

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

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. No. AMS-DA-16-0056]

Notice of Request for Extension and Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), this notice announces the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) intention to request approval, from the Office of Management and Budget, for an extension of and revision to the currently approved information collection for report forms under the Federal milk marketing order program.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by October 17, 2016 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov> or to the Office of the Deputy Administrator, Dairy Program, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 2968 South, Stop 0225, Washington, DC 20250-0225. Comments should make reference to the date and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register**. All comments will be posted electronically without change; including any personal information provided at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Comments will also be available for public inspection in the above office during regular business hours.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

David R. Jamison, Director, Order Operation and Accountability Division, Dairy Program, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture,

1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 2968 South, Stop 0225, Washington, DC 20250-0225.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Report Forms under Federal Milk Orders (From Milk Handlers and Milk Marketing Cooperatives).

OMB Number: 0581-0032.

Expiration Date of Approval: February 28, 2017.

Type of Request: Extension and revision of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: Federal milk marketing order regulations (7 CFR parts 1000-1199) authorized under the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, as amended (7 U.S.C. 601-674), require milk handlers to report in detail the receipts and utilization of milk and milk products handled at each of their plants that are regulated by a Federal order. The data are needed to administer the classified pricing system and related requirements of each Federal order.

A Federal milk marketing order (hereinafter, Order) is a regulation issued by the Secretary of Agriculture that places certain requirements on the handling of milk in the area it covers. Each Order is established under the authority of the Act. The Order requires that handlers of milk for a marketing area pay not less than certain minimum class prices according to how the milk is used. These prices are established under each Order after a public hearing at which evidence is received on the supply and demand conditions for milk in the market. An Order requires that payments for milk be pooled and paid to individual farmers or cooperative associations of farmers on the basis of a uniform or average price. Thus, all eligible farmers (producers) share in the market wide use-values of milk by regulated handlers.

Milk Orders help ensure adequate supplies of milk and dairy products for consumers and adequate returns to producers.

The Orders also provide for the public dissemination of market statistics and other information for the benefit of producers, handlers, and consumers.

Formal rulemaking amendments to the Orders must be approved in referenda conducted by the Secretary.

During 2015, 35,181 dairy farmers delivered over 126 billion pounds of milk to handlers regulated under the milk orders. This volume represents 61

percent of all milk marketed in the U.S. and 61 percent of the milk of bottling quality (Grade A) sold in the country. The value of this milk delivered to Federal milk order handlers at minimum order blend prices was over \$21 billion. Producer deliveries of milk used in Class I products (mainly fluid milk products) totaled 41 billion pounds—32 percent of total producer deliveries.

Each Order is administered by a USDA market administrator. The market administrator is authorized to levy assessments on regulated handlers to carry out the market administrator's duties and responsibilities under the Orders. Additional duties of the market administrators are to prescribe reports required of each handler, to assure that handlers properly account for milk and milk products, and to assure that such handlers pay producers and associations of producers according to the provisions of the Order. The market administrator employs a staff that verifies handlers' reports by examining records to determine that the required payments are made to producers. Most reports required from handlers are submitted monthly to the market administrator.

The Biennial Summary of Packaged Fluid Milk Sales in Federal Order Markets, by Size, Container Type and Distribution Method is a new electronic form that was added in 2015. The data from this form is collected from all regulated handlers who process and/or sell Class I fluid milk products under a Federal Milk Marketing Order.

The forms used by the market administrators are required by the respective Orders that are authorized by the Act. The forms are used to establish the quantity of milk received by handlers, the pooling status of the handlers, the class-use of the milk used by the handler, and the butterfat content and amounts of other components of the milk.

The forms covered under this information collection require the minimum information necessary to effectively carry out the requirements of the Orders, and their use is necessary to fulfill the intent of the Act as expressed in the Orders and in the rules and regulations issued under the Orders. The information collected is used only by authorized employees of the market administrator and authorized

representatives of the USDA, including AMS Dairy Programs' headquarters staff.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.47 hours per response.

Respondents: Milk handlers and milk marketing cooperatives.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 690.

Estimated Total Annual Responses: 18,591.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 27.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 27,334.05.

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.

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: August 10, 2016.

Elanor Starmier,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2016-19530 Filed 8-15-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Notice of Request for Approval of an Information Collection

AGENCY: Office of Advocacy and Outreach, Department of Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the intent, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, of the Office of Advocacy and Outreach (OAO) to request an extension/revision of a currently approved information collection to the Minority Farm Register. The Minority Farm Register is a voluntary register of minority farm and ranch operators, landowners, tenants, and others with an interest in farming or agriculture. The OAO uses the

collected information to better inform minority farmers about U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) programs and services.

DATES: We will consider comments received by October 17, 2016, at 5:00 p.m. EST.

ADDRESSES: We invite you to submit comments on this notice. In your comments, include date, volume, and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register**. You may submit comments by any of the following methods: (1) Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <http://regulations.gov> and follow the online instructions for submitting comments; (2) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of Advocacy and Outreach, Attn: Kenya Nicholas, Program Director, Whitten Building Room 520-A, Mail Stop 0601, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250; and (3) Fax: (202) 720-7704.

How to File a Complaint of Discrimination: To file a complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, which may be accessed online at: http://www.ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/Complain_combined_6_8_12.pdf, or write a letter signed by you or your authorized representative. Send your completed complaint form or letter to USDA by mail, fax, or email:

Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-9410.

Fax: (202) 690-7442.

Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Agency Contact: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of Advocacy and Outreach, Attention: Kenya Nicholas, Program Director, Whitten Building Room 520-A, Mail Stop 0601, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250, Phone: (202) 720-6350, Fax: (202) 720-7704, Email: kenya.nicholas@osec.usda.gov.

Persons with Disabilities: Persons who require alternative means for communication (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.), should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: USDA Minority Farm Register.

Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Number: 0560-0231.

Expiration Date: October 31, 2016.

Type of Request: Extension/Revision.

Abstract: The Minority Farm Register is a voluntary register of minority farm and ranch operators, landowners, tenants, and others with an interest in

farming or agriculture. The registrant's name, address, email, phone number, race, ethnicity, gender, farm location, and signature will be collected; however, the registrant's name, address, and signature are the only items required to register. Providing this information is completely voluntary. USDA's OAO will use this information to help inform minority farmers and ranchers about programs and services provided by USDA agencies. The Minority Farm Register is maintained by OAO. Because USDA partners with community-based organizations, minority-serving educational institutions, and other groups to communicate USDA's programs and services, the OAO may share information collected with these organizations for outreach purposes. The race, ethnicity, and gender of registrants may be used to provide information about programs and services that are designed for these particular groups. Information about the Minority Farm Register is available on the Internet to ensure that the program is widely publicized and accessible to all.

Respondents: Individuals and households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 5000.

Estimated Average Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Number of Responses: 5000.

Estimated average time to respond: 5 minutes (0.083 hours) and 1 hour traveling time. *Estimated Total Annual Burden on all Respondents:* 4667 hours.

We are requesting comments on all aspects of this information collection to help us to: (1) Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of OAO, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) Evaluate the accuracy of OAO's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (4) 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, including name and addresses when provided, will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.