

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

June 27, 2017.

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 required regarding (1) 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) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) 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 31, 2017 will be considered. Written comments should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20502. Commenters are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395–5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250–7602. 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.

Farm Service Agency

Title: Disaster Assistance—General (7 CFR part 1945–A).

OMB Control Number: 0560–0170.

Summary of Collection: The regulation at 7 CFR 759, defines the responsibilities of the Secretary of Agriculture in making disaster area determinations, the types of incidents that can result in a disaster area determination, and the factors used in making disaster area determinations. The determination of a disaster area is prerequisite to authorizing emergency (EM) loans to qualified farmers as outlined in 7 CFR 764. EM loan funds may be used to restore or replace essential property, pay all or part of production costs incurred by the farmer or rancher in the year of the disaster, pay for essential family living expenses, pay to reorganize the farming operation or refinance USDA and non-USDA creditors. The information collection occurs when the Secretary receives a letter from an individual farmer, local government officials, State Governor, State Agriculture Commissioners, State Secretaries of Agriculture, other State government officials, and Indian Tribal Council, requesting a Secretarial natural disaster determination. Supporting documentation of losses for all counties having disaster is provided by the County Emergency Boards in the form of a report entitled “Loss Assessment Report” (LAR).

Need and Use of the Information: The Farm Service Agency (FSA) will collect the following information to determine if the county is eligible to qualify for a natural disaster designation: (1) The nature and extent of production losses; (2) the number of farmers who have sustained qualifying production losses; and (3) the number of farmers that have sustained qualifying production losses that other lenders in the county have indicated that they will not be in a position to finance. The collection of information is necessary to determine whether the counties did sustain sufficient production losses to qualify for a natural disaster designation. The information will be used by FSA to

process request for Secretarial natural disaster designations.

Description of Respondents: State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 401.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion; Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 214.

Farm Service Agency

Title: Customer Data Worksheet Request for Business Partner Record Change.

OMB Control Number: 0560–0265.

Summary of Collection: Core Customer Data is required in order to identify USDA program participants and ensure that benefits are directed to the correct customer and respective Tax Identification Numbers. USDA requires this data to ensure that customers can be validated and also to provide a necessary basis for pursuing legal remedies in the event of error or fraud. There is no public law regarding the use or collection of Core Customer Data. The option to document and track Core Customer Data changes is necessary to ensure the integrity of the data and to provide the Farm Service Agency (FSA), Natural Resources and Conservation Service and Rural Development a method of verifying the validity of the information, and provide a necessary basis for pursuing legal remedies when needed.

Need and Use of the Information: Core Customer Data is necessary to input customer information for identity purposes and to provide a point of contact for the respective customer and a valid Tax Identification Number to direct program benefits to. The AD–2047 will be used to document Core Customer Data changes and also to provide a method to identify who made applicable changes and when this was done. Failure to collect and timely maintain the data collected will result in erroneous/out dated point of contact information, which could result in program information and benefits being directed to incorrect recipients.

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

Number of Respondents: 56,926.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Other (when necessary).

Total Burden Hours: 9,678.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection
Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2017-13747 Filed 6-29-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Secretary

Determination of Total Amounts of Fiscal Year 2018 WTO Tariff-Rate Quotas for Raw Cane Sugar and Certain Sugars, Syrups and Molasses

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (the Secretary) announces the establishment of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 (October 1, 2017–September 30, 2018) in-quota aggregate quantity of raw cane sugar at 1,117,195 metric tons raw value (MTRV), and the establishment of the FY 2018 in-quota aggregate quantity of certain sugars, syrups, and molasses (also referred to as refined sugar) at 182,000 MTRV.

DATES: *Effective Date:* June 30, 2017.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Souleymane Diaby, Import Policies and Export Reporting Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., AgStop 1021, Washington, DC 20250-1021; by telephone (202) 720-2916; by fax (202) 720-0876; or by email souleymane.diaby@fas.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The provisions of paragraph (a)(i) of the Additional U.S. Note 5, Chapter 17 in the U.S. Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) authorize the Secretary to establish the in-quota tariff-rate quota (TRQ) amounts (expressed in terms of raw value) for imports of raw cane sugar and certain sugars, syrups, and molasses that may be entered under the subheadings of the HTS subject to the lower tier of duties during each fiscal year. The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) is responsible for the allocation of these quantities among supplying countries and areas.

Section 359(k) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, requires that at the beginning of the quota year the Secretary of Agriculture establish the TRQs for raw cane sugar and refined sugars at the minimum levels necessary to comply with obligations under international trade agreements, with the exception of specialty sugar.

Notice is hereby given that I have determined, in accordance with paragraph (a)(i) of the Additional U.S. Note 5, Chapter 17 in the HTS and section 359(k) of the 1938 Act, that an aggregate quantity of up to 1,117,195 MTRV of raw cane sugar may be entered or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption during FY 2018. This is the minimum amount to which the United States is committed under the WTO Uruguay Round Agreements. I have further determined that an aggregate quantity of 182,000 MTRV of sugars, syrups, and molasses may be entered or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption during FY 2018. This quantity includes the minimum amount to which the United States is committed under the WTO Uruguay Round Agreements, 22,000 MTRV, of which 20,344 MTRV is established for any sugars, syrups and molasses, and 1,656 MTRV is reserved for specialty sugar. An additional amount of 160,000 MTRV is added to the specialty sugar TRQ for a total of 161,656 MTRV.

Because the specialty sugar TRQ is first-come, first-served, tranches are needed to allow for orderly marketing throughout the year. The FY 2018 specialty sugar TRQ will be opened in five tranches. The first tranche, totaling 1,656 MTRV, will open October 2, 2017. All specialty sugars are eligible for entry under this tranche. The second tranche will open on October 18, 2017, and be equal to 48,000 MTRV. The third tranche of 48,000 MTRV will open on January 23, 2018. The fourth and fifth tranches of 32,000 MTRV each will open on April 17, 2018, and July 17, 2018, respectively. The second, third, fourth, and fifth tranches will be reserved for organic sugar and other specialty sugars not currently produced commercially in the United States or reasonably available from domestic sources.

* Conversion factor: 1 metric ton = 1.10231125 short tons.

Dated: June 21, 2017.

Jason Hafemeister,

Acting Deputy Under Secretary, Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs.

Dated: June 22, 2017.

Robert Johansson,

Acting Under Secretary, Farm Production and Conservation.

[FR Doc. 2017-13781 Filed 6-29-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2016-0053]

Notice of Availability of an Evaluation of the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease Status of Japan

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public that we are proposing to recognize Japan as being free of highly pathogenic avian influenza and Newcastle disease. This proposed recognition is based on a risk evaluation we have prepared in connection with this action, which we are making available for review and comment.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before July 31, 2017.

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

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov/>

- *Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:*

Send your comment to Docket No. APHIS-2016-0053, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A-03.8, 4700 River Road, Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238.

Supporting documents and any comments we receive on this docket may be viewed at <http://www.regulations.gov/> [#!docketDetail;D=APHIS-2016-0053](http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=APHIS-2016-0053) or in our reading room, which 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) 799-7039 before coming.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Kelly Rhodes, Senior Staff Veterinarian, Regionalization Evaluation Services, National Import Export Services, VS, APHIS, USDA, 4700 River Road, Unit 38, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; Kelly.Rhodes@aphis.usda.gov; (301) 851-3315.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The regulations in 9 CFR part 94 (referred to below as the regulations) govern the importation of certain animals and animal products into the United States in order to prevent the introduction of various animal diseases, including highly pathogenic avian