

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

Farm Service Agency

Information Collection: Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) is seeking comments from all interested individuals and organizations on the extension of a currently approved information collection associated with Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of 1978 (AFIDA).

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received on or before May 30, 2006 to be assured consideration.

ADDRESSES: Comments concerning this notice should be addressed to Patricia A. Blevins, Agricultural Foreign Investment Specialist, Natural Resources Analysis Group, Economic and Policy Analysis Staff, USDA, FSA, STOP 0531, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0531, and to the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. Copies of the information collection may be requested by writing to Patricia A. Blevins at the above address. Comments may also be submitted by e-mail to: patrica.blevins@wdc.usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patricia Blevins, Agricultural Foreign Investment Specialist, (202) 720-0604 and patrica.blevins@wdc.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act Report.

OMB Control Number: 0560-0097.

Expiration Date of Approval: November 30, 2006.

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

Abstract: AFIDA requires foreign persons who hold, acquire, or dispose of any interest in U.S. agricultural land to report the transactions to the FSA on the AFIDA report. The information collected is available to States. Also, although not required by law, the information collected from the AFIDA reports is used to prepare an annual report to Congress and the President concerning the effect of foreign investment upon family farms and rural communities so that Congress may review the annual report and decide if further regulatory action is required.

Estimate of Average Time to Respond: .4818 hours per response.

Type of Respondents: Foreign investors, corporate employees, attorneys or farm managers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 4,375.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Number of Responses: 4,375.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 2,108 hours.

Comments are invited on: (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 collected; or (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of the 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.

All comments received in response to this notice, including names and addresses when provided, will be a matter of public record. Comments will be summarized and included in the submission for OMB approval.

Signed at Washington, DC, on March 23, 2006.

Teresa C. Lasseter,

Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

[FR Doc. E6-4542 Filed 3-28-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

The Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), approved a petition for trade adjustment assistance (TAA) that was filed on February 21, 2006, by the National Grape Cooperative Association representing Washington Concord juice grape producers. The certification date is March 15, 2006. Beginning on March 27, 2006, Washington Concord juice grape producers will be eligible to apply for fiscal year 2006 benefits during an application period ending June 26, 2006.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Upon investigation, the Administrator determined that increased imports of grape juice, non-concentrated and concentrated (frozen and not frozen) contributed importantly to a decline in producer prices of Concord juice grapes in Washington by 36 percent during August 2004 through July 2005, when compared with the previous 5-year average.

Eligible producers must apply to the Farm Service Agency for benefits. After submitting completed applications, producers shall receive technical assistance provided by the Extension Service at no cost and may receive an adjustment assistance payment, if certain program criteria are satisfied. Applicants must obtain the technical assistance from the Extension Service by September 29, 2006, in order to be eligible for financial payments.

Producers of raw agricultural commodities wishing to learn more about TAA and how they may apply should contact the Department of Agriculture at the addresses provided below for General Information.

Producers Certified as Eligible for TAA, Contact: Farm Service Agency service centers in Washington.

For General Information About TAA, Contact: Jean-Louis Pajot, Coordinator, Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers, FAS, USDA, (202) 720-2916, e-mail: trade.adjustment@fas.usda.gov.