

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 99-007-1]

Notice of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Extension of approval of an information collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's intention to request an extension of approval of an information collection in support of the Horse Protection Program.

DATES: We invite you to comment. We will consider all comments that we receive by June 21, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Send comments regarding the accuracy of burden estimate, ways to minimize the burden (such as through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology), or any other aspect of this collection of information to: Docket No. 99-007-1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, suite 3C03, 4700 River Road, Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please send an original and three copies, and state that your comments refer to Docket No. 99-007-1. Comments received may be inspected at USDA, room 1141, South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons wishing to inspect comments are requested to call ahead on (202) 690-2817 to facilitate entry into the comment reading room.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information regarding the Horse Protection Program, contact Dr. Richard Watkins, Initiatives Coordinator,

Animal Care, APHIS, 4700 River Road, Unit 84, Riverdale, MD 20737-1234, (301) 734-7833; or e-mail: richard.h.watkins@usda.gov. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Ms. Cheryl Groves, Agency Support Services Specialist, at (301) 734-5086.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Horse Protection.

OMB Number: 0579-0056.

Expiration Date of Approval: September 30, 1999.

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

Abstract: The practice known as "soring" is the causing of pain in Tennessee Walking horses and other gaited horses in order to affect their performance. The Horse Protection Act (HPA) (15 U.S.C. 1821 *et seq.*) was enacted to eliminate soring by prohibiting the showing, exhibition, transport, or sale of sore horses. Exercising its rulemaking and enforcement authority under the HPA, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) issues and enforces regulations regarding horse protection.

In 1979, in response to an amendment to the HPA, APHIS issued regulations under which horse show management must hire individuals to conduct preshow inspections, in order to avoid liability under the HPA if sore horses are shown or exhibited. These individuals are referred to as designated qualified persons (DQPs). DQPs are trained and licensed only under industry-sponsored DQP programs that APHIS certifies and monitors, and that are currently run by horse industry organizations.

Enforcement of the HPA and its related regulations depends on inspections of horses by DQPs and by APHIS officials. In order for APHIS to monitor whether enforcement by DQPs and Department-certified DQP programs is effective, it is necessary that DQPs, DQP programs, and horse show management maintain or submit to APHIS records related to inspections at horse shows, as well as information regarding the certified programs.

No official government form is necessary for the reporting and recordkeeping required.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning such information collection. These comments are invited 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, or 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 .177 hours per response.

Respondents: Horse industry organizations, DQP programs, and horse show management.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 650.

Estimated annual number of responses for respondent: 11.07.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 7,195 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 include in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Done in Washington, DC, this 15th day of April 1999.

Joan M. Arnoldi,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 99-9848 Filed 4-19-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 99-020N]

National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection; Public Meeting

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is announcing that the National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection will be meeting to discuss five new issues: (1) Qualifications of government and industry personnel in establishments which have implemented the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) system; (2) Using *Campylobacter* as a performance standard; (3) Elimination of all exemptions from Federal inspection; (4) Mandatory inspection of all animal flesh foods; and (5) Conceptual framework for producing food that is risk free. All interested persons are welcome to attend the public meeting and to submit written comments and suggestions on these and other issues the Committee might consider.

DATES: The meeting will be held on May 5 and 6, 1999. The full Committee will meet from 8:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. on May 5 and 6. Subcommittees will meet from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on May 5 to continue work on issues discussed during the full Committee meeting.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Quality Hotel & Suites, Courthouse Plaza, 1200 North Courthouse Road, Arlington, VA 22201; telephone (703) 524-4000. The full Committee will meet in the Jefferson Room; subcommittees will meet in the Conference Center rooms. Submit written comments on the discussion topics to the FSIS Docket Clerk, Docket No. 99-020N, Room 102, Cotton Annex Building, 300 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20250-3700. The comments and official transcript of the meeting will be kept in the Docket Clerk's office when they become available, and the Docket Clerk's office will be open between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Michael Micchelli at (202) 720-6269, by FAX at (202) 690-1030, or E-mail to Michael.Micchelli@usda.gov. A schedule of events is available on the FSIS Homepage at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov>. Persons needing sign language interpreters or other special accommodations should contact Mr. Micchelli's office no later than April 29, 1999.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

On March 22, 1999, the Secretary of Agriculture renewed the charter for the National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection. The Committee provides advice and recommendations to the Secretary on Federal and State meat and poultry programs pursuant to sections 7(c), 24, 205, and 301(c) of the Federal Meat Inspection Act and sections 5(a)(3), 5(c), 8(b), and 11(e) of

the Poultry Products Inspection Act. The FSIS Administrator is the Committee Chair. Committee membership is drawn from representatives of consumer groups, producers, processors, academia, and marketers from the meat and poultry industry and State government officials. The newly appointed members of the Committee are:

Terry Burkhardt, Wisconsin Bureau of Meat Safety and Inspection

Dr. James Denton, University of Arkansas

Caroline Smith-DeWaal, Center for Science in the Public Interest

Nancy Donley, Safe Tables Our Priority

Dr. Cheryl Hall, Zacky Farms, Inc.

Dr. Daniel E. LaFontaine, South Carolina Meat-Poultry Inspection Department

Rosemary Mucklow, National Meat Association

Dr. Dale Morse, New York Office of Public Health

Carol Tucker Foreman, Safe Food Coalition

Kathleen L. Hanigan, Farmland Foods, Inc.

Collette Schultz Kaster, Premium Standard Farms

Dr. Gary Weber, National Cattleman's Beef Association

Dr. Alice Hurlbert Johnson, National Turkey Federation

Michael M. Mamminga, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

Dr. Lee C. Jan, Texas Department of Health

Walter E. Juzenas, American Public Health Association

The Committee deliberates on specific issues and makes recommendations to the whole Committee and the Secretary of Agriculture. The meeting is open to the public on a space-available, first-come basis. Registration is required and will take place at the meeting. Pre-registration is not required. Interested persons will have an opportunity to discuss issues relating to the activities of the Committee and may file comments as discussed above in **ADDRESSES**.

Done at Washington, DC, on: April 14, 1999.

Thomas J. Billy,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 99-9959 Filed 4-19-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Blue Mountains Natural Resources Institute, Board of Directors, Pacific Northwest Research Station, Oregon

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Blue Mountain Natural Resources Institute (BMNRI) Board of Directors will meet on June 1, 1999, at Agriculture Service Center Conference Room, 10507 N. McAlister Road, La Grande, Oregon. The meeting will begin at 9 a.m. and continue until 3:30 p.m. Agenda items to be covered will include: (1) Subcommittee presentation on new Institute direction (and discussion and decision), and (2) public comments. All BMNRI Board Meetings are open to the public. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend. Members of the public who wish to make a brief oral presentation at the meeting, should contact Larry Hartmann, BMNRI, 1401 Gekeler Lane, La Grande, Oregon 97850, 541-962-6537, no later than 5:00 p.m. May 28, 1999, to have time reserved on the agenda.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Direct questions regarding this meeting to Larry Hartmann, Manager, BMNRI, 1401 Gekeler Lane, La Grande, Oregon 97850, 541-962-6537.

Dated: April 6, 1999.

Lawrence A. Hartmann,

Manager.

[FR Doc. 99-9771 Filed 4-19-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Export Administration

Action Affecting Export Privileges; Khaled Khalil El-Awar; Order Denying Permission To Apply For or Use Export Licenses

On August 5, 1995 Khaled Khalil El-Awar (Khaled El-Awar) was convicted in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division, on one count of violating the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C.A. 1701-1706 (1991 & Supp. 1998)) (IEEPA). Specifically, Khaled El-Awar was convicted of knowingly and willfully exporting and causing to be exported from the United States to Rotterdam, Holland, for transshipment to Libya, steel pipe and oil field accessories.