

Notices

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Thursday, March 31, 2005

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

Commodity Credit Corporation

Farm Service Agency Information Collection; Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation and Farm Service Agency, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) and the Farm Service Agency (FSA) are seeking comments from all interested individuals and organizations on the extension of an approved information collection associated with the acreage report for the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). This information collection is needed to administer the program.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received on or before May 31, 2005 to be assured consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: Comments must be addressed to Farm Service Agency, USDA, Attn: John Newcomer, Agriculture Program Specialist, NAPB/PECD, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0540. Comments may be also submitted by e-mail to: John.Newcomer@usda.gov. The comments must also be sent to the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. Comments must include the OMB number and title of the information collection.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Newcomer, Agriculture Program Specialist, (202) 720-6157 and John.Newcomer@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Description of Information Collection

Title: Report of Acreage for the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP).

OMB Number: 0560-0004.

Expiration Date: April 30, 2005.

Type of Request: Extension with revision.

Abstract: NAP provides financial assistance to producers who have suffered a production loss of an eligible crop or were prevented from planting an eligible crop as a result of natural disasters. Eligible crops are commercial crops or other agricultural commodities for which catastrophic risk protection under 7 U.S.C. 1508(b) is not available and that are produced for food or fiber; and includes floricultural, ornamental nursery, and Christmas tree crops, turfgrass sod, seed crops, aquaculture (including ornamental fish), sea grass and sea oats, and industrial crops. The information collected for the administration of NAP includes identities of the crops and commodities (including species, type, variety, etc.), practices, intended uses, planting patterns, and predominant species of forage vegetation (including intended method of harvest, i.e. mechanically harvested or grazed); dates crops were planted or planting was completed (including age of perennial crops); number of acres of each planting of the eligible crop in which the producer has a share in the administrative county; number of acres intended but prevented from being planted; zero acres planted when the crop for which a NAP application for coverage was filed, is not planted; and shares and identities of all producers sharing in the crop at the time a NAP application for coverage was filed. Finally, the information collected includes the FSA farm serial number or the location of commodities not necessarily associated with an FSA farm serial number such as colonies of bees for honey production (including the number of colonies belonging to the unit); ponds and waterbeds for production of aquaculture; ornamental nursery (including the size and origin, i.e. container or field grown, of plants belonging to the unit); mushroom facilities; turfgrass sod (including the average number of square yards per acre and all unharvested acres); and trees for maple sap production (including number of eligible trees, average size and age of producing trees, and total

number of taps placed or anticipated for the tapping season). NAP operates under the regulations at 7 CFR part 1437.

Respondents: Producers.

Estimated Annual Number of

Respondents: 437,250.

Estimated Annual Number of Forms per person: 1.5.

Estimated Average Time to Respond: 1.25 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 601,219.

Comments are invited regarding (1) 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; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden, including the validity of the methodology and assumption 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.

All comments received in response to this notice, including names and addresses when provided, will be a matter of public record. Comments will be summarized and included in the submission for OMB approval.

Signed in Washington, DC on March 25, 2005.

Thomas B. Hofeller,

Acting Administrator, Farm Service Agency and Executive Vice-President, Commodity Credit Corporation.

[FR Doc. 05-6360 Filed 3-30-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commodity Credit Corporation

Request for Revision and Extension 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 intention of the

Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) to request a revision and extension of a currently approved information collection. This collection is necessary to support the procurement of agricultural commodities for CCC's domestic and export food donation programs. CCC issues invitations to purchase or process commodities for food donation programs on a monthly, multi-month, quarterly, and yearly basis. Special invitations, however, are issued throughout the month.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received on or before May 31, 2005 to be assured consideration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Comments regarding this information collection requirement may be directed to Penny Carlson, Acting Chief, Planning and Analysis Division, Kansas City Commodity Office (KCCO), 6501 Beacon Drive, Kansas City, Missouri 64133-4676, telephone (816) 926-6509, fax (816) 926-1648; e-mail PKCARLSON@kcc.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Offer Forms.

OMB Number: 0560-0177.

Expiration Date: 9/30/2005.

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

Abstract: The United States donates agricultural commodities domestically and overseas to meet famine or other relief requirements, to combat malnutrition, and sells or donates commodities to promote economic development. CCC issues invitations to purchase or sell agricultural commodities and services or use in domestic and export programs. Vendors respond by making offers using various CCC commodity offer forms. The Export Offer forms and the KC-333, Annual Certification are prepared and received electronically through the Electronic Bid Entry System (EBES). Most of the Domestic Offer forms (KC-327) are prepared and received electronically through the Domestic Bid Entry System (DEBES) via the Internet. Vendors can access EBES or DEBES on-line to see the date/time the system shows for receipt of bid, bid modification, or bid cancellation. At bid opening date/time, the bids are system evaluated. Acceptance wires are sent to the successful offerors. Awarded contracts are posted on our Web site.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for collecting information under this notice is estimated to average 15-30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data

needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

Respondents: Business and other for profit organizations.

Respondents: 2,030.

Estimated Number of Annual Responses per Respondent: 36,333.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 6,356 hours.

Proposed topics for comment include: (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) enhancing the quality, utility and clarity of the information collected; or (d) minimizing the burden of the collection of the 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 be directed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for USDA, Washington, DC 20503, and to Penny Carlson, Acting Chief, Planning and Analysis Division, Kansas City Commodity Office, 9200 Ward Parkway, Kansas City, Missouri 64114, telephone (816) 926-6509, fax (816) 926-1648.

All comments will become a matter of public record.

Signed at Washington, DC, on March 25, 2005.

Thomas B. Hofeller,

Acting Executive Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation.

[FR Doc. 05-6362 Filed 3-30-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

Commodity Credit Corporation

Tree Assistance Program, Forest Timber Program, Pecan Tree Program; Notice of Fund Availability and Proposed Fund Availability

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation, Farm Service Agency, USDA.

ACTIONS: Notice of fund availability and proposed fund availability.

SUMMARY: This document announces assistance under the Farm Service Agency's Tree Assistance Program (TAP) regulations in 7 CFR part 783 as authorized by the Military Construction and Appropriations Act, 2005. The first

part of this notice announces the availability of assistance for claims under TAP related to Orchardists and Forest Land Owners. The second part proposes funding for special Tree Assistance Program benefits with respect to Pecan Tree Producers. The provisions in this notice for orchard and forest timber assistance are final. For pecan tree assistance, a period is allowed for comments since it is proposed that "other appropriate activities" allowed for assistance would only include those related to pruning and tree rehabilitation. This notice is intended to provide notice to those producers who may qualify for this assistance, and provide conditions for eligibility required by the Act under which it is funded.

DATES: 1. Comments: For special assistance for pecan tree producers, comments on this notice must be received by May 2, 2005.

2. Applications: Unless otherwise announced by the Farm Service Agency, orchard and forest land assistance applications may be submitted when available from the local Farm Service Agency office through April 14, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments concerning the provisions in this notice for special assistance for pecan tree producers. Comments should reference the volume, date and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register**. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

E-Mail: Send comments to:

Eloise.Taylor@usda.gov.

Fax: Submit comments by facsimile transmission to (202) 720-4941.

Mail: Send comments the on the special assistance for pecan tree producers provisions in this notice to Eloise Taylor, Chief, Compliance Branch, Production, Emergencies and Compliance Divisions, FSA/USDA, Stop 0517, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0517.

Hand Delivery or Courier: Deliver comments to 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0517, room 3645-S during normal business hours.

Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

All comments and supporting documents on this notice may be viewed by contacting the information contact listed below. All comments received, including names and addresses, will become a matter of public record.