

Agriculture and Nutrition, in Wilmington, Delaware;

Margaret G. Mellon, Director, Food and Environment Program, Union of Concerned Scientists, in Washington, DC;

Ronald D. Olson, Vice President, Grain Operations, General Mills, in Minneapolis, Minnesota;

Jerome B. Slocum, Farmer and General Manager, North Mississippi Grain Company, in Coldwater, Mississippi;

Keith C. Triebwasser, Manager, Product Safety and Regulatory Affairs, The Procter and Gamble Company, in Cincinnati, Ohio;

Lisa W. Zannoni, Head, Global Regulatory Affairs and Government Relations, BASF Plant Science, in Mount Olive, New Jersey.

Committee members will initially serve one- or two-year terms, and may be reappointed to serve up to six consecutive years. In the event of a vacancy, the Secretary will appoint a new member as appropriate and subject to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The duties of the Committee are solely advisory.

Committee members will serve without pay. Reimbursement of travel expenses and per diem costs shall be made to Committee members who would be unable to attend Committee meetings without such reimbursement.

**Joseph J. Jen,**

*Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics.*

[FR Doc. 03-9173 Filed 4-14-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 03-007-1]

#### Notice of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection

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

**ACTION:** Extension of approval of an information collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's intention to request an extension of approval of an information collection in support of the importation of animals and poultry, animal and poultry products, and animal germ plasm.

**DATES:** We will consider all comments that we receive on or before June 16, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by postal mail/commercial delivery or by e-mail. If you use postal mail/commercial delivery, please send four copies of your comment (an original and three copies) to: Docket No. 03-007-1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3C71, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. 03-007-1. If you use e-mail, address your comment to [regulations@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:regulations@aphis.usda.gov). Your comment must be contained in the body of your message; do not send attached files. Please include your name and address in your message and "Docket No. 03-007-1" on the subject line.

You may read any comments that we receive on this docket 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.

APHIS documents published in the **Federal Register**, and related information, including the names of organizations and individuals who have commented on APHIS dockets, are available on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/webrepor.html>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information regarding the importation of animals and poultry, animal and poultry products, and animal germplasm, contact Dr. Gary Colgrove, Director, National Center for Import and Export, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 38, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; (301) 734-4356. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Mrs. Celeste Sickles, APHIS' Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 734-7477.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Title:** Importation of Animals and Poultry, Animal and Poultry Products, Certain Animal Embryos, Semen, and Zoological Animals.

**OMB Number:** 0579-0040.

**Type of Request:** Extension of approval of an information collection.

**Abstract:** The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the United States Department of Agriculture is responsible for, among other things, preventing the introduction of exotic animal diseases into the United States and for rapidly

identifying, containing, and eradicating such diseases when feasible. In connection with this mission, APHIS collects pertinent information from those individuals who import animals or poultry, animal or poultry products, or animal germplasm into the United States.

This information includes data such as the origins of the animals or animal products to be imported, the health status of the animals or the processing methods used to produce animal products to be imported, and whether the animals or animal products were temporarily offloaded in another country during their transit to the United States. We need this information to help ensure that these imports do not introduce exotic animal diseases into the United States.

We use a variety of information collection procedures, devices, and forms including, but not limited to: Health certificates, import permits, ear tags, leg bands, specimen submission forms, inspection reports, cooperative and trust fund agreements, and certification statements.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve our use of these information collection activities for an additional 3 years.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning our information collection. These comments will help us:

(1) Evaluate 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;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the information collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the information collection on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

**Estimate of burden:** The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.0369992 hours per response.

**Respondents:** Entities that import animals or poultry, animal or poultry products, and animal embryos, germplasm, and semen.

**Estimated annual number of respondents:** 169,806.