

OMB Number: 0579-0102.

Expiration Date of Approval: April 30, 1998.

Type of Request: Extension of approval of an information collection.

Abstract: The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture is responsible for preventing the interstate spread of injurious plant pests, such as the imported fire ant, from infested areas of the United States to noninfested areas. Implementing this mission often requires the use of domestic quarantines to restrict the interstate movement of articles that could carry the plant pest.

Restricting the interstate movement of regulated articles from an infested area to a noninfested area is crucial to our mission of preventing the interstate spread of the imported fire ant.

Nursery owners who elect to enter our Imported Fire Ant-Free Nursery Program visually inspect their premises for the presence of imported fire ants, record the results in a notebook or logsheet, and also record any treatments they perform if fire ants are discovered.

State plant protection officials collect this information by interviewing the nursery owner, reviewing the owner's inspection and treatment records, and inspecting the nursery site. The information obtained is used for issuing the various certificates, permits, and other documents that enable the nursery owner to move regulated items (such as potted nursery plants, sod, or other products) across State lines to markets outside the areas quarantined because of imported fire ant.

Without this information collection, we would be unable to collect the information we need to effectively implement our imported fire ant quarantine.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve the continued use of this information collection activity.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning our information collection. We need this outside input to help us:

(1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Estimate of burden: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .3561 hours per response.

Respondents: U.S. nursery owners, shippers, and State and county plant health protection authorities.

Estimated number of respondents: 2,704.

Estimated number of responses per respondent: 3.4038.

Estimated annual number of responses: 9,204.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 3,278 hours. (Due to rounding, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the average reporting burden per response.)

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Done in Washington, DC, this 7th day of October 1997.

Craig A. Reed,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 97-27098 Filed 10-10-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

Commodity Credit Corporation

Request for Reinstatement and Revision of a Previously Approved Information Collection.

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency and the Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) and Farm Service Agency (FSA) to request reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved collection in support of the Peanut Warehouse Storage Loan and Handler Operations and the Peanut Poundage Quota and Marketing Regulations Governing the 1996-2002 crop of peanuts as authorized by the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (1996 Act).

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received on or before December 15, 1997 to be assured consideration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Carolyn Hunter, Marketing Specialist, Tobacco and Peanuts Division, Farm Service Agency, United States Department of Agriculture, STOP 0514, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-0514, (202) 690-0013, facsimile (202) 720-9015; or Internet e-mail, chunter@wdc.fsa.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Peanut Poundage Quota and Marketing Regulations for the 1996 Through 2002 Crops.

OMB Control Number: 0560-0006.

Type of Request: Reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved information collection.

Abstract: The information relative to reports and recordkeeping as authorized by the Secretary are used by the FSA and CCC to monitor and control compliance with the peanut program as outlined in parts 729 and 1446. If the information is not monitored and data not required, the peanut program could not operate and the 1996 Act would not be implemented as required by Congress. The 1996 Act changed the peanut poundage quota program by reducing the national quota, providing temporary seed quota allocation, removing the carryover of undermarketed quota, allowing the transfer of peanut poundage quota to any other farm within the same State, providing for increasing marketing assessments under certain conditions to cover losses in area marketing pools and restricting transfer of peanuts from additional loan to quota loan.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 9 minutes per response.

Respondents: Individual producers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 255,116.

Estimated Total Annual Burden of Respondents: 301,690 hours.

Title: Peanut Warehouse Storage Loan and Handler Operations for the 1996 Through 2002 Crops.

OMB Control Number: 0560-0014.

Type of Request: Reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved information collection.

Abstract: The information relative to reports and recordkeeping as authorized by the Secretary are used by the FSA and CCC to monitor and control compliance with the peanut program as outlined in parts 729 and 1446. If the information is not monitored and data not required, the peanut program could

not operate and the 1996 Act would not be implemented as required by Congress. The 1996 Act changed the peanut warehouse storage loan and handler operations program by adding restrictions on transfer of peanuts from additional loan to quota loan.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 8 minutes per response.

Respondents: Individual producers and warehousemen.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 179,383.

Estimated Total Annual Burden of Respondents: 54,119.

Request for Comments: Comments on this information request are sought.

Proposed topics for comment include may include, but need not be limited to: (1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; or (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments should be sent to the Desk Office for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C. 20503, and to Carolyn Hunter, at the address listed above. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

OMB is required to make a decision concerning the collection(s) of information contained in these proposed regulations between 30 and 60 days after publication of this document in the **Federal Register**. Therefore, a comment to OMB is best assured of having its full effect if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication.

Signed at Washington, D.C., on October 1, 1997.

Bruce R. Weber,

Acting Administrator, Farm Service Agency and Acting Executive Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation.

[FR Doc. 97-27105 Filed 10-10-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Consumer Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Performance Reporting System, Management Evaluation, Data Analysis, and Corrective Action

AGENCY: Food and Consumer Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice invites the general public and other public agencies to comment on proposed information collections. The proposed collection is an extension of collection currently approved under Office of Management and Budget No. 0584-0010.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before December 15, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to Joseph H. Pinto, Chief, State Administration Branch, Food Stamp Program, Food and Consumer Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection form and instruction should be directed to Joseph H. Pinto, (703) 305-2383.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Performance Reporting System, Management Evaluation, Data Analysis, and Corrective Action.

OMB Number: 0584-0010.

Expiration Date: October 31, 1997.

Type of Request: Reinstatement without change, of this previously approved collection of information.

Abstract: The purpose of the Performance Reporting System (PRS) is to ensure that each State agency and project area is operating the Food Stamp Program in accordance with the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, (Act) and corresponding program regulations. Under Section 11 of the Act, State agencies must maintain necessary records to ascertain that the Food Stamp Program is operated in compliance with the Act and regulations and must make these records available to the Food and Consumer Service (FCS) for inspection and audit.

*Management Evaluation (ME) Review Schedules—*Unless the State receives approval for an alternative ME review schedule, each State agency is required, under 7 CFR Part 275 to submit one review schedule every one, two, or three years, depending on the project area make-up of the State.

*Data Analysis—*Under 7 CFR Part 275, each State must establish a system for analysis and evaluation of all data available to the State. Data analysis and evaluation is an ongoing process that facilitates the development of effective and prompt correction action.

*Corrective Action Plans—*Under 7 CFR Part 275, State agencies must prepare a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) addressing identified deficiencies. The State agencies must develop a system for monitoring and evaluating corrective action and submit CAP updates to FCS twice a year.

Affected Public: 53 State governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2896 (includes project areas within the 53 State governments responsible for the administration and operation of the Food Stamp Program).

Number of responses per respondent: 2.0614.

Estimated Total annual responses: 5,970.

Hours per response: 99.3534.

Number of record keepers: 53.

Estimated Annual hours per record keepers: 1.451.

Total record keeping hours: 75.

Total annual reporting hours: 593,215 (total hours per response plus total recordkeeping hours).

Dated: October 1, 1997.

Yvette S. Jackson,

Acting Administrator, Food and Consumer Service.

[FR Doc. 97-27103 Filed 10-10-97; 8:45 am]

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