

us, as well as with State animal health officials, to carry out regulatory programs that ensure the health of the Nation's livestock and poultry.

Operating this important program requires us to engage in a number of information gathering activities including:

- Conducting veterinary accreditation orientation and training.
- Completing animal health certificates.
- Applying and removing official seals.
- Completing test reports.
- Reviewing applications for veterinary accreditation and re-accreditation.
- Recordkeeping.
- Updating information on accredited veterinarians.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve the continued use of this information collection activity.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning our information collection. These comments will help us:

- (1) Evaluate 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;
- (2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- (4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Estimate of burden: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.30516 hours per response.

Respondents: Accredited veterinarians, candidates for the Veterinary Accreditation Program, and State animal health officials who review applications for veterinary accreditation and re-accreditation.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 56,024.

Estimated annual number of responses per respondent: 3.0527.

Estimated annual number of responses: 171,024.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 52,190 hours. (Due to

rounding, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the average reporting burden per response.)

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.

Done in Washington, DC, this 8th day of October 1999.

Craig A. Reed,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

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BILLING CODE 3410-34-U

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Notice of Appointment to the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics

AGENCY: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notification of appointment to the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Secretary of Agriculture, in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2, announces members appointed to the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics. Twenty-five members were appointed from seven categories that cover a broad range of agricultural disciplines and interests.

Appointed members by categories they represent are:

Consumer and Information Organizations—Arthur R. Brown Jr., Egg Harbor, NJ; Ross Ronald Racine, Billings, MT; James Dennis Rieck, Winfield, IL. **Educational Organizations**—Ling-Jung (Kelvin) Koong, Corvallis, OR; Bobby Ray Phills, Tallahassee, FL; Gumecindo Salas, Springfield, VA. **Farm Services Organizations**—Charles Edward Adams, Senath, MO; John Irving Gifford, Rock Island, IL; Thomas Howard Kimmel, Reston, VA; Jack Charles Mitenbuler, Indianapolis, IN; Mark Edward Whalon, East Lansing, MI. **Government Agencies**—Robert Dale Epperson, Fresno, CA. **National Farm Organizations**—Carol Ann Gregg, Grove City, PA; Mark W. Jenner, Mt. Prospect, IL; Sheila Kay Massey, Animas, NM; Ivan W. Wyatt, Cedar Point, KS. **Producer and Marketing Organizations**—Mark Dale Lange, Germantown, TN; Andrew William LaVigne, Lakeland, FL; Edward Jerome Pennick, College Park, GA; Ashby Pamplin Ruden, Reston, VA; Lee F. Schrader, West Lafayette,

IN; Topper Thorpe, Castle Rock, CO; Hugh Anslum Warren, Greenwood, MS. **Professional Organizations**—Walter J. Armbruster, Darien, IL; Ronald C. Wimberley, Raleigh, NC.

Comments: The duties of the Committee are solely advisory. The Committee will make recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture with regards to the agricultural statistics program of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) and such other matters as it may deem advisable, or which the Secretary of Agriculture, Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, or the Administrator of NASS may request. The Advisory Committee's first meeting will take place before the end of the 1999 calendar year. All meetings are open to the public. Committee members will be reimbursed for official travel expenses only.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Questions should be e-mailed to hq_aa@nass.usda.gov, faxed to (202) 720-9013, OR telephoned to Rich Allen, Associate Administrator, NASS, at (202) 720-4333. All mailed correspondence should be sent to Rich Allen, Associate Administrator, U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 4117 South Building, Washington, DC 20250-2000.

Signed at Washington, D.C., September 28, 1999.

Donald M. Bay,

Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

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BILLING CODE 3410-20-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Task Force on Agricultural Air Quality

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Task Force on Agricultural Air Quality will meet for the first time in FY 2000 to discuss the relationship between agricultural production and air quality. Special emphasis will be placed on promoting a greater understanding of agriculture's impact on air quality and the role it plays in the local and national economy. The meeting is open to the public.

DATES: The meeting will convene Tuesday, November 9, 1999 at 9 a.m. and continue until 5 p.m. The meeting will resume Wednesday, November 10,