

# 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

June 26, 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, 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), Washington, DC 20503 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) 720-6746.

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.

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

*Title:* 7 CFR 319, 321, 352—Foreign Quarantine Notices.

*OMB Control Number:* 0579-0049  
*Summary of Collection:* The United States Department of Agriculture is responsible for preventing plant diseases or insect pests from entering the United States. The Plant Quarantine Act and the Federal Plant Pest Act authorize the Department to carry out this mission. Section 1 of the Plant Quarantine Act (7 U.S.C. 154) requires the Secretary of Agriculture to issue a permit for the importation into the United States of any nursery stock, and to prescribe conditions and regulations for issuing these permits. Section 5 of the Plant Quarantine Act (7 U.S.C. 159) authorizes the Secretary to determine whether the unrestricted importation of any plants, fruits, vegetables, roots, bulbs, seeds or other plant products not included by the term "nursery stock" will result in the introduction of plant diseases or insect pest into the United States, and to then specify which of these products will be subject to the provisions of Section 1 of the Plant Quarantine Act. Implementing the laws is necessary in order to prevent injurious plant and insect pests from entering the United States, a situation that could produce serious consequences for Agriculture. Accordingly, the Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service (APHIS) uses a number of forms and documents to collect information on planned importations of plants, fruits, vegetables and/or plant products to the United States.

*Need and Use of the Information:* APHIS is required to collect information from a variety to individuals, both within and outside of the United States, who are involved in growing, packing, handling, transporting, and importing foreign plants, fruits, vegetables, roots, bulbs, seeds, and other plant products. The information that APHIS collects is vital to helping ensure that these products do not harbor plant or insect pests.

*Description of Respondents:* Business or other for-profit; Individual or households; Not-for-profit institutions; Farms; State, Local or Tribal Government.

*Number of Respondents:* 53,271.  
*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 88,232.

### Assistant Secretary for Administration, Office of Civil Rights

*Title:* Collection of Information on Women in Agriculture.

*OMB Control Number:* 0508-NEW.

*Summary of Collection:* USDA's Office of Civil Rights, Accountability Division was formed and assigned responsibility for collecting data and measuring USDA's program delivery, procurement, export, and business development activities to women. The Accountability Division is seeking approval of an information collection to survey participants at the Second International Conference on Women in Agriculture to gather demographic data on women in agriculture and, more specifically, information on customer satisfaction with USDA programs and services. The conference will be held in Washington, D.C. June 28-July 2.

*Need and Use of the Information:* The information will be collected through an automated survey using computer workstations positioned at various sites throughout the conference facility. The information will be used by USDA's Office of Civil Rights to:

- Identify issues and/or barriers regarding program or service delivery,
- Establish baseline data/information related to program performance and customer service,
- Provide potential solutions to barriers in program and/or service delivery,
- Identify serious issues that would merit a compliance or further review by the Office of Civil Rights.

*Description of Respondents:* Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; Farms; State, Local, or Tribal Government.

*Number of Respondents:* 1,300.  
*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: Annually.

*Total Burden Hours:* 221.

Emergency approval for this information collection has been requested by June 26, 1998.

### Food and Nutrition Service

*Title:* Annual Report of State Revenue Matching.

*OMB Control Number:* 0584-0075.

*Summary of Collection:* The National School Lunch Program, administered by

the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), is mandated by the National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. 1751 and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 U.S.C. 1771. Under the program, States are required to match 30 percent (or a lesser percent based on per capita income) of the Federal funds made available for the School Lunch Program. Annually, the State agencies are required to report to FNS, the total funds used in order to receive Federal reimbursement for meals served to eligible participants using form FNS-13.

**Need and Use of the Information:** The information collected allows FNS to monitor State compliance with the revenue matching requirement. Without this information, States may receive Federal funds which are not warranted. Monitoring the matching of State funds is essential to preventing fraud, waste, or abuse in the National School Lunch Program.

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

**Number of Respondents:** 57.

**Frequency of Responses:** Reporting: Annually.

**Total Burden Hours:** 4,560.

#### **National Agricultural Statistics Service**

**Title:** Cold Storage.

**OMB Control Number:** 0535-0001.

**Summary of Collection:** Providing information on national supplies of food in refrigerated storage facilities has been the responsibility of the Department of Agriculture since 1914. This service is the outcome of an investigation made by the Department in 1911, in response to allegations that food warehouses were being used by food speculators to "corner-the-market" and drive up prices paid by consumers. NASS will collect information using a biennial survey of refrigerated warehouses to provide a benchmark of the capacity available for refrigerated storage of the nation's food supply.

**Need and Use of the Information:** NASS collects information from the Cold Storage Report that includes inventory statistics for approximately 100 food items held in public, private, and semi-private refrigerated warehouses. The stock figures in the Cold Storage Report are used by food processors, food brokers, and farmers in making production, marketing, and pricing decisions.

**Description of Respondents:** Business or other for-profit.

**Number of Respondents:** 3,195.

**Frequency of Responses:** Reporting: Monthly; Biannually; Other (8 times/years).

**Total Burden Hours:** 4,505.

#### **Farm Service Agency**

**Title:** Insured Farm Ownership Loan Policies, Procedures, and Authorizations.

**OMB Control Number:** 0560-0157.

**Summary of Collection:** The Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act of 1972, authorizes the Secretary and the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to make direct farm ownership (FO) loans to eligible applicants who are unable to obtain commercial credit. The collection of information is needed to process applicant requests for FSA FO loans in a timely manner while maintaining the highest lending standards possible to protect the interests of the government. The purpose of FSA's direct FO program is to help family farmers become financially successful. FSA has various tools to assist family farmers including low interest rates, flexible repayment terms, and individualized credit supervision and counseling.

**Need and Use of the Information:** The collection of information is used by FSA employees to ensure that loans involving the purchase of real estate are properly documented and secured. This protects the interests of both the farm borrower and the Government.

**Description of Respondents:** Individuals or households; Farms.

**Number of Respondents:** 160.

**Frequency of Responses:** Reporting: On occasion.

**Total Burden Hours:** 53.3.

#### **Food and Nutrition Service**

**Title:** Repayment Demand and Program Disqualification.

**OMB Control Number:** 0584-NEW.

**Summary of Collection:** In conjunction with the Food Stamp Act of 1977, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) implements regulations that provide requirements for food stamp household application, certification, and continued eligibility for food stamp benefits. Occasionally, FNS must initiate collection action for repayment of overissued benefits resulting from inadvertent household and State agency overissuances, and overissuances due to intentional program violations. Information is collected in these instances through the appropriate State agency to document the claim of overissuance and initiate repayment.

**Need and Use of the Information:** The information will be collected by State agency personnel from individuals collecting food stamp benefits. The State agencies must maintain all records associated with this collection for a period of three years so that FNS can review documentation during

compliance reviews and other audits. Without approval of this information collection, FNS would not be able to correct accidental or fraudulent overpayment errors in the Food Stamp Program.

**Description of Respondents:** Individuals or households; State, Local, or Tribal Government.

**Number of Respondents:** 43,810.

**Frequency of Responses:** Recordkeeping; Reporting: On occasion.

**Total Burden Hours:** 185,474.

#### **Rural Housing Service**

**Title:** 7 CFR 1806-A, "Real Property Insurance".

**OMB Control Number:** 0575-0087.

**Summary of Collection:** Rural Housing Service (RHS) Multi-Family Housing (MFH) program is administered under the provisions of the Housing Act of 1949 and Sections 303(c), and 321(b) of the consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (CONTACT). This regulation is currently shared by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and the MFH of the RHS. The regulation governs the servicing of property insurance on buildings and land securing and interest of RHS or FSA in connection with an FSA Farm Loan Program or RHS MFH loan. The information collected pertains to the verification of insurance on property securing Agency loans. The information required is submitted by FSA or RHS borrowers to agency offices. It is necessary to protect the government from losses due to weather, natural disasters, or fire and ensure that the Act's loan making requirements of hazards insurance are met by loan applicants.

**Need and Use of the Information:** RHS MFH collects information from borrowers documenting that they have sufficient insurance on their property that would repair or replace the valuable structures on the property should it be damaged. This protects the Government from losses due to weather, natural disasters or fire.

**Description of Respondents:** Individuals or households; Farms; Business or other for-profit.

**Number of Respondents:** 20,386.

**Frequency of Responses:** Reporting: Annually.

**Total Burden Hours:** 12,562.

**Nancy Sternberg,**

*Departmental Information Clearance Officer.*  
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