

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; Correction

October 23, 2009.

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) 720-8958.

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: Horse Protection Regulations.

OMB Control Number: 0579-0056.

Summary of Collection: 9 CFR Part 11, Regulations, implement the Horse Protection Act of 1970 (Pub. L. 91-540), as amended July 13, 1976 (Pub. L. 94-360), and are authorized under Section 9 of the Act. The Horse Protection Legislation was enacted to prevent showing, exhibiting, selling, or auctioning of "sore" horses, and certain transportation of sore horses in connection therewith at horse shows, horse exhibitions, horse sales, and horse auctions. A sore horse is a horse that has received pain-provoking practices that cause the horse to have an accentuated, high stepping gait. Sore horses cannot be entered in an event by any person, including trainers, riders, or owners. Management of shows, sales, exhibitions, or auctions must identify sore horses to prevent their participation under the act.

Need and Use of the Information: APHIS will collect information at specified intervals from Horse Industry Organizations (HIO) and show managements. HIOs must maintain an acceptable Designated Qualified Person program and recordkeeping system as outlined in the regulations. Information provided by the HIOs through designated qualified persons allows APHIS to monitor whether enforcement of the Horse Protection Act, its regulations, and certifying programs are effective.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 1,514.

Frequency of Responses: Recordkeeping; Reporting: Quarterly; Monthly; Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 2,266.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. E9-25922 Filed 10-27-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Notice of Proposed Change to Section IV of the Virginia State Technical Guide

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), U.S. Department of Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of proposed changes in the Virginia NRCS State Technical Guide for review and comment.

SUMMARY: It has been determined by the NRCS State Conservationist for Virginia that changes must be made in the NRCS State Technical Guide specifically in practice standards: #360, Closure of Waste Impoundments; #367, Waste Facility Cover; #607, Surface Drainage, Field Ditch; #608, Surface Drainage, Main or Lateral and #634, Waste Transfer. These practices will be used to plan and install conservation practices on cropland, pastureland, woodland, and wildlife land.

DATES: Comments will be received for a 30-day period commencing with the date of this publication.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Inquire in writing to John A. Bricker, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), 1606 Santa Rosa Road, Suite 209, Richmond, Virginia 23229-5014; Telephone number (804) 287-1691; Fax number (804) 287-1737. Copies of the practice standards will be made available upon written request to the address shown above or on the Virginia NRCS Web site: <http://www.va.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/draftstandards.html>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 343 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 states that revisions made after enactment of the law to NRCS State technical guides used to carry out highly erodible land and wetland provisions of the law shall be made available for public review and comment. For the next 30 days, the NRCS in Virginia will receive comments relative to the proposed changes. Following that period, a determination will be made by the NRCS in Virginia regarding disposition of those comments and a final determination of change will be made to the subject standards.

Dated: October 19, 2009.

John A Bricker,

State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Richmond, Virginia.

[FR Doc. E9-25931 Filed 10-27-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Solicitation of Input From Stakeholders on the Tribal Colleges Research Grants Program, Tribal Colleges Education Equity Grants Program and Tribal Colleges Extension Services Program

AGENCY: National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA.

ACTION: Request for written stakeholder input.

SUMMARY: The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is requesting written stakeholder input on the following NIFA grant programs: (1) Tribal College Research Grants Program, (2) Tribal Colleges Education Equity Grants Program, and (3) Tribal Colleges Extension Services Program. The programs are authorized under Sections 534(a), 534(b), and 536 of the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994.

Tribal College Research Grants Program

Authority for this program is contained in section 536 of the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 301 note), as amended (hereinafter "the Act"). In accordance with the statutory authority, subject to the availability of funds, the Secretary of Agriculture may award competitive grants to assist the 1994 Land-Grant Institutions (hereinafter "1994 Institutions") in conducting agricultural research that addresses high priority concerns of Tribal, national or multi-State significance.

Tribal Colleges Education Equity Grants Program

Authority for this program is contained in section 534(a) of the Act. Subject to the availability of appropriations, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), through the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), will award grants to the thirty-four 1994 Institutions as defined in section 532 of the Act. This Act, in Section 533(a), requires that each 1994 Institution be accredited or making progress towards accreditation to receive funding under this and the other

programs. The purpose of this program is to enhance educational opportunities for Native Americans by strengthening instructional programs in the food and agricultural sciences at the thirty-four colleges or universities designated as 1994 Institutions.

Tribal Colleges Extension Services Program

Authority for this program is contained in section 534(b) of the Act. This section amends section 3 of the Act of May 8, 1914 (Smith-Lever Act) (7 U.S.C. 343). Under this authority, appropriated funds are to be awarded to the 1994 Institutions for Extension work and funds are to be distributed on the basis of a competitive application process.

By this notice, NIFA is soliciting public comment and stakeholder input from interested parties regarding the future design and implementation of the 1994 Tribal College Grant Programs described above.

DATES: All written comments must be received by November 27, 2009.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by NIFA-2009-0008, through the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Include NIFA-2009-0008 in the subject line of the message.

Fax: (202) 401-7752.

Mail: Paper, disk or CD-ROM submissions should be submitted to Office of Extramural Programs Unit, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Mail Stop 2299, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-2299.

Hand Delivery/Courier: Joanna Moore, Office of Extramural Programs Unit, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 2250, Waterfront Centre, 800 9th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20024.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the Title, "1994 Tribal Colleges" and NIFA-2009-0008. All comments received will be posted to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joan Gill, 202-720-6487 (phone), 202-720-2030 (fax), jgill@nifa.usda.gov or Saleia Afele-Faamuli, 202-720-0384 (phone), 202-720-2030 (fax), sfaamuli@nifa.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On October 1, 2009, all programs and authorities delegated to the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) were

transferred to the NIFA per section 7511 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-246).

Background and Summary

Purpose

NIFA is considering releasing the Request for Applications (RFAs) for all three Tribal College Programs on the same day in mid December 2009 with the due date for application submission on the same day in early March 2010. The peer review panel for each of the programs will be conducted during early May 2010. For existing grantees, the RFA will request all applicants provide evidence of a college plan or roadmap showing that active projects funded through any of the three 1994 Tribal Colleges programs are being utilized in a coordinated manner within the college's land grant office or mission area. In addition, existing grantees will be asked to numerically indicate any recruiting, retention, course or degree enrollments, internships, outreach clients or graduation rates, or other indicators of program activity in the food and agriculture initiatives supported by active grants from the aforementioned programs.

The purpose of the grant programs is designed to build the land-grant capability in institutional teaching, research, and extension capacities of the eligible institutions in the following three major goals:

(1) To advance cultural diversity of the food and agricultural scientific and professional work force by attracting and educating more students from underrepresented groups;

(2) To strengthen linkages among the 1994 Institutions, other colleges and universities, USDA, and private industry; and

(3) To enhance the quality of teaching, research, and extension programs at the 1994 Institutions to enable them to better serve their students and communities by building capacity to provide science based information and decision making to solve problems and take advantage of opportunities—thus establishing them as relevant partners in the U.S. food and agricultural sciences higher education system.

In developing the FY 2010 1994 Tribal College RFAs, NIFA plans to consider all stakeholder input and the written comments received in response to this notice.