

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

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

September 20, 2018.

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 are requested regarding (1) 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) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden 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 through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding this information collection received by October 25, 2018 will be considered. Written comments should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20502. Commenters are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8958.

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.

Foreign Agricultural Service

Title: Agriculture Wood Apparel Manufacturers Trust Fund.

OMB Control Number: 0551-0045.

Summary of Collection: Section 12315 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Pub. L. 113-79) authorizes distribution out of the Agriculture Wood Apparel Manufacturers Trust Fund ("Agriculture Wool Trust Fund") in each of calendar years 2014 through 2019, payable to qualifying claimants. Eligible claimants are directed to submit a notarized affidavit, following the statutory procedures specified Section 12314 (c) or (d) of the Act.

Need and Use of the Information: The Foreign Agricultural Service will use the information provided in the affidavits to certify the claimants' eligibility and to authorize payment from the Agriculture Wood Trust Fund.

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

Number of Respondents: 95.

Frequency of Responses: Record keeping, Reporting: Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 190.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2018-20822 Filed 9-24-18; 8:45 am]

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Risk Management Agency

Title: Acreage/Crop Reporting Streamlining Initiative.

OMB Control Number: 0563-0084.

Summary of Collection: Section 508(f)(3) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1515); 7 U.S.C. 7333(b)(3); 7 CFR 457.8 and 7 CFR 1437.7(d) mandates the collection of acreage and production information from producers who wish to participate in certain USDA programs. The Farm Service Agency (FSA) and the Risk Management Agency (RMA) are implementing the Acreage/Crop Reporting Streamlining Initiative (ACRSI), a web-based single source reporting system to establish a single reporting and data collection.

Need and Use of the Information: This initiative is being conducted in phases by geographical area and additional commodities. Counties are selected based on their commonality of historical crop reporting, high percentage of producers participating in

both RMA and FSA programs and the high level of interest of the private agricultural service industry (precision-ag and farm management) in the pilot phases. It will reengineer the procedures, processes, and standards to simplify commodity, acreage and production reporting by producers, eliminate or minimize duplication of information collection by multiple agencies and reduce the burden on producers, insurance agents and AIPs. Information being collected will consist of, but not be limited to: Producer name, location state, commodity name, commodity type or variety, location county, date planted, land location (legal description, FSA farm number, FSA track number, FSA field number), intended use, prevented planting acres, acres planted but failed, planted acres, and production of commodity produced. Failure to collect the applicable information could result in unearned Federal benefits being issued or producers being denied eligibility to program benefits.

Description of Respondents: Individuals and households.
Number of Respondents: 501,012.
Frequency of Responses: Reporting: One time.
Total Burden Hours: 187,880.

Ruth Brown,
 Departmental Information Clearance Officer.
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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commodity Credit Corporation

Farm Service Agency

**Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA);
 Market Facilitation Program (MFP)
 Payments to Producers**

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation and Farm Service Agency, USDA.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: MFP provides payments to producers with commodities that have been significantly impacted by actions of foreign governments resulting in the loss of traditional exports. This NOFA announces the availability of MFP funds for eligible producers of shelled almonds and fresh sweet cherries and makes a correction to a previously issued NOFA published on August 30, 2018, with respect to MFP funds availability for hogs. On behalf of the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), the Farm Service Agency (FSA) administers MFP. MFP participants will receive an MFP payment, calculated

based on the eligible production multiplied by the participant’s share multiplied by the MFP payment rate.

DATES: *Application period:* September 24, 2018, through January 15, 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bradley Karmen, telephone: (202) 720-3175.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

CCC published the MFP regulation, 7 CFR part 1409, on August 30, 2018 (83 FR 44173-44178), specifying the eligibility requirements, payment calculations, and application procedures for MFP. CCC also published a NOFA on August 30, 2018 (83 FR 44257-44258) that announced funds available for hogs and other commodities. MFP provides assistance to producers with commodities that have been significantly impacted by actions of foreign governments resulting in the loss of traditional exports. This NOFA announces the availability of initial MFP payments for 2018 for shelled almonds and fresh sweet cherries.

Correction

The NOFA announcing funds availability for hogs specifies that the date for which the owner reports the number of head of live hogs is August 1, 2018. It has come to our attention that the inventory on August 1 may not be representative of the operation’s inventory. For example, a producer may have sold a barnful of hogs a few days before August 1, resulting in reduced inventory and then purchased feeder pigs a few days later. To provide an option for those owners to participate in MFP, this NOFA is revising the requirement. Producers may select any day from July 15 through August 15, 2018, as the date for which the ownership is reported.

Application Process

Each eligible producer applies for MFP on an application form. A producer applies for MFP once. MFP payments will not be issued until a producer certifies production, as described below.

Payment Rates

The MFP payment rates will be as determined by CCC.

The MFP payment rates and units of measure that will be in effect beginning at the start of the application period, are listed in the following table.

Commodity	Unit	Rate (\$/unit)
Shelled Almonds	pound	\$0.03
Fresh Sweet Cherries	pound	0.16

The initial payment rate will apply to the first 50 percent of the producer’s total production of the selected commodity. On or about December 3, 2018, CCC may announce a second payment rate, if applicable, that will apply to the remaining 50 percent of the producer’s production for the selected commodity.

MFP payment at either the initial payment rate or at a second payment rate will be made after a producer harvests 100 percent of the crop and certifies the amount of production.

The actual production used to calculate an MFP payment under this NOFA is 2018 production in which the applicant had an ownership share. Specifically, required production information is as follows:

- Harvested production for the 2018 crop year;
- An ownership share for a crop will be as reported to FSA on the acreage report, form FSA-578, “Report of Acreage.”

Production Evidence

On the application, the producer will certify the amount of production and note the source of production evidence. If requested, the producer must provide supporting documentation to CCC to determine the producer’s ownership share and the amount of production.

If supporting documentation is required for the amount of actual production and for ownership share, it needs to be records that substantiate the reported amounts. The participant’s production for the commodity is based on production records. Examples of supporting documentation include evidence provided by the participant that is used to substantiate the amount of production reported, including copies of receipts, ledgers of income, income statements of deposit slips, register tapes, invoices for custom harvesting, and records to verify production costs, contemporaneous measurements, truck scale tickets, or contemporaneous diaries that are determined acceptable by the FSA county committee.

Payment Limitation

For MFP payments, there will be a single combined \$125,000 per person or legal entity payment limitation for shelled almonds and fresh sweet cherries.