

Carolina, and Schaal were the only applicants for designation to provide official services in these areas. As a result, GIPSA did not ask for additional comments.

GIPSA evaluated the designation criteria in section 79(f) of the USGSA (7

U.S.C. 79(f)) and determined that Amarillo, Cairo, Louisiana, North Carolina, and Schaal are qualified to provide official services in the geographic areas specified in the **Federal Register** on August 24 and 30, 2016. This designation to provide

official services in the specified areas of Amarillo, Cairo, Louisiana, North Carolina, and Schaal is effective October 1, 2016, to September 30, 2021.

Interested persons may obtain official services by contacting these agencies at the following telephone numbers:

Official agency	Headquarters location and telephone	Designation start	Designation end
Amarillo	Amarillo, TX; 806-372-8511	10/1/2016	9/30/2021
Cairo	Cairo, IL; 618-734-0689	10/1/2016	9/30/2021
Louisiana	Baton Rouge, LA; 225-922-1341	10/1/2016	9/30/2021
North Carolina	Raleigh, NC; 919-202-5774	10/1/2016	9/30/2021
Schaal	Belmond, IA; 641-444-3122	10/1/2016	9/30/2021

Section 79(f) of the USGSA authorizes the Secretary to designate a qualified applicant to provide official services in a specified area after determining that the applicant is better able than any other applicant to provide such official services (7 U.S.C. 79(f)).

Larry Mitchell,

Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Confidentiality Pledge Revision Notice

AGENCY: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Revision of Confidentiality Pledge under the Title V of the E-Government Act, Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (CIPSEA) and Title 7, Chapter 55, Section 2276 (Confidentiality of Information).

SUMMARY: Under 44 U.S.C. 3506(e), and 44 U.S.C. 3501, the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is announcing a revision to the confidentiality pledge it provides to its respondents under CIPSEA and Title 7, Chapter 55, Section 2276. The revision is required by the passage and implementation of provisions of the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015 (H.R. 2029, Division N, Title II, Subtitle B, Sec. 223), which permit and require the Secretary of Homeland Security to provide Federal civilian agencies' information technology systems with cybersecurity protection for their Internet traffic. More details on this announcement are presented in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section below.

DATES: This revision becomes effective upon publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. In a parallel **Federal Register** notice, NASS is seeking public comment on this confidentiality pledge revision.

ADDRESSES: Questions about this notice may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Email:* ombofficer@nass.usda.gov.
- Include the title "Confidentiality Pledge Revision Notice" in the subject line of the message.
- *Efax:* (855) 838-6382.
- *Mail or Hand Delivery/Courier:*

David Hancock, NASS Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 5336 South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: R. Renee Picanso, Associate Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, (202) 720-4333, or email HQOA@nass.usda.gov. Because of delays in the receipt of regular mail related to security screening, respondents are encouraged to use phone or electronic communications.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under CIPSEA; Title 7, Chapter 55, Section 2276; and similar statistical confidentiality protection statutes, many federal statistical agencies, including NASS, make statutory pledges that the information respondents provide will be seen only by statistical agency personnel or their sworn agents, and will be used only for statistical purposes. CIPSEA and Title 7, Chapter 55, Section 2276 protect such statistical information from administrative, law enforcement, taxation, regulatory, or any other non-statistical use and immunize the information submitted to statistical agencies from legal process. Moreover, many of these statutes carry criminal penalties of a Class E felony (fines up to \$250,000, or up to five years in prison, or both) for conviction of a knowing and

willful unauthorized disclosure of covered information.

As part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2016 signed on December 17, 2015, the Congress included the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015 (H.R. 2029, Division N, Title II, Subtitle B, Sec. 223). This Act, among other provisions, permits and requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to provide federal civilian agencies' information technology systems with cybersecurity protection for their Internet traffic. The technology currently used to provide this protection against cyber malware is known as "Einstein 3A". It electronically searches Internet traffic in and out of federal civilian agencies in real time for malware signatures.

When such a signature is found, the Internet packets that contain the malware signature are shunted aside for further inspection by Department of Homeland Security (DHS) personnel. Because it is possible that such packets entering or leaving a statistical agency's information technology system may contain confidential statistical data, statistical agencies can no longer promise their respondents that their responses will be seen only by statistical agency personnel or their sworn agents. However, they can promise, in accordance with provisions of the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015, that such monitoring can be used only to protect information and information systems from cybersecurity risks, thereby, in effect, providing stronger protection to the integrity of the respondents' submissions.

Consequently, with the passage of the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015, the federal statistical community has an opportunity to welcome the further protection of its confidential data offered by DHS' Einstein 3A cybersecurity protection program. The DHS cybersecurity

program's objective is to protect federal civilian information systems from malicious malware attacks. The federal statistical system's objective is to ensure that the DHS Secretary performs those essential duties in a manner that honors the Government's statutory promises to the public to protect their confidential data. Given that the Department of Homeland Security is not a federal statistical agency, both DHS and the federal statistical agencies have been engaged in finding a way to balance both objectives and achieve these mutually reinforcing objectives.

Accordingly, DHS and federal statistical agencies (including NASS), in cooperation with their parent departments, have developed a Memorandum of Agreement for the installation of Einstein 3A cybersecurity protection technology to monitor their Internet traffic and have incorporated an associated Addendum on Highly Sensitive Agency Information that provides additional protection and enhanced security handling of confidential statistical data. However, CIPSEA; Title 7, Chapter 55, Section 2276; and similar statistical confidentiality pledges promise that respondents' data will be seen only by

statistical agency personnel or their sworn agents. Since it is possible that DHS personnel could see some portion of those confidential data in the course of examining the suspicious Internet packets identified by the Einstein 3A technology, statistical agencies need to revise their confidentiality pledges to reflect this process change.

Therefore, NASS is providing this notice to alert the public to this confidentiality pledge revision in an efficient and coordinated fashion. Below is the revised confidentiality pledge as it will appear on NASS survey questionnaires, as well as the revision to NASS's confidentiality Web page. A list of the NASS OMB numbers and information collection titles that will be affected by this revision is also included below.

The revised confidentiality pledge to appear on NASS questionnaires is below:

The information you provide will be used for statistical purposes only. Your responses will be kept confidential and any person who willfully discloses ANY identifiable information about you or your operation is subject to a jail term, a fine, or both.

This survey is conducted in accordance with the Confidential Information Protection

provisions of Title V, Subtitle A, Public Law 107-347 and other applicable Federal laws. For more information on how we protect your information please visit: https://www.nass.usda.gov/About_NASS/Confidentiality_Pledge/index.php.

For voluntary surveys the statement, "Response to this survey is voluntary." Will follow this pledge. For mandatory surveys the statement, "Response to this survey is mandatory." will follow.

The NASS confidentiality pledge Web page (https://www.nass.usda.gov/About_NASS/Confidentiality_Pledge/index.php) will be revised to include a fifth item explaining that DHS will monitor the transmission of data for cybersecurity threats. Item 5 is below:

5. Data are protected from cybersecurity threats

Per the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015, your data are further protected by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) through cybersecurity monitoring of the systems that transmit your data. DHS will be monitoring these systems to look for viruses, malware and other threats. In the event of a cybersecurity incident, and pursuant to any required legal process, information from these sources may be used to help identify and mitigate the incident.

Affected information collections:

OMB No.	Expiration date	Information collection title
0535-0001	04/30/2019	Cold Storage.
0535-0002	10/31/2018	Field Crops Production.
0535-0003	07/31/2019	Agricultural Prices.
0535-0004	01/31/2019	Egg, Chicken, and Turkey Surveys.
0535-0005	11/30/2017	Livestock Slaughter.
0535-0007	01/31/2019	Stocks Reports.
0535-0020	07/31/2018	Milk and Milk Products.
0535-0037	08/31/2019	Vegetable Surveys.
0535-0039	10/31/2019	Fruit, Nuts, and Specialty Crops.
0535-0088	07/31/2018	Field Crops Objective Yield.
0535-0093	11/30/2018	Floriculture Survey.
0535-0109	03/31/2018	Agricultural Labor.
0535-0140	01/31/2019	List Sampling Frame Survey.
0535-0150	06/30/2017	Aquaculture.
0535-0153	12/31/2018	Honey Survey.
0535-0212	11/30/2018	Mink Survey.
0535-0213	06/30/2017	Agricultural Surveys Program.
0535-0218	07/31/2018	Agricultural Resource Management and Chemical Use Surveys (ARMS).
0535-0220	03/31/2017	Cotton Ginnings.
0535-0226	10/31/2019	Census of Agriculture.
0535-0243	08/31/2018	Census of Agriculture Content Test.
0535-0244	11/30/2019	Nursery Production Survey and Nursery and Floriculture Chemical Use Survey.
0535-0245	09/30/2017	CEAP—NRI Conservation Tillage and Nutrient Management Survey.
0535-0248	04/30/2019	Generic Clearance of Survey Improvement Projects.
0535-0249	12/31/2017	Organic Production Survey.
0535-0251	05/30/2019	Residue and Biomass Field Survey.
0535-0254	07/31/2017	Current Agricultural Industrial Reports (CAIR).
0535-0255	04/30/2018	Colony Loss.
0535-0256	06/30/2018	Feral Swine Survey.
0535-0257	610/31/2018	Organic Certifier Census.
0535-0258	611/30/2018	Cost of Pollination Survey.
0535-0259	603/31/2019	Local Foods Survey.

Signed at Washington, DC, November 30, 2016.

Hubert Hamer,
Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Solicitation of Input From Stakeholders Regarding the Food Safety Outreach Program

AGENCY: National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Stakeholder Listening Session and request for stakeholder input.

SUMMARY: As part of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's (NIFA) strategy to successfully expand the Food Safety Outreach Program, NIFA will host a virtual listening session. The focus of the listening session is to gather stakeholder input to develop the priorities for the Request for Applications (RFA) in Fiscal Year (FY) 2018. NIFA is particularly interested in reaching the intended audience, achieving the most impact, and identifying suggested priorities in the third year of the Food Safety Outreach Program.

DATES: The listening session will be held on Tuesday, January 31, 2017 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time (EST). All written comments must be received by 5 p.m. EST on January 31, 2017 to be considered in the initial drafting of the FY 2018 Food Safety Outreach Program request for applications.

ADDRESSES: The listening session will be hosted using Adobe Connect. On January 31, 2017, please access the following Web site, <http://nifa-connect.nifa.usda.gov/r271ozhv661/>. In addition, audio conference call capabilities are accessible at 1-888-844-9904, participant code 4715738#.

Please submit comments, identified as NIFA-2017-0002, by any of the following methods:

Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Email: FSOP@nifa.usda.gov. Include NIFA-2017-0002 in the subject line of the message.

Fax: 202-401-4888.

Mail: Paper, disk or CD-ROM submissions should be submitted to FSOP; Institute of Food Safety and Nutrition (IFSN), National Institute of

Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 2225, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-2225.

Hand Delivery/Courier: FSOP, IFSN, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 2458, Waterfront Centre, 800 9th Street SW., Washington, DC 20024.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name and reference to NIFA-2017-0002. All comments received will be posted to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Dawanna James-Holly, (202) 401-1950 (phone), (202) 401-4888 (fax), or dholly@nifa.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Additional Webinars and Comment Procedures

Persons wishing to present during the web-based listening session on Tuesday, January 31, 2017, are requested to pre-register by contacting Dr. Dawanna James-Holly. Participants may reserve one 5-minute comment period. More time may be available, depending on the number of people wishing to make a presentation. Reservations will be confirmed on a first-come, first-served basis. All other participants may provide comments during the listening session if time permits, or by previous listed means.

Background and Purpose

On January 4, 2011, the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) was signed into legislation. The Act amended the Food and Drug Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. 391 *et seq.* Section 209 of FSMA added section 1011, Subsection (d) entitled "National Food Safety Training, Education, Extension, Outreach and Technical Assistance Program". In 2015 NIFA and FDA formed a collaboration to establish the National Food Safety Training, Education, Extension, Outreach and Technical Assistance Competitive Grant Program. In 2016, the Food Safety Outreach Program at NIFA expanded the National Food Safety Training, Education, Extension, Outreach, and Technical Assistance Competitive Grant Program. Both programs award competitive grants to eligible recipients for projects that develop and implement FSMA-related food safety training, education, extension, outreach, and technical assistance to owners and operators of small and medium-sized farms, beginning farmers, socially disadvantaged farmers, small processors

or small fresh fruit and vegetable merchant wholesalers.

In FY 2016, the Food Safety Outreach Program at NIFA built upon the national infrastructure, with a focus on delivery of customized training to very specific target audiences. Grant applications were solicited directly from those in local communities—to include those from community-based organizations, non-governmental organizations, food hubs, farm cooperatives, extension, and other local groups. Proposals were solicited for three project types: (1) Pilot Projects; (2) Community Outreach Projects; and (3) Multistate Education and Training Projects. Pilot Projects support the development of potentially high-risk and high-impact food safety education and outreach programs in local communities, addressing the needs of small, specialized audiences from among the various target groups. Pilot projects focus on building the capacity of local groups to identify very specific needs within their communities, and implementing appropriately-customized food safety education and outreach programs to meet those specific needs.

Community Outreach Projects support the growth and expansion of already existing food safety education and outreach programs currently offered in local communities. In addition, these projects enable existing programs to reach a broader target audience. These projects enable existing education and training curricula to be modified to ensure that they are consistent with new FSMA rules and to ensure that they meet the needs of expanded audiences.

Multistate Education and Training Projects support the development of multi-county, state-wide or multi-state programs. These projects support collaborations among states not necessarily located within the same regions, but having common food safety concerns, or addressing common commodities.

Since its inception in FY 2015, the program has awarded over \$7 million to Community Based Organizations, Cooperative Extension at 1890 and 1862 land-grant institutions, and local food hubs and established 27 new Food Safety Education and Outreach Projects. Many of these projects will work at the local level to provide training and technical assistance to small, mid-sized and hard to reach producers and processors to address the new requirements associated with FSMA.

Implementation Plans

All comments and the official transcript of the listening session, once available, may be reviewed on the NIFA Web page, <https://nifa.usda.gov/food->