

(1) The term “sustainable agriculture” shall have the same meaning given to that term by section 3103 of this title.

(2) The term “integrated crop management” means an agricultural management system that integrates all controllable agricultural production factors for long-term sustained productivity, profitability, and ecological soundness.

(3) The term “integrated resource management” means livestock management which utilizes an interdisciplinary systems approach which integrates all controllable agricultural production practices to provide long-term sustained productivity and profitable production of safe and wholesome food in an environmentally sound manner.

(4) The term “agribusiness” includes a producer or organization engaged in an agricultural enterprise with a profit motive.

(5) The term “extension” shall have the same meaning given to that term by section 3103 of this title.

(6) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

(7) The term “State” means each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands of the United States, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, or federally recognized Indian tribes.

(8) The term “State agricultural experiment stations” shall have the same meaning given to that term by section 3103 of this title.

(9) The term “nonprofit organization” means an organization, group, institute, or institution that—

(A) has a demonstrated capacity to conduct agricultural research or education programs;

(B) has experience in research, demonstration, education, or extension in sustainable agricultural practices and systems; and

(C) qualifies as a nonprofit organization under section 501(c) of title 26.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XVI, § 1619, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3733; Pub. L. 102-237, title IV, § 407(2), Dec. 13, 1991, 105 Stat. 1864; Pub. L. 104-127, title VIII, § 860(c)(1), Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1173; Pub. L. 110-234, title VII, § 7101(b)(5), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1213; Pub. L. 110-246, § 4(a), title VII, § 7101(b)(5), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 1975.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

This subchapter, referred to in subsecs. (a) and (b), was in the original “this subtitle”, meaning subtitle B (§§ 1619–1629) of title XVI of Pub. L. 101-624, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3733, which enacted this subchapter, repealed sections 4701 to 4710 of this title, and repealed provisions set out as a note under section 4701 of this title. For complete classification of subtitle B to the Code, see Tables.

#### 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. (b)(1). Pub. L. 110-246, § 7101(b)(5)(A), substituted “section 3103” for “section 3103(17)”.

Subsec. (b)(5). Pub. L. 110-246, § 7101(b)(5)(B), substituted “section 3103” for “section 3103(7)”.

Subsec. (b)(8). Pub. L. 110-246, § 7101(b)(5)(C), substituted “section 3103” for “section 3103(13)”.

1996—Subsec. (b)(7) to (10). Pub. L. 104-127 redesignated pars. (8) to (10) as (7) to (9), respectively, and struck out former par. (7) which read as follows: “The term ‘Advisory Council’ means the National Sustainable Agriculture Advisory Council established under section 5812(c) of this title.”

1991—Subsec. (b)(8). Pub. L. 102-237 substituted “Mariana Islands” for “Marianas Islands”.

#### 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, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

#### TERMINATION OF TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

For termination of Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, see note set out preceding section 1681 of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

#### PART A—BEST UTILIZATION OF BIOLOGICAL APPLICATIONS

### § 5811. Research and extension projects

#### (a) Projects required

The Secretary shall conduct research and extension projects to obtain data, develop conclusions, demonstrate technologies, and conduct educational programs that promote the purposes of this part, including research and extension projects that—

(1) facilitate and increase scientific investigation and education in order to—

(A) reduce, to the extent feasible and practicable, the use of chemical pesticides, fertilizers, and toxic natural materials in agricultural production;

(B) improve low-input farm management to enhance agricultural productivity, profitability, and competitiveness; and

(C) promote crop, livestock, and enterprise diversification; and

(2) facilitate the conduct of projects in order to—

(A) study, to the extent practicable, agricultural production systems that are located in areas that possess various soil, climate, and physical characteristics;

(B) study farms that have been, and will continue to be, managed using farm production practices that rely on low-input and conservation practices;

(C) take advantage of the experience and expertise of farmers and ranchers through their direct participation and leadership in projects;

(D) transfer practical, reliable and timely information to farmers and ranchers concerning low-input sustainable farming practices and systems; and

(E) promote a partnership between farmers, nonprofit organizations, agribusiness, and public and private research and extension institutions.

#### (b) Agreements

The Secretary shall carry out this section through agreements entered into with land-

grant colleges or universities, other universities, State agricultural experiment stations, the State cooperative extension services, non-profit organizations with demonstrable expertise, or Federal or State governmental entities.

**(c) Selection of projects**

**(1) In general**

The Secretary shall select research and extension projects to be conducted under this section on the basis of—

- (A) the relevance of the project to the purposes of this part;
- (B) the appropriateness of the design of the project;
- (C) the likelihood of obtaining the objectives of the project; and
- (D) the national or regional applicability of the findings and outcomes of the proposed project.

**(2) Priority**

In conducting projects under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to projects that—

- (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.)

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) of this section; 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