We are requesting comments on all aspects of this information collection to help us to:

1. Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the FSA, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. Evaluate the accuracy of the FSA’s estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. Enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected;
4. 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.

All comments received in response to this notice, including names and addresses when provided, will be a matter of public record. Comments will be summarized and included in the submission for Office of Management and Budget approval.

Richard Fordyce,
Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kay Derr, Librarian, telephone: 301–504–5879; email: kay.derr@ars.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Information Collection for Document Delivery Services.

OMB Control Number: 0518–0027.

Expiration Date of Approval: November 30, 2018.

Type of Request: To extend a currently approved information collection process.

Abstract: In its role as both a preeminent agricultural research library and a national library of the United States, NAL (part of the USDA’s ARS) provides loans and copies of materials from its collections to libraries and other institutions and organizations.

The Farm Loan Programs provide loans to family farmers to purchase real estate and equipment and finance agricultural production. The requirements for servicing financially distressed and delinquent direct loan borrowers. The loan servicing options include disaster set-aside, primary loan servicing (including reamortization, rescheduling, deferral, buyout at market value, and homestead protection. FSA also services borrowers who file bankruptcy or liquidate security when available servicing options are not sufficient to produce a feasible plan. The information collections contained in the regulation are necessary to evaluate a borrower’s request for consideration of the special servicing actions.

The numbers of respondents and responses increased because the loan servicing activities increased by 15 percent to reflect the current numbers since the last OMB approval. The annual burden hours decreased due to removal of travel times from the request. The respondents are going to the County office to do regular and customary (or normal) business for the Farm Loan Programs.

For the following estimated total annual burden on respondents, the formula used to calculate the total burden hour is the estimated average time per response multiplied by the estimated total annual responses.

Estimate of Respondent Burden: Public reporting burden for this information collection is estimated to average 0.374 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed and completing and reviewing the collections of information.

Type of Respondents: Individuals or households, businesses or other for profit farms.

Estimated Annual Number of Respondents: 17,174.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.869.

Estimated Total Annual Responses: 32,114.

Estimated Average Time per Response: 0.374.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 12,036.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Agricultural Library

Agricultural Research Service

Notice of Intent To Renew a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: National Agricultural Library, Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–13) and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations, dated August 29, 1995, this notice announces the Agricultural Research Service’s (ARS) intention to request an extension of a currently approved information collection, Information Collection for Document Delivery Services at the National Agricultural Library (NAL), which expires November 30, 2018.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before July 30, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to: USDA, ARS, NAL, Digitization and Access Branch, 1631 Baltimore Avenue, Room 305–D, Beltsville, Maryland 20705–2351.
information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have a 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, such as through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques. Comments may be sent to Kay Derr at the address listed above within 60 days of the date of publication. 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.

Chavonda Jacobs-Young, Administrator, Agricultural Research Service.

AGENCY: National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of opportunity for commodity boards to submit topics and contribute funding under the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

This Notice invites topic submissions from commodity boards as defined above, outlines the process NIFA will use to evaluate the appropriateness of these topics for inclusion in AFRI RFAs, and describes the commitment required of commodity boards for NIFA to jointly fund competitively selected AFRI awards within a topic area submitted by the commodity boards.

DATES: Commodity boards may submit topics at any time; however, all topics received by 5:00 p.m. EDT on July 30, 2018 will be considered for the fiscal year 2019 AFRI RFAs. An additional submission of topics may be considered for AFRI RFAs in future years. Frequently asked questions about commodity board topics are available on the NIFA Website (https://nifa.usda.gov/commodity-boards-frequently-asked-questions).

ADDRESSES: You may submit topics by the following method: Website: https://nifa.usda.gov/webform/commodity-board-topic-submission/ Instructions: The topic submission must be through the website form; emailed topics will not be accepted.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mark Miranda; Phone: (202) 401-4336, or Email: commodityboards@nifa.usda.gov.

The AFRI program is the largest agricultural competitive grants program in the United States and a primary funding source for research, education, and extension projects that bring practical solutions to some of today’s most critical societal challenges. AFRI programs impact all components of agriculture, including farm and ranch efficiency and profitability, bioenergy, forestry, aquaculture, rural communities, human nutrition, food safety, biotechnology, and genetic improvement of plants and animals. In FY 2019, NIFA plans to solicit applications for AFRI funding opportunities in the AFRI priority areas authorized in the Farm Bill and described in 7 CFR 3430.309. It is anticipated these will include the AFRI Foundational and Applied Science Program RFA and the AFRI Education and Workforce Development RFA. The annual AFRI Foundational and Applied Science Program RFA solicits grant applications focused predominately, but not exclusively, on fundamental scientific research addressing statutory priorities. The AFRI Education and Workforce Development RFA solicits grant applications for training K–14 teachers and administrators,