

SW., Washington, DC, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons wishing to inspect those documents are asked to call in advance of visiting at (202) 690-2817.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Ved Malik, Biotechnology Permits, BBEP, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 147, Riverdale, MD 20737-1237; (301) 734-7612. To obtain a copy of the determination or the environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact, contact Ms. Kay Peterson at (301) 734-7612; e-mail: mkpeterston@aphis.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On November 20, 1995, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) received a petition (APHIS Petition No. 95-324-01p) from Agritope, Inc., (Agritope) of Beaverton, OR, seeking a determination that a cherry tomato line designated as 35-1-N that has been genetically engineered for modified fruit ripening does not present a plant pest risk and, therefore, is not a regulated article under APHIS' regulations in 7 CFR part 340.

On January 23, 1996, APHIS published a notice in the Federal Register (61 FR 1743-1744, Docket No. 95-097-1) announcing that the Agritope petition had been received and was available for public review. The notice also discussed the role of APHIS and the Food and Drug Administration in regulating the subject tomato line and food products derived from it. In the notice, APHIS solicited written comments from the public as to whether the subject tomato line posed a plant pest risk. The comments were to have been received by APHIS on or before March 25, 1996.

During the designated 60-day comment period, APHIS received a total of 21 comments on the petition for cherry tomato line 35-1-N from individuals, a seed company, a State department of agriculture, and a university. All of the comments were in support of the subject petition.

Analysis

Cherry tomato line 35-1-N has been genetically engineered to contain the sam-k gene derived from *Escherichia coli* bacteriophage T3 that encodes an enzyme, S-adenosylmethionine hydrolase (SAMase), which alters the ethylene biosynthetic pathway and delays ripening of the tomato on the vine. When exposed to exogenous ethylene the fruit of line 35-1-N ripen normally. The subject cherry tomato

line also contains the nptII gene from the prokaryotic transposon Tn5, which encodes the enzyme neomycin phosphotransferase II and is used as a selectable marker for transformation. Expression of the introduced genes is controlled in part by the 3' region of the nopaline synthase gene from the plant pathogen *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*. The A. tumefaciens vector system was used to transfer the added genes into the Large Red Cherry parental line.

Cherry tomato line 35-1-N has been considered a regulated article under APHIS' regulations in 7 CFR part 340 because it contains regulatory gene sequences derived from the plant pathogen *A. tumefaciens*. However, evaluation of field data reports from field tests of the subject tomato line conducted under APHIS permits or notifications since 1992 indicates that there were no deleterious effects on plants, nontarget organisms, or the environment as a result of the subject tomato plants' release into the environment.

Determination

Based on its analysis of the data submitted by Agritope and a review of other scientific data, comments received, and field tests of the subject tomato line, APHIS has determined that cherry tomato line 35-1-N: (1) Exhibits no plant pathogenic properties; (2) is no more likely to become a weed than cherry tomato cultivars developed by traditional breeding techniques; (3) is unlikely to increase the weediness potential for any other cultivated or wild species with which it can interbreed; (4) will not harm threatened or endangered species or other organisms, such as bees, that are beneficial to agriculture; and (5) will not cause damage to raw or processed agricultural commodities. Therefore, APHIS has concluded that cherry tomato line 35-1-N and any progeny derived from hybrid crosses with other nontransformed tomato varieties will be just as safe to grow as traditionally bred cherry tomato lines that are not regulated under 7 CFR part 340.

The effect of this determination is that Agritope's cherry tomato line designated as 35-1-N is no longer considered a regulated article under APHIS' regulations in 7 CFR part 340.

Therefore, the notification requirements pertaining to regulated articles under those regulations no longer apply to the field testing, importation, or interstate movement of the subject tomato line or its progeny. However, the importation of cherry tomato line 35-1-N or seeds capable of propagation is still subject to

the restrictions found in APHIS' foreign quarantine notices in 7 CFR part 319.

National Environmental Policy Act

An environmental assessment (EA) has been prepared to examine the potential environmental impacts associated with this determination. The EA was prepared in accordance with: (1) The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), (2) 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 1b), and (4) APHIS' NEPA Implementing Procedures (7 CFR part 372). Based on that EA, APHIS has reached a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) with regard to its determination that Agritope's cherry tomato line 35-1-N and lines developed from it are no longer regulated articles under its regulations in 7 CFR part 340. Copies of the EA and the FONSI are available upon request from the individual listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Done in Washington, DC, this 4th day of April 1996.

Lonnie J. King,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 96-8904 Filed 4-9-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

Farm Service Agency

Notice of Request for Extension and Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Farm Service Agency's (FSA) intention to request an extension for an information collection currently approved in support of obtaining information regarding chattel debt for direct operating loans authorized by subtitle B of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (Act) and emergency loans for operating purposes as authorized by subtitle C of the Act.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received on or before June 10, 1996, to be assured consideration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Mark Falcone, Deputy Director, Loan Making Division, Farm Credit Programs, Farm Service Agency, USDA, Ag Box 0522, P.O. Box

2415, Washington, D.C. 20013-2415; telephone (202) 720-1632.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Request for Statement of Debts and Collateral.

OMB Control Number: 0575-0011.

Expiration Date of Approval: April 30, 1996.

Type of Request: Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection.

Abstract: The information collected under Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Number 0575-0011 is needed to enable FSA to obtain information on a loan applicant's type of chattel security and amount of debt owed to other secured parties. This information is necessary for the agency to determine if a valid lien can be obtained on the chattel security in making direct operating loans and emergency loans for operating purposes.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this information collection is estimated to average .25 hours per response.

Respondents: Lenders and small agricultural businesses.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 15,000.

Estimated Number of Respondents per Respondent: 3.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 11,250.

Comments are sought 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; and (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.

Comments should be sent to the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C. 20503 and to Mark Falcone, Deputy Director, Loan Making Division, Farm Credit Programs, Farm Service Agency, USDA, Ag Box 0522, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, D.C. 20013-2415; telephone (202) 720-1632. Copies of the information collection may be obtained from Mark Falcone at the above address.

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.

Signed at Washington, D.C., on April 4, 1996.

Bruce R. Weber,

Acting Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

[FR Doc. 96-8931 Filed 4-9-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-M

Food and Consumer Service

Agency Information Collection

Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request Food Security Supplement to the Current Population Survey

AGENCY: Food and Consumer 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 proposed information collection of supplemental food security questions for the September, 1996 Current Population Survey.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before June 10, 1996.

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; (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. Comments may be sent to Michael E. Fishman, Acting Director, Office of Analysis and Evaluation, Food and Consumer Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302.

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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instruments and instructions should be directed to Michael E. Fishman, (703) 305-2117.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Food Security Supplement to the Current Population Survey.

OMB Number: Not yet assigned.

Form Number: None.

Expiration Date: N/A.

Type of Request: New Collection of Information.

Abstract: The U.S. Bureau of the Census will supplement the September, 1996 Current Population Survey with questions regarding household food shopping, food sufficiency, coping mechanisms and food scarcity, and concern about food sufficiency. This supplement was also appended to the CPS in April, 1995. These data will be used to develop a scale of food security reflecting a range from food secure households through households experiencing severe food insecurity. Ultimately, this scale will be used to identify the prevalence of poverty-linked food insecurity and hunger experienced in the United States. The purpose of this project is to provide a consistent measure of the extent and severity of food insecurity that will aid in policy decision making. The supplemental survey instrument has been developed in conjunction with food security experts nationwide as well as survey method experts within the Census Bureau. This supplemental information will be collected by both personal visit and telephone interviews in conjunction with the regular monthly CPS interviewing. All interviews are conducted using computers.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 58,000.

Estimated Time per Response: 9 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 8,700 hours.

Dated: April 4, 1996.

William E. Ludwig,

Administrator, Food and Consumer Service.

[FR Doc. 96-8969 Filed 4-9-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-M

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Proposed Posting of Stockyards

The Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, United States Department of Agriculture, has information that the livestock markets named below are stockyards as defined in Section 302 of the Packers and Stockyards Act (7 U.S.C. 202), and should be made subject to the provisions of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921, as amended (7 U.S.C. 181 et seq.).