

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 Research Service

Notice of Intent To Grant Exclusive License

AGENCY: Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, intends to grant to Buena Biosystems, Inc., of Ventura, California, and Oregon Freeze Dry, Inc., of Albany, Oregon, co-exclusive licenses to U.S. Patent No. 5,834,177 issued on November 10, 1998, and the Continuation-In-Part to this Application, Serial No. 09/094,158 filed June 8, 1998, both entitled "Artificial Media for Rearing Entomophages." Notice of Availability was published in the **Federal Register** on August 7, 1997, for U.S. Patent No. 5,834,177.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before March 22, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to: USDA, ARS, Office of Technology Transfer, Room 415, Building 005, BARC-West, Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2350.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: June Blalock of the Office of Technology Transfer at the Beltsville address given above; telephone: 301-504-5989.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Government's patent rights to this invention are assigned to the United States of America, as represented by the Secretary of Agriculture. It is in the public interest to so license this invention as Buena Biosystems, Inc., and Oregon Freeze Dry, Inc., have each submitted a complete and sufficient application for a license. The prospective co-exclusive licenses will be royalty-bearing and will comply with the terms and conditions of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. The prospective co-exclusives license may be granted unless, within sixty (60) days from the

date of this published Notice, the Agricultural Research Service receives written evidence and argument which establishes that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7.

Richard M. Parry, Jr.,

Assistant Administrator.

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BILLING CODE 3410-03-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request—Evaluation of Asset Accumulation Initiatives

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the Food and Nutrition Service to request Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval of data collection for the study, Evaluation of Asset Accumulation Initiatives.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by March 22, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Send comments and requests for copies of this information collection to: Alberta Frost, Director, Office of Analysis, Nutrition, and Evaluation, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302.

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, including use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All comments will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection. All comments will become a matter of public record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alberta Frost, (703) 305-2017.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Evaluation of Asset Accumulation Initiatives.

OMB Number: Not yet assigned.

Expiration Date: Not applicable.

Type of Request: New collection of information.

Abstract: Special-purpose savings accounts are an increasingly common policy tool to encourage personal savings and asset accumulation by low-income individuals. Such savings accounts, established in the name of an individual or family and earmarked for expenditures to promote economic self-sufficiency, are excluded from consideration as countable assets for the purposes of determining eligibility for public benefits. One category of special-purpose accounts, known as Individual Development Accounts (IDAs), are established jointly between the participant and a sponsoring organization that matches the participant's deposits as an additional saving incentive.

A growing number of state and local special-purpose savings programs exist in the United States for low-income savers, with new programs developing rapidly. This growth has been spurred in large part by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Pub. L. 104-193 (PRWORA). Section 103(a)(1) of that legislation, 42 U.S.C. 604(g), allows states to establish IDA programs using Transitional Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funds. Other national legislation has been introduced to support special-purpose savings accounts, including the Assets for Independence Act of 1998 (Pub. L. 105-285).

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is conducting a study, Evaluation of Asset Accumulation Initiatives. The purpose of this project is to assess the degree to which state and local programs have been implemented to encourage low-income families (especially food stamp households) to save through special-purpose accounts.

Originally, this study was to involve a series of state demonstrations, as