

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

Office of the Secretary

Meeting Notice of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board

AGENCY: Research, Education, and Economics, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App 2, Section 1408 of the *National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977* (7 U.S.C. 3123), and the *Agricultural Act of 2014*, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announces a meeting of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board.

DATES: December 16–18, 2015. The public may file written comments before or up to January 4, 2016.

ADDRESSES: Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, 10300 Baltimore Avenue, Building 005, Room 020, Beltsville, Maryland 20705. Written comments may be sent to: The National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board Office, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 332A, Jamie L. Whitten Building, Mail Stop 0321, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250–0321.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michele Esch, Executive Director or Shirley Morgan-Jordan, Program Support Coordinator, National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board; telephone: (202) 720–3684; fax: (202) 720–6199; or email: michele.esch@usda.gov or Shirley.Morgan@ars.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of the Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations on the top priorities and policies for food and agricultural research, education, extension, and economics. The main focus of this meeting will be on the food safety and nutrition programs of the USDA Research, Education, and Extension mission area. The Board will also receive updates and information pertinent to the research, education, and economics activities in USDA. A detailed agenda may be received from the contact person identified in this notice.

Tentative Agenda: On Wednesday, December 16, 2015, an orientation session for new members and interested incumbent members will be held from 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. (noon) followed by the full Advisory Board convening at 12:00 p.m. (noon) and ending by 5:30 p.m.

On Thursday, December 17, 2015, the full Advisory Board will convene at 8:00 a.m. and adjourn at 5:00 p.m. An evening session will be held at 6:00 p.m. at the Greenbelt Marriott at 6400 Ivy Lane, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770.

On Friday, December 18, 2015, the Board will reconvene at 8:00 a.m. and adjourn at 12:00 p.m. (noon).

Public Participation: This meeting is open to the public and any interested individuals wishing to attend. Opportunity for public comment will be offered at the end of each day of the meeting. To attend the meeting and/or make oral statements regarding any items on the agenda, you must contact Michele Esch at 202–720–8408; email: Michele.esch@usda.gov at least 5 business days prior to the meeting. Members of the public will be heard in the order in which they sign up at the beginning of the meeting. The Chair will conduct the meeting to facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Written comments by attendees or other interested stakeholders will be welcomed for the public record before and up to two weeks following the Board meeting (or by close of business Monday, January 4, 2016). All written statements must be sent to Michele Esch, Designated Federal Officer and Executive Director, National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 332A, Jamie L. Whitten Building, Mail Stop 0321, 1400 Independence

Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250–0321; or email: michele.esch@usda.gov. All statements will become a part of the official record of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board and will be kept on file for public review in the Research, Education, and Economics Advisory Board Office.

Done at Washington, DC, this 24th day of November 2015.

Catherine E. Woteki,

Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics, Chief Scientist, USDA.

[FR Doc. 2015–30444 Filed 11–30–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–03–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Secretary

Notice of the Specialty Crop Committee's Stakeholder Listening Session

AGENCY: Research, Education, and Economics, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of stakeholder listening session.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App 2, and the Specialty Crop Competitiveness Act of 2004 (Public Law 108–465), the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announces a stakeholder listening session of the Specialty Crop Committee, a subcommittee of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board.

DATES: December 10, 2015 starting at 9:00 a.m. EST.

ADDRESSES: Great Lakes Fruit, Vegetable and Farm Market Expo and Michigan Greenhouse Growers EXPO, DeVos Place Conference Center, River Overlook Room A–B, DeVos Place Convention Center, 303 Monroe Ave. NW., Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49503.

The public may file written comments by December 21, 2015, to: The National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board Office, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 332–A, Jamie L. Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC, 20250–2255 or nareeeab@ars.usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michele Esch, Executive Director, National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board; telephone: (202) 720-8408; fax: (202) 720-6199; or email: Michele.esch@ars.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Specialty Crop Committee was established in accordance with the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 under Title III, Section 303 of Public Law 108-465. This Committee is a permanent subcommittee of the National Agricultural Research Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board (the Board). The Committee's charge is to study the scope and effectiveness of research, extension, and economics programs affecting the specialty crop industry. The congressional legislation defines "specialty crops" as fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits and nursery crops (including floriculture).

In order to carry out its responsibilities effectively, the Committee is holding a stakeholder listening session. The listening session will elicit stakeholder input from industry and state representatives, national organizations and institutions, local producers, and other groups interested in the issues with which the Specialty Crop Committee is charged. This session will be an opportunity to share ideas on the specialty crop industry with members of USDA's Specialty Crop Committee, including: measures designed to improve the efficiency, productivity, and profitability of specialty crop production in the United States; measures designed to improve competitiveness through research, extension, and economics programs affecting the specialty crop industry; and programs that would: enhance quality and shelf-life, development of new crop protection tools, preventing foreign invasive pests and diseases, developing new and improved marketing tools, and enhancing food safety, improvement of mechanization of production practices, and enhancing irrigation techniques. Input received will help formulate recommendations from the Specialty Crop Committee to USDA.

Written comments by attendees and other interested stakeholders will be welcomed as additional public input by December 21, 2015. All verbal and written statements will become part of the official public record of the REE Advisory Board Office.

Done at Washington, DC, this 24th day of November 2015.

Catherine E. Woteki,

Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics, Chief Scientist, USDA.

[FR Doc. 2015-30450 Filed 11-30-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Food and Nutrition Service**

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request—Follow Up to an Assessment of the Roles and Effectiveness of Community-Based Organizations in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice invites the general public and other public agencies to comment on this proposed information collection. This is a revision of an existing collection for the Food and Nutrition Service to describe the roles of community-based organizations (CBOs) in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and to assess if, and how, the use of CBOs to conduct SNAP applicant interviews has impacted SNAP program outcomes such as timeliness, payment error rates, access, and client satisfaction across five (5) States.

DATES: Written comments on this notice must be received on or before February 1, 2016.

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 burden estimate for the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions that were used; (c) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, and (d) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected.

Comments may be sent to: Rosemarie Downer, Food and Nutrition Service/ U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 1014,

Alexandria, VA 22302. Comments may also be submitted via fax to the attention of Rosemarie Downer at 703-305-2576 or via email to rosemarie.downer@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 during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday) at 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 1014, Alexandria, Virginia 22302.

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:

Requests for additional information or copies of this information collection should be directed to Rosemarie Downer at 703-305-2129. Information requests submitted through email should refer to the title of this proposal.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Follow Up to an Assessment of the Roles and Effectiveness of Community-Based Organizations in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

OMB Number: 0584-0578.

Form Number: Not Applicable.

Expiration Date: May 31, 2016.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approval information collection.

Abstract: To provide more timely and efficient services to the growing number of applicants to SNAP, State and local SNAP offices are partnering with CBOs that have the capacity to provide application assistance and conduct applicant interviews for SNAP across five (5) States. FNS has approved these partnerships as part of a demonstration of "Community Partner Interviewer Projects." In 2015, FNS released a report that assessed whether the use of CBOs to conduct SNAP applicant interviews had an impact on SNAP program performance. Specific program outcomes included efficiency, payment accuracy and client satisfaction. FNS has extended the demonstration projects, and to further assess the impact of these SNAP-CBO partnerships on SNAP program outcomes, FNS is seeking to collect additional data from the five States that are participating in the demonstration.

The information collection plan for this follow-up includes a satisfaction survey to be completed by SNAP