

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** Go to www.regulations.gov. Enter APHIS–2026–1255 in the Search field. Select the Documents tab, then select the Comment button in the list of documents.

- **Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:** Send your comment to Docket No. APHIS–2026–1255, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, 5601 Sunnyside Ave., AP760, Beltsville, MD 20705.

Supporting documents and any comments we receive on this docket may be viewed at www.regulations.gov or in our reading room, which is located in Room 1620 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) 799–7039 before coming.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on the regulations governing laboratory management and BSE surveillance, contact Dr. Suelee Robbe-Austerman, Director, National Veterinary Services Laboratories, APHIS, Veterinary Services, Diagnostics and Biologics, 1920 Dayton Ave., Ames, IA 50010; phone number (515) 337–7601; email Suelee.robbe-austerman@usda.gov. For more information on the information collection reporting process, contact Ms. Sheniqua Harris, APHIS' Paperwork Reduction Act Coordinator, at (301) 851–2528 or email APHIS.PRA@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: National Veterinary Services Laboratories; Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Surveillance Program.
OMB Control Number: 0579–0409.

Type of Request: Revision to and extension of approval of an information collection.

Abstract: Under the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8301 *et seq.*), the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is authorized, among other things, to prohibit or restrict the importation and interstate movement of animals and animal products to prevent the introduction into and dissemination within the United States of livestock diseases and pests. Disease prevention is the most effective method for maintaining a healthy animal population and for enhancing the United States' ability to compete in international animal and animal product trade.

In connection with this mission, the APHIS National Veterinary Services Laboratories safeguard U.S. animal health and contribute to public health by ensuring that timely and accurate laboratory support is provided by their nationwide animal health diagnostic system.

The USDA complies with the standard set by the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) for bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) surveillance. This compliance is critical for maintaining the United States' BSE-risk status with the WOAH. In 2013, the WOAH granted the United States negligible risk status for BSE, improving our standing with trading partners and reducing our surveillance requirements. APHIS reduced the target for BSE samples from 40,000 to 25,000 samples annually in 2016, and this remains the current target. Our BSE surveillance program requires several information collection activities, including completing VS Form 17–146, the BSE Surveillance Submission Form; VS Form 17–146A, the BSE Surveillance Submission Form Continuation Sheet; and VS Form 17–131, the BSE Surveillance Data Collection Form.

We are asking OMB to approve our use of these information collection activities for an additional 3 years. APHIS has amended this information collection by decreasing the number of Responses and Total Burden Hours reported.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning our information collection. These comments will help us:

- (1) Evaluate 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) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the collection of information, 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 collection of information on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies; *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses.

Estimate of burden: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.12 hours per response.

Respondents: Accredited veterinarians, animal scientists, and slaughter plant personnel.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 204.

Estimated annual number of responses per respondent: 94.

Estimated annual number of responses: 19,200.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 2,295 hours. (Due to averaging, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the 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 30th day of September 2026.

Kelly Moore,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 2026–21202 Filed 10–15–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS–2025–0408]

Notice of Availability of a Pest Risk Analysis for the Interstate Movement of Fresh Leaves and Rhizomes of Wasabi From Hawaii Into the Continental United States

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public that we have prepared a pest risk analysis that evaluates the risks associated with the interstate movement of fresh leaves and rhizomes of wasabi (*Eutrema japonicum*) for consumption from Hawaii into the continental United States. The interstate movement of fresh leaves and rhizomes of wasabi from Hawaii into the continental United States is not currently authorized. Based on the findings of the pest risk analysis, we have determined that the application of one or more designated phytosanitary measures will be sufficient to mitigate the risks of introducing or disseminating plant pests or noxious weeds via the interstate movement of fresh leaves and rhizomes of wasabi from Hawaii. We are making the pest risk analysis available to the public for review and comment.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before December 15, 2026.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** Go to www.regulations.gov. Enter APHIS–

2025–0408 in the Search field. Select the Documents tab, then select the Comment button in the list of documents.

• **Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:** Send your comment to Docket No. APHIS–2025–0408, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, 5601 Sunnyside Ave., #AP760, Beltsville, MD 20705.

Supporting documents and any comments we receive on this docket may be viewed at www.regulations.gov or in our reading room, which is located in Room 1620 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) 799–7039 before coming.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Derek A. Woller, Senior Regulatory Policy Specialist, Pest Exclusion and Import Permits, Import Regulations and Manuals, Regulatory Coordination and Compliance, PPQ, APHIS, 5601 Sunnyside Ave., Beltsville, MD 20705; (480) 490–6454; Derek.A.Woller@USDA.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under the regulations in “Subpart A—Regulated Articles From Hawaii and the Territories” (7 CFR 318.13–1 through 318.13–17, referred to below as the regulations), the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) prohibits or restricts the movement in interstate commerce of any plant or plant product from Hawaii and the Territories to prevent plant pests or noxious weeds from being introduced into or disseminated within the United States.

Section 318.13–4 contains a performance-based process for authorizing the interstate movement of certain fruits and vegetables from Hawaii and the Territories that, based on the findings of a pest risk analysis, can be safely moved interstate subject to one or more of the five designated phytosanitary measures listed in paragraph (b) of that section.

APHIS received a request from the State of Hawaii to allow the interstate movement of fresh leaves and rhizomes of wasabi (*Eutrema japonicum*) from Hawaii into the continental United States. As part of our evaluation of Hawaii’s request, we have prepared a pest risk assessment to identify the pests of quarantine significance that could follow the pathway of the interstate movement of fresh leaves and rhizomes

of wasabi into the continental United States from Hawaii. Based on the pest risk assessment, a risk management document (RMD) was prepared to identify phytosanitary measures that could be applied to the fresh leaves and rhizomes of wasabi to mitigate the pest risk.

Therefore, in accordance with § 318.13–4(c), we are announcing the availability of our pest risk assessment and RMD for public review and comment. Those documents, as well as a description of the economic considerations associated with the interstate movement of fresh leaves and rhizomes of wasabi from Hawaii, may be viewed on the Regulations.gov website or in our reading room (see **ADDRESSES** above for a link to Regulations.gov and information on the location and hours of the reading room). You may request paper copies of the pest risk assessment and RMD by calling or writing to the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Please refer to the subject of the analysis you wish to review when requesting copies.

After reviewing any comments we receive, we will announce our decision regarding the interstate movement status of fresh leaves and rhizomes of wasabi from Hawaii in a subsequent notice. If the overall conclusions of our analysis and the Administrator’s determination of risk remain unchanged following our consideration of the comments, then we will authorize the interstate movement of fresh leaves and rhizomes of wasabi from Hawaii into the continental United States subject to the requirements specified in the RMD.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 7701–7772 and 7781–7786; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.3.

Done in Washington, DC, this 5th day of October 2026.

Kelly Moore,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 2026–21223 Filed 10–15–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS–2026–1486]

Notice of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection; Brucellosis and Bovine Tuberculosis: Importation of Cattle and Bison

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 associated with the regulations governing importation of cattle and bison, specifically with regard to classification of regions at designated status levels for bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis, and establishing conditions for the importation of cattle and bison from regions with the various classifications.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before December 15, 2026.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

• **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** Go to www.regulations.gov. Enter APHIS–2026–1486 in the Search field. Select the Documents tab, then select the Comment button in the list of documents.

• **Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:** Send your comment to Docket No. APHIS–2026–1486, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, 5601 Sunnyside Avenue, #AP760, Beltsville, MD 20705.

Supporting documents and any comments we receive on this docket may be viewed at www.regulations.gov or in our reading room, which is located in Room 1620 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) 799–7039 before coming.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on the regulations for bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis regionalization and associated importation of cattle and bison, contact Dr. Amber Kerk, Assistant Director, Regionalization Evaluation Services, Strategy and Policy, VS, APHIS, 920 Main Campus Drive, Suite 200, Raleigh, NC 27606; AskRegionalization@usda.gov. For more information on the information collection reporting process, contact Ms. Sheniqua Harris, APHIS’ Paperwork Reduction Act Coordinator, at (301) 851–2538; APHIS.PRA@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Brucellosis and Bovine Tuberculosis: Importation of Cattle and Bison.

OMB Control Number: 0579–0442.