

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

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

March 13, 2006.

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 regarding (a) 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; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (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 should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), *Pamela_Beverly_OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV* or fax (202) 395–5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250–7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720–8681.

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.

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Title: Certification of Offset and Entitlement.

OMB Control Number: 0524–0038.

Summary of Collection: The requirements for this collection are specified in section 226 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (AREERA). Section 226 of AREERA amends Subtitle G of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (NSRETPA) by adding a new section 1449. This section requires matching funds from non-Federal sources for formula funds authorized under sections 1444 and 1445 of NARETPA for extension and research activities at the 1890 land-grant institutions, including Tuskegee University and West Virginia State College. The purpose of the collection of information is to ensure the availability of matching funds for the formula funds provided to the Cooperative State, Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) cooperating institutions, most of which are 1862 and 1890 Land-Grant Institutions. CSREES will collect information using CSREES form 2103A–E, Certification of Offset and Entitlement.

Need and Use of the Information: CSREES will collect information from CSREES form 2103–A–E, to ensure that formula funds are provided to the eligible CSREES cooperating institutions under sections 1443, 1444, and 1445 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977. Information will be collected up to 3 times per year for research and extension activities to provide information on the projected matching funds, the actual matching funds, and any revisions to the actual matching funds.

Description of Respondents: State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 96.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Other (three times a year).

Total Burden Hours: 3,017.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. E6–3857 Filed 3–16–06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–09–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

March 15, 2006.

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 regarding (a) 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; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (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 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. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. 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: Report of School Program Operations.

OMB Control Number: 0584-0002.

Summary of Collection: The Food and Nutrition Service administers the National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, and the Special Milk Program as mandated by the National School Lunch Act, as amended, and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended. Information on school program operations is collected from state agencies on a monthly basis to monitor and make adjustments to State agency funding requirements. FNS uses form FNS-10 to collect data although 98 percent of the information is collected through electronic means.

Need and Use of the Information: FNS collects quantity information from State agencies on the number of meals served under the various food programs. Information is categorized in a number of areas and States are asked to provide their estimates along with actual data. FNS uses the information collected on school operations to assess the progress of the various programs and to make monthly adjustments to State agency funding requirements. If the information was not collected, FNS would be unable to monitor the proper use of program funds.

Description of Respondents: State, Local, or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 62.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Monthly; Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 95,232.

Food and Nutrition Service

Title: Report of the Child and Adult Care Food Program.

OMB Control Number: 0584-0078.

Summary of Collection: Section 17 of the National School Lunch Act, as amended, mandates the Child and Adult Care Food Program. Program implementation is contained in 7 CFR part 226. The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) collects information using Form FNS-44 to use in managing the Child and Adult Care Food Program. This report is vital since it is the only means by which FNS can obtain current information necessary to make payments to State agency letters of credit, and to plan for future levels of program funding.

Need and Use of the Information: FNS will collect information in order to analyze progress in the program and to make monthly adjustments to State agency funding requirements. If data is not collected FNS would be unable to

monitor the proper use of program funds.

Description of Respondents: State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 53.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Quarterly; Semi-annually; Monthly.

Total Burden Hours: 5,724.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. E6-3923 Filed 3-16-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. No. CN-06-004]

Cotton Research and Promotion Program: Request for Comments To Be Used in a Review of 1990 Amendments to the Cotton Research and Promotion Act

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: As provided for by the Cotton Research and Promotion Act Amendments of 1990, the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is announcing its intention to conduct a review to ascertain whether a referendum is needed to determine whether producers and importers favor continuation of amendments to the Cotton Research and Promotion Order. This notice invites all interested parties to submit written comments to the Department of Agriculture (USDA). USDA will consider these comments in determining whether a referendum is warranted. USDA should announce review results sometime during the latter part of September 2006.

DATES: Comments must be received by June 15, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments concerning this notice to Darryl W. Earnest, Deputy Administrator, Cotton Program, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, Stop 0224, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 2641-S South Building, Washington, DC 20250-0224. Comments should be submitted in triplicate and will be made available for public inspection at the above address during regular business hours. Comments may also be submitted electronically to: cottoncomments@usda.gov. All comments should reference the docket number and the date and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register**. A

copy of this notice may be found at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/cotton/rulemaking.htm>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Darryl W. Earnest, Deputy Administrator, Cotton Program, AMS, USDA, Stop 0224, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0224, telephone (202) 720-2259, facsimile (202) 690-1718 or e-mail at darryl.earnest@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Cotton Research and Promotion Act of 1966 (7 U.S.C. 2101 *et seq.*) authorized a national Cotton Research and Promotion Program which is industry operated and funded, with oversight by USDA. The program's objective is to enable cotton growers and importers to establish, finance, and carry out a coordinated program of research and promotion to improve the competitive position of, and to expand markets for cotton.

The program became effective on December 31, 1966, when the Cotton Research and Promotion Order (7 CFR Part 1205) was issued. Assessments began with the 1967 cotton crop. The Order was amended and a supplemental assessment initiated, not to exceed one percent of the value of each bale, effective January 26, 1977.

The program is currently financed through assessments levied on domestic and imported cotton and cotton-containing products. Assessments under this program are used to fund promotional campaigns and to conduct research in the areas of U.S. marketing, international marketing, cotton production and processing, and textile research and implementation.

The program is administered by the Cotton Board, which has thirty-six members, thirty-six alternate members and one consumer advisor. The Cotton Board is composed of representatives of cotton producers and cotton importers, each of whom has an alternate selected by the Secretary of Agriculture from nominations submitted by eligible producer and importer organizations. All members and their alternates serve terms of three years. The Cotton Board's responsibility is to administer the provisions of the Cotton Research and Promotion Order issued pursuant to the Act. These responsibilities include collecting, holding and safeguarding funds; making refunds when refunds are a provision of the Order; contracting with an organization for the development and implementation of programs of research and promotion; reviewing and making recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture on proposed programs and