

FRANKLIN GOLD & PRECIOUS METALS FUND

FORM 497

(Definitive materials filed by investment companies.)

Filed 12/16/99

Address ONE FRANKLIN PARKWAY

SAN MATEO, CA, 94403-1906

Telephone 650-312-2000

CIK 0000083293

Symbol FGADX

SIC Code 2200 - Textile mill products

Fiscal Year 07/31

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SUPPLEMENT DATED DECEMBER 16, 1999 TO THE PROSPECTUSES OF

FRANKLIN GOLD FUND

DATED DECEMBER 1, 1999

Franklin Gold Fund's Board of Directors has approved certain proposals to change some of the fund's investment policies. These proposals will be presented to shareholders of the fund for their approval in March 2000. Currently, the fund is permitted to invest at least 65% of its total assets in the equity securities of companies that mine, process or deal in gold. The Board of Directors has approved a proposal to change this investment criteria to permit the fund to invest at least 65% of its total assets in the equity securities of companies that mine, process or deal in both gold and other precious metals (such as silver, platinum and paladium). This change in the fund's investment criteria would necessitate changing the name of the fund to the "Franklin Gold and Precious Metals Fund." The Board also has approved a proposal to change the fund's sub-classification from diversified to non-diversified in order to provide the fund with the investment flexibility to invest greater than 5% in certain issuers. The Board believes these proposed changes will benefit shareholders.

It is anticipated that during February 2000, fund shareholders will receive a proxy and proxy statement requesting their votes on these and other specific proposed changes.

PLEASE KEEP THIS SUPPLEMENT FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.

End of Filing



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