

the petition for 60 days ending January 4, 2021.

APHIS received four comments on the petition during the comment period. One comment was from an individual, which stated opposition to biotechnology-derived crops in general. Three comments were received from industry organizations, which generally supported approval of the petition.

After public comments are received on a completed petition, APHIS evaluates those comments and then provides a second opportunity for public involvement in our decision-making process. According to our public review process (see footnote 2), the second opportunity for public involvement follows one of two approaches, as described below.

If APHIS decides, based on its review of the petition and its evaluation and analysis of comments received during the 60-day public comment period on the petition, that the petition involves an organism that raises no substantive new issues, APHIS will follow Approach 1 for public involvement. Under Approach 1, APHIS prepares and announces in the **Federal Register** the availability of APHIS' preliminary regulatory determination along with its draft EA, preliminary finding of no significant impact (FONSI), and its draft plant pest risk assessment (PPRA) for a 30-day public review period. APHIS will evaluate any information received related to the petition and its supporting documents during the 30-day public review period. If APHIS determines that no substantive information has been received that would warrant APHIS altering its preliminary regulatory determination or FONSI, or substantially change the analysis of impacts in the EA, our preliminary regulatory determination will become final and effective upon notification of the public through an announcement on our website. No further **Federal Register** notice will be published announcing the final regulatory determination.

Under Approach 2, if APHIS decides, based on its review of the petition and its evaluation and analysis of comments received during the 60-day public comment period on the petition, that the petition involves an organism that raises substantive new issues, APHIS first solicits written comments from the public on a draft EA and draft PPRA for a 30-day comment period through the publication of a **Federal Register** notice. Then, after reviewing and evaluating the comments on the draft EA and draft PPRA and other information, APHIS will revise the draft PPRA as necessary. It will then prepare a final EA, and based on the final EA, a National

Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) decision document (either a FONSI or a notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement).

For this petition, we will be following Approach 2.

As part of our decision-making process regarding an organism's regulatory status, APHIS prepared a PPRA to assess the plant pest risk of the organism, and an EA to evaluate potential impacts on the human environment. This will provide the Agency and the public with a review and analysis of any potential environmental impacts that may result if the petition request is approved.

APHIS' draft PPRA compared the pest risk posed by DP23211 corn with that of the unmodified variety from which it was derived. The draft PPRA concluded that DP23211 corn is unlikely to pose an increased plant pest risk compared to the unmodified corn.

The draft EA evaluated potential impacts that may result from the commercial production of DP23211 corn, to include potential impacts on conventional and organic corn production; the acreage and area required for U.S. corn production; agronomic practices and inputs; the physical environment; biological resources; human health and worker safety; animal health and welfare; and socioeconomic impacts. No significant impacts were identified with the production and marketing of DP23211 corn.

The draft EA was prepared in accordance with (1) NEPA, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), (2) regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500–1508), (3) USDA regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR part 1b), and (4) APHIS' NEPA Implementing Procedures (7 CFR part 372).

We are making available for a 30-day comment period our draft EA and draft PPRA. These documents are available as indicated under **ADDRESSES** and **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** above. Copies of these documents may also be obtained from the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

*Authority:* 7 U.S.C. 7701–7772 and 7781–7786; 31 U.S.C. 9701; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.3.

Done in Washington, DC, this 5th day of April 2023.

**Michael Watson,**

*Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. 2023–07569 Filed 4–10–23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410–34–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS–2023–0020]

#### Notice of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection; Imported Seeds and Screening

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Extension of approval of an information collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's intention to request an extension of approval of an information collection associated with the regulations for the importation of seeds and screenings from Canada into the United States.

**DATES:** We will consider all comments that we receive on or before June 12, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Enter APHIS–2023–0020 in the Search field. Select the Documents tab, then select the Comment button in the list of documents.

- *Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:* Send your comment to Docket No. APHIS–2023–0020, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A–03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737–1238.

Supporting documents and any comments we receive on this docket may be viewed at [regulations.gov](http://regulations.gov) or in our reading room, which is located in room 1620 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 799–7039 before coming.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information on the regulations related to the importation of seeds and screenings, contact Mrs. Heather Coady, Senior Regulatory Policy Specialist, PPQ, APHIS, USDA, 4700 River Road Unit 137, Riverdale, MD 20737–1231; (240) 935–1598; [heather.s.coady@usda.gov](mailto:heather.s.coady@usda.gov). For information on the information collection reporting process, contact Mr. Joseph Moxey, APHIS' Paperwork Reduction Act Coordinator, at (301) 851–2483; [joseph.moxey@usda.gov](mailto:joseph.moxey@usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Imported Seeds and Screenings.  
*OMB Control Number:* 0579-0124.

*Type of Request:* Extension of approval of an information collection.

*Abstract:* Under the authority of the Federal Seed Act (FSA) of 1939, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1551 *et seq.*), the U.S. Department of Agriculture regulates the importation and interstate movement of certain agricultural and vegetable seeds and screenings. Title III of the FSA, "Foreign Commerce," requires shipments of imported agricultural and vegetable seeds to be labeled correctly and to be tested for the presence of the seeds of certain noxious weeds as a condition of entry into the United States. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's (APHIS') regulations implementing the provisions of Title III of the FSA are found in 7 CFR part 361.

The regulations in 7 CFR part 361, "Importation of Seed and Screenings under the Federal Seed Act" (§§ 361.1 to 361.10, referred to below as the regulations), prohibit or restrict the importation of agricultural seed, vegetable seed, and screenings into the United States. Section 361.7 provides the regulations for special provisions for Canadian-origin seed and screenings, and § 361.8 provides the regulations for the cleaning of imported seed and processing of certain Canadian-origin screenings.

APHIS' Plant Protection and Quarantine program operates a seed analysis program with Canada that allows U.S. companies that import seed for cleaning or processing to enter into compliance agreements with APHIS. This program eliminates the need for sampling shipments of Canadian-origin seed at the U.S.-Canadian border and allows certain seed importers to clean the seed without direct supervision of an APHIS inspector. The program provides a safe and expedited process for the importation of seed and screenings into the United States without posing a plant pest or noxious weed risk.

The seed analysis program involves the use of information collection activities, including a compliance agreement, seed analysis certificate, declaration for importation, container labeling, notification of seed location, a seed return request, seed identity maintenance, documentation for U.S. origin exported seed returned to the United States, written appeal for cancellation of a compliance agreement and request for a hearing, and associated recordkeeping.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve our use of these information

collection activities for an additional 3 years.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning our information collection. These comments will help us:

(1) Evaluate 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) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the 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, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies; *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses.

*Estimate of burden:* The public burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.36 hours per response.

*Respondents:* Commercial importers, seed cleaning/processing facility personnel, seed laboratory personnel, and government food inspection agency officials.

*Estimated annual number of respondents:* 1,153.

*Estimated annual number of responses per respondent:* 23.

*Estimated annual number of responses:* 27,041.

*Estimated total annual burden on respondents:* 9,632 hours. (Due to averaging, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the reporting burden per response.)

All 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.

Done in Washington, DC, this 5th day of April 2023.

**Michael Watson,**

*Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. 2023-07571 Filed 4-10-23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-34-P**

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is issuing this notice to increase the fiscal year 2023 (FY23) overall sugar marketing allotment quantity (OAQ); increase beet and State cane sugar allotments; revise company allocations to sugar beet and sugar cane processors; and reassign beet and cane sugar marketing allocations to raw cane sugar imports already anticipated. These actions apply to all domestic beet and cane sugar marketed for human consumption in the United States from October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kent Lanclos; telephone, (202) 720-0114; or email, [kent.lanclos@usda.gov](mailto:kent.lanclos@usda.gov).

Individuals who require alternative means for communication should contact the USDA Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and text telephone (TTY)) or dial 711 for Telecommunications Relay Service (both voice and text telephone users can initiate this call from any telephone).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On September 30, 2022, USDA announced the initial FY23 OAQ, which was established at 10,646,250 short tons, raw value, (STRV) equal to 85 percent of the estimated quantity of sugar for domestic human consumption for the fiscal year of 12,525,000 STRV as forecast in the September 2022 World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates report (WASDE). The Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (Pub. L. 75-430) requires that 54.35 percent of the OAQ be distributed among beet processors and 45.65 percent be distributed among the sugarcane States and cane processors.

In the March 2023 WASDE release, USDA increased the FY23 estimate of sugar consumption for food use to 12,600,000 STRV. As a result, USDA is increasing the FY23 OAQ to 10,710,000 STRV. The revised beet sector allotment is 5,820,885 STRV (an increase of 34,648) and the revised cane sector allotment is 4,889,115 STRV (an increase of 29,102). The revised beet and cane sector allotments are distributed to individual processors according to statutory formulas as shown in the table below (see the column labeled "Preliminary Revised Allocation").

In accordance with section 359e of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359ee), after evaluating each sugar beet processor's ability to market its full allocation, USDA is transferring FY23 allocations from sugar beet processors with surplus allocation to those with deficit allocation listed in the table below. USDA has also determined

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Commodity Credit Corporation

#### Domestic Sugar Program—2023 Cane Sugar Marketing Allotments and Cane and Beet Processor Allocations

**AGENCY:** Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.