

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

August 22, 1997.

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 regarding: (a) 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; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (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 should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Washington, D.C. 20503, and to Department Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, D.C. 20250-7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-6746.

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.

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Title: Animal Welfare Act, Part 3, Subparts A and D, Dogs, Cats, and Primates.

OMB Control Number: 0579-0093.

Summary of Collection: If the licensee and registrants intent is to temporarily tether a dog for a period to exceed three days, the licensee must obtain written approval from APHIS.

Need and Use of the Information: The information collected will be used to evaluate the licensee's and registrants request for temporary tethering of a dog to determine if tethering is justified for the duration of time requested.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; State, Local, or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 82,000.

Frequency of Responses:

Recordkeeping; Reporting: On occasion; Weekly; Semi-annually; Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 44,313.

Donald Hulcher,

Departmental Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-22881 Filed 8-27-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Secretary

National Commission on Small Farms; Meetings

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of Agriculture by Departmental Regulation No. 1043-43 dated July 9, 1997, established the National Commission on Small Farms (Commission) and further identified the Natural Resources Conservation Service to provide support to the Commission. The purpose of the Commission is to gather and analyze information regarding small farms and ranches and recommend to the Secretary of Agriculture a national policy and strategy to ensure their continued viability. The chair of the Commission has decided that the Commission may hold subcommittee meetings in order to gather public input from different regions of the country. The

Commission's next meeting is September 10 and 11, 1997.

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF MEETING: The Commission's third public meeting is September 10 and 11 at the Jefferson Auditorium, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. The meeting is open to the public. On September 10, the Commission will meet from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. to hear public testimony. On September 11, the Commission will meet from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to conduct Commission business. This will include subcommittees of the Commission meeting separately during the day. These meetings are open to the public and nearby locations will be announced and posted at the Jefferson Auditorium on September 11.

We are seeking testimony from various sources to arrive at conclusions and recommendations that will ensure the continued viability of small farms. The Commission requests that testimony and comments include ideas and recommendations based on the following questions. Concerns or problems of individual farms that relate to specific USDA programs should be addressed only in the context of a recommendation for the Commission to consider.

The questions are:

1. How are current USDA programs helping or hurting the viability of small farms?

2. What are the needs of small farms in terms of financing, research, extension, marketing and risk management and other areas? What recommendations would you make about these needs that could be part of a long-range strategy to ensure the continued viability of small farms?

3. Are there innovative non-governmental or state efforts to assist beginning and smaller independent farms that might be replicated or supplemented at the Federal level?

4. What changes in USDA policy or practices are needed to make USDA programs in the areas of credit, research, extension, marketing, risk management and other areas more effective in enabling small farms to survive and thrive?

5. What new programs could provide effective and affordable support for small farmers as commodity programs are phased out?

6. What can be done to assist beginning farmers and farm workers to become farm owners?

7. What role should the Federal government play to ensure a diversified, decentralized and competitive farm structure?

8. What do small farms contribute to your community and your state?

9. What other generic issues pertaining to small farms should the Commission consider?

Interested parties wishing to testify at these subcommittee meetings must contact the office of the National Commission on Small Farms by September 5, 1997, in order to be placed on a list of witnesses. Oral presentations will be limited to 5 minutes. Individuals will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. Due to limited time, each organization or group is asked to have only one representative testify before the Commission on September 10. Written statements will be accepted at the meeting or may be mailed or faxed to the Commission office by September 12, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Written statements should be sent to National Commission on Small Farms, USDA, P.O. Box 2890, Room 5237, South Building, Washington, D.C. 20013.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Yezak Molen, Director, National Commission on Small Farms, at the address above or at (202) 690-0648 or (202) 690-0673. The fax number is (202) 720-0596.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the Commission is to gather and evaluate background information, studies, and data pertinent to small farms and ranches, including limited-resource farmers. On the basis of the review, the Commission shall analyze all relevant issues and make findings, develop strategies, and make recommendations for consideration by the Secretary of Agriculture toward a national strategy on small farms. The national strategy shall include, but not be limited to: changes in existing policies, programs, regulations, training, and program delivery and outreach systems; approaches that assist beginning farmers and involve the private sectors and government, including assurances that the needs of minorities, women, and persons with disabilities are addressed; areas where new partnerships and collaborations are needed; and other approaches that it would deem advisable or which the Secretary of Agriculture or the Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service may request the Commission to consider.

The Secretary of Agriculture has determined that the work of the Commission is in the public interest and within the duties and responsibilities of USDA. Establishment of the Commission also implements a recommendation of the USDA Civil Rights Action Report to appoint a diverse commission to develop a national policy on small farms.

Dated: August 25, 1997.

Pearlie S. Reed,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Administration.

[FR Doc. 97-22976 Filed 8-27-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 97-055-2]

Availability of an Addendum to the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for Field Testing Vaccine Containing Canarypox-Vectored Rabies Fraction

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public that the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has prepared an addendum to the environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact that were prepared for the shipment of an unlicensed veterinary vaccine containing a canarypox-vectored rabies fraction for field testing in cats. The availability of the original environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact was announced in the **Federal Register** on July 10, 1997. The addendum addresses the expansion of the scope of the field trials to include veterinary clinics in two additional States.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the addendum, as well as copies of the original environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact, may be obtained by contacting the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Please refer to the docket number, date, and complete title of this notice when requesting copies. Copies of the original environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact and the addendum (as well as the risk analysis with confidential business information removed) are also available for public inspection at USDA, room 1141, South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW.,

Washington, DC, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons wishing to inspect those documents are requested to call ahead on (202) 690-2817 to facilitate entry into the reading room.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Jeanette Greenberg, Technical Writer-Editor, Center for Veterinary Biologics, Licensing and Policy Development, Veterinary Services, APHIS, USDA, 4700 River Road Unit 148, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; telephone (301) 734-8400; fax (301) 734-8910; or e-mail: jgreenberg@aphis.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Virus-Serum-Toxin Act (21 U.S.C. 151 *et seq.*), a veterinary biological product must be shown to be pure, safe, potent, and efficacious before a veterinary biological product license may be issued. Field trials are generally necessary to satisfy prelicensing requirements for veterinary biological products. In order to ship an unlicensed veterinary biological product for the purpose of conducting field trials, a sponsor must receive authorization from the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

On July 10, 1997, we published in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 37010-37011, Docket No. 97-055-1) a notice announcing the availability of an environmental assessment (EA) that had been prepared for the shipment of an unlicensed veterinary vaccine containing a canarypox-vectored rabies fraction for field testing. APHIS had concluded that such shipment would not significantly affect the quality of the human environment. Based on that finding of no significant impact (FONSI), we determined that there was no need to prepare an environmental impact statement.

With this notice, APHIS is announcing that the scope of the field trials has been expanded to include veterinary clinics in two more States—Arkansas and Indiana—in addition to the eight States indicated in the July 10, 1997, notice. The addition of these two States is addressed in an addendum to the original EA and FONSI. The EA and FONSI and the addendum were prepared by APHIS for the shipment of the following unlicensed veterinary biological product for field testing:

Requester: Rhone Merieux, Inc., Establishment License No. 298.

Product: Feline Leukemia-Rhinotracheitis-Calici-Panleukopenia-Chlamydia Psittaci-Rabies Vaccine, Modified Live and Killed Virus and Chlamydia, Canarypox Vector, (Code 16A9.R0).