

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Agricultural Marketing Service****[Docket No. LS-05-04]****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 approval from the Office of Management and Budget, for an extension of the currently approved information collection used to compile and generate the Federally Inspected Estimated Daily Slaughter Report for the Livestock and Grain Market News Branch.

DATES: Comments received by June 20, 2005, will be considered.

Additional Information or Comments: Contact Jimmy A. Beard; Assistant to the Chief; Livestock and Grain Market News Branch, Livestock and Seed Program, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture; 1400 Independence Avenue SW.; STOP 0252; Room 2619-S; Washington, DC 20250-0252; Phone (202) 720-8054; Fax (202) 690-3732; or e-mailed to marketnewscomments@usda.gov. All comments received will be available for public inspection at this address during the hours of 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, and on the Internet at www.ams.usda.gov/lsmnpubs.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Title:* Plan for Estimating Daily Livestock Slaughter Under Federal Inspection.

OMB Number: 0581-0050.

Expiration Date of Approval: 09-30-2005.

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

Abstract: The Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621, et seq), section 203(g) directs and authorizes the collection and dissemination of marketing information including adequate outlook information, on a market area basis, for the purpose of anticipating and meeting consumer requirements, aiding in the maintenance of farm income, and to bring about a balance between production and utilization.

Under this market news program, USDA issues a market news report estimating daily livestock slaughter

under Federal inspection. This report is compiled by AMS on a voluntary basis in cooperation with the livestock and meat industry. Market news reporting must be timely, accurate, and continuous if it is to be useful to producers, processors, and the trade in general. The daily livestock slaughter estimates are provided at the request of industry and are used to make production and marketing decisions.

The Daily Estimated Livestock Slaughter Under Federal Inspection Report is used by a wide range of industry contacts, including packers, processors, producers, brokers and retailers of meat and meat products. The livestock and meat industry requested that USDA issue slaughter estimates (daily and weekly), by species, for cattle, calves, hogs and sheep in order to assist them in making immediate production and marketing decisions and as a guide to the volume of meat in the marketing channel. The information requested from respondents includes their estimation of the current day's slaughter at their plant(s) and the actual slaughter for the previous day. Also, the Government is a large purchaser of meat and related products and this report assists other Government agencies in providing timely information on the quantity of meat entering the processing channels.

The information must be collected, compiled, and disseminated by an impartial third-party, in a manner which protects the confidentiality of the reporting entity. AMS is in the best position to provide this service.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .0333 hours per response.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit entities, individuals or households, farms, and the Federal Government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 72.

Estimated Number of Responses: 18,720.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 260.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 624 hours.

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. Contact Jimmy A. Beard; Assistant to the Chief; Livestock and Grain Market News Branch, Livestock and Seed Program, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture; 1400 Independence Ave; STOP 0252; Room 2619-S; Washington, DC 20250-0252; Phone (202) 720-8054; Fax (202) 690-3732; or e-mailed to marketnewscomments@usda.gov. All comments received will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the same address and on the Internet at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/lsmnpubs>.

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: April 14, 2005.

Kenneth C. Clayton,

Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 05-7765 Filed 4-18-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Agricultural Marketing Service****[No. TM-05-04]****Nominations for Members of the National Organic Standards Board****AGENCY:** Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: The Organic Foods Production Act (OFPA) of 1990, as amended, requires the establishment of a National Organic Standards Board (NOSB). The NOSB is a 15-member board that is responsible for developing and recommending to the Secretary a proposed National List of Approved and Prohibited Substances. The NOSB also advises the Secretary on other aspects of the National Organic Program. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is requesting nominations to fill six (6) upcoming vacancies on the NOSB. The positions to be filled are: organic producer (2 positions), consumer/public interest (3 positions), and USDA accredited certifying agent (1 position). The Secretary of Agriculture will appoint a person to each position to serve a 5-year term of office that will commence on January 24, 2006, and run until January 24, 2011. USDA