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AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

USAID Revisions to ADS 201 Evaluation Report Requirements

AGENCY: U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Foreign Assistance Transparency and Accountability Act (2016) and The Foundations for Evidence Based Policy-Making Act (2019) enhance the transparency, accuracy, and reliability of USAID program and activity evaluations and processes of data collection and reporting. To comply with these Acts, USAID is currently revising the policy associated with its Evaluation Report Requirements. The requirements collect information from evaluators to establish the validity of research methodologies, standardize the presentation of research, ensure accuracy, and identify any conflicts of interest that could create bias or influence data analysis, findings, or recommendations. As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, as amended, USAID is soliciting comments for this collection.

DATES: USAID intends to issue the policy revisions in mid-2023. Comments are due May 23, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 60 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 60-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tania Alfonso, talfonso@usaid.gov, 202-712-0144.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: USAID, in accordance with the Paperwork

Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on the proposed survey.

Title of Collection: USAID Revisions to ADS 201 Evaluation Report Requirements.

OMB Control Number: XXXXXX.

Type of Review: A new information collection.

Respondents/Affected Public: USAID evaluation contractors.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 130.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 2,730.

Abstract: After a contractor is hired to evaluate a program or activity, USAID issues to the contractor three standardized information collection forms that are designed to ensure compliance with data quality and reporting standards as outlined in USAID’s Automated Directives System (ADS) 201 and its annexes, including: one of three optional Evaluation Design Matrices; an Evaluation Report Template to be used for the submission of the final, and; a Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest to be completed by the contractor’s team leaders and researchers. The Evaluation Design Matrix provides a structured format for the contractor to present the overall approach and methodology for the contracted evaluation. Specifically, the optional form asks contractors to detail key research questions, sources of information, scope and methodology, and study limitations in the form of a table. The Evaluation Report Template guides the evaluator in submitting a final draft of the research report, including requiring the use of appropriate branding and marking on the cover page, style and formatting of the report, and required information and order of sections. Finally, external evaluators and evaluation team members are required to complete and submit to USAID a Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest form to disclose all relevant facts regarding real or potential conflicts of interest that could lead reasonable third parties with knowledge of the relevant facts and circumstances to conclude that the evaluator or evaluation team member is not able to maintain independence and, thus, is not capable of exercising objective and impartial judgment on all issues

associated with conducting and reporting the work. USAID uses the data from the collection of information in these three types of forms for internal decision-making and external reporting requirements to the U.S. Congress. Copies of the information collection forms can be found in USAID’s Learning Lab in the Evaluation Toolkit. The data collected in the required forms will be available to the public when the Final Report is posted on the Development Experience Clearinghouse.

USAID and the Office of Management and Budget are particularly interested in comments that:

1. Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

2. Evaluate the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

3. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

4. 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, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

Tania Alfonso,

PPL/LER, Program Cycle Supervisory Team Lead, USAID.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. No. AMS-AMS-22-0091]

Federal Seed Act Labeling and Enforcement; Request for an Extension and Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this

notice announces the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) intention to request approval, from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), for an extension of and revision to the currently approved information collection of the Federal Seed Act Labeling and Enforcement.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by May 30, 2023 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments concerning this notice by using the electronic process available at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Written comments may also be submitted to Ernest L. Allen, Director, Seed Regulatory and Testing Division, Science and Technology Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 801 Summit Crossing Place, Suite C, Gastonia, North Carolina 28054-2193. All comments should reference the document number and the date and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register**. All comments received will be posted without change, including any personal information provided, at <https://www.regulations.gov> and will be included in the record and made available to the public.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ernest L. Allen, Seed Regulatory and Testing Division, Science and Technology Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 801 Summit Crossing Place, Suite C, Gastonia, North Carolina 28054-2193; Telephone: (704)810-8870; Email: Ernest.Allen@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Federal Seed Act Program.
OMB Number: 0581-0026.
Expiration Date of Approval: March 31, 2023.

Type of Request: Extension and revision of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: This information collection and these recordkeeping requirements are necessary to conduct the Federal Seed Act (FSA) (7 U.S.C. 1551 *et seq.*) program with respect to certain testing, labeling, and recordkeeping requirements for agricultural and vegetable seeds in interstate commerce. Regulations under the FSA are contained in 7 CFR part 201.

The FSA, Title II, is a truth-in-labeling law that regulates agricultural and vegetable planting seed in interstate commerce. Seed subject to the FSA must be labeled with certain quality information and Title II requires that information to be truthful. The FSA prohibits the interstate shipment of

falsely advertised seed and seed containing noxious-weed seeds that are prohibited from sale in the State into which the seed is being shipped.

No unique forms are required for this information collection. The FSA requires seed in interstate commerce to be tested and labeled. Once seed enters a State, it must comply with the testing and labeling requirements of that State's seed law. The testing and labeling required by FSA nearly always satisfies the State's testing and labeling requirements. The receiving sales, cleaning, testing, and labeling records required by FSA are also records that the shipper would normally keep in good business practice.

The information in this collection is the minimum information necessary to effectively carry out the enforcement of FSA. With the exception of the requirements for entering a new variety into a State seed certification program (set forth separately below), the information collection is entirely recordkeeping rather than reporting.

While the number of applicants has slightly increased, the number of requests has significantly increased creating an increase in burden hours over the previous submission.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2.68 hours per response.

Respondents: Interstate shippers and labelers of seed.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 3,484.

Estimated Total Annual Responses: 35,582.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 10.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 95,361 hours.

Eligibility Requirements for Certification of New Varieties and Recordkeeping

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information (eligibility for certification of new varieties) is estimated to average 2.42 hours per response.

Respondents: Entities seeking to enter new varieties into State seed certification programs.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 82.

Estimated Total Annual Responses: 902.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 11.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 2,183 hours.

Comments are invited on: (1) whether the proposed 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 the burden of the proposed collection of information 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 the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

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.

Melissa Bailey,

Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Information Collection: Special Use Administration

AGENCY: Forest Service, Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: Notice; correction.

SUMMARY: The Forest Service (Forest Service), United States Department of Agriculture, published a notice of an information collection for public comment in the **Federal Register** on February 15, 2023. The Forest Service is correcting the **ADDRESSES** section of that notice.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing by April 17, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Comments concerning this notice should be addressed to USDA Forest Service, Attention: Lands Special Uses, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Stop 1124, Washington, DC 20250-1124. Comments also may be submitted via facsimile to 202-644-4700 or by email to reply_lands_staff@usda.gov. All comments, including names and addresses when provided, will be placed in the record and will be available for public inspection and copying.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Forest Service is correcting the **ADDRESSES** section of a notice for an information collection that was published for public comment in the **Federal Register** on February 15, 2023 (88 FR 9856) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995