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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. No. AMS-LP-26-0034]

#### Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

**AGENCY:** Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

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

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) intent to request approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for an extension of the currently approved information collection used in support of the Regulations Governing the Inspection of Eggs (as authorized by the Egg Products Inspection Act (EPIA)), which is commonly referred to as the Shell Egg Surveillance Program (OMB Number 0581-0113).

**DATES:** Comments must be received by May 22, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments concerning this notice by using the electronic process available at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Written comments may also be submitted to the Livestock and Poultry Program; Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA; 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Stop 0249; Washington, DC 20250-0258. All comments should reference the docket number AMS-LP-26-0034, the date of submission, and the page number of this issue of the **Federal Register**. All comments received will be posted without change, including any personal information provided, at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) and will be made available for public inspection at the above physical address during regular business hours.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lakisha Aller, Assistant to the Director, Quality Assessment Division; (515) 657-1644; or [Lakisha.Aller@usda.gov](mailto:Lakisha.Aller@usda.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Overview of This Information Collection

- (1) *Agency:* USDA, AMS.
- (2) *Title:* Regulations for the Inspection of Eggs (Egg Products Inspection Act).
- (3) *OMB Number:* 0581-0113.
- (4) *Expiration Date of Approval:* June 30, 2026.
- (5) *Type of Request:* Request for extension of a currently approved information collection.
- (6) *Abstract:* Congress enacted the EPIA (21 U.S.C. 1031-1056) to provide, in part, a mandatory inspection program to control the disposition of dirty and checked shell eggs; to control unwholesome, adulterated, and inedible shell eggs that are unfit for human consumption; and to control the movement and disposition of imported shell eggs.

The EPIA authorized USDA to issue regulations describing how these functions would be carried out to ensure that only eggs fit for human consumption are used for such purposes. To this end, USDA published regulations implementing the EPIA, commonly referred to as the Shell Egg Surveillance Program, in 7 CFR part 57.

Under the Shell Egg Surveillance Program, shell egg handlers and hatcheries are required to register with USDA. A state or Federal surveillance inspector visits each registered handler quarterly to verify that shell eggs packed for consumer use comply with the regulations (*e.g.*, restricted eggs are not used for human consumption, storage temperatures are maintained at 45 degrees ambient, etc.), that restricted eggs are being disposed of properly, and that adequate records are being maintained.

The information and recordkeeping requirements in this request are essential to carry out the intent of Congress, to administer the mandatory inspection program, and to take regulatory action, in accordance with the regulations and the EPIA. The forms within this collection package require the minimum information necessary to effectively carry out the requirements of the regulations, and their use is

necessary to fulfill the intent of the EPIA.

The information collected is used only by authorized representatives of the AMS Livestock and Poultry Program's Quality Assessment Division, which includes state agencies authorized to conduct inspections on AMS's behalf. The information is used only to verify compliance with the EPIA and the regulations, and to facilitate regulatory action. AMS is the primary user of the information; secondary users include each authorized state agency that has a cooperative agreement with AMS.

There have been no changes in the Shell Egg Surveillance Program or in the information collection requirements. Since the previous submission, there was an overall increase of + 535.25 burden hours, a decrease of 41 Shell Egg Surveillance Program respondents, and an increase of 975 shell egg import certification program respondents. The increase in burden hours is due primarily to the increase in the number of importer respondents who provided information required by 7 CFR 57.915(b) and 57.920. This change is attributed to volatile market conditions, specifically stemming from widespread outbreaks of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza within the United States, which precipitated an increase in shell egg imports to offset domestic supply shortages. The decrease in the overall number of Shell Egg Surveillance Program survey respondents is primarily due to industry consolidation.

(7) *Estimate of Burden:* Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .25 hours per response.

(8) *Respondents:* Businesses or other for-profits, and small businesses or organizations.

(9) *Estimated Number of Respondents:* 719.

(10) *Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 7.

(11) *Estimated Total Annual Responses:* 6,338.00.

(12) *Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 1,984.60 hours.

*Comments are invited on:* (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of AMS, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of AMS's estimate of the burden of the

proposed collection of information, 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 the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All responses will become a matter of public record, including any personal information provided.

**Melissa Bailey,**

*Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.*

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**BILLING CODE P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments are requested regarding 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; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and 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 April 22, 2026 will be considered. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

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 Safety and Inspection Service

*Title:* Interstate Shipment of Meat and Poultry Products.

*OMB Control Number:* 0583-0143.

*Summary of Collection:* The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has been delegated the authority to exercise the functions of the Secretary (7 CFR 2.18, 2.53), as specified in the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) (21 U.S.C. 601, *et seq.*) and the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA) (21 U.S.C. 451, *et seq.*). These statutes mandate that FSIS protect the public by verifying that meat and poultry products are safe, wholesome, and properly labeled. FSIS is requesting a renewal of the approved information collection regarding the voluntary cooperative interstate shipment program.

*Need and Use of the Information:* FSIS administers a voluntary cooperative inspection program under which State-inspected establishments with 25 or fewer employees in states that have a cooperative agreement with FSIS are eligible to ship meat and poultry products in interstate commerce (21 U.S.C. 683 and U.S.C. 472) (9 CFR 321.3, 9 CFR part 332, 9 CFR 381.187, and 9 CFR part 381 subpart Z). In participating States, State-inspected establishments selected for this program are required to comply with all Federal standards under the FMIA and the PPIA.

*Description of Respondents:* Business or other for-profit.

*Number of Respondents:* 67.

*Frequency of Responses:* Recordkeeping; Reporting: On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 733.

### Food Safety and Inspection Service

*Title:* Permit To Transport Undenatured Inedible Meat Products.

*OMB Control Number:* 0583-0179.

*Summary of Collection:* FSIS has been delegated the authority to exercise the functions of the Secretary (7 CFR 2.18, 2.53), as specified in the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) (21 U.S.C. 601, *et seq.*). This statute mandates that FSIS protect the public by verifying that meat and meat products are safe, wholesome, and properly labeled. FSIS is requesting a renewal of the approved information collection regarding permits to transport

domestic undenatured inedible meat products.

*Need and Use of the Information:*

Under the regulations at 9 CFR 325.11(e), official establishments are to apply in writing to their District Office to obtain a permit for the transport of undenatured inedible meat products in commerce. The application is to indicate the name and address of the applicant, a description of the type of business operations, and the purpose of making such application.

*Description of Respondents:* Business or other for-profit.

*Number of Respondents:* 150.

*Frequency of Responses:* Recordkeeping; Reporting: On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 25.

### Food Safety and Inspection Service

*Title:* Permit To Obtain Specimens of Condemned or Other Inedible Materials From Official Establishments.

*OMB Control Number:* 0583-0180.

*Summary of Collection:* FSIS has been delegated the authority to exercise the functions of the Secretary (7 CFR 2.18, 2.53) as specified in the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) (21 U.S.C. 601, *et seq.*), the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA) (21 U.S.C. 451, *et seq.*), and the Egg Products Inspection Act (EPIA) (21 U.S.C. 1031, *et seq.*). These statutes mandate that FSIS protect the public by verifying that meat, poultry, and egg products are safe, wholesome, and properly labeled. FSIS is requesting a renewal of the approved information collection regarding applicants that want to obtain specimens of condemned or other inedible materials from official establishments.

*Need and Use of the Information:* FSIS requires any person desiring specimens of condemned or other inedible materials, including embryos and specimens of animal parasites, to file a written application on the FSIS Form 6700-2, "Application and Permit to Obtain Specimens from Official Establishments" (9 CFR 314.9(a)). The applicant must indicate the purpose for the specimens and arrange with and receive permission from the official establishment to obtain the specimens. Under the regulations, official establishments may release specimens for educational, research, or other nonfood purposes under the permit issued by the inspector in charge. The applicant agrees that the collection and handling of the specimens will be at such time and place and in such a manner as not to interfere with inspection or to cause any objectionable condition.

*Description of Respondents:* Business or other for-profit.