

§ 5856. Improvements to United States Drought Monitor

(a) In general

The Secretary shall coordinate with the Director of the National Drought Mitigation Center and the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to enhance the collection of data to improve the accuracy of the United States Drought Monitor.

(b) Utilization

To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall utilize a consistent source or sources of data for programs that are based on drought or precipitation indices, such as the livestock forage disaster program established under section 9081(c) of this title or policies or plans of insurance established under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.).

(c) Review

Not later than 1 year after December 20, 2018, the Secretary shall conduct a review of—

- (1) the types of data currently utilized by the United States Drought Monitor;
- (2) the geographic coverage and density of existing data collection sites; and
- (3) other meteorological or climatological data that is being collected by other Federal agencies, State and local governments, and non-Federal entities that could be utilized by the United States Drought Monitor.

(d) Improvements

(1) In general

Upon the completion of the review prescribed in subsection (c), the Secretary shall—

- (A) seek to expand the collection of relevant data in States or geographic areas where coverage is currently lacking as compared to other States or geographic areas; and
- (B) to the maximum extent practicable, develop standards to allow the integration of meteorological or climatological data into the United States Drought Monitor derived from—
 - (i) in-situ soil moisture profile measuring devices;
 - (ii) citizen science (as defined in the Crowdsourcing and Citizen Science Act (15 U.S.C. 3724)), including data from the Cooperative Observer Program of the National Weather Service; and
 - (iii) other Federal agencies, State and local governments, and non-Federal entities.

(2) Authorization of appropriations

There is to be authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this subsection \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023.

(Pub. L. 115–334, title XII, §12512, Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4995.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Federal Crop Insurance Act, referred to in subsec. (b), is subtitle A of title V of act Feb. 16, 1938, ch.

30, 52 Stat. 72, which is classified generally to subchapter I (§1501 et seq.) of chapter 36 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 1501 of this title and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, and not as part of subtitle C of title XVI of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 which comprises this subchapter.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

DEFINITION OF “SECRETARY”

“Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture, see section 2 of Pub. L. 115–334, set out as a note under section 9001 of this title.

SUBCHAPTER IV—RESEARCH REGARDING PRODUCTION, PREPARATION, PROCESSING, HANDLING, AND STORAGE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

§§ 5871 to 5874. Repealed. Pub. L. 104–127, title VIII, § 861, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1174

Section 5871, Pub. L. 101–624, title XVI, §1644, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3751, provided for establishment of research and grant program.

Section 5872, Pub. L. 101–624, title XVI, §1645, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3752, related to advisory committee and grant process.

Section 5873, Pub. L. 101–624, title XVI, §1646, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3753, provided for reports to Congress.

Section 5874, Pub. L. 101–624, title XVI, §1647, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3754, provided for appropriations for research and grant program.

SUBCHAPTER V—PLANT AND ANIMAL PEST AND DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAM

§§ 5881 to 5885. Repealed. Pub. L. 104–127, title VIII, § 862(a), Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1174

Section 5881, Pub. L. 101–624, title XVI, §1650, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3754, related to plant and animal pest and disease control program.

Section 5882, Pub. L. 101–624, title XVI, §1651, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3754, related to pest and disease control data base and pesticide resistance monitoring.

Section 5883, Pub. L. 101–624, title XVI, §1652, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3755; Pub. L. 102–237, title IV, §407(8), Dec. 13, 1991, 105 Stat. 1865, related to research on control and eradication of exotic pests.

Section 5884, Pub. L. 101–624, title XVI, §1653, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3755, provided for study of biology and behavior of chinch bugs.

Section 5885, Pub. L. 101–624, title XVI, §1654, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3756, authorized appropriations for plant, pest, and disease control program.

SUBCHAPTER VI—ALTERNATIVE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND COMMERCIALIZATION

§§ 5901 to 5909. Repealed. Pub. L. 107–171, title VI, § 6201(a), May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 418

Section 5901, Pub. L. 101–624, title XVI, §1657, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3756; Pub. L. 104–127, title VII, §721, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1112, provided that this subchapter may be cited as the “Alternative Agricultural Research and Commercialization Act of 1990” and specified purpose of and definitions relating to this subchapter.

Section 5902, Pub. L. 101–624, title XVI, §1658, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3757; Pub. L. 102–237, title IV, §405(a), Dec. 13, 1991, 105 Stat. 1864; Pub. L. 104–127, title VII, §722(a), Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1113, created the Alternative Agricultural Research and Commercialization Corporation.

Section 5903, Pub. L. 101-624, title XVI, §1659, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3759; Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §723(a), Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1115, related to board of directors, employees, and facilities.

Section 5904, Pub. L. 101-624, title XVI, §1660, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3761; Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §724, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1119, related to research and development grants, contracts, and agreements.

Section 5905, Pub. L. 101-624, title XVI, §1661, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3762; Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §725, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1119, related to commercialization assistance.

Section 5906, Pub. L. 101-624, title XVI, §1662, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3764; Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §726, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1119, related to general rules regarding provision of assistance.

Section 5907, Pub. L. 101-624, title XVI, §1663, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3765; Pub. L. 102-237, title IV, §405(b), Dec. 13, 1991, 105 Stat. 1864; Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §727, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1119, related to Regional Centers.

Section 5908, Pub. L. 101-624, title XVI, §1664, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3766; Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §728, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1120, related to the Alternative Agricultural Research and Commercialization Revolving Fund.

Section 5909, Pub. L. 101-624, title XVI, §1665, as added Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §729, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1121, related to procurement of alternative agricultural research and commercialization products.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

DISPOSITION AND USE OF ASSETS

Pub. L. 107-171, title VI, §6201(b), (c), May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 418, 419, provided that:

“(b) DISPOSITION OF ASSETS.—On the date of enactment of this Act [May 13, 2002]—

“(1) the assets, both tangible and intangible, of the Alternative Agricultural Research and Commercialization Corporation (referred to in this section as the ‘Corporation’), including the funds in the Alternative Agricultural Research and Commercialization Revolving Fund as of the date of enactment of this Act, are transferred to the Secretary of Agriculture; and

“(2) notwithstanding the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C. 471 et seq.) [see chapters 1 to 11 of Title 40, Public Buildings, Property, and Works, and division C (except sections 3302, 3307(e), 3501(b), 3509, 3906, 4710, and 4711) of subtitle I of Title 41, Public Contracts] and any other law that prescribes procedures for procurement, use, and disposal of property by a Federal agency, the Secretary shall have authority to manage and dispose of the assets transferred under paragraph (1) in a manner that, to the maximum extent practicable, provides the best value to the Federal Government.

“(c) USE OF ASSETS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Funds transferred under subsection (b), and any income from assets or proceeds from the sale of assets transferred under subsection (b), shall be deposited in an account in the Treasury, and shall remain available to the Secretary until expended, without further appropriation, to pay—

“(A) any claims against, or obligations of, the Corporation; and

“(B) the costs incurred by the Secretary in carrying out this section.

“(2) FINAL DISPOSITION.—On final disposition of all assets transferred under subsection (b), any funds remaining in the account described in paragraph (1) shall be transferred into miscellaneous receipts in the Treasury.”

BUSINESS PLAN AND FEASIBILITY STUDY AND REPORT

Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §730, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1122, provided for a business plan for, and a feasibility study and report on, the Alternative Agricultural Research and Commercialization Corporation, prior to re-

peal by Pub. L. 107-171, title VI, §6201(d)(2), May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 419.

SUBCHAPTER VII—MISCELLANEOUS RESEARCH PROVISIONS

§ 5921. Biotechnology risk assessment research

(a) Purpose

It is the purpose of this section—

(1) to authorize and support environmental assessment research to help identify and analyze environmental effects of biotechnology; and

(2) to authorize research to help regulators develop long-term policies concerning the introduction of such technology.

(b) Grant program

The Secretary of Agriculture shall establish a grant program within the National Institute of Food and Agriculture and the Agricultural Research Service to provide the necessary funding for environmental assessment research concerning the introduction of genetically engineered animals, plants, and microorganisms into the environment.

(c) Research priorities

The following types of research shall be given priority for funding:

(1) Research designed to identify and develop appropriate management practices to minimize physical and biological risks associated with genetically engineered animals, plants, and microorganisms.

(2) Research designed to develop methods to monitor the dispersal of genetically engineered animals, plants, and microorganisms.

(3) Research designed to further existing knowledge with respect to the characteristics, rates, and methods of gene transfer that may occur between genetically engineered animals, plants, and microorganisms and related wild and agricultural organisms.

(4) Environmental assessment research designed to provide analysis which compares the relative impacts of animals, plants, and microorganisms modified through genetic engineering to other types of production systems.

(5) Other areas of research designed to further the purposes of this section.

(d) Eligibility requirements

Grants under this section shall be—

(1) made on the basis of the quality of the proposed research project; and

(2) available to any public or private research or educational institution or organization.

(e) Consultation

In considering specific areas of research for funding under this section, the Secretary of Agriculture shall consult with the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board.

(f) Program coordination

The Secretary of Agriculture shall coordinate research funded under this section with the Of-