



January 19, 2011

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Legislative and
Public Affairs

Freedom of
Information

4700 River Road
Unit 50
Riverdale, MD
20737-1232

Mateusz Perkowski
Capital Press
P.O. Box 2048
Salem, OR 97308-2408

Dear Mr. Perkowski:

This is in response to your December 20, 2010, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for records of any communication between officials at United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) and officials of the Saudi Arabian government regarding alfalfa seed that was exported to Saudi Arabia and later found to have severe quality problems. The timeframe for all these communications is from early 2008 until the present. Your request was referred by AMS to my office on December 20, 2010, and assigned case number FOIA 11-164.

Agency employees conducted a thorough search of their files, but were not able to locate any records responsive to your request.

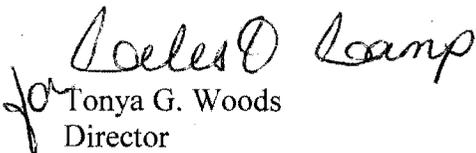
You may appeal our finding of no responsive records. If you choose to appeal, your appeal must be in writing and must be received within 45 days of the date of this letter. Please send to:

Administrator
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Ag Box 3401
Washington, D.C. 20250-3401

If you choose to appeal, please refer to FOIA 11-164 in your appeal letter and add the words "FOIA Appeal" to the front of the envelope. To assist the Administrator in reviewing your appeal, please provide specific reasons why you believe modification of the determination is warranted.

Because the cost to process your request is less than \$25.00, the fee has been waived. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Sophie Lau-Lopez of my staff at (301) 734-5360.

Sincerely,


for Tonya G. Woods
Director

Freedom of Information & Privacy Act
Legislative and Public Affairs