

Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250;
Telephone (202) 205-7760.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Codex was established in 1962 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organization. Codex is the principal international organization for encouraging fair international trade in food and protecting the health and economic interests of consumers. Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, Codex seeks to ensure that the world's food supply is sound, wholesome, free from adulteration, and correctly labeled. Codex meets biennially. The Executive Committee serves as the executive body of Codex between meetings.

Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following items will be discussed during the public meeting on June 2, 1999.

1. Election of Officers of the Commission and Appointment of Regional Coordinators.
2. Reports on the Forty-fifth and Forty-sixth Sessions of the Executive Committee. (These include proposals to the Commission regarding the general orientation and program of work of the Commission.)
3. Report of the financial situation of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme for 1998/99 and 2000/01.
4. Consideration of the Draft Medium-term Plan for 1998 to 2002. (This plan identifies work to be conducted by the Commission by program area and describes the medium-term objectives of that work.)
5. Consumers' involvement in the work of the Commission.
6. Principles of Risk Analysis.
7. Consideration of Amendments to the Procedure Manual of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. (These are matters that pertain to the operations of the Commission.)
8. Consideration of Draft Standards and Related Texts. (These are items being considered at Step 5 or Step 8 of the Codex Procedure for the elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts.)
9. Consideration of Proposals to Elaborate New Standards and/or Related Texts.
10. Matters Arising from Reports of Codex Committees.
11. Designation of Host Governments for Codex Committees.

Public Meeting

The public meeting is scheduled for June 2, 1999, in Room 107A, Jamie L. Whitten Building, 12th Street and Jefferson Drive, SW, Washington, DC. Attendees will hear brief descriptions of the issues and proposed U.S. positions, and will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Comments also may be sent to the FSIS Docket Room (see **ADDRESSES**). Please state that your comments relate to Codex activities and specify which issues your comments address.

Done at Washington, DC on May 17, 1999.

F. Edward Scarbrough,

U.S. Manager for Codex.

[FR Doc. 99-12881 Filed 5-21-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Notice of Intent To Seek Approval To Conduct an Information Collection

AGENCY: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. No. 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 intent of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) to request approval for a new information collection, the Fruit and Vegetable Agricultural Practices Survey.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by July 28, 1999, to be assured of consideration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Contact Rich Allen, Associate Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 4117, South Building, Washington, DC 20250-2000, (202) 720-4333.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Fruit and Vegetable Agricultural Practices Survey.

Type of Request: Intent to Seek Approval to Conduct a new Information Collection.

Abstract: The Fruit and Vegetable Agricultural Practices Survey will be conducted in 14 states. States included in the survey are Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas,

Washington, and Wisconsin. This survey is in compliance with President Clinton's October 1997 directive entitled "Initiative to Ensure the Safety of Imported and Domestic Fruits and Vegetables." The purpose of the survey is to analyze data on agricultural practices related to microbial food safety. Data on sources of microbial contamination on produce, including water; manure; worker, field and facility sanitation; and crop identification systems will be collected.

NASS conducted a pilot Agricultural Practices Survey in California and New York during the spring of 1999. The purpose of the pilot was to test survey procedures and questionnaire design and to analyze survey results in preparation for the 14-state survey.

NASS will summarize the 14-state survey data and publish estimates of frequency of operations carrying out basic agricultural practices. Summarized data will be made available to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). FDA will use the data to analyze current agricultural practices and to develop a baseline to evaluate changes in agricultural practices. USDA will use the data to develop educational outreach materials for growers and packers. These data will be collected under the authority of 7 U.S.C. 2204(a). Individually identifiable data collected under this authority are governed by Section 1770 of the Food Security Act of 1985, 7 U.S.C. 2276, which requires USDA to afford strict confidentiality to non-aggregated data provided by respondents.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 60 minutes per response.

Respondents: Fruit and vegetable growers and fruit and vegetable packinghouses.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 13,000.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 13,000 hours.

Copies of this information collection and related instructions can be obtained without charge from Larry Gambrell, the Agency OMB Clearance Officer, at (202) 720-5778.

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, 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: Larry Gambrell, Agency OMB Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 4162, South Building, Washington, DC 20250-2000.

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., May 12, 1999.

Rich Allen,

Associate Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

[FR Doc. 99-12972 Filed 5-21-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-20-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Notice of Intent to Extend and Revise a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: National Agricultural Statistics 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 National Agricultural Statistics Service's (NASS) intention to request an extension for and revision to a currently approved information collection, the Floriculture and Nursery Surveys.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received July 28, 1999 to be assured of consideration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Contact Rich Allen, Associate Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 4117 South Building, Washington, DC 20250-2000, (202) 720-4333.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Floriculture and Nursery Surveys.

OMB Number: 0535-0093.

Expiration Date of Approval: December 31, 1999.

Type of Request: Intent to extend and revise a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The primary objective of the National Agricultural Statistics Service is to prepare and issue State and national estimates of crop and livestock production. The Floriculture and Nursery Surveys obtain basic agricultural statistics on production and value of floriculture and nursery products. These statistics are used by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to help administer programs and by growers and marketers in making production and marketing decisions. These data are collected under the authority of 7 U.S.C. 2204(a). Individually identifiable data collected under this authority are governed by section 1770 of the Food Security Act of 1985, 7 U.S.C. 2276, which requires USDA to afford strict confidentiality to no-aggregated data provided by respondents.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response.

Respondents: Farms and businesses.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 19,450.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 9,700 hours.

Copies of this information collection and related instructions can be obtained without charge from Larry Gambrell, the Agency OMB Clearance Officer, at (202) 720-5778.

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, 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: Larry Gambrell, Agency OMB Clearance Officer, US Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 4162 South Building, Washington DC 20250-2000. 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 DC, April 29, 1999.

Rich Allen,

Associate Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

[FR Doc. 99-12973 Filed 5-21-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-20-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

DOC has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

Agency: Bureau of the Census.

Title: Current Population Survey—Basic Demographic Items.

Form Number(s): CPS-263, -264, -1428, -1433.

Agency Approval Number: 0607-0049.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Burden: 15,168 hours.

Number of Respondents: 48,000/month.

Avg Hours Per Response: 1.58 minutes.

Needs and Uses: The Current Population Survey (CPS) is a monthly survey conducted in approximately 48,000 households throughout the United States. The Bureau of the Census and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) jointly sponsor the survey. Data on demographic and labor force characteristics are collected from a sample of households which represent the U.S. population. Households remain in the sample for 16 months and are interviewed 8 times over that period. The basic CPS monthly questionnaire is periodically supplemented with additional questions which address specific needs and are separately submitted for clearance. The Bureau of the Census sponsors the demographic questions and uses the data along with the BLS as demographic descriptors for the various supplements and the basic labor force data. The BLS sponsors, and will request separate clearance for, the labor force questions contained in the CPS. BLS uses this data in their monthly calculations of employment and unemployment.

This request is for clearance of basic demographic items such as age, marital status, gender, Armed Forces status, education, race, origin, family income, and country of birth. These basic