

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 63, No. 99

Friday, May 22, 1998

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

May 18, 1998.

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, Pub. L. 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), Washington, DC 20503 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) 720-6746.

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.

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Title: Respondent Information Evaluation.

OMB Control Number: 0535-New.

Summary of Collection: The National Agricultural Statistics Service's (NASS) primary function is to prepare and issue state and national estimates of crop and livestock production. Preparation of these estimates requires voluntary cooperation from thousands of crop and livestock producers regarding their operations each year. A serious threat to NASS data quality is nonresponse to surveys. NASS is initiating a coordinated effort to increase voluntary survey cooperation. This effort requires the collection of information on how NASS data is used and what data and services would be helpful in the future.

Need and Use of The Information: Information about the many uses of NASS reports will be used to enlist the cooperation of producers whose information the reports are based on. Public forums with producers will be used to develop potential educational material for use in conjunction with ongoing NASS survey programs. These materials will be tested in a variety of formats suited to different channels of communications with respondents including interviewers, State Statistical Office personnel, survey questionnaires, releases and publications, print and broadcast media, and educational settings.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 11,717.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Quarterly; annually.

Total Burden Hours: 572.

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Title: "Clear Title" Regulations to Implement Section 1324 of the Food Security Act of 1985.

OMB Control Number: 0580-0016.

Summary of Collection: In conjunction with Section 1324 of the Food Security Act of 1985, the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA), on behalf of the Secretary of Agriculture, is authorized to certify State central filing systems. The central filing systems are necessary in certain states to notify buyers of farm products of any

mortgages or liens on the products. Information is collected from State agencies describing their proposed central filing systems.

Need and Use of the Information: GIPSA uses the information supplied by State agencies to carry out the Secretary's responsibility for determining whether a State's central filing system for notification of buyers of farm products of any mortgages or liens on the products meets certification requirements under Section 1324 of the Food Security Act of 1985.

Description of Respondents: State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 1.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden hours: 12.

Food and Nutrition Service

Title: Issuance Reconciliation Report: FNS-46.

OMB Control Number: 0584-0080.

Summary of Collection: The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), on behalf of the Secretary of Agriculture, administers the Food Stamp Program through State agencies. These State agencies are accountable for issuance and control of food stamp coupons. Accordingly, States are liable to USDA for any financial losses involved in the acceptance, storage, and issuance of food stamp coupons. Information is required from State agencies on wrongfully issued benefits including undocumented issuances, and returned benefits, stolen and transacted accountable issuance documents, replacement benefits, and obligations from the exchange of food stamp coupons for any reason.

Need and Use of the Information: FNS provides the FNS-46 form, Issuance Reconciliation Report, for State agencies to use in reporting reconciliation results from analyzes of the benefit issuances for all issuance systems with the record-for-issuance file. FNS uses this information to assess liability and to determine billing amounts.

Description of Respondents: State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 388.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Monthly.

Total Burden hours: 37,248.

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Title: Beef Cattle Pesticide Use.

OMB Control Number: 0535-NEW.

Summary of Collection: The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) has been asked by Colorado State University (CSU) to conduct a Beef Cattle Pesticide Use Survey in 12 Western States. The survey is designed to provide information on insecticides applied to beef cattle, insecticides used for cattle facilities, and non-pesticide insect management practices. Data collected will help provide quality information to fulfill certain requirements of the food Quality Protection Act of 1996. In order to do an effective risk assessment, accurate pesticide use information is essential. CSU will use the results from this survey to produce a Pesticide Benefit Assessments report for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Information from this report will aid the EPA in evaluating the risks and the benefits of pesticide use.

Need and Use of the Information: NASS will collect data to develop a uniform survey system to determine the amount of active ingredients from insecticides applied to beef cattle and beef cattle facilities and to measure pest management practices on beef cattle. Data from the survey will provide the necessary insecticide use data needed by EPA. The data will provide factual information on the level of insecticide use and types of pest prevention measures being implemented.

Description of Respondents: Farm.

Number of Respondents: 2,000.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Other (One-time).

Total Burden hours: 467

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Title: Agricultural Prices.

OMB Control Number: 0535-0003.

Summary of Collection: Estimates of prices received by farmers and prices paid for production goods and services are needed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), to compute Parity Prices in accordance with requirements of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 as amended (Title III, Subtitle A, Section 301a) and estimate value of production, inventory values, and cash receipts from farming.

In addition, NASS provides commodity product prices used in the calculation of the Basic Formula Prices for Milk, determines the level for farmer owned reserves and provides guidelines for Risk Management Agency price selection options and determines Federal disaster prices to be paid and the grazing fee on Federal lands. General authority for these data collection activities is granted under U.S. Code Title 7, Section 2204. This

status specifies that "The Secretary of Agriculture shall procure and preserve all information concerning agriculture which he can obtain by the collection of statistics * * * and shall distribute them among agriculturalists".

Need and Use of the Information: The NASS price program has undergone significant modifications including the updating of weights and changing the construction of prices and paid by farmers indexes. The indexes are used in computing the parity prices that NASS is required by statute to publish monthly. Parity prices are used to establish and maintain Federal Market Orders. Currently, there are 41 market orders that use these prices.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; farm.

Number of Respondents: 19,387.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion; monthly; annually.

Total Burden Hours: 14,484.

Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service

Title: Exotic Newcastle Disease in Birds and Poultry; Chlamydiosis in Poultry.

OMB Control Number: 0579-0016.

Summary of Collection: Title 21, U.S.C. authorizes the United States Department of Agriculture and the Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service (APHIS) to take necessary actions to prevent, control and eliminate domestic diseases, as well as to prevent and to manage non-domestic diseases such as exotic Newcastle disease (END) and Chlamydiosis. Disease prevention is the most effective method for maintaining a healthy animal population and for enhancing our ability to compete in the world market of animals and animal product trade.

Need and Use of the Information: APHIS will collect information through the use of documents attesting to the health status of the birds or poultry being moved, the number and types of birds or poultry being moved in a particular shipment, the shipment's point of origin, the shipment's destination, and the reason for the interstate movement. These documents also provide useful "traceback" information in the event an infected bird or chicken is discovered and an investigation must be launched to determine where the bird or chicken originated. The information provided by these documents is critical to APHIS' ability to prevent the interstate spread of Exotic Newcastle Disease, which is highly contagious and capable of causing significant economic harm to the U.S. poultry industry.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; Individuals or households; farms; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 45.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 21.

Food and Nutrition Service

Title: Study of WIC Participants and Program Characteristics: 1998 and 2000.

OMB Control Number: 0584-New.

Summary of Collection: Section 17(g)(5) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1996 as amended through Public Law 105-24, July 3, 1997, authorizes the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to manage the Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) which was created by the Congress in 1972 as an adjunct to health care for low-income pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women as well as for low-income infants and children (up to age five) who are at nutritional risk. The WIC Program provides nutritious food, nutritional needs of these individuals and to prevent health problems associated with poor nutrition during pregnancy and early childhood. The purpose of the 1998 and 2000 studies of WIC participant and program characteristics (PC98 and PC2000) are to collect data, to prepare a report, and to develop a set of analysis files on the characteristics of WIC participants and programs. The data collected for the study will be used by FNS to manage the WIC Program, prepare WIC budgets, answer specific analytic questions, and guide future research.

Need and Use of the Information: FNS will collect information through the use of questionnaires, surveys, and applications on the income and nutritional risk characteristics of WIC participants; data on WIC program participation for migrant farm worker families; and other information on WIC participation that is deemed appropriate by the Secretary of Agriculture. The information collected in the study will be used by FNS for general program monitoring such as reviewing State budget submissions and fiscal reports. Access to current data is crucial to meeting other management information needs such as preparing federal budget estimates, responding to congressional inquiries, and developing appropriate research initiatives for the WIC Program.

Description of Respondents: State, Local, or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 447.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Biennially.

Total Burden Hours: 105.

Nancy Sternberg,

Departmental Information Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-13694 Filed 5-21-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Research Service

Notice of Intent to Request an Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations at 5 CFR Part 1320 (60 FR 44978, August 29, 1995), this notice announces the Agricultural Research Service's (ARS) intention to request an extension of a currently approved information collection, Form AD-761, USDA Patent License Application for Government Invention that expires August 31, 1998. **DATES:** Comments must be received by July 27, 1998 to be assured of consideration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Contact June Blalock, USDA, ARS, Office of Technology Transfer, Room 415, Building 005, BARC-West, Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2350; Telephone Number 301-504-5989.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: USDA Patent License Application for Government Invention. *OMB Number:* 0518-0003.

Expiration Date of Approval: August 31, 1998.

Type of Request: To extend a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The USDA patent licensing program grants patent licenses to qualified businesses and individuals who wish to commercialize inventions arising from federally supported research. The objective of the program is to use the patent system to promote the utilization of inventions arising from such research. The licensing of federally owned inventions must be done in accordance with the terms, conditions and procedures prescribed under 37 CFR Part 404. Application for a license must be addressed to the Federal agency having custody of the invention. Licenses may be granted but only if the license applicant has supplied the Federal agency with a satisfactory plan for the development and marketing of

the invention and with information about the applicant's capability to fulfill the plan. 37 CFR 404.8 sets forth the information which must be provided by a license applicant. For the convenience of the applicant, USDA has itemized the information needed on Form AD-761, and instructions for completing the form are provided to the applicant. The information submitted is used to determine whether the applicant has both a complete and sufficient plan for developing and marketing the invention and the necessary manufacturing, marketing, technical and financial resources to carry out the submitted plan.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 3 hours per response.

Description of Respondents: Businesses or other for profit individuals.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 150.

Frequency of Responses: One time per invention.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 450 hours.

Copies of this information collection and related instructions can be obtained without charge from June Blalock, USDA, ARS, Office of Technology Transfer by calling 301-504-5989.

Comments

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, such as through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to: June Blalock, USDA, ARS, Office of Technology Transfer, Room 415, Bldg. 005, BARC-West, Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2350. 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.

Richard M. Parry, Jr.,
Assistant Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-13770 Filed 5-21-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 98-039-1]

Notice of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Extension of approval of an information collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's intention to request an extension of approval of an information collection in support of the regulations for the importation of logs, lumber, and other unmanufactured wood articles.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by July 21, 1998 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Send comments regarding the accuracy of burden estimate, ways to minimize the burden (such as through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology), or any other aspect of this collection of information to: Docket No. 98-039-1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, suite 3C03, 4700 River Road, Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please send an original and three copies, and state that your comments refer to Docket No. 98-039-1. Comments received may be inspected at USDA, room 1141, South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons wishing to inspect comments are requested to call ahead on (202) 690-2817 to facilitate entry into the comment reading room.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information regarding the regulations for the importation of logs, lumber, and other unmanufactured wood articles, contact Mr. Ronald C. Campbell, Staff Officer, Phytosanitary Issues Management, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road, Unit 139, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236, (301) 734-6799. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Ms. Cheryl Groves, APHIS, Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 734-5086.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Foreign Quarantine Notices, Logs and Lumber.

OMB Number: 0579-0119.

Expiration Date of Approval: September 30, 1998.