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.

**Economic Research Service**

**Title:** Census of Users of the National Plant Germplasm System.

**OMB Control Number:** 0536–NEW.

**Summary of Collection:** The Census of Users of the National Plant Germplasm System (NPGS) is a new, one-time, data collection. The census will solicit data from the 6,009 institutional representatives who requested germplasm (i.e., living tissue from which plants can be grown) for any of ten crops including beans, barley, cotton, maize, sorghum, squash, soybeans, potato, rice, and wheat from the NPGS over a five year period from January 2009 to December 2013. Each respondent will be asked to provide information via a web-based questionnaire. The legal authority for the planned data collection is 7 U.S.C. 2204(a) and 7 U.S.C. 427.

**Need and Use of the Information:** The information to be collected by the “Census of Users of the National Plant Germplasm System” is necessary to assess and understand the types and varieties of germplasm needed by breeders and other scientists in both the public and private sectors. This study will provide data currently not available to program officials and researchers, thereby broadening the scope of analyses of genetic enhancement, and in turn, enhancing R&D and productivity research at the Economic Research Service, the National Plant Germplasm System, and the National Germplasm Resource Laboratory. Without the combination of data about traits sought and the purpose intended for germplasm, it will be difficult or impossible to assess the use of NPGS resources for adaptation to changing conditions.

**Description of Respondents:** Individuals or households; Businesses or other-for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; State, Local or Tribal Government; Federal Government.

**Number of Respondents:** 6,009.

**Frequency of Responses:** Reporting: Other: One time.