program license amounts and provide greater flexibility to offset exports and transfers with raw sugar imports.

(1) USDA will temporarily permit licensed refiners to transfer program sugar from their license to another licensed refiner’s license. This waiver shall be effective on the date of publication of this notice, and expire on September 30, 2013.

(2) USDA is temporarily increasing the license limit for raw cane sugar refiners from 50,000 metric tons raw value of credits to 100,000 metric tons raw value of credits. This waiver will expire on December 31, 2014. Beginning on January 1, 2015, the credit limit will again be 50,000 metric tons raw value. No change is being made to the 50,000 metric ton raw value limit for debits.


Michael T. Scuse,
Under Secretary, Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services.

[FR Doc. 2013–10246 Filed 4–30–13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–10–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. Number AMS–FV–11–0054]

United States Standards for Grades of Okra

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), proposes to revise the voluntary United States Standards for Grades of Okra by removing the “Unclassified” section from the standards.

DATES: Comments must be received by May 31, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments to the Standardization Branch, Specialty Crops Inspection Division, Fruit and Vegetable Program, AMS, USDA, National Training and Development Center, Riverside Business Park, 100 Riverside Parkway, Suite 101, Fredericksburg, VA 22406; Fax (540) 361–1199, or on the Web at: www.regulations.gov. Comments should make reference to the dates and page number of this issue of the Federal Register and will be made available for public inspection in the above office during regular business hours. Comments can also be viewed as submitted, including any personal information you provide, on the www.regulations.gov Web site.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Dave Hornsey, Standardization Branch, Specialty Crops Inspection Division, (340) 361–1128 or 1150. The United States Standards for Grades of Okra are available through the Specialty Crops Inspection Division Web site at http://www.ams.usda.gov/freshinspection.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 203(c) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621–1627), as amended, directs and authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture “to develop and improve standards of quality, condition, quantity, grade and packaging and recommend and demonstrate such standards in order to encourage uniformity and consistency in commercial practices.” AMS is committed to carrying out this authority in a manner that facilitates the marketing of agricultural commodities, and makes copies of official standards available upon request. The United States Standards for Grades of Fruits and Vegetables not connected with Federal Marketing Orders or U.S. Import Requirements, no longer appear in the Code of Federal Regulations, but are maintained by USDA, AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Program, and are available on the internet at www.ams.usda.gov/freshinspection.

AMS proposes to revise the voluntary United States Standards for Grades of Okra using the procedures that appear in Part 36, Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations (7 CFR part 36). These standards were last revised December 18, 1928.

Background and Response to Comments

On February 9, 2012, AMS published a notice in the Federal Register (77 FR 6772), soliciting comments regarding removing the unclassified section and any other possible revision to the United States Standards for Grades of Okra. The public comment period closed on April 9, 2012, with no responses.

Based on the information gathered, AMS proposes to remove and reserve Section “51.3946 Unclassified.” AMS believes the revision will bring the okra standards in line with current marketing practices and other commodity standards. This section is being removed in standards for all commodities as they are revised. It is no longer considered necessary, since it is not a grade and only serves to show that no grade has been applied to the lot. This notice provides for a 30 day comment period for interested parties to comment on the proposed revision in the standards. This period is deemed appropriate in order to implement this change, if it is adopted, as soon as possible to reflect current marketing practices.


David R. Shipman,
Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

Commodity Credit Corporation

Information Collection Request: Web-Based Supply Chain Management Commodity Offer Forms

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency and Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) are seeking comments from all interested individuals and organizations on an extension, with a revision, of a currently approved information collection request. This information collection is necessary to support the procurement of agricultural commodities for domestic and export food donation programs. FSA and CCC issue invitations to purchase or sell commodities for food donation programs on monthly, multiple monthly, quarterly, and yearly bases. Special invitations, however, are issued throughout the month. Web-Based Supply Chain Management (WBSCM) allows respondents to submit information electronically.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received on or before July 1, 2013.

ADDRESSES: We invite you to submit comments on this notice. In your comment, include the date and page number of this issue of the Federal Register. You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

• Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to http://regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
• Mail: Penny Carlson, Chief, Business Operations Support Division, Kansas City Commodity Office (KCCO), P.O. Box 419205, Kansas City, Missouri 64141–6205. Comments also should be sent to the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of
Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. Copies of the information collection may be obtained from Penny Carlson at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Penny Carlson, Business Operations Support Division, phone (816) 926–2597.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Title: WBSCM—Offer Forms. OMB Number: 0560–0177. Expiration Date: November 30, 2013. Type of Request: Extension with a revision.

Abstract: The United States donates agricultural commodities domestically and overseas for famine or other relief requirements, to combat malnutrition, and sells or donates commodities to promote economic development. FSA and CCC issue invitations to purchase or sell agricultural commodities and services for use in domestic and export programs. Vendors respond by making offers using various FSA and CCC commodity offer forms.

This extension and revision of the information collection request is to allow for respondents to submit information electronically in WBSCM. The export offer information and the annual certification information will be entered and received electronically in WBSCM. Most of the domestic offer information will be entered and received electronically in WBSCM. Vendors will be able to access WBSCM to see the date and time the system shows for receipt of bid, bid modification, or bid cancellation information. At bid opening date and time, the bid information is evaluated through the system. Acceptances will be sent to the successful offerors electronically. Awarded contracts will be posted to the FSA Web site and also to the WBSCM portal and FedBizOpps [https://www.fbo.gov]. The reason for the change in burden hours is due to online system-WBSCM reducing data collection time; paper vs. WBSCM system.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for collecting information under this notice is estimated to average 15 to 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

Respondents: Business and other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 76.

Estimated Average Number of Responses per Respondent: 23.

Estimated Total Annual Responses: 858.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 237 hours.

We are requesting comments on all aspects of this information collection to help us to:
(1) Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of FSA, including whether the information will have practical utility;
(2) Evaluate the accuracy of FSA’s estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;
(4) 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.

All responses to this notice, including name and addresses when provided, will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Signed on April 19, 2013.

Juan M. Garcia, Administrator, Farm Service Agency, and Executive Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation.

[FR Doc. 2013–10215 Filed 4–30–13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–05–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Notice of Request for Applications for the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program

AGENCY: National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is announcing the release of the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) Request for Applications (RFA) at www.nifa.usda.gov/vmlrp.

DATES: The fiscal year (FY) 2013 Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) application package is available at www.nifa.usda.gov/vmlrp and applications are due by Friday, May 31, 2013.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gary Sherman; National Program Leader, Veterinary Science; National Institute of Food and Agriculture; U.S. Department of Agriculture; STOP 2240; 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250–2240; Voice: 202–401–4952; Fax: 202–401–6156; Email: gsherman@nifa.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On October 1, 2009, the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) became the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) as mandated by section 7511(f) of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (FCEA), Public Law 110–246. Accordingly, the authority to administer the VMLRP transferred from CSREES to NIFA.

Background and Purpose

In January 2003, the National Veterinary Medical Service Act (NVMSA) was passed into law adding section 1415A to the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1997 (NARETPA). This law established a new Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (7 U.S.C. 3151a) authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out a program of entering into agreements with veterinarians under which they agree to provide veterinary services in veterinarian shortage situations. In November 2005, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 (Pub. L. 109–97) appropriated $405,000 for CSREES to implement the VMLRP and represented the first time funds had been appropriated for this program. On March 26, 2013, the President signed into law the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013 (Pub. L. 113–6), which appropriated $4,430,000 for the VMLRP.

Section 7105 of FCEA amended section 1415A to revise the determination of veterinarian shortage situations to consider (1) geographical areas that the Secretary determines have a shortage of veterinarians; and (2) areas of veterinary practice that the Secretary determines have a shortage of veterinarians, such as food animal medicine, public health, epidemiology, and food safety. This section also added that priority should be given to agreements with veterinarians for the practice of food animal medicine in veterinarian shortage situations.

NARETPA section 1415A requires the Secretary, when determining the amount of repayment of a year of service by a veterinarian to consider the ability of USDA to maximize the