

has provided significant oversight of these confined field trials and has not detected any negative impacts on the environment, including threatened and endangered species. Permitted field trials are planned and in progress in a number of regions in Florida to determine the efficacy of expression of spinach defensins by CTV. The action proposed in the permit application under consideration is to commercialize the use of genetically engineered CTV as a biological means to manage citrus greening disease in Florida. The environmental impact statement (EIS) will evaluate the environmental impacts associated with this action throughout the State of Florida. Decisions on where the genetically engineered CTV would be deployed would be determined by Southern Gardens Citrus Nursery, LLC, in agreements with growers, and deployment would be monitored by APHIS. The genetically engineered CTV would be applied to citrus trees by grafting (*i.e.*, not by spraying the trees by ground or air).

Under the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), Federal agencies must examine the potential environmental impacts of proposed major Federal actions that may significantly affect the quality of the human environment before those actions can be taken. In accordance with NEPA, regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500–1508), U.S. Department of Agriculture regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR part 1b), and APHIS' NEPA Implementing Procedures (7 CFR part 372), APHIS has considered how to properly examine the potential environmental impacts of issuing permits for the introduction of genetically engineered regulated articles into the United States.

In reviewing Southern Gardens Citrus Nursery, LLC's permit application, APHIS has determined that the commercial release of genetically engineered CTV does not involve genetically engineering citrus trees, and that use of the genetically engineered CTV will have no impact on the genetics of the trees. However, APHIS has decided to prepare an EIS to better understand the potential for environmental impacts associated with the issuance of a permit. The EIS will examine the broad and cumulative environmental impacts of the requested permit, including potential impacts of the proposed action on the human environment and alternative courses of action. This notice identifies potential issues and alternatives that we will

study in the EIS and requests public comment to further delineate the issues and the scope of the alternatives. The State of Florida will be a cooperating agency for the preparation of the EIS.

Alternatives

The Federal action being considered is whether to approve the permit request from Southern Gardens Citrus Nursery, LLC. This notice identifies reasonable alternatives and potential issues that may be studied in the EIS. We are requesting public comments to further delineate the range of alternatives and environmental impacts and issues to be evaluated in the EIS for the permit application.

The EIS will consider a range of reasonable alternatives. APHIS is currently considering two alternatives: (1) Take no action, *i.e.*, APHIS would not approve the permit request, or (2) approve the permit request from Southern Gardens Citrus Nursery, LLC.

Environmental Issues for Consideration

We have also identified the following potential environmental issues for consideration in the EIS. We are requesting that the public provide information on the following questions during the comment period on this notice:

- Are there any new or greater plant pest or environmental risks or apparent benefits associated with the strategy of using genetically engineered CTV instead of the currently available approaches to manage citrus greening disease? If so, please explain.
- The EIS will focus on the development and use of genetic engineering to offer a novel pest control program. Are there any environmental risks that APHIS should consider in detail for CTV expressing spinach defensin?
- What are the potential risks of nontarget impacts associated with this technology?

Comments that identify other issues or alternatives that should be considered for examination in the EIS would be especially helpful. All comments received during the scoping period will be carefully considered in developing the final scope of the EIS. Upon completion of the draft EIS, a notice announcing its availability and an opportunity to comment on it will be published in the **Federal Register**.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 7701–7772 and 7781–7786; 31 U.S.C. 9701; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.3.

Done in Washington, DC, this 4th day of April 2017.

Michael C. Gregoire,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 2017–07106 Filed 4–7–17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection: Comment Request: Form FNS–583, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training Program Activity Report

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, this notice invites the public and other public agencies to comment on a proposed information collection burden for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Employment and Training (E&T) Program, currently approved under OMB No. 0584–0339. This is an extension without revision of a currently approved collection. The burden estimate remains 21,889 hours.

DATES: Submit written comments on or before June 9, 2017.

ADDRESSES: Comments are invited on: (a) 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; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden of the proposed collection of information, including validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (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 form of information technology.

Comments may be sent to Sasha Gersten-Paal, Acting Chief, Program Design Branch, Program Development Division, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 810, Alexandria, Virginia 22302. Comments may also be submitted via fax to the attention of Sasha Gersten-Paal at 703–

305–2454 or via email to *Sasha.Gersten-Paal@fns.usda.gov*.

Comments will also be accepted through the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and follow the online instructions for submitting comments electronically. All written comments will be open for public inspection at the office of the Food and Nutrition Service located at 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 810, Alexandria, Virginia 22302, during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday).

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Request for additional information or copies of this information collection should be directed to Sasha Gersten-Paal at (703) 305–2507.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Employment and Training Program Activity Report.

OMB Number: 0584–0339.

Expiration Date: June 30, 2014.

Type of Request: Extension without revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: 7 CFR 273.7(c)(9) requires State agencies to submit quarterly E&T Program Activity Reports containing monthly figures for participation in the program. FNS uses Form FNS–583, to collect participation data. The information collected on the FNS–583 report includes:

- On the first quarter report, the number of work registrants receiving

SNAP as of October 1 of the new fiscal year;

- On each quarterly report, by month, the number of new work registrants; the number of able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) applicants and recipients participating in qualifying components; the number of all other applicants and recipients (including ABAWDs involved in non-qualifying activities) participating in components; and the number of ABAWDs exempt under the State agency's 15 percent exemption allowance;

- On the fourth quarter report, the total number of individuals who participated in each component, which is also sorted by ABAWD and non-ABAWD participants and the number of individuals who participated in the E&T Program during the fiscal year.

7 CFR 273.7(d)(1)(i)(D) provides that if a State agency will not expend all of the funds allocated to it for a fiscal year, FNS will reallocate unexpended funds to other State agencies during the fiscal year or the subsequent fiscal year as FNS considers appropriate and equitable. After FNS makes initial E&T allocations, State agencies may request more funds as needed. Typically FNS receives fourteen such requests per year.

The time it takes to prepare these requests is included in the burden. After receiving the State requests, FNS will reallocate unexpended funds as provided above. The following is the estimated burden for E&T reporting including the burden for State agencies to request additional funds.

Reporting

FNS–583 Report

Frequency: 4.

Affected Public: State Agency.

Number of Respondents: 53.

Number of Responses: 684. (Note this reflects multiple responses within the FNS–583 form; In aggregate, 53 State Agencies submit 1 form each quarter or 212 total responses per year.)

Estimated Time per Response:

31.9363 hours per State agency.

Estimated Total Annual Reporting Burden: 21,844.40 hours.

Requests for Additional Funds

Frequency: .2641.

Affected Public: State Agency.

Number of Respondents: 53.

Number of Responses: 14.

Estimated Time per Response: 1.00 hour per request.

Estimated Total Annual Reporting Burden: 14 hours.

Recordkeeping

FNS–583 Report

Number of Respondents: 53.

Number of Records: 212.

Number of Hours per Record: 0.137 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Recordkeeping Burden: 29.04 hours.

Requests for Additional Funds

Number of Respondents: 53.

Number of Records: 14.

Number of Hours per Record: 0.137 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Recordkeeping Burden: 1.92 hours.

TOTAL ANNUAL REPORTING AND RECORDKEEPING BURDEN

[Compiling and Reporting for the FNS–583 and Requests for More Funding]

[SNAP Employment and Training Program Activity Report]

Section of regulation	Title	Number of respondents	Reports filed annually	Total responses (C × D)	Estimated number of hours per response	Estimated total hours (C × D × F)
A	B	C	D	E	F	G
REPORTING						
7 CFR 273.7(c)(8)	Compile and report new work registrants on FNS–583.	53	4	212	90.94	19,278.28
7 CFR 273.24(g)	Compile and report 15 percent ABAWD exemptions on FNS–583.	12*	4	48	4.59	220.32
7 CFR 273.7(f)	Compile and report E&T activities (placements) on FNS–583.	53	4	212	10.10	2,142.20
7 CFR 273.7(C)(8)	Preparing FNS–583: States filing electronically.					
	States filing manually	50	4	200	1.00	200
		3	4	12	0.3	3.6
7 CFR 273.7(d)(1)(i)(F)	Preparing requests for more funds after initial allocation.	53	0.2641	14	1	14

TOTAL ANNUAL REPORTING AND RECORDKEEPING BURDEN—Continued

[Compiling and Reporting for the FNS-583 and Requests for More Funding]
[SNAP Employment and Training Program Activity Report]

Section of regulation	Title	Number of respondents	Reports filed annually	Total responses (C × D)	Estimated number of hours per response	Estimated total hours (C × D × F)
A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Total Reporting for FNS-583 and Additional Funds Requests.	53	13.1698	698	31.32	21,858.40
RECORDKEEPING						
7 CFR 277.12	Recordkeeping burden for FNS-583.	53	4	212	0.137	29.04
7 CFR 277.12	Record-keeping burden for additional requests.	53	0.26415	14	0.137	1.92
Total Recordkeeping Burden for FNS 583 and Additional Funds Requests.	53	4.26	226	0.137	30.96
SUMMARY						
	Total All Burdens	53	17.43	924	23.689	21,889.36

* There are 12 States without statewide waivers of the time-limit that will likely use 15 percent exemptions.

Dated: March 16, 2017.

Jessica Shahin,

Acting Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.

[FR Doc. 2017-07113 Filed 4-7-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Child Nutrition Programs: Income Eligibility Guidelines

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the Department's annual adjustments to the Income Eligibility Guidelines to be used in determining eligibility for free and reduced price meals and free milk for the period from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. These guidelines are used by schools, institutions, and facilities participating in the National School Lunch Program (and Commodity School Program), School Breakfast Program, Special Milk Program for Children, Child and Adult Care Food Program and Summer Food Service Program. The annual adjustments are required by section 9 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act. The guidelines are intended to direct benefits to those children most in need and are revised annually to account for changes in the Consumer Price Index.

DATES: Effective July 1, 2017.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jessica Saracino, Program Monitoring and Operational Support Division, Child Nutrition Programs, Food and Nutrition Service, United States Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Suite 628, Alexandria, Virginia 22302, 703-305-1620.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This action is not a rule as defined by the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601-612) and thus is exempt from the provisions of that Act.

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507), no recordkeeping or reporting requirements have been included that are subject to approval from the Office of Management and Budget.

This notice has been determined to be not significant and was not reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget in conformance with Executive Order 12866. The affected programs are listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.553, No. 10.555, No. 10.556, No. 10.558, and No. 10.559 and are subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials. (See 2 CFR part 415).

Background

Pursuant to sections 9(b)(1) and 17(c)(4) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1758(b)(1) and 42 U.S.C. 1766(c)(4)),

and sections 3(a)(6) and 4(e)(1)(A) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1772(a)(6) and 1773(e)(1)(A)), the Department annually issues the Income Eligibility Guidelines for free and reduced price meals for the National School Lunch Program (7 CFR part 210), the Commodity School Program (7 CFR part 210), School Breakfast Program (7 CFR part 220), Summer Food Service Program (7 CFR part 225) and Child and Adult Care Food Program (7 CFR part 226) and the guidelines for free milk in the Special Milk Program for Children (7 CFR part 215).

These eligibility guidelines are based on the Federal income poverty guidelines and are stated by household size. The guidelines are used to determine eligibility for free and reduced price meals and free milk in accordance with applicable program rules.

Definition of Income

In accordance with the Department's policy as provided in the Food and Nutrition Service publication Eligibility Manual for School Meals, "income," as the term is used in this notice, continues to mean income before any deductions such as income taxes, Social Security taxes, insurance premiums, charitable contributions, and bonds. It includes the following: (1) Monetary compensation for services, including wages, salary, commissions or fees; (2) net income from nonfarm self-employment; (3) net income from farm