

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2168

To support research efforts to understand and control diseases of wheat and barley caused by *Fusarium graminearum* and related fungi in order to ensure sustainable production of wheat and barley in north-central United States and the safety of food products containing wheat and barley.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 15, 1997

Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BARCIA, Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. DOOLEY of California, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. HULSHOF, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. LaFALCE, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mr. MINGE, Mr. NEY, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. OXLEY, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. POMEROY, Mr. REGULA, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. SKELTON, Mr. TIAHRT, and Mr. TRAFICANT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To support research efforts to understand and control diseases of wheat and barley caused by *Fusarium graminearum* and related fungi in order to ensure sustainable production of wheat and barley in north-central United States and the safety of food products containing wheat and barley.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Wheat and Barley Pro-
3 tection Act of 1997”.

4 **SEC. 2. SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH REGARDING DISEASES**
5 **OF WHEAT AND BARLEY CAUSED BY FUSAR-**
6 **IUM GRAMINEARUM.**

7 (a) RESEARCH GRANT AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary
8 of Agriculture may make a grant to a consortium of land-
9 grant colleges and universities to enhance the ability of
10 the consortium to carry out a multi-State research project
11 aimed at understanding and combating diseases of wheat
12 and barley caused by *Fusarium graminearum* and related
13 fungi (in this section referred to as “wheat scab”).

14 (b) RESEARCH COMPONENTS.—Funds provided
15 under this section shall be available for the following col-
16 laborative, multi-State research activities:

17 (1) Identification and understanding of the epi-
18 demiology of wheat scab and the toxicological prop-
19 erties of vomitoxin, an toxic metabolite commonly
20 occurring in wheat and barley infected with wheat
21 scab.

22 (2) Development of crop management strategies
23 to reduce the risk of wheat scab occurrence.

24 (3) Development of efficient and accurate meth-
25 ods to monitor wheat and barley for the presence of
26 wheat scab and resulting vomitoxin contamination,

1 post-harvest management techniques for wheat and
2 barley infected with wheat scab, and milling and
3 food processing techniques to render contaminated
4 grain safe.

5 (4) Strengthening and expansion of plant-breed-
6 ing activities to enhance the resistance of wheat and
7 barley to wheat scab, including the establishment of
8 a regional advanced breeding material evaluation
9 nursery and a germplasm introduction and evalua-
10 tion system.

11 (5) Development and deployment of alternative
12 fungicide application systems and formulations to
13 control wheat scab and consideration of other chemi-
14 cal control strategies to assist farmers until new
15 more resistant wheat and barley varieties are avail-
16 able.

17 (c) COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS.—Funds provided
18 under this section shall be available for efforts to con-
19 centrate, integrate, and disseminate research, extension,
20 and outreach-orientated information regarding wheat
21 scab.

22 (d) MANAGEMENT.—To oversee the use of a grant
23 made under this section, the Secretary shall establish a
24 committee composed of the directors of the agricultural
25 experiment stations in the States in which land-grant col-

1 leges and universities that are members of the consortium
2 are located.

3 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
4 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary for
5 each of the fiscal years 1998 through 2002, \$5,200,000
6 to make grants under this section.

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