

Done in Washington, DC, this 7th day of April, 1998.

Charles P. Schwalbe,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 98-9744 Filed 4-13-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 98-026-1]

Public Meeting; Veterinary Biologics

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Advance notice of public meeting and request for agenda topics.

SUMMARY: This is to notify producers and users of veterinary biological products, as well as other interested persons, that we will be holding our eighth public meeting to discuss regulatory and policy issues related to the manufacture, distribution, and use of veterinary biological products. We are in the process of planning the meeting agenda, and are requesting suggestions for topics of general interest to producers and other interested persons.

PLACE, DATE, AND TIME OF MEETING: The meeting will be held in the Scheman Building at the Iowa State Center, Ames, IA, on Wednesday and Thursday, September 23 and 24, 1998, from 8 a.m. to approximately 5 p.m. each day.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information on agenda topics, contact Dr. Donald C. Randall, Center for Veterinary Biologics, Inspection and Compliance, Veterinary Services, APHIS, 510 South 17th Street, Suite 104, Ames, IA 50010; phone (515) 232-5785, fax (515) 232-7120, or e-mail Donald.C.Randall@usda.gov. For registration information, contact Ms. Kay Wessman at the same address and fax number; phone (515) 323-5785 extension 127; or e-mail Mary.K.Wessman@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Since 1989, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has held seven public meetings on veterinary biologics in Ames, IA. The meetings provide an opportunity for the exchange of information between APHIS representatives, producers and users of veterinary biological products, and other interested persons on issues of common concern. APHIS is in the process of planning the agenda for the eighth such meeting, which will be held September 23 and 24, 1998.

As yet, the agenda for the meeting is not complete. Topics that have thus far been suggested include: (1) Electronic submission of Outlines of Production, forms, and data; (2) international harmonization of regulations; (3) naked DNA vaccines; (4) update on in vitro testing; and (5) quality assurance. Before finalizing the agenda, APHIS is seeking suggestions for additional meeting topics from the interested public.

We would also like to invite interested persons to use this meeting to present their ideas and suggestions concerning the licensing, manufacturing, testing, and distribution of veterinary biologics.

On or before May 15, 1998, please submit suggested meeting topics (for both breakout and general sessions), as well as proposed presentation titles, the name(s) of the presenter(s), and the approximate amount of time that will be needed for the presentation(s), to the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

After the agenda is finalized, APHIS will announce the schedule in the **Federal Register**.

Done in Washington, DC, this 7th day of April 1998.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Notice of Intent To Establish an Information Collection

AGENCY: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations at 5 CFR Part 1320 (60 FR 44977, August 29, 1995), this notice announces the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service's (CSREES) intention to request approval to establish an information collection from applicants for Federal financial assistance.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by June 18, 1998 to be assured of consideration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Contact Sally J. Rockey, Deputy

Administrator, Competitive Research Grants and Awards Management, CSREES, USDA, STOP 2240, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-2240, (202) 401-1761. E-mail: OEP@reeusda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Application Kit for Research and Extension Projects.

OMB Number: 0524-NEW.

Expiration Date of Current Approval: Not applicable.

Type of Request: Intent to seek approval to establish an information collection for three years.

Abstract: USDA/CSREES sponsors ongoing agricultural research, extension, and education programs under which competitive, special, and other awards of a high-priority nature are made.

Before awards can be made, certain information is required from applicants as part of an overall proposal package. In addition to project summaries, descriptions of the research, extension, or education efforts, literature reviews, curricula vitae of principal investigators/project directors, and other, relevant technical aspects of the proposed project, supporting documentation of an administrative and budgetary nature also must be provided. Because of the nature of the competitive, peer-reviewed process, it is important that information from applicants be available in a standardized format to ensure equitable treatment.

Each year, solicitations are issued requesting proposals for various research, education, and extension areas targeted for support. Applicants submit proposals for these targeted areas following formats outlined in the proposal application guidelines accompanying each program's solicitation. These proposals are evaluated by peer review panels and awarded on a competitive basis.

Forms CSREES-2002, "Proposal Cover Page;" CSREES-2003, "Project Summary;" CSREES-2004, "Proposal Budget;" CSREES-2005, "Current and Pending Support;" CSREES-2006 "National Environmental Policy Act Exclusions;" CSREES-2007, "Identification of Conflicts of Interest;" and CSREES-2008, "Assurance Statement(s);" are mainly used for proposal evaluation and administration purposes. While some of the information will be used to respond to inquiries from Congress and other government agencies, the forms are not designed to be statistical surveys or data collection instruments. Their completion by potential recipients is a normal part of the application to Federal