

# 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

### Agricultural Marketing Service

[Docket No. LS-95-016]

#### Notice of 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, (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), this notice announces the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) request for comments from the grain industry to improve or change the procedures for collecting information used to compile and generate grain related reports.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before February 26, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** Contact Jimmy A. Beard; Assistant to the Chief; Livestock and Grain Market News Branch, Livestock and Seed Division, AMS-USDA, Room 2623 South Building, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jimmy A. Beard, (202) 720-1050.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Grain Market News Reports and Molasses Market News Reports.

*OMB Number:* 0581-0005.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* 3-31-96.

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

*Abstract:* The grain industry has requested that USDA issue market news reports on grain and molasses. These reports are compiled in cooperation with the grain and feed industry and AMS. Market news reporting must be timely, accurate, and continuous if it is to be useful to producers, processors,

and the trade in general. Industry traders can use market news information to make marketing decisions on when and where to buy and sell. For example, a producer could compare prices being paid at local, terminal, or export elevators to determine which location will provide the best return. Some traders might choose to chart prices over a period of time in order to determine the most advantageous day of the week to buy or sell, or to determine the most favorable season. In addition, the reports are used by other Government agencies to evaluate market conditions and calculate price levels used for the Farmer-owned Reserve Program. Economists at most major agricultural colleges and universities use the grain and feed market news reports to make short and long-term market projections.

The Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621), section 203(g) directs and authorizes the collection and dissemination of marketing information including adequate outlook information, on a market area basis, for the purpose of anticipating and meeting consumer requirements aiding in the maintenance of farm income and to bring about a balance between production and utilization.

The grain industry could not collect the information themselves as they would not want to divulge their information to competitors, and exchange of such information between competitors would violate antitrust laws. Consequently, the information must be collected, compiled, and disseminated by an impartial third-party, in a manner which protects the confidentiality of the reporter. Also, since the Government is a large purchaser of grain and related products, a system to monitor the collection and reporting of data is needed.

*Estimate of Burden:* Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .0833 hours per response.

*Respondents:* Business or other for profit, individuals or households, farms, Federal Government.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 160.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 52.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 204 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Jimmy A. Beard,

Livestock and Grain Market News Branch, at (202) 720-1050.

Send comments regarding the accuracy of the burden estimate, ways to minimize the burden, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, or any other aspect of this collection of information, to: Jimmy A. Beard, Assistant to the Chief, Livestock and Grain Market News Branch, Livestock and Seed Division, AMS-USDA, Room 2623 South Building, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456.

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, and will be made available at the address above during regular business hours.

Dated: December 18, 1995.

Lon Hatamiya,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 95-31273 Filed 12-26-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

[Docket No. LS-95-015]

#### Notice of 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 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), this notice announces the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) request for comments from the livestock and meat industry to improve or change the procedures for collecting information used to compile and generate the Federally Inspected Estimated Daily Slaughter Report.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before February 26, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** Jimmy A. Beard; Assistant to the Chief; Livestock and Grain Market News Branch, Livestock and Seed Division, AMS-USDA, Room 2623 South Building, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jimmy A. Beard, (202)720-1050.