

Notices

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

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

October 18, 2006.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments regarding (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; (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 technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), *OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV* or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8958.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to

the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Food Safety and Inspection Service

Title: Exportation, Transportation, and Importation of Meat and Poultry Products.

OMB Control Number: 0583-0094.

Summary of Collection: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has been delegated the authority to exercise the functions of the Secretary as provided in the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) (21 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*) and the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA) (21 U.S.C. 451 *et seq.*). These statutes mandate that FSIS protect the public by ensuring that meat and poultry products are safe, wholesome, unadulterated, and properly labeled and packaged. FSIS requires that meat and poultry establishments exporting products to foreign countries complete an export certificate. Meat and poultry products not marked with the mark of inspection and shipped from one official establishment to another for further processing must be transported under FSIS seal to prevent such unmarked product from entering into commerce. To track product shipped under seal, FSIS requires shipping establishments to complete a form that identifies the type, amount, and weight of the product. Foreign countries exporting meat and poultry products to the U.S. must establish eligibility for importation of product into the U.S., and annually certify that their inspection systems are "equivalent to" the U.S. inspection system. Meat and poultry products intended for import into the U.S. must be accompanied by a health certificate, signed by an official of the foreign government, stating that certified foreign establishments have produced the products. FSIS will collect information using three FSIS forms.

Need and Use of the Information: FSIS will collect information to identify the type, amount, weight, destination, and originating country of the meat and poultry. FSIS will use the information to verify that a meat or poultry product intended for import has been prepared in a plant certified to prepare product for export to the U.S. FSIS will use the information to conduct re-inspection of meat and poultry imported to the U.S.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 6,619.

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Frequency of Responses:
Recordkeeping; Reporting: On occasion.
Total Burden Hours: 661,149.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Secretary

Notice of Appointment of Members to the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board

AGENCY: Research, Education, and Economics, USDA.

ACTION: Appointment of Members.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App 2, the United States Department of Agriculture announces the appointments made by the Secretary of Agriculture to the 12 vacancies on the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board.

DATES: Appointments by the Secretary of Agriculture are for a 3-year term, effective October 1, 2006, until September 30, 2009 with the exception of Category CC, which is a 2-year term expiring on September 30, 2008.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods: *E-mail:* *joseph.dunn@usda.gov*; *Fax:* 202-720-6199; *Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier:* National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board; Research Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board Office, Room 344A, Jamie L. Whitten Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture; STOP 2255; 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-2255.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Joseph Dunn, Executive Director, National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board, *Telephone:* 202-720-3684.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 802 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 authorized the creation of the National Agricultural Research, Extension,

Education, Economics Advisory Board. The Board is composed of 31 members, each representing a specific category related to agriculture. The Board was first appointed in September 1996 and at the time one-third of the original members were appointed for one, two, and three-year terms, respectively. Due to the staggered appointments, the terms for 12 of the 31 members expired in September 2006. Each member is appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture to a specific category on the Board, including farming or ranching, food production and processing, forestry research, crop and animal science, land-grant institutions, non-land grant college or university with a historic commitment to research in the food and agricultural sciences, food retailing and marketing, rural economic development, and natural resource and consumer interest groups, among many others. Appointees by vacancy category of the 9 new members and 3 re-appointments are as follows: Category A. "National Farm Organization," Joseph H. Layton, Owner and Operator, Lazy Day Farms, LLC, Vienna, MD; Category C. "Food and Animal Commodity Producer," Carol A. Keiser-Long, President, C-BAR Cattle Co. Inc.; and President, C-ARC Enterprises, Inc., Champaign, IL; Category E. "National Animal Commodity," George P. Watts, President, National Chicken Council, Washington, DC; Category F. "National Crop Commodity," Charles B. Coley, President, Coley Gin & Fertilizer Company/Managing Partners; Coley Farms, Vienna, GA; Category K. "National Human Health Association," John Cunningham, Deputy Provost and Professor of Nutrition, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA; Category P. "Hispanic-Serving Institutions," Ricardo Chavez Rel, Assistant to the Dean, Agricultural Experiment Station, Cooperative Extension Service, College of Agriculture & Home Economics, Las Cruces, NM; Category R. "Non Land-Grant College and University with a Historic Commitment to Research in Food and Agricultural Science," James R. Clark, Dean and Vice Chancellor, College of Agriculture, Science and Engineering, West Texas A&M University, Canyon, TX; Category T. "Transportation of Food and Agricultural Products to Domestic and Foreign Markets", James Lugg, Executive Vice-President Fresh Express President TransFRESH Corporation, Salinas, CA, Category V, "Food and Fiber Processors," Mary Wagner, Chief Technology Officer, E & J Gallo Winery, Modesto, CA; Category AA. "Private Sector Organization involved in

International Development," William J. Hudson, President & CEO, World Food Logistics Organization, Alexandria, VA; Category CC. "Research Agency of the Federal Government Other than USDA, David Thomassen, Chief Scientist, U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, DC; Category DD. "National Social Science Association", James J. Zuches, Vice Chancellor, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC.

Done at Washington, DC, this 18th day of October 2006.

Merle Pierson,

Deputy Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics.

[FR Doc. E6-17793 Filed 10-23-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2006-0154]

Notice of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection; Importation of Fruits and Vegetables

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 associated with regulations for the importation of fruits and vegetables.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before December 26, 2006.

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

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** Go to <http://regulations.gov>, select "Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service" from the agency drop-down menu, then click "Submit." In the Docket ID column, select APHIS-2006-0154 to submit or view public comments and to view supporting and related materials available electronically. Information on using Regulations.gov, including instructions for accessing documents, submitting comments, and viewing the docket after the close of the comment period, is available through the site's "User Tips" link.

- **Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:** Please send four copies of your comment (an original and three copies) to Docket No. APHIS-2006-0154,

Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A-03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. APHIS-2006-0154.

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: Additional information about APHIS and its programs is available on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on regulations associated with the importation of fruits and vegetables, contact Ms. Donna L. West, Senior Import Specialist, Commodity Import Analysis and Operations, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road, Unit 133, Riverdale, MD 20737; (301) 734-8758. 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: Importation of Fruits and Vegetables.

OMB Number: 0579-0236.

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

Abstract: As authorized by the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7701 *et seq.*) (PPA), the Secretary of Agriculture may prohibit or restrict the importation, entry, exportation, or movement in interstate commerce of any plant, plant product, biological control organism, noxious weed, means of conveyance, or other article if the Secretary determines that the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent a plant pest or noxious weed from being introduced into or disseminated within the United States. This authority has been delegated to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), which administers regulations to implement the PPA.

The regulations in Subpart—Fruits and Vegetables (7 CFR 319.56 through 319.56-8) authorize a number of fruits and vegetables to be imported into the United States, under specified conditions, from certain parts of the world. These fruits and vegetables include, among other commodities, African horned cucumber from Chile;