

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

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 97-023N]

National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria for Foods; Meeting

The National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria for Foods (NACMCF) will hold meetings on April 2, 1997, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., on April 3, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and on April 4, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Plenary sessions will be held on April 2 and 4, and concurrent meetings of six subcommittees will be held on April 3. The meetings will be held in the back of the cafeteria of the South Agriculture Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3700.

NACMCF provides advice and recommendations to the Secretaries of Agriculture and Health and Human Services concerning the development of microbiological criteria by which the safety and wholesomeness of food can be addressed. This includes criteria pertaining to microorganisms that indicate whether food has been produced and transported using good manufacturing practices.

Topics to be discussed at the meetings include (1) new subcommittee assignments (2) the National Institute for Standards and Technology Accreditation Program for Food Microbiology Laboratories and Analysts, and (3) the President's National Food Safety Initiative.

The meetings are open to the public on a space available basis. Interested persons may file comments before and after the meeting. Comments should be addressed to: Dr. Bonnie Rose, Staff Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, 311 Cotton Annex Building, 300 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3700. Background materials and the meeting

agenda are available for review by contacting Dr. Rose on (202) 205-0212.

Done at Washington, DC, on March 20, 1997.

Thomas J. Billy,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 97-7582 Filed 3-25-97; 8:45 am]

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National Agricultural Statistics Service

Notice of Intent to Request an Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub.L. No. 104-13) and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations at 5 CFR Part 1320 (60 FR 44978, August 29, 1995), this notice announces the National Agricultural Statistics Service's (NASS) intention to request an extension of a currently approved information collection, the Honey Survey.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by May 30, 1997 to be assured of consideration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Contact Rich Allen, Associate Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Services, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 4117 South Building, Washington, D.C. 20250-2000, (202) 720-4333.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Honey Survey.

OMB Number: 0535-0153.

Expiration Date of Approval: September 30, 1997.

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

Abstract: The primary objective of the National Agricultural Statistics Service is to prepare and issue state and national estimates of crop and livestock production. The Honey Survey collects information on the number of colonies and honey production, stocks and prices. The survey provides data needed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and other government agencies to

administer programs and to set trade quotas and tariffs. State universities and agriculture departments also use data from this survey. The Honey Survey has approval from OMB for a three year period. NASS intends to request that the survey be approved for another three years.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 11 minutes per response.

Respondents: Farms.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 6,100.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 1,100 hours.

Copies of this information collection and related instructions can be obtained without charge from Larry Gambrell, the Agency OMB Clearance Officer, at (202) 720-5778.

Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed 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 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 or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to: Larry Gambrell, Agency OMB Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Room 4162 South Building, Washington, DC 20250-2000.

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.

Signed at Washington, D.C., March 10, 1997.

Donald M. Bay,

Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

[FR Doc. 97-7583 Filed 3-25-97; 8:45 am]

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