TEXAS PECAN BOARD

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De Leon, Texas – The Texas Pecan Board will be hosting an informational meeting on Wednesday, February 27, led by the American Pecan Council (APC) to discuss the implementation of standards for comparable grade, size, quality, and maturity requirements of pecans and to enforce these standards through a federal inspection program.

This informational meeting about implementing pecan standards will be held at the De Leon City Auditorium at 125 South Texas in De Leon, Texas on Wednesday, February 27. The meeting will start with registration at 1:00 pm and the meeting will begin at 1:15 pm.

According to the January American Pecan Council "In a Nutshell" Newsletter, "the recent Farm Bill contained important legislation that will change pecan marketing in the US. A provision for pecans was added into the legislation entitled Section 8e of the Agricultural Adjustment Act. Section 8e of the Agricultural Adjustment Act also provides that when certain domestically produced commodities, including pecans, are regulated under a Federal Marketing Order (FMO), imports of that commodity must meet the same or comparable grade, size, quality, and maturity requirements."

This new federal legislation now provides the pecan industry with an equal rule across the industry. Enforceable pecan quality standards are created and submitted to USDA by Federal Marketing Orders (FMO). The American Pecan Council is the pecan industry's FMO and now APC is beginning the discussions with pecan industry about implementing these pecan standards. After gathering industry input and advice, the APC will approve the standards and submit them to USDA for approval and eventual enforcement through a federal inspection program.

This informational meeting hosted by the Texas Pecan Board will provide pecan growers, buyers and processors a chance to learn about pecan standards and discuss how those standards will be implemented by APC. This has far reaching implications for all the pecan industry and anyone with an interest or investment in pecan production is welcome to attend.

