dr., Suite 180 Houston, TX 77042
3. Telephone Number *(Including Area Code)* 713-974-7423	
4. Fax Number *(Including Area Code)* 713-974-7696	5. E-Mail Address dwight@usriceproducers.com

6. This petition is made on behalf of the following producers: *(Use separate sheet for additional producers)*

A. Name of Producers	B. Mailing Address	C. Telephone No. (Including Area Code)	D. E-Mail Address
William Dishman Jr	[redacted] Beaumont TX 77706-2619	409-842-0913	[redacted]
Sonny Martin	[redacted] Bernie MO 63822	573-293-4884	[redacted]
Gibb Steele	[redacted] Hollandale MS 38748	662-827-7442	[redacted]

7. COMMODITY INFORMATION:

A. Description of the raw (excludes processed) agricultural commodity: *(e.g., fresh raspberries)* Rice in the husk (paddy or rough)	B. Commodity's Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) Number *(HTS can be found at: **http:/www.fas.usda.gov/ustrade/**)* 1006.10

C. This petition is for the most recent marketing year for the commodity beginning in August 2002 *(month/year)* and ending July 2003 *(month/year)*

D. Check whether the certification is to cover a commodity produced nationally or in an "impacted" area (state or states):

[x] National [ ] State(s) *(list)*: _____

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8. If Item 7D "National" is checked, provide the national average annual price for the most recent marketing year and the 5 preceding marketing years. If Item 7D "State(s)" is checked to indicate that the petition is for an impacted area, provide the relevant average price for the most recent marketing year and the 5 preceding years, and specify the months being averaged if the price is for less than 12 months (seasonal price).

*(**NOTE:** National price data is available for many raw agricultural commodities from the Department's National Agricultural Statistical Service (NASS) at: **www.usda.gov/nass.**)*

A. Marketing Year	B. Average Annual Price				
Most recent: 2002/03	$ 4.22 cwt				
Provide prices for the 5 years prior to the most recent marketing years. Beginning with the most recent.	C. 5-Year Average Annual Price				
	1 Year ago	2 Years ago	3 Years ago	4 Years ago	5 Years ago
	$4.25	$5.61	$5.93	$8.89	$9.70

9. Basis for request for adjustment assistance. Please explain or attach any documents, which show how increased imports have affected the national price of your product during the most recent marketing year. In your description include any other factors which may also have contributed to lower producer prices.

Imports of various forms of rice under HS code 1006, all like or directly competitive with US produced rice in the husk, totaled 290,676 metric tons in 1997/98 and comprised 8.9% of domestic consumption. Imports rose in marketing year 2002/03 to 460,350 metric tons, an increase of 58%, and comprised 13.5% of domestic consumption.

Had domestic consumption been satisfied with domestic production, the supply/demand balance sheet would have tightened by 14.8 million hundredweight (rough rice equivalent) in 2002/03, reducing carryover stocks by 59% and improving the average price received by producers, perhaps to a dramatic extent.

This past marketing year witnessed the sixth year in a row of declining rice prices, and the lowest farm-gate values since the Depression years.

10A. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED RESPESENTATIVE OR PRIMARY CONTACT	10B. TITLE	10C. DATE SIGNED
Dwight Roberts	President & CEO	31 October 2003
11A. SIGNATURE OF FAS REPRESENTATIVE	**11B. TITLE**	**11C. DATE**