

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

April 27, 2006.

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.

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Title: List Sampling Frame Survey.

OMB Control Number: 0535-0140.

Summary of Collection: The primary objective of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is to provide data users with timely and reliable agricultural production and economic statistics, as well as environmental and specialty agricultural related statistics. To accomplish this objective, NASS relies heavily on the use of sample surveys statistically drawn from "List Sampling Frame." The List Sampling Frame is a database of names and addresses, with control data, that contains the components from which these samples can be drawn.

Need and Use of the Information: The List Sampling Frame is used to maintain as complete a list as possible of farm operations. The goal is to produce for each state a relatively complete, current, and unduplicated list of names to sample for agricultural operation surveys. Government agencies and educational institutions use information from these surveys in planning, farm policy analysis, and program administration.

Description of Respondents: Farms; Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 350,000.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 55,000.

Charlene Parker,

*Departmental Information Collection
Clearance Officer.*

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service

Title: National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP).

OMB Control Number: 0579-0007.

Summary of Collection: The National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) is a voluntary Federal-State-industry mechanism for controlling certain poultry diseases and for improving poultry flocks and products through disease control techniques. The National Turkey Improvement Plan was combined with the NPIP in 1970 to create the NPIP, as it now exists. Emu, rhea, ostrich, and cassowary breeding flocks are also allowed participation in the Plan. The effective implementation of the NPIP necessitates the use of several information collection activities, including sentinel bird identification, as well as the creation and submission of flock testing reports, sales reports,

breeding flock participation summaries, hatchery participation summaries, salmonella investigation reports, salmonella serotyping requests, and small chick order printouts. Authority for this program is contained in the U.S. Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1944, as amended (7 U.S.C. 429). The cooperative work is carried out through a Memorandum of Understanding with the participating States.

Need and Use of the Information: Information is collected from various types of poultry breeders and flock owners to determine the number of eggs hatched and sold as well as to report outbreaks of diseases. This information allows APHIS officials to track, control, and prevent many types of poultry diseases.

Description of Respondents: State, Local or Tribal Government; Federal Government; Farms.

Number of Respondents: 10,000.

Frequency of Responses:

Recordkeeping; Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 39,638.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

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Departmental Administration

Title: USDA PIV Request for Credential.

OMB Control Number: 0505-0022.

Summary of Collection: To obtain approval of information that must be provided by Federal contractors and other applicable individuals (including all employees and some affiliates) when applying for a USDA credential (identification card). The information is necessary to comply with the requirements outlined in Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD) 12, and Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 201, Personal Identity Verification (PIV) Phase I and II. In years past, government agencies have all required various levels and means of authenticating Federal employees and contractors as a requirement to enter government buildings and use government systems. HSPD 12 mandates the creation of a standard for identity proofing and credentialing Federal employees and contractors.

Need and Use of the Information: Information will be collected using form AD 1197, Request for USDA Identification (ID) Badge, that will be completed on behalf of employees contractors, or other applicable individuals requiring long term access to federally controlled facilities and/or information systems who began work at USDA on or after October 27, 2005. This information is required as part of USDA's PIV I identity proofing and registration process. For PIV II, implemented before October 27, 2006 form AD 1197 will be eliminated and the identity process will be streamlined with addition of a Web-based HSPD-12 system.

Description of Respondents: Individuals or households; Federal Government.

Number of Respondents: 37,000.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 120,350.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2006-0047]

Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy; Availability of an Estimate of Prevalence in the United States

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public that an analysis of the prevalence of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in the United States has been prepared by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. We are making the analysis of BSE prevalence in this country available to the public.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the analysis are available for review on the Internet (see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** below) and in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 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) 690-2817 before coming.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Brian McCluskey, National Surveillance Coordinator, National Surveillance Unit, Center for Animal Health Surveillance, VS, APHIS, USDA, 2150 Centre Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80526-8177; 970-494-7589.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) is a progressive and fatal neurological disorder of cattle that results from an unconventional transmissible agent. BSE belongs to the family of diseases known as transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs). Since 1990, the United States has conducted surveillance for BSE in this country with increasing intensity, including an enhanced surveillance effort implemented following the diagnosis of BSE in a cow of Canadian origin in Washington State in December 2003.