Notices

Federal Register
Vol. 70, No. 122
Monday, June 27, 2005

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 Marketing Service

[Docket No. PY–05–006]

Notice of Request for Extension and Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the shell egg surveillance portion of the Regulations for the Inspection of Eggs—7 CFR part 57.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by August 26, 2005.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Contact Shields Jones, Standardization Branch, Poultry Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., STOP 0259, Washington, DC 20250–0259, (202)720–3506.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Regulations for the Inspection of Eggs (Egg Products Inspection Act).

OMB Number: 0581–0113.

Expiration Date of Approval: March 31, 2006.

Type of Request: Extension and revision of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: Congress enacted the Egg Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 1031–1056) (EPIA) to provide, in part, a mandatory inspection program to control the disposition of dirty and checked shell eggs; to control unwholesome, adulterated, and inedible shell eggs that are unfit for human consumption; and to control the movement and disposition of imported shell eggs.

The Act authorizes the Department to issue regulations, which provide requirements and guidelines, for both the USDA and industry to use as the basis for common understanding to assure that only eggs fit for human food are used for such purpose.

Under the shell egg surveillance program, shell egg handlers are required to register with USDA. Quarterly, a State or Federal surveillance inspector visits each registered handler to verify that shell eggs packed for consumer use are in compliance, that restricted eggs are being disposed of properly, and that adequate records are being maintained.

The information collection and recordkeeping requirements in this request are essential to carry out the intent of Congress, to administer the mandatory inspection program, and to take regulatory action, in accordance with the regulations and the Act. The forms covered under this collection require the minimum information necessary to effectively carry out the requirements of the regulations, and their use is necessary to fulfill the intent of the Act.

The information collected is used only by authorized representatives: AMS, Poultry Programs' national staff; regional directors and their staffs; Federal-State supervisors and their staffs; and resident Federal-State graders, which includes State agencies. The information is used to assure compliance with the Act and the regulations and to take regulatory action. The Agency is the primary user of the information, with the secondary user each authorized State agency which has a cooperative agreement with AMS.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.30 hours per response.

Respondents: State or local governments, businesses or other for-profit, Federal agencies or employees, small businesses or organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 934.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 5.99.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 1,659.30 hours.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the 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 burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; or (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technical collection techniques or other forms of information. Comments may be sent to:

David Bowden, Standardization Branch, Poultry Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., STOP 0259, Washington, DC 20250–0259.

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.

Dated: June 20, 2005.

Kenneth C. Clayton,

Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 05–12621 Filed 6–24–05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 05–046–1]

Notice of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection; Animal Welfare; Guinea Pigs, Hamsters, and Rabbits

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Extension of approval of an information collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's intention to request an extension of approval of an information collection in support of regulations issued under the Animal Welfare Act for the humane treatment and handling of guinea pigs, hamsters, and rabbits.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before August 26, 2005.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

• EDOCKET: Go to *http://www.epa.gov/feddocket* to submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the official public docket, and to access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically. Once you have entered EDOCKET, click on the ''View Open APHIS Dockets'' link to locate this document.

• Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery: Please send four copies of your comment (an original and three copies) to Docket No. 05–046–1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3C71, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737–1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. 05–046–1.

Reading Room: You may read any comments that we receive on this docket in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 690–2817 before coming.

Other Information: You may view APHIS documents published in the **Federal Register** and related information on the Internet at *http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/webrepor.html.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information regarding the Animal Welfare Act regulations for guinea pigs, hamsters, and rabbits, contact Dr. Barbara Kohn, Senior Staff Veterinarian, Animal Care, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 84, Riverdale, MD 20737–1234; (301) 734–7833. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Mrs. Celeste Sickles, APHIS' Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 734–7477.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Animal Welfare; Guinea Pigs, Hamsters, and Rabbits.

OMB Number: 0579–0092.

Type of Request: Extension of approval of an information collection.

Abstract: The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) administers regulations and standards that have been promulgated under the Animal Welfare Act to promote and ensure the humane care and treatment of regulated animals under the Act. The regulations in title 9, part 3, subparts B and C, of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) contain specifications for the humane handling, care, treatment, and transportation of guinea pigs, hamsters, and rabbits. The regulations require, among other things, the documentation of specified information concerning the transportation of these animals.

The transportation standards for guinea pigs, hamsters, and rabbits require intermediate handlers and carriers to accept only shipping enclosures that meet the minimum requirements set forth in the regulations (§§ 3.36 and 3.61) or that are accompanied by documentation signed by the consignor verifying that the shipping enclosures comply with the regulations. If guinea pigs, hamsters, or rabbits are transported in cargo space that falls below 45 °F (7.2 C), the regulations specify that the animals must be accompanied by a certificate of acclimation signed by a USDA-accredited veterinarian.

In addition, all shipping enclosures must be marked with the words ''Live Animals'' and have arrows indicating the correct upright position of the container. Intermediate handlers and carriers are required to attempt to contact the consignee at least once every 6 hours upon the arrival of any live animals. Documentation of these attempts must be recorded by the intermediate handlers and carriers and maintained for inspection by APHIS personnel.

The above reporting and recordkeeping requirements do not mandate the use of any official government form.

The burden generated by APHIS requirements that all shipping documents be attached to the container has been cleared by the Office of Management (OMB) under OMB control number 0579–0036.

The reporting and recordkeeping requirements of 9 CFR part 3, subparts B and C, are necessary to enforce regulations intended to ensure the humane treatment of guinea pigs, hamsters, and rabbits during transportation in commerce.

We are asking OMB to approve our use of this information collection activity for an additional 3 years.

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 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 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 0.11555 hours per response.

Respondents: Intermediate handlers, carriers, class ''A'' and ''B'' dealers (as consignors), USDA-accredited veterinarians.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 1,470.

Estimated annual number of responses per respondent: 1.5306.

Estimated annual number of responses: 2,250.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 260 hours. (Due to averaging, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the 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 21st day of June, 2005.

Elizabeth E. Gaston,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. E5–3322 Filed 6–24–05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 04–085–3]

Monsanto Co. and Forage Genetics International; Availability Determination of Nonregulated Status for Alfalfa Genetically Engineered for Tolerance to the Herbicide Glyphosate

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public of our determination that the Monsanto Company and Forage Genetics International alfalfa lines designated as events J101 and J163, which have been genetically engineered for tolerance to the herbicide glyphosate, are no longer considered regulated articles under our