

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

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

December 6, 2007.

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 regarding (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; (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 or other forms of information technology should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8958.

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.

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Title: Voluntary Bovine Johne's Disease Control Program.

OMB Control Number: 0579-NEW.

Summary of Collection: The Animal Health Protection Act of 2002 is the primary Federal law governing the protection of animal health. The law gives the Secretary of Agriculture broad authority to detect, control, or eradicate pests or diseases of livestock or poultry. The regulations in Title 9, Chapter 1, Subchapter C of the Code of Federal Regulations, govern the interstate movement of animals to prevent the dissemination of livestock and poultry diseases in the United States. Supplementing the regulations is the Uniform Program Standards for the Voluntary Bovine Johne's Disease Control Program that outlines the minimal national standards of the program providing specifics on administration of the program, program elements and procedures, and laboratory procedures.

Need and Use of the Information: The objective of this program is to provide minimum national standards for the control of Johne's disease. The program consists of three basic elements: (1) Education, to inform producers about the cost of Johne's disease and to provide information about management strategies to prevent, control, and eliminate it; (2) management, to work with producers to establish good management strategies on their farms; and (3) herd testing and classification, to help separate test-positive herds from test-negative herds. Failing to collect this information would greatly hinder the control of Johne's disease and possibly lead to increased prevalence.

Description of Respondents: State, Local or Tribal Government; Farms; Business or other for-profit

Number of Respondents: 50,602.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 70,515.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection
Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

December 6, 2007.

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Food and Nutrition Service

Title: Enhancing Food Stamps: Food Stamp Modernization Efforts.

OMB Control Number: 0584-NEW.

Summary of Collection: The Food Stamp Program (FSP) provides low-income individuals and families with

assistance to purchase eligible food items for the home consumption through state-operated programs. Over the past decade, increased awareness of the importance of the FSP as a basic nutritional safety net, as well as a critical work support, has led to a variety of federal and state efforts to increase program access and participation. Congress has allocated funds for the purpose of evaluating and collecting data on the FSP as part of Section 17(a)(1) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended through Public Law 106-171, February 11, 2000. The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) plans to systematically examine the range of efforts States are undertaking to enhance food stamp certification and modernize the FSP.

Need and Use of the Information: FNS will initiate a comprehensive study to: (1) Develop a national inventory of FSP modernization efforts across states; (2) document key features and outcomes associated with food stamp modernization; (3) systematically describe and compare techniques states are using to modernize the FSP; and (4) identify promising practices. Without this study, FNS and state food stamp agencies will have to rely on the information that is provided for individual modernization initiatives.

Description of Respondents: Individual or households; Not-for-profit institutions; Business or other for-profit; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 1,107.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Other (one time only).

Total Burden Hours: 1,869.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. E7-23938 Filed 12-10-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Secretary

Privacy Act of 1974; Revision of Systems of Records and Proposed New Routine Uses

AGENCY: Department of Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: Notice of revisions to Privacy Act Systems of Records.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) gives notice that it proposes to amend five Privacy Act Systems of Records maintained by the Risk Management Agency (RMA).

EFFECTIVE DATE: The revised systems notices and the proposed routine uses will become effective 40 days after publication, unless modified by a subsequent notice to incorporate public comments. Comments on this notice must be received on or before January 10, 2008 to be assured consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pam Bollinger, Chief, Underwriting Standards Branch, Risk Management Agency, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, 6501 Beacon Drive, Stop 0812, Kansas City, MO 64133-4676, telephone (816) 926-7176, electronic mail pam.bollinger@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: USDA and RMA propose to amend the five Privacy Act Systems of Records listed below to add a single new routine use to each:

(1) USDA/FCIC-2, Compliance Review Cases, which was last published in full at 67 FR 68559, on November 12, 2002;

(2) USDA/FCIC-8, List of Ineligible Producers, which was last published in full at 72 FR 523, on January 5, 2007;

(3) USDA/FCIC-9, Agent, which was last published in full at 68 FR 55362, on September 25, 2003;

(4) USDA/FCIC-10, Policyholder, which was last published in full at 67 FR 68086, on November 8, 2002; and

(5) USDA/FCIC-11, Loss Adjuster, which was last published in full at 68 FR 15426, on March 31, 2003.

The Risk Management Agency, a component of USDA that administers programs of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC), a wholly-owned Government Corporation, maintains these systems. Each of the systems listed is being revised to add two additional new routine uses. The first new routine use permits disclosure of certain electronic records which have been incorporated in electronic format into this system through the Comprehensive Information Management System (CIMS) in accordance with the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, section 10706.

CIMS is a system of computer programs and databases, physically located in Kansas City, Missouri, that is jointly maintained by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and RMA utilizing the services of an information technology contractor. CIMS contains producer, program, and land information from FSA, RMA, and approved insurance providers (AIPs), as defined in section 502(b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1502(b)). CIMS acts as a repository of data and also combines, reconciles, defines, translates, and formats data in such a manner so it can be used by entities that have authorized access to CIMS.

CIMS will be used to help RMA and FSA administer their programs by allowing the agencies to discover and correct errors in reporting and assist the producers in providing consistent information to FSA, RMA, and AIPs.

The electronic information collected in CIMS will be disclosed to FSA and AIPs under contract with RMA and further disclosed to the AIP's insurance agents and loss adjusters. The electronic information may also be disclosed to any contractor engaged in the development or maintenance of CIMS. Such disclosures are necessary to administer and enforce requirements of the Federal crop insurance programs, an integral part of the USDA farm program system. To ensure that AIPs, and their insurance agents and loss adjusters, are only receiving information related to their specific insureds, all requests for information provided through CIMS will be automatically validated by CIMS software. Validation is accomplished by checking producer information provided directly to CIMS by data requestors against an RMA-maintained database of accepted policies incorporated into CIMS. AIPs will be required to sign a non-disclosure statement before accessing CIMS to preclude them from using the information for an unauthorized purpose or releasing the information to an unauthorized person or the public.

FSA and any contractor engaged in the development or maintenance of CIMS will have access to all RMA data incorporated into CIMS. RMA data in CIMS will only be disclosed to the AIPs, their insurance agents and loss adjusters, for information associated with their insured producers and only with regard to such producers' farming operations contained in counties covered by their policies. The RMA data disclosed through access to CIMS data consist of: (1) Standardized records containing identifying information on entities such as the name, address, tax identification number (social security number or employer identification number) and entity type; (2) the name, address, and tax identification number of individuals having a substantial beneficial interest in an ineligible individual or legal entity; and (3) information related to ineligibility such as date and cause of ineligibility, date of notification letter, and current status.

RMA may also be releasing FSA data through CIMS to contractors, the AIPs, their insurance agents and loss adjusters, for information associated with their insured producers and only with regard to such producers' farming operations contained in counties covered by their policies. The FSA data