

(A) closely coordinate research and extension activities;

(B) indicate the manner in which the findings of the project will be made readily usable by farmers;

(C) maximize the involvement and cooperation of farmers, including projects involving on-farm research and demonstration;

(D) involve a multidisciplinary systems approach; and

(E) involve cooperation between farms, non-profit organizations, colleges and universities, and government agencies.

(d) Diversification of research

The Secretary shall conduct projects and studies under this section in areas that are broadly representative of the diversity of United States agricultural production, including production on family farms, mixed-crop livestock farms and dairy operations.

(e) On-farm research

The Secretary may conduct projects and activities that involve on-farm research and demonstration in carrying out this section.

(f) Impact studies

The Secretary may approve study projects concerning the national and regional economic, global competitiveness, social and environmental implications of the adoption of low-input sustainable agricultural practices and systems.

(g) Project duration

(1) In general

The Secretary may approve projects to be conducted under this section that have a duration of more than one fiscal year.

(2) Sequence planting

In the case of a research project conducted under this section that involves the planting of a sequence of crops or crop rotations, the Secretary shall approve such projects for a term that is appropriate to the sequence or rotation being studied.

(h) Public access

The Secretary shall ensure that research projects conducted under this section are open for public observation at specified times.

(i) Indemnification

(1) In general

Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary may indemnify the operator of a project conducted under this section for damage incurred or undue losses sustained as a result of a rigid requirement of research or demonstration under such project that is not experienced in normal farming operations.

(2) Subject to agreement

An indemnity payment under paragraph (1) shall be subject to any agreement between a project grantee and operator entered into prior to the initiation of such project.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XVI, §1621, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3734; Pub. L. 104-127, title VIII, §860(c)(2), Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1173.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

1996—Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 104-127, §860(c)(2)(A), redesignated subpars. (B) to (E) as (A) to (D), respectively, and struck out former subpar. (A) which read as follows: “the recommendations of the Advisory Council;”.

Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 104-127, §860(c)(2)(B), redesignated subpars. (B) to (F) as (A) to (E), respectively, and struck out former subpar. (A) which read as follows: “are recommended by the Advisory Council;”.

§ 5812. Program administration

(a) Duties of Secretary

The Secretary shall—

(1) administer the programs and projects conducted under sections 5811 and 5813 of this title through the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, and other appropriate agencies;

(2) establish a minimum of four Regional Administrative Councils in accordance with subsection (b); and

(3) in conjunction with such Regional Administrative Councils, identify regional host institutions required to carry out such programs or projects.

(b) Regional Administrative Councils

(1) Membership

The membership of the Regional Administrative Councils shall include representatives of—

(A) the Agricultural Research Service;

(B) the National Institute of Food and Agriculture;

(C) State cooperative extension services;

(D) State agricultural experiment stations;

(E) the Soil Conservation Service;

(F) State departments engaged in sustainable agriculture programs;

(G) nonprofit organizations with demonstrable expertise;

(H) farmers utilizing systems and practices of sustainable agriculture;

(I) agribusiness;

(J) the State or United States Geological Survey; and

(K) other persons knowledgeable about sustainable agriculture and its impact on the environment and rural communities.

(2) Responsibilities

The Regional Administrative Councils shall—

(A) promote the programs established under this subchapter at the regional level;

(B) establish goals and criteria for the selection of projects authorized under this subchapter within the applicable region;

(C) appoint a technical committee to evaluate the proposals for projects to be considered under this subchapter by such council;

(D) review and act on the recommendations of the technical committee, and coordinate its activities with the regional host institution; and

(E) prepare and make available an annual report concerning projects funded under sec-

tions 5811 and 5813 of this title, together with an evaluation of the project activity.

(3) Conflict of interest

A member of the Regional Administrative Council or a technical committee may not participate in the discussion or recommendation of proposed projects if the member has or had a professional or business interest in, including the provision of consultancy services, the organization whose grant application is under review.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XVI, §1622, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3736; Pub. L. 104-127, title VIII, §860(a), (b), Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1173; Pub. L. 110-234, title VII, §7511(c)(15), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1268; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title VII, §7511(c)(15), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2030.)

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

AMENDMENTS

2008—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 110-246, §7511(c)(15)(A), substituted “the National Institute of Food and Agriculture” for “the Cooperative State Research Service in close cooperation with the Extension Service”.

Subsec. (b)(1)(B) to (L). Pub. L. 110-246, §7511(c)(15)(B), added subpar. (B), redesignated former subpars. (D) to (L) as (C) to (K), respectively, and struck out former subpars. (B) and (C) which read as follows:

“(B) the Cooperative State Research Service;

“(C) the Extension Service;”.

1996—Subsec. (a)(2) to (4). Pub. L. 104-127, §860(b)(1), redesignated pars. (3) and (4) as (2) and (3), respectively, substituted “subsection (b)” for “subsection (e)” in par. (2), and struck out former par. (2) which read as follows: “establish the Advisory Council in accordance with subsection (c) of this section;”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 104-127, §860(a), (b)(3), redesignated subsec. (e) as (b) and struck out former subsec. (b) which required Secretary, not later than Apr. 1, 1991, and each April 1 thereafter, to prepare and submit to congressional committees and to Advisory Council report describing results of programs carried out under sections 5811, 5813, and 5821 of this title and report describing progress of projects conducted under this subchapter.

Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 104-127, §860(b)(4), redesignated subpars. (B) to (F) as (A) to (E), respectively, and struck out former subpar. (A) which read as follows: “make recommendations to the Advisory Council concerning research and extension projects that merit funding under sections 5811 and 5813 of this title;”.

Subsecs. (c) to (e). Pub. L. 104-127, §860(b)(2), (3), redesignated subsec. (e) as (b) and struck out subsec. (c) which provided for membership of the National Sustainable Agriculture Advisory Council and subsec. (d) which set forth responsibilities of Advisory Council.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, except as otherwise provided, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

Amendment by section 7511(c)(15) of Pub. L. 110-246 effective Oct. 1, 2009, see section 7511(c) of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as a note under section 1522 of this title.

§ 5813. Federal-State matching grant program

(a) Establishment

The Secretary shall establish a Federal-State matching grant program to make grants to States to assist in the creation or enhancement of State sustainable agriculture research, extension, and education programs, in furtherance of this subchapter.

(b) Eligible programs and activities

States eligible to receive a grant under this section may conduct a variety of activities designed to carry out the purpose of this subchapter, including—

(1) activities that encourage the incorporation and integration of sustainable agriculture concerns in all State research, extension, and education projects;

(2) educational programs for farmers, educators, and the public;

(3) the development and funding of innovative research, extension, and education programs regarding sustainable agriculture;

(4) the conduct of research and demonstration projects;

(5) the provision of technical assistance to farmers and ranchers;

(6) activities that encourage farmer-to-farmer information exchanges;

(7) the incorporation of sustainable agriculture studies in undergraduate and graduate degree programs; and

(8) such other activities that are appropriate to the agricultural concerns of the State that are consistent with the purpose of this part.

(c) Submission of plan

(1) Required

States that elect to apply for a grant under this section shall prepare and submit, to the appropriate Regional Administrative Council established under section 5812 of this title, a State plan and schedule for approval by such council and the Secretary.

(2) Elements of plan

State plans prepared under paragraph (1) shall provide details of the proposed program to be implemented using funds provided under this section for fiscal years 1991 through 1995, or any 5-year period thereafter, and shall identify the sources of matching State funds for the same fiscal year.

(3) Participation of farmers

To be eligible for approval, State plans submitted under this subsection shall demonstrate that there will be extensive and direct participation of farmers in the development, implementation, and evaluation of the program.

(d) Grant award

(1) Limits

Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary shall provide grants to eligible States in an amount not to exceed 50 percent of the cost of the establishment or enhancement of a State sustainable agriculture program under a plan approved by the Secretary under subsection (c) for a period not to exceed 5 years.