

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service**

[Docket No. 96-046-4]

Agency Information Collection Activities; OMB Approval Received

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, this notice announces the Office of Management and Budget's approval of a collection of information contained in the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service final rule amending the regulations concerning the importation into the United States of fruits and vegetables.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Cheryl Groves, APHIS Information Collection Coordinator, AIM, APHIS, suite 2C48, 4700 River Road Unit 103, Riverdale, MD 20737-1235, (301) 734-5086.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Background**

On September 25, 1997, we published in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 50231-50237, Docket No. 96-046-3) a final rule amending the regulations at 7 CFR part 319, "Foreign Quarantine Notices." This rule contains information collection requirements. On October 3, 1997, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approved the collection of information requirements with respect to this final rule under OMB control number 0579-0128 (expires October 31, 2000).

Done in Washington, DC, this 28th day of October 1997.

Terry L. Medley,*Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. 97-29019 Filed 10-31-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Food Safety and Inspection Service**

[Docket No. 97-064N]

National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria for Foods Meeting

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria

for Foods (NACMCF) will hold a meeting to discuss microbial-based topics relating to Risk Assessment, Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP), and Codex food safety standards for Cheese, Fresh Produce, Meat, Poultry, and Seafood.

DATES: The meeting will be held on November 18-20, 1997, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The morning session on November 18 and the all-day session on November 20 are designated as full committee meeting times. The afternoon session on November 18 and the all-day session on November 19 will include several subcommittee breakout sessions.

ADDRESSES: The NACMCF meeting will be held at the Kellogg Conference Center at Gallaudet University, Florida and 8th Streets, NE, in Washington, D.C.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Committee encourages persons with information or data on these matters to present their comments. Persons interested in making presentations, submitting technical papers, or providing comments are requested to mail or FAX their name, title, firm name, address, and telephone number to Ms. Amelia L. Wright, Advisory Committee Specialist, Scientific Research Oversight Staff, Department of Agriculture, Suite 6913, Franklin Court, 1099 14th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20250-3700; FAX (202) 501-7628. Comments and requests may be provided by E-mail to: amelia.wright@usda.gov. Participants may also reserve time to comment publicly when they register. Persons requiring a sign language interpreter or other special accommodations should contact Ms. Wright at the above telephone or FAX numbers by November 9, 1997.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting will be open to the public on a space available basis. Persons wishing to make an oral presentation should notify Ms. Wright in writing. Presentations will be scheduled on a time available basis in accordance with the timeliness of the written request. Comments may be made before or after the meeting. All comments received will become part of the public record of this meeting. Technical papers also will be accepted and made part of the official record.

NACMCF provides advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Health and Human Services about the development of microbiological criteria to assess the safety and wholesomeness of food. NACMCF also provides guidance to the Departments of Commerce and Defense.

Done at Washington, DC, on October 24, 1997.

Thomas J. Billy,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 97-29035 Filed 10-31-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Food Safety and Inspection Service**

[Docket No. 97-059N]

Third Annual Federal/State Conference on Food Safety

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), in cooperation with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), an agency of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), will hold "The Third Annual Federal/State Conference on Food Safety." The conference will focus on building Federal and State partnerships to facilitate the management of food safety concerns at the State and local levels.

DATES: The conference will be held on November 20 and 21, 1997, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The conference will be held at the Ramada Inn, 2600 Auburn Boulevard, Sacramento, California 95821; telephone (916) 487-7600; FAX (916) 481-7112.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To register for the meeting, contact Ms. Traci Phebus at (202) 501-7138, FAX (202) 501-7642, or E-mail to HACCP.Confer@USDA.GOV. If you require a sign language interpreter or other accommodations, contact Ms. Mary Harris at (202) 501-7315.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On July 25, 1996, FSIS published a final rule, "Pathogen Reduction; Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Systems (61 FR 38806). The rule introduced sweeping changes to the inspection of meat and poultry products. In the preamble of the rule, FSIS addressed "farm-to-table" strategies which include preventive approaches to hazards that occur during transportation, distribution, and retail sale of meat, poultry, and egg products. To implement these strategies, close coordination between Federal and State governments is necessary.

For the past two years, FSIS has held a "Federal/State Conference on Food