

Done in Washington, DC, this 30th day of October 2008.

Kevin Shea,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. E8-26384 Filed 11-4-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2008-0114]

Notice of Request for Revision and Extension of Approval of an Information Collection; State-Federal Brucellosis Eradication Program

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Revision and extension of 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 a revision and extension of approval of an information collection associated with the State-Federal Brucellosis Eradication Program.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before January 5, 2009.

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

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/main?main=DocketDetail&d=APHIS-2008-0114> to submit or view comments and to view supporting and related materials available electronically.

- *Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:* Please send two copies of your comment to Docket No. APHIS-2008-0114, 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-2008-0114.

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 State-Federal Brucellosis Eradication Program, contact Dr. Debra Donch, Senior Staff Veterinarian, Ruminant Health Programs, National Center for Animal Health Programs, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 43, Riverdale, MD 20737; (301) 734-5952. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Mrs. Celeste Sickles, APHIS' Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 851-2908.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: State-Federal Brucellosis Eradication Program.

OMB Number: 0579-0047.

Type of Request: Revision and extension of approval of an information collection.

Abstract: Under the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8301 *et seq.*), the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the United States Department of Agriculture is authorized, among other things, to prohibit or restrict the importation and interstate movement of animals and animal products to prevent the introduction into and dissemination within the United States of animal diseases and pests and for eradicating such diseases when feasible.

Brucellosis is a contagious disease that primarily affects cattle, bison, and swine. It causes the loss of young through spontaneous abortion or birth of weak offspring, reduced milk production, and infertility. The continued presence of brucellosis in a herd seriously threatens the health of other animals. Brucellosis has caused devastating losses to farmers in the United States over the last century.

The State-Federal Brucellosis Eradication Program, a national cooperative program, is working to eradicate this serious disease of livestock from the United States. The program uses a system of State and area classifications, movement restrictions, screening programs, extensive epidemiological investigations, and other measures to prevent its spread and eradicate the disease.

These measures require the use of many information collection activities and associated forms, including applications for brucellosis classification or reclassification of a State or area, certified brucellosis-free herd, or validated brucellosis-free herd; monthly reports of brucellosis program and surveillance activities; quarterly reports of swine brucellosis eradication; brucellosis test records; reports of

backtags applied; brucellosis ring test rack charts and patron lists; calfhood vaccination records; field investigations of brucellosis market test reactors; logs for market cattle test reactors; reports of epidemiologic investigations of brucellosis reactor herds; permits for movement of restricted animals; appraisals and indemnity claims for animals destroyed; justifications (facsimile reports) for herd depopulation; agreements for complete herd depopulation; certificates of veterinary inspection; and quarantine and quarantine release forms.

These information collection activities are essential in determining the brucellosis status of an area and helping herd owners by allowing the timely detection and elimination of a serious disease.

Four Office of Management and Budget (OMB) forms (currently approved under OMB number 0579-0032) are being added to this collection for use in the State-Federal brucellosis eradication program: VS 4-24, Calfhood Vaccination Record (short form); VS 4-26, Calfhood Vaccination Record (long form); VS 4-33, Brucellosis Test Record; and VS 4-54, Brucellosis Test Record—Market Cattle Testing Program. After OMB approves the burden described in this notice, OMB number 0579-0047 will be assigned to all associated forms.

We are asking OMB to approve our use of these information collection activities for 3 years.

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

Estimate of burden: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.3742576 hours per response.

Respondents: Hobby and commercial livestock farm owners and/or managers; animal agriculture-related business

owners and/or managers; accredited veterinarians; animal agriculture-related agencies and organizations; breed registry agencies; agriculture extension agents; fair and exhibition officials; owners, operators, and/or managers of livestock markets; livestock dealers, owners, operators, and/or managers of slaughter establishments and dairy plants; and State animal health officials and laboratory personnel.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 117,446.

Estimated annual number of responses per respondent: 10.023508.

Estimated annual number of responses: 1,177,221.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 440,584 hours. (Due to averaging, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the reporting burden per response.)

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.

Done in Washington, DC, this 30th day of October 2008.

Kevin Shea,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. E8-26386 Filed 11-4-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2008-0110]

Multi-Agency Informational Meeting Concerning Compliance With the Federal Select Agent Program; Public Meeting

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: This is to notify all interested parties, including individuals and entities possessing, using, or transferring biological agents and toxins listed in 7 CFR 331.3, 9 CFR 121.3, or 42 CFR 73.3, that a meeting will be held to provide specific regulatory guidance related to the Federal Select Agent Program established under the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002. The meeting is being organized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the Department of Health and Human Services' Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Department of Justice's Federal Bureau

of Investigation. Issues to be discussed include entity registration, security risk assessments, biosafety requirements, and security measures.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 9, 2008, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held at the USDA Center at Riverside, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For more information, please contact the Agricultural Select Agent Program by telephone at (301) 734-5960 or by e-mail to Agricultural.Select.Agent.Program@aphis.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

On June 12, 2002, the President signed into law the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002. Title II of the Act, "Enhancing Controls on Dangerous Biological Agents and Toxins" (sections 201 through 231), provides for the regulation of certain biological agents and toxins by the Department of Health and Human Services (subtitle A, sections 201-204) and the Department of Agriculture (subtitle B, sections 211-213), and provides for interagency coordination between the two departments regarding overlap agents and toxins (subtitle C, section 221). For the Department of Health and Human Services, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has been designated as the agency with primary responsibility for implementing the provisions of the Act; the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is the agency fulfilling that role for the Department of Agriculture. CDC and APHIS list select agents and toxins in 42 CFR 73.3 and in 7 CFR 331.3 and 9 CFR 121.3, respectively. The Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Criminal Justice Information Service conducts security risk assessments of all individuals and nongovernmental entities that request to possess, use, or transfer select agents and toxins.

The meeting announced here is an opportunity for the regulated community (i.e., registered entity responsible officials, alternate responsible officials, and entity owners) and other interested individuals to obtain specific regulatory guidance and information on standards concerning biosafety and biosecurity issues related to the Federal Select Agent Program. Representatives from CDC, APHIS, and the FBI will be present at the meeting to address questions and concerns. Entity registration, security risk assessments, biosafety requirements, and security measures are among the issues that will be discussed.

All attendees must register in advance of the meeting. For those unable to attend in person, the meeting will be available at no cost as a Webcast over the Internet for a limited number of registrants. Registration forms may be downloaded from the National Select Agent Registry's Web site at <http://www.selectagents.gov>; by request via telephone to (301) 734-5960; or by request via e-mail to Agricultural.Select.Agent.Program@aphis.usda.gov.

Travel directions to the USDA Center at Riverside are available on the Internet at http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/general_info/directions_riverdale.shtml. Picture identification is required to gain access to the building. Parking is available next to the building for a \$2.25 fee (please have quarters or crisp bills available for machine). The nearest Metro station is the College Park station on the Green Line, which is within walking distance.

If you require special accommodations, such as a sign language interpreter, please see the contact information listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Done in Washington, DC, this 30th day of October 2008.

Kevin Shea,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. E8-26387 Filed 11-4-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Notice of Intent To Revise a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations at 5 CFR part 1320, this notice announces the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service's intention to revise a currently approved information collection entitled, "Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service Application Kit for Research and Extension Programs".

DATES: Written comments on this notice must be received by January 9, 2009, to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.