

1998—Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 105-185 struck out “section 5881 of this title,” before “and other appropriate research” in introductory provisions.

1996—Subsecs. (f), (g)(11). Pub. L. 104-127 struck out “section 5881 of this title,” before “and other appropriate”.

1991—Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 102-237 substituted “ensure” for “insure”.

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)(17) 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.

SUBCHAPTER II—NATIONAL GENETIC RESOURCES PROGRAM

§ 5841. Establishment, purpose, and functions of National Genetic Resources Program

(a) In general

The Secretary of Agriculture shall provide for a National Genetic Resources Program.

(b) Purpose

The program is established for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing a program providing for the collection, preservation, and dissemination of genetic material of importance to American food and agriculture production.

(c) Administration

The program shall be administered by the Secretary through the Agricultural Research Service.

(d) Functions

The Secretary, acting through the program, shall—

(1) provide for the collection, classification, preservation, and dissemination of genetic material of importance to the food and agriculture sectors of the United States;

(2) conduct research on the genetic materials collected and on methods for storage and preservation of those materials;

(3) coordinate the activities of the program with similar activities occurring domestically;

(4) unless otherwise prohibited by law, have the right to make available on request, without charge and without regard to the country from which the request originates, the genetic material that the program assembles;

(5) expand the types of genetic resources included in the program to develop a comprehensive genetic resources program which includes plants (including silvicultural species), animal, aquatic, insect, microbiological, and other types of genetic resources of importance to food and agriculture, as resources permit;

(6) develop and implement a national strategic germplasm and cultivar collection assessment and utilization plan that takes into consideration the resources and research necessary to address the significant backlog of characterization and maintenance of existing

accessions considered to be critical to preserve the viability of, and public access to, germplasm and cultivars; and

(7) engage in such other activities as the Secretary determines appropriate and as the resources of the program permit.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XVI, §1632, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3744; Pub. L. 104-127, title VIII, §832(a), Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1168; Pub. L. 115-334, title VII, §7205(a), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4803.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (d)(6), (7). Pub. L. 115-334 added par. (6) and redesignated former par. (6) as (7).

1996—Subsec. (d)(4). Pub. L. 104-127 added par. (4) and struck out former par. (4) which read as follows: “make available upon request, without charge and without regard to the country from which such request originates, the genetic material which the program assembles;”.

§ 5842. Appointment and authority of Director

(a) Director

There shall be at the head of the program an official to be known as the Director of the National Genetic Resources Program who shall be appointed by the Secretary. The Director shall perform such duties as are assigned to the Director by this subchapter and such other duties as the Secretary may prescribe.

(b) Administrative authority

In carrying out this subchapter, the Secretary, acting through the Director—

(1) shall be responsible for the overall direction of the program and for the establishment and implementation of general policies respecting the management and operation of activities within the program;

(2) may secure for the program consultation services and advice of persons from the United States and abroad;

(3) may accept voluntary and uncompensated services; and

(4) may perform such other administrative functions as the Secretary determines are needed to effectively carry out this subchapter.

(c) Duties

The Director shall—

(1) advise participants on the program activities;

(2) coordinate, review and facilitate the systematic identification and evaluation of, relevant information generated under the program;

(3) promote the effective transfer of the information described in paragraph (2) to the agriculture and food production community and to entities that require such information; and

(4) monitor the effectiveness of the activities described in paragraph (3).

(d) Biennial reports

The Director shall prepare and transmit to the Secretary and to the Congress a biennial report containing—

(1) a description of the activities carried out by and through the program and the policies

of the program, and such recommendations respecting such activities and policies as the Director considers to be appropriate;

(2) a description of the necessity for, and progress achieved toward providing, additional programs and activities designed to include the range of genetic resources described in section 5841(d)(5) of this title in the activities of the program; and

(3) an assessment of events and activities occurring internationally as they relate to the activities and policies of the program.

(e) Initial reports

Not later than one year after November 28, 1990, the Director shall transmit to the Secretary and to the Congress a report—

(1) describing the projected needs over a 10-year period in each of the areas of genetic resources described in section 5841(d)(5) of this title, including the identification of existing components of a comprehensive program, policies and activities needed to coordinate those components, and additional elements not in existence which are required for the development of a comprehensive genetic resources program as described in such section;

(2) assessing the international efforts and activities related to the program, and their effect upon and coordination with the program; and

(3) evaluating the potential effect of various national laws, including national quarantine requirements, as well as treaties, agreements, and the activities of international organizations on the development of a comprehensive international system for the collection and maintenance of genetic resources of importance to agriculture.

(f) Plan publication

On completion of the development of the plan described in section 5841(d)(6) of this title, the Secretary shall make the plan available to the public.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XVI, §1633, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3744; Pub. L. 102-237, title IV, §404(a)(2), Dec. 13, 1991, 105 Stat. 1864; Pub. L. 115-334, title VII, §7205(b), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4803.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 115-334 added subsec. (f).
1991—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 102-237 substituted “Resources Program” for “Resources program”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

TERMINATION OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

For termination, effective May 15, 2000, of provisions in subsec. (d) of this section relating to biennial reports to Congress, see section 3003 of Pub. L. 104-66, as amended, set out as a note under section 1113 of Title 31, Money and Finance, and page 49 of House Document No. 103-7.

§ 5843. Advisory council

(a) Establishment and membership

(1) In general

The Secretary shall establish an advisory council for the program for the purpose of ad-

vising, assisting, consulting with, and making recommendations to, the Secretary and Director concerning matters related to the activities, policies and operations of the program.

(2) Membership

The advisory council shall consist of ex officio members and not more than 13 members appointed by the Secretary.

(3) Recommendations

(A) In general

In making recommendations under paragraph (1), the advisory council shall include recommendations on—

(i) the state of public cultivar development, including—

(I) an analysis of existing cultivar research investments;

(II) the research gaps relating to the development of cultivars across a diverse range of crops; and

(III) an assessment of the state of commercialization of federally funded cultivars;

(ii) the training and resources needed to meet future breeding challenges;

(iii) the appropriate levels of Federal funding for cultivar development for underserved crops and geographic areas; and

(iv) the development of the plan described in section 5841(d)(6) of this title.

(b) Ex officio members

The ex officio members of the advisory council shall consist of the following persons (or their designees):

(1) The Director.

(2) The Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Science and Education.

(3) The Director of the National Agricultural Library.

(4) The Director of the National Institutes of Health.

(5) The Director of the National Science Foundation.

(6) The Secretary of Energy.

(7) The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

(8) Such additional officers and employees of the United States as the Secretary determines are necessary for the advisory council to effectively carry out its functions.

(c) Appointment of other members

The members of the advisory council who are not ex officio members shall be appointed by the Secretary as follows:

(1) 6 of the members shall be appointed from among the leading representatives of the scientific disciplines relevant to the activities of the program, including agricultural sciences, economics and policy, environmental sciences, natural resource sciences, health sciences, and nutritional sciences.

(2) 3 of the members shall be appointed from the general public and shall include leaders in fields of public policy, community development, trade, international development, law, or management.

(3) 4 of the members shall be appointed from among individuals with expertise in public cultivar and animal breed development.