



Billing Code 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. FSIS-2013-0004]

Notice of Request for a New Information Collection: Egg Products Industry Survey

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations, the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is announcing its intention to request a new information collection for a survey of the egg products industry.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received on or before [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE].

ADDRESSES: FSIS invites interested persons to submit comments on this notice. Comments may be submitted by one of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: This Web site provides the ability to type short comments directly into the comment field on this Web page or attach a file for lengthier comments. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Follow the on-line instructions at that site for submitting comments.

- Mail, including CD-ROMs, etc.: Send to Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Patriots Plaza 3, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mailstop 3782, Room 8-163A, Washington, DC 20250-3700.

- Hand- or courier-delivered submittals: Deliver to Patriots Plaza 3, 355 E. Street SW, Room 8-163A, Washington, DC 20250-3700

Instructions: All items submitted by mail or electronic mail must include the Agency name and docket number FSIS-2013-0004. Comments received in response to this docket will be made available for public inspection and posted without change, including any personal information, to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

DOCKET: For access to background documents or comments received, go to the FSIS Docket Room at Patriots Plaza 3, 355 E. Street, Room 8-164, Washington, DC 20250-3700 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Contact John O'Connell, Paperwork Reduction Act Coordinator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 6065, South Building, Washington, DC 20250; (202) 720-0345.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Egg Products Industry Survey.

Type of Request: New information collection.

Abstract: FSIS has been delegated the authority to exercise the functions of the Secretary (7 CFR 2.18, 2.53) as specified in the Egg Products and Inspection Act (EPIA) (21 U.S.C. 1031, et seq.). FSIS protects the public by verifying that egg products are safe, wholesome, not adulterated, and correctly labeled.

FSIS plans to request a new information collection to conduct a new survey of official egg products plants. In 2003, FSIS conducted a survey of the egg products plants to collect information on use of food safety practices and technologies. This was part of a broader effort that also surveyed the meat and poultry slaughter and processing industries from 2003 to 2006. FSIS needs to survey the egg products industry again so that the Agency has current information on industry practices for conducting regulatory impact analyses as required by OMB.

In this currently planned survey of the egg products industry, FSIS will collect data to provide the most accurate, up-to-date information on use and adoption rates of industry practices and technologies. The Agency will

ask questions similar to those asked in the previous survey, and will add new questions to address issues currently facing FSIS and industry.

The results of the egg products industry survey will provide reliable and valid information regarding food safety practices in FSIS-regulated plants; the Agency will use to this information to address many of its analytical needs. A major purpose of the survey is to enable the Agency to develop baseline information for estimating compliance costs in regulatory impact analyses. FSIS also will use the survey data to provide information for evaluating the effectiveness of its egg products inspection program and to conduct analyses to assess the industry's food safety technologies, sanitation practices, health risk reduction, and recall readiness. The Agency should be able to use this information to determine whether industry performance in these areas has improved since the previous survey was conducted.

FSIS has made the following estimates on the basis of an information collection assessment.

Estimate of Burden: FSIS estimates that it will take each respondent 30 minutes and each nonrespondent 12 minutes to participate in the survey.

Respondents: Official egg plants.

Estimated No. of Respondents: 58 respondents and 22 nonrespondents.

Estimated No. of Annual Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 33.4 hours.

Copies of this information collection assessment can be obtained from John O'Connell, Paperwork Reduction Act Coordinator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 6065, South Building, Washington, DC 20250; (202)720-0345.

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of FSIS's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of FSIS's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques, or other forms of information

technology. Comments may be sent both to FSIS, at the addresses provided above, and to the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20253.

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

USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

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call 202-720-5964 (voice and TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Additional Public Notification

FSIS will announce this notice online through the FSIS Web page located at

[http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations & policies/Federal Register Notices/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations_and_policies/Federal_Register_Notices/index.asp).

FSIS will also make copies of this Federal Register publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, Federal Register notices, FSIS public meetings, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to constituents and stakeholders. The Update is communicated via Listserv, a free electronic mail subscription service for industry, trade groups, consumer interest groups, health professionals, and other individuals who have asked to be included. The Update is also available on the FSIS Web page. In addition, FSIS offers an electronic mail subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Email_Subscription/.

Options range from recalls to export information to regulations, directives and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves, and have the option to password protect their accounts.

Done at Washington, DC on:

March 25, 2013

Alfred V. Almanza,

Administrator.

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