

FISCAL YEAR 2017 APPROPRIATIONS

On May 5, 2017, the President signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (H.R. 244) which provides annual funding for the Federal government including the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

H.R. 244 provides \$1.37 billion in discretionary spending for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) which is about \$41.5 million above the FY 2016 Appropriations.

The attached table provides program funding information and a comparison of the FY 2016 Consolidated Appropriations, FY 2017 President's Budget, and FY 2017 Consolidated Appropriations funding levels. The table also includes mandatory funding provided by the 2014 Farm Bill, H.R. 2642, the Agricultural Act of 2014. Specific program provisions include:

- Funds the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative at \$375 million and directs that not less than 15 percent of the competitive research grant funds be used for agricultural research enhancement awards program, including EPSCoR;
- Provides an increase of \$1.5 million for funds totaling \$6.5 million for the Veterinary Medical Services Act to provide educational loan repayments to veterinarians serving in geographical veterinarian shortage areas;
- Includes \$27 million, an increase of \$2.3 million above 2016, for the SARE program;
- Provides funds totaling \$20 million for the Crop Protection/Pest Management (CP/PM) program. It also provides that notwithstanding any other provision of law, indirect costs shall not be charged against any Extension Implementation Program Area grant awarded under the CP/PM program;
- Supports Rural Health and Safety Programs at \$3 million to address the opioid abuse epidemic and to combat opioid abuse in rural communities;
- Doubles the funding for the Regional Rural Development Program to \$2 million; and,
- Increases funds to \$8 million for the Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative "...to expand the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN), recognizing the critical contributions that NAHLN labs, including those located at colleges of veterinary medicine, make in responding to emerging threats to American agriculture. When expanding the network, the agreement encourages NIFA to take into consideration laboratories which would enhance the capacity for surveillance, monitoring, and response; the concentration of human and animal populations that are directly at risk; geography, ecology, and climate; evidence of active collaboration with, and support of, state animal health officials; and evidence of stakeholder support and engagement."

The appropriations includes General Provision 760 which states: *There is hereby appropriated \$5 million to remain available until September 30, 2018, for a pilot program for the NIFA to provide grants to nonprofit organizations for programs and services to establish and enhance farming and ranching opportunities for military veterans.* NIFA is directed to consult with the Farm Service Agency in developing the terms of the Notice of Funds Availability that will be used to implement the pilot program established by the provision. Most other programs are funded at the FY 2016 level with increases for Potato Research, Sun Grants, and Alfalfa and Forage Research programs.

Committee Reports can be found at the following links on Congress.gov (click on the link for NIFA):

[House Committee Report 114-531 \(see page 20 for NIFA information in the PDF version\)](#)

[Senate Committee Report 114-259 \(see page 23 for NIFA information in the PDF version\)](#)

An excerpt from the Explanatory Statement for Division A – Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017 is attached.

*** 2017 APPROPRIATIONS TABLE BELOW**

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (\$000)

Programs	FY 2016 Consolidated Appropriations	FY 2017 President's Budget	FY 2017 Consolidated Appropriations
<u>DISCRETIONARY FUNDING</u>			
<u>Research and Education Activities:</u> Agriculture and Food Research Initiative a/	\$350,000	\$375,000	\$375,000
Capacity Programs:			
Hatch Act	243,701	243,701	243,701
McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry	33,961	33,961	33,961
Evans-Allen Program	54,185	58,000	54,185
Animal Health and Disease, Section 1433	4,000	0	4,000
Special Research Grants:			
Minor Crop Pest Management, IR-4	11,913	11,913	11,913
Global Change, UV-B Monitoring	1,405	1,405	1,405
Potato Research	2,000	0	2,250
Aquaculture Research	1,350	0	1,350
Other Research:			
Aquaculture Centers	4,000	0	4,000
Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program	24,667	29,967	27,000
Supplemental and Alternative Crops	825	0	825
1994 Research Grants	1,801	3,914	1,801
Federal Administration (Direct Appropriation) b/	20,339	31,421	20,339
Farm Business Management and Benchmarking Program	1,450	0	1,450
Sun Grant Program	2,500	0	3,000
Capacity Building for Non-Land Grant Colleges of Agriculture	5,000	0	5,000
Alfalfa and Forage Research	2,000	0	2,250
Food and Agriculture Resiliency Program for Veterans	0	2,500	0
Higher Education:			
Institution Challenge, Multicultural Scholars and Graduate Fellowship Grants c/	9,000	0	9,000
1890 Institution Capacity Building Grants d/	19,336	30,410	19,336
Hispanic Serving Institutions Education Grants Program	9,219	9,219	9,219
Tribal Colleges Education Equity Grants Program	3,439	3,654	3,439
Interest (Estimated) Earned on Tribal Colleges Endowment Fund	4,706	4,915	4,823
Secondary Education/2-Year Post Secondary c/	900	0	900
Alaska Native-serving and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions	3,194	3,194	3,194
Veterinary Medical Services Act	5,000	5,000	6,500
Veterinary Services Grant Program	2,500	0	2,500
Grants for Insular Areas	2,000	1,800	2,000
SUBTOTAL e/	824,391	849,974	854,341
<u>Integrated Activities:</u>			
Section 406 Legislative Authority:			
Methyl Bromide Transition Program	2,000	0	2,000
Organic Transition Program	4,000	4,000	4,000
Crop Protection/Pest Management	17,200	20,200	20,000
Other Legislative Authorities:			
Regional Rural Development Centers	1,000	1,000	2,000
Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative	6,700	10,000	8,000
SUBTOTAL	30,900	35,200	36,000

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (\$000)

Programs	FY 2016 Consolidated Appropriations	FY 2017 President's Budget	FY 2017 Consolidated Appropriations
Extension Activities:			
Capacity Programs:			
Smith-Lever Formula 3(b)&(c)	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000
1890 Institutions	45,620	48,350	45,620
Smith-Lever 3(d) Programs:			
Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program	67,934	68,034	67,934
Farm Safety and Youth Farm Safety Education and Certification	4,610	4,610	4,610
New Technologies for Agricultural Extension	1,550	0	1,550
Children, Youth, and Families at Risk	8,395	8,395	8,395
Federally-Recognized Tribes Extension Program	3,039	5,839	3,039
Home Visits for Remote Areas	0	20,000	0
Other Extension Programs:			
Grants for Youth-Serving Institutions	0	1,000	0
Extension Services at 1994 Institutions	4,446	6,724	4,446
Renewable Resources Extension Act	4,060	4,060	4,060
Rural Health and Safety	1,500	0	3,000
1890 Facilities (Section 1447)	19,730	21,703	19,730
Food Animal Residue Avoidance Database Program (FARAD)	1,250	0	1,250
Women and Minorities in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Fields c/	400	0	400
Food Safety Outreach Program	5,000	5,000	5,000
Federal Administration f/	8,357	b/	8,357
SUBTOTAL	475,891	493,715	477,391
General Provision: Enhance Opportunities for Military Veterans in Agriculture (Sec. 760)	0	0	5,000
Total, Discretionary Funding e/	1,331,182	1,378,889	1,372,732
MANDATORY AND ENDOWMENT FUNDING			
Hispanic-Serving Agriculture Colleges and Universities Endowment Fund	0	10,000	0
Tribal Colleges Endowment Fund	11,880	11,880	11,880
Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative	18,640	20,000	18,620
Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Program	18,640	20,000	18,620
Biomass Research and Development Initiative (BRDI)	2,796	3,000	2,793
Specialty Crop Research Initiative	51,260	55,000	51,205
Emergency Citrus Research and Extension Program	23,300	25,000	23,275
Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive Program	18,640	20,000	18,620
Biodiesel Fuel Education Program g/	932	1,000	931
Agriculture Risk Management Education Program g/	4,660	5,000	4,655
Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program g/	9,000	9,000	9,000
Total, Mandatory and Endowment Funding h/	159,748	179,880	159,599
Total, Discretionary and Mandatory Funding e/ h/	1,490,930	1,558,769	1,532,331

- a/ The FY 2017 President's Budget included AFRI total funding of \$700,000,000 which consisted of \$375,000,000 in discretionary funding and \$325,000,000 in mandatory funding. The FY 2017 appropriations does not provide mandatory funding for AFRI.
- b/ In FY 2017 President's Budget, Federal Administration costs are consolidated on one funding line.
- c/ In the FY 2017 President's Budget, program is part of a government-wide initiative to consolidate STEM programs.
- d/ The FY 2017 President's Budget included 1890 Institution Capacity Building Grants total funding of \$30,410,000 which consisted of \$20,410,000 for education grants and \$10,000,000 for three centers. The FY 2017 appropriations does not provide funding for the centers.
- e/ Interest on Tribal College Endowment Funds is included in the total.
- f/ In FY 2017 President's Budget, Agriculture in the Classroom (AIRC) is part of a government-wide initiative to consolidate STEM programs. In the FY 2017 appropriations, \$552,000 is provided within the total for AIRC.
- g/ Mandatory program delegated to another USDA agency but administered by NIFA.
- h/ Farm Bill funding amounts are based on H.R. 2642, the Agricultural Act of 2014 and include impact of sequestration of mandatory funds of 6.8% in FY 2016 appropriations and 6.9% in FY 2017 appropriations.