

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2010-0053]

Notice of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection;
Importation of Artificially Dwarfed Plants

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 regulations for the importation of artificially dwarfed plants.

DATES:

We will consider all comments that we receive on or before [Insert date 60 days after date of publication in the Federal Register].

ADDRESSES:

You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

• Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to

(<http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/main?main=DocketDetail&d=APHIS-2010-0053>) to submit or view comments and to view supporting and related materials available electronically.

• Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery: Please send one copy of your comment to Docket No. APHIS-2010-0053, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A-03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. APHIS-2010-0053.

Reading Room: You may read any comments that we receive on this docket in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 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) 690-2817 before coming.

Other Information: Additional information about APHIS and its programs is available on the Internet at (<http://www.aphis.usda.gov>).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

For information on regulations for the importation of artificially dwarfed plants, contact Mr. Gregg B. Goodman, National Postentry Quarantine Coordinator, Quarantine Policy, Analysis, and Support, PHP, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 60, Riverdale MD 20737; (301) 734-0948. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Mrs. Celeste Sickles, APHIS's Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 851-2908.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Importation of Artificially Dwarfed Plants.

OMB Number: 0579-0176.

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

Abstract: Under the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.), the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to prohibit or restrict the importation, entry, or interstate movement of plants, plant products, and other articles to prevent the introduction of plant pests into the United States or their dissemination within the United States. This authority has been delegated to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

The regulations contained in Subpart Nursery Stock, Plants, Roots, Bulbs, Seeds, and Other Plant Products (7 CFR 319.37 through 319.37-14) prohibit or restrict the importation of living plants, plant parts, and seeds for propagation.

Among other things, the regulations require artificially dwarfed plants imported into the United States to be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate issued by the government of the country of origin. This certificate must contain declarations that certain conditions were met in the country of origin to protect against the infestation of the plants by longhorned beetles and other plant pests.

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 reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.2533333 hours per response.

Respondents: Plant health officials of exporting countries, importers.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 30.

Estimated annual number of responses per respondent: 5.

Estimated annual number of responses: 150.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 38 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 28th day of May 2010.

Kevin Shea

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

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