burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be submitted electronically through www.regulations.gov. Comments also may be sent to Shethir M. Riva, Chief, Research and Promotion Staff, Cotton and Tobacco Programs, AMS, USDA, 100 Riverside Parkway, Suite 101, Fredericksburg, Virginia, 22406. All comments received will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the same address or through www.regulations.gov.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: August 16, 2013.

Rex A. Barnes,
Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Services.

[FR Doc. 2013–20438 Filed 8–21–13; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. No. AMS–NOP–13–0061; NOP–13–05]

Notice of Funds Availability:
Agricultural Management Assistance Organic Certification Cost-Share Program

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Funds Availability: Inviting Grant Applications from State Departments of Agriculture for the Agricultural Management Assistance Organic Certification Cost-Share Program.

SUMMARY: This Notice invites the following 16 eligible States: Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming, to submit a Grant Application (Application for Federal Assistance Standard Form 424) to the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) for organic certification cost-share funds. A total of $1,352,850 is available to the 16 designated States for this program in Fiscal Year 2013. Funds will provide cost-share assistance to organic crop and livestock producers certified under the USDA Organic Standards (7 CFR 205). Eligible States interested in obtaining cost-share funds for their organic producers must submit a grant application via http://www.grants.gov.

DATES: Grant applications must be received by the National Organic Program (NOP) no later than Friday, August 30, 2013.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rita Meade, Cost Share Coordinator, National Organic Program, USDA/AMS/NOP, Room 2648-South, Ag Stop 0268, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250–0268; Telephone: (202) 720–3252; Email: Rita.Meade@ams.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This Organic Certification Cost-Share Program is part of the Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) Program authorized under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (FCIA), as amended, (7 U.S.C. 1524). Under the applicable FCIA provisions, the Department is authorized to provide cost-share assistance to organic producers in the States of Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming. The AMS has allocated $1,352,850 for this organic certification cost-share program in Fiscal Year 2013. This program provides financial assistance to organic producers certified under the USDA Organic Regulations (7 CFR part 205), which were authorized under the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990, as amended (7 U.S.C. 6501 et seq.).

To participate in the program, eligible States, through their State Departments of Agriculture, must complete an Application for Federal Assistance (Standard Form 424). State Department of Agriculture refers to agencies, commissions, or departments of State government responsible for implementing regulation, policy or programs on agriculture within their State. The program will provide cost-share assistance, through participating States, to organic crop and livestock producers receiving certification or incurring expenses for the continuation of certification by a USDA accredited certifying agent during the period of October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014. The Department has determined that payments will be limited to 75% (seventy-five percent) of an individual producer’s certification costs, up to a maximum of $750 (seven-hundred and fifty dollars).

To receive cost-share assistance, organic producers in participating States should contact their State agencies. Procedures for applying are outlined in the cost share policies and procedures at http://t.USA.gov/OrganicCostShare. The total amount of cost-share payments provided to any eligible producer under all AMA programs cannot exceed $50,000.

TO RECEIVE FUND ALLOCATIONS: To receive fund allocations to provide cost-share assistance, a State Department of Agriculture must complete an Application for Federal Assistance (Standard Form 424), and enter into a grant agreement with the AMS. Interested States must submit the Application for Federal Assistance (Standard Form 424) electronically via Grants.gov, the Federal grants Web site, at http://www.grants.gov. For information on how to use Grants.gov, please consult http://www.grants.gov/GetRegistered. Applications must be filed by Friday, August 30, 2013. Grant agreements will be sent by the AMS to participating State Departments of Agriculture via express mail. The grant agreement must be signed by an official who has authority to apply for Federal assistance, and must be returned to the NOP at the address above by September 30, 2013.

The AMA Organic Certification Cost-Share Program is listed in the “Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance” under number 10.171. Subject agencies must adhere to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which bars discrimination in all Federally-assisted programs. Additional information on the AMA Organic Certification Cost-Share Program can be found on the NOP’s Web site at http://www.ams.usda.gov/NOPCostSharing.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1524

Dated: August 16, 2013.

Rex A. Barnes,
Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2013–20484 Filed 8–21–13; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. Number AMS–FV–13–0018]

United States Standards for Grades of Creole Onions

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.
SUMMARY: This Notice would revise the United States Standards for Grades of Creole Onions, which were issued under the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946. The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is proposing to amend the similar varietal characteristic requirement to allow mixed colors of onions when designated as a mixed or specialty pack. In addition, AMS would correct language and remove the “Unclassified” category from the standards. This revision would update the standards to more accurately represent today’s marketing practices and to provide the industry with greater flexibility.

DATES: Comments must be received by October 21, 2013.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments to the Standardization Branch, Specialty Crops Inspection Division, Fruit and Vegetable Program, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 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.regulation.gov. Comments should be received by October 21, 2013, 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 Horner, Standardization Branch, Specialty Crops Inspection Division, (540) 361–1128. The current United States Standards for Grades of Creole Onions are available through the Specialty Crops Inspection Division Web site at www.ams.usda.gov/scihome.

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 are 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/scihome.

AMS is revising the voluntary United States Standards for Grades of Creole Onions using the procedures that appear in Part 36, Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations (7 CFR part 36).

Background and Proposed Notice
AMS has observed that the industry is packing mixed colors of onions, primarily in Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and Texas. Currently, the Creole onion standards do not permit mixing white onions with yellow to brownish red onions in the same pack. The proposed revision will provide the flexibility for shippers and packers to do so. AMS believes that permitting mixed colors when designated as a specialty or mixed pack will facilitate the marketing of onions by aligning the standards with current marketing practices. Therefore, AMS proposes to amend the similar varietal characteristic requirement in the U.S. No. 1 and U.S. No. 2 sections of the standards by adding “except color when designated as a specialty or mixed pack.” The U.S. Combination grade section also would be affected by this change.

In addition, AMS would eliminate the “Unclassified” section. AMS is removing this section in standards, for all commodities, as they are revised. This category is not a grade and only serves to show that no grade has been applied to the lot. It is no longer considered necessary.

Furthermore, AMS would replace the capital “S” with a small “s” on the word “Seedstems” found in the U.S. No. 1 and U.S. No. 2 sections of the standards. The word “seedstems” was inadvertently capitalized when the Creole onion standards were reformatted.

AMS believes the proposed revisions will benefit the industry by allowing onion marketing to be more competitive in an evolving U.S. economy. This notice provides for a 60 day comment period for interested parties to comment on the proposed revisions in the standards.


Dated: August 16, 2013.

Rex A. Barnes,
Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)
Title: NIST MEP Advanced Manufacturing Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge (AMJIAC) Client Impact Survey.

OMB Control Number: None.
Form Number(s): None.
Type of Request: Regular submission (new information collection).
Number of Respondents: 200.
Average Hours per Response: 15 minutes.

Burdens Hours: 50.

Needs and Uses: The purpose of the AMJIAC is to provide strategic, catalytic funding for regional partnerships that have the potential to accelerate innovation and strengthen capacity in advanced manufacturing. The objectives of the challenge are to support job creation, encourage economic development, and enhance the competitiveness of U.S. manufacturers in regions across the country.

The information collected under this collection will be used to aid the NIST MEP to monitor and evaluate the Competitive Award Recipients participation in the AMJIAC program and to provide Congress with quantitative information required for Government-supported programs. The purpose of the collected information is as follows:

- Project Accountability.
- Project Evaluation.
- Award Recipient Evaluation.
- Analysis and Research.
- Reports to Stakeholders.
- Continuous Improvement.
- Knowledge Sharing.
- Identification of Distinctive Practices.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations; Not for profit institutions

Frequency: Quarterly.

Respondent’s Obligation: Voluntary.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482–0336, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at jjessup@doc.gov).