

We are requesting comments on all aspects of this information collection to help us to:

(1) Evaluate 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) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Evaluate the quality, utility, and clarity of the information technology; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the information collection on those who respond 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 where provided, will be made a matter of public record. Comments will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval.

Dated: March 10, 2020.

Bruce Summers,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2020-05219 Filed 3-13-20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. No. AMS-SC-20-0018]

Christmas Tree Promotion, Research, and Information Order; Request for Extension and Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this document announces the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) intention to request approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). AMS requests an extension of and revision to the currently approved information collection 0581-0268 the Christmas Tree Promotion, Research and Information Program.

DATES: Comments must be received by May 15, 2020.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments concerning this notice. All comments

must be submitted through the Federal e-rulemaking portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> and should reference the document number and the date and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register**. All comments submitted in response to this proposed rule will be included in the rulemaking record and will be made available to the public. Please be advised that the identity of the individuals or entities submitting comments will be made public on the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Marlene Betts, Marketing Specialist, Promotion and Economics Division, Specialty Crops Program, AMS, USDA, Stop 0244, Room 1406-S, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-0244; telephone: (202) 720-5057, or electronic mail: Marlene.Betts@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Christmas Tree Promotion, Research, and Information Order Program.

OMB Number: 0581-0268.

Expiration Date of Approval: June 30, 2020.

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

Abstract: The Christmas Tree Promotion, Research, and Information program was created to help strengthen the position of Christmas trees in the marketplace, and maintain, develop, and expand markets for Christmas trees in the United States. The Christmas Tree Promotion, Research and Information Order (Order) (7 CFR part 1214) is authorized under the Commodity Promotion, Research, and Information Act of 1996 (1996 Act) (7 U.S.C. 7411-7425).

The Order was implemented on November 2011, and immediately stayed. The stay was lifted on April 7, 2014, in accordance with the provisions of the Agriculture Act of 2014 (2014 Farm Bill). Currently, the Christmas tree program is being administered by the Christmas Tree Promotion Board (Board) appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture and financed by a mandatory assessment on producers and importers of fresh cut Christmas trees. The assessment rate is \$0.15 per Christmas tree cut and sold domestically or imported into the United States. The program provides for an exemption for producers and importers that cut and sell or import fewer than 500 Christmas trees annually. In 2019, a referendum was held among eligible producers and importers to determine whether they

favor continuation of the program. Fifty-five percent of Christmas tree producers and importers who voted were in favor of continuing the program, and therefore, the program continues to help maintain and expand markets for Christmas trees.

The information collection requirements in this request are essential to carry out the intent of the Order and the 1996 Act. The objective in carrying out this responsibility includes assuring the following: (1) Funds are collected and properly accounted for; (2) expenditures of all funds are for the purposes authorized by the 1996 Act and Order; and (3) the board's administration of the programs conforms to USDA policy.

The Order's provisions have been carefully reviewed, and every effort has been made to minimize any unnecessary recordkeeping costs or requirements, including efforts to utilize information already submitted under other Christmas tree programs administered by USDA and other State programs.

The forms covered under this collection require the minimum information necessary to effectively carry out the requirements of the program. Such information can be supplied without data processing equipment or outside technical expertise. In addition, there are no additional training requirements for individuals filling out reports and remitting assessments to the Board. The forms are simple, easy to understand, and place as small a burden as possible on the person required to file the information.

Collecting information yearly would coincide with normal industry business practices. The timing and frequency of collecting information are intended to meet the needs of the industry while minimizing the amount of work necessary to fill out the required reports. The requirement to keep records for two years beyond the fiscal period of their applicability is consistent with normal industry practices. In addition, the information to be included on these forms is not available from other sources because such information relates specifically to individual producers and importers who will be subject to the provisions of the Order and 1996 Act. Therefore, there is no practical method for collecting the required information without the use of these forms.

AMS is committed to complying with the E-Government Act, which requires Government agencies in general to provide the public the option of submitting information or transacting business electronically to the maximum extent possible.

Estimate of Burden: Public recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.456 hour per response.

Respondents: Producers and importers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 7,500.

Estimated Total Annual Responses: 13,403.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.79.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 6,110 hours.

The Board has determined that it would be more efficient to separate the "Sales/Importer Report." It is currently a combined report that is used by both producers and importers. By separating the report, one "Domestic Sales Report" and one "Importer Sales Report" it would be easier and less confusing for producers and importers to report their sales to the Board separately, and therefore, a new Domestic Sales Report has been created. In addition, a new "Donation Form" was created to help the Board track voluntary contributions.

Domestic Sales Report

Estimate of Burden: Public recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.50 hours per application.

Respondents: Producers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 3,000.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 1,500 hours.

Donation Form

Estimate of Burden: Public recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.25 hours per application.

Respondents: Producers and importers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 150.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 37.50 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 document will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35.

Dated: March 10, 2020.

Bruce Summers,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2020-05218 Filed 3-13-20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

March 11, 2020

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 are requested regarding; 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; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and 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.

Comments regarding this information collection received by April 15, 2020 will be considered. Written comments should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8958.

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.

Food and Nutrition Service

Title: Job Search as a supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Employment and Training (E&T) Component.

OMB Control Number: 0584-NEW.

Summary of Collection: The Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended through Public Law 113-128, enacted July 22, 2014 [7 U.S.C. 2026], provides the legislative authority for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to administer the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Section 17 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 provides the authority to FNS to conduct research to help improve the administration and effectiveness of SNAP. The Food Security Act of 1985 established the SNAP employment and training (E&T) program to help SNAP recipients gain the "skills, training, or experience that will increase their ability to obtain regular employment" and achieve economic self-sufficiency.

Need and Use of the Information: The purpose of this study is to document the types of job search activities offered through SNAP E&T programs, examine State implementation of these activities, and assess the effectiveness of those activities in moving participants toward employment. FNS will collect information from a sample of participating State SNAP offices, local SNAP offices, SNAP E&T providers, and other SNAP E&T stakeholders. The study will profile the job search component of SNAP E&T programs in four States via site visits. The information will be used to provide FNS with a better understanding of the types of job search activities offered through SNAP E&T programs, examine State implementation of those activities, and help FNS better understand the effectiveness of those activities in moving participants toward self-sufficiency. FNS will use findings from the study to inform program enhancements and SNAP E&T policy and guidance to States. States may also use study findings to improve their job search components.

Description of Respondents: 328 Individuals or households; 31 Business-for-or-not for-profit organizations; 101 State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 460.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Once.