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**FARM SECURITY AND RURAL INVESTMENT ACT OF 2002**  
[As Amended Through Public Law 107-171, May 13, 2002]

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**SELECTED PROVISIONS OF THE FARM SECURITY AND RURAL INVESTMENT ACT OF 2002**

**SUBTITLE D OF TITLE VII AND SECTION 10802 OF THE FARM SECURITY AND RURAL INVESTMENT ACT OF 2002**

(Public Law 107-171; May 13, 2002)

**[Note: Only freestanding provisions of this subtitle are included in this compilation. Most of the sections of this subtitle and the rest of title VII amended other Acts.]**

TABLE OF CONTENTS <sup>1</sup>

	*	*	*	*	*	*
	TITLE VII—RESEARCH AND RELATED MATTERS					
	Subtitle D—New Authorities					
Sec. 7401.	Subtitle definitions.					
	*	*	*	*	*	*
Sec. 7404.	Review of Agricultural Research Service.					
Sec. 7405.	Beginning farmer and rancher development program.					
Sec. 7406.	Sense of Congress regarding doubling of funding for agricultural research.					
Sec. 7407.	Organic production and market data initiatives.					
Sec. 7408.	International organic research collaboration.					
Sec. 7409.	Report on producers and handlers of organic agricultural products.					
Sec. 7410.	Report on genetically modified pest-protected plants.					
Sec. 7411.	Study of nutrient banking.					
	*	*	*	*	*	*
	TITLE X—MISCELLANEOUS					
	Subtitle I—General Provisions					
	*	*	*	*	*	*
Sec. 10802.	Program of public education regarding use of biotechnology in producing food for human consumption.					

**TITLE VII—RESEARCH AND RELATED MATTERS**

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**Subtitle D—New Authorities**

**SEC. 7401. [7 U.S.C. 3319f note] SUBTITLE DEFINITIONS.**

In this subtitle:

<sup>1</sup>This table of contents is up-to-date and is included for the convenience of the reader. The original table of contents for the title is found in section 1 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, but it has not been kept up-to-date.

(1) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department” means the Department of Agriculture.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

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**SEC. 7404. [7 U.S.C. 3101 note] REVIEW OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish a task force to—

(1) conduct a review of the Agricultural Research Service; and

(2) evaluate the merits of establishing one or more National Institutes focused on disciplines important to the progress of food and agricultural science.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Task Force shall consist of 8 members, appointed by the Secretary, that—

(A) have a broad-based background in plant, animal, and agricultural sciences research, food, nutrition, biotechnology, crop production methods, environmental science, or related disciplines; and

(B) are familiar with the role and infrastructure used to conduct Federal and private research, including—

(i) the Agricultural Research Service;

(ii) the National Institutes of Health;

(iii) the National Science Foundation;

(iv) the National Aeronautics and Space Administration;

(v) the Department of Energy laboratory system;

or

(vi) the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service.

(2) PRIVATE SECTOR.—Of the members appointed under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall appoint at least 6 members that are members of the private sector or come from institutions of higher education.

(3) PLANT AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES RESEARCH.—Of the members appointed under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall appoint at least 3 members that have an extensive background and preeminence in the field of plant, animal, and agricultural sciences research.

(4) CHAIRPERSON.—Of the members appointed under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall designate a Chairperson that has significant leadership experience in educational and research institutions and indepth knowledge of the research enterprises of the United States.

(5) CONSULTATION.—Before appointing members of the Task Force under this subsection, the Secretary shall consult with the National Academy of Sciences and the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

(c) DUTIES.—The Task Force shall—

(1) conduct a review of the purpose, efficiency, effectiveness, and impact on agricultural research of the Agricultural Research Service;

(2) conduct a review and evaluation of the merits of establishing one or more National Institutes (such as National Institutes for Plant and Agricultural Sciences) focused on disciplines important to the progress of food and agricultural sciences, and, if establishment of one or more National Institutes is recommended, provide further recommendations to the Secretary, including the structure for establishing each Institute, the multistate area location of each Institute, and the amount of funding necessary to establish each Institute; and

(3) submit the reports required by subsection (d).

(d) **REPORTS.**—Not later than 12 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Task Force shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate, and the Secretary—

(1) a report on the review and evaluation required under subsection (c)(1); and

(2) a report on the review and evaluation required under subsection (c)(2).

(e) **FUNDING.**—The Secretary shall use to carry out this section not more than 0.1 percent of the amount of appropriations available to the Agricultural Research Service for fiscal year 2003.

**SEC. 7405. [7 U.S.C. 3319f] BEGINNING FARMER AND RANCHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.**

(a) **DEFINITION OF BEGINNING FARMER OR RANCHER.**—In this section, the term “beginning farmer or rancher” means a person that—

(1)(A) has not operated a farm or ranch; or

(B) has operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 years; and

(2) meets such other criteria as the Secretary may establish.

(b) **PROGRAM.**—The Secretary shall establish a beginning farmer and rancher development program to provide training, education, outreach, and technical assistance initiatives for beginning farmers or ranchers.

(c) **GRANTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall make competitive grants to support new and established local and regional training, education, outreach, and technical assistance initiatives for beginning farmers or ranchers, including programs and services (as appropriate) relating to—

(A) mentoring, apprenticeships, and internships;

(B) resources and referral;

(C) assisting beginning farmers or ranchers in acquiring land from retiring farmers and ranchers;

(D) innovative farm and ranch transfer strategies;

(E) entrepreneurship and business training;

(F) model land leasing contracts;

(G) financial management training;

- (H) whole farm planning;
  - (I) conservation assistance;
  - (J) risk management education;
  - (K) diversification and marketing strategies;
  - (L) curriculum development;
  - (M) understanding the impact of concentration and globalization;
  - (N) basic livestock and crop farming practices;
  - (O) the acquisition and management of agricultural credit;
  - (P) environmental compliance;
  - (Q) information processing; and
  - (R) other similar subject areas of use to beginning farmers or ranchers.
- (2) **ELIGIBILITY.**—To be eligible to receive a grant under this subsection, the recipient shall be a collaborative State, tribal, local, or regionally-based network or partnership of public or private entities, which may include—
- (A) a State cooperative extension service;
  - (B) a Federal, State, or tribal agency;
  - (C) a community-based and nongovernmental organization;
  - (D) a college or university (including an institution awarding an associate's degree) or foundation maintained by a college or university; or
  - (E) any other appropriate partner, as determined by the Secretary.
- (3) **TERM OF GRANT.**—The term of a grant under this subsection shall not exceed 3 years.
- (4) **MATCHING REQUIREMENT.**—To be eligible to receive a grant under this subsection, a recipient shall provide a match in the form of cash or in-kind contributions in an amount equal to 25 percent of the funds provided by the grant.
- (5) **SET-ASIDE.**—Not less than 25 percent of funds used to carry out this subsection for a fiscal year shall be used to support programs and services that address the needs of—
- (A) limited resource beginning farmers or ranchers (as defined by the Secretary);
  - (B) socially disadvantaged beginning farmers or ranchers (as defined in section 355(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2003(e)); and
  - (C) farmworkers desiring to become farmers or ranchers.
- (6) **PROHIBITION.**—A grant made under this subsection may not be used for the planning, repair, rehabilitation, acquisition, or construction of a building or facility.
- (7) **ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.**—The Secretary shall use not more than 4 percent of the funds made available to carry out this subsection for administrative costs incurred by the Secretary in carrying out this section.
- (d) **EDUCATION TEAMS.**—
- (1) **IN GENERAL.**—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall establish beginning farmer and rancher education teams to develop curricula and conduct educational programs

and workshops for beginning farmers or ranchers in diverse geographical areas of the United States.

(2) CURRICULUM.—In promoting the development of curricula, the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, include modules tailored to specific audiences of beginning farmers or ranchers, based on crop or regional diversity.

(3) COMPOSITION.—In establishing an education team for a specific program or workshop, the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable—

(A) obtain the short-term services of specialists with knowledge and expertise in programs serving beginning farmers or ranchers; and

(B) use officers and employees of the Department with direct experience in programs of the Department that may be taught as part of the curriculum for the program or workshop.

(4) COOPERATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out this subsection, the Secretary shall cooperate, to the maximum extent practicable, with—

(i) State cooperative extension services;

(ii) Federal and State agencies;

(iii) community-based and nongovernmental organizations;

(iv) colleges and universities (including an institution awarding an associate's degree) or foundations maintained by a college or university; and

(v) other appropriate partners, as determined by the Secretary.

(B) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT.—Notwithstanding chapter 63 of title 31, United States Code, the Secretary may enter into a cooperative agreement to reflect the terms of any cooperation under subparagraph (A).

(e) CURRICULUM AND TRAINING CLEARINGHOUSE.—The Secretary shall establish an online clearinghouse that makes available to beginning farmers or ranchers education curricula and training materials and programs, which may include online courses for direct use by beginning farmers or ranchers.

(f) STAKEHOLDER INPUT.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall seek stakeholder input from—

(1) beginning farmers and ranchers;

(2) national, State, tribal, and local organizations and other persons with expertise in operating beginning farmer and rancher programs; and

(3) the Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers established under section 5 of the Agricultural Credit Improvement Act of 1992 (7 U.S.C. 1929 note; Public Law 102-554).

(g) PARTICIPATION BY OTHER FARMERS AND RANCHERS.—Nothing in this section prohibits the Secretary from allowing farmers and ranchers who are not beginning farmers or ranchers from participating in programs authorized under this section to the extent that the Secretary determines that such participation is appro-

priate and will not detract from the primary purpose of educating beginning farmers and ranchers.

(h) Authorization of Appropriations.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2007.

**SEC. 7406. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING DOUBLING OF FUNDING FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH.**

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) Federal funding for food and agricultural research has been essentially constant for 2 decades, putting at risk the scientific base on which food and agricultural advances have been made;

(2) the resulting increase in the relative proportion of private sector, industry investments in food and agricultural research has led to questions about the independence and objectivity of research and outreach conducted by the Federal and university research sectors; and

(3) funding for food and agricultural research should be at least doubled over the next 5 fiscal years—

(A) to restore the balance between public and private sector funding for food and agricultural research; and

(B) to maintain the scientific base on which food and agricultural advances are made.

**SEC. 7407. [7 U.S.C. 5925c] ORGANIC PRODUCTION AND MARKET DATA INITIATIVES.**

The Secretary shall ensure that segregated data on the production and marketing of organic agricultural products is included in the ongoing baseline of data collection regarding agricultural production and marketing.

**SEC. 7408. [7 U.S.C. 5925d] INTERNATIONAL ORGANIC RESEARCH COLLABORATION.**

The Secretary, acting through the Agricultural Research Service (including the National Agricultural Library) and the Economic Research Service, shall facilitate access by research and extension professionals, farmers, and other interested persons in the United States to, and the use by those persons of, organic research conducted outside the United States.

**SEC. 7409. [7 U.S.C. 5925b note] REPORT ON PRODUCERS AND HANDLERS OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.**

Not later than 1 year after funds are made available to carry out this section, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that—

(1) describes—

(A) the extent to which producers and handlers of organic agricultural products are contributing to research and promotion programs of the Department;

(B) the extent to which producers and handlers of organic agricultural products are surveyed for ideas for research and promotion;

(C) ways in which the programs reflect the contributions made by producers and handlers of organic agricultural products and directly benefit the producers and handlers; and



(D) the implementation of initiatives that directly benefit organic producers and handlers; and

(2) evaluates industry and other proposals for improving the treatment of certified organic agricultural products under Federal marketing orders, including proposals to target additional resources for research and promotion of organic products and to differentiate between certified organic and other products in new or existing volume limitations or other orderly marketing requirements.

**SEC. 7410. REPORT ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED PEST-PROTECTED PLANTS.**

It is the sense of Congress that, not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary should—

(1) review the recommendations of the Committee on Genetically Modified Pest-Protected Plants of the Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources of the National Research Council made during 2000 and the Committee on Environmental Impacts Associated with Commercialization of Transgenic Plants made during 2002, concerning food safety, ecological research, monitoring needs for transgenic crops with plant incorporated protectants, and the environmental effects of transgenic plants; and

(2) submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes actions taken to implement those recommendations by agencies within the Department, including agencies that develop or implement programs or objectives relating to marketing, regulation, food safety, research, education, or economics.

**SEC. 7411. [7 U.S.C. 5925a note] STUDY OF NUTRIENT BANKING.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may conduct a study to evaluate nutrient banking for the purpose of enhancing the health and viability of watersheds in areas with large concentrations of animal producing units.

(b) COMPONENTS.—In conducting any study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall evaluate the costs, needs, and means by which litter may be collected and distributed outside the applicable watershed to reduce potential point source and nonpoint source phosphorous pollution.

(c) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes the results of any study conducted under subsection (a).

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**TITLE X—MISCELLANEOUS**

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Subtitle I—General Provisions

**SEC. 10802. [7 U.S.C. 5921a] PROGRAM OF PUBLIC EDUCATION REGARDING USE OF BIOTECHNOLOGY IN PRODUCING FOOD FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.**

(a) PUBLIC INFORMATION CAMPAIGN.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall develop and implement a program to communicate with the public regarding the use of biotechnology in producing food for human consumption. The information provided under the program shall include the following:

(1) Science-based evidence on the safety of foods produced with biotechnology.

(2) Scientific data on the human outcomes of the use of biotechnology to produce food for human consumption.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2007.

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