

combines the burden for the three collections under a single collection (number 0579-0036), the Department will retire numbers 0579-0247 and 0579-0254.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning our information collection. These comments will help us:

(1) Evaluate 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;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies; e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

*Estimate of burden:* The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.9737631 hours per response.

*Respondents:* Dealers, research facilities, exhibitors, carriers, and intermediate handlers; persons exempt from licensing under the AWA.

*Estimated annual number of respondents:* 7,402.

*Estimated annual number of responses per respondent:* 13.145906.

*Estimated annual number of responses:* 97,306.

*Estimated total annual burden on respondents:* 94,753 hours. (Due to averaging, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the reporting burden per response.)

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.

Done in Washington, DC, this 15th day of December 2008.

**Kevin Shea,**

*Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. E8-30213 Filed 12-18-08; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2008-0130]

#### Notice of Request for Revision and Extension of Approval of an Information Collection; National Poultry Improvement Plan

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Revision and extension of approval of an information collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's intention to request approval of a revision and extension of an information collection associated with regulations for the National Poultry Improvement Plan.

**DATES:** We will consider all comments that we receive on or before February 17, 2009.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/main?main=DocketDetail&d=APHIS-2008-0130> to submit or view comments and to view supporting and related materials available electronically.

- *Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:* Please send two copies of your comment to Docket No. APHIS-2008-0130, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A-03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. APHIS-2008-0130.

*Reading Room:* You may read any comments that we receive on this docket 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.

*Other Information:* Additional information about APHIS and its programs is available on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information on regulations associated with the National Poultry Improvement Plan, contact Mr. Andrew Rhorer, Senior Coordinator, National Poultry Improvement Plan, VS, APHIS, 1498

Klondike Road, Suite 101, Conyers, GA 30094; (770) 922-3496. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Mrs. Celeste Sickles, APHIS' Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 851-2908.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* National Poultry Improvement Plan.

*OMB Number:* 0579-0007.

*Type of Request:* Revision and extension of approval of an information collection.

*Abstract:* The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the United States Department of Agriculture is authorized to, among other things, administer the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP), the primary purpose of which is to protect the health of the U.S. poultry population. NPIP is a voluntary Federal-State-industry cooperative program for the improvement of poultry flocks and products through disease control techniques. Participation in all Plan programs is voluntary, but flocks, hatcheries, and dealers of breeding poultry must first qualify as "U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean" as a condition for participation in the other Plan programs. The NPIP regulations are contained in 9 CFR parts 56, 145, 146, and 147.

In administering the Plan, APHIS requires a number of information collection activities and forms, including VS Forms 1-23/1-23A, Appraisal and Indemnity Claim for Animals Destroyed or Materials Destroyed/Continuation Sheet; VS Form 9-3, Report of Sales of Hatching Eggs, Chicks, and Poult; VS Form 9-4, Summary of Breeding Flock, Table-Egg Layer Flocks, Meat-Type Chicken and Turkey Slaughter Plants Participation; VS Form 9-5, Report of Hatcheries, Dealers, and Independent Flocks, Table-Egg Producers, Meat-Type Chicken and Turkey Slaughter Plants Participating in the NPIP; VS Form 9-6, Report of Salmonella Isolations to NPIP Official State Agencies; VS Form 9-7, Investigation of Salmonella Isolations in Poultry; VS Form 9-8, Flock Inspection and Check Testing Report; VS Form 9-9, Hatchery Inspection Form; VS Form 10-3, Request for Salmonella Serotyping; banding of sentinel birds for identification prior to flock vaccination; memorandums of understanding; recordkeeping; and printing and mailing to States, upon request, of computerized printouts of interstate sales by hatchery operators who ship large numbers of small chick orders.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve our use of these information collection activities for an additional 3 years.

This notice includes a description of the information collection requirements currently approved by OMB under numbers 0579-0007 (National Poultry Improvement Plan) and 0579-0305 (Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza; Voluntary Control Program and Payment of Indemnity). After OMB approves and combines the burden for both collections under a single collection (number 0579-0007), the Department will retire number 0579-0305.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning our information collection. These comments will help us:

(1) Evaluate 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;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies; e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

*Estimate of burden:* The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.6159046 hours per response.

*Respondents:* Flock owners, breeders, hatchery operators, commercial table-egg layer producers, meat-type chicken slaughter plants, turkey slaughter plants, and State veterinary medical officers.

*Estimated annual number of respondents:* 12,222.

*Estimated annual number of responses per respondent:* 13.772541.

*Estimated annual number of responses:* 168,328.

*Estimated total annual burden on respondents:* 103,674 hours. (Due to averaging, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the reporting burden per response.)

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.

Done in Washington, DC, this 15th day of December 2008.

**Kevin Shea,**

*Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. E8-30215 Filed 12-18-08; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2008-0134]

#### Notice of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection; Revision of Fruits and Vegetables Import Regulations

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Extension of approval of an information collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's intention to request an extension of approval of an information collection associated with regulations to allow importation of new fruits and vegetables into the United States.

**DATES:** We will consider all comments that we receive on or before February 17, 2009.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/main?main=DocketDetail&d=APHIS-2008-0134> to submit or view comments and to view supporting and related materials available electronically.

- *Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:* Please send two copies of your comment to Docket No. APHIS-2008-0134, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A-03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. APHIS-2008-0134.

*Reading Room:* You may read any comments that we receive on this docket 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.

*Other Information:* Additional information about APHIS and its programs is available on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information on the importation of new fruits and vegetables, contact Ms. Donna West, Senior Import Specialist, Commodity Import Analysis and Operations, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 133, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; (301) 734-8758. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Mrs. Celeste Sickles, APHIS\* Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 851-2908.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Revision of Fruits and Vegetables Import Regulations.

*OMB Number:* 0579-0293.

*Type of Request:* Extension of approval of an information collection.

*Abstract:* As authorized by the Plant Protection Act (PPA, 7 U.S.C. 7701 *et seq.*), the Secretary of Agriculture may prohibit or restrict the importation, entry, exportation, or movement in interstate commerce of any plant, plant product, biological control organism, noxious weed, means of conveyance, or other article if the Secretary determines that the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent a plant pest or noxious weed from being introduced into or disseminated within the United States. This authority has been delegated to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, which administers regulations to implement the PPA.

The regulations in Subpart—Fruits and Vegetables (7 CFR 319.56-1 through 319.56-47) allow a number of fruits and vegetables to be imported into the United States, under specified conditions, from certain parts of the world. The regulations in §§ 319.56-4 and 319.56-5 provide for a notice-based process for recognizing pest-free areas and for approving the importation of certain new commodities that, based on the findings of a pest risk analysis, can be safely imported into the United States subject to designated phytosanitary measures. Importation of new commodities under this process requires the use of information collection activities, including the issuance of permits and phytosanitary certificates.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve our use of these information collection activities for an additional 3 years.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as