March 2022

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT**

**FOREIGN QUARANTINE NOTICES**

**OMB NO. 0579-0049**

**TERMS OF CLEARANCE: “Before this ICR is renewed, USDA should convert all forms with multiple OMB control numbers to common forms."** APHIS is working closely with OIRA to compile all common form candidates and information to create a consolidated Agency common form information collection request.

**JUSTIFICATION**

**1. Explain the circumstances that make the collection of information necessary. Identify any legal or administrative requirements that necessitate the collection.**

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has Federal responsibility for preventing plant diseases or insect pests from entering the United States, preventing the spread of pests and noxious weeds not widely distributed in the United States, and eradicating those imported pests when eradication is feasible.

The Plant Protection Act (PPA) (Title IV, Public Law 106-224, 114 Statute 438, 7 U.S.C. 7701- et seq) grants the Secretary of Agriculture authority to prohibit or restrict the importation, entry, exportation, or movement in interstate commerce of plant pests and other articles when such actions prevent the introduction or dissemination of plant pests into or within the United States. Implementing the laws described above is necessary in order to prevent injurious plant and insect pests from entering the United States, a situation that could produce serious consequences for USDA.

Regulations and subsequent requirements authorized by the PPA concerning the importation of fruits, vegetables, plants for planting, logs, lumber, unprocessed wood products, cotton, corn, rice, sugar cane, and coffee, are contained in Parts 319 and 352 of Title 7, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). They require APHIS to collect information from a variety of foreign governments, businesses, and individuals, both within and outside of the United States, and provide the basis for the APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) program’s foreign quarantine notices.

APHIS is asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve for 3 years continued use of the following information activities associated with the program’s efforts to prevent the spread of plant pests and diseases from entering the continental United States.

**2. Indicate how, by whom, and for what purpose the information is to be used. Except for a new collection, indicate the actual use the agency has made of the information received from the current collection.**

APHIS uses the following activities to collect information from individuals within and outside the United States who are responsible for growing, packing, handling, transporting, and importing of fruits, vegetables, plants for planting, logs, lumber, unprocessed wood products, cotton, corn, rice, sugar cane, and coffee into the United States.

**Bilateral Operational Workplan; (7 CFR 319); (Foreign Government)**

The National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) for each country must enter into a formal bilateral operational workplan with APHIS that details the activities it and APHIS will carry out to meet the U.S. import requirements for specific articles regulated in accordance with 7 CFR 319. These details include protocols for a “systems approach” pest mitigation plan; procedures implemented at treatment facilities in the country; and other related activities necessary to participate in an APHIS Preclearance Program.

**Audit; (7 CFR 319); (Foreign Government, Business)**

The NPPO and place of production may be required to perform audits that ensure the plan approved and documented by APHIS and the NPPO of the exporting country is being followed and is achieving the appropriate level of pest management.

**Requesting or Revising Pest Risk Assessment; (7 CFR 319); (Foreign Government, (Business)**

Before APHIS can prepare a pest risk assessment for the country, the NPPO must submit to APHIS specific information included in the plan. This includes a description and/or map of the specific locations(s) of the areas in the exporting country where the plant, plant parts, or plant products are produced; the scientific name (including genus, species, and author names) and taxonomic classification of arthropods, fungi, bacteria, nematodes, viruses, viroids, mollusks, phytoplasmas, spiroplasmas, etc., attacking the crop; and the plant part attacked by each pest, pest life stages associated with plant part attacked, and location of pest (in, on, with commodity). APHIS further uses this information to evaluate all the pests that could be associated with a

taxon to determine if it is a host of a quarantine pest, if there are additional quarantine pests for which the taxon can serve as a host, or if it may be a quarantine pest itself.

**Cooperative Service Agreement with Trust Fund; (7 CFR 319); (Foreign Government)**

Some articles, as part of an APHIS Preclearance Program, may only be imported into the United States if the exporting country NPPO, serving on the local industry’s behalf, enters into a cooperative service agreement and establishes a trust fund with APHIS for that shipping season. The agreement describes the general nature and scope of APHIS services provided at host nation treatment facilities covered by the agreement, and the trust fund outlines host nation financial responsibilities to the preclearance program.

**Plant Broker, Production or Processing Site/Facility Registration; (7 CFR 319); (Foreign Government, Business)**

APHIS requires certain plant and plant products be produced, grown, packed, or processed at facilities that meet various requirements depending on the article and the pests of concern, to include status as low-prevalence certification. These sites and facilities must be registered with the NPPO, and the list of facilities made available to APHIS when requested. The registration information ensures producers are complying with U.S. import standards, and also facilitates the tracing of shipments and source location when pests are discovered.

**Foreign Site Certificate of Inspection and/or Treatment (PPQ Form 203); (7 CFR 319); (Business)**

APHIS requires that some plants and plant products be accompanied by a PPQ Form 203 when they are precleared in the exporting country as part of an APHIS Preclearance Program. APHIS uses information on the form to verify that all phytosanitary activities outside of the United States were performed in accordance with APHIS Preclearance Program, and supervised by an APHIS inspector in the country exporting the regulated articles to the United States.

**Application for Permit to Import Timber and Timber Products (PPQ Form 585);**

**(7 CFR 319); (Business, Individual)**

PPQ Form 585 is prepared by businesses or persons to obtain a permit for importing timber or timber products into the United States. The form contains specific information about the importer, as well as for the timber or timber products such as such as the country of origin, the type and the scientific names of the timber, and the condition of the articles (e.g., with or without bark, type of drying process). Provided information ensures importers are complying with U.S. import standards, and also facilitates the tracing of shipments and source location when pests are discovered.

**Application for Permit to Transfer Plants and/or Plant Products Through the United States (PPQ Form 586); (7 CFR 352); (Business, Individual)**

PPQ Form 586 is prepared by businesses or persons to obtain a permit for transferring regulated plants, plant products, plant pests, or soil through the United States. The form contains specific information about the importer, as well as for the articles’ country of origin, the types and scientific names of the articles, the means of conveyance, port of entry and port of exit, the handling of the shipment while in the U.S., and the time required for the movement. Provided information ensures importers are complying with U.S. import standards, and also facilitates the tracing of shipments and source location when pests are discovered.

**Application for Permit to Import Plants or Plant Products (PPQ Form 587);**

**(7 CFR 319); (Business, Individual)**

PPQ Form 587 is prepared by businesses or persons to obtain a permit for importing regulated plants or plant products into the United States. The form contains specific information about the importer, as well as for the articles’ country of origin; types, scientific names, and quantities, means of importation, and port of entry. Provided information ensures importers are complying with U.S. import standards, and also facilitates the tracing of shipments and source location when pests are discovered.

**Application for Controlled Import Permit to Import Restricted or Not Authorized Plant Material (PPQ Form 588); (7 CFR 319); (Business, Individual)**

PPQ Form 588 is prepared by businesses or persons to obtain a permit for importing into the United States prohibited or restricted plants or plant products for experimental purposes only. The form contains specific information about the importer, as well as the articles’ country of origin, identity of the plant material, quantity, intended port of entry, and descriptions of safeguarding measures during transport, utilization and final disposition. Provided information ensures importers are complying with U.S. import standards, and also facilitates the tracing of shipments and source location when pests are discovered.

**Appeal of Denial or Revocation of Permit; (7 CFR 319); (Business)**

Revocation or denial of an import permit may be appealed in writing by the importer within 10 days of notification by APHIS.

**Request for Additional Mailing Labels (PPQ Form 564); (7 CFR 319); (Business, (Individual)**

PPQ Form 564 is prepared in conjunction with a request for permit by businesses or persons importing regulated articles and requiring special mailing labels that will direct the package to a PPQ inspection station for inspection before release to the mail service for final delivery.

**Compliance Agreement (PPQ Form 519); (7 CFR 319); (Business, Individual)**

Certain plant and plant products must be produced, grown or packed/packaged at registered facilities in foreign countries under compliance with APHIS requirements and/or processed, packaged at approved facilities at or near the port of entry utilized into the United States. PPQ Form 519 is initiated by businesses or persons to attest that specific APHIS requirements are followed. The compliance agreement includes details such as contact information, location of facility or site of processing, and a listing of the requirements for specific regulated articles to be imported.

**Phytosanitary Certificates; (7 CFR 319); (Foreign Government, Business)**

Certain plants or plant products must be accompanied by a phytosanitary inspection certificate completed and issued by national plant health officials in the originating or transiting country. APHIS uses the certificates to ensure imported plants, plant products and other regulated articles conform with country-specific certifying statements and that consignments meet United States phytosanitary import requirements. Consignments without certificates could be refused entry into the United States.

**Labelling and Marking; (7 CFR 319); (Foreign Government, Business)**

Producers, processers, brokers, and importers are required to ensure traceability of nursery stock, plants, roots, bulbs, seeds, fruits and vegetables, and other plant products to include logs, lumber, and other unmanufactured wood articles from place of production to the port of importation. This entails labelling, marking, tagging, listing, and other methods of identification on cartons, crates, containers, packages, and other transport containers. Information may include importation and place of origin information such as identity of the orchard, grove, or production site; name of the grower or producer and/or registration number; the name of the packing house and/or registration number; restrictions on distribution (e.g., not allowed into Hawaii); the name of the municipality and/or the State in which it was produced; and the type and amount of commodity within the container. Federal inspectors must be able to associate the container with an approved importation action and trace its place of origin, if necessary.

**Importer Documents for Logs, Lumber, and Wood Mulch; (7 CFR 319); (Foreign Government, Business)**

Certain tree articles imported from certain countries may include an origin and movement of articles document issued by the national plant health officials in the originating country in lieu of a phytosanitary certificate. The document must contain information such as the genus and species of the tree from which the regulated article was derived; the country, and locality if known, where the tree was derived and harvested; the quantity of the regulated article to be imported; the use for which the regulated article is imported; and any treatments or handling of the regulated article that were performed prior to arrival at the port of first arrival.

**Agreement For Post Entry Quarantine State Screening Notice (PPQ Form 546);**

**(7 CFR 319); (State, Business, Individual)**

PPQ Form 546 is prepared by businesses or persons requesting a permit to engage in post-entry quarantine activity with regulated articles and requiring a post-entry quarantine agreement. The form contains information about the requester, the articles’ country of origin, the scientific name of the plant, and the quantity. Provided information ensures importers are complying with U.S. import standards, and also facilitates the tracing of shipments and source location when pests are discovered.

**30-Day Article Notification; (7 CFR 319); (Business)**

For certain regulated plants imported for growth in the United States, an importer must notify a Federal inspector, orally or in writing, within 30 days of the time the importer or the person in charge of the domestic growing site finds any abnormality or if the plant dies or is killed by the importer, the person in charge of the growing site, or any other person.

**Request for Emergency Trans-Shipment or Diversion; (7 CFR 352); (Business)**

Prohibited and restricted articles entering the United States are subject to inspection at their first port of entry. If an unauthorized change or diversion occurs in the Customs entry, the Federal inspector at the original port must endorse Customs documents to show that fact. However, the Federal inspector at the United States port of export may approve a diversion or change of Customs entry to permit movement to a different foreign country or entry into the United States. If a diversion or change is desired where there is no inspector available, the owner may apply to PPQ for information as to applicable conditions. If the diversion or change is approved, PPQ will confirm this to the appropriate inspectors and Customs officers.

**Notice of Arrival (PPQ Form 368); (7 CFR 319; 7 CFR 352); (Business)**

Businesses importing regulated articles must complete PPQ Form 368 (or equivalent Federal form depending upon port procedures) at or before the shipment’s arrival into the United States. The form provides information needed by Federal inspectors or officers to identify and track shipments en route to the United States, and to schedule inspections and treatments at the appropriate ports of entry. Timely submission mitigates delays in the port clearance process.

**Emergency Action Notification (PPQ Form 523); (7 CFR 319); (Business, Individual)**

PPQ Form 523 is prepared by a Federal official and issued to a broker, shipper, market owner, or other stakeholder responsible for a certain consignment failing specific import requirements and requiring remedial action. The form describes the reasons for refusal of entry into the United States and basic explanations of required remedial actions. Receipt and consignment disposition are annotated by the stakeholder before further port clearance procedures may resume.

**Training Records; (7 CFR 319); (Business)**

APHIS may require a training program be established, approved by the NPPO, and documented at the place of production.

**Trapping, Production or Processing Site, Facility Monitoring Recordkeeping; (7 CFR 319); (Foreign Government, Business)**

U.S. agricultural import activities conducted by foreign plant and plant product producers, growers, packers, and processers; treatment facilities; and foreign national plant protection organizations are subject to monitoring and records inspection by APHIS, as needed, to ensure compliance with United States importation regulations, if appropriate. Managers of these activities may also be asked to provide records needed to trace the movement of plant and plant products suspected of carrying plant pests, if necessary. Such records may include greenhouse and field inspections, production area insect trapping and surveying, packinghouse protocols and activity, production site quality control, field records, and treatment facility data.

**3. Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses, and the basis for the decision for adopting this means of collection. Also describe any consideration of using information technology to reduce burden.**

The APHIS website for information and procedures for importing plants and plant products into the United States is https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/planthealth/import-information/permits.

The following forms are available in fillable PDF format and may be downloaded from the APHIS PPQ forms website at https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/resources/forms/ct\_ppq\_forms, then completed and faxed or emailed to APHIS. Except for PPQ Form 203, PPQ Form 368 and PPQ Form 519, the forms may also be submitted by authorized users using e-Permits found at https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/planthealth/import-information/permits/plants-and-plant-products-permits/ct\_plantproducts

PPQ Form 203, Foreign Site Certificate of Inspection and/or Treatment

PPQ Form 368, Notice of Arrival

PPQ Form 519, Compliance Agreement

PPQ Form 546, Agreement For Post Entry Quarantine State Screening Notice

PPQ Form 585, Application for Permit to Import Timber and Timber Products

PPQ Form 586, Application for Permit to Transfer Plants and/or Plant Products Through the

United States

PPQ Form 587, Application for Permit to Import Plants or Plant Products

PPQ Form 588, Application for Controlled Import Permit to Import Restricted or Not

Authorized Plant Material

The PPQ Form 523, Emergency Action Notification, is initiated and issued by Federal officials.

The PPQ Form 564, Request for Additional Mailing Labels, is currently available only through e-Permits.

All other documents submitted by the NPPO are prepared to national or international standards and they accompany the shipment.

All other documents submitted by individuals or businesses are created at the discretion of the individual or business. There are no specific formats for these activities. They may be mailed, faxed, emailed, or delivered with the shipment.

The methodology for marking and labelling containers is at the discretion of the business or government provided they comply with basic industry and APHIS guidelines.

The methodology for creating and maintaining records is at the discretion of the accumulating activity. Electronic records are encouraged but not mandated.

APHIS works closely with Customs and Border Protection and is involved with the Government-wide utilization of the International Trade Data System (ITDS) via the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) to improve business operations and further Agency missions. ITDS allows respondents to submit data required by U.S. Customs and Border Protection and its Partner Government Agencies (PGAs) to import and export cargo through a Single Window concept.

APHIS is continuing development of a system known as e-File for certification, accreditation, registration, permitting, and other licensing (CARPOL) activities. The agency’s goal is to efficiently automate information collection activities. For this ICR, e-File is currently limited to processing permit applications for importing plants and plant products (PPQ 587).

**4. Describe efforts to identify duplication. Show specifically why any similar information already available cannot be used or modified for use for the purpose described in item 2 above.**

APHIS is the only Federal agency responsible for implementing laws that require the collecting of information from a variety of individuals from within and outside the United States who are responsible for growing, packing, handling, transporting, and importing foreign plants, roots, bulbs, seeds, importing foreign logs, lumber, and other unmanufactured wood articles. The information collected by APHIS is unique to the Agency’s mission and is not duplicated or available from any other source.

**5. If the collection of information impacts small businesses or other small entities, describe any methods used to minimize burden.**

APHIS estimates that 11 percent of the business respondents are considered small entities. The information APHIS collects in connection with this program is the absolute minimum needed to protect the United States from injurious plants and insect pests from entering the United States.

**6. Describe the consequences to Federal program or policy activities if the collection is not conducted or is conducted less frequently, as well as any technical or legal obstacles to reducing burden.**

This information collection is critical to APHIS’ mission of preventing plant pests from entering the United States. Introduction of a plant or insect pest into the country could cause inestimable damage to United States crops and severe economic losses for United States agriculture and food industries.

**7. Explain any special circumstances that require the collection to be conducted in a manner inconsistent with the general information collection guidelines in 5 CFR 1320.5.**

* **requiring** **respondents to report information to the agency more often than quarterly;**
* **requiring respondents to prepare a written response to a collection of information in fewer than 30 days after receipt of it;**

Respondents must notify a Federal inspector, orally or in writing, within 30 days of discovering an authorized regulated plant imported for growth in the United States has an abnormality or it dies or is killed by the importer, the person in charge of the growing site, or any other person.

Revocation of an import permit may be appealed in writing within 10 days of notification by APHIS.

An Emergency Action Notice (PPQ Form 523) may be issued by a Federal official and issued to a broker, shipper, market owner, or other stakeholder responsible for a certain consignment failing specific import requirements and requiring remedial action. The form describes the reasons for refusal of entry into the United States and basic explanations of required remedial actions. Consignment disposition is annotated by the stakeholder usually within seven days of receipt of the notice.

* **requiring respondents to submit more than an original and two copies of any document;**
* **requiring respondents to retain records, other than health, medical, governmental contract, grant-in-aid, or tax records for more than three years;**
* **in connection with a statistical survey, that is not designed to produce valid and reliable results that can be generalized to the universe of study;**
* **requiring the use of a statistical data classification that has not been reviewed and approved by OMB;**
* **that includes a pledge of confidentiality that is not supported by authority established in statue or regulation, that is not supported by disclosure and data security policies that are consistent with the pledge, or which unnecessarily impedes sharing of data with other agencies for compatible confidential use; or**
* **requiring respondents to submit proprietary trade secret, or other confidential information unless the agency can demonstrate that it has instituted procedures to protect the information’s confidentiality to the extent permitted by law.**

No other special circumstances exist that would require this information collection to be conducted in a manner inconsistent with the general guidelines in 5 CFR 1320 5.

**8. Describe efforts to consult with persons outside the agency to obtain their views on the availability of data, frequency of collection, the clarity of instructions and recordkeeping, disclosure, or reporting form, and on the data elements to be recorded, disclosed, or reported. If applicable, provide a copy and identify the date and page number of publication in the Federal Register of the agency's notice, soliciting comments on the information collection prior to submission to OMB.**

APHIS engaged in productive consultations with the following individuals concerning the information collection activities associated with this program. It contacted these respondents by phone to discuss the information APHIS collects to administer its import programs. Discussed were how the Agency and the respondents obtain the necessary data and how frequently; how much data is available; the convenience and clarity of reporting formats and other collection instruments; and the clarity of, and necessity for, any recordkeeping requirements. The consulted individuals had no concerns with any of these items and had no further recommendations.

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On August 30, 2021, APHIS published in the Federal Register on pages 48387 and 48388, a 60-day notice seeking public comments on its plans to request a 3-year renewalof this collection of information. No comments from the public were received.

**9. Explain any decision to provide any payment or gift to respondents, other than reenumeration of contractors or grantees.**

This information collection activity involves no payments or gifts to respondents.

**10. Describe any assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for the assurance in statute, regulation, or agency policy.**

No additional assurance of confidentiality is provided with this information collection. However, the confidentiality of information is protected under 5 U.S.C. 552a.

**11. Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and others that are considered private. This justification should include the reasons why the agency considers the questions necessary, the specific uses to be made of the information, the explanation to be given to persons from whom the information is requested, and any steps to be taken to obtain their consent.**

This information collection activity asks no questions of a personal or sensitive nature.

**12. Provide estimates of the hour burden of the collection of information. Indicate the number of respondents, frequency of response, annual hour burden, and an explanation of how the burden was estimated.**

* **Indicate the number of respondents, frequency of response, annual hour burden, and an explanation of how the burden was estimated. If this request for approval covers more than one form, provide separate hour burden estimates for each form and aggregate the hour burdens in Item 13 of OMB Form 83-I.**

See APHIS Form 71. Respondents include foreign government plant health officials; farm managers; buyers and purchasing agents; and private citizens.

* **Provide estimates of annualized cost to respondents for the hour burdens for collections of information, identifying and using appropriate wage rate categories.**

APHIS estimates the total annualized cost to the above respondents to be $40,064,041. APHIS arrived at this figure by multiplying the hours of estimated response time (712,982) by the estimated average hourly wage of the above respondents ($38.78) and then multiplying the result by 1.449 to capture benefit costs.

The average hourly rate was derived from the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics May 2020 Report - Occupational Employment and Wages in the United States. (See http://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/ocwage.pdf. Occupations used are Foreign government agricultural officials (GS-13 equivalent); Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers [SOCC 11-9013, $36.93], Buyers and Purchasing Agents [13-1020, $34.80], and private individuals [SOCC 00-0000, $27.07]

**13. Provide estimates of the total annual cost burden to respondents or recordkeepers resulting from the collection of information, (do not include the cost of any hour burden shown in items 12 and 14). The cost estimates should be split into two components: (a) a total capital and startup cost component annualized over its expected useful life; and (b) a total operation and maintenance and purchase of services component.**

There are no annual cost burdens associated with this program; however, some user fees for port and processing activities may apply.

**14. Provide estimates of annualized cost to the Federal government. Provide a description of the method used to estimate cost and any other expense that would not have been incurred without this collection of information.**

See APHIS Form 79. The estimated annualized cost to the Federal government is $1,656,209.

**15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments reported in Items 13 or 14 of the OMB Form 83-1.**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Requested** | **Program Change Due to New Statute** | **Program Change Due to Agency Discretion** | **Change Due to Adjustment in Agency Estimate** | **Change Due to Potential Violation of the PRA** | **Previously Approved** |
| Annual Number of Responses | 62,552,921 | 0 | (506,190) | 10,916,484 | 0 | 52,142,627 |
| Annual Time Burden (Hours) | 712,982 | 0 | (7,499) | 150,897 | 0 | 569,584 |

APHIS estimates there are 22,315 respondents -- 75 foreign government national plant protection offices; 40 State governments; 21,200 businesses; and 1,000 individuals.

The annual estimates for this information collection are for 62,552,921 responses and 712,982 hours of burden. The estimates for this ICR are no longer derived from aggregating estimates from commodity ICR’s but are now derived from activity statistics derived from APHIS Agricultural Risk Management (ARM) databases and e-Permits, significantly improving estimate accuracies. Also, burden estimates for some commodities decrease as import markets for them diminish, offsetting reportable activities for commodities added to FAVR.

The only discretionary changes in this renewal request is the removal of the buffer and its 506,190 estimated responses and 7,499 estimated hours of burden used to account for future burden increases as commodities get approved for import into the United States. Because estimates are now based on activity statistics and not specific commodities and origin, APHIS believes the increases and decreases balance and a buffer is no longer needed.

The remaining 10,916,484 estimated responses and 150,897 estimated hours of burden are estimate adjustments.

The two largest adjustments were for the activities Labeling and Marking, and Notices of Arrival. Estimates for both were underestimated in the previous submission. Labeling and Marking estimates were increased by 10 million responses and 60,000 hours of burden, and Notices of Arrival estimates were increased by 1 million responses and 83,000 hours of burden.

In the previous submission, APHIS overestimated the number of responses for activities Bilateral Operational Workplans and Cooperative Service Agreements it processed with foreign governments. The total estimated responses decreased by 125 responses and the burden estimate decreased by 5,000 hours.

Several other activities have significant adjustments to their estimates. Phytosanitary Certificate response estimates were increased by 45,460 with a corresponding burden estimate increase of 11,326 hours. Applications for Permit to Import Plants or Plant Products response estimates increased by 10,300 with a corresponding burden estimate increase of 5,250 hours. Emergency Action Notification response estimates increased by 10,000 with a corresponding burden estimate increase of 5,000 hours. Trapping, Production or Processing Site, Facility Record-keeping response estimates increased by 100 and burden estimates increased by 4,800 hours. Finally, Foreign Site Certificate of Inspection response estimates increased by 7,350 and the burden hour estimate increased by 3,675 hours.

**16. For collections of information whose results are planned to be published, outline plans for tabulation and publication.**

APHIS has no plans to publish information it collects in connection with this program.

**17. If seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons that display would be inappropriate.**

The OMB ICR approval expiration date will be displayed on the following forms:

PPQ Form 203, Foreign Site Certificate of Inspection and/or Treatment

PPQ Form 546, Agreement for Post-entry Quarantine-State Screening Notice

PPQ Form 564, Request for Additional Mailing Labels

PPQ Form 585, Application for Permit to Import Timber or Timber Products

PPQ Form 587, Application for Permit to Import Plants or Plant Products

PPQ Form 588, Application for Permit to Import Prohibited Plants or Plant Products for Experimental Purposes

The following forms are currently associated with multiple information collections, each with different OMB approval expiration dates. It would not be practical to add an expiration date to the forms at this time. APHIS is currently developing a consolidated common form ICR. Once it is approved, these forms will be converted to common forms and the ICR approval expiration date will be shown.

PPQ Form 368, Notice of Arrival

PPQ Form 519, Compliance Agreement

PPQ Form 523, Emergency Action Notice

PPQ Form 586, Application for Permit to Transit Plants and/or Plant Products Through the U.S.

**18. Explain each exception to the certification statement identified in the "Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act."**

APHIS is able to certify compliance with all the provisions in the Act.

**B. Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods**

There are no statistical methods associated with the information collection activities used in this program.