

Dated: December 3, 2015.

**Audrey Rowe,**

*Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.*

[FR Doc. 2015–31199 Filed 12–10–15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410–30–C**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food and Nutrition Service

#### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

December 7, 2015.

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.

### Food and Nutrition Service

*Title:* Annual State Report on Verification of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Participation.

*OMB Control Number:* 0584—NEW.

*Summary of Collection:* The purpose of the Annual State Report of Verification of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Participants is to ensure that no person who is deceased, or has been permanently disqualified from SNAP, improperly received SNAP benefits. Section 4032 of the Agriculture Act of 2014 mandates that States will “submit to the Secretary a report containing sufficient information for the Secretary to determine whether the State agency has, for the most recently concluded fiscal year preceding that annual date, verified that the State agency in that fiscal year—(1) did not issue benefits to a deceased individual; and (2) did not issue benefits to an individual who had been permanently disqualified from receiving benefits.”

*Need and Use of the Information:* To ensure that benefits are not issued to deceased individuals or those permanently disqualified from SNAP.

*Description of Respondents:* State, Local, or Tribal Government.

*Number of Respondents:* 53.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting and Recordkeeping: Annually.

*Total Burden Hours:* 57.

**Ruth Brown,**

*Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2015–31183 Filed 12–10–15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410–30–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### National Agricultural Statistics Service

#### Notice of Intent To Request Revision and Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

**AGENCY:** National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) to request revision and extension of a currently approved information collection for the Residue and Biomass Field Survey.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by February 9, 2016 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by docket number 0535–0251, Residue and Biomass Field Survey by any of the following methods:

- *Email:* [ombofficer@nass.usda.gov](mailto:ombofficer@nass.usda.gov).

Include docket number and title above in the subject line of the message.

- *Efax:* (855) 838–6382

- *Mail:* Mail any paper, disk, or CD-ROM submissions to: David Hancock, NASS Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 5336 South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250–2024.

- *Hand Delivery/Courier:* Hand deliver to: David Hancock, NASS Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 5336, South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250–2024.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** R. Renee Picanso, Associate Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, (202) 720–4333. Copies of this information collection and related instructions can be obtained without charge from David Hancock, NASS Clearance Officer, at (202) 690–2388 or at [ombofficer@nass.usda.gov](mailto:ombofficer@nass.usda.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Residue and Biomass Field Survey.

*OMB Control Number:* 0535–0251.

*Type of Request:* Intent to Seek Approval to Revise and Extend an Information Collection for 3 years.

*Abstract:* The primary objectives of the National Agricultural Statistics Service are to prepare and issue State and national estimates of crop production, livestock production, economic statistics, and environmental statistics related to agriculture and to conduct the Census of Agriculture and its follow-on surveys. This project is conducted as a cooperative effort with USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS).

The Residue and Biomass Field Survey will use as a sampling universe, fields in the South Fork watershed in central Iowa (Buckeye, IA). This study will investigate the effect crop residue removal has on soil and water quality. Measurements of crop residues will be compared with remotely sensed data to measure crop residue cover and soil tillage intensity for the entire watershed. The survey will be conducted in several phases. The farm operators will only be involved in three parts of the complete survey process. After obtaining the operators' permission, field enumerators will return several times during the growing season to measure and collect samples from the target areas. The farm operators will be contacted two other times to collect some additional data relating to cropping practices performed during the growing season.

*Authority:* These data will be collected under the authority of 7 U.S.C. 2204(a). Individually identifiable data

collected under this authority are governed by Section 1770 of the Food Security Act of 1985 as amended, 7 U.S.C. 2276, which requires USDA to afford strict confidentiality to non-aggregated data provided by respondents. This Notice is submitted in accordance with the Paperwork

Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–13) and Office of Management and Budget regulations at 5 CFR part 1320 (60 FR 44978, August 29, 1995).

NASS also complies with OMB Implementation Guidance, “Implementation Guidance for Title V of the E-Government Act, Confidential Information Protection and Statistical

Efficiency Act of 2002 (CIPSEA),” **Federal Register**, 72 FR 33376, June 15, 2007.

*Estimate of Burden:* Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average a total of 70 minutes per respondent for the complete survey cycle.

ANNUAL ESTIMATED SAMPLE SIZE AND RESPONDENT BURDEN FOR 2016–2018

Survey	Sample size	Freq.	Responses				Non-response				Total burden hours
			Resp. count	Freq. × count	Min./ resp.	Burden hours	Nonresp. count	Freq. × count	Min./ nonr.	Burden hours	
Screening Phase in May .....	100	1	80	80	20	27	20	20	2	1	27
Field Measurements in May/June <sup>1</sup> .....	80	1	25	25	0	0	55	55	0	0	0
Screening Phase in September .....	80	1	42	42	20	14	38	38	2	1	15
Harvest Sample crops <sup>1</sup> .....	80	2	42	42	0	0	38	38	0	0	0
Cropping Practices survey .....	80	1	42	42	30	21	38	38	2	1	22
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>100</b>	.....	<b>146</b>	<b>230</b>	.....	<b>62</b>	.....	.....	.....	<b>3</b>	<b>65</b>

<sup>1</sup> The operator does not need to be present for the field visits (measurement and harvesting), so no respondent burden is associated with these phases of the survey.

*Respondents:* Farmers, ranchers, and farm managers in the South Fork Watershed in Central Iowa.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 100

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 65 hours

*Comments:* 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 will 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, through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, technological or other forms of information technology collection methods.

All responses to this notice will become a matter of public record and be summarized in the request for OMB approval.

Signed at Washington, DC, December 3, 2015.

**R. Renee Picanso,**  
Associate Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2015–31243 Filed 12–10–15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410–20–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**National Agricultural Statistics Service**

**Notice of Intent To Request To Conduct a New Information Collection**

**AGENCY:** National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) to seek approval to conduct a new information collection to gather data related to agricultural activity in two urbanized areas (Seattle, WA and Austin, TX). The data will be used to develop and refine procedures to be used to collect agricultural data in urbanized areas for the 2017 Census of Agriculture.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by February 9, 2016 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by docket number 0535–NEW, by any of the following methods:

- Email: [ombofficer@nass.usda.gov](mailto:ombofficer@nass.usda.gov). Include docket number above in the subject line of the message.
- E-fax: (855) 838–6382.
- Mail: Mail any paper, disk, or CD-ROM submissions to: David Hancock, NASS Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 5336 South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250–2024.
- Hand Delivery/Courier: Hand deliver to: David Hancock, NASS Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of

Agriculture, Room 5336 South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250–2024.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** R. Renee Picanso, Associate Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, (202) 720–2707. Copies of this information collection and related instructions can be obtained without charge from David Hancock, NASS—OMB Clearance Officer, at (202) 690–2388 or at [ombofficer@nass.usda.gov](mailto:ombofficer@nass.usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Urban Agriculture Pilot Surveys.

*OMB Control Number:* 0535–NEW.

*Type of Request:* Intent to seek approval to conduct a new information collection for a period of three years.

*Abstract:* The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) has traditionally been focused on production agriculture. This focus has omitted some urban agriculture, which is attracting increased interest from individuals and local governments. In contrast with traditional agriculture, agriculture in urbanized areas tends to be conducted in smaller areas and have less potential for sales. Yet, urban agriculture contributes to the Nation’s food security by providing local sources. NASS intends to integrate urban agriculture in future Censuses of Agriculture. In 2015, NASS conducted a small scale urban agriculture study in Baltimore, Maryland. This new data collection will build on the Baltimore project by refining methodology and procedures for: (1) Building the list of potential urban agricultural locations, (2) developing the questionnaire used to collect urban agricultural data, (3) data