

Description of Respondents: Farm; Individuals or households; businesses or other-for-profit; Federal Government.
Number of Respondents: 17,806.
Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Other (eligibility).
Total Burden Hours: 101,283.

Sondra Blakey,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 04-18504 Filed 8-12-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

August 6, 2004.

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), *Pamela_Beverly_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) 720-8681.

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.

Rural Housing Service

Title: 7 CFR 1942-C, "Fire and Rescue Loans".

OMB Control Number: 0575-0120.

Summary of Collection: The Rural Housing Service (RHS) is authorized by Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926) to make loans to public agencies, nonprofit corporations, and Indian tribes for the development of essential community facilities primarily servicing rural residents. 7 CFR 1942-A is the primary regulation for administering the Community Facility Program.

Need And Use of the Information: The Rural Development field offices will collect the information from applicant/borrowers. The information is used to determine eligibility, analyze financial feasibility, monitor the use of loan funds and the financial condition of borrowers, and otherwise assisting borrowers.

Description of Respondents: Not-for-profit institutions; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 1,544.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion; Quarterly; Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 8,232.

Sondra Blakey,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 04-18505 Filed 8-12-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), *Pamela_Beverly_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) 720-8681.

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Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Title: Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza; Additional Restrictions.

OMB Control Number: 0579-0245.

Summary of Collection: Disease prevention is the most effective method for maintaining a healthy animal population and enhancing the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) ability to compete in the world market of animal and animal product trade. Title 21 U.S.C. authorizes sections 111, 114, 114a, 114-1, 115, 120, 121, 125, 126, 134a, 134c, 134f, and 134g. These authorities permit the Secretary to prevent, control, and eliminate domestic diseases such as brucellosis, as well as to take actions to prevent and to manage exotic diseases such as highly pathogenic avian influenza and other foreign animal diseases. Highly pathogenic avian influenza is an extremely infectious and fatal form of influenza in chickens and can strike poultry quickly without any warning signs. To protect the United States against an incursion of highly pathogenic avian influenza, APHIS published an interim rule to prohibit or restrict the importation of birds, poultry, and unprocessed bird and poultry products from regions that have reported the presence of the H5N1 subtype of highly pathogenic avian influenza.

Need and Use of the Information: APHIS will collect the information to ensure that U.S. origin pet birds undergo appropriate examinations before entering the United States. Without the information, it would be impossible for APHIS to establish an

effective line of defense against an introduction of highly pathogenic avian influenza.

Description of Respondents: Farms; Individuals or households; Federal Government.

Number of Respondents: 5,000.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 5,000.

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Title: Karnal Bunt; Compensation for Custom Harvesters in Northern Texas.

OMB Control Number: 0579-0248.

Summary of Collection: Under the Plant Protection Act (PPA) (7 U.S.C. 7701-7772), the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has the responsibility and authorization to prohibit or restrict the importation, entry, or movement of plant and plant pests in the United States. The regulations regarding Karnal Bunt are set forth in 7 CFR Parts 301.89-1 through 301.89-16. APHIS amended the Karnal Bunt regulations to provide for the payment of compensation to custom harvesters for losses they incurred due to the requirement that their equipment be cleaned and disinfected after four counties in northern Texas were declared regulated areas for Karnal Bunt during the 2000-2001 crop season.

Need and Use of the Information: APHIS will collect information using PPQ 540, Certificate of Federal/State Domestic Plant Quarantines. The certificate is used for domestic movement of treated articles relating to quarantines. The information collected is critical to the mission of preventing the infestation of Karnal Bunt into non-infested areas of the United States.

Description of Respondents: Farms; Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 40.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 8.

Sondra Blakey,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 04-18506 Filed 8-12-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 04-071-1]

Notice of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: 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 an extension of approval of an information collection associated with the Virus-Serum-Toxin Act and regulations.

DATES: We invite you to comment on this docket. We will consider all comments that we receive on or before October 12, 2004.

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

• *Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:*

Please send four copies of your comment (an original and three copies) to Docket No. 04-071-1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3C71, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. 04-071-1.

• *E-mail:* Address your comment to regulations@aphis.usda.gov. Your comment must be contained in the body of your message; do not send attached files. Please include your name and address in your message and "Docket No. 04-071-1" on the subject line.

• *Agency Web Site:* Go to <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/cominst.html> for a form you can use to submit an e-mail comment through the APHIS Web site.

Reading Room: You may read any comments that we receive on this docket in our reading room. The reading room 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) 690-2817 before coming.

Other Information: You may view APHIS documents published in the **Federal Register** and related information, including the names of groups and individuals who have commented on APHIS dockets, on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/webrep.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on the Virus-Serum-Toxin Act and regulations, contact Dr. Albert Morgan, Section Leader, Operational Support Section, Center for Veterinary Biologics, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 148, Riverdale MD 20737, (301) 734-8245. For copies of more detailed information on the information

collection, contact Mrs. Celeste Sickles, APHIS' Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 734-7477.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Virus-Serum-Toxin Act and Regulations.

OMB Number: 0579-0013.

Type of Request: Extension of approval of an information collection.

Abstract: The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture is responsible for ensuring that veterinary biological products are pure, safe, potent, and effective. This program is conducted under the Virus-Serum-Toxin Act (21 U.S.C. 151, *et seq.*) and the regulations in 9 CFR, chapter I, subchapter E. Veterinary biological products are defined as all viruses, serums, toxins (excluding substances that are selectively toxic to microorganisms, *e.g.*, antibiotics), or analogous products at any stage of production, shipment, distribution, or sale, which are intended for use in the treatment of animals and which act primarily through the direct stimulation, supplementation, enhancement, or modulation of the immune system or immune response. The term "biological products" includes, but is not limited to, vaccines, bacterins, allergens, antibodies, antitoxins, toxoids, immunostimulants, certain cytokines, antigenic or immunizing components of live organisms, and diagnostic components that are of natural or synthetic origin or that are derived from synthesizing or altering various substances or components of substances, such as microorganisms, genes or genetic sequences, carbohydrates, proteins, antigens, allergens, or antibodies.

To accomplish its mission, APHIS issues licenses to qualified establishments that produce biological products and issues permits to importers of such products. We also enforce requirements concerning production, packaging, labeling, and shipping of these products and set standards for the testing of these products.

Fulfilling this responsibility requires us to use certain information collection activities such as establishment license applications, product license applications, product import permit applications, product and test report forms, and field study summaries. This information helps us to ensure that biological products used in the United States are pure, safe, potent, and effective. If we did not collect this information, we would be unable to carry out this mission.