

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-NOP-12-0020; NOP-12-08]

Nominations for Members of the National Organic Standards Board

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Organic Foods Production Act (OFPA) of 1990, as amended, requires the establishment of a National Organic Standards Board (NOSB). The NOSB is a 15-member board that is responsible for developing and recommending to the Secretary a proposed National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances and advises the Secretary on other aspects of the National Organic Program. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is requesting nominations to fill one (1) upcoming vacancy on the NOSB. The position to be filled is environmentalist. The Secretary of Agriculture will appoint a person to the position to serve a 5-year term of office that will commence on January 24, 2013, and run until January 24, 2018.

DATES: Written nominations, with cover letters and resumes, must be postmarked on or before date July 30, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Nomination cover letters and resumes should be sent to Michelle Arsenault, Advisory Board Specialist, USDA-AMS-NOP, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 2640-So., Ag Stop 0268, Washington, DC 20250, or via email to Michelle.Arsenault@ams.usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michelle Arsenault, (202) 720-0081; Email Michelle.Arsenault@ams.usda.gov; Fax: (202) 205-7808 or Patricia Atkins, (202) 260-8636; Email: Patricia.Atkins@ams.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The OFPA of 1990, as amended (7 U.S.C. Section 6501 *et seq.*), requires the Secretary to establish an organic certification program for producers and handlers of agricultural products that have been produced using organic methods. In developing this program, the Secretary is required to establish a NOSB. The purpose of the NOSB is to assist in the development of a proposed National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances and to advise the Secretary on other aspects of the National Organic Program.

The NOSB is composed of 15 members; including 4 organic producers, 2 organic handlers, a retailer, 3 environmentalists, 3 public/consumer representatives, a scientist, and a certifying agent. Nominations are being sought to fill the position of environmentalist. Individuals desiring to be appointed to the NOSB at this time must have expertise in areas of environmental protection and resource conservation. Selection criteria includes such factors as: Understanding of organic principles and practical experience in the organic community; demonstrated experience in the development of public policy such as participation on public or private advisory boards, boards of directors or other comparable organizations; participation in standards development or involvement in educational outreach activities; a commitment to the integrity of the organic food and fiber industry; the ability to evaluate technical information and to fully participate in Board deliberation and recommendations; and the willingness to commit the time and energy necessary to assume Board duties; demonstrated experience and interest in organic production; organic certification; support of consumer and public interest organizations; demonstrated experience with respect to agricultural products produced and handled on certified organic farms; and such other factors as may be appropriate for specific positions.

To nominate yourself or someone else, please submit: A resume, a cover letter, and a Form AD-755, which can be accessed at: www.ocio.usda.gov/forms/doc/AD-755.pdf. Resumes must be no longer than 5 pages, and include at the beginning a summary of the following information: Current and past

organization affiliations; areas of expertise; education; career positions held; any other notable positions held. You may also submit a list of endorsements or letters of recommendation, if desired. Resumes and completed requested background information is required for a nominee to receive consideration for appointment by the Secretary.

Equal opportunity practices will be followed in all appointments to the NOSB in accordance with USDA policies. To ensure that the members of the NOSB take into account the needs of the diverse groups that are served by the Department, membership on the NOSB will include, to the extent practicable, individuals who demonstrate the ability to represent all racial and ethnic groups, women and men, and persons with disabilities.

The information collection requirements concerning the nomination process have been previously cleared by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under OMB Control No. 0505-0001.

Dated: June 18, 2012.

Ruihong Guo,

Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2012-15204 Filed 6-20-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commodity Credit Corporation

Notice of Request for Revision of Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Commodity Credit Corporation's (CCC) intention to request a revision from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for a currently approved information collection process in support of the Foreign Market Development Cooperator (Cooperator) Program and the Market Access Program (MAP).

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by August 20, 2012.

Additional Information or Comments: Contact Mark Slupek, Director, Program Operations Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, Room 6510, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250, (202) 720-4327, fax: (202) 720-9361, email: podadmin@fas.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Foreign Market Development Cooperator Program and Market Access Program.

OMB Number: 0551-0026.

Expiration Date of Approval: August 31, 2012.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved information collection process. The Estimate of Burden is decreasing and the Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent and Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents is increasing.

Abstract: The primary objective of the Foreign Market Development Cooperator Program and the Market Access Program is to encourage and aid in the creation, maintenance, and expansion of commercial export markets for U.S. agricultural products through cost-share assistance to eligible trade organizations. The programs are a cooperative effort between CCC and the eligible trade organizations. Currently, there are about 70 organizations participating directly in the programs with activities in more than 100 countries.

Prior to initiating program activities, each Cooperator or MAP participant must submit a detailed application to the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) which includes an assessment of overseas market potential; market or country strategies, constraints, goals, and benchmarks; proposed market development activities; estimated budgets; and performance measurements. Prior years' plans often dictate the content of current year plans because many activities are continuations of previous activities. Each Cooperator or MAP participant is also responsible for submitting: (1) Reimbursement claims for approved costs incurred in carrying out approved activities, (2) an end-of-year contribution report, (3) travel reports, and (4) progress reports/evaluation studies. Cooperators or MAP participants must maintain records on all information submitted to FAS. The information collected is used by FAS to manage, plan, evaluate, and account for Government resources. The reports and records are required to ensure the proper and judicious use of public funds. FAS has recently revised the MAP regulation and added three

additional required documents to the MAP program: brand program operational procedures, written contracting guidelines, and an anti-fraud prevention program. With the addition of these three documents and other minor adjustments, the Estimate of Burden is decreasing and the Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent and Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents is increasing.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 20 hours per response.

Respondents: Non-profit agricultural trade organizations, state regional trade groups, agricultural cooperatives, state agencies, and commercial entities.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 71.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 68.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 96,560 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Connie Simpson, the Agency Information Collection Coordinator, at (202) 690-1578.

Request for Comments: Send comments regarding the accuracy of the burden estimate, ways to minimize the burden, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, or any other aspect of this collection of information, to: Mark Slupek, Director, Program Operations Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, Room 6510, STOP 1042, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250. Facsimile submissions may be sent to (202) 720-9361 and electronic mail submissions should be addressed to: podadmin@fas.usda.gov.

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.

Signed at Washington, DC, on June 1, 2012.

Janet A. Nuzum,

Acting Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service, and Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation.

[FR Doc. 2012-15200 Filed 6-20-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commodity Credit Corporation

Notice of Request for Extension of Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Commodity Credit Corporation's (CCC) intention to request an extension from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for a currently approved information collection process in support of the Technical Assistance for Specialty Crops (TASC) program.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by August 20, 2012 to be assured of consideration.

Additional Information or Comments: Contact Mark Slupek, Director, Program Operations Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, Room 6510, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250, (202) 720-1169, fax: (202) 720-9361, email: podadmin@fas.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Technical Assistance for Specialty Crops.

OMB Number: 0551-0038.

Expiration Date of Approval: September 30, 2012.

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

Abstract: This information is needed to administer CCC's Technical Assistance for Specialty Crops program. The information will be gathered from applicants desiring to receive grants under the program to determine the viability of request for funds. Regulations governing the program appear at 7 CFR part 1487 and are available on the Foreign Agricultural Service's Web site.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 32 hours per respondent.

Respondents: U.S. government agencies, State government agencies, non-profit trade associations, universities, agricultural cooperatives, and private companies.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 50.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 5.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 1,600 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Connie Simpson, the Agency Information Collection Coordinator, at (202) 690-1578.

Request for Comments: Send comments regarding the accuracy of the burden estimate, ways to minimize the burden, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology,