

Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), *OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV* or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 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) 720-8958.

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.

Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service

Title: Bees and Related Articles .
OMB Control Number: 0579-0207.

Summary of Collection: Under the Plant Protection Act (Title IV, Pub. L. 106-224, 114 Stat. 438, 7 U.S.C. 7701-7772), the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to prohibit or restrict the importation, entry, exportation, or movement in interstate commerce of plant pest and other articles to prevent the introduction of plant pests into the United States. Under the Honeybee Act (7 U.S.C. 281-286), the Secretary is authorized to prohibit or restrict the importation of honeybee semen to prevent the introduction into the United States of diseases and parasites harmful to honeybees and of undesirable species and subspecies of honeybees. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ), is responsible for implementing the intent of these Acts, and does so through the enforcement of its pollinator regulations and honeybee regulations.

Need and Use of the Information: APHIS will collect information that serves as the supporting documentation needed to issue required PPQ forms and documents that allow importation of bees and related articles or authorizes release of bees. APHIS needs this information to determine if the honeybees, honeybee semen, or restricted articles are eligible for importation into the United States, and under what conditions (i.e., necessary treatments, appropriate shipping containers, proper port of entry, etc.). Without the information APHIS could

not verify that imported bees and related articles do not present a significant risk of introducing exotic bee disease, parasites, and undesirable species and subspecies of honeybees.

Description of Respondents: Farms.

Number of Respondents: 276.

Frequency of Responses:

Recordkeeping; Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 86.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Docket # AMS-FV-2007-0007; FV-06-309]

United States Standards for Grades of Tomatoes on the Vine

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is establishing voluntary United States Standards for Grades of Tomatoes on the Vine. The standards are intended to provide industry with a common language and uniform basis for trading; thus, promoting orderly and efficient marketing of tomatoes on the vine (TOV).

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 17, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Vincent J. Fusaro, Standardization Section, Fresh Products Branch, (202) 720-2185. The United States Standards for Grades of Tomatoes on the Vine will be available on the effective date through the Fresh Products Branch Web site at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/standards/stanfrfv.htm>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 203(c) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621-1627), as amended, directs and authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture "To develop and improve standards of quality, condition, quantity, grade and packaging and recommend and demonstrate such standards in order to encourage uniformity and consistency in commercial practices." AMS is committed to carrying out this authority in a manner that facilitates the marketing of agricultural commodities and makes copies of official standards available upon request. The United States Standards for Grades of Fruits and Vegetables that are not

requirements of Federal Marketing Orders or U.S. Import Requirements, no longer appear in the Code of Federal Regulations, but are maintained by USDA, AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs.

AMS is establishing United States Standards for Grades of Tomatoes on the Vine using procedures that appear in Part 36, Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations (7 CFR part 36).

Background

On May 26, 2006, AMS published a notice in the **Federal Register** (71 FR 30367), that solicited comments on the proposed voluntary United States Standards for Grades of Tomatoes on the Vine. The proposed standards contained sections pertaining to general information, grades, tolerances, application of tolerances, size classifications, definitions, and a table of metric conversions. The following grades and tolerances for each grade also appeared in the notice: U.S. No. 1 and U.S. No. 2. In addition, "Application of Tolerances" section and "Size classification" section were listed. The standards also defined "Damage," "Serious damage," "Tomatoes on the Vine," along with other specific basic requirements and defects. Additionally, AMS also sought any comments related to the proposed standards that may be necessary to better serve the industry.

In response to the notice, AMS received six comments on the proposed standards. The comments are available by accessing the AMS, Fresh Products Branch Web site at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/fv/fpbdoctlist.htm>.

On February 16, 2007, AMS published a subsequent notice in the **Federal Register** (72 FR 7593-4), that solicited comments on the proposed voluntary United States Standards for Grades of Tomatoes on the Vine based on comments received from the primary notice. A single comment was received on behalf of a trade group representing growers and packers, expressing the need for additional time to comment. The group requested an extension to the comment period to allow review of the proposed voluntary standards and consider comments.

AMS published a reopening and extension of the comment period in the **Federal Register** (71 FR 34426), on June 22, 2007. The comment period for the extension ended on August 21, 2007. AMS received no additional comments from the industry on the proposed standards.

The adoption of the U.S. grade standards will provide the tomatoes on the vine industry with U.S. grade

standards similar to those extensively in use by the fresh produce industry to assist in orderly marketing of other commodities. Accordingly, AMS is adopting the United States Standards for Grades of Tomatoes on the Vine as proposed in the February 16, 2007, **Federal Register** notice.

The official grade of a lot of tomatoes on the vine covered by these standards will be determined by the procedures set forth in the Regulations Governing Inspection, Certification, and Standards of Fresh Fruits, Vegetables and Other Products (Sec. 51.1 to 51.61).

The United States Standards for Grades of Tomatoes on the Vine will become effective 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register**.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1621–1627.

Dated: December 13, 2007.

Lloyd C. Day,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. E7–24458 Filed 12–17–07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS–2007–0136]

Notice of Request for Approval of an Information Collection; Agriculture Smuggling Tips and Referrals

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: 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 approval of an information collection activity that will assist the Agency in preventing the unlawful entry and distribution of agricultural products that may harbor harmful animal or plant pests or diseases or noxious weeds.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before February 19, 2008.

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

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>, select "Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service" from the agency drop-down menu, then click "Submit." In the Docket ID column, select APHIS–2007–0136 to submit or view public comments and to view supporting and related materials available

electronically. Information on using Regulations.gov, including instructions for accessing documents, submitting comments, and viewing the docket after the close of the comment period, is available through the site's "User Tips" link.

- **Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:** Please send four copies of your comment (an original and three copies) to Docket No. APHIS–2007–0136, 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–2007–0136.

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 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 Smuggling Interdiction and Trade Compliance program, contact Mr. Scott Sanner, National Coordinator, Smuggling Interdiction and Trade Compliance PPQ, APHIS, Venture II, 920 Main Campus Drive, Suite 200, Raleigh, NC 27606; (919) 855–7338. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Mrs. Celeste Sickles, APHIS' Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 734–7477.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Agriculture Smuggling Tips and Referrals (PPQ Form 300).

OMB Number: 0579–xxxx.

Type of Request: Approval of an information collection.

Abstract: Under the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7701 *et seq.*) and the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8301 *et seq.*), the Secretary of Agriculture may prohibit or restrict the importation, entry, exportation, or movement in interstate commerce of any animal, plant, animal or plant product, biological control organism, noxious weed, means of conveyance, or other article if the Secretary determines that the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent a plant pest or noxious weed, or any pest or disease of livestock, from being introduced into or

disseminated within the United States. This authority has been delegated to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), which conducts activities to implement these Acts, including issuing and enforcing regulations.

APHIS' Smuggling, Interdiction, and Trade Compliance (SITC) unit, part of the Plant Protection and Quarantine program, is involved in efforts to prevent the unlawful importation, entry, and distribution of prohibited agricultural commodities and products that may harbor harmful plant or animal pests or diseases or noxious weeds. SITC's activities include following up on tips and referrals from the public concerning possible smuggling activities. When SITC officers have evidence of a violation of the regulations, they turn the information over to APHIS' Investigative and Enforcement Services unit.

A toll-free telephone "hotline" is currently available to members of the public who wish to report suspicious activity to SITC. However, this hotline is not staffed full-time, and callers are sometimes difficult to understand or do not include enough information for SITC to follow up on the tip. Therefore, SITC has developed a form that will be made available on the APHIS Web site, as an alternative to the telephone hotline. The form requests specific information regarding the suspicious activity and may be submitted anonymously either by e-mail or by postal mail.

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

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning this 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.