

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 84, No. 34

Wednesday, February 20, 2019

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

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc No. AMS-SC-18-0086; SC19-33/35-1]

Notice of Request for Renewal of a Recordkeeping Burden

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) intention to request for renewal a recordkeeping burden for the information collection for the Export Fruit Acts covering exports of apples and grapes.

DATES: Comments on this notice are due by April 22, 2019 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Contact Andrew Hatch, Chief, Program Services Branch, Marketing Order and Agreement Division, Specialty Crops Program, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, STOP 0237, Room 1406-S, Washington, DC, 20250-0237; Telephone (202) 720-6862 or Email: andrew.hatch@usda.gov.

Small businesses may request information on complying with the regulation and responding to this notice by contacting Richard Lower, Marketing Order and Agreement Division, Specialty Crops Program, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, STOP 0237, Washington, DC 20250-0237; Telephone: (202) 720-2491, Fax: (202) 720-8938, or Email: richard.lower@usda.gov.

Comments: Comments should reference the document number and the date and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register**, and be mailed to the Docket Clerk, Specialty Crops Program, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 1406-

S, Washington, DC 20250-0237; Fax: (202) 720-8938; or submitted through the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Export Fruit Regulations—Export Apple Act (7 CFR part 33) and the Export Grape and Plum Act (7 CFR part 35).

OMB Number: 0581-0143.

Expiration Date of Approval: September 30, 2019.

Type of Request: Request for Renewal of a Recordkeeping Burden.

Abstract: Fresh apples and grapes grown in the United States shipped to any foreign destination must meet minimum quality and other requirements established by regulations issued under the Export Apple Act (7 U.S.C. 581-590) and the Export Grape and Plum Act (7 U.S.C. 591-599) (Acts), which are found at 7 CFR parts 33 and 35, respectively. Both Acts were designed to promote foreign trade in the export of apples, grapes and plums grown in the United States; to protect the reputation of the American-grown commodities; and to prevent deception or misrepresentation of the quality of such products moving in foreign commerce. The Acts have been in effect since 1933 (apples) and 1960 (grapes). Currently, plums are not regulated under the Export Grape and Plum Act.

The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to oversee the implementation of the Acts and issue regulations regarding that activity. Regulations issued under the Acts cover exports of fresh apples and grapes grown in the United States and shipped to foreign destinations, except for grapes shipped to Canada or Mexico and apples in bulk bins shipped to Canada. Certain limited quantity provisions may exempt some shipments from this information collection. Regulations issued under the Acts (7 CFR 33.11 for apples and § 35.12 for grapes) require that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) officially inspect and certify that each export shipment of fresh apples and grapes complies with quality and shipping requirements effective under the Acts.

The information collection requirements in this request are essential to carry out the intent and administration of the Acts. The currently approved collection under OMB No. 0581-0143 authorizes the use

of an Export Form Certificate (SC-205). Federal or Federal-State Inspection Program (FSIP) inspectors use the Export Form Certificate to certify inspection of the shipment for exports bound for non-Canadian destinations. Procedures require shippers to maintain and provide, upon USDA's request, a paper or electronic copy of the SC-205 when needed for USDA to monitor compliance with regulations. Based on procedures amended in 2016 and approved by OMB for information collection purposes, carriers, which transport goods on behalf of shippers, are no longer required to maintain a copy of the SC-205. Earlier versions of the previously used FV-205 and FV-207 make up the SC-205.

Estimate of Burden: Public recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average *0.083 hours per response*.

Respondents (Recordkeepers): Apple and grape export shippers and carriers.

Estimated Number of Recordkeepers: 94 (75 shippers and carriers of exported apples and 19 shippers and carriers of exported grapes).

Estimated Total Annual Responses: 52,788.

Estimated Number of Responses per Recordkeeper: 564 for apples and 550 for grapes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Recordkeepers: 4,378 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.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record. All comments received will be available for public inspection at the street address in the "Comment" section and can be viewed at: www.regulations.gov.

Dated: February 13, 2019.

Bruce Summers,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2019-02700 Filed 2-19-19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

U.S. Codex Office

Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling

AGENCY: U.S. Codex Office, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on May 6, 2019. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft United States (U.S.) positions to be discussed at the 40th Session of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis (CCMAS) of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, in Budapest, Hungary, May 27–31 2019. The U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius and the Under Secretary, Office of Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, recognize the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the 40th Session of the CCMAS and to address items on the agenda.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for May 6, 2019, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. EST.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will take place in the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), South Building, Room 1452B, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250. Documents related to the 40th Session of the CCMAS will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings-reports/en>.

Gregory O. Noonan, Ph.D., U.S. Delegate to the 40th Session of the CCMAS, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: gregory.noonan@fda.hhs.gov.

Call in number: If you wish to participate in the public meeting for the 40th Session of the CCMAS by conference call, please register in advance by emailing Doreen.chenmoulec@osec.usda.gov. Please use the call-in-number: 1-888-844-9904 and participant code: 512 6092.

Registration: Attendees may register to attend the public meeting by emailing Doreen.chenmoulec@osec.usda.gov by April 4, 2019. Early registration is encouraged because it will expedite entry into the building. The meeting will take place in a Federal building. Attendees should bring photo identification and plan for adequate time to pass through the security screening systems. Attendees who are not able to attend the meeting in person, but who wish to participate, may do so by phone, as discussed above.

For further information about the 40th session of CCMAS: Contact Gregory O. Noonan, Ph.D., Research Chemist, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN), Food and Drug Administration, Harvey W. Wiley Federal Building, 5100 Paint Branch Parkway, College Park, MD 20740. Phone: (240) 402-2250, Fax: (301) 436-2634, Email: Gregory.Noonan@fda.hhs.gov.

For information about the public meeting: Contact Doreen Chen-Moulec, U.S. Codex Office, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 4867, South Building, Washington, DC 20250. Phone: (202) 205-7760, Fax: (202) 720-3157, Email: doreen.chenmoulec@osec.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Codex was established in 1963 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, Codex seeks to protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade.

The CCMAS is responsible for defining criteria appropriate to Codex Methods of Analysis and Sampling; serving as a coordinating body for Codex with other international groups working in methods of analysis and sampling and quality assurance systems for laboratories; specifying, on the basis of final recommendations submitted to it by other bodies, reference methods of analysis and sampling, appropriate to Codex standards which are generally applicable to a number of foods; considering, amending, and endorsing, as appropriate, methods of analysis and sampling proposed by Codex (Commodity) Committees, (except that methods of analysis and sampling for residues of pesticides or veterinary drugs in food, the assessment of micro-

biological quality and safety in food, and the assessment of specifications for food additives, do not fall within the terms of reference of this Committee); elaborating sampling plans and procedures; considering specific sampling and analysis problems submitted to it by the Commission or any of its committees; and defining procedures, protocols, guidelines, or related texts for the assessment of food laboratory proficiency, as well as quality assurance systems for laboratories.

The CCMAS is hosted by Hungary, and the meeting is attended by the United States as a member country of the Codex Alimentarius.

Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following items on the Agenda for the 40th Session of the CCMAS will be discussed during the public meeting:

- Matters Referred to the Committee by the Codex Alimentarius Commission and Other Subsidiary Bodies
- Endorsement of Methods of Analysis Provisions and Sampling Plans in Codex Standards
- Review of Dairy Methods for Update of the Recommended Methods of Sampling (CXS 234)
- Guidance on Endorsement
- Revision of the Recommended Methods of CXS 234- preamble and structure
- Revision to the Guidelines on Measurement Uncertainty
- Revision of the General Guidelines on Sampling
- Report of an Inter-Agency meeting on Methods of Analysis and Other Business and Future Work

Each issue listed will be fully described in documents distributed, or to be distributed by the Secretariat before the Committee Meeting. Members of the public may access or request copies of these documents (see **ADDRESSES**).

Public Meeting

At the May 6, 2019, public meeting, draft U.S. positions on the agenda items will be described and discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Written comments may be offered at the meeting or sent to Gregory O. Noonan.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, the U.S. Codex Office will announce this **Federal Register** publication on-line through the USDA Codex web page located at: <http://www.usda.gov/codex>, a link that also offers an email subscription service providing access to information related to Codex. Customers can add or delete