

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

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Document No. AMS-SC-16-0027]

Notice of Request for 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 for an extension and revision of a currently approved information collection for Specialty Crops Market News Division. (This information collection was previously known as Fruit and Vegetable Market News Division. The Agency re-named the Division to Specialty Crops to more accurately reflect the range of commodities reported).

DATES: Comments must be received by August 1, 2016.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> or to Specialty Crops Market News Division, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 1529 South, Stop 0238, Washington, DC 20250-0238. Comments should make reference to the dates and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register** and will be made available for public inspection in the above office during regular business hours or at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Terry C. Long, Director; Specialty Crops Market News Division, (202) 720-2175, Fax: (202) 720-0011.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Specialty Crops Market News Division.

OMB Number: 0581-0006.

Expiration Date of Approval: December 31, 2016.

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

Abstract: Collection and dissemination of information for specialty crops production and to facilitate trading by providing a price base used by producers, wholesalers, and retailers to market product.

The Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621-1627), section 203(g) directs and authorizes the collection and dissemination of marketing information including adequate outlook information, on a market area basis, for the purpose of anticipating and meeting consumer requirements, aiding in the maintenance of farm income and to bring about a balance between production and utilization.

The specialty crops industry provides information on a voluntary basis that is gathered through confidential telephone and face-to-face interviews by market reporters. Reporters request supply, demand, and price information of over 330 fresh fruit, vegetable, nut, ornamental, and other specialty crops, such as honey. The information is collected, compiled, and disseminated by Specialty Crops Market News Division in its critical role as an impartial third party. It is collected and reported in a manner which protects the confidentiality of the respondent and their operations.

The Specialty Crops Market News Division reports are used by academia and various government agencies for regulatory and other purposes, but are primarily used by the specialty crops trade, which includes packers, processors, brokers, retailers, producers, and associated industries. Members of the specialty crops industry regularly make it clear that they need and expect the Department of Agriculture to issue price and supply market reports for commodities of regional, national and international significance in order to assist in making immediate production and marketing decisions and as a guide to the amount of product in the supply channel. In addition, the Agricultural Marketing Service buys hundreds of millions of dollars of specialty crops

products each year for domestic feeding programs, and Specialty Crops Market News Division data is a critical component of the decision making process.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .098 hours per response.

Respondents: Specialty crops industry, or other for-profit businesses, individuals or households, farms.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 4,359.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 197.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 84,155 hours.

Comments are invited on: (1) 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; (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.

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: May 27, 2016.

Elanor Starmer,
Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2016-12987 Filed 6-1-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

May 26, 2016.

The Department of Agriculture will submit the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995,

Public Law 104–13 on or after the date of publication of this notice. Comments are requested 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 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 should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC; New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20503. Commenters are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: *OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov* or fax (202) 395–5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250–7602.

Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received by July 5, 2016. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720–8681.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Agricultural Marketing Service

Title: Almonds Grown in California (7 CFR part 981).

OMB Control Number: 0581–0242.

Summary of Collection: Marketing Order No. 981 (7 CFR part 981) regulates the handling of almonds grown in California and emanates from the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, (Act) Secs. 1–19, 48 Stat. 31, as amended (7 U.S.C. 601–674) to provide the respondents the type of service they request, and to administer the California almond marketing order program. The board has developed forms as a means for persons to file required information with the board relating to the treatment

of almonds to reduce the potential for Salmonella bacteria prior to shipment.

Need and Use of the Information: Almond handlers are required to submit annual treatment plans to the board and inspection agency to ensure such plans are complete and auditable regarding how they plan to treat their almonds to reduce the potential for Salmonella. The plan will be approved by the Board and must address specific parameters for the handler to ship almonds. The Board also gathers information from entities interested in being almond process authorities that validate technologies, to accept and further process untreated almonds and entities interested in being auditors. The information collected would be used only by authorized representatives of USDA, including the Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs' regional and headquarters' staff, and authorized employees and agents of the board.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; Individuals.

Number of Respondents: 175.

Frequency of Responses: Recordkeeping; Reporting: Annually; On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 4,200.

Charlene Parker,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2016–12991 Filed 6–1–16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. No. AMS–LPS–16–0035]

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection for the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center

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 approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for an extension of a currently approved information collection 0581–0263: National Sheep Industry Improvement Center (NSIIC).

DATES: Comments must be received by August 1, 2016.

Additional Information or Comments: Interested persons are invited to submit comments concerning this information

collection document. Comments should be submitted online at www.regulations.gov. Comments received will be posted without change, including any personal information provided. All comments should reference docket number AMS–LPS–16–0035 and note the date of submission and the page number of this issue in the **Federal Register**. Comments may also be sent to Kenneth R. Payne, Director, Research and Promotion Division, Livestock, Poultry, and Seed Program, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 2610–S, STOP 0249, Washington, DC 20250–0249; or by telephone (202) 720–5705 or fax: (202) 720–1125. Comments will be made available for public inspection at the above address during regular business hours or via the Web site at www.regulations.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kenneth R. Payne, Research and Promotion Division, Livestock, Poultry, and Seed Program, AMS, USDA; 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 2610–S, STOP 0249, Washington, DC 20250–0249; or by telephone to (202) 720–5705 or fax to (202) 720–1125.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: National Sheep Industry Improvement Center.

OMB Number: 0581–0263.

Expiration Date of Approval: September 30, 2016.

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

Abstract: The information collection requirements in this request are essential to carry out the intent of the NSIIC. The NSIIC was initially authorized under the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (Act), whose primary objective was to assist the U.S. sheep industry by strengthening and enhancing the production and marketing of sheep and their products in the United States. The information collection requirements in the request are essential to carry out the intent of the enabling legislation. The Act, as amended, was passed as part of the 1996 Farm Bill (Pub. L. 104–127, 110 Stat. 888). The initial legislation included a provision that privatized the NSIIC 10 years after its ratification or once the full appropriation of \$50 million was disbursed. Subsequently, the NSIIC was privatized on September 30, 2006, and the NSIIC's office was closed in early 2007.

In 2008, the NSIIC was re-established under Title XI of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110–246), also known as the 2008 Farm Bill. The 2008 Farm Bill