

Notices

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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

March 14, 2007.

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) 720-8681.

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.

Rural Housing Service

Title: Non-Profit Customer Voluntary Survey on the Equal Treatment Rule.

OMB Control Number: 0575-NEW.

Summary of Collection: In accordance with the Government Performance and Results Act and Executive Order 13280, Responsibilities of the Department of Agriculture and the Agency for International Development With Respect to Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, the survey will measure Rural Development's implementation of and compliance with the Equal Treatment Rule (7 CFR part 16) as well as implement action plans and measure improvements. The 14 Rural Development programs under the Faith-Based and Community Initiatives provide insured or guaranteed loans and/or grants to eligible applicants (including non-profit entities) located in rural geographic areas to assist them in providing services to beneficiaries, low-income individuals and communities.

Need and Use of the Information: To facilitate improved participant outcome, and in an effort to continuously improve program services, the survey can measure impediments that applicants may have encountered when they submitted an application. The outcome of the Voluntary Survey on the Equal Treatment Rule will provide the general satisfaction level among non-profit borrowers throughout the nation, highlight areas that need improvement, provide a benchmark for future surveys, and improvement in implementation of and compliance with the Equal Treatment Rule.

Description of Respondents: Not-for-profit institutions.

Number of Respondents: 4,000.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: One time.

Total Burden Hours: 320.

Charlene Parker,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. E7-4915 Filed 3-16-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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March 14, 2007.

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Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Title: Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey.

OMB Control Number: 0579-0010.

Summary of Collection: The Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 3301 *et seq.*)

authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture, either independently or in cooperation with States, to carry out operations or measures to detect, eradicate, suppress, control, prevent, or retard the spread of plant pests and noxious weed that are new to or not yet widely distributed within the United States. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) have joined forces with the States to create a program called the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey. The program allows the States and PPQ to conduct surveys to detect and measure the presence of exotic plant pests and noxious weed and to enter survey data into a national computer-based system (National Agricultural Plant Information System).

Need and Use of the Information: APHIS will collect information using PPQ Form 391 and the information from the survey to predict potential plant pest and noxious weed situations and to promptly detect and respond to the occurrence of new pests and to record the location of those pest incursions that could directly hinder the export of U.S. farm commodities. If the information were not collected, it would seriously affect APHIS ability to timely assist farmers, State personnel, and others involved in agriculture and protection of the environment from the threat posed by migratory pests.

Description of Respondents: State, Local or tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 155.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 3,969.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. E7-4919 Filed 3-16-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2007-0035]

Notice of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection; Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza; Voluntary Control Program and Payment of Indemnity

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 a voluntary control program for the H5/H7 subtypes of low pathogenic avian influenza in poultry and the payment of indemnity for costs associated with eradication of the disease.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before May 18, 2007.

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

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** Go to <http://www.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-2007-0035 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-2007-0035, 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-2007-0035.

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 the information collection associated with the voluntary control program for subtypes H5/H7 low pathogenic avian influenza and the payment of indemnity, contact Mr. Andrew Rhorer, Senior Coordinator, Poultry Improvement Staff, National Poultry Improvement Plan, Veterinary Services, APHIS, USDA, 1498 Klondike Road, Suite 101, Conyers, GA 30094-

5104; (770) 922-3496. 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: Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza; Voluntary Control Program and Payment of Indemnity.

OMB Number: 0579-0305.

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

Abstract: The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has authority for, among other things, administering the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP), the primary purpose of which is to protect the health of the U.S. poultry population. NPIP is a Federal-State-industry cooperative program for the improvement of poultry breeding flocks and products through disease control techniques. Participation in all Plan programs is voluntary, but flocks, hatcheries, and dealers of breeding poultry must first qualify as "U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean" as a condition for participation in the other Plan programs.

Under the Plan, the regulations in 9 CFR part 56, "Control of H5/H7 Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza," provide for the payment of indemnity for costs associated with the eradication of H5/H7 subtypes of low pathogenic avian influenza (LPAI). To participate in the LPAI indemnity program, poultry owners must sign a payment, appraisal, and agreement form (VS Form 1-23) and must certify as to whether any other parties hold mortgages on the flock and whether any contracts exist for the growing or care of poultry to be destroyed. In addition, the regulations in 9 CFR part 146, "National Poultry Improvement Plan for Commercial Poultry," require for the voluntary program the use of a number of information collection and recordkeeping activities: VS Form 9-2, Flock Selecting and Testing Report; VS Form 9-4, Summary of Breeding Flock Participation; and VS Form 9-5, Report of Hatcheries, Dealers, and Independent Flocks Participating in the NPIP.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve our use of these information collection activities 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