

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

Office of the Secretary

Commission on 21st Century Production Agriculture

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has established the Commission on 21st Century Production Agriculture. In accordance with Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), notice is hereby given of a meeting in April of the Commission on 21st Century Production Agriculture. The purpose of this meeting on April 10 will be to address issues regarding dairy policy. On April 11–12, coordination of and issues regarding the final report will be discussed. This meeting is open to the public.

PLACE, DATE, AND TIME OF MEETING: This meeting will be held April 10, 2000 from 1:00 pm–5:00 pm EST in Room 108–A, Whitten Building; April 11, 2000 from 9:00 am–5:00 pm EST in Room 108–A, Whitten Building; April 12, 2000 from 9:00 am–3:00 pm EST in Room 108–A, Whitten Building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mickey Paggi on (202–720–3139), Director, Commission on 21st Century Production Agriculture, Room 3702 South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250–0524.

Keith J. Collins,
Chief Economist.

[FR Doc. 00–7036 Filed 3–21–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 00–018–1]

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 Karnal bunt regulations.

DATES: We invite you to comment on this docket. We will consider all comments that we receive by May 22, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Please send your comment and three copies to: Docket No. 00–018–1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Suite 3C03, 4700 River Road, Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737–1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. 00–018–1.

You may read any comments that we receive on this docket in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 690–2817 before coming.

APHIS documents published in the **Federal Register**, and related information, including the names of organizations and individuals who have commented on APHIS dockets, are available on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/webrepor.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information regarding the Karnal bunt regulations, contact Dr. Vedpal S. Malik, National Karnal Bunt Coordinator, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 134, Riverdale, MD 20737–1236; (301) 734–6774. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Ms. Celeste Sickles,

APHIS' Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 734–7477.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Karnal Bunt.

OMB Number: 0579–0121.

Expiration Date of Approval: April 30, 2000.

Type of Request: Extension of approval of an information collection.

Abstract: We have regulations in place to prevent the interstate spread of Karnal bunt, a fungal disease of wheat. These regulations restrict the interstate movement of wheat plants and plant parts (including grain, seed, and straw) from areas where Karnal bunt has been detected. The regulations concerning interstate movements require the use of limited permits, certificates, compliance agreements, and other documents that are needed to inform the public of our requirements and authorize the interstate movement of regulated articles.

In addition, our regulations have offered compensation as part of our Karnal bunt regulatory program since the 1995–1996 crop season. We pay this compensation to reduce the economic effects of our Karnal bunt quarantine on wheat producers and other individuals and to help obtain their cooperation in our Karnal bunt eradication efforts. Our regulations regarding compensation require program participants to engage in several information collection activities (including the completion of a Karnal bunt compensation worksheet and compensation form) that are necessary for us to run an effective compensation program.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve, for an additional 3 years, our use of these information collections in connection with our regulations.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning this information collection activity. We need this outside input to help us:

(1) Evaluate whether the information collection is necessary for the proper performance of our Agency's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the information collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the information collection 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, *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses).

Estimate of burden: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .1818 hours per response.

Respondents: Wheat growers, handlers, owners of grain storage facilities, flour millers, seed companies, and Farm Service Administration personnel.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 1,261.

Estimated annual number of responses per respondent: 9.26407.

Estimated annual number of responses: 11,682.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 2,124 hours. (Due to rounding, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the average reporting burden per response.)

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.

Done in Washington, DC, this 16th day of March 2000.

Bobby R. Acord,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 00-7015 Filed 3-21-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commodity Credit Corporation

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

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Commodity Credit Corporation's (CCC) intention to request an extension for and revision to currently approved information collections in support of the CCC's Export Enhancement Program (EEP) and the CCC's Dairy Export Incentive Program (DEIP) based on re-estimates.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by May 22, 2000, to be assured of consideration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS:

Contact Merle Brown, Director, Program Administration Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, AgBox 1031, Washington, DC 20250-1031, telephone (202) 720-3573. Persons with disabilities who require an alternative means for communication of information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Title: CCC's Export Enhancement Program (EEP) and CCC's Dairy Export Incentive Program (DEIP).

OMB Numbers: 0551-0028 (EEP) and 0551-0029 (DEIP). These will be combined into OMB Number 0551-0028 if this request is approved.

Expiration Date of Approval: July 31, 2000.

Type of Request: Extension and revision of currently approved information collections, with change to combine 0551-0028 (CCC's Export Enhancement Program) and 0551-0029 (CCC's Dairy Export Incentive Program).

Abstract: The major objective of the EEP and DEIP is to expand U.S. agricultural exports by paying cash to exporters as bonuses, allowing them to sell U.S. agricultural products in targeted countries at competitive prices. Currently, 120 countries and 3 country regions are targeted export destinations and 820 exporters are eligible to participate under either or both programs. Under 7 CFR part 1494, exporters are required to submit the following: (1) information required for program participation (section 1494.301), (2) performance security (section 1494.401), (3) export sales information in connection with applying for a CCC bonus (section 1494.501), and (4) evidence of export and related information (section 1494.701). In addition, each exporter must maintain accurate records showing sales and deliveries of the eligible commodity exported in connection with an agreement made under the EEP or DEIP as outlined in section 1494.1001. The information collected is used by CCC to manage, plan for, evaluate the use of, and account for Government resources. The reports and records are required to ensure the proper and judicious use of public funds.

Estimate of Burden: The public reporting burden for these collections is estimated to average 0.45 hours per response.

Respondents: Exporters of U.S. agricultural commodities, banks or other

financial institutions, producer associations, export trade associations, and U.S. Government agencies.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 40 per annum.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 90 per annum.

Estimated Total Annual Burden of Responses: 1,636 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Kimberly Chisley, the Agency Information Collection Coordinator, at (202) 720-2568.

Requests for Comments

Send comments regarding (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; (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 automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to Merle Brown, Director, Program Administration Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, AgBox 1031, Washington, DC 20250-1031, or to the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

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. on March 16, 2000.

Richard Fritz,

General Sales Manager, Foreign Agricultural Service, and Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation.

[FR Doc. 00-7038 Filed 3-21-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

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

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this