

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. FV95-997]

Notice 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 (Pub. L. 104-13), this notice announces the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) intention to request an extension for and revision to a currently approved information collection in support of the AMS/Provisions Regulating the Quality of Domestically Produced Peanuts Handled by Persons Not Subject to the Peanut Marketing Agreement based on re-estimates.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by April 29, 1996.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Contact Richard Lower, Fruit and Vegetable Division, AMS, USDA, P.O. Box 96456, room 2523-S, Washington, D.C., 20090-6456, (202) 720-2020 or Fax: (202) 720-5698.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Provisions Regulating the Quality of Domestically Produced Peanuts Handled by Person's Not Subject to the Peanut Marketing Agreement.

OMB Number: 0581-0163.

Expiration Date of Approval: March 31, 1996.

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

Abstract: After aflatoxin was found in peanuts in the mid-1960's, the domestic peanut industry has sought to minimize aflatoxin contamination in peanuts and

peanut products. Under authority of the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 (Act), as amended (7 U.S.C. 601-674), Peanut Marketing Agreement No. 146 and the Peanut Administrative Committee (Committee) were established by the Secretary in 1965. The Agreement was signed by a majority of domestic peanut handlers (signatory handlers).

Public Law 101-220, enacted December 12, 1989, amended section 608b of the Act to require that all handlers who have not signed the Agreement (non-signatory handlers) be subject to quality, handling, and inspection requirements to the same extent and manner as are required under the Agreement. Regulations to implement Pub. L. 101-220 were issued and made effective on December 4, 1990 (55 FR 49983). It is estimated that 5 percent of the domestic peanut crop is marketed by non-signatory handlers and the remainder of the crop is handled by signatory handlers.

The objective of the Agreement and the non-signatory handling regulations (7 CFR part 997) is to ensure that only wholesome peanuts enter edible market channels. Under both regulations, farmers stock peanuts with visible *Aspergillus flavus* mold (the principal source of aflatoxin) are required to be diverted to non-edible uses. Both regulations also provide that shelled peanuts meeting minimum outgoing quality requirements must be chemically analyzed for aflatoxin contamination.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .33 hours per response.

Respondents: Peanut handlers and service industries.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 45.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 26.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 377.55 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Richard Lower, Marketing Specialist, at (202) 720-2020.

Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of USDA's oversight of the program; (2) the accuracy of the collection burden estimate and the validity of the methodology and assumptions used in

estimating the burden on respondents; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be requested; and (4) ways to minimize the burden, including the use of automated and electronic technologies.

Comments should reference OMB No. 0581-0163 and be sent to: Docket Clerk, Fruit and Vegetable Division, AMS, USDA, P.O. Box 96456, room 2523-S, Washington, D.C., 20090-6456. Comments should reference the docket number and the date and page number of this issue of the Federal Register. All comments received will be available for public inspection in the Office of the Docket Clerk during regular business hours at the same address.

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.

Dated: February 22, 1996.

Martha B. Ransom,

Acting Deputy Director, Fruit and Vegetable Division.

[FR Doc. 96-4503 Filed 2-27-96; 8:45 am]

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[Docket No. FV95-948]

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 (Pub. L. 104-13), this notice announces the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) intention to request an extension for and revision to a currently approved information collection for Irish Potatoes Grown in Colorado, Marketing Order 948.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by April 29, 1996 to be assured of consideration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Contact Teresa L. Hutchinson, Marketing Specialist, Northwest Marketing Field Office, Fruit and Vegetable Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, 1220 SW Third Avenue, Room 369, Portland, OR 97204, Tel: (503) 326-2724, Fax (503) 326-7440.