

enhancing the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services' ability to allow United States animal producers to compete in the world market of animal and animal product trade. APHIS currently has regulations in place that restrict the importation of poultry meat and other poultry products from Mexico due to the presence of Newcastle Disease (ND) in that country. However, APHIS allows the importation of poultry meat and poultry products from the Mexican States of Sinaloa and Sonora because APHIS has determined that poultry meat and products from these two Mexican States pose a negligible risk of introducing ND into the United States. To ensure that these items are safe for importation, APHIS requires that certain data appear on the foreign meat inspection certificate that accompanies the poultry meat and other poultry products from Sinaloa and Sonora to the United States. APHIS also requires that serial numbered seals be applied to containers carrying the poultry meat and other poultry products. In addition, there is an application and approval process required for the transit of pork and pork products and poultry carcasses, parts, or products (except eggs and egg products). APHIS also requires a pre-arrival notification to alert Customs & Border Protection Inspectors, along with an emergency action notice.

*Need and Use of the Information:* APHIS will collect information to certify that the poultry meat or other poultry products were (1) derived from poultry born and raised in commercial breeding establishments in Sinaloa and Sonora; (2) derived from poultry that were slaughtered in Sinaloa or Sonora in a Federally-inspected slaughter plant approved to export these commodities to the United States in accordance with Food Safety & Inspection regulations; (3) processed at a Federally inspected processing plant in Sinaloa or Sonora; and (4) kept out of contact with poultry from any other State within Mexico. APHIS will also collect information to ensure that the poultry meat or poultry products from Sinaloa and Sonora pose the most negligible risk possible for introducing ND into the United States. If the information was collected less frequently or not collected at all, it would significantly cripple APHIS' ability to ensure that various commodities from certain Mexican States pose a negligible risk of introducing CSF or ND into the United States. This lack of information would make a disease incursion event much

more likely and could seriously harm the U.S. pork and poultry industries.

*Description of Respondents:* Business or other for-profit; Federal Government.

*Number of Respondents:* 79.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 3,219.

#### **Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service**

*Title:* Approval of Laboratories for Conducting Aquatic Animal Tests for Export Health Certificates.

*OMB Control Number:* 0579-0429.

*Summary of Collection:* The Animal Health Protection Act (APHA) of 2002 is the primary Federal law governing the protection of animal health. The AHPA gives the Secretary of Agriculture broad authority to detect, control, or eradicate pests or diseases of livestock or poultry. The Secretary may also prohibit or restrict import or export of any animal or related material if necessary, to prevent the spread of any livestock or poultry pest or disease. Disease prevention is the most effective method for maintaining a healthy animal population and enhancing the ability of U.S. producers to compete in the global market of animal and animal product trade. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) regulations do not require APHIS approval or certification for laboratories conducting disease tests for the export of aquaculture animals. However, as a condition of entry, some countries require testing results from a laboratory approved by the competent authority, in this case APHIS. State, university, and private laboratories can voluntarily seek approval to test for specific diseases. APHIS provides laboratory approval as a service to U.S. exporters who ship aquaculture animals to countries requiring this certification. The AHPA is contained in Title X, Subtitle E, Sections 10401-18 of Public Law 107-171, May 13, 2002, the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002.

*Need and Use of the Information:* The approval of laboratories to conduct tests for the export of aquaculture animals requires the use of certain information collection activities including notification of intent to request approval, application for APHIS approval, protocol statement, submission and recordkeeping of sample copies of diagnostic reports, quality assurance/control plans and their recordkeeping, notification of proposed changes to assay protocols, recordkeeping of supporting assay documentation, and request for removal of approved status. If APHIS did not collect this information, U.S. producers

would be prevented from exporting aquaculture animals and products to countries that specifically require APHIS approved laboratories to certify they have performed aquatic animal pathogen detection procedures.

*Description of Respondents:* Business or other for-profits; State, Local or Tribal Government.

*Number of Respondents:* 8.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 1,462.

**Ruth Brown,**

*Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

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**BILLING CODE 3410-34-P**

## **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

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

June 21, 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 or other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding this information collection received by July 26, 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.

#### Natural Resources Conservation Service

*Title:* Long Term Contracting.

*OMB Control Number:* 0578–0013.

*Summary of Collection:* The Long Term Contracting regulations at 7 CFR part 630, and the Conservation program regulations at 7 CFR 624, 625, 701 set forth the basic policies, program provisions, and eligibility requirements for owners and operators to enter into and carry out long-term conservation program contracts with technical assistance under the various program. These programs are administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). These programs authorize federal technical and financial long-term cost sharing assistance for conservation treatment with eligible land users and entities. Under the terms of the agreement, the participant agrees to apply, or arrange to apply, the conservation treatment specified in the conservation plan. In return for this agreement, Federal financial assistance payments are made to the land user, or third party, upon successful application of the conservation treatment.

*Need and Use of the Information:* NRCS will collect information using several NRCS forms. The forms are needed to administer NRCS long-term contracting programs as authorized. NRCS uses the information to ensure the proper utilization of program funds.

*Description of Respondents:* Individuals or households; Farms; Not-for-profit institutions; State, Local or Tribal Government.

*Number of Respondents:* 5,560.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting; Annually, Other (As required).

*Total Burden Hours:* 3,085.

#### Ruth Brown,

*Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS–2019–0084]

#### Agrivida, Inc.; Availability of a Draft Plant Pest Risk Assessment, Draft Environmental Assessment, Preliminary Determination, and Preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact for Determination of Nonregulated Status of Maize Developed Using Genetic Engineering for the Production of Phytase Enzyme

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** We are advising the public that the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has prepared a preliminary determination of status, draft plant pest risk assessment, draft environmental assessment, and preliminary finding of no significant impact regarding a request from Agrivida, Inc., seeking a determination of nonregulated status for PY203 maize that has been developed using genetic engineering for the production of phytase enzyme. We are making these documents available for public review and comment.

**DATES:** We will consider all comments that we receive on or before July 26, 2021.

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

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Enter APHIS–2019–0084 in the Search field. Select the Documents tab, then select the Comment button in the list of documents.
- *Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:* Send your comment to Docket No. APHIS–2019–0084, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A–03.8, 4700 River Road, Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737–1238.

The preliminary determination of status, draft environmental assessment, draft plant pest risk assessment, preliminary determination, preliminary finding of no significant impact, and any comments we receive on this docket may be viewed at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), or in our reading room, which is located in Room 1620 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) 799–7039 before coming.

Supporting documents for this petition are also available on the APHIS website at <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/biotechnology/permits-notifications-petitions/petitions/petition-status>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Cindy Eck, Biotechnology Regulatory Services, APHIS, 4700 River Road, Unit 147, Riverdale, MD 20737–1236; (301) 851–3892, email: [cynthia.a.eck@usda.gov](mailto:cynthia.a.eck@usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the authority of the plant pest provisions of the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7701 *et seq.*), the regulations in 7 CFR part 340, “Movement of Organisms Modified or Produced Through Genetic Engineering,” regulate, among other things, the importation, interstate movement, or release into the environment of organisms modified or produced through genetic engineering that are plant pests or pose a plausible plant pest risk.

The petition for nonregulated status described in this notice is being evaluated under the version of the regulations effective at the time that it was received. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) issued a final rule, published in the **Federal Register** on May 18, 2020 (85 FR 29790–29838, Docket No. APHIS–2018–0034),<sup>1</sup> revising 7 CFR part 340; however, the final rule is being implemented in phases. The new Regulatory Status Review (RSR) process, which replaces the petition for determination of nonregulated status process, became effective on April 5, 2021 for corn, soybean, cotton, potato, tomato, and alfalfa. The RSR process is effective for all crops as of October 1, 2021. However, “[u]ntil RSR is available for a particular crop. . . APHIS will continue to receive petitions for determination of nonregulated status for the crop in accordance with the [legacy] regulations at 7 CFR 340.6.” (85 FR 29815). This petition for a determination of nonregulated status is being evaluated in accordance with the regulations at 7 CFR 340.6 (2020) as it was received by APHIS on June 25, 2019.

Agrivida, Inc. (Agrivida) has submitted a petition (APHIS Petition Number 19–176–01p) to APHIS seeking a determination of nonregulated status under 7 CFR part 340, for PY203 maize that has been developed using genetic engineering for the production of phytase enzyme. The petition states that such maize is unlikely to pose a plant

<sup>1</sup> To view the final rule, go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) and enter APHIS–2018–0034 in the Search field.