

a.m. and end at 7 p.m. on April 14. On April 15, the meeting will begin at 8 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. Citizens may address the Committee on April 14, beginning at 4 p.m., to present ideas on how to improve National Forest System land and resource management planning.

Citizens who wish to speak at either meeting must register at that meeting before 5 p.m. Each speaker will be limited to a maximum of 5 minutes. Persons may also submit written suggestions to the Committee at either meeting or may mail suggestions to the addresses listed under the **ADDRESSES** heading.

The Committee of Scientists is chartered to provide scientific and technical advice to the Secretary of Agriculture and the Chief of the Forest Service on improvements that can be made to the National Forest System land and resource management planning process (62 FR 43691; August 15, 1997). Notice of the names of the appointed Committee members was published December 16, 1997 (62 FR 65795). Agendas and locations for future meetings will be published as separate notices in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: March 11, 1998.

Gloria Manning,

Acting Deputy Chief for National Forest System.

[FR Doc. 98-6971 Filed 3-17-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Intent To Request Approval of an Information Collection

AGENCY: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. No. 104-13) and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations at 5 CFR Part 1320 (60 FR 44978, August 29, 1995), this notice announces the National Agricultural Statistics Service's (NASS) intention to request approval for a new information collection, the 1998 Census of Horticultural Specialties.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by May 22, 1998 to be assured of consideration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Contact Rich Allen, Associate Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of

Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 4117, South Building, Washington, D.C. 20250-2000, (202) 720-4333.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: 1998 Census of Horticultural Specialties.

Type of Request: The 1998 Census of Horticultural Specialties, authorized by the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997 (Pub. L. No. 105-113), will include all operations in each State that produced and sold \$10,000 or more of horticultural specialty crops during 1998. The horticulture census will provide data on the number of farms, production and sales by type of plant, area in production, selected production expenses, hired workers, and value of land and equipment. Census data are used by the growers, their representatives, the government, and many other groups of people concerned with the horticulture industry. The census will provide detailed data on the production of specialty horticultural crops for each State. Results from the census will be used to evaluate new programs, disburse Federal funds, analyze market trends, and measure performance across States. The horticulture census will provide the only source of dependable, comparable data by State. The National Agricultural Statistics Service will use the information collected only for statistical purposes and will publish the data only as tabulated totals.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 66 minutes per response.

Respondents: Farms.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 36,000.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 39,600 hours.

Copies of this information collection and related instructions can be obtained without charge from Larry Gambrell, the Agency OMB Clearance Officer, at (202) 720-5778.

Comments: Comments are invited on: (a) 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; (b) 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; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, such as through the use of appropriate

automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to: Larry Gambrell, Agency OMB Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 4162, South Building, Washington, D.C. 20250-2000. 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.

Signed at Washington, D.C., March 3, 1998.

Donald M. Bay,

Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

[FR Doc. 98-6941 Filed 3-17-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-20-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Intent To Request Approval of an Information Collection

AGENCY: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. No. 104-13) and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations at 5 CFR Part 1320 (60 FR 44978, August 29, 1995), this notice announces the National Agricultural Statistics Service's (NASS) intention to request approval for a new information collection, the 1998 Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by May 22, 1998 to be assured of consideration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Contact Rich Allen, Associate Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 4117 South Building, Washington, D.C. 20250-2000, (202) 720-4333.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: 1998 Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey.

Type of Request: The 1998 Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey, authorized by the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997 (Pub. L. No. 105-113), will include a probability sample of farms reporting irrigation in the 1997 Census of Agriculture. This irrigation survey will provide detailed data relating to on-farm irrigation practices including acres irrigated by category of land use, acres and yields of irrigated and non-irrigated