

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

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

January 26, 2018.

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 are requested regarding (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; and (4) 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.

Comments regarding this information collection received by March 2, 2018 will be considered. Written comments should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), New Executive Office Building, 725—17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20502. Commenters are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395–5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250–7602. 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.

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Title: Communicable Diseases in Horses.

OMB Control Number: 0579–0127.

Summary of Collection: Under the authority of the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8301 *et seq.*), the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulates the importation and interstate movement of animals and animal products, and conducts various other activities to protect the health of U.S. livestock and poultry. Equine infectious anemia (EIA) is an infectious and potentially fatal viral disease of equines. There is no vaccine or treatment for the disease. It is often difficult to differentiate from other fever-producing diseases, including anthrax, influenza, and equine encephalitis. The regulations in 9 CFR 75.4 govern the interstate movement of equines that have tested positive to an official test for EIA (EIA reactors) and provide for the approval of laboratories, diagnostic facilities, and research facilities. Ensuring the safe movement of these horses requires the use of information collection activities, including an EIA laboratory test form, a certificate or permit for the interstate movement of an EIA reactor, a supplemental investigation form if a horse tests positive for EIA, agreements, request for hearing, and written notification of withdrawal of approval.

Need and Use of the Information: The information collected from forms, APHIS VS 10–11, Equine Infectious Anemia Laboratory Test; VS 10–12, Equine Infectious Anemia Supplemental Investigation; and VS 1–27, Permit for the Movement of Restricted Animals, will be used to prevent the spread of equine infectious anemia. Regulations also require the use an Agreement for Approved Livestock Facilities, Request for Hearing, Written Notification of Approval Withdrawal, Proposal to Conduct Laboratory EIA, Review of Requirements, Agreement to Conduct EIA Testing, Inspections, Memorandum of Recommendation and Justification, Monthly Summary Reporting, and

Request for Approval to Withdrawal. Without the information it would be impossible for APHIS to effectively regulate the interstate movement of horses infected with EIA.

Description of Respondents: Farms; Business or other for-profit; State, Local and Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 235,486.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 118,010.

Title: Importation of Fresh Bananas from the Philippines into Hawaii and U.S. Territories.

OMB Control Number: 0579–0415.

Summary of Collection: The Plant Protection Act (PPA, 7 U.S.C. 7701 *et seq.*) authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to restrict the importation, entry, or interstate movement of plants, plant products, and other articles to prevent the introduction of plant pests into the United States or their dissemination within the United States. As authorized by the PPA, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) regulates the importation of certain fruits and vegetables in accordance with the regulations in “Subpart—Fruits and Vegetables” (7 CFR 319.56–1 through 319.56–76). In accordance with Section 319.56–58, Bananas from the Philippines may be imported into the United States under certain conditions to prevent the introduction of plant pests into the United States.

Need and Use of the Information: APHIS will collect information using the following activities: Phytosanitary certificates, registrations of production sites, operational workplans, monitoring and oversight of places of production, trapping, recordkeeping, identifying shipping documents, and post-harvest inspection.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; and Foreign Federal Government.

Number of Respondents: 41.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion, Recordkeeping.

Total Burden Hours: 2,062.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

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