

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 and Nutrition Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request—7 CFR Part 226 Child and Adult Care Food Program

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this Notice announces the Food and Nutrition Service's (FNS) intention to request Office of Management and Budget (OMB) review of the information collection related to the Child and Adult Care Food Program. This notice also invites the general public and other public agencies to comment on the proposed information collection.

DATES: To be assured of consideration, comments must be received by November 3, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Send comments and requests for copies of this information collection to: Mr. Robert Eadie, Chief, Policy and Program Development Branch, Child Nutrition Division, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 636, Alexandria, Virginia 22302.

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, including through 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, and will become a matter of public record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Robert Eadie at (703) 305-2590.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Title:* 7 CFR part 226, Child and Adult Care Food Program.

OMB Number: 0584-0055.

Expiration Date: December 31, 2003.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Section 17 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1766), authorizes the Department to carry out a program to assist States through grants-in-aid and other means to initiate and maintain nonprofit food service programs for children in institutions providing child care.

Estimate of Burden: The reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated at 4,431,068 burden hours. The recordkeeping burden is estimated at 662,784 burden hours.

Affected Public: 2,604,449.

Estimate of Burden:

Annual Reporting Burden:

(1) *Estimated number of respondents:* 2,604,449.

(2) *Estimated number of responses per respondent:* 1.8440.

(3) *Estimated time per response:* 1.084 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Reporting Burden: 4,431,068 hours.

Annual Recordkeeping Burden:

(1) *Estimated total number of Recordkeepings:* 4,802,804.

(2) *Estimated time per Recordkeeping:* .138 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Recordkeeping Burden: 662,784.

Total Annual Reporting and Recording Burden: 5,093,852.

Dated: August 25, 2003.

Roberto Salazar,

Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.

[FR Doc. 03-22295 Filed 8-29-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 03-031N]

FSIS Public Meeting on Pre-Harvest Food Safety Issues and *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) O157:H7

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is announcing that it will hold a public meeting on pre-harvest food safety issues and *E. coli* O157:H7 on September 9, 2003, in Washington, DC. The meeting will consist of presentations on the research and practical experiences aimed at reducing *E. coli* O157:H7 at the livestock production level before livestock reach federally inspected plants. The meeting will also include a brief review of on-farm interventions for pathogens other than *E. coli* O157:H7 that have already been adopted by producers.

This meeting is one of a number of public meetings FSIS is conducting to discuss new approaches for strengthening food safety.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2003, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at The Washington Plaza Hotel, 10 Thomas Circle, NW., Massachusetts Avenue, at 14th Street, Washington, DC 20005. A tentative agenda will be available in the FSIS Docket Room and on the FSIS Web site at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/>. The official transcript of the meeting, when it becomes available, will be kept in the FSIS Docket Room at room 102 Cotton Annex, 300 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3700, and will represent public comments. FSIS welcomes comments on the topics to be discussed at the public meeting. Please send an original and two copies of comments to the FSIS Docket Clerk, Docket 03-031N, Room 102, Cotton Annex, Washington, DC 20250-3700. All comments and the official transcript, when it becomes available, will be kept in the FSIS Docket Room at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Nathan Bauer at (979) 260-9562.

There will be no pre-registration for this meeting. Persons requiring a sign language interpreter or other special accommodations should contact Sheila Johnson at (202) 690-6498, fax: (202) 690-6500, or e-mail: Sheila.johnson@fsis.usda.gov as soon as possible.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The scientific community continues to work with animal agriculture to investigate methods to reduce food safety risks through the use of specific production practices. Although much has been learned about the ecology of biological, chemical, and physical hazards during animal production, there are as of yet no specific production practices addressing biological hazards that consistently and predictably lead to improvement in food safety. Results are promising in some cases, and investigation of those avenues continues. A key point to recognize is that risk reduction interventions that can be expected will arise from those areas under research or from new areas that are added to the research agenda. It is important, therefore, for producers to be aware of the practices being explored, so that they can have input into the process and raise concerns about (1) areas that are not under investigation but that should be, (2) the economic impact of implementing new practices on the farm, and (3) the impact of food safety hazards on the marketability of their products.

To further pursue initiatives related to production practices, FSIS is holding a public meeting on pre-harvest food safety issues and *E. coli* O157:H7. The meeting has three goals.

The first goal is to determine whether interventions available to producers can form the basis for best management practices to reduce the load of *E. coli* O157:H7 in livestock before slaughter. The second goal is to identify promising interventions and determine what steps need to be taken to make the interventions available at the livestock production level. The third goal is to identify which research gaps should be the focus of the research community, including government, academia, and industry.

Based on the input from the conference, and any other information available to the Agency, FSIS will develop materials for producers that address pre-harvest food safety issues and *E. coli* O157:H7 and take other actions that appear to advance its food safety goals.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is

important. Consequently, in an effort to better ensure that minorities, women, and persons with disabilities are aware of this notice, FSIS will announce it and make copies of this **Federal Register** publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update. FSIS provides a weekly Constituent Update, which is communicated via Listserv, a free e-mail subscription service. In addition, the update is available on-line through the FSIS Web page located at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov>. The update is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, recalls, and any other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents/stakeholders. The constituent Listserv consists of industry, trade, and farm groups, consumer interest groups, allied health professionals, scientific professionals, and other individuals that have requested to be included. Through the Listserv and web page, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience.

For more information contact the Congressional and Public Affairs Office, at (202) 720-9113. To be added to the free e-mail subscription service (Listserv) go to the "Constituent Update" page on the FSIS Web site at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/oa/update/update.htm>. Click on the "Subscribe to the Constituent Update Listserv" link, then fill out and submit the form.

Done in Washington, DC on August 27, 2003.

Garry L. McKee,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 03-22297 Filed 8-29-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Assessment of Fees for Dairy Import Licenses for the 2004 Tariff-Rate Import Quota Year.

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces that the fee to be charged for the 2004 tariff-rate quota (TRQ) year for each license issued to a person or firm by the Department of Agriculture authorizing the importation of certain dairy articles which are subject to tariff-rate quotas set forth in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) will be \$170.00 per license.

EFFECTIVE DATES: January 1, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Hankin, Dairy Import Quota Manager, Import Policies and Programs Division, STOP 1021, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1021 or telephone at (202) 720-9439 or e-mail at Michael.Hankin@fsa.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Dairy Import Tariff-Rate Quota Licensing Regulation promulgated by the Department of Agriculture and codified at 7 CFR 6.20-6.37 provides for the issuance of licenses to import certain dairy articles that are subject to TRQs set forth in the HTS. Those dairy articles may only be entered into the United States at the in-quota TRQ tariff-rates by or for the account of a person or firm to whom such licenses have been issued and only in accordance with the terms and conditions of the regulation.

Licenses are issued on a calendar year basis, and each license authorizes the license holder to import a specified quantity and type of dairy article from a specified country of origin. The use of licenses by the license holder to import dairy articles is monitored by the Dairy Import Quota Manager, Import Policies and Programs Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the U.S. Customs Service.

The regulation at 7 CFR 6.33(a) provides that a fee will be charged for each license issued to a person or firm by the Licensing Authority in order to reimburse the Department of Agriculture for the costs of administering the licensing system under this regulation.

The regulation at 7 CFR 6.33(a) also provides that the Licensing Authority will announce the annual fee for each license and that such fee will be set out in a notice to be published in the **Federal Register**. Accordingly, this notice sets out the fee for the licenses to be issued for the 2004 calendar year.

Notice

In order to establish a fee appropriate to defray the costs of administering the licensing system, the Department of Agriculture has reviewed the costs estimated to be incurred during the 2003 quota year and will base the fee for the 2004 quota year on those costs. The total cost to the Department of Agriculture of administering the licensing system during 2003 has been determined to be \$433,000 and the estimated number of licenses expected to be issued is 2,560. Of the total cost, \$200,000 represents staff and supervisory costs directly related to administering the licensing system for 2003; \$50,000 represents the total