

education component of the Food Stamp Program, which is provided for in section 11(f) of the Food Stamp Act, 7 U.S.C. 2020(f). The new Education and Administrative Reporting System (EARS) will provide uniform data and information about the nutrition education activities of all participating States across the country. The data and information collected through EARS will inform management decisions, support policy initiatives, provide documentation for legislative, budget and other requests, and support planning within the agency. Data will be submitted electronically by all state FSP agencies annually.

**Need and Use of the Information:** EARS will allow for the collection of uniform data on program activities, making it possible to describe who is reached, what they are taught and how resources are used in Food Stamp Nutrition Education (FSNE). Data collected under this new system include demographic characteristics of participants receiving nutrition education benefits, topics covered by the educational intervention, education delivery sites, education strategies, and resource allocation. Without this data, FNS would not be able to respond timely and effectively to legislative and budget information requests or monitor trends in program activities.

**Description of Respondents:** State, Local, or Tribal Government.

**Number of Respondents:** 52.

**Frequency of Responses:** Reporting: Annually.

**Total Burden Hours:** 2,808.

**Ruth Brown,**

*Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2006-0194]

#### Control of Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia; Public Meetings

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings.

**SUMMARY:** We are advising the public that the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's Veterinary Services program will host four public meetings to present current information about the outbreaks of viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS) and actions taken to

prevent the spread of this fish disease, and to discuss issues concerning possible regulation of VHS by the Agency.

**DATES:** The meetings will be held in Lakewood, CO, and Memphis, TN, on January 9, 2007, and in Romulus, MI, and Coraopolis, PA, on January 10, 2007. Each meeting will be held from 8:30 a.m. to noon, local time.

**ADDRESSES:** The meetings will be held at the following locations:

- *Lakewood, CO:* U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 134 Union Boulevard, 1st Floor Conference Room, Lakewood, CO.

- *Memphis, TN:* The Peabody Memphis Hotel, 149 Union Avenue, Memphis, TN.

- *Romulus, MI:* Crowne Plaza Hotel, Detroit-Metro Airport, 8000 Merriman Road, Romulus, MI.

- *Coraopolis, PA:* Pittsburgh Airport Marriott, 777 Aten Road, Coraopolis, PA.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Jill Rolland, Aquaculture Specialist, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 46, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; (301) 734-7727.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS) is a highly contagious disease of fresh and saltwater fish. The virus that causes VHS produces clinical signs in susceptible fish including internal hemorrhaging and death, but other species may carry the virus and show no clinical signs. The disease does not pose a risk to people, but it has recently been found to affect a number of free-ranging fish species previously not known to be susceptible, including a number of important baitfish, recreational, and foodfish species.

In response to outbreaks of VHS in the Great Lakes region and the potential impact on aquacultured fish species in the United States, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) issued an emergency order on October 24, 2006, prohibiting the importation of certain species of live fish from Ontario and Quebec, Canada, into the United States and the interstate movement of the same species from the eight States bordering the Great Lakes: New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. On November 14, 2006, APHIS modified the October 24, 2006, emergency order to allow the interstate movement of VHS-susceptible species for slaughter or research under certain conditions and to allow the importation of VHS-susceptible species of salmonids from Ontario and Quebec into the United States if the fish meet the requirements

specified in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Title 50 Certification (50 CFR 16.13(a)(3) and 16.13(b)).

Now we are advising the public that APHIS' Veterinary Services program will host four public meetings on VHS. The purpose of the meetings is to present current information about the outbreaks of VHS and actions taken to prevent its spread, and to give interested persons an opportunity to present data and views concerning the possible regulation of VHS by the Agency. The meetings will be held in Lakewood, CO, and Memphis, TN, on January 9, 2007, and in Romulus, MI, and Coraopolis, PA, on January 10, 2007. Each meeting will be held from 8:30 a.m. to noon, local time.

A representative of APHIS will preside at each public meeting. Any interested person may appear and be heard in person, by attorney, or by other representative. Written statements may be submitted and will be made part of the meeting record.

Registration for each meeting will take place 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the meeting. Persons who wish to speak at a meeting will be asked to sign in with their name and organization to establish a record for the meeting. We ask that anyone who reads a statement provide two copies to the presiding officer at the meeting.

The presiding officer may limit the time for each presentation so that all interested persons appearing at each meeting have an opportunity to participate. Each meeting may be terminated at any time if all persons desiring to speak and who are present in the meeting room have been heard.

Done in Washington, DC, this 19th day of December 2006.

**Elizabeth E. Gaston,**

*Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Farm Service Agency

#### Commodity Credit Corporation Information Collection; Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program

**AGENCY:** Farm Service Agency, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Farm Service Agency and the Commodity Credit Corporation are seeking comments from all interested individuals and organizations on the

extension of a currently approved information collection used in support of the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). The information collected is needed to determine eligibility to obtain NAP assistance.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before February 20, 2007 to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments concerning this notice should be addressed to Clay Lagasse, Section Head; Common Disaster Provisions Section, Disaster Branch; Production, Emergencies and Compliance Division, Farm Service Agency, USDA, Mail Stop 0517, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0522 and to the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. Comments also may be submitted by e-mail to: [Clay.Lagasse@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:Clay.Lagasse@wdc.usda.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Clay Lagasse, Section Head, Common Disaster Provisions Section, Disaster Assistance Branch, (202) 205-9893.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Description of Information Collection**

*Title:* Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program.

*OMB Number:* 0560-0175.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* July 31, 2007.

*Type of Request:* Extension with revision.

*Abstract:* The Noninsured Crop Assistance Program is authorized under 7 U.S.C. 7333 and implemented under regulations issued at 7 CFR Part 1437. The NAP is administered under the general supervision of the Executive Vice-President of CCC (who also serves as Administrator, FSA), and is carried out by FSA State and County committees. The information collected allows CCC to provide assistance under NAP for losses of commercial crops or other agricultural commodities (except livestock) for which catastrophic risk protection under 7 U.S.C. 1508 is not available, and that is produced for food or fiber. Additionally, NAP provides assistance for losses of floriculture, ornamental nursery, Christmas tree crops, turf grass sod, seed crops, aquaculture (including ornamental fish), sea oats and sea grass, industrial crops, and tropical agricultural crops. The information collected is necessary to determine whether a producer and crop or commodity meet applicable conditions for assistance and to

determine compliance with existing rules. Producers must annually: (1) Request NAP coverage by completing an application for coverage and paying a service fee by the CCC-established application closing date; (2) file a current crop-year report of acreage for the covered crop or commodity; and (3) certify production of each covered crop or commodity. When damage to a covered crop or commodity occurs, producers must file a notice of loss with the local FSA administrative county office within 15 calendar days of occurrence or 15 calendar days of the date damage to the crop or commodity becomes apparent. Producers must also file an application for payment and certification of income with the local FSA administrative county office.

*Estimate of Burden:* Public reporting burden for this information collection is estimated to average 0.6 hours per response.

*Type of Respondents:* Producers of commercial crops or other agricultural commodities (except livestock).

*Estimated Annual Number of Respondents:* 291,500.

*Estimated Annual Number of Responses per Respondent:* 3.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 2,143,562.

*Comment is invited on:* (1) Whether this collection of information is necessary for the stated purposes and the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical or scientific utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All comments received in response to this notice, including names and addresses when provided, will be a matter of public record. Comments will be summarized, and included in the submission for Office of Management and Budget approval.

Signed at Washington, DC, on December 15, 2006.

**Teresa Lasseter,**

*Administrator, Farm Service Agency, and Executive Vice-President, Commodity Credit Corporation.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Foreign Agricultural Service**

**Advisory Committee on Emerging Markets: Nominations**

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that nominations are being sought for twenty (20) qualified persons to serve on the Advisory Committee on Emerging Markets (the Committee). The role of the Committee is to provide information and advice, based upon knowledge and expertise of the members, useful to the Department of Agriculture (USDA) in implementing the Emerging Markets Program (EMP). The Committee also advises USDA on ways to increase the involvement of the U.S. private sector in emerging markets in food and rural business systems and reviews proposals submitted to the Program for funding technical assistance activities.

**DATES:** Written nominations must be received by the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) by 5 p.m. on January 22, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** All nominating materials should be sent to Ms. Nancy Hirschhorn, Foreign Agricultural Service, Stop 1052, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1052. Forms may also be submitted by fax to (202) 690-0193.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Persons interested in serving on the Committee, or in nominating individuals to serve, should contact Ms. Nancy Hirschhorn, Foreign Agricultural Service, by telephone (202) 720-6896, by fax (202) 690-0193, or by electronic mail to [emo@fas.usda.gov](mailto:emo@fas.usda.gov) and request Form AD-755 and Form SF-181. Persons with disabilities who require an alternative means for communication of information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Committee is authorized by section 1542 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990, as amended. The overall purpose of the Committee is to provide USDA with information that may be useful in carrying out the provisions of the Emerging Markets Program. The Committee is composed of representatives of the various sectors of the food and rural business systems of the United States. More information about the purpose and function of the Committee and about the Emerging Markets Program may be found at the FAS/Emerging Markets Program Web site: <http://www.fas.usda.gov/mos/em>