

Estimate of burden: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.083 hours per response.

Respondents: State cooperators.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 120.

Estimated annual number of responses per respondent: 2.

Estimated annual number of responses: 240.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 20 hours. (Due to averaging, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the 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 10th day of December, 2001.

W. Ron DeHaven,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 01-30897 Filed 12-13-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-U

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 01-096-1]

Availability of an Environmental Assessment

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability and request for comments.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public that an environmental assessment has been prepared by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service relative to the control of *Melaleuca quinquenervia*. The environmental assessment considers the effects of, and alternatives to, the release of two nonindigenous organisms into the environment for use as biological control agents to reduce the severity of melaleuca infestations. The environmental assessment has been prepared to provide the public with documentation of our review and analysis of the potential environmental impacts and plant pest risks associated with releasing these biological control agents into the environment.

DATES: We invite you to comment on the environmental assessment. We will consider all comments we receive that are postmarked, delivered, or e-mailed by January 14, 2002.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by postal mail/commercial delivery or

by e-mail. If you use postal mail/commercial delivery, please send four copies of your comment (an original and three copies) to: Docket No. 01-096-1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3C71, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. 01-096-1. If you use e-mail, address your comment to regulations@aphis.usda.gov. Your comment must be contained in the body of your message; do not send attached files. Please include your name and address in your message and "Docket No. 01-096-1" on the subject line.

You may read the environmental assessment and any comments that we receive on the environmental assessment in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 690-2817 before coming.

APHIS documents published in the **Federal Register**, and related information, including the names of organizations and individuals who have commented on APHIS dockets, are available on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/webrepor.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Tracy Horner, Entomologist, Permits and Risk Assessment, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 133, Riverdale, MD 20737-1228; (301) 734-5213.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As part of an integrated control project to reduce the severity of *Melaleuca quinquenervia* (Cav.) S.T. Blake (Myrtales: Myrtaceae) infestations in Florida, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is proposing to release two nonindigenous organisms, *Boreioglycaspis melaleucae* Moore (Hemiptera: Psyllidae) and *Lophyrotoma zonalis* Rohwer (Hymenoptera: Pergidae) in areas affected by melaleuca.

Melaleuca, a broad-leaf paper bark tree native to Australia, was originally introduced in Florida during the early 1900's as an ornamental and was later planted along dikes and levees for erosion control and to convert wetlands into productive forest lands. Over the last four decades, it has spread throughout southern Florida, displacing native plant and animal species, and threatening the stability of the Florida Everglades ecosystem. The purpose of the proposed action is to reduce the

severity of the infestations of melaleuca throughout the affected areas.

APHIS' current melaleuca control project encompasses the areas known to be infested in central and south Florida and involves an integrated control approach sensitive to site-specific conditions, which may include a combination of physical, biological, and/or chemical controls. In response to permit applications the Agency received for the release of *B. melaleucae*, a psyllid native to Australia, and *L. zonalis*, a sawfly also native to Australia, APHIS is investigating the use of these biological control agents to control melaleuca in the affected areas. If APHIS decides to issue permits to release *B. melaleucae* and/or *L. zonalis*, these organisms would be added to the integrated control methods already available. Presently, there is only one biological control agent, a nonindigenous weevil (*Oxyops vitiosa*), used to suppress melaleuca.

APHIS has completed an environmental assessment that considers the effects of, and alternatives to, releasing *B. melaleucae* and *L. zonalis* into the environment. *B. melaleucae* and *L. zonalis* are known to attack only species within the family Myrtaceae. Our findings indicate that *L. zonalis* and *B. melaleucae* will not develop on any native species of Myrtaceae, but may temporarily feed on, and cause minor damage to, introduced species of *Callistemon* and Myrtaceae, and possibly wax myrtle. There is no evidence that the release of these two biological control agents will adversely affect threatened and endangered species or their habitat, or cultural, historical, and archaeological resources.

L. zonalis is being tested for toxicity to vertebrates because a closely related species, *Lophyrotoma interrupta* Klug, is reported to be toxic to cattle in Australia under certain conditions. Until further testing is completed, *L. zonalis* will not be released into the environment. Therefore, we are considering the release of *B. melaleucae* and, pending further testing, the release of *L. zonalis* to reduce the severity of melaleuca infestations in Florida.

APHIS' review and analysis of the potential environmental impacts associated with releasing these biological control agents into the environment are documented in detail in an environmental assessment entitled "Field Release of Two Biological Control Agents *Boreioglycaspis melaleucae* Moore (Hemiptera: Psyllidae) and *Lophyrotoma zonalis* Rohwer (Hymenoptera: Pergidae) for the Control of *Melaleuca quinquenervia* (Cav.) S.T. Blake (Myrtales: Myrtaceae)

in South Florida" (September 2001). We are making this environmental assessment available to the public for review and comment.

The environmental assessment may be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/> by accessing "Forms," then "Permits-Pests;" the environmental assessment is document number 0030. Copies of the environmental assessment may be obtained by calling the Plant Protection and Quarantine Automated Fax System at (301) 734-4327 or (301) 734-3560; please enter document number 0030 when prompted. You may also request copies of the environmental assessment by calling or writing to the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Please refer to the title of the environmental assessment when requesting copies. The environmental assessment is also available for review in our reading room (information on the location and hours of the reading room is listed under the heading **ADDRESSES** at the beginning of this notice.)

The environmental assessment has been prepared in accordance with: (1) The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), (3) USDA regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR part 1), and (4) APHIS' NEPA Implementing Procedures (7 CFR part 372).

Done in Washington, DC, this 10th day of December 2001.

W. Ron DeHaven,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 01-30896 Filed 12-13-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request—Nutrition Education Materials for Food and Nutrition Service Population Groups

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition 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 a proposed information collection. This information collection is based on the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as

amended, the National School Lunch Act of 1966, as amended, the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973, as amended, and the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983, as amended. This project is a new collection of information.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before February 12, 2002.

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 shall 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.

Comments may be sent to Judy F. Wilson, Director, Nutrition Services Staff, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 1012, Alexandria, VA 22302. Comments may also be faxed to the attention of Judy F. Wilson at (703) 305-2576.

All written comments will be open for public inspection at the office of the Food and Nutrition Service during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday) at 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22302, Room 1012.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information should be directed to Judy F. Wilson, (703) 305-2585 or Marion Hinners, (703) 305-2116.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Nutrition Education Materials for FNS Population Groups.

OMB Number: Not yet assigned.

Expiration Date: N/A.

Type of Request: New collection.

Abstract: Diet has a significant impact on the health of citizens and is linked to four leading causes of disease and premature death. Diet also plays a role in the development of other health conditions, which can reduce the quality of life and contribute to premature death. One of FNS' goals

includes improving the nutrition of children and low-income families by providing access to program benefits and nutrition education in a manner that supports American agriculture and inspires public confidence.

Materials in support of nutrition education goals will be developed by FNS. Eat Smart. Play Hard.TM (ESPH) is a project geared particularly towards children, including their caregivers, who are eligible for FNS nutrition assistance programs. Components already completed for ESPH consist of a spokes character with accompanying posters, brochures, activity sheets, and a kit of promotional materials.

As part of the Phase II development of ESPH, FNS will develop the following:

1. Additional messages and materials for a subsection of the children and caregivers group, materials for Hispanic children and caregivers as well as public service announcements (PSA's); and

2. An interactive Internet Web site.

In addition to ESPH Phase II, FNS will also develop materials to include:

1. Low-literacy education materials and tools to communicate and promote the implementation of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans; and

2. The conversion of existing English nutrition education materials to appropriate language and culture for the Hispanic audiences.

The materials will be tested using focus groups, short semi-structured interviews, and web-based tools to test the interactive Web site. The groups tested will provide information regarding the acceptability of materials and products during both the developmental process and during the final product development stage. Semi-structured short interviews will be conducted with FNS program recipients, staff, stakeholders and consumer volunteers at the State and local levels to determine acceptability and efficacy of materials and products developed. Interviews will be integrated into other program activities as appropriate.

FNS will also collect information regarding effective nutrition education initiatives being implemented by State agencies that administer nutrition assistance programs to address critical nutrition issues.

Respondents: Recipients of and those persons eligible for FNS nutrition assistance programs, State and local staff administering FNS programs, FNS stakeholders and consumers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: (including padding for variables of recruitment, site activity, etc.)