

burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques of other forms of information technology.

All responses to this document will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All responses will become a matter of public record, including any personal information provided.

Dated: September 18, 2017.

Bruce Summers,

Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2017-20184 Filed 9-21-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Research Service

Notice of Intent To Grant Exclusive License

AGENCY: Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, intends to grant to DVO, Inc. of Chilton, Wisconsin, an exclusive license to the Federal Government's rights in U.S. Patent No. 8,414,808, "Composite Components from Anaerobic Digested Fibrous Materials", issued on April 9, 2013.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before October 23, 2017.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to: Tom Moreland, Technology Transfer Coordinator, USDA Forest Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250 Mail Stop 2CE-021.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tom Moreland of the USDA Forest Service at the Washington, DC address given above; telephone: 443-677-6858; or email: twmoreland@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The patent rights in this invention are co-owned by the United States of America, as represented by the Secretary of Agriculture, and DVO, Inc. of Chilton, Wisconsin. The prospective exclusive license will grant to the co-owner, DVO, Inc., an exclusive license to the Federal Government's patent rights. It is in the public interest to so license this invention as DVO, Inc. has submitted a complete and sufficient application for a license. The prospective exclusive license will be royalty-bearing and will comply with the terms and conditions

of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. The prospective exclusive license may be granted unless, within thirty (30) days from the date of this published Notice, the Forest Service receives written evidence and argument which establishes that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7.

Mojdeh Bahar,

Assistant Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2017-20180 Filed 9-21-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Research Service

Notice of Intent To Grant Exclusive License

AGENCY: Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, intends to grant to Rainier Seeds, Inc. of Davenport, Washington, an exclusive license to the variety of crested wheatgrass described in Plant Variety Protection Application Number 201600403, 'USDA-FORAGECREST,' filed on September 4, 2016.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before October 23, 2017.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to: USDA, ARS, Office of Technology Transfer, 5601 Sunnyside Avenue, Rm. 4-1174, Beltsville, Maryland 20705-5131.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian T. Nakanishi of the Office of Technology Transfer at the Beltsville address given above; telephone: 301-504-5989.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Government's rights in this plant variety are assigned to the United States of America, as represented by the Secretary of Agriculture. It is in the public interest to so license this plant variety as Rainier Seeds, Inc. of Davenport, Washington has submitted a complete and sufficient application for a license. The prospective exclusive license will be royalty-bearing and will comply with the terms and conditions of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. The prospective exclusive license may be granted unless, within thirty (30) days from the date of this published Notice, the Agricultural Research Service receives written evidence and argument which establishes that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the

requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7.

Mojdeh Bahar,

Assistant Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2017-20175 Filed 9-21-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

September 19, 2017.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. 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.

Comments regarding this information collection received by October 23, 2017 will be considered. Written comments should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8958.

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.

Food and Nutrition Service

Title: Assessment of States' Use of Computer Matching Protocols in SNAP.
OMB Control Number: 0584-NEW.

Summary of Collection: This study is authorized under Section 3 of the

Improper Payments Information Act 2010 (31 U.S.C. 3301) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Disqualified Recipient Reporting and Computer Matching Requirements). State agencies are required to check for disqualified recipients in the Electronic Disqualified Recipient System, validate against a list of incarcerated people using the Social Security Administration's Prisoner Verification System, verify applicant employment data through the National Directory of New Hires and confirm an individual is not in the Social Security Administration's Death Master File. Additional program integrity tools and methods vary by State and can vary within States, particularly those that are decentralized and administer SNAP at the county level. Local offices may also conduct matches that vary from those used at the county or State level.

Need and Use of the Information: This study will help FNS update the nationwide inventory of State SNAP data-matching and improve SNAP computer-matching efforts across the nation to maximize efficiencies and minimize fraud and waste. State agencies administering SNAP use data matching to verify information submitted at the application and recertification stages of the application process and to monitor changes in benefit recipients' household circumstances. In order for USDA to make informed decisions, it is important to gather current information about how and to what extent SNAP agencies conduct computer data matching and systematically use that information to improve program integrity.

Description of Respondents: State, Local and Tribal Agencies.

Number of Respondents: 372.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 196.

Food and Nutrition Service

Title: Understanding the Anti-Fraud Measures of Large Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Retailers.

OMB Control Number: 0584-NEW.

Summary of Collection: This study is authorized under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 through the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Pub. L. 113-79). The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has the authority to "undertake research that will help improve the administration and effectiveness of the supplemental nutrition assistance program in delivering nutrition-related benefits." This is a new collection for the purpose of learning about the types of

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) related fraud activity observed by large retailers and the methods they use to prevent fraud and minimize their losses.

Need and Use of the Information: This study will help FNS learn more about the types of SNAP fraud that occur in large retailer settings; document retailer practices to detect, deter, and deal with fraud (collectively known as loss prevention or loss prevention practices); and determine which practices could provide information that would help FNS in detecting and preventing SNAP fraud.

Description of Respondents: Businesses-for-and-not-for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 2,045.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 2,851.40.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2017-20206 Filed 9-21-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. FSIS-2017-0038]

Use of Whole Genome Sequence Analysis To Improve Food Safety and Public Health

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notification of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), with participation from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI), and other stakeholders is hosting a public meeting to discuss FSIS' and other agencies' practices and plans for collecting and analyzing whole genome sequence (WGS) data of bacteria isolated from official samples, as well as the state of the science and other issues surrounding this technology. WGS analyses can determine sequence relatedness between bacterial isolates with higher resolution than other analytical methods, including pulsed-field gel electrophoresis (PFGE), FSIS' current method of characterizing bacteria. In addition, WGS analyses can characterize genes and other features of bacterial genomes. Currently, FSIS, local, State, and Federal public health and regulatory partners submit WGS

data to a Federal public database, readily accessible to Federal and state partners, and other stakeholders, including regulated industry and consumers. Using this common database, Federal food safety partners can share information and collaborate on issues related to food safety and public health. FSIS intends to analyze WGS data using thoroughly vetted and scientifically accepted procedures and standards, along with epidemiological information and industry production and distribution records on amenable product, to carry out its public health mission. Inclusion of WGS analyses in decision-making will enhance foodborne outbreak investigations, as well as general decisions related to the use of data from routine verification sampling of establishments under FSIS jurisdiction. Industry, interested individuals, organizations, and other stakeholders are invited to participate in the meeting and comment on FSIS approaches for using WGS data within a regulatory framework.

DATES: The public meeting will be held on Thursday and Friday, October 26 and 27, 2017 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. EST.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Jefferson Auditorium in the South Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250. Attendance is free. Non-USDA employees must enter through the Wing 5 entrance on Independence Avenue. The South Building is a Federal facility and attendees should plan to take adequate time to pass through the security screening systems. Attendees must show a valid photo ID to enter the building. Attendees also must be pre-registered for the meeting and check in onsite the day of the meeting. See the pre-registration instructions under "Registration and Meeting Materials." Only registered attendees will be permitted to enter the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Peter S. Evans, Office of Policy and Program Development, Risk Innovations and Management Staff; Telephone: (202) 690-6272; Fax: (202) 245-4793; Email: peter.evans@fsis.usda.gov.

Note that the same week as the WGS public meeting, on October 24 and 25, 2017, and also in the USDA Jefferson Auditorium, a separate interagency public meeting will be held by the National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System collaborators. FDA will publish a **Federal Register** Notice to announce this meeting.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: