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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. No. AMS-PY-09-0046]

Notice of Request for an Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-20), this notice announces the intention of the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) to request an extension for and revision to a currently approved information collection in support of the Regulations for Voluntary Grading of Poultry Products and Rabbit Products.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by May 5, 2010.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Interested parties are invited to submit written comments on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> or to David Bowden, Jr., Chief, Standards, Promotion, & Technology Branch; Poultry Programs, AMS, U.S. Department of Agriculture; 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 0259; Washington, DC 20250-0259; fax (202) 720-2930. Comments should reference the docket number and the date and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register**. Comments will be available for public inspection at the above address during regular business hours, or can be viewed at: <http://www.regulations.gov>. All comments received will be posted without change, including any personal information provided.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sara Lutton, Standards, Promotion, & Technology Branch; Poultry Programs, AMS, U.S. Department of Agriculture; 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 0259; Washington, DC 20250-0259; phone (202) 720-0976; fax (202) 720-2930.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Regulations for Voluntary Grading of Poultry Products and Rabbit Products—7 CFR Part 70.

OMB Number: 0581-0127.

Expiration Date, as approved by OMB: November 30, 2010.

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

Abstract: The Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (60 Stat. 1087-1091, as amended; 7 U.S.C. 1621-1627) (AMA) directs and authorizes the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to develop standards of quality, grades, grading programs, and services, which facilitate trading of agricultural products and assure consumers of quality products that are graded and identified under USDA programs.

To provide programs and services, section 203(h) of the AMA (7 U.S.C. 1622(h)) directs and authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to inspect, certify, and identify the grade, class, quality, quantity, and condition of agricultural products under such rules and regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, including assessment and collection of fees for the cost of service.

The regulations in 7 CFR Part 70 provide a voluntary program for grading poultry and rabbit products on the basis of U.S. standards and grades. AMS also provides other types of voluntary services under the regulations, *e.g.*, contract and specification acceptance services and certification of quantity. All of the voluntary grading services are available on a resident basis or lot-fee basis. Respondents may request resident service on a continuous or temporary basis. The service is paid for by the user (user-fee).

Because this is a voluntary program, respondents need to request or apply for the specific service they wish, and in doing so, they provide information. Since the AMA requires that the cost of service be assessed and collected, information is collected to establish the Agency's cost.

The information collection requirements in this request are essential to carry out the intent of the AMA, to provide the respondents the type of service they request, and to administer the program.

The information collected is used only by authorized representatives of the USDA (AMS, Poultry Programs' national staff; regional directors and their staffs; Federal-State supervisors and their staffs; and resident Federal-State graders, which includes State agencies). The information is used to administer and conduct grading services requested by respondents. The Agency is the primary user of the information. Information is also used by each authorized State agency that has a cooperative agreement with AMS.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.08 hours per response.

Respondents: State or local governments, businesses or other for-profits, Federal agencies or employees, small businesses or organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 370.

Estimated Number of Responses: 23,812.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 64.36.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 1,862 hours.

Send comments regarding, but not limited to, the following: (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; or (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.

Dated: March 30, 2010.

Rayne Pegg,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2010-7570 Filed 4-2-10; 8:45 am]

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