

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service****[Docket No. 00-032-1]****Availability of Draft Pest Risk Assessment for the Importation of Honeybees and Honeybee Germ Plasm from Australia****AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public that a draft pest risk assessment has been prepared by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service for the importation of honeybees and honeybee germ plasm from Australia. We are making this draft pest risk assessment available to the public for review and comment.

DATES: We invite you to comment on the draft pest risk assessment. We will consider all comments that we receive by July 3, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Please send your comment and three copies to: Docket No. 00-032-1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Suite 3C03, 4700 River Road, Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238.

Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. 00-032-1.

A copy of the draft pest risk assessment, and any comments that we receive on it, may be reviewed 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: Dr. Wayne F. Wehling, Entomologist, Permits and Risk Assessments, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 133, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236; (301) 734-8757.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture has received a request from the Government of Australia to allow the importation into the United States of adult honeybees (*Apis mellifera*) (specifically queens and package bees) and honeybee germ plasm from Australia. The request was made in accordance with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

To determine whether the risk associated with such importation is low enough for us to initiate rulemaking to implement this change to our regulations, we have prepared a draft pest risk assessment, entitled "Pest Risk Assessment: Importation of Adult Queens, Package Bees, and Germ Plasm of Honeybees (*Apis mellifera* L.) From Australia," in consultation with the Government of Australia. The draft pest risk assessment identifies quarantine pests associated with the importation of honeybees and honeybee germ plasm from Australia and qualitatively assesses the likelihood of the introduction of these quarantine pests into the United States, as well as the consequences of introduction.

We are making this draft pest risk assessment available to the public for review and comment. In particular, we request feedback on the risk factors, methodology, and documentation used in the draft pest risk assessment. We will consider all comments that we receive by the date listed under the heading **DATES** at the beginning of this notice.

The draft pest risk assessment is available in our reading room (information on the location and hours of the reading room is listed under the heading **ADDRESSES** at the beginning of this notice), on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/prahoneybees/>, by calling the Plant Protection and Quarantine automated fax retrieval system at (301) 734-3560 and requesting document 0029, or by contacting the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 281; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.2(c).

Done in Washington, DC, this 28th day of April 2000.

Bobby R. Acord,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**National Agricultural Statistics Service****Notice of Intent to Extend and Revise a Currently Approved Information Collection**

AGENCY: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) and Office of Management

and Budget regulations at 5 CFR part 1320 (60 FR 44978, August 29, 1995), this notice announces the intent of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) to extend and revise a currently approved information collection, the *List Sampling Frame*.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by July 7, 2000 to be assured of consideration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS:

Contact Rich Allen, Associate Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 4117 South Building, Washington, DC 20250-2000, (202) 720-4333.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: List Sampling Frame.

OMB Number: 0535-0140.

Expiration Date of Approval: July 31, 2000.

Type of Request: Intent to extend and revise a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The primary objectives of the National Agricultural Statistics Service are to prepare and issue state and national estimates of crop production, livestock production, economic statistics, and environmental statistics related to agriculture and also to conduct the Census of Agriculture.

The List Sampling Frame is used to maintain as complete a list as possible of farm operations. The goal is to produce for each state a relatively complete, current, and unduplicated list of names to sample for agricultural operation surveys. Information from these surveys is used by government agencies and educational institutions in planning, farm policy analysis, and program administration.

These data will be collected under the authority of 7 U.S.C. 2204(a). Individually identifiable data collected under this authority are governed by Section 1770 of the Food Security Act of 1985, 7 U.S.C. 2276, which requires USDA to afford strict confidentiality to non-aggregated data provided by respondents.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 3 minutes per response.

Respondents: Farms.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 325,000.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 16,670 hours.

Copies of this information collection and related instructions can be obtained without charge from Ginny McBride, the Agency OMB Clearance Officer, at (202) 720-5778.