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

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Document Number AMS–FV–09–0067; FV–09–0330]

United States Standards for Grades of Processed Raisins

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and withdrawal.

SUMMARY: The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is withdrawing a notice soliciting comments on its proposed revision to the United States Standards for Grades of Processed Raisins. Based on the petitioner’s request to withdraw their petition, the agency has decided not to proceed with this action.

DATES: Effective Date: June 10, 2011.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Myron Betts, Inspection and Standardization Section, Processed Products Branch (PPB), Fruit and Vegetable Programs (FV), AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 0709, South Building; STOP 0247. Washington, DC 20250; Telephone: (202) 720–5021 or fax (202) 690–1527; or e-mail: Myron.Betts@ams.usda.gov. The United States Standards for Grades of Processed Raisins are available by accessing the AMS Web site on the Internet at http://www.ams.usda.gov/processedInspection.

Background

On February 2, 2005, AMS received a petition from the Raisin Administrative Committee (RAC), requesting revision to the United States Standards for Grades of Processed Raisins. These standards are issued under the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621–1627).

The petitioner requested that AMS revise the United States Standards for Grades of Processed Raisins, Type I, Seedless Raisins. The revision would add a third sub-type, “Vine-dried (without the application of drying chemicals or materials)” and change the existing sub-type for “Dipped, Vine-dried or similarly processed raisins” to “Dipped, Vine-dried, treated with drying chemicals or materials”.

On February 28, 2006, AMS published an advance notice of proposed rulemaking in the Federal Register (Vol. 71 39), [Docket No. FV–06–331] soliciting comments on the petition to revise the United States Standards for Grades of Processed Raisins. Between March 2007 and April 2010, AMS circulated a discussion draft to RAC which included a similar proposed revision to Type III, Raisins with Seeds. AMS did not receive any comments.

On July 21, 2010, AMS asked the RAC if they would like to adopt the proposed changes or withdraw the petition. The RAC could not agree on the discussion draft language.

In September 2010, AMS notified the RAC of its plan to withdraw the action to revise the United States Standards for Grades of Processed Raisins. The RAC agreed to bring up the issue again during their October 5, 2010, meeting. In October 2010 the RAC informed AMS that they had interest in keeping the process on the proposed revision open.

In March 2011, the RAC requested that the proposed change to the United States Standards for Grades of Processed Raisins be withdrawn. AMS has decided not to proceed further with the proposed revision to the United States Standards for Grades of Processed Raisins and it is hereby withdrawn.


Dated: June 7, 2011.

Ellen King, Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2011–14484 Filed 6–9–11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS–2011–0050]

Notice of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection; Animal Welfare

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 extension of approval of an information collection associated with Animal Welfare Act regulations for the humane handling, care, treatment, and transportation of certain animals by dealers, research facilities, exhibitors, carriers, and intermediate handlers.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before August 9, 2011.

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


• Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery: Please send one copy of your comment to Docket No. APHIS–2011–0050, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A–03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737–1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. APHIS–2011–0050.

Reading Room: 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.

Other Information: Additional information about APHIS and its
programs is available on the Internet at http://www.aphis.usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on the Animal Welfare Act regulations, contact Dr. Barbara Kohn, Senior Staff Veterinarian, Animal Care, APHIS, 4700 River Road, Unit 84, Riverdale, MD 20737; (301) 734–7833. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Mrs. Celeste Sickles, APHIS’ Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 851–2908.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Title: Animal Welfare.
OMB Number: 0579–0036.
Type of Request: Extension of approval of an information collection.
Abstract: Under the Animal Welfare Act (AWA or Act) (7 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.), the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to promulgate standards and other requirements governing the humane handling, housing, care, treatment, and transportation of certain animals by dealers, research facilities, exhibitors, carriers, and intermediate handlers. The Secretary of Agriculture has delegated the authority for enforcement of the AWA to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

The regulations in 9 CFR parts 1 through 3 were promulgated under the AWA to ensure the humane handling, housing, care, treatment, and transportation of regulated animals under the Act. The regulations in 9 CFR part 2 require documentation of specified information by dealers, research institutions, exhibitors, carriers (including foreign air carriers), and intermediate handlers. The regulations in 9 CFR part 2 also require that facilities that use animals for regulated purposes obtain a license or register with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Before being issued a USDA license, individuals are required to undergo prior license inspections; once licensed, a licensee must periodically renew the license.

To help ensure compliance with the AWA regulations, APHIS performs unannounced inspections of regulated facilities. A significant component of the inspection process is review of records that must be established and maintained by regulated facilities. The information contained in these records is used by APHIS inspectors to ensure that dealers, research facilities, exhibitors, intermediate handlers, and carriers comply with the Act and regulations.

Facilities must make and maintain records that contain official identification for all dogs and cats and certification of those animals received from pounds, shelters, and private individuals. These records are used to ensure that stolen pets are not used for regulated activities. Dealers, exhibitors, and research facilities that acquire animals from nonlicensed persons are required to have the owners of the animals sign a certification statement verifying the owner’s exemption from licensing under the Act. Records must also be maintained for animals other than dogs and cats when the animals are used for purposes regulated under the Act.

Research facilities must also make and maintain additional records for animals covered under the Act that are used for teaching, testing, and experimentation. This information is used by APHIS personnel to review the research facility’s animal care and use program.

APHIS needs the reporting and recordkeeping requirements contained in 9 CFR part 2 to enforce the Act and regulations. APHIS also uses the collected information to provide a mandatory annual report of animal welfare activities to Congress.

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 collection of information, 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 collection of information 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 0.9502381 hours per response.

Respondents: Dealers, research facilities, exhibitors, carriers, and intermediate handlers; persons exempt from licensing under the AWA.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 9,985.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
[Docket No. APHIS–2011–0045]
Notice of Revision and Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection; Swine Health Protection

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Revision and 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 revise an information collection associated with regulations to prevent the interstate spread of swine diseases and to request extension of approval of the information collection to protect swine health.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before August 9, 2011.

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


• Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery: Please send one copy of your comment to Docket No. APHIS–2011–0045, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A–03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD