

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 71, No. 134

Thursday, July 13, 2006

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

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS–2006–0108]

Notice of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection; Introduction of Organisms and Products Altered or Produced Through Genetic Engineering

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 regulations for the introduction of organisms and products altered or produced through genetic engineering. **DATES:** We will consider all comments that we receive on or before September 11, 2006.

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

Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and, in the lower "Search Regulations and Federal Actions" box, select "Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service" from the agency drop-down menu, then click on "Submit." In the Docket ID column, select APHIS–2006–0108 to submit or view public comments and to view supporting and related materials available electronically. Information on using Regulations.gov, including instructions for accessing documents, submitting comments, and viewing the docket after the close of the comment period, is available through the site's "User Tips" link.

Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery: Please send four copies of your

comment (an original and three copies) to Docket No. APHIS–2006–0108, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A–03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737–1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. APHIS–2006–0108.

Reading Room: You may read any comments that we receive on this docket in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 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) 690–2817 before coming.

Other Information: Additional information about APHIS and its programs is available on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov>.

You may read any comments that we receive on this docket in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 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) 690–2817 before coming.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information regarding the information collection associated with regulations for the introduction of organisms and products altered or produced through genetic engineering, contact Ms. Ingrid Berlangier, Document Control Officer, Regulatory Operations Programs, Biotechnology Regulatory Services, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 147, Riverdale, MD 20737; (301) 734–4885. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Mrs. Celeste Sickles, APHIS' Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 734–7477.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: 7 CFR Part 340; Introduction of Organisms and Products Altered or Produced through Genetic Engineering.

OMB Number: 0579–0085.

Type of Request: Extension of approval of an information collection.

Abstract: Under the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7701 *et seq.*), the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to prohibit or restrict the importation, entry, or

movement in interstate commerce of any plant, plant product, biological control organism, noxious weed, article, or means of conveyance, if the Secretary determines that the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent the introduction or the dissemination of a plant pest into the United States.

Under that authority, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service administers the regulations in 7 CFR part 340, "Introduction of Organisms and Products Altered or Produced Through Genetic Engineering Which Are Plant Pests or Which There Is Reason to Believe Are Plant Pests," which regulate, among other things, the introduction (importation, interstate movement, or release into the environment) of organisms and products altered or produced through genetic engineering that are plant pests or that there is reason to believe are plant pests. Such genetically engineered organisms and products are considered "regulated articles." A permit must be obtained or a notification acknowledged before a regulated article may be introduced.

The regulations set forth the permit application requirements and the notification procedures for the importation, interstate movement, or release into the environment of a regulated article and necessitate certain information and recordkeeping requirements, including APHIS-issued permits, applicants' field testing records, and the submission of protocols to ensure compliance.

This notice includes a description of the information collection requirements currently approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under number 0579–0216, "Field Testing of Plants Engineered to Produce Pharmaceutical and Industrial Compounds." After OMB approves and combines the burden associated with this extension notice under number 0579–0085, the Department will retire number 0579–0216.

We are asking OMB to approve our use of these information collection activities for an additional 3 years.

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 information collection, 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 information collection 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 1.0034129 hours response.

Respondents: U.S. importers and shippers of genetically engineered organisms and products and agricultural companies that produce or test genetically engineered organisms or products or that engage in product research and development.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 121.

Estimated annual number of responses per respondent: 24.214876.

Estimated annual number of responses: 2,930.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 2,940 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 10th day of July 2006.

Kevin Shea,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. E6-11044 Filed 7-12-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection: Comment Request: Food Stamp Program Education and Administrative Reporting System (EARS)

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this

notice invites the general public and other public agencies to comment on a proposed information collection. The proposed collection is a new collection.

The purpose of the Education and Administrative Reporting System (EARS) form is to collect uniform and standard information on nutrition education activities funded by the Food Stamp Program. The data collected will inform management decisions, support policy initiatives, and provide documentation for legislative, budget and other requests that support planning within the agency.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before September 11, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Comments are invited on:

(a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions that were used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) 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 may be sent to Judy Wilson, Director, Nutrition Services Staff, Office of Analysis, Nutrition and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 1014, Alexandria, VA 22302.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval. All comments will also be a matter of public record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of the proposed information collection form and instructions should be directed to Judy Wilson at (703) 305-2585.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Education and Administrative Reporting System.

OMB Number: Not assigned at this time.

Form Number: FNS-759.

Expiration Date: None.

Type of Request: New collection.

Abstract: The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has developed a new reporting system for the nutrition education component of the Food

Stamp Program, which is provided for in section 11(f) of the Food Stamp Act, 7 U.S.C. 2020(f). To do this, the Agency convened a workgroup of diverse stakeholders that assisted with this task, including people from the State, local, and Federal levels, as well as academia.

The new Education and Administrative Reporting System (EARS) will provide uniform data and information about the nutrition education activities of all participating States across the country. Data collected under the new system include demographic characteristics of participants receiving nutrition education benefits, information about education topics and strategies, and use of resources. The EARS has been designed to be an annual report that State Food Stamp Program Agencies will submit to report prior Fiscal Year's nutrition education activities.

Affected Public: State Food Stamp Program Agencies, implementing partners such as extension universities and non-profit organizations and local program operators.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 52.

Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Responses: 52.

Hours per Response: 54.

Total Annual Reporting Hours: 2808.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 2808.

Dated: July 6, 2006.

Roberto Salazar,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. E6-11033 Filed 7-12-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Information Collection; Request for Comment; Economic, Social, and Cultural Aspects of Livestock Ranching

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Forest Service is seeking comments from all interested individuals and organizations on the extension of a currently approved information collection, Economic, Social, and Cultural Aspects of Livestock Ranching on the Santa Fe and Carson National Forests. The extension is necessary to complete collection of baseline data on the economic, social, and cultural contributions of livestock owners in