

the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Agricultural Research Service

Title: Peer Review Related Forms for the Office of Scientific Quality Review.
OMB Control Number: 0518-0028.

Summary of Collection: The Office of Scientific Quality Review (OSQR) oversees peer review of Agricultural Research Service (ARS) research plans in response to Congressional mandate in the Agricultural Research Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (Pub. L. 105-185, Section 103d). The ARS peer-review panels are scientists who review current scientific research projects.

Need and Use of the Information: ARS will collect the following information: confidentiality agreement, panelist information, peer review of an ARS research project, critique of ARS research project, panelist expense report, and panelist invoice. The information is used to manage the travel and stipend payments to panel reviewers and provide well-organized feedback to ARS' researchers about their projects. If information were not collected, ARS would not meet the administrative or legislative requirements of the Peer Review Process as mandated by Public Law 105-185.

Description of Respondents: Individuals or households.

Number of Respondents: 160.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Quarterly; Weekly; Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 3,053.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. E9-23871 Filed 10-2-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

September 30, 2009.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments regarding (a) 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; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden 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 through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), *Pamela Beverly*, *OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV* or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, D.C. 20250-7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8958.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Title: Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP).

OMB Control Number: 0524-NEW.

Summary of Collection: In January 2003, the National Veterinary Medical Service Act (NVMSA) was passed into law adding section 1415A to the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1997. This law established a new Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) (7 U.S.C. 3151a) authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out a program of entering into agreements with veterinarians under which they agree to provide veterinary services in veterinarian shortage situations. The purpose of the program is to assure an adequate supply of trained food animal veterinarians in shortage situations and provide USDA with a pool of veterinary specialists to assist in the control and eradication of animal disease outbreaks.

Need and Use of the Information: The Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service will collect information using the Veterinarian Shortage Situation Nomination form. Applications for the VMLRP will be accepted from eligible veterinarians who agree to serve in one of the

designated shortage situations in exchange for the repayment of an amount of the principal and interest of the veterinarian's qualifying educational loans. The nomination form includes a series of questions that will need to be answered before the nomination can be submitted to the peer panelists for their review and recommendations.

Description of Respondents: State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 57.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Biennially.

Total Burden Hours: 228.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

September 30, 2009.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments regarding (a) 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; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden 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 through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), *OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV* or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8958.

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Farm Service Agency

Title: 2008 Aquaculture Grant Program—Recovery Act.

OMB Control Number: 0560–0262.

Summary of Collection: Section 102(d) of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act) authorizes \$50 million for a 2008 Aquaculture Grant Program (AGP). As required by the Recovery Act, Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) funds will be used to provide block grants to State Departments of Agriculture that agree to provide AGP assistance to eligible aquaculture producers for losses associated with high feed input costs during the 2008 calendar year. The Recovery Act requires the States to complete and submit a 2008 AGP Financial Report to CCC.

Need and Use of the Information: States must submit to CCC, a report that describes: (1) The manner in which the State provided assistance; (2) the amounts of assistance provided per species of aquaculture; and (3) the process by which the state determines the levels of assistance to eligible aquaculture producers. The collected information will be used to ensure that an eligible aquaculture producer that receives assistance under AGP is not eligible to receive any other assistance under the supplemental agricultural disaster assistance program established under section 531 of the Federal Crop Insurance Act and section 901 of the Trade Act of 1974 for any losses in 2008 relating to the same species of aquaculture.

Description of Respondents: State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 37.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Other (Once).

Total Burden Hours: 28.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. E9–23935 Filed 10–2–09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS–2009–0006]

Notice of Availability of a Bovine Brucellosis Program Concept Paper

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability and request for comments.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public that the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is making a concept paper describing a new direction for the bovine brucellosis program available for public review and comment. The cooperative Federal-State-industry effort to eradicate bovine brucellosis from cattle in the United States has made significant progress since the program's inception in 1934. However, unique challenges impede eradication. The concept paper we are making available presents our current thinking about changes we are planning to address these challenges.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before December 4, 2009.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/main?main=DocketDetail&d=APHIS-2009-0006> to submit or view comments and to view supporting and related materials available electronically.

- *Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:* Please send two copies of your comment to Docket No. APHIS–2009–0006, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A–03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737–1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. APHIS–2009–0006.

Reading Room: You may read any comments that we receive on this docket 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.

Other Information: Additional information about APHIS and its programs is available on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Lee Ann Thomas, Director, Ruminant

Health Programs, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 43, Riverdale, MD 20737–1231; (301) 734–6954.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Brucellosis is a contagious disease affecting animals and humans, caused by bacteria of the genus *Brucella*.

The brucellosis regulations, contained in 9 CFR part 78, currently provide a system for classifying States or portions of States according to the rate of *Brucella* infection present and the general effectiveness of a brucellosis control and eradication program. The current State classifications are Class Free, Class A, Class B, and Class C. States or areas that do not meet the minimum standards for Class C are required to be placed under Federal quarantine.

This document announces the availability of a concept paper for a new direction for the bovine brucellosis program. Bovine brucellosis has significant animal health, public health, and international trade consequences. The cooperative Federal-State-industry effort to eradicate this disease from cattle in the United States has made significant progress since the program's inception in 1934. However, unique challenges impede eradication. This concept paper presents the current thinking of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's Veterinary Services (VS) program about changes we are planning to address these challenges.

The concept paper provides an action plan that:

1. Effectively demonstrates the disease-free status of the United States through a national status-based program supported by a national surveillance strategy;
2. Enhances efforts to mitigate disease transmission from wildlife;
3. Enhances disease response and control measures;
4. Modernizes the regulatory framework to allow VS to address risks quickly and sensibly; and
5. Implements a risk-based disease management area concept.

The bovine brucellosis concept paper may be viewed on the Internet at the Regulations.gov Web site (see

ADDRESSES above for instructions on accessing Regulations.gov). You may request paper copies of the document by calling or writing to the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

CONTACT. Please refer to the title of the document when requesting copies. The document is also available for review in our reading room (information on the location and hours of the reading room