

variety of topics including, but not limited to, work and outreach plans, subcommittee activities, and proposals for procedure changes. The meeting is open to the public. This notice sets forth the schedule and location for the meeting.

DATES: Monday, December 5, 2016, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Tuesday, December 6, 2016, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The Board meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency Chicago Hotel at the Randolph 1A and 1B Rooms, at 151 East Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL, 60601.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Maria Pratt, Program Analyst, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), AMS, Science and Technology Programs, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250. Telephone number (202) 720-1104, fax (202) 260-8976, or Email: maria.pratt@ams.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the provisions of section 10(a) of the FACA (5 U.S.C., Appendix 2), this notice informs the public that the Plant Variety Protection Office (PVPO) is having a Board meeting earlier than the 15 day requirement of the FACA. The Plant Variety Protection Act (PVPA) (7 U.S.C. 2321 *et seq.*) provides legal protection in the form of intellectual property rights to developers of new varieties of plants, which are reproduced sexually by seed or are tuber-propagated. A certificate of Plant Variety Protection (PVP) is awarded to an owner of a crop variety after an examination shows that it is new, distinct from other varieties, genetically uniform and stable through successive generations. The term of protection is 30 years for most crops and 25 years for trees, shrubs, and vines. The PVPA also provides for a statutory Board (7 U.S.C. 2327). The PVPA Board is composed of 14 individuals who are experts in various areas of development and represent the private or seed industry sector, academia and government. The duties of the Board are to: (1) Advise the Secretary concerning the adoption of rules and regulations to facilitate the proper administration of the FACA; (2) provide advisory counsel to the Secretary on appeals concerning decisions on applications by the PVP Office and on requests for emergency public-interest compulsory licenses; and (3) advise the Secretary on any other matters under the Regulations and Rules of Practice and on all questions under Section 44 of the FACA, "Public Interest in Wide Usage" (7 U.S.C. 2404).

The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the PVPO 2016 achievements, the electronic application system, report of the molecular techniques subcommittee, PVP cooperation with other countries, and PVP's 2017 business plan.

Agenda Items: The agenda will include, welcome and introductions, discussions on program activities that encourage the development of new plant varieties and also address appeals to the Secretary. There will be presentations on 2016 accomplishments, the electronic PVP application system, PVP outreach activities, the use of molecular markers for PVP applications, PVP cooperation with other countries, and the 2017 business plan. The meeting will be open to the public. Those wishing to participate are encouraged to pre-register by November 28, 2016 by contacting Maria Pratt, Program Analyst; Telephone: (202) 720-1104; Email: maria.pratt@ams.usda.gov.

Meeting Accommodation: The meeting hotel is ADA compliant, and the USDA provides reasonable accommodations to individuals with disabilities where appropriate. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this public meeting, please notify Maria Pratt at: Email: maria.pratt@ams.usda.gov or (202) 720-1104. Determinations for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis. Minutes of the meeting will be available for public review 30 days following the meeting at the internet Web site <http://www.ams.usda.gov/PVPO>.

Dated: October 18, 2016.

Elanor Starmer,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2016-25501 Filed 10-20-16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[AMS-CN-16-0095]

Cotton Classing, Testing and Standards: Notice of Request for an Extension and Revision to 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. Chapter 35), this notice announces the Agricultural Marketing

Service's (AMS) intention to request approval from the Office of Management and Budget, for an extension and revision to the currently approved information collection entitled Cotton Classing, Testing, and Standards.

DATES: Comments received by December 20, 2016 will be considered.

ADDRESSES: Written comments may be submitted to the addresses specified below. All comments will be made available to the public. Please do not include personally identifiable information (such as name, address, or other contact information) or confidential business information that you do not want publicly disclosed. All comments may be posted on the Internet and can be retrieved by most Internet search engines. Comments may be submitted anonymously.

Comments, identified by AMS-CN-16-0095, may be submitted electronically through the *Federal eRulemaking Portal* at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Please follow the instructions for submitting comments. In addition, comments may be submitted by *mail or hand delivery* to Cotton Research and Promotion, Cotton and Tobacco Program, AMS, USDA, 100 Riverside Parkway, Suite 101, Fredericksburg, Virginia, 22406. Comments should be submitted in triplicate. All comments received will be made available for public inspection at Cotton and Tobacco Program, AMS, USDA, 100 Riverside Parkway, Suite 101, Fredericksburg, Virginia, 22406. A copy of this document may be found at: www.regulations.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Shethir M. Riva, Director, Research and Promotion, Cotton and Tobacco Program, AMS, USDA, 100 Riverside Parkway, Suite 101, Fredericksburg, Virginia, 22406, telephone (540) 361-2726, facsimile (540) 361-1199, or email at Shethir.Riva@ams.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Cotton Classing, Testing, and Standards.

OMB Number: 0581-0008.

Expiration Date of Approval: February 28, 2017.

Type of Request: Extension and Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection.

Abstract: Information solicited is used by the USDA to administer and supervise activities associated with the classification or grading of cotton, cotton linters, and cottonseed based on official USDA Standards. The information requires personal data, such as name, type of business, address, and description of classification services requested. These programs are

conducted under the United States Cotton Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 51b), the Cotton Statistics and Estimates Act of 1927 (7 U.S.C. 473c), and the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1622h) and regulations appear at 7 CFR part 28.

The information collection requirements in this request are essential to carry out the intent of the Acts and to provide the cotton industry the type of information they need to make sound business decisions. The information collected is the minimum required. Information is requested from growers, cooperatives, merchants, manufacturers, and other government agencies.

The information collected is used only by authorized employees of the USDA, AMS. The cotton industry is the primary user of the compiled information and AMS and other government agencies are secondary users.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.07 hours per response.

Respondents: Cotton merchants, warehouses, and gins.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 993.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.91.

Estimated Number of Responses: 1,893.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 141.30.

Comments are invited on: (1) 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; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to Shethir M. Riva, Director, Research and Promotion, Cotton and Tobacco Program, AMS, USDA, 100 Riverside Parkway, Suite 101, Fredericksburg, Virginia, 22406, telephone (540) 361-2726, facsimile (540) 361-1199, or email at Shethir.Riva@ams.usda.gov. 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.

Dated: October 18, 2016.

Elanor Starmer,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2016-25500 Filed 10-20-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Notice of the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics Meeting

AGENCY: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) announces a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics.

DATES: The Committee meeting will be held from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 8, 2016, and from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 9, 2016. There will be an opportunity for public questions and comments at 3:45 p.m. on Tuesday, November 8, 2016. All times mentioned herein refer to Eastern Standard Time.

ADDRESSES: The Committee meeting will take place at the United States Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250. On Tuesday November 8, 2016 the meeting will be held in the Jamie L. Whitten Federal Building, Room 107A. On Wednesday, November 9, 2016 the meeting will be held in the South Building, Room 3109. Written comments may be filed before or up to two weeks after the meeting with the contact person identified herein at: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 5029, South Building, Washington, DC 20250-2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Hubert Hamer, Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service, telephone: 202-720-2707, eFax: 855-493-0445, or email: HQOA@nass.usda.gov. General information about the committee can also be found at www.nass.usda.gov/about_nass.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics, which consists of 20 members appointed from 7 categories covering a broad range of agricultural disciplines and interests, has scheduled a meeting on November 8 and 9, 2016. During this

time the Advisory Committee will discuss topics including the status of NASS programs, Census of Agriculture Updates, Census of Agriculture Program Plans, Country Estimates and Farm Structure panels, and Respondent Relation Issues.

The Committee meeting is open to the public. The public is asked to pre-register for the meeting at least 10 business days prior to the meeting. Your pre-registration must state the names of each person in your group, organization, or interest represented; the number of people planning to give oral comments, if any; and whether anyone in your group requires special accommodations. Submit registrations to Executive Secretary, Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics, via eFax: 855-493-0445, or email: HQOA@nass.usda.gov. Members of the public who request to give oral comments to the Committee must arrive at the meeting site by 2:45 p.m. on Tuesday, November 8, 2016. Written comments by attendees or other interested stakeholders will be welcomed for the public record before and up to two weeks following the meeting. The public may file written comments by mail to the Executive Director, Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics, U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 5029 South Building, Washington, DC, 20250-2000. Written comments can also be sent via eFax: 855-493-0445, or email: HQOA@nass.usda.gov. All statements will become a part of the official records of the USDA Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics and will be kept on file for public review in the office of the Executive Director, Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250.

Signed at Washington, DC, October 5, 2016.

R. Renee Picanso,

Associate Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

[FR Doc. 2016-25447 Filed 10-20-16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Notice of Intent To Revise a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA.