

# 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

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS–2008–0049]

#### Notice of Request for Revision and Extension of Approval of an Information Collection; National Animal Identification System

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

**ACTION:** Revision and 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 a revision and extension of approval of an information collection associated with the National Animal Identification System.

**DATES:** We will consider all comments that we receive on or before August 5, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/main?main=DocketDetail&d=APHIS-2008-0049> to submit or view comments and to view supporting and related materials available electronically.

- Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery: Please send two copies of your comment to Docket No. APHIS–2008–0049, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A–03.8, 4700 River Road, Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737–1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. APHIS–2008–0049.

*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 Federal holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 690–2817 before coming.

*Other Information:* Additional information about APHIS and its programs is available on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information on the National Animal Identification System, contact Mr. Vince Chapman, National Animal Identification System Staff, Surveillance and Identification Programs, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road, Unit 200, Riverdale, MD 20737; (301) 734–0739. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Mrs. Celeste Sickles, APHIS\* Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 851–2908.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* National Animal Identification System.

*OMB Number:* 0579–0259.

*Type of Request:* Revision and extension of approval of an information collection.

*Abstract:* As part of its ongoing efforts to safeguard U.S. animal health, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) initiated the implementation of the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) in 2004. NAIS is a cooperative State-Federal-industry partnership to standardize and expand animal identification programs and practices to all livestock species and poultry. NAIS is being developed through the integration of three components—premises registration, animal identification, and animal tracing. The goal of NAIS, for which participation at the Federal level is voluntary, is to have the information necessary to trace all animals associated with an incident of an animal disease within 48 hours in order to limit disease spread and thereby reduce the impact of diseases on America's agricultural producers.

The NAIS program involves a number of approved collection and recordkeeping activities, including animal identification; premises registration; group/lot movement records; cooperative agreements; accomplishment reports; applications, registrations, and agreements associated with the Animal Identification Number

(AIN) Management System; and applications for evaluation of animal tracking databases. New activities under the NAIS program include applications, agreements, and updates submitted by AIN manufacturers, managers, and resellers; cooperator quarterly accomplishment reports; and applications for cooperative agreements to support NAIS outreach, education, and premises registration activities.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve our use of these information collection activities for 3 years.

This notice includes a description of the information collection requirements currently approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the NAIS program under numbers 0579–0259, 0579–0283, and 0579–0288. After OMB approves and combines the burden for the three collections under a single collection (number 0579–0259), the Department will retire numbers 0579–0283 and 0579–0288. The new activities described above will also be combined under OMB collection 0579–0259.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning our information collection. These comments will help us:

(1) Evaluate 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;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the information collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the information collection on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

*Estimate of burden:* The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.7644215 hours per response.

*Respondents:* State and Tribal animal health authorities; owners/operators of feedlots, markets, and slaughter plants; producers; and nonproducer

participants such as accredited veterinarians, AIN device managers/resellers (individuals or firms responsible for distributing AIN devices to producers), AIN device manufacturers (companies that manufacture animal identification devices approved for use in the NAIS), third-party service providers (companies that provide herd management, dairy herd improvement, genetic evaluation, and other services to producers), and diagnostic laboratories and livestock buyers/dealers who submit data to the national database.

*Estimated annual number of respondents:* 500,472.

*Estimated annual number of responses per respondent:* 7.4036789.

*Estimated annual number of responses:* 3,705,334.

*Estimated total annual burden on respondents:* 2,832,437 hours. (Due to averaging, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the reporting burden per response.)

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.

Done in Washington, DC, this 2nd day of June 2008.

**Kevin Shea,**

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

[FR Doc. E8-12731 Filed 6-5-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-34-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2008-0014]

#### Potato Cyst Nematode; Update of Quarantined Areas

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

**ACTION:** Notice of changes to quarantined area.

**SUMMARY:** We are advising the public that we have made changes to the area in the State of Idaho that is quarantined to prevent the spread of potato cyst nematode. The description of the quarantined area was updated on November 1, 2007, when the potato cyst nematode regulations became effective; on November 28, 2007, when one additional field was found to be infested; on January 9, 2008, when some fields that had been quarantined were found not to have an association with an infested field; and on March 21, 2008, when 24 associated fields were removed

from the quarantined area after having been surveyed and found to be free of potato cyst nematode.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Osama El-Lissy, Director, Invasive Species and Pest Management, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 134, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236; (301) 734-8676.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

The potato cyst nematode (PCN) (*Globodera pallida*) is a major pest of potato crops in cool-temperature areas. Other solanaceous hosts include tomatoes, eggplants, peppers, tomatillos, and some weeds. The PCN is thought to have originated in Peru and is now widely distributed in many potato-growing regions of the world. PCN infestations may be expressed as patches of poor growth. Affected potato plants may exhibit yellowing, wilting, or death of foliage. Even with only minor symptoms on the foliage, potato tuber size can be affected. Unmanaged infestations can cause potato yield loss ranging from 20 to 70 percent. The spread of this pest in the United States could result in a loss of domestic or foreign markets for U.S. potatoes and other commodities.

In an interim rule published in the **Federal Register** on September 12, 2007, and effective on November 1, 2007 (72 FR 51975-51988, Docket No. APHIS-2006-0143), we established the PCN quarantine regulations (§§ 301.86 through 301.86-9, referred to below as the regulations). These regulations set out procedures for determining the areas quarantined for PCN and impose restrictions on the interstate movement of regulated articles from quarantined areas.

Section 301.86-3 of the regulations sets out the procedures for determining the areas quarantined for PCN. Paragraph (a) of § 301.86-3 states that, in accordance with the criteria listed in § 301.86-3(c), the Administrator will designate as a quarantined area each field that has been found to be infested with PCN, each field that has been found to be associated with an infested field, and any area that the Administrator considers necessary to quarantine because of its inseparability for quarantine enforcement purposes from infested or associated fields.

Paragraph (c) provides that the Administrator will designate a field as an infested field when PCN is found in the field. Paragraph (c) also provides that the Administrator will designate a field as an associated field when PCN host crops, as listed in § 301.86-2(b),

have been grown in the field in the last 10 years and the field shares a border with an infested field; the field came into contact with a regulated article listed in § 301.86-2 from an infested field within the last 10 years; or, within the last 10 years, the field shared ownership, tenancy, seed, drainage or runoff, farm machinery, or other elements of shared cultural practices with an infested field that could allow spread of the PCN, as determined by the Administrator.

Paragraph (b) describes the conditions for the designation of an area less than an entire State as a quarantined area. Less than an entire State will be designated as a quarantined area only if the Administrator determines that:

- The State has adopted and is enforcing restrictions on the intrastate movement of the regulated articles that are equivalent to those imposed by the regulations on the interstate movement of regulated articles; and
- The designation of less than the entire State as a quarantined area will prevent the interstate spread of PCN.

We have determined that it is not necessary to designate the entire State of Idaho as a quarantined area. Idaho has adopted and is enforcing restrictions on the intrastate movement of regulated articles from that area that are equivalent to those we are imposing on the interstate movement of regulated articles.

Paragraph (a) of § 301.86-3 further provides that the Administrator will publish the description of the quarantined area on the Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) Web site, [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant\\_health/plant\\_pest\\_info/potato/pcn.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/potato/pcn.shtml). The description of the quarantined area will include the date the description was last updated and a description of the changes that have been made to the quarantined area. The description of the quarantined area may also be obtained by request from any local office of PPQ; local offices are listed in telephone directories. Finally, paragraph (a) establishes that, after a change is made to the quarantined area, we will publish a notice in the **Federal Register** informing the public that the change has occurred and describing the change to the quarantined area.

We are publishing this notice to inform the public of changes to the PCN quarantined area in accordance with § 301.86-3(a).

The PCN quarantined area was first updated when the regulations became effective on November 1, 2007. That update to the quarantined area expanded the list of associated fields based on new information regarding