

Cornerstone Report from Washington

July 8, 2015

House Committee Approves FY 2016 Agriculture Appropriations Bill

The House Appropriations Committee met today and approved the FY 2016 Agriculture Appropriations bill which funds the National Institute of Food and Agriculture and other USDA Agencies. As we mentioned in our last report, the spending bill would give the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative a \$10 million boost, and all other core funding priorities would remain at FY 2015 levels.

The following table provides the complete NIFA account level detail:

AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS REPORT

National Institute of Food and Agriculture		
FY 2015, FY 2016 House		
(All \$Millions)		
	FY 2015	FY 2016
Research and Education Activities	Enacted	House
Hatch Act	243.701	243.701
McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry	33.961	33.961
Research at 1890 Institutions (Evans-Allen)	52.485	52.485
Payments to the 1994 Institutions	3.439	3.439
Education Grants for 1890 Institutions (Capacity Building Grants)	19.336	19.336
Education Grants for Hispanic-Serving Institutions	9.219	9.219
Education Grants (Alaska and Hawaii Native-Serving Institutions)	3.194	3.194
Research Grants for 1994 Institutions	1.801	1.801
Capacity Building Grants for Non Land-Grant Colleges of Agriculture	4.500	0.000
Resident Instruction and Distance Learning Grants for Insular Areas	2.000	1.800
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative	325.000	335.000
Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment	5.000	5.000
Continuing Animal Health and Disease Research Program	4.000	4.000
Supplemental and Alternative Crops	0.825	0.000
Critical Agricultural Materials Act	0.000	0.000
Multicultural Scholars, Graduate Fellowship & Institution Challenge Grants	9.000	9.000
Secondary and 2-year Post-Secondary Education	0.900	0.900
Aquaculture Centers	4.000	4.000
Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education	22.667	22.667

Farm Business Management	1.450	0.000
Sun Grant Program	2.500	0.000
Alfalfa and Forage Research Program	1.350	0.000
Improved Pest Control		
Expert IPM Decision Support System		
Integrated Pest Management		
Minor Crop Pest Management (IR-4)	11.913	11.913
Pest Management Alternatives		
Special Research Grants	4.105	1.405
Necessary Expenses of Research & Education (Federal Admin.)	20.528	18.689
Subtotal	786.874	781.510
	FY 2015	FY 2016
Extension Activities	Enacted	House
Smith Lever Sections 3(b)-(c) & Cooperative Extension	300.000	300.000
Extension Services at 1890 Institutions	43.920	43.920
Extension Services at 1994 Institutions	4.446	4.446
Facility Improvements at 1890 Institutions	19.730	19.730
Renewable Resources Extension Act	4.060	4.060
Rural Health and Safety Education Programs	1.500	0.000
Food Animal Residue Avoidance Database Program	1.250	1.250
Women and Minorities in STEM Fields	0.400	0.400
Food Safety Outreach	2.500	5.000
Smith Lever Section 3(d):		
Food and Nutrition Education (EFNEP)	67.934	67.934
Pest Management		
Farm Safety and Youth Farm Safety Education Programs	4.610	4.610
New Technologies for Ag Extension (eXtension)	1.550	1.550
Children, Youth, and Families at Risk	8.395	8.395
Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program	3.039	3.039
Sustainable Agriculture Programs		
Ag in the Classroom	0.552	0.552
Necessary Expenses of Extension Activities (Federal Admin.)	7.805	7.165
Subtotal	471.691	472.051
	FY 2015	FY 2016
Integrated Activities	Enacted	House
Water Quality Program	0.000	0.000
Regional Pest Management Centers		

Methyl Bromide Transition Program	2.000		2.000
Organic Transition Program	4.000		4.000
Regional Rural Development Centers	1.000		1.000
Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative	6.700		6.700
Crop Protection / Pest Management	17.200		17.200
Subtotal	30.900		30.900
	FY 2015		FY 2016
	Enacted		House
	1,289.465		1,284.461

Special Highlight

House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman Robert Aderholt offered an amendment to add a provision that directs the USDA to develop a plan to work with the states to cooperatively meet the matching grant requirements for research and extension activities for 1890 land-grant institutions. In the amendment, the Chairman celebrates the 125th anniversary of the signing of the second Morrill Act of 1890, and mentions that the committee is concerned with the states' lack of matching funds. The amendment, included among several other provisions, was adopted by a voice vote prior to the final committee vote approving the FY 2016 Agriculture spending bill.

Next Steps

While the FY 2016 Agriculture spending bill may be considered on the House floor before Members leave for the August recess, the bill is not currently on the Majority Leader's schedule for July.

As always, we will continue to keep you informed as further developments occur.

THE CORNERSTONE TEAM