

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

December 14, 2004.

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.

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Title: Agricultural Prices.

OMB Control Number: 0535-0003.

Summary of Collection: Estimates of prices received by farmers and prices paid for production goods and services are needed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agriculture Statistics Service (NASS) for the following purposes: (a) To compute parity prices in accordance with requirements of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 as amended (Title III, Subtitle A, Section 301, (b) to estimate value of production, inventory values, and cash receipts from farming, (c) to determine the level for farmer owned reserves, (d) to provide guidelines for Risk Management Agency price selection options, (e) to determine Federal disaster prices to be paid, and (f) to determine the grazing fee on Federal lands. General authority for these data collection activities is granted under U.S. Code Title 7, Section 2204.

Need and Use of the Information: The NASS price program computes annual U.S. weighted average prices received by farmers for wheat, barley, corn, oats, grain sorghum, rice, and cotton based on monthly marketing. Price estimates are used by many Government agencies as a general measure of commodity price changes and for disaster and insurance payments.

Description of Respondents: Farms; Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 26,636.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion; Monthly; Annually; Biennially.

Total Burden Hours: 10,743.

Foreign Agricultural Service

Title: Sugar Imported for Exports as Refined Sugar or as a Sugar-Containing Products, or used in Production of Certain Polyhydric Alcohols.

OMB Control Number: 0551-0015.

Summary of Collection: Regulation 7 CFR Part 1530 authorizes the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) to issue import licenses to enter raw cane sugar (exempt from the tariff-rate quota for the raw cane sugar imports and the related requirements) on the condition that an equivalent quantity of refined sugar be: (1) Exported as refined sugar; (2) exported as an ingredient in sugar

containing products; or (3) used in production of certain polyhydric alcohols. The purpose of the sugar import-licensing program is to assist U.S. sugar manufacturers, refiners, and processors in making U.S. products price competitive on the world market and to facilitate the use of domestic refining capacity.

Need and Use of the Information: FAS will collect information to: (1) Determine applicants eligibility; (2) monitor sugar imports, transfers, exports, and use in order to confirm that transactions are conducted and completed within the requirements; (3) audit participants' compliance with the Regulation; and (4) prevent entry of world-priced program sugar from entering the higher-priced domestic commercial sugar market. The information collected is needed by the Sugar Licensing Authority to manage, plan, evaluate

Rural Housing Service

Title: 7 CFR 1902-A, Supervised Bank Accounts.

OMB Control Number: 0575-0158.

Summary of Collection: 7 CFR 1902-A, Supervised Bank Accounts, prescribes the policies and procedures for disbursing loan and grant funds, establishing and closing supervised accounts, and placing Multi-Family housing reserve accounts in supervised accounts. Supervised accounts are accounts with a financial institution in the names of a borrower and the United States Government, represented by Rural Housing Service, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Rural Utilities Service, or Farm Service Agency (Agency). Section 339 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 7 U.S.C. 1989 and Section 510 of the Housing Act of 1949, 42 U.S.C. 1480 are the legislative authority requiring the use of supervised accounts.

Need and Use of the Information: The agency's state and field offices will collect information from borrowers and financial institutions and use the information to monitor compliance with agency regulations governing supervised accounts, such as establishing, maintaining, and withdrawing funds. In addition, the information will be used to ensure that the borrowers operate on a sound basis and use the loan and grant funds for authorized purposes.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 20,000.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 26,260.

Sondra Blakey,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

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Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Title: Certificate for Poultry and Hatching Eggs for Export.

OMB Control Number: 0579-0048.

Summary of Collection: The export of agricultural commodities, including poultry and hatching eggs, is a major business in the United States and contributes to a favorable balance of trade. As part of its mission to facilitate the export of U.S. poultry and poultry products, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services, maintains information regarding the import health requirements of other countries for poultry and hatching eggs exported from the U.S. Most countries require a certification that our poultry and hatching eggs are disease free. Certificate for Poultry and Hatching Eggs for Export is authorized by 21 U.S.C. 112 and 113 which is used to certify the disease free status of poultry and hatching eggs exported from the United States. The regulation that implements this law is found in part 91 of title 9, Code of Federal Regulations.

Need and Use of the Information: APHIS will use VS form 17-6, Certificate for Poultry & Hatching Eggs for Export, to collect information on the quantity and type of poultry and hatching egg designated for export. The information collected is necessary to satisfy the import requirements of the receiving countries and to prevent unhealthy poultry or disease carrying hatching eggs from being exported from the United States, thereby protecting and encouraging trade with the United States and preventing the international dissemination of poultry diseases.

Description of Respondents: Farms; Federal government; State, local or tribal government; individuals or households; business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 300.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 10,500.

Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service

Title: Asian Long Horned Beetle Regulations.

OMB Control Number: 0579-0122.

Summary of Collection: The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the Department of Agriculture is responsible for preventing plant pests and noxious weeds from entering the United States, preventing the spread of pests and weeds not widely distributed in the United States, and eradicating those imported pests

and weeds when eradication is feasible. The Plant Protection and Quarantine program of APHIS is responsible for implementing the provisions of the Act and does so through the enforcement of its domestic quarantine regulations in 7 CFR part 301. The Asian Long Horned Beetle (ALB) is a destructive pest of hardwood trees that bore into the heartwood of host trees eventually killing them. APHIS regulations are designed to prevent the spread of the ALB within the United States.

Need and Use of the Information: APHIS will collect information to control and monitor the movement of the Asian Long Horned Beetle using several APHIS forms. If the information were not collected, the effectiveness of the Asian Long Horned Beetle Quarantine would be severely compromised.

Description of Respondents: Farms; business or other for profit; State, local or tribal government; individuals or households.

Number of Respondents: 475.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 244.

Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service

Title: Importation of Hass Avocado from Mexico.

OMB Control Number: 0579-0129.

Summary of Collection: The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the Department of Agriculture is responsible for preventing plant diseases or insect pests from entering the United States, preventing the spread of pests not widely distributed in the United States, and eradicating those imported when eradication is feasible. The Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7701-7772) authorizes APHIS to carry out this mission. APHIS will collect information from a variety of individuals, both within and outside of the United States, who are involved in growing, packing, handling, transporting, and importing foreign logs, trees, shrubs, and other articles. Currently, there are regulations that allow fresh Hass Avocado fruit grown in approved orchards in Michoacan, Mexico to be imported into the United States under certain conditions.

Need and Use of the Information: APHIS will collect information using forms PPQ 519, "Compliance Agreement" and PPQ 587, "Application for Permit to Import Plants or Plant Products." The information collected will ensure that fresh Hass Avocados from Mexico do not harbor exotic insect pests.