DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. No. AMS–LPS–13–0021]

Poultry Market News Reports; Request for Extension and Revision of the Currently Approved Information Collection and To Merge the Collections of Livestock, Poultry, Meat, Grain, and Their Related Products Used as Market News Information

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), this document announces Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) intention to revise three previously approved collections of information by merging them into a single information collection. AMS recently merged its Livestock and Grain Market News Division with the Poultry Market News Division, creating the Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News Division (LPGMN). Due to this organizational merger, AMS intends to combine the following collections, 0581–0033 “Poultry Market News Reports”, 0581–0005 “Grain Market News”, and 0581–0154 “Livestock and Meat Market News.” These collections will be combined into a single collection retitled 0581–0033 “Livestock, Poultry, Meat, and Grain Market News Reports.” Finally, this document announces AMS intention to request approval for an extension to the re-titled collection 0581–0033 “Livestock, Poultry, Meat, and Grain Market News Reports.”

LPGMN provides a timely exchange of accurate and unbiased information on current marketing conditions affecting trade in livestock, poultry, eggs, meats, grain, and wool.

DATES: Comments on this document must be received by July 29, 2013 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESS: Interested persons are invited to submit comments concerning this information collection document. Comments should be submitted online at www.regulations.gov or sent to Kim Harmon, Assistant to the Director, Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News Division, Livestock, Poultry and Seed Program, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave. S. W., Room 2619–S Washington, DC, 20250–0252, or by facsimile to (202) 690–3732. All comments should reference the document number (AMS–LPS–13–0021), the date, and the page number of this issue of the Federal Register. All comments received will be posted without change, including any personal information provided, online at http://www.regulations.gov and will be made available for public inspection at the above physical address during regular business hours.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kim Harmon at the above physical address, by telephone (202) 720–8054, or by email at Kim.Harmon@ams.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Title: Poultry Market News Reports.

OMB Number: 0581–0033.

Expiration Date of Approval: December 31, 2013.

Type of Request: Revision and Extension of approval of an information collection.

Abstract: The Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621–1627) as amended authorizes AMS, Market News Divisions to provide up-to-the-minute nationwide coverage of prices, supply, demands, trends, movement, and other pertinent information affecting the trading of livestock, poultry, meat, eggs, grain, and their related products. AMS recently merged the Livestock and Seed Program with the Poultry Programs. The newly combined program is called the Livestock, Poultry and Seed Program. Subsequently, the two respective market news divisions were also merged to form the LPGMN Division. The market reports compiled and disseminated by the LPGMN Division provide current, unbiased, and factual information to all members of the Nation’s agricultural industry. Market news reports assist producers, processors, wholesalers, retailers, and others in making informed production, purchasing, and sales decisions. LPGMN reports also promote orderly marketing by placing buyers and sellers on a more equal negotiation basis.

LPGMN reporters communicate with buyers and sellers of livestock, poultry, meat, eggs, grain, and their respective commodities on a daily basis in order to accomplish the Program’s mission. This communication and information gathering is accomplished through the use of telephone conversations, facsimile transmissions, face to face meetings, and electronic mail messages. The information provided by respondents initiates market news reporting, which must be timely accurate, unbiased, and continuous if it is to be meaningful to the industry. AMS will collect information on price, supply, demand, trends, movement, and other information of livestock, poultry, meat, grain, eggs, and their respective commodities. LPGMN uses one OMB approved form, PY–90: “Monthly Dried Egg Solids Stocks Report”, to collect inventory information from commercial dried egg products plants throughout the United States. Cooperating firms voluntarily submit this form to LPGMN primarily via electronic mail and facsimile transmissions.

With this revision, LPGMN is including information collection requirements currently approved by OMB control number 0581–0033 “Poultry Market News Reports” (Expires 12/31/2013), 0581–0005 “Grain Market News” (Expires 09/30/2014), and 0581–0154 “Livestock and Meat Market News” (Expires 06/30/2014) into one collection. After OMB approves and combines the burden for the collection under a single collection retitled “Livestock, Poultry, Meat, and Grain Market News Reports” (0581–0033), the Department will retire numbers 0581–0005 and 0581–0154. Merging the collections will enable the division to more efficiently manage the collection and prevent duplication of burden.

For Poultry Market News Reports

0581–0033

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.083 hours per response.

Respondents: Producers, processors, brokers, distributors, retailers, and commercial dried egg products plants.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 411 respondents.

Estimated Total Annual Responses: 50,471 responses.
Abstract: The PACA was enacted by Congress in 1930 to establish a code of fair trading practices covering the marketing of fresh and frozen fruits and vegetables in interstate or foreign commerce. It protects growers, shippers, and distributors dealing in those commodities by prohibiting unfair and fraudulent trade practices.

The law provides a forum for resolving contract disputes, and a mechanism for the collection of damages from anyone who fails to meet contractual obligations. In addition, the PACA provides for prompt payment to fruit and vegetable sellers and for revocation of licenses and sanctions against firms and principals found to have violated the law’s standards for fair business practices. The PACA also imposes a statutory trust that attaches to perishable agricultural commodities received by regulated entities, products derived from the commodities, and any receivables or proceeds from the sale of the commodities. The trust exists for the benefit of produce suppliers, sellers, or agents that have not been paid, and continues until they have been paid in full.

The PACA is enforced through a licensing system. All commission merchants, dealers, and brokers engaged in business subject to the PACA must be licensed. Retailers and grocery wholesalers must renew their licenses every three years. All other licensees must renew annually. Those who engage in practices prohibited by the PACA may have their licenses suspended or revoked.

The information collected pursuant to OMB Number 0581–0031 is used to administer licensing provisions under the PACA, to adjudicate contract disputes, and to enforce the PACA and the regulations. The purpose of this document is to solicit comments from the public concerning our information collection.

We estimate the paperwork and time burden of the above referenced information collection to be as follows: Form FV–211, Application for License: average of .25 hours per application per response. Form FV–231–1 (or 231–1A, or 231–2, or 231–2A), Application for Renewal or Reinstatement of License: Average of .05 hours per application per response.

Regulations Section 46.13—Letters to Notify USDA of Changes in Business Operations: Average of .05 hours per notice per response. Regulations Section 46.4—Limited Liability Company Articles of Organization and Operating Agreement: Average of .083 hours with approximately 2,473 annual responses. Regulations Section 46.18—Record of Produce Received: Average of 5 hours.

**For Grain Market News 0581–0005**

**Estimate of Burden:** Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .033 hours per response.

**Respondents:** Business or other for-profit entities, individuals or households, farms, and Federal Government.

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** 1,737 respondents.

**Estimated Total Annual Responses:** 520 responses.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:** 88.18 hours.

**For Livestock and Meat Market News 0581–0154**

**Estimate of Burden:** Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .083 per response.

**Respondents:** Producers, processors, brokers, distributors, retailers, and wholesalers.

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** 520 respondents.

**Estimated Total Annual Responses:** 65,520 responses.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:** 5,458 hours.

**For Grain Market News 0581–0005**

**Estimate of Burden:** Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .033 hours per response.

**Respondents:** Business or other for-profit entities, individuals or households, farms, and Federal Government.

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** 1,737 respondents.

**Estimated Total Annual Responses:** 520 responses.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:** 88.18 hours.

**For Grain Market News 0581–0005**

**Estimate of Burden:** Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .033 hours per response.

**Respondents:** Business or other for-profit entities, individuals or households, farms, and Federal Government.

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** 1,737 respondents.

**Estimated Total Annual Responses:** 520 responses.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:** 88.18 hours.