

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

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. # TM-01-10]

Notice of Program Continuation

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice inviting proposals for fiscal year (FY) 2002 grant funds under the federal-state marketing improvement program.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program (FSMIP) was allocated \$1,347,000 in the Federal budget for FY 2002. Funds remain available for this program. States interested in obtaining funds under the program are invited to submit Proposals. While only State Departments of Agriculture or other appropriate State Agencies are eligible to apply for funds, State Agencies are encouraged to involve industry groups and community-based organizations in the development of proposals and the conduct of projects.

DATES: Funds will be allocated on the basis of one round of consideration. Proposals will be accepted through February 15, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Proposals may be sent to: FSMIP Staff, Transportation and Marketing Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 4009 South Building, Washington, DC 20250.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janise Zygmunt, FSMIP Staff Officer, (202) 720-2704.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: FSMIP is authorized under section 204(b) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621 *et seq.*). The program is a matching fund program designed to assist State Departments of Agriculture or other appropriate State agencies in

conducting studies or developing innovative approaches related to the marketing of agricultural products. Other organizations interested in participating in this program should contact their State Department of Agriculture's Marketing Division to discuss their proposal.

Proposals are submitted by the State Agency and must be accompanied by a completed Standard Form (SF)-424 with SF-424A attached. FSMIP funds may not be used for advertising or, with limited exceptions, for the purchase of equipment or facilities. Guidelines may be obtained from your State Department of Agriculture or the above AMS contact.

Starting with FY 2002, FSMIP funds will be allocated on the basis of only one round of competition. In previous years, FSMIP grants were allocated on the basis of two rounds. Moving to one round will enable FSMIP staff to give more attention to project oversight, ongoing consultation with researchers, and wider dissemination of research results. The change should result in more efficient management of FSMIP projects at both the State and Federal levels.

Funds can be requested for a wide range of marketing research and marketing service activities, including projects aimed at:

(1) Developing and testing new or more efficient methods of processing, packaging, handling, storing, transporting, and distributing food and other agricultural products;

(2) Assessing customer response to new or alternative agricultural products or marketing services and evaluating potential opportunities for U.S. producers, processors and other agribusinesses, in both domestic and international markets; and,

(3) Identifying problems and impediments in existing channels of trade between producers and consumers of agricultural products and devising improved marketing practices, facilities, or systems to address such problems.

While all proposals which fall within the FSMIP guidelines will be considered, States are encouraged to submit proposals that have regional or national significance, and that foster innovation in the following arenas:

(1) Global Economy—preparing U.S. producers to market profitably in a rapidly changing global environment

where 96 percent of the world's consumers reside outside the United States;

(2) Consumer-Driven Agriculture—responding to consumer concerns about health and food safety; developing new products that address the needs of the mobile, time-pressed consumer; and studying the uses and value to consumers of food labeling and packaging alternatives;

(3) Agricultural Diversity—identifying niche market opportunities; exploring new markets for agricultural products, such as for industrial and nutraceutical applications; developing value-added products that meet consumer needs while enabling producers to retain a larger share of the food dollar; and developing marketing tools and strategies that will foster long term sustainability of the environment and viable rural communities; and

(4) Technical Innovation—exploring ways improve food safety and reduce the threat of plant and animal diseases in marketing channels such as through improved handling and packaging; and fostering ways to transport and distribute food and agricultural products more efficiently both domestically and overseas.

Copies of the FSMIP guidelines may be obtained by contacting the person listed as the contact for further information. FSMIP is listed in the "Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance" under number 10.156 and subject agencies must adhere to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which bars discrimination in all Federally assisted programs.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1621-1627.

Dated: November 20, 2001.

A.J. Yates,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 01-29703 Filed 11-29-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 01-108-1]

Public Meeting; Veterinary Biologics

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Advance notice of public meeting and request for suggested agenda topics.

SUMMARY: We are issuing this notice to inform producers and users of veterinary biological products and other interested individuals that we will be holding our 11th annual public meeting to discuss regulatory and policy issues related to the manufacture, distribution, and use of veterinary biological products. We are planning the meeting agenda and are requesting suggestions for topics of general interest to producers and other interested individuals.

DATES: The public meeting will be held from Tuesday, April 2, through Thursday, April 4, 2002, from 8 a.m. to approximately 5 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday, and from 8 a.m. to approximately noon on Thursday.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held in the Scheman Building at the Iowa State Center, Iowa State University, Ames, IA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information on agenda topics, contact Mr. Steven A. Karli, Director, Center for Veterinary Biologics, VS, APHIS, 510 South 17th Street, Suite 104, Ames, IA 50010-8197; phone (515) 232-5785; fax (515) 232-7120; or e-mail CVB@aphis.usda.gov. For registration information, contact Ms. Kay Wessman at the same address and fax number; phone (515) 232-5785 extension 127; or e-mail kay.wessman@aphis.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Since 1989, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has held 10 public meetings in Ames, IA, on veterinary biologics. The meetings provide an opportunity for the exchange of information among APHIS representatives, producers and users of veterinary biological products, and other interested individuals. APHIS is planning the agenda for the 11th annual public meeting, which will be held April 2 through 4, 2002.

The agenda for the meeting is not yet complete. The theme for this year's public meeting is emergency animal health management. The goal of this year's public meeting is to address issues related to the management of diseases that currently affect or have the potential to affect animal populations in the United States. The agenda may include, but will not be limited to, discussions on: (1) Diagnostics and vaccines—their role in foreign animal disease control; (2) Veterinary Services safeguarding review; (3) biosecurity and response activities; (4) animal care; and (5) international harmonization. In

addition, many information stations will be available for the dissemination of information on APHIS' veterinary biologics program.

Before finalizing the agenda, APHIS is seeking suggestions for additional meeting topics from the interested public. We would also like to invite interested individuals to use this meeting to present their ideas and suggestions concerning the licensing, manufacturing, testing, and distribution of veterinary biologics.

Please submit suggested meeting topics and proposed presentation titles to either of the persons listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** on or before December 21, 2001. For proposed presentations, please include the name(s) of the presenter(s) and the approximate amount of time that will be needed for each presentation.

After the agenda is finalized, APHIS will announce the agenda topics in the **Federal Register**.

Done in Washington, DC, this 27th day of November, 2001.

W. Ron DeHaven,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 01-29725 Filed 11-29-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-U

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request—Report of Coupon Issuance and Commodity Distribution for Disaster Relief

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is publishing for public comment a summary of a proposed information collection. The proposed collection is an extension of a collection currently approved for the Food Stamp Program and the Food Distribution Program.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by January 29, 2002 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Send comments and requests for copies of this information collection to Alan Rich, Program Reports, Analysis and Monitoring Branch, Budget Division, Food and Nutrition Service, USDA, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302.

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 will have 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; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including use of appropriate, automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All comments will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection. All comments will become a matter of public record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Alan Rich, (703) 305-2113.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Report of Coupon Issuance and Commodity Distribution for Disaster Relief.

OMB Number: 0584-0037.

Expiration Date: December 31, 2001.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Food distribution in disaster situations is authorized under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c); section 416 of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1431); section 709 of the Food and Agriculture Act of 1965 (7 U.S.C. 1446a-l); section 4(a) of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (7 U.S.C. 612c note); and by sections 412 and 413 of the Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5179, 5180). Program implementing regulations are contained in 7 CFR part 250. In accordance with section 250.43(f), distributing agencies shall provide a summary report to the agency within 45 days following termination of the disaster assistance.

Respondents: State agencies that administer USDA disaster relief activities.

Number of Respondents: 55.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: The number of responses is estimated to be 1.82 responses per State agency per year.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 25 minutes per respondent for each submission.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 97 hours.