

where it is being sold. They send a sample of the seed and a copy of the labeling to the State seed laboratory where the sample is tested and the analysis compared with the label. When violations are found, State personnel may take corrective action such as issuing a stop sale order to keep the seed from being sold until it is correctly labeled or otherwise disposed of. They may also take action against the shipper or labeler of the seed. The action a State may take against a shipper in another State is limited. Therefore, violations involving interstate shipments may be turned over to AMS for Federal action.

AMS investigates the complaints. The investigation normally involves check testing the State's official sample and possibly the shipper's file sample at the Testing Section. The shipper's records are checked to establish that there was a violation of the FSA, responsibility for the violation, and the cause of the mislabeling, if possible. The investigation will help the shipper find and correct the problem causing the violation and help AMS to determine the appropriate regulatory action. Regulatory action is to take no action if the investigation finds the FSA was not violated, a letter of warning for less serious violations, or a monetary settlement for more serious violations.

No unique forms are required for this information collection. The FSA requires seed in interstate commerce to be tested and labeled. Once in a State, seed must comply with the testing and labeling requirements of the State seed law. The same test and labeling required by the FSA nearly always satisfies the State's testing and labeling requirements. Also the receiving, sales, cleaning, testing, and labeling records required by the FSA, are records that the shipper would normally keep in good business practice.

The information obtained under this information collection is the minimum information necessary to effectively carry out the enforcement of the FSA.

*Estimate of Burden:* Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2.06 hours per response.

*Respondents:* Interstate shippers and labelers of seed.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 3,208.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 5.56.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 36,793.

*Comments are invited on:* (1) 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; (2) 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; (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. Comments may be sent to James P. Triplitt, Chief, Seed Regulatory and Testing Branch, LS, AMS, USDA, Room 209, Building 306, BARC-E., Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2325. All comments received will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the same address.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: January 6, 1998.

**Barry L. Carpenter,**

*Deputy Administrator, Livestock and Seed Program.*

[FR Doc. 98-734 Filed 1-12-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 94-106-12]

RIN 0579-AA71

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; OMB Approval Received

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Office of Management and Budget's approval of a collection of information contained in the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's final rule that establishes procedures for recognizing regions for the purpose of the importation of animals and animal products into the United States, and that establishes procedures by which regions may request permission to export animals and animal products to the United States under specified conditions.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Cheryl Jenkins, APHIS Information Collection Coordinator, AIM, APHIS, suite 2C42, 4700 River Road, Unit 103,

Riverdale, MD 20737-1235, (301) 734-5360.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

On October 28, 1997, we published a final rule in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 55999-56026, Docket No. 94-106-9) amending 9 CFR parts 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, and 130 to establish procedures for recognizing regions, rather than only countries, for the purpose of the importation of animals and animal products into the United States. The final rule also established procedures by which regions may request permission to export animals and animal products to the United States under certain conditions, based on the regions' disease status. That rule contains information collection requirements, some of which had been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) at the time the rule was published. On December 5, 1997, OMB approved the remainder of the collection of information requirements in that final rule, with respect to 9 CFR parts 92, 93, and 98, under OMB control number 0579-0040 (expires June 30, 1999).

Done in Washington, DC, this 5th day of January 1998.

**Craig A. Reed,**

*Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. 98-745 Filed 1-12-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 97-083N]

#### Codex Alimentarius: Meeting of the Codex Committee on General

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

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius is sponsoring a public meeting to provide information and receive comments from the public on items that will be discussed at the Codex Committee on General Principles, which will be held May 11 to 15, 1998, in Paris, France. The Manager recognizes the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the Thirteenth Session of the General Principles Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex). Attendees will hear brief descriptions of the issues and will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments on the issues.

**DATES:** The public meeting is scheduled from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on January 27, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Crown Plaza Hotel in the Hamilton Conference Room, 14th and K Streets, NW, Washington, DC. Send an original and two copies of your comments to: FSIS Docket Clerk, Docket No. 97-083N, Department of Agriculture, FSIS, Room 102, Cotton Annex, 300 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20250-3700. All comments submitted in response to this notice will be available for public inspection in the Docket Clerk's Office between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and will be considered part of the official record.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. F. Edward Scarbrough, U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius, Room 4861, South Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-3700; telephone (202) 205-6670.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Codex was established in 1962 by two United Nations organizations: the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Codex is the major international organization for encouraging fair international trade in food and protecting the health and economic interests of consumers. Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, Codex seeks to ensure that the world's food supply is sound, wholesome, free from adulteration, and correctly labeled. In the United States, the U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius coordinates the United States representatives to the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.

The Codex Commission on General Principles was established to deal with procedural and general matters such as the general principles which define the purpose and scope of Codex Alimentarius, the nature of Codex standards, the forms of acceptance by countries of the standards, and the development of guidelines for Codex committees.

#### Issues To Be Discussed at the Meeting

The following specific issues will be discussed during the public meeting:

1. Risk Analysis
  - (A.) Definitions related to risk management
  - (B.) Working principles for risk analysis
  - (C.) Equivalence and food safety objectives
2. Measures intended to facilitate consensus within Codex
3. Review of the Codex General Principles

- (A.) Consideration of special treatment of developing countries
- (B.) Revision of the acceptance procedure
4. Review of the status and objectives of Codex texts
5. Review of the statements of principle on the role of science and the extent to which other factors are taken into account such as in the cases of Bovine Somotrophin (BST) and Porcine Somotrophin (PST)
6. Procedures concerning the participation of international non-governmental organizations

In advance of this meeting, the U.S. Manager will have assigned responsibility for development of U.S. positions on these issues to members of government. The designated persons will develop draft proposals, which may be based in part on comments received from the public. All interested parties are invited to provide information on the above issues or any other issues that may be brought before the Codex Committee on General Principles or Codex, in general.

Done at Washington, DC, on January 6, 1998.

**F. Edward Scarbrough,**

*U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.*

[FR Doc. 98-731 Filed 1-12-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Natural Resources Conservation Service

#### Notice of Proposed Change to the Natural Resource Conservation Service's National Handbook of Conservation Practices

**AGENCY:** Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), USDA, New York State Office.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of proposed changes in the NRCS National Handbook of Conservation Practices, Section IV of the New York State NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) for review and comment.

**SUMMARY:** It is the intention of NRCS to issue a series of new conservation practice standards in its National Handbook of Conservation Practices. These new standards include; Waste Storage Facility (NY313), Grassed Waterway (NY412), and Barnyard Water Management System (NY707).

**DATES:** Comments will be received for a 30-day period commencing with this date of publication.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Inquire in writing to Richard D. Swenson, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS),

441 S. Salina Street, Fifth Floor, Suite 354, Syracuse, New York, 13202-2450.

Copies of these standards are available by request from the above individual.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 343 of the Federal Agricultural Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 states that revisions made after the enactment of the law to NRCS State Technical Guides used to carry out highly erodible land and wetland provisions of the law shall be made available for public review and comment. For the next 30 days the NRCS will receive comments relative to the proposed changes. Following that period a determination will be made by the NRCS regarding disposition of those comments and a final determination of change will be made.

Dated: January 5, 1998.

**Joseph R. Del Vecchio,**

*Acting State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Syracuse, NY.*

[FR Doc. 98-449 Filed 1-12-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-M

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Bureau of Export Administration

#### Materials Technical Advisory Committee; Notice of Open Meeting

A meeting of the Materials Technical Advisory Committee will be held January 29, 1998, 10:30 a.m., in the Herbert C. Hoover Building, Room 1617M(2), 14th Street between Constitution & Pennsylvania Avenues, NW., Washington, DC. The Committee advises the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration with respect to technical questions that affect the level of export controls applicable to advanced materials and related technology.

#### Agenda

1. Opening remarks by the Chairman.
2. Presentation of papers or comments by the public.
3. Discussion of papers resulting from assignments related to review of export controls on pipes and valves subject to Export Control Commodity Number 2A292.
4. Discussion of the effect of the implementation of the Wassenaar regulation on licensing requirements for commodities controlled for nuclear proliferation reasons.

The meeting will be open to the public and a limited number of seats will be available. To the extent that time permits, members of the public may