

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

[Docket No. PY-01-001]

Notice of Request for Extension 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 an extension for and revision to a currently approved information collection for Poultry Market News Programs.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by December 29, 2000.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Contact Grover T. Hunter, Market News Branch, Poultry Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 0262, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456, (202) 720-6911 and FAX (202) 720-2403.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Poultry Market News Reports.

OMB Number: 0581-0033.

Expiration Date of Approval: July 31, 2001.

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

Abstract: Under the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, as amended, (7 U.S.C. 1621 *et seq.*) the Poultry Market News Branch provides nationwide coverage of broiler/fryers, turkeys, and eggs through field offices. Reporters in the Federal-State field offices make contact with trade members. The mission of Market News is to provide current unbiased, factual information to all members of the Nation's agricultural

industry, from farm to retailer, depicting current conditions on supply, demand, price trend, movement, and other pertinent information affecting the trade in poultry and eggs, and their respective products. In order to accomplish this mission, Market News observes, records, interprets, and reports trading levels of poultry and egg markets. Market reports assist producer-processors in their production planning, and help promote orderly marketing by placing producer-processors and others in the industry on a more equal bargaining basis.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.83 hours per response

Respondents: Producers, processors, brokers, distributors, and retailers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1720.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 123.69.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 17,657.

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 the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to Grover T. Hunter, Market News Branch, Poultry Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 0262, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456. All comments received will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the same address.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: October 24, 2000.

Howard M. Magwire,

Acting Deputy Administrator, Poultry Programs.

[FR Doc. 00-27786 Filed 10-27-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Docket No. FV00-902-1NC]

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 revision to a currently approved information collection that will merge several individual marketing order information collections into the generic information collection.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by December 29, 2000.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS:

Contact Valerie L. Emmer-Scott, Marketing Specialist, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, room 2525-S., P.O. Box 96456, Washington, DC 20090-6456; Tel: (202) 205-2829, Fax: (202) 720-5698, or E-mail: moab.docketclerk@usda.gov.

Small businesses may request information on this notice by contacting Jay Guerber, Regulatory Fairness Representative, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, room 2525-S., P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C., 20090-6456; telephone (202) 720-2491, Fax: (202) 720-5698, or E-mail: Jay.Guerber@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Marketing Orders for Fruit Crops.

OMB Number: 0581-0189.

Expiration Date of Approval: April 30, 2003.

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

Abstract: Marketing order programs provide an opportunity for producers of fresh fruits, vegetables and specialty crops, in specified production areas, to work together to solve marketing problems that cannot be solved individually. Order regulations help ensure adequate supplies of high quality product and adequate returns to producers. Under the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 (AMAA), as amended (7 U.S.C. 601–674) industries enter into marketing order programs. The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to oversee the order operations and issue regulations recommended by a committee of representatives from each commodity industry.

The information collection requirements in this request are essential to carry out the intent of the AMAA, to provide the respondents the type of service they request, and to administer the marketing order programs. Under the Act, orders may authorize the following: production and marketing research, including paid advertising, volume regulations, reserves, including pools and producer allotments, container regulations, and quality control. Production and marketing research activities are paid for by assessments levied on handlers regulated under the marketing orders.

Under the marketing orders, producers and handlers are nominated by their respective peers. These nominees then serve as representatives on their respective committees/boards and must file nomination forms with the Secretary.

The respective committees/boards have developed forms as a means for persons to file required information with the committees/boards relating to supplies, shipments, and dispositions of their respective commodities, and other information needed to effectively carry out the purpose of the AMAA and their respective orders, and these forms are utilized accordingly.

Formal rulemaking amendments to the orders must be approved in referenda conducted by the Secretary. Also, the Secretary may conduct a continuance referendum to determine industry support for continuation of these marketing order programs. Handlers are asked to sign an agreement to indicate their willingness to abide by the provisions of the respective orders whenever an order is amended.

This information collection will merge: OMB #0581–0094, Oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, and tangelos grown in Florida, Marketing Order No. 905; OMB #0581–0080, Fresh pears and peaches grown in California, Marketing

Order No. 917; OMB #0581–0095, Apricots grown in designated counties in Washington, Marketing Order No. 922; OMB #0581–0089, Winter pears grown in Oregon and Washington, Marketing Order No. 927; OMB #0581–0103, Cranberries grown in the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington, and Long Island in the State of New York, Marketing Order No. 929; and OMB #0581–0092, Fresh Bartlett pears grown in Oregon and Washington, Marketing Order No. 931.

The forms covered under this information collection will continue to require the minimum information necessary to effectively carry out the requirements of the orders, and their use is necessary to fulfill the intent of the AMAA as expressed in the orders.

The information collected is used only by authorized employees of the committees and authorized representatives of the USDA, including AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs' regional and headquarter's staff. Authorized committee employees are the primary users of the information and AMS is the secondary user.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .40824 hours per response.

Respondents: Producers, handlers and processors.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 16,971.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.283.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 8,889 hours.

Comments: Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of the 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.

Comments should reference this docket number and the appropriate marketing order, and be mailed to the Docket Clerk, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, P.O. Box 96456, Room 2525-S, Washington, DC 20090–

6456; Fax (202) 720–5698; or E-mail: moab.docketclerk@usda.gov. Comments should reference the docket number and the date and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register**. All comments received will be available for public inspection in the Office of the Docket Clerk during regular USDA business hours at 14th and Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C., room 2525–S, or can be viewed at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/fv/moab.html>.

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: October 24, 2000.

Robert C. Keeney,

Deputy Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs.

[FR Doc. 00–27787 Filed 10–27–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[TM–00–10]

Notice of Meeting of the National Organic Standards Board

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) announces a forthcoming meeting of the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB).

DATES: November 15, 2000, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.; November 16, 2000, 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and November 17, 2000, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (Eastern Daylight Time each day).

PLACE: The Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, 1800 M Street, NW, Waugh Auditorium, 3rd Floor Room, Washington, DC. Telephone: (202) 694–5103.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Keith Jones, Program Manager, National Organic Program, USDA–AMS–TMP–NOP, Room 2945–So., Ag Stop 0268, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090–6456, Telephone: (202) 720–3252.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 2119 (7 U.S.C. 6518) of the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (OFPA), as amended (7 U.S.C. Section 6501 *et seq.*) requires the establishment of the NOSB. The purpose of the NOSB is to make recommendations about whether a substance should be allowed or prohibited in organic production or