

USDA opens debate over labeling lab-raised meat

By **DON JENKINS**
Capital Press

The USDA is taking comments on what to call food cultivated from animal cells, asking how labels should distinguish between beef on the hoof and beef from a lab.

The USDA has posed more than a dozen questions, soliciting terms to describe the source and nature of products that are promoted as meat, but were never part of a live animal.

In asking for suggestions, the USDA used “cultured” for food comprised of cells multiplied in a controlled environment. The agency says it’s not establishing or even suggesting a future practice.

The fledgling cultured meat industry says its products come from livestock or poultry and meet the definition of meat. Ranching organizations are seeking to retain exclusive use of traditional terms.

R-CALF USA CEO Bill Bullard



David Parry/Press Association File

A burger made from cultured beef, which has been developed by Mark Post of Maastricht University in the Netherlands. The USDA is taking comments on how to label lab-grown meat and poultry.

said Tuesday that “beef” and “meat,” and words such as “sirloin” or “rib-eye” should not be used on labels for cell-based products.

“These tissues are grown in a petri dish,” he said. “It doesn’t meet the fundamental definition of meat

or beef and certainly doesn’t meet the expectations of consumers.”

Nine U.S. companies are working on cultured animal products, according to the Alliance for Meat, Poultry and Seafood Innovation.

One alliance member, Eat Just of

San Francisco, received permission in 2020 to sell lab-grown chicken in Singapore as an ingredient in nuggets. No product has been approved for sale in the U.S.

While the Food and Drug Administration regulates laboratory work, the USDA will oversee processing, packaging and labeling if cell-based animal products are brought to market.

The U.S. Cattlemen’s Association petitioned the USDA in 2018 to reserve “beef” and “meat” for products harvested in the traditional manner. The association restated its position last week when the USDA said it was taking comments on labels.

Other segments of the cattle industry have supported cell-based meat and poultry research and development. Tyson Meats and Cargill have invested in a cultured meat company. The packing industry’s North American Meat

Institute opposed the cattlemen’s association petition.

The meat institute issued a joint statement last week with the Alliance for Meat, Poultry and Seafood Innovation, calling for labeling that “fosters transparency, consumer confidence and a level playing field.”

The USDA’s questions touch on a wide-range of labeling issues.

If a package of lasagna has cultured beef cells, should the ingredient be labeled? What if cultured meat cells flavor broths?

Should common descriptions of meat cuts — such as pork loin, fillet and steak — be allowed?

What if a product is partly from a laboratory and partly from a slaughtered animal?

The USDA’s Food Safety and Inspection Service will take comments until Nov. 2.

Comments may be submitted online at regulations.com. The docket number is FSIS-2020-0036.

Agency targeting assistance, new markets

By **CAROL RYAN DUMAS**
Capital Press

The pandemic, natural disasters and looking at ways to create more opportunity for agricultural producers have kept things hopping at USDA since the new administration came into office in January.

USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack on Sept. 2 said the agency has two main focuses.

“One, obviously, is to continue to do what we can to get on the other side of the pandemic and essentially mitigate the consequences of that situation on the food-supply chain and on farmers, ranchers and producers,” he said during Farm Journal’s “Farm Country Update” podcast.

The other focus is on what President Biden likes



Tom Vilsack

On the pandemic side, USDA has been busy getting assistance payments to farmers, getting support to local and regional food systems and responding to the specific needs in different commodity sectors, he said.

USDA is not finished yet by any means. There’s still more help and assistance to come in a number of different areas. But so far, it’s been about \$11 billion in assistance, he said.

On building back better, the question is how to do that, he said.

“I think it boils down to more, new and better markets,” he said.

More markets start with exports, and USDA is forecasting record exports for marketing year 2021. That translates into more farm income, which is expected to be above the 20-year average for the first time in a number of years, he said.

USDA is focusing on ways to improve exports and following through on the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement to hold Canada to its commitments and open new markets in Mexico. It’s also working to create new market opportunity in Southeast Asia and focus-

ing on China’s commitments in the Phase I Agreement.

It’s also working on new market opportunities domestically through local and regional food systems and giving producers the ability to access contracts for USDA’s emergency food procurement purchases.

On the “new” side of building back better, USDA is looking at ways agriculture can take advantage of a difficult circumstance with changing climate, he said.

“As we focus on sustainability, as we embrace climate-smart agriculture and the value-added opportunities that that creates, how can we capture that value added, how can we reward farmers for taking the steps necessary to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions,” he said.

As for “better” markets, it’s really about open and transparent markets, fair markets, he said.

“That’s one of the reasons why we’re looking at strengthening the Packers & Stockyards Act,” he said.

USDA is also looking at ways to help existing meat and poultry processing capacity stay in business, particularly small or very small facilities, providing grants to modernize and expand operations, he said.

The agency also just announced a \$500 million effort to significantly expand new processing capacity, he said.

Yakima reservoirs defy drought, stay high

By **DON JENKINS**
Capital Press

Yakima River Basin reservoirs in south-central Washington have held up during this year’s drought and heat and still contain more water than usual for this time of year, Bureau of Reclamation officials said Thursday.

Bumping, Cle Elum, Kachess, Keechelus and Rimrock reservoirs were at 48% of capacity Sept. 1, or 109% of normal. The reservoirs haven’t held that much water at the start of September since 2017.

The reservoirs should retain enough water to bode well for 2022, especially if a La Nina forms as expected and makes the upcoming winter cold and wet, officials said.

“It shows how important the snowpack and the reservoir storage is for the basin,” said Chris Lynch, the bureau’s river operations manager.

The reservoirs supply water to irrigate about 464,000 acres, according to the bureau. The Yakima basin was hit hard by the “snowpack drought” in 2015. Some irrigators were cut back by more than 50%.

This year, irrigators have had full water allotments, even though the U.S. Drought Monitor judges this year’s drought worse for the state as a whole.

Like the rest of Eastern



Capital Press File

Keechelus Lake and four other Cascade Range reservoirs serve the farm-rich Yakima Basin.

Washington, the Yakima basin has been dry for months. The basin received 53% of normal rainfall from March through August.

The reservoirs, however, filled in the spring, fed by a larger than normal snowpack. Although the spring was dry, temperatures were mostly moderate, preventing the snow from melting too fast.

“That really was the saving grace of this season,” Lynch said.

The reservoirs peaked at nearly full on June 30, relatively late — and later is better for irrigators. Since then more water has been flowing out than in. Reservoir levels have remained relatively high, even though irrigation demand surged during high heat.

In late August, temperatures dropped closer to normal, Lynch said. “That really did help moderate the demand on the system and releases from the reservoirs,” he said.

“We were running around 115 to 120% of

average releases from the reservoirs during that really hot stretch and now we’re back down near normal, even below normal at times,” Lynch said.

Lynch said he expects the reservoirs to hold roughly 315,000 acre-feet at the end of October, about the long-term average.

The odds favor a La Nina prevailing next winter, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. During a La Nina, Washington’s winters are usually cold and wet, building up snow in the mountains to melt into reservoirs in the spring.

“Combined with a healthy start in storage (in the reservoirs), it looks good,” Bureau of Reclamation hydrologist Mik Lewicki said.

The U.S. Drought Monitor on Thursday reported the 38% of Washington — all east of the Cascades — was in “exceptional drought,” the worst category.

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Notice is hereby given that the following vehicle will be sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 09/13/2021. The sale will be held at 10:00am by

AFFORDABLE TOWING INC
2994 BLOSSOM DR NE SALEM, OR
2020 NISSAN KICKS 4D
VIN = 3N1CP5CV0LL533036
Amount due on lien \$2285.00
Reputed owner(s)
MARIA T DELGADO
FIFTH THIRD BANK NATIONAL ASSOC

LEGAL PURSUANT TO ORS CHAPTER 87

Notice is hereby given that the following vehicle will be sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 09/13/2021. The sale will be held at 10:00am by

COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
2012 JEEP WRANGLER 2DR
VIN = 1C4AJWAG4CL154696
Amount due on lien \$1675.00
Reputed owner(s)
STEPHANIE L CHAMBERS
ADVANTIS CREDIT UNION

LEGAL PURSUANT TO ORS CHAPTER 87

Notice is hereby given that the following vehicle will be sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 09/13/2021. The sale will be held at 10:00am by

COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
2020 SUBARU WRX 4D
VIN = JF1VA2Y6XL9811222
Amount due on lien \$1575.00
Reputed owner(s)
TATYANA & PAUL ZAGORODNY
JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
2013 HONDA CIVIC 4DR
VIN = 19XFB2F89DE243123
Amount due on lien \$1535.00
Reputed owner(s) NANCY G & DIEGO HERNANDEZ GARCIA
OREGON STATE C.U

PUBLIC LIEN SALE U-STORE SELF STORAGE
Auction Starts Sept 7th 2021
storageauctions.com
Ends Friday, Sept. 17, 2021 10am

1st - 1668 Industrial Way SW
Albany, Oregon
Holly Briggs, J030; Chelsea Donnelly, H049; Daniel Goodwin, F003; Gretchen Groesbeck, D017; Teyadora Kobernik, Y014; Robin L McConnell, D001, H008; Lisa Moore, A031; Brandi Wiebe, D003
2nd - 1501 Hawthorne Ave NE
Salem, Oregon

Kristen Blyeth, 2C03; Camilla Cutsforth, 1G17; Windy L Davis, 1C40; Garrison E Horton, 1F43; Brian Ireland, 1C34; Randall Jordan, 2A77; Shaynie Kluth, 1C04; Natalie Krummen, 1H02; Joshua L Meeker, 1D27; Robert Mitchell II, 1H06; Michael Mulholland, RJ07; Matthew Nelson, 1A18; Hope Placencio, 2A56; Sarah Richel, 2D56; Angel M Rodgers, RF11; Candice Sullivan, 2C01; Kloe Wilson, Y1-7 5298044-1

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
2016 HYUNDAI ELANTRA 4DR
VIN = KMHD35LH0GU300398
Amount due on lien \$1655.00
Reputed owner(s) JAKOB R & STEVE R MOORE
IQ CREDIT UNION

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
2019 BUICK ENCORE UT
VIN = KL4CJASB3KB792547
Amount due on lien \$1535.00
Reputed owner(s)
JOSE MANUEL & MARIA CISNEROS
PRESTIGE FINANCIAL SERVICES INC

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
2020 TOYOTA CAMRY 4DR
VIN = 4T1G11BK7LU003423
Amount due on lien \$1535.00
Reputed owner(s)
PATRICK K GROSHONG
TOYOTA MOTOR CREDIT CORP

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
2017 CHEV VOLT HB
VIN = 1G1RA6S55HU166852
Amount due on lien \$1575.00
Reputed owner(s) KATRIN GIST
WELLS FARGO BANK ACAR LEASING LTD

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
2013 SUBARU BRZ 2DR
VIN = JF1ZCAB16D1608573
Amount due on lien \$1655.00
Reputed owner(s)
JEREMIAH P & NANCY L SURBER

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
2012 ACURA ATL 4D
VIN = 19UUA8F50CA030440
Amount due on lien \$1575.00
Reputed owner(s) ARACELI I & HARRIET L GARCIA
OREGON STATE CREDIT UNION

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
1999 SOWI 32FT MH
VIN = 3FCMF5350XJA18033
Amount due on lien \$1435.00
Reputed owner(s)
RICKI W & LISA L WILEY
E TRADE CONSUMER FINANCE CORP

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
2012 VOLVO VNL TC
VIN = 4VAN9EH2CN558329
Amount due on lien \$1575.00
Reputed owner(s)
BEIJINARU COSMIN
VFS US LLC

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
2016 TOYOTA SCION 2DR
VIN = JF1ZNA17G9708280
Amount due on lien \$1515.00
Reputed owner(s) ARAM HERNANDEZ & XAVIER NGUYEN
BOEING EMP CU

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
2017 FIAT 500 CV
VIN = 3C3CFFER6HT594294
Amount due on lien \$1575.00
Reputed owner(s)
CARVANA LLC

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
2009 AUDI A4 SW
VIN = WAUXF78K59A144580
Amount due on lien \$1435.00
Reputed owner(s)
A.N GAIDAICHUK & PIOTR TARLOVSKI

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
2011 WANC VN
VIN = 1JVV5328BL369057
Amount due on lien \$1575.00
Reputed owner(s)
BKL TRANSPORT LLC
BMO HARRIS BANK NA

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
2017 FORD F 250 PU
VIN = 1FT7W2BTXHEE57803
Amount due on lien \$1515.00
Reputed owner(s)
DARREN WADE FLETCHALL

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
1994 TOYOTA CHASER 4DR
VIN = JZK936003604
Amount due on lien \$1595.00
Reputed owner(s)
SPENCER ROBERT BOLTE

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
1993 PTRB 379 TRK
VIN = 1XP5D9X1PD330978
Amount due on lien \$1435.00
Reputed owner(s)
SHAFFER TRANSPORTATION SERV.

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
2017 DODGE CHARGER 4DR
VIN = 2C3CDXJGXXH660905
Amount due on lien \$1575.00
Reputed owner(s) LAURETTA H & ROBERT A WHITE
CENTRAL WILLAMETTE C.C.U

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AFFORDABLE TOWING INC
2994 BLOSSOM DR NE SALEM, OR
2017 HOND CIVIC 4DR
VIN = 19XFC2F82HE210497
Amount due on lien \$2315.00
Reputed owner(s)
JESSICA ANN MCBRIDE

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
2012 FORD EDGE 4DR
VIN = 2FMDK4J2CBA42065
Amount due on lien \$1675.00
Reputed owner(s)
BARBARA ANN JOHNSON
IQ CREDIT UNION

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
2012 CHEV SLV PK
VIN = 3GCPKTE76C6G136228
Amount due on lien \$1535.00
Reputed owner(s)
JANA & RYAN CHRISTENSEN
FARMERS INSURANCE GROUP

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR
2015 LEXUS IS350 4DR
VIN = JTBHE1D2XF5017006
Amount due on lien \$1575.00
Reputed owner(s)
BYRON REED SHINN
DENALI A DIVISION OF NUVISION C.U