

direct, in concurrence with the budget proposal, that no other research facilities be closed during fiscal year 2012, except in accordance with the reprogramming requirements in this Act.

The conferees are concerned about recent outbreaks of bacterial spot disease in peppers and tomatoes in Midwestern states. The conferees encourage ARS to continue to work with collaborators on research to combat the disease and minimize economic loss to producers. ARS is directed to provide the Committees on Appropriations of the House and the Senate a report on the status of bacterial spot disease and ongoing research efforts.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

The conference agreement provides \$705,599,000 for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's research and education activities instead of \$596,400,000 as proposed by the House and \$709,825,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees express their strong support for USDA's agricultural research, extension and education activities. USDA and other notable philanthropic and scientific organizations have highlighted the need for the United States to invest in agricultural research to ensure productivity growth and to develop and refine sound natural resources management practices for U.S. farmers and ranchers and others around the world. However, the conferees are aware of concerns about the focus of USDA's research programs, particularly projects funded through the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative. The conferees strongly encourage USDA to fund only the highest priority agricultural research, as authorized by Congress.

The conference agreement provides \$9,000,000 for Graduate Fellowship Grants, Institution Challenge Grants, and the Multicultural Scholars Program, to remain available until expended.

The conferees request that the Department make recommendations regarding the consolidation of funding lines in the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's accounts in the President's budget for fiscal year 2013 and to work with interested individuals and organizations, including the House Committee on Agriculture and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, on this issue.

The following table reflects the amounts provided by the conference agreement:

National Institute of Food and Agriculture Research and Education Activities

[Dollars in Thousands]

Hatch Act	\$236,334
McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry	32,934
Evans-Allen Program	50,898
Animal Health and Disease Research	4,000
Special Research Grants:	
Global Change/UV Monitoring	1,300
Potato Research	1,350
Forest Products Research	1,350
Total, Special Research Grants	4,000
Improved Pest Control:	
Expert IPM Decision Support System	153
Integrated Pest Management	2,362

*National Institute of Food and Agriculture Research and Education Activities—
Continued*

Minor Crop Pest Management (IR-4)	11,913
Pest Management Alternatives	1,402
Total, Improved Pest Control	15,830
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative	264,470
Critical Agricultural Materials Act	1,081
Aquaculture Centers	3,920
Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education	14,471
Payments to the 1994 Institutions	3,335
Supplemental and Alternative Crops	825
Joe Skeen Institute for Rangeland Research	961
Competitive Grants for Policy Research	4,000
Capacity Building for Non Land-Grant Colleges	4,500
Farm Business Management and Benchmarking Program	1,450
Sun Grant Program	2,200
Capacity Building for 1890 Institutions	19,336
Multicultural Scholars, Graduate Fellowship and Institution Challenge Grants	9,000
Hispanic-Serving Institutions Education Grants	9,219
1994 Institutions Research Program	1,801
Secondary and 2-year Post-Secondary Program	900
Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program	4,790
Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions	3,194
Resident Instruction Grants for Insular Areas	900
Distance Education Grants for Insular Areas	750
Federal Administration:	
Data Information System (REEIS)	2,600
Electronic Grants Administration System	2,000
Other, Federal Administration	5,900
Total, Federal Administration	10,500
Total, Research and Education Activities	<u>\$705,599</u>

NATIVE AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS ENDOWMENT FUND

The conference agreement provides \$11,880,000 for the Native American Institutions Endowment Fund as proposed by the House and the Senate.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

The conference agreement provides \$475,183,000 for extension activities instead of \$411,200,000 as proposed by the House and \$478,179,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides \$4,610,000 for Farm Safety and Youth Farm Safety Education and Certification Programs.

The following table reflects the amounts provided by the conference agreement:

National Institute of Food and Agriculture Extension Activities

[Dollars in Thousands]

Smith-Lever, Section 3(b) and (c) Programs	\$294,000
Smith-Lever, Section 3(d) Programs:	
Food and Nutrition Education	67,934
Farm Safety and Youth Farm Safety Education Program	4,610
New Technologies for Agricultural Extension	1,550
Pest Management	9,918
Children, Youth and Families at Risk	7,600
Federally Recognized Tribal Extension Program	3,039
Sustainable Agriculture Programs	4,696
Total, Section 3(d)	<u>99,347</u>

National Institute of Food and Agriculture Extension Activities—Continued

Cooperative Extension at 1890 Institutions	42,592
Rural Health and Safety Education	1,500
Facility Improvements at 1890 Institutions	19,730
Renewable Resources Extension Act	3,700
Extension Services at 1994 Institutions	4,312
Food Animal Residue Avoidance Database	1,000
Women and Minorities in STEM Fields	400
Grants to Youth Organizations	750
Federal Administration:	
Ag in the Classroom	552
General Administration	7,300
Total, Federal Administration	7,852
Total, Extension Activities	<u>\$475,183</u>

INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES

The conference agreement provides \$21,482,000 for integrated activities instead of \$12,400,000 as proposed by the House and \$25,948,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The following table reflects the amounts provided by the conference agreement:

National Institute of Food and Agriculture Integrated Activities

[Dollars in Thousands]

Organic Transition Program	\$4,000
Regional Pest Management Centers	4,000
Water Quality Program	4,500
Methyl Bromide Transition Program	1,996
Regional Rural Development Centers	998
Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative	5,988
Total, Integrated Activities	<u>\$21,482</u>

HISPANIC-SERVING AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
ENDOWMENT FUND

The conference agreement does not provide an appropriation for the Hispanic-Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities Endowment Fund instead of \$10,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MARKETING AND REGULATORY
PROGRAMS

The conference agreement provides \$848,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs as proposed by the Senate instead of \$760,000 as proposed by the House.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS

The conference agreement provides \$816,534,000 for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) instead of \$790,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$820,110,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides funding for the animal disease traceability system within the Animal Health Technical Serv-