

# Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 71, No. 246

Friday, December 22, 2006

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

December 19, 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](mailto: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.

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

*Title:* Customer Service Survey Project.

*OMB Control Number:* 0579-NEW.

*Summary of Collection:* The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) regulates, and provides services related to, the importation, interstate movement, and exportation of animals, animal products, and other articles to prevent the spread of pests and diseases of livestock. Veterinary Services (VS) is the unit that carries out these activities to protect animal health. VS plans to conduct a customer Service survey. VS needs to collect information which can be used to identify and correct shortcomings in the delivery of its services. The survey would be in the form of a short questionnaire that VS would present to individuals who use its services.

*Need And Use of The Information:* Data collected, analyzed, and interpreted concerning the Customer Service Survey will be used to evaluate and improve service delivery in area offices and import/export facilities. The information is to be used by Veterinary Services managers, and Supervisory Veterinary Medical Officers to revise programs and procedures and to request training for Veterinary Service employees who provide services to customers and stakeholders. If this data is not collected VS offices will lose a measurement tool for evaluating and improving services provided to the public.

*Description Of Respondents:* Farms; Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit.

*Number Of Respondents:* 5,000.

*Frequency Of Responses:* Reporting: On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 415.

**Ruth Brown,**

*Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. E6-21965 Filed 12-21-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-34-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

December 19, 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](mailto: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 and Nutrition Service

*Title:* Education and Administrative Reporting System (EARS).

*OMB Control Number:* 0584-NEW.

*Summary of Collection:* The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has developed a new reporting system for the nutrition

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*

[FR Doc. E6-21968 Filed 12-21-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-30-P**

## 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.*

[FR Doc. E6-21966 Filed 12-21-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-34-P**

## 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