

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

Office of the Secretary

Meeting Notice of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board

AGENCY: Research, Education, and Economics, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App 2, Section 1408 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3123), and the Agricultural Act of 2014, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) announces a virtual meeting of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board.

DATES: The National Agricultural Research Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board will meet virtually by telephone conference on September 28, 2018, from 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT). The public may file written comments before or up to October 12, 2018.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will take place virtually via teleconference.

Web Preregistration: Participants wishing to participate may preregister by calling 202–720–6012 or email at nareee@ars.usda.gov. Upon registration you will receive a call-in number and access code.

Written comments may be sent to: The National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board Office, Room 332A, Whitten Building, United States Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250–0321.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michele Esch, Executive Director/ Designated Federal Official, or Shirley

Morgan-Jordan, Program Support Coordinator, National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board; telephone: (202) 720–3684; fax: (202) 720–6199; or email: nareee@ars.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of the meeting: To provide advice and recommendations on the top priorities and policies for food and agricultural research, education, extension, and economics. The focus of this meeting will be on the deliberation of the following report and recommendations: The relevance and adequacy of the climate and energy needs programs of the USDA Research, Education, and Extension mission area; a report from the Science Advisory Council (a subcommittee of the NAREEE Advisory Board) on gene editing; and a report from the National Genetic Resources Advisory Council (a subcommittee of the NAREEE Advisory Board) on aquatic and animal genetic resources. A detailed agenda may be received from the contact person identified in this notice or at <https://nareeeab.ree.usda.gov/meetings/general-meetings>.

Tentative Agenda: On Tuesday, September 28, 2018, the meeting will be held from 11:00 a.m. EDT until 1:30 p.m. EDT.

Public Participation: This meeting is open to the public via telephone and any interested individuals wishing to attend. Opportunity for public comment will be offered. To attend the meeting via telephone and/or make oral statements regarding any items on the agenda, you must contact Michele Esch or Shirley Morgan-Jordan at 202–720–3684; email: nareee@ars.usda.gov at least 5 business days prior to the meeting. Members of the public will be heard in the order in which they sign up at the beginning of the meeting. The Chair will conduct the meeting to facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Written comments by attendees or other interested stakeholders will be welcomed for the public record before and up to two weeks following the Board meeting (or by close of business Friday, October 12, 2018). All written statements must be sent to Michele Esch, Designated Federal Officer and Executive Director, National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board, U.S. Department of

Agriculture, Room 332A, Jamie L. Whitten Building, Mail Stop 0321, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250–0321; or email: nareee@ars.usda.gov. All statements will become a part of the official record of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board and will be kept on file for public review in the Research, Education, and Economics Advisory Board Office.

Done on at Washington, DC, this day of September 11, 2018.

Chavonda Jacobs-Young,

Acting, Deputy Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics Acting Chief Scientist.

[FR Doc. 2018–20452 Filed 9–19–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–03–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS–2018–0058]

Notice of Request for Revision to and Extension of Approval of an Information Collection; Importation of Fresh Peppers From Peru Into the Continental United States and the Territories

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Revision to and 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 a revision to and extension of approval of an information collection associated with the regulations for the importation of fresh peppers from Peru into the continental United States and the Territories.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before November 19, 2018.

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

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** Go to <http://www.regulations.gov/#/docketDetail;D=APHIS-2018-0058>.

- **Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:** Send your comment to Docket No. APHIS–2018–0058, Regulatory Analysis

and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A-03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238.

Supporting documents and any comments we receive on this docket may be viewed at <http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=APHIS-2018-0058> or in our reading room, which 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) 799-7039 before coming.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on the importation of fresh peppers from Peru into the continental United States and the Territories, contact Ms. Claudia Ferguson, Senior Regulatory Policy Coordinator, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 39, Riverdale, MD 20737; (301) 851-2532. For more detailed information on the information collection, contact Ms. Kimberly Hardy, APHIS' Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 851-2483.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Importation of Fresh Peppers From Peru Into the Continental United States and the Territories.

OMB Control Number: 0579-0434.

Type of Request: Revision to and extension of approval of an information collection.

Abstract: The Plant Protection Act (PPA, 7 U.S.C. 7701 *et seq.*) authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to restrict the importation, entry, or interstate movement of plants, plant products, and other articles to prevent the introduction of plant pests into the United States or their dissemination within the United States. Regulations authorized by the PPA concerning the importation of fruits and vegetables into the United States from certain parts of the world are contained in "Subpart—Fruits and Vegetables" (7 CFR 319.56-1 through 319.56-83).

The regulations in § 319.56-73 allow the importation of fresh peppers into the continental United States and the Territories from Peru. As a condition of entry, the peppers have to be produced in accordance with a systems approach that includes requirements for operational workplans, quality control programs, fruit fly trapping, pre-harvest production site inspections, production site and packinghouse registration, emergency action notifications, notices of arrival for imports, and packinghouse procedures designed to exclude quarantine pests. The peppers are also

required to be imported in commercial consignments and accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate issued by the national plant protection organization (NPPO) of Peru with an additional declaration stating that the consignment was produced in accordance with the systems approach outlined in the regulations. These actions allow for the importation of fresh peppers from Peru while continuing to provide protection against the introduction of plant pests into the United States and the Territories.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve our use of these information collection activities, as described, 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 collection of information, 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 collection of information 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 burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response.

Respondents: Exporters, importers, and the NPPO of Peru.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 15.

Estimated annual number of responses per respondent: 16.

Estimated annual number of responses: 249.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 294 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 14th day of September 2018.

Kevin Shea,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 2018-20449 Filed 9-19-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

U.S. Codex Office

Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU)

AGENCY: U.S. Codex Office, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Codex Program is sponsoring a public meeting on Tuesday, November 6, 2018. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft United States (U.S.) positions to be discussed at the 40th session of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU) of the Codex Alimentarius Commission in Berlin, Germany November 26-30, 2018. The U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius and the Under Secretary, Office of Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, recognize the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the 40th Session of the CCNFSDU and to address items on the agenda.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 6, 2018 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will take place at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, Wiley Building, Room 1A002, 55 Campus Drive, College Park, MD 20740.

Documents related to the 40th Session of the CCNFSDU will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <http://www.codexalimentarius.org/meetings-reports/en>.

Dr. Douglas Balentine, U.S. Delegate to the 40th Session of the CCNFSDU, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: douglas.balentine@fda.hhs.gov.

Call-In-Number: If you wish to participate in the public meeting for the 40th Session of the CCNFSDU by conference call, please use the call-in-number listed below:

Call-In-Number: 1-877-465-7975—U.S. Toll Free.