

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 64, No. 73

Friday, April 16, 1999

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

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Docket No. FV99-929-1NC]

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 Cranberries Grown in the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington, and Long Island in the State of New York, Marketing Order No. 929.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by June 15, 1999.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Contact Valerie L. Emmer-Scott, Marketing Specialist, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, room 2525-S., P.O. Box 96456, Washington, DC 20090-6456; Tel: (202) 205-2829, Fax: (202) 720-5698, or E-mail: moabdocket_clerk@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Cranberries Grown in the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington, and Long Island in the State of New York, Marketing Order No. 929.

OMB Number: 0581-0103.

Expiration Date of Approval: December 31, 1999.

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, to provide the respondents the type of service they request, and to administer the program, which has operated since 1962.

The cranberry marketing order regulates the handling of cranberries grown in the states of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington, and Long Island in the State of New York, hereinafter referred to as the "order." The order authorizes the issuance of allotment provisions for producers and regulates the quantities of cranberries handled. The order also has research and development authority.

The order, and rules and regulations issued thereunder, authorize the Cranberry Marketing Committee (Committee), the agency responsible for local administration of the order, to require handlers and producers to submit certain information. Much of this information is compiled in aggregate and provided to the industry to assist in marketing decisions.

The Committee has developed forms as a means for persons to file required information with the Committee relating to cranberry supplies, shipments, dispositions, and other information needed to effectively carry out the purpose of the AMAA and order. As shipments of cranberries are normally year-round, these forms are utilized accordingly. A USDA form is used to

allow growers to vote on amendments or continuance of the marketing order. In addition, cranberry growers who are nominated by their peers to serve as representatives on the Committee must file nomination forms with the Secretary.

Formal rulemaking amendments to the order must be approved in referendum conducted by the Secretary. Also, the Secretary may conduct a continuance referendum to determine industry support for continuation of the order. Handlers are asked to sign an agreement to indicate their willingness to abide by the provisions of the order whenever 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 Committee. Authorized Committee 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 0.4173 hours per response.

Respondents: Cranberry growers and handlers in the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington, and Long Island in the State of New York.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,306

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 2.398

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 902 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. 0581-0103 and the Cranberry Marketing Order No. 929, and be mailed to Docket Clerk, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, P.O. Box 96456, Room 2525-S, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456; Fax (202) 720-5698; or E-mail: moabdocket_clerk@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., S.W., Washington, D.C., 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: April 9, 1999.

Robert C. Keeney,

Deputy Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs.

[FR Doc. 99-9516 Filed 4-15-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 99-031-1]

Wildlife Services; Availability of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public that the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has prepared an environmental assessment and a finding of no significant impact for a program to alleviate damage to agriculture, property, natural resources, and human health or safety caused by nonmigratory Canada geese, migratory Canada geese, and urban ducks in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The environmental assessment provides a basis for our conclusion that the methods to be employed to alleviate such damage will not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact are available for public inspection 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 those documents are requested to call ahead on (202) 690-2817 to facilitate entry into the reading room.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Martin Lowney, State Director, Wildlife Services, APHIS, P.O. Box 130, Moseley, VA 23120. Copies of the environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact may be obtained by contacting Mr. Lowney at the above address or by calling (804) 739-7739.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Wildlife Services of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service cooperates with Federal agencies, State and local governments, and private individuals to research and implement the best methods of managing wildlife to protect human health and safety and prevent damage to agriculture, property, and natural resources.

In this document, APHIS is advising the public of the availability of an environmental assessment relative to the management by Wildlife Services of conflicts and damage caused by nonmigratory Canada geese, migratory Canada geese, and urban ducks in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The habitat preference, breeding and feeding behavior, and adaptability of nonmigratory Canada geese, migratory Canada geese, and urban ducks can involve conflicts with humans and affect human health and safety in a number of ways, including the following: by contaminating surface water and ground cover with fecal matter, causing damage to aircraft and other means of transportation as a result of collisions, and causing injury to approaching humans, especially children, through aggressive action. The environmental assessment examines the environmental impacts of Wildlife Services activities to manage such conflicts and damage and provides a basis for our conclusion that the methods to be employed to alleviate such damage will not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.

The environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact have been prepared in accordance with: (1) The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (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).

Done in Washington, DC, this 13th day of April 1999.

Joan M. Arnoldi,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 99-9523 Filed 4-15-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commodity Credit Corporation

Types and Quantities of Agricultural Commodities Available for Donation Overseas Under Section 416(b) of the Agricultural Act of 1949, as Amended, in Fiscal Year 1999

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On March 19, 1999, the President, Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), determined that 350,000 metric tons of corn be made available for donation overseas under section 416(b) of the Agricultural Act of 1949, as amended, during fiscal year 1999. This determination increases the amount of corn available for donation overseas under section 416(b) during fiscal year 1999 to 400,000 metric tons.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ira Branson, Director, CCC Program Support Division, FAS, USDA, (202) 720-3573.

Dated: March 17, 1999.

Timothy J. Galvin,

Acting Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation.

[FR Doc. 99-9517 Filed 4-15-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Risk Management Agency

Risk Management Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to establish; extension of date to submit nominations and comments.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) extends the date for accepting nominations of individuals to be considered for selection as