

Damage—to the chickpea/garbanzo bean damage factors in the Bean Inspection Handbook. The damage factors pertain to the class Chickpea/Garbanzo Beans in the U.S. Standards for Beans under the United States Agricultural Marketing Act (AMA). Stakeholders in the bean processing/handling industry suggested adding a criterion related to white chalky or wafer-like spots in the cotyledon, which can affect chickpea/garbanzo bean flavor. This proposal is intended to update inspection procedures to ensure that the bean standards remain relevant to the market. AMS invites interested parties to comment on whether revising the inspection instructions to include the additional damage factor would facilitate the marketing of chickpea/garbanzo beans. This action would not revise or amend the Grade and Grade Requirements for Chickpea/Garbanzo Beans in the U.S. Standards for Beans.

**DATES:** We will consider comments we receive by June 21, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to submit written comments concerning this notice. All comments must be submitted through the Federal e-rulemaking portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> and should reference the document number and the date and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register**. Instructions for submitting and reading comments are detailed on the site. All comments submitted in response to this notice will be included in the record and will be made available to the public. Please be advised that the identity of the individuals or entities submitting comments will be made public on the internet at the address provided above.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Loren Almond, USDA AMS; Telephone: (816) 702-3925; or email: [Loren.L.Almond@usda.gov](mailto:Loren.L.Almond@usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the authority of the AMA (7 U.S.C. 1621–1627), as amended, AMS establishes and maintains a variety of quality and grade standards for agricultural commodities that serve as a fundamental starting point to define commodity quality in the domestic and global marketplace.

Standards developed under the AMA include those for rice, whole dry peas, split peas, feed peas, lentils, and beans. The U.S. standards for whole dry peas, split peas, feed peas, lentils and beans no longer appear in the Code of Federal Regulations, but are now maintained by USDA–AMS–Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS). The U.S. standards for beans are voluntary and widely used in private contracts, government

procurement, marketing communication, and for some commodities, consumer information.

The bean standards facilitate bean marketing and define U.S. bean quality in the domestic and global marketplace. The standards define commonly used industry terms; contain basic principles governing the application of standards, such as the type of sample used for a particular quality analysis; provide the basis of determination; and specify grades and grade requirements. Official procedures for determining grading factors are provided in the Bean Inspection Handbook. Together, the grading standards and testing procedures allow buyers and sellers to communicate quality requirements, compare bean quality using equivalent forms of measurement, and assist in price discovery.

AMS engages in outreach with stakeholders to ensure commodity standards maintain relevance to the modern market. Stakeholders, including the U.S. Dry Pea and Lentil Council, requested that AMS revise the bean damage factors to include the addition of a new criterion—Cotyledon Damage—in the class Chickpea/Garbanzo Beans. Currently, there is not a definition for Cotyledon Damage in Chickpea/Garbanzo Beans. AMS–FGIS proposes to revise the bean inspection criteria in the Bean Inspection Handbook by including the definition and criteria requirements for Cotyledon Damage in Chickpea/Garbanzo Beans.

#### **Cotyledon Damage in Chickpea/Garbanzo Beans**

Under the current bean inspection criteria, white chalky or wafer-like spots are not considered damage in chickpea/garbanzo beans. Stakeholders stated that such spots in chickpea/garbanzo beans negatively affect bean flavor. With the proposed change to the inspection handbook, Cotyledon Damage would be defined as “Chickpea/Garbanzo beans or pieces of Chickpea/Garbanzo beans with a white chalky or wafer-like spot that penetrates the cotyledon (singularly or in combination) that meets or exceeds the minimum coverage shown on VRI—Bean—5.1 Cotyledon Damage (Chickpea/Garbanzo).” The criteria also specify that damage portion size requirements for chickpea/garbanzo beans are approximately 250 grams for small-seeded beans and 500 grams for large-seeded beans. Further, suspect beans must be scraped to confirm the spot penetrates into the cotyledon and is of a size to constitute damage per the definition. AMS believes that addressing cotyledon damage in chickpea/garbanzo beans would assist

in moving the U.S. bean market toward fewer quality complaints and serve to ensure consistent grading results across the nation.

AMS grading and inspection services, provided through a network of Federal, State, and private laboratories, conduct tests to determine the quality and condition of beans. These tests are conducted in accordance with applicable standards using approved methodologies and can be applied at any point in the marketing chain. Furthermore, the tests yield rapid, reliable, and consistent results. The U.S. Standards for Beans and the affiliated grading and testing services offered by AMS verify that a seller’s beans meet specified requirements and ensure that customers receive the quality purchased.

In order for U.S. standards and grading procedures for beans to remain relevant, AMS invites interested parties to submit comments on the proposal to add criteria pertaining to Cotyledon Damage for the class Chickpea/Garbanzo Beans in the Bean Inspection Handbook. This change would not revise or amend the Grade and Grade Requirements for the class Chickpea/Garbanzo Beans in the U.S. Standards for Beans.

#### **Proposed AMS Action**

Based on input from stakeholder organizations in the bean industry, AMS proposes to amend the Bean Inspection Handbook by including the new damage definition and criteria for Cotyledon Damage in Chickpea/Garbanzo Beans.

AMS is accepting comments on this proposed action for 60 days. All comments received within the comment period will be made part of the public record maintained by AMS, will be available to the public for review, and will be considered by AMS before a final action is taken on this proposal.

**Authority:** 7 U.S.C. 1621–1627.

**Erin Morris,**

*Associate Administrator Agricultural Marketing Service.*

[FR Doc. 2021–08374 Filed 4–21–21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE P**

#### **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

#### **Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request**

April 19, 2021.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. Comments are

requested regarding: 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; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and 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 and other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding this information collection received by May 24, 2021 will be considered. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

#### Forest Service

*Title:* Financial Information Security Request Form.

*OMB Control Number:* 0596–0204.

*Summary of Collection:* The majority of Forest Service's (FS) financial records are in databases stored at the National Finance Center (NFC). The Federal Information Security Reform Act of 2002 (Pub. L. 107–347) and Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104–106) authorize the Forest Service to obtain information necessary for contracted employees to access and maintain these records.

*Need and Use of the Information:* The Forest Service uses a paper and electronic version of its form FS–6500–214 to gather name, work email, work telephone number, job title etc. for a specific contracted employee to apply to NFC for access. Prior to filling out the form, contractors must first complete specific training before a user may request access to certain financial systems. NFC grants access to users only

at the request of Client Security Officers. The unit's Client Security Officer is responsible for management of access to computers and coordinates all requests for NFC. The information collected is shared with those managing or overseeing the financial systems used by the FS, this includes auditors.

*Description of Respondents:*

Contracted Employees.

*Number of Respondents:* 209.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: Yearly.

*Total Burden Hours:* 315.

**Levi S. Harrell,**

*Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2021–08322 Filed 4–21–21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3411–15–P**

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#### Farm Service Agency

*Title:* Emergency Conservation Program and Biomass Crop Assistance Program.

*OMB Control Number:* 0560–0082.

*Summary of Collection:* The Farm Service Agency (FSA), in cooperation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Forest Service, and other agencies and organizations, provides eligible producers and landowners cost-share incentives and technical assistance through several conservation and environmental programs to help farmers, ranchers, and other eligible landowners and operators conserve soil, improve water quality, develop forests, and rehabilitate farmland severely damaged by natural disasters authorized under the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2201–2205). FSA provides emergency funds for sharing with agricultural producers the cost of rehabilitating farmland damaged by natural disaster, and for carrying out emergency water conservation measures during periods of severe drought. FSA is also managing the Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP) authorized by Section 9010 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Pub. L. 113–79), which amends Title 1X of the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008. BCAP regulations outlined the legislations parameters, program definitions and process for: (1) Establishing BCAP project areas; (2) Matching payment opportunity for eligible material owners and qualifying biomass conversion facilities; (3) Contracting acreage for producers in BCAP project areas; and (4) Establishment and annual production payments for producers in BCAP projects areas.

*Need and use of the Information:* FSA will collect information using several forms. The collected information will be used to determine if the person, land, and practices are eligible for participation in the respective program and to receive cost-share assistance. Also, Information collection from eligible biomass owners, biomass conversion facilities, and producers meeting the requirements for matching payments, annual production payment assistance, establishment payments and BCAP project area designation is necessary in order to ensure the financial accountability needed to operate and administer the BCAP.