

(APHIS), is responsible for administering regulations intended to prevent the dissemination of animal diseases within the United States. Garbage is one of the primary media through which numerous infections or communicable diseases of swine are transmitted. Because of the serious threat to the U.S. swine industry, Congress passed Public Law 96-468 "Swine Health Protection Act" on October 17, 1980. This law requires USDA to ensure that all garbage is treated prior to its being fed to swine that are intended for interstate or foreign commerce or that substantially affect such commerce. The Act and the regulations will allow only operators of garbage treatment facilities, which meet certain specification to utilize garbage for swine feeding. APHIS will use various forms to collect information.

**Need and Use of the Information:** APHIS collects information from persons desiring to obtain a permit (license) to operate a facility to treat garbage. Prior to issuance of a license, an inspection will be made of the facility by an authorized representative to determine if it meets all requirements of the regulations. Periodic inspections will be made to determine if licenses are meeting the standards for operation of their approved facilities. Upon receipt of the information from the Public Health Officials, the information is used by Federal or State animal health personnel to determine whether the waste collector is feeding garbage to swine, whether it is being treated, and whether the feeder is licensed or needs to be licensed.

**Description of Respondents:** Business or other for profit.

**Number of Respondents:** 2,804.

**Frequency of Responses:**

Recordkeeping; Reporting: On occasion.

**Total Burden Hours:** 10,538.

#### **Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service**

**Title:** CWD in Cervids; Payment of Indemnity.

**OMB Control Number:** 0579-0189.

**Summary of Collection:** Title 7, U.S.C. 8301, Animal Health Protection Act, authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to promulgate regulations and take measures to prevent the introduction into the United States and the interstate dissemination with the United States of communicable diseases of livestock and poultry, and to pay claims growing out of the destruction of animals. Disease prevention is the most effective method for maintaining a healthy animal population and enhancing the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) ability to complete in exporting

animals and animal products. Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE) of elk, deer and moose typified by chronic weight loss leading to death. The presence of CWD disease in cervids causes significant economic and market losses to U.S. producers. APHIS will collect information using VS Form 1-23, Appraisal & Indemnity Claim form.

**Need and Use of the Information:** APHIS will collect the owner's name and address, the number of animals for which the owner is seeking payment, and the appraised value of each animal. The owner must also certify as to whether the animals are subject to a mortgage. If there is a mortgage the form must be signed by the owner and each person holding a mortgage. Failure to collect this information would make it impossible for APHIS to effectively sustain their program to accelerate the eradication of CWD from the United States.

**Description of Respondents:** Business Or Other For-Profit.

**Number of Respondents:** 10.

**Frequency of Responses:** Reporting: On Occasion.

**Total Burden Hours:** 10.

**Ruth Brown,**

*Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

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**BILLING CODE 3410-34-P**

## **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

### **Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service**

[Docket No. APHIS-2007-0159]

#### **Notice of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection; Gypsy Moth Identification Worksheet**

**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 the gypsy moth program.

**DATES:** We will consider all comments that we receive on or before March 31, 2008.

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

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** Go to <http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/>

*component/main?main=DocketDetail&d=APHIS-2007-0159* to submit or view comments and to view supporting and related materials available electronically.

• **Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:** Please send two copies of your comment to Docket No. APHIS-2007-0159, 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-2007-0159.

**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 gypsy moth program, contact Dr. Weyman Fussell, Program Manager, Invasive Species and Pest Management, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 134, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; (301) 734-5705. 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:** Gypsy Moth Identification Worksheet.

**OMB Number:** 0579-0104.

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

**Abstract:** Under the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7701 *et seq.*), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has authority for the control and eradication of plant pests. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), USDA, has delegated authority to carry out this mission.

As part of the mission, Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ), APHIS, engages in detection surveys to monitor for the presence of, among other things, the European gypsy moth and the Asian gypsy moth. The European gypsy moth was introduced into the United States in the 1860's and has been damaging woodland areas in the Northeast for more than the last 100 years. The Asian gypsy moth, which is not established in this country, is

considered to pose an even greater threat to trees and forested areas.

Unlike the flightless European gypsy moth female adult, the Asian gypsy moth female adult is capable of strong directed flight between mating and egg deposition, significantly increasing its ability to spread over a much greater area and become widely established within a short time.

To determine the presence and extent of a European gypsy moth or an Asian gypsy moth infestation, we set traps in high-risk areas to collect specimens. Once an infestation is identified, control and eradication work (usually involving State cooperation) is initiated to eliminate the moths.

APHIS personnel, with assistance from State agriculture personnel, check traps for the presence of gypsy moths. If a suspicious moth is found in the trap, it is sent to APHIS laboratories at the Otis Methods Development Center in Massachusetts so that it can be correctly identified through DNA analysis. (Since the European gypsy moth and the Asian gypsy moth are strains of the same species, they cannot be visually distinguished from each other. DNA analysis is the only way to accurately identify these insects.)

The PPQ or State employee submitting the moth for analysis completes a gypsy moth identification worksheet (PPQ Form 305), which accompanies the insect to the laboratory. The worksheet enables both Federal and State regulatory officials to identify and track specific specimens through the DNA identification tests that we conduct.

The information provided by the gypsy moth identification worksheets is vital to our ability to monitor, detect, and eradicate gypsy moth infestations.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve our use of this information collection activity 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 performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the information collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the information collection on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

*Estimate of burden:* The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.1708 hours per response.

*Respondents:* State cooperators.

*Estimated annual number of respondents:* 120.

*Estimated annual number of responses per respondent:* 2.

*Estimated annual number of responses:* 240.

*Estimated total annual burden on respondents:* 41 hours. (Due to averaging, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the reporting burden per response.)

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.

Done in Washington, DC, this 23rd day of January 2008.

**Kevin Shea,**

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

[FR Doc. E8-1529 Filed 1-28-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-34-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Business-Cooperative Service

#### Announcement of Value-Added Producer Grant Application Deadlines

**AGENCY:** Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of solicitation of applications.

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS) announces the availability of approximately \$18.4 million in competitive grant funds for fiscal year (FY) 2008 to help independent agricultural producers enter into value-added activities.

Awards may be made for planning activities or for working capital expenses, but not for both. The maximum grant amount for a planning grant is \$100,000 and the maximum grant amount for a working capital grant is \$300,000.

**DATES:** Applications for grants must be submitted on paper or electronically according to the following deadlines:

Paper copies must be postmarked and mailed, shipped, or sent overnight no later than March 31, 2008, to be eligible

for FY 2008 grant funding. Late applications are not eligible for FY 2008 grant funding.

Electronic copies must be received by March 31, 2008, to be eligible for FY 2008 grant funding. Late applications are not eligible for FY 2008 grant funding.

**ADDRESSES:** An application guide and other materials may be obtained at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/coops/vadg.htm> or by contacting the applicant's USDA Rural Development State Office. The State Office can be reached by calling (202) 720-4323 and pressing "1."

Paper applications must be submitted to the Rural Development State Office for the State in which the Project will primarily take place. Addresses are as follows:

#### Alabama

USDA Rural Development, Sterling Centre, Suite 601, 4121 Carmichael Road, Montgomery, AL 36106-3683, (334) 279-3623.

#### Alaska

USDA Rural Development, 800 West Evergreen, Suite 201, Palmer, AK 99645-6539, (907) 761-7722.

#### Arizona

USDA Rural Development, 230 North First Avenue, Suite 206, Phoenix, AZ 85003-1706, (602) 280-8717.

#### Arkansas

USDA Rural Development, 700 West Capitol Avenue, Room 3416, Little Rock, AR 72201-3225, (501) 301-3280.

#### California

USDA Rural Development, 430 G Street, AGCY 4169, Davis, CA 95616, (530) 792-5829.

#### Colorado

USDA Rural Development, 655 Parfet Street, Room E-100, Lakewood, CO 80215, (720) 544-2903.

#### Connecticut

USDA Rural Development, 451 West Street, Suite 2, Amherst, MA 01002-2999, (413) 253-4319.

#### Delaware

USDA Rural Development, 1221 College Park Drive, Suite 200, Dover, DE 19904, (302) 857-3580.

#### Florida

USDA Rural Development, 4440 NW. 25th Place, Gainesville, FL 32606, (352) 338-3482.

#### Georgia

USDA Rural Development, 111 East Spring St., Monroe, GA 30655, (770) 267-1413, Ext. 113.