

lishing a system of large-scale experimental plantings (aggregating ten thousand acres or more) to provide shrub for feedstock to process in the developmental rubber processing facility described in paragraph (7)" for "establishing a system of experimental plantings in arid and semiarid regions of the United States having suitable climatic and soil conditions for the culture of *Parthenium*".

Subsec. (b)(5), (6). Pub. L. 98-284, §5(2), redesignated cls. (e) and (f) as pars. (5) and (6), respectively, of subsec. (b).

Subsec. (b)(7). Pub. L. 98-284, §5(2), (5), redesignated cl. (g) as par. (7) of subsec. (b) and substituted "accelerating the refinement of present extraction and processing technologies and future extraction technologies, including the development and construction of a developmental rubber processing facility for the extraction and production of test quantities of guayule natural rubber;" for "further refining present extraction technologies and future extraction technologies, including technologies which utilize solar energy; and".

Subsec. (b)(8). Pub. L. 98-284, §5(2), redesignated cl. (h) as par. (8) of subsec. (b).

Subsec. (b)(9). Pub. L. 98-284, §5(7), added par. (9).

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 98-284, §5(8), added subsec. (c).

§ 178d. Research and development program by Secretary of Commerce

The Secretary of Commerce is authorized and directed to initiate and carry out research, technology development, technology transfer, and demonstration projects to test and demonstrate the economic feasibility of the manufacture and commercialization of natural rubber from *Parthenium* or other hydrocarbon-containing plants or the manufacture and commercialization of other critical agricultural materials from native agricultural crops having strategic and industrial importance. Such research shall include but not be limited to—

(a) conducting research and development on extraction and processing techniques;

(b) economic analysis of the production of native latex, including usable byproducts;

(c) studying the environmental, social, and economic impacts of the commercial development of native latex;

(d) evaluating the commercial marketability of *Parthenium* and rubber derived from other hydrocarbon-containing plants;

(e) further refining present extraction and manufacturing technologies and future extraction and manufacturing technologies, including technologies which utilize solar energy;

(f) developing pertinent material and records on manufacturing of natural rubber which shall be available to other Federal and State agencies and private persons who are interested in or involved in natural rubber development, or manufacture; and

(g) to the extent appropriate, carrying out research activities with respect to native agricultural crops (other than *Parthenium* and other hydrocarbon-containing plants) that would supply critical agricultural materials for strategic and industrial purposes, in the manner specified in clauses (a) through (f).

(Pub. L. 95-592, §6, Nov. 4, 1978, 92 Stat. 2531; Pub. L. 98-284, §6, May 16, 1984, 98 Stat. 183.)

AMENDMENTS

1984—Pub. L. 98-284, §6(1), (2), inserted in provisions preceding cl. (a) reference to the manufacture and com-

mercialization of other critical agricultural materials from native agricultural crops having strategic and industrial importance, and struck out "may be carried out through the Regional Commissions or otherwise and" after "Such research".

Cl. (g). Pub. L. 98-284, §6(5), added cl. (g).

§ 178e. Cooperative projects with Mexico, Australia, and Israel

The Secretaries, in consultation with the Secretary of State, are authorized and encouraged to enter into cooperative projects with the Government of Mexico, the Government of Australia, and the Government of Israel in order to accomplish appropriate aspects of the research and development provided for in this subchapter. Such cooperative projects should include, but not be limited to, projects to determine the economic feasibility of extraction and processing of latex and other critical agricultural materials produced in the United States.

(Pub. L. 95-592, §7, Nov. 4, 1978, 92 Stat. 2532; Pub. L. 98-284, §7, May 16, 1984, 98 Stat. 183.)

AMENDMENTS

1984—Pub. L. 98-284 inserted ", the Government of Australia, and the Government of Israel", and substituted "extraction and processing of latex and other critical agricultural materials produced in the United States" for "latex extraction and processing".

§ 178f. Assistance from States and public agencies; contracts and agreements

The Secretaries are authorized to accept financial or other assistance from any State or public agency to aid in carrying out the provisions of this subchapter and to enter into contracts with respect to such assistance and to enter into agreements with any State or public agency for the purpose of demonstrating, transferring, or applying results of research or methods of economic development relating to native latex or to other critical agricultural materials.

(Pub. L. 95-592, §8, Nov. 4, 1978, 92 Stat. 2532; Pub. L. 98-284, §8, May 16, 1984, 98 Stat. 183.)

AMENDMENTS

1984—Pub. L. 98-284 inserted "or to other critical agricultural materials".

§ 178g. Powers of Secretary of Agriculture

In carrying out the provisions of this subchapter, the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to—

(a) make grants to States, education institutions, scientific organizations, and Indian tribes as defined in the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (Public Law 93-638, 25 U.S.C. 450), and enter into contracts with such institutions and organizations and with industrial or engineering firms;

(b) acquire the services of biologists, agronomists, foresters, geneticists, chemists, engineers, economists, and other personnel by contract or otherwise;

(c) utilize the facilities of Federal and State scientific laboratories;

(d) establish and operate necessary facilities and plantations to carry out the continuous research, testing, development, and programming necessary to effectuate the purposes of this subchapter;