

barriers that prohibit or threaten the export of U.S. specialty crops.

Need and Use of the Information: FAS collects data for fund allocation, program management, planning and evaluation. FAS will collect information from applicant desiring to receive grants under the program to determine the viability of requests for funds. The program could not be implemented without the submission of project proposals, which provide the necessary information upon which funding decisions are based.

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

Number of Respondents: 20.

Frequency of Responses: Recordkeeping; Reporting: On occasion; Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 640.

Farm Service Agency

Title: Horse Breeder Loan Program.

OMB Control Number: 0560-0221.

Summary of Collection: The Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes direct and guaranteed loans to family farmers who cannot obtain loans from commercial sources at reasonable rates and terms. The Horse Breeder Loans Program will assist horse breeder who have suffered economic loss as a result of Mare Reproductive Loss Syndrome (MRLS). To determine whether an applicant is eligible for a loan FSA must document the severity of the horse breeder's loss. A veterinary certification is used to document the losses. MRLS is a veterinary medical condition, which requires a trained expert to determine the number and type of loss. The Horse Breeder Loan Program is authorized under the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002 (The Act), enacted November 28, 2001. FSA will collect information using several forms.

Need and Use of the Information: FSA will collect information to evaluate an applicant's eligibility and feasibility for loan assistance. If the information is not collected from each applicant, or collected less frequently, FSA would be unable to make eligibility and feasibility determinations.

Description of Respondents: Farms; Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit; Federal Government.

Number of Respondents: 267.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Other (Eligibility).

Total Burden Hours: 414.

Natural Resources and Conservation Service

Title: Volunteer Program—Earth Team.

OMB Control Number: 0578-0024.

Summary of Collection: Volunteers have been a human resource to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) since 1985. NRCS is authorized by the Federal Personnel Manual (FPM) Supplement 296-33, Subchapter 22, to recruit, train and accept, with regard to Civil Service classification law, rules, or regulations, the service of individuals to serve without compensation. Volunteers may assist in any agency program/project and may perform any activities which agency employees are allowed to do. Volunteers must be 14 years of age. NRCS will collect information using several NRCS forms.

Need and Use of the Information: NRCS will collect information on the type of skills and type of work the volunteers are interested in doing. NRCS will also collect information to implement and evaluate the effectiveness of the volunteer program. Without the information, NRCS would not know which individuals are interested in volunteering.

Description of Respondents: Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions.

Number of Respondents: 30,320.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Semi-annually.

Total Burden Hours: 916.

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Title: Low Pathogenic AI Payment of Indemnity.

OMB Control Number: 0579-0208.

Summary of Collection: In accordance with 21 U.S.C. 111-113, 114, 115, 117, 120, 123, and 134a, the Secretary of Agriculture has the authority to promulgate regulations and take measures to prevent the introduction into the United States and the interstate dissemination within the United States of communicable diseases of livestock and poultry, and to pay claims growing out of the destruction of animals. Disease prevention is the most effective method of maintaining a healthy animal population and enhancing the ability of the United States to compete in the global market of animal and animal products. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is charged with carrying out this disease prevention mission. Highly pathogenic avian influenza (AI) is an extremely infectious and deadly form of AI and can cause sudden death in poultry

without any warning signs of infection. Low pathogenic AI, however, causes few clinical sign infected birds. APHIS will collect information using several of APHIS' forms.

Need and Use of the Information: APHIS will collect the name, address, the number, type and age of poultry for which the claimant is seeking payment; and the appraised value of the poultry. APHIS will also collect information to document the loss of poultry from diagnostic testing of backyard flocks. Information provided will be used to reimburse poultry owners for poultry dying as a result of the test. Failure to collect the information would make it impossible for APHIS to launch a control program in Virginia, possibly leading to outbreaks in other States.

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

Number of Respondents: 800.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total burden Hours: 1,600.

Food and Nutrition Service

Title: Status of Claims Against Households.

OMB Control Number: 0584-0069.

Summary of Collection: Section 11, 13, and 16 of the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended (the Act) and appropriate Food Stamp Program Regulation are the bases for the information collected on FNS-209. Food Stamp Program regulations require that State agencies submit quarterly form NFS-209, Status of Claims Against Households, reports. The required information provided on this report must be obtained from a State accountable system responsible for establishing claims, sending demand letters, collecting claims, and managing other claim activity.

Need and use of the Information: The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) will collect information on the outstanding aggregate claim balance; claims established; collections; any balance and collection adjustments; and the amount to be retained for collecting non-agency error claims. The information will be used by State agencies to ascertain aggregate claim balance and collections for determining overall performance, the collection amounts to return to FNS, and claim retention amounts. FNS will receive collections and report collection activity to Treasury.

Description of Respondents: State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 53.