

pertinent cranberry data. If information was not collected, data needed to keep the cranberry industry and the Secretary abreast of changes at the State and local level would not be available

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; farms.

Number of Respondents: 1,306.

Frequency of Responses: Recordkeeping; reporting: quarterly; annually.

Total Burden Hours: 874.

Food and Nutrition Service

Title: Food Stamp Program—Store Applications.

OMB Control Number: 0584-0008.

Summary of Collection: The Food Stamp Program (FSP) is designed to promote the general welfare and safeguard the health and well being of the Nation's population by raising levels of nutrition among low-income households. Section 2 of the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended states in part, that a Food Stamp Program is herein authorized which will permit low-income households to obtain a more nutritious diet through normal channels of trade by increasing food purchasing power for all eligible households who apply for participation. Section 9(a) of the Act requires that regulations provide for an application to be submitted by retailers and wholesalers to request approval for authorization to accept and redeem food coupons. The need to collect information is established under the Act to determine the eligibility of retail food stores, wholesale food concerns, and food service organizations applying for authorization to accept and redeem food stamp benefits, to monitor these firms for continued eligibility, to sanction stores for non-compliance with the Act, and for program management. The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) will collect information using forms FNS-252, Food Stamp Application for Store, FN252-R, Food Stamp Program Application for Stores—Reauthorization, and FNS 252-2, Application to Participate in the Food Stamp Program for Communal Dining Facility/Others.

Need and Use of the Information: FNS will collect information to determine a firm's eligibility for participation in the Food Stamp Program, program administration, compliance monitoring and investigations, and for sanctioning stores found to be violating the program. FNS is also responsible for requiring updates to application information and reviewing that information to determine whether or not the retail food store, wholesale food concern, or food service organization continues to meet eligibility requirements. Owners

Employer Identification Numbers (EIN) and Social Security Numbers (SSN) may be disclosed to and used by Federal agencies or instrumentalities that otherwise gave access to EINs and SSNs. FNS and other Federal Government agencies examine such information during compliance review, audit review, special studies or evaluation efforts.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; Farms; Federal Government.

Number of Respondents: 68,770.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 15,777.

Nancy B. Sternberg,

Departmental Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Secretary

National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board, Southern Regional Listening Session

AGENCY: Research, Education, and Economics, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Listening Session.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., the United States Department of Agriculture announces a Southern Regional Listening Session of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Deborah Hanfman, Executive Director, National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board, Research, Education, and Economics Advisory Board Office, Room 3918 South Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP: 2255, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-2255. Telephone: 202-720-3684. Fax: 202-720-6199, or e-mail: lshea@reeusda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board, which represents 30 constituent categories, as specified in section 802 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-127), will send representatives of its membership (11 members, the Executive Director, and a USDA administrative support person) to the Southern Region to hold a Southern

Regional Listening Session, 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on August 2, 1999.

The Southern Regional Listening Session will engage southern stakeholders (small farmers, producers/ranchers, academia including 1890 and 1994 institutions, the private sector, and other stakeholder groups) in panel sessions to present statements to Advisory Board members on agricultural research and education priorities and other issues of significant concern to the South. Findings of this Listening Session will be presented to the full Advisory Board for consideration in its ongoing effort to advise USDA on future agricultural research and education priorities. Time will be allowed at the end of Listening Session panels for open discussion and audience participation.

Dates: Southern Regional Listening Session, August 2, 1999, 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Place: Alcorn State University, Lorman, MS.

Type of Meeting: Open to the public.

Comments: The public may file written comments before or within 2 weeks after the meeting with the contact person. All statements will become a part of the official records of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board and will be kept on file for public review in the Office of the Advisory Board; Research, Education, and Economics; U.S. Department of Agriculture; Washington, D.C. 20250-2255.

Done at Washington, D.C. this 26th day of July 1999.

Eileen Kennedy,

Deputy Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 99-040N]

Codex Alimentarius Commission: Forty-sixth Session of the Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex) and Twenty-third Session of the CODEX

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Office of Under Secretary for Food Safety, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is sponsoring a public meeting on August