

Agriculture (USDA) initiated implementation of a National Animal Identification System (NAIS) in 2004. The NAIS is a cooperative State-Federal-industry program administered by USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). The purpose of the NAIS is to provide a streamlined information system that will help producers and animal health officials respond quickly and effectively to animal disease events in the United States.

The first component of the program, premises registration, is well underway and the second component, animal identification, is being implemented for several species. The third component, animal tracing, is currently under development with USDA's State and industry partners. Industry, through private systems, and States will manage the animal tracking databases that maintain the movement records of animals. These information systems will provide the locations of a subject animal and the records of other animals that the subject animal came into contact with at each premises. Participation in any component of the program is voluntary.

This notice announces the availability of three documents related to the National Animal Identification System: A Draft User Guide, a Program Standards and Technical Reference document, and a technical specification document for the animal tracking databases.

Draft User Guide for the NAIS

The Draft User Guide provides comprehensive information about participating in the NAIS. Part I of the document provides a brief overview to familiarize producers with the NAIS, its goals, its organizational components, and other information concerning its ongoing implementation. The remainder of the document discusses each of the NAIS' components in greater detail and provides operational-level "how to" information and resources. Part II of the document provides information about premises registration; Part III of the document discusses the animal identification component of the program; and Part IV of the document details the animal tracing component.

The Draft User Guide is the most current plan for the NAIS and replaces all previously published program documents, including the 2005 Draft Strategic Plan and Draft Program Standards (announced at 70 FR 23961–23963, May 6, 2005) and the 2006 Strategy for the Implementation of NAIS (announced at 71 FR 17805–17806, April 7, 2006). Those documents provided the opportunity for the public

to comment on the NAIS as USDA worked through many issues with industry and the States and Tribes. USDA received valuable feedback from producers, State animal health officials, and other interested stakeholders on the documents and on the program, and made adjustments to the program in response.

The Draft User Guide represents the most up-to-date general information on NAIS today. The NAIS will continue to evolve as details are addressed through ongoing dialogue with all stakeholders.

Program Standards and Technical Reference Document

The Program Standards and Technical Reference document supplements the Draft User Guide and provides, as a separate document, an update for the data element standards that were contained in the 2005 Draft Program Standards. To ensure a uniform, streamlined information system evolves, USDA has established certain data standards, where necessary, to facilitate standardization of information in the NAIS. This document provides the data element standards and other standards relative to the NAIS. Use of these standards by States, Tribes, and industry organizations involved in the administration of the system, manufacturers of identification devices, and other entities that are part of, or that support the NAIS, will ensure that the system is effective. Although the Draft User Guide contains valuable information about NAIS information systems, this Program Standards document is targeted more to entities that are involved in the administration of the program, and thus contains details not appropriate for the User Guide, which is aimed at producers participating in the program.

Animal Tracking Database Technical Specifications Document

USDA is developing a single portal, referred to as the Animal Trace Processing System (ATPS), to allow authorized State and Federal animal health officials to request information from the administrators of the animal tracking databases in certain situations:

- An indication (suspect, presumptive positive, etc.) or confirmed positive test of a foreign animal disease.
- An animal disease emergency as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture and/or State Departments of Agriculture.
- The need to conduct a traceback or traceforward to determine the origin of infection for a program disease (brucellosis, tuberculosis, etc.).

To ensure that the privatization of the animal movement tracking databases progresses in as timely a manner as possible, APHIS initiated the integration of private and State animal tracking databases (ATDs) with the NAIS during an interim/development phase to allow participation in 2006 and early 2007.

Organizations that wished to participate requested USDA evaluations of their systems for consideration. If the system met the interim requirements, the organization had the opportunity to participate in the interim cooperative agreement. As of January 15, 2007, APHIS had entered into interim cooperative agreements with 14 organizations that have databases that meet minimum standards and that wish to support the advancement of the integration of private and State animal tracking databases with the NAIS.

Throughout this interim/development phase, USDA continued to work with participating organizations to design and develop the ATPS and to establish the technical specifications of the ATDs. ATDs in the implementation phase will need to fulfill certain technical requirements to enable them to integrate with the ATPS. The Animal Tracking Database Technical Specifications document contains the specifications for establishing compliant animal tracking databases for the implementation phase. Applications for the implementation (production) phase of the animal tracking databases may be requested by contacting Mr. Rich Baca (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

Comments about any of these documents or other aspects of the NAIS may be submitted to USDA through the NAIS Web site e-mail address: animalidcomments@aphis.usda.gov or by mail to NAIS Program Staff, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road, Unit 200, Riverdale, MD 20737.

Done in Washington, DC, this 30th day of January 2007.

Nick Gutierrez,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. E7–1719 Filed 1–31–07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation

Request for Extension and Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, Risk Management Agency (RMA), USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C Chapter 35) this notice announces the Risk Management Agency's intention to request an extension for and revision to a currently approved information collection for Notice of Funds Availability—Community Outreach and Assistance Partnership Program.

DATES: Comments on this notice will be accepted until close of business, April 2, 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact David Wiggins, Civil Rights Office, USDA/RMA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 0805, Washington, DC 20250-0805, telephone (202) 690-2686. Comments may also be submitted electronically to: David.Wiggins@rma.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Notice of Funds Availability—Community Outreach and Assistance Partnership Program.

OMB Number: 0563-0066.

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

Abstract: The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation administers cooperative agreements that will be used to provide outreach and assistance to under-served agricultural producers such as women, limited resource, socially disadvantaged and other traditionally under-served farmers and rancher (under-served agricultural producers). With this submission, RMA seeks to obtain OMB's approval for an information collection project that will assist RMA in operating and evaluating these programs. The primary objective of the information collection projects is to enable RMA to better evaluate the performance capacity and plans of organizations that are applying for funds for cooperative agreements for the Community Outreach and Assistance Partnership Program.

This information collection package will be used for evaluating applications and awarding partnership agreements, applicants are required to submit materials and information necessary to evaluate and rate the merit of proposed projects and evaluate the capacity and qualification of the organization to complete the project.

Estimate of Burden: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 6 hours per response for new applications and 4 hours for renewal applications.

Respondents/Affected Entities: Education institutions, community

based and cooperative organizations, and non-profit organizations.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 100.

Estimated annual number of responses per respondent: 1.

Estimated annual number of responses: 100.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 967 hours.

Comments are invited on: (1) 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) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection information; (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 those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other collection technologies, e.g. permitting electronic submission of responses. Comments may be sent to David Wiggins, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Civil Rights Office, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, Risk Management Agency, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 0805, Washington, DC 20250-0805. All comments will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the same address.

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.

Signed in Washington, DC, on January 26, 2007.

Eldon Gould,

Manager, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation.

[FR Doc. E7-1632 Filed 1-31-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-08-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

The Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), today terminated the certification of a petition for trade adjustment assistance (TAA) that was filed by a group of Indiana fresh cut snapdragon producers. Indiana fresh cut snapdragon producers are no longer eligible for TAA benefits in fiscal year 2007.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Upon investigation, the Administrator determined that U.S. producer prices for Indiana fresh cut snapdragon were 13 percent higher than the base five-year average price. Therefore, producer prices were no longer a contributing factor for program eligibility—a requirement for TAA program eligibility and therefore insufficient grounds to re-certify this petition.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jean-Louis Pajot, Coordinator, Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers, FAS, USDA, (202) 720-2916, e-mail: trade.adjustment@fas.usda.gov.

Dated: January 17, 2007.

Michael W. Yost,

Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.

[FR Doc. E7-1573 Filed 1-31-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

The Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), today terminated the certification of petitions for trade adjustment assistance (TAA) that was filed by the National Grape Cooperative Association representing Michigan and Washington Concord juice grape producers. Concord juice grape producers in these states are no longer eligible for TAA benefits in fiscal year 2007.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Upon investigation, the Administrator determined that U.S. imports of grape juice fell by 10.1 million liters between 2005 and 2006, a decline of 4 percent. Therefore, imports were no longer a contributing factor for program eligibility. An increase in imports is required for re-certifying a petition for TAA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Jean-Louis Pajot, Coordinator, Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers, FAS, USDA, (202) 720-2916, e-mail: trade.adjustment@fas.usda.gov.

Dated: January 17, 2007.

Michael W. Yost,

Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.

[FR Doc. E7-1572 Filed 1-31-07; 8:45 am]

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