



\*Billing Code 3410-34

## **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

February 15, 2017

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments are requested regarding (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to 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.

Comments regarding this information collection received by [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER] will be considered.

Written comments should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), New Executive Office Building, 725 – 17<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20502. Commenters are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: [OIRA\\_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV](mailto:OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV) or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, D.C. 20250-7602. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8958.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

## **Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service**

*TITLE:* Interstate Movement of Certain Land Tortoises

*OMB CONTROL NUMBER:* 0579-0156

*SUMMARY OF COLLECTION:* The Animal Health Protection Act (AHPA) of 2002 is the primary Federal law governing the protection of animal health. The law gives the Secretary of Agriculture broad authority to prevent, control, and eliminate domestic diseases such as tuberculosis, as well as to take actions to prevent and to manage exotic diseases such as heartwater disease. The regulations in 9 CFR part 93 prohibit the importation of the leopard tortoise, the African spurred tortoise, and the Bell's hingeback tortoise to prevent the introduction and spread of exotic ticks known to be vectors of heartwater disease, an acute, infectious disease of cattle and other ruminants. The regulations in 9 CFR part 74 prohibit the interstate movement of those tortoises that are already in the United States unless the tortoises are accompanied by a health certificate or certificate of veterinary inspection.

*NEED AND USE OF THE INFORMATION:* APHIS will collect information to ensure that the interstate movement of these leopard, African spurred, and Bell's hingeback tortoises poses no risk of spreading exotic ticks within the United States. Owners and veterinarians are required to provide the following information to Federal or accredited veterinarians for completion of the health certificate: name, address, and telephone number of the owner; information identifying the animal such as collar or tattoo number; breed; age; sex; color; distinctive marks; vaccination history; and certifications from both the owner and the veterinarian that all information is true and accurate. The collected information is used for the purposes of identifying each specific tortoise and documenting the State of its health so that the animals can be transported across

State and national boundaries. If the information is not collected APHIS would be forced to continue their complete ban on the interstate movement of leopard, African spurred, and Bell's hingeback tortoises. This would economically harm U.S. tortoise breeders.

*DESCRIPTION OF RESPONDENTS:* Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit

*NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS:* 50

*FREQUENCY OF RESPONSES:* Reporting: On occasion

*TOTAL BURDEN HOURS:* 375

### **Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service**

*TITLE:* Importation of Table Eggs from Regions Where Newcastle Disease Exists

*OMB CONTROL NUMBER:* 0579-0328

*SUMMARY OF COLLECTION:* The Animal Health Protection Act (AHPA) of 2002 is the primary Federal law governing the protection of animal health. The law gives the Secretary of Agriculture broad authority to detect, control, or eradicate pests or diseases of livestock or poultry. Veterinary Services, a program with the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is responsible for administering regulations intended to prevent the dissemination of animal disease within the United States. Regulations in title 9, Code of Federal Regulations, section 94.6 deal specifically with the importation of table eggs from certain regions that may pose a risk of introducing Exotic Newcastle Disease (END) into the United States.

*NEED AND USE OF THE INFORMATION:* Although this collection applies to any region where END is considered to exist, the United States is not currently importing table eggs from any END-affected region. APHIS requires the following with regard to imported table eggs: (1) a certificate for table eggs from END-affected regions; and (2) a government seal issued by the

veterinarian accredited by the national government who signed the certificate. APHIS will also use form VS-17-6, Export Health Certificate for Poultry or Hatching Eggs for Export. If the information were collected less frequently or not collected at all, APHIS would be unable to establish an effective defense against the incursion of END from table eggs imported from END-affected regions. This would cause serious economic consequences for U.S. poultry industry, which would be unable to export poultry and hatching eggs. .

*DESCRIPTION OF RESPONDENTS:* Business or other for-profit; Federal Government

*NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS:* 201

*FREQUENCY OF RESPONSES:* Reporting: On occasion

*TOTAL BURDEN HOURS:* 3,405

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