DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Secretary

Determination of Total Amounts of Fiscal Year 2014 WTO Tariff-Rate Quotas for Raw Cane Sugar and Certain Sugars, Syrups and Molasses

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (the Secretary) announces the establishment of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 (October 1, 2013–September 30, 2014) in-quota aggregate quantity of raw cane sugar at 1,117,195 metric tons raw value (MTRV). The Secretary also announces the establishment of the FY 2014 in-quota aggregate quantity of certain sugars, syrups, and molasses (also referred to as refined sugar) at 122,000 MTRV.

DATES: Effective Date: September 13, 2013.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Souleymane Diaby, Import Policies and Export Reporting Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., AgStop 1021, Washington, DC 20250–1021; by telephone (202) 720–2916; by fax (202) 720–0876; or by email souleymane.diaby@fas.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The provisions of paragraph (a)(i) of the Additional U.S. Note 5, Chapter 17 in the HTS authorize the Secretary to establish the in-quota TRQ amounts (expressed in terms of raw value) for imports of raw cane sugar and certain sugars, syrups, and molasses that may be entered under the subheadings of the HTS subject to the lower tier of duties for entry during each fiscal year. The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) is responsible for the allocation of these quantities among supplying countries and areas.

Section 359(k) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, requires that at the beginning of the quota year the Secretary of Agriculture establish the TRQs for raw cane sugar and refined sugars at the minimum levels necessary to comply with obligations under international trade agreements, with the exception of specialty sugar.

Notice is hereby given that I have determined, in accordance with paragraph (a)(i) of the Additional U.S. Note 5, Chapter 17 in the HTS and section 359(k) of the 1938 Act, that an aggregate quantity of up to 1,117,195 MTRV of raw cane sugar may be entered or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption during FY 2014. This is the minimum amount to which the United States is committed under the WTO Uruguay Round Agreements. I have further determined that an aggregate quantity of 122,000 MTRV of sugars, syrups, and molasses may be entered or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption during FY 2014. Of this quantity of 122,000 MTRV, the quantity of 101,656 MTRV is reserved for the importation of specialty sugars as defined by the USTR. The total of 122,000 MTRV includes the 22,000 MTRV minimum level necessary to comply with U.S. WTO Uruguay Round commitments, of which 1,656 MTRV is reserved for specialty sugar. Because the specialty sugar TRQ is first-come, first-served, tranches are needed to allow for orderly marketing throughout the year.

The FY 2014 specialty sugar TRQ will be opened in five tranches. The first tranche, totaling 1,656 MTRV, will open October 10, 2013. All specialty sugars are eligible for entry under this tranche. The second tranche will open on October 24, 2013, and be equal to 37,000 MTRV. The remaining tranches will each be equal to 21,000 MTRV, with the third opening on January 9, 2014; the fourth, on April 10, 2014; and the fifth, on July 10, 2014. The second, third, fourth, and fifth tranches will be reserved for organic sugar and other specialty sugars not currently produced commercially in the United States or reasonably available from domestic sources.

* Conversion factor: 1 metric ton = 1.10231125 short tons.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request—Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: State Issuance and Participation Estimates— Forms FNS–388 and FNS–388A

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is publishing for public comment a summary of a proposed information collection. This is a revision of a currently approved collection for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) forms: FNS–388, State Issuance and Participation Estimates and FNS–388A, Project Area Data Format. FNS plans to update form FNS–388, to separately capture and differentiate Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D–SNAP) benefit issuance and participation data from ongoing SNAP issuance and participation data. This form update will clearly distinguish D–SNAP data from ongoing SNAP data, thereby ensuring the speed and accuracy of FNS response to requests from multiple agencies on contributions to Federal disaster relief efforts. There are no changes to form FNS–388A.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before November 12, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Comments are invited on:
(a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be...
collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments may be sent to Jane Duffield, Chief, State Administration Branch, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 818, Alexandria, VA 22302. Comments may also be submitted via email to SNAPSAB@fs.usda.gov. Comments will also be accepted through the federal eRulemaking Portal. Go to http://www.regulations.gov, and follow the online instructions for submitting comments electronically.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Requests for additional information or copies of this information collection should be directed to Kelly Stewart at 703–305–2425.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: State Issuance and Participation Estimates.

Form Number: FNS–388 and FNS–388A.

OMB Number: 0584–0081.

Expiration Date: July 31, 2016.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Section 18(b) of the Food and Nutrition Act, (the Act) 7 U.S.C. 2027(b), limits the value of allotments paid to SNAP households to an amount not in excess of the appropriation for the fiscal year. If allotments in any fiscal year would exceed the appropriation, the Secretary of Agriculture is required to direct State agencies to reduce the value of SNAP allotments to the extent necessary to stay within appropriated funding limits. Timely State monthly issuance estimates are necessary for FNS to ensure that it remains within the appropriation. The estimates will also have a direct effect upon the manner in which allotments would be reduced if necessary. While benefit reductions have never been ordered in the past under Section 18(b) nor are they anticipated based on current data, the Department must continue to monitor actual program costs against the appropriation.

Section 11(e)(12) of the Food and Nutrition Act, 7 U.S.C. 2020(e)(12), requires that the State Plan of Operations provide for the submission of reports required by the Secretary of Agriculture. State agencies are required to report on a monthly basis on the FNS–388, State Issuance and Participation Estimates, estimated or actual issuance and participation data for the current month and previous month, and actual participation data for the second preceding month. The FNS–388 report provides the necessary data for an early warning system to enable the Department to monitor actual and estimated costs for all benefit types against the appropriation.

Disaster SNAP is authorized by sections 402 and 502 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) and the temporary emergency provisions contained in Section 5 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, and in 7 CFR Part 280 of the SNAP regulations. State agencies may request FNS approval to operate a Disaster SNAP in an area that has received a Presidential declaration as a Major Disaster area eligible for Individual Assistance. In accordance with 7 CFR 274.4, State agencies shall keep records and report SNAP participation and issuance totals to FNS.

FNS currently requires State agencies to report Disaster SNAP issuance and participation data using form FNS–292B Report of Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Benefit Issuance. Form FNS–292B must be submitted to the agency within 45 days of the termination of a Disaster SNAP operation and captures final issuance and participation data. The information collection burden for the FNS–292B is included in OMB 0584–0037, expiration date July 31, 2014.

States operating D–SNAP may also use the “remarks” section of the current FNS–388 form to indicate issuance and participation data, however this is not required and is currently not reported consistently or in a uniform manner that allows FNS to readily access this information. However, recent evaluation of Federal disaster response efforts has identified a critical need for timely periodic reporting while a disaster response is ongoing. Disaster response updates are frequently requested by the Secretary of Agriculture, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the White House and Congress during an ongoing relief effort. Updating the FNS–388, to include separate reporting of D–SNAP benefit issuance and participation will improve data accountability and ensure data is available on a monthly basis for timely response to Federal, State and local issues. Requiring monthly D–SNAP data on the FNS–388, will not duplicate any data collection currently in place, as the FNS–292B, serves as a final summary and closeout of the disaster response period and is not meant to provide periodic updates.

Revisions to the FNS–388, are not yet finalized, however the following updates are projected:

• Addition of data elements “D–SNAP (New Households)” and “Disaster Supplements (Ongoing SNAP Households)” in the Issuance section. “Current Month” data will not be required for these elements.

• Addition of data elements “D–SNAP (New Participants)” and “Disaster Supplements (Ongoing SNAP Participants)” in the Participants section. “Current Month” data will not be required for these elements.

• Addition of data elements “D–SNAP (New Households)” and “Disaster Supplements (Ongoing SNAP Households)” in the Households section. “Current Month” data will not be required for these elements.

The update to form FNS–388, is occurring in coordination with an update to form FNS–46, Issuance Reconciliation Report (OMB 0584–0080, expiration date March 31, 2014) to incorporate separate D–SNAP benefit issuance data points that mirror those collected on the FNS–388. The alignment of these two forms will ensure that the monthly D–SNAP benefit issuance data collected on the FNS–388, will have associated and corresponding final issuance reconciliations on the FNS–46.

State agencies in general only submit one statewide FNS–388 per month, which covers benefits from their Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) system. The exception is State agencies which choose to operate an approved alternative issuance demonstration project such as a cash-out system submit a separate report for each additional type of issuance system. The addition of D–SNAP estimates on FNS–388, will not impact the frequency of response or recordkeeping, but the update will minimally increase the burden associated with completing the form. As there are an average of six disasters requiring D–SNAP issuance each year, this change will not impact all States in all months. As a result of these program changes, FNS estimates the burden hours associated with completing the FNS–388, will increase by 30 minutes per each State responding to a disaster (estimated at 6). This will increase the time per response from 5.6 to an average of 5.65 per month ([((5.6*47) + (6*6))/53]) thereby increasing the total reporting burden hours for the FNS–388 to 3,389.8.
In addition, State agencies are required to submit a project area breakdown on the FNS–388, of issuance and participation data twice a year. The project area breakdown attached to the FNS–388, twice a year is known as the FNS–388A. This data is useful in identifying project areas that operate fraud detection units in accordance with the Act. The information provided on FNS–388A, will not change and the burden associated with this form remains as is.

As of August 2013, 100 percent of respondents submitted the FNS–388 and FNS–388A data electronically. **Affected Public:** State agencies that administer SNAP.  

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** 53.  
**Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:** 27.17.  
**Estimated Hours per Response:** 3.602.  
**Estimated Total Annual Responses:** 1,440.

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Audrey Rowe,  
Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.  
[FR Doc. 2013–22253 Filed 9–12–13; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 3410–30–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Foreign Agricultural Service  
Notice of a Request for a Reinstatement of a Currently Approved Information Collection  

**AGENCY:** Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.  
**ACTION:** Notice and request for comment.  

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces that the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) intends to reinstate a currently approved information collection procedure for the Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers program as described in 7 CFR Part 1580.  

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by no later than November 12, 2013 to be assured of consideration.  

**ADDRESSES:** We invite you to submit comments as requested in this notice. In your comment, include the Regulation Identifier Number (RIN) and volume, date, and page number of this issue of the Federal Register. You may submit comments by any of the following methods:  

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.  
- Mail, hand delivery, or courier: Peter W. Burr, Branch Chief, Export Sales Reporting Branch, Import Policies and Export Reporting Division, Office of Trade Programs, Foreign Agricultural Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250–1021, (202) 720–3274; or by email at Pete.Burr@fas.usda.gov; or by telephone at (202) 720–3274; or fax to (202) 720–0876.  
- Comments will be available for inspection online at http://www.regulations.gov and at the mail address listed above between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons with disabilities who require an alternative means for communication of information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA’s Target Center at (202) 720–2600 (voice and TDD).

**Confidentiality**  
All submitted comments and attachments are part of the public record and subject to disclosure. Do not enclose any material in your comments that you consider to be confidential or that is inappropriate for public disclosure.  


**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**  
**Title:** Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers.  
**OMB Number:** 0551–0040.  
**Expiration Date of Approval:** June 30, 2013.  
**Type of Request:** Reinstatement of currently approved information collection.  