FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Marlene Betts, Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee, USDA, AMS, Specialty Crop Programs, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 2077–S, STOP 0235, Washington, DC 20250–0235; Telephone: (202) 720–5057; Email: SCPFYVIAc@ams.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (5 U.S.C. App. 2), the Secretary of Agriculture (Secretary) established the Committee in 2001 to examine the full spectrum of issues faced by the fruit and vegetable industry and to provide suggestions and ideas to the Secretary on how USDA can tailor its programs to meet the fruit and vegetable industry’s needs. The committee was reestablished in March 2018 for a two-year period.

The AMS Deputy Administrator for the Specialty Crops Program serves as the Committee’s Executive Secretary, leading the effort to administer the Committee’s activities. Representatives from USDA mission areas and other government agencies affecting the fruit and vegetable industry are periodically called upon to participate in the Committee’s meetings as determined by the Committee. AMS is giving notice of the Committee meeting to the public so that they may attend and present their views. The meeting is open to the public.

Agenda items may include, but are not limited to, welcome and introductions, administrative matters, consideration of topics for potential working group discussion and proposal, and presentations by subject matter experts as requested by the Committee.

Public Comments: Comments should address specific topics noted on the meeting agenda.

Written Comments: Written public comments will be accepted on or before 11:59 p.m. ET on January 7, 2019, via https://www.regulations.gov:11434. Comments submitted after this date will be provided to AMS, but the Committee may not have adequate time to consider those comments prior to the meeting. AMS–Specialty Crop Programs strongly prefers that comments be submitted electronically. However, written comments may also be submitted (i.e., postmarked) via mail to the person listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section by or before the deadline.

Oral Comments: The Committee is providing the public an opportunity to provide oral comments and will accommodate as many individuals and organizations as time permits. Persons or organizations wishing to make oral comments must pre-register by 11:59 p.m. ET, January 7, 2019, and can register for only one speaking slot. Instructions for registering and participating in the meeting can be found by contacting the person listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section by or before the deadline.

Meeting Accommodations: The Hyatt Regency Crystal City is ADA compliant and the USDA provides reasonable accommodations to individuals with disabilities where appropriate. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this public meeting, please notify the person listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section. Determinations for reasonable accommodations will be made on a case-by-case basis.


Bruce Summers,
Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2018–27141 Filed 12–13–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Solicitation of Nominations for Members of the USDA Grain Inspection Advisory Committee]

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice to solicit nominees.

SUMMARY: The Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is seeking nominations for individuals to serve on the USDA Grain Inspection Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee). The Advisory Committee meets no less than once annually to advise AMS on the programs and services it delivers under the U.S. Grain Standards Act (USGSA). Recommendations by the Advisory Committee help AMS better meet the needs of its customers who operate in a dynamic and changing marketplace. The realignment of offices within the U.S. Department of Agriculture authorized by the Secretary’s Memorandum dated November 14, 2017, eliminates the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyard Administration (GIPSA) as a standalone agency. The grain inspection activities formerly part of GIPSA are now organized under AMS.

DATES: AMS will consider nominations received by January 28, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Submit nominations for the Advisory Committee by completing form AD–755 and send to:

• Kendra Kline, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Rm. 2043–S, Mail Stop 3614, Washington, DC 20250–3611;
• Email: Kendra.C.Kline@usda.gov; or
• Fax: 202–690–2333


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Kendra Kline, telephone (202) 690–2410 or email Kendra.C.Kline@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As required by section 21 of the USGSA (7 U.S.C. 87j), as amended, the Secretary of Agriculture (Secretary) established the Advisory Committee on September 29, 1981, to provide advice on the implementation of the USGSA. As specified in the USGSA, no member may serve successive terms.

The Advisory Committee consists of 15 members, appointed by the Secretary, who represent the interests of grain producers, processors, handlers, merchandisers, consumers, exporters, and scientists with expertise in research related to the policies in section 2 of the USGSA (7 U.S.C. 74). While members of the Advisory Committee serve without compensation, USDA reimburses them for travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, for travel away from their homes or regular places of business in performance of Advisory Committee service (see 5 U.S.C. 5703).

A list of current Advisory Committee members and other relevant information are available on the USDA website at https://www.gipsa.usda.gov/fgis/advisorycommittee.aspx.

AMS is seeking nominations for individuals to serve on the Advisory Committee. Applications submitted during the previous nomination period, March 16, 2018–April 30, 2018, will be considered unless notification is provided the individual no longer is available for consideration.

Nominations are open to all individuals without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, mental or physical disability, marital status, or sexual orientation. To ensure that recommendations of the Advisory Committee take into account the needs of the diverse groups served by the USDA, membership shall include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

The final selection of Advisory Committee members and alternates is made by the Secretary.
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

December 11, 2018.

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 are requested regarding (1) 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) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) 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.

Comments regarding this information collection received by January 14, 2019 will be considered. Written comments should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20502. Commenters are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395–5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250–7602. 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: Trichinae Certification Program. OMB Control Number: 0579–0323.

Summary of Collection: The Animal Health Protection Act (AHPA) of 2002 is the primary Federal law governing the protection of animal health. The law gives the Secretary of Agriculture broad authority to detect, control and eradicate pests or diseases of livestock or poultry. The AHPA is contained in Title X, Subtitle E, Sections 10401–18 of Public Law 107–171, May 13, 2002, the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002. Trichinella spiralis is a contagious nematode affecting animals and people. The disease, trichinellosis, is transmitted by consuming the meat of an infected animal. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) will collect information using a certificate site audit, program audit form, request for information during a spot audit, animal disposal plan and recordkeeping, animal movement record and recordkeeping, rodent control logbook and recordkeeping, trichinae herd certification feed mill quality assurance affidavit and recordkeeping, records for slaughter testing and recordkeeping, temporary withdrawal, and program withdrawal.

Need and Use of the Information: APHIS will collect information to certify swine are raised using practices that will reduce or eliminate T spiralis exposure. If this information is not collected, it will compromise APHIS’ ability to determine the trichinae infection status of pork produced in the United States.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; State, Local or Tribal Government
Number of Respondents: 66.
Frequency of Responses: Recordkeeping; Reporting: On occasion.
Total Burden Hours: 521.

Ruth Brown, Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
[Docket No. APHIS–2016–0013]

Changes to the National Poultry Improvement Program Standards
AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.
ACTION: Notice of determination.

SUMMARY: We are updating the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) Program Standards. In a previous notice, we made available to the public for review and comment proposed changes to the NPIP Program Standards pertaining to the compartmentalization of primary poultry breeding establishments and approval of compartment components such as farms, feedmills, hatcheries, and egg depots. These changes will be added to the NPIP Program Standards.

DATES: Applicable February 12, 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Denise Heard, DVM, Senior Coordinator, National Poultry Improvement Plan, VS, APHIS, USDA, 1506 Klondike Road, Suite 101, Conyers, GA 30094–5104; (770) 922–3496.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP), also referred to below as “the Plan,” is a cooperatively Federal-State-Industry mechanism for controlling certain poultry diseases. The Plan consists of a variety of programs intended to prevent and control poultry diseases.

The regulations in 9 CFR parts 56, 145, 146, and 147 (referred to below as the regulations) contain the provisions of the Plan. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA, also referred to as “the Department”) amends these provisions from time to time to incorporate new scientific information and technologies within the Plan.

Because changes in diagnostic science, testing technology, and best practices for maintaining sanitation are continual, and the rulemaking process can be lengthy, certain provisions of the Plan are contained in an NPIP Program Standards document 1 rather than in the regulations. The NPIP Program Standards may be updated or revised via a notice-based process rather than by rulemaking.

The regulations at 9 CFR 145.45, 145.74, and 145.84 provide the basis for compartmentalization of primary poultry breeding establishments. Compartmentalization is a procedure that a country may implement to define and manage animal subpopulations of distinct health status within its territory, in accordance with the guidelines in the World Organization for Animal Health.

1 This document may be viewed on the NPIP website at http://www.poultryimprovement.org/documents/ProgramStandards/August2014.pdf, or by writing to the Service at National Poultry Improvement Plan, APHIS, USDA, 1506 Klondike Road, Suite 101, Conyers, GA 30094.