

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

Natural Resources Conservation Division; Notice of Proposed Changes to Section IV of the Oregon Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG)

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), U.S. Department of Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice of availability of proposed changes in the Oregon NRCS Field Office Technical Guide for review and comment.

SUMMARY: It is the intention of NRCS in Oregon to issue revised conservation practice standards in section IV of the FOTG. The revised standards include: 342, Critical Area Planting; 484, Mulching; 595, Pest Management; 633, Waste Utilization.

DATES: Comments will be received for a 30-day period commencing with the date of this publication.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Inquire in writing to Russell Hatz, Leader for Technology, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), 101 SW Main, Suite 1300, Portland, OR 97204; telephone number (503) 414-3235; fax number (503) 414-3103. Copies of these standards will be made available upon written request to the address shown above. You may submit electronic requests and comments to russ.hatz@or.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 343 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 states that revisions made after enactment of the law, to NRCS State technical guides used to carry out highly erodible land and wetland provisions of the law, shall be made available for public review and comment. For the next 30 days, the NRCS in Oregon will receive comments relative to the proposed changes. Following that period, a determination will be made by the NRCS in Oregon

regarding disposition of those comments and a final determination of change will be made.

Dated: July 14, 2003.

Bob Graham,

State Conservationist.

[FR Doc. 03-18346 Filed 7-17-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Docket No. FV03-930-4NC]

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

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), this notice announces the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) intention to request an extension for and revision to a currently approved information collection for Tart Cherries Grown in the States of Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wisconsin, Marketing Order No. 930.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by September 16, 2003.

Additional Information or Comments: Contact Valerie L. Emmer-Scott, Marketing Specialist, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 0237, Washington, DC 20250-0237; Tel: (202) 205-2829, Fax: (202) 720-8938, or E-mail: moab.docketclerk@usda.gov.

Small businesses may request information on this notice by contacting Jay Guerber, Regulatory Fairness Representative, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 0237, Washington, DC 20250-0237; Telephone: (202) 720-2491; Fax: (202) 720-8938, or E-mail: jay.guerber@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Tart Cherries Grown in the States of Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Utah,

Washington and Wisconsin, Marketing Order No. 930.

OMB Number: 0581-0177.

Expiration Date of Approval: February 29, 2004.

Type of Request: Extension and revision of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: Marketing order programs provide an opportunity for producers of fresh fruits, vegetables and specialty crops, in a specified production area, to work together to solve marketing problems that cannot be solved individually. Order regulations help ensure adequate supplies of high quality product and adequate returns to producers. Under the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 (AMAA), as amended (7 U.S.C. 601-674) industries enter into marketing order programs. The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to oversee the order operations and issue regulations recommended by a committee of representatives from each commodity industry.

The information collection requirements in this request are essential to carry out the intent of the AMAA, and to administer the program, which has operated since 1996.

The tart cherry marketing order regulates the handling of tart cherries in the states of Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin, hereinafter referred to as the "order." The order authorizes volume regulations that provide for a reserve pool in times of heavy cherry supplies. Other major marketing order provisions not currently in use include minimum grade and size regulations and authorization for market research and development projects, including paid advertising.

The order, and rules and regulations issued thereunder, authorize the Cherry Industry Administrative Board (Board), the agency responsible for local administration of the order, to require handlers and growers to submit certain information. Much of this information is compiled in aggregate and provided to the industry to assist in carrying out marketing decisions.

The Board has developed forms as a means for persons to file required information with the Board relating to tart cherry inventories, shipments, diversions, and other information needed to effectively carry out the

requirements of the order, and their use is necessary to fulfill the intent of the AMAA. Since this order regulates canned and frozen forms of tart cherries, reporting requirements will be in effect all year. A USDA form is used to allow growers to vote on amendments or continuance of the marketing order. In addition, tart cherry growers and handlers who are nominated by their peers to serve as representatives on the Board must file nomination forms with the Secretary. Formal rulemaking amendments to the order must be approved in grower referenda conducted by the Secretary. In addition, USDA may conduct a referendum to determine industry support for continuation of the order. Finally, handlers are asked to sign an agreement to indicate their willingness to comply with the provisions of the order if the order is amended. These forms are included in this request.

The forms covered under this information collection require the minimum information necessary to effectively carry out the requirements of the order, and their use is necessary to fulfill the intent of the AMAA as expressed in the order, and the rules and regulations issued under the order.

The information collected is used only by authorized representatives of the USDA, including AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs' regional and headquarter's staff, and authorized employees of the Board. Authorized Board employees and the industry are the primary users of the information, and AMS is the secondary user.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .183 hours per response.

Respondents: Tart cherry growers and for-profit businesses handling fresh and processed tart cherries produced in Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 943.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 4.93.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 852 hours.

Comments: Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of the 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 the burden of the proposed collection of information 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 should reference OMB No. 0581-0177 and the Tart Cherry Marketing Order No. 930, and be mailed to Docket Clerk, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0237; Telephone: (202) 205-2829; Fax: (202) 720-8938; or E-mail:

moab.docketclerk@usda.gov. Comments should reference the docket number and the date and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register**. All comments received will be available for public inspection in the Office of the Docket Clerk during regular USDA business hours at 14th and Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC, room 2525-S.

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.

Dated: July 14, 2003.

Kenneth C. Clayton,

Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 03-18193 Filed 7-17-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commodity Credit Corporation

Announcement of the Quality Samples Program

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commodity Credit Corporation is extending the time for submission of proposals for the Fiscal Year 2003 Quality Samples Program.

DATES: Proposals will be accepted until 5 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, August 18, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marketing Operations Staff, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 4932-S, STOP 1042, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250-1042, (202) 720-4327.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Introduction

On January 17, 2003, the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) announced in the **Federal Register** (68 FR 2487) that

proposals were being accepted for participation in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2003 Quality Samples Program (QSP). Based on its review of the proposals, CCC allocated approximately \$1.4 million in funding in July 2003. Because approximately \$1.1 million of the FY 2003 funds remain unallocated, CCC announces that it is extending the time period for submission of proposals to participate in the FY 2003 QSP.

The QSP is designed to encourage the development and expansion of export markets for U.S. agricultural commodities by assisting U.S. entities in providing commodity samples to potential foreign importers to promote a better understanding and appreciation for the high quality of U.S. agricultural commodities. All proposals will be reviewed against the evaluation criteria contained herein and funds will be awarded on a competitive basis. Financial assistance will be made available on a reimbursement basis. The QSP is administered by the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS).

Under the QSP, CCC enters into agreements with those entities whose proposals have been accepted. The QSP agreement between CCC and the participant will include the maximum amount of CCC funds that may be used to reimburse specific activity costs that have been approved by CCC and paid by the QSP participant. QSP participants will be responsible for procuring (or arranging for the procurement of) commodity samples, exporting the samples, and providing the technical assistance necessary to facilitate successful use of the samples by importers. Participants that are funded under this announcement may seek reimbursement for the sample purchase price and the costs of transporting the samples domestically to the port of export and then to the foreign port of entry. Transportation costs from the foreign port, or point of entry to the final destination will not be eligible for reimbursement. CCC will not reimburse the costs incidental to purchasing and transporting samples, for example, inspection or documentation fees. Although providing technical assistance is required for all projects, CCC will not reimburse the costs of providing technical assistance. A QSP participant will be reimbursed after CCC reviews its reimbursement claim and determines that the claim is complete.

QSP agreements are subject to review and verification by the Foreign Agricultural Service's Compliance Review Staff. Upon request, a QSP participant shall provide to CCC the original documents which support the participant's reimbursement claims.