



Farm Bill **Section 10201**
Weekly Update

July 22, 2010

Hello everyone!

On July 13-15, representatives from the National Plant Board, the Specialty Crops Farm Bill Alliance, the US Forest Service, USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture, and USDA's Agricultural Research Service met with APHIS to complete the evaluation and analysis of the 536 FY11 Section 10201 project suggestions that were received during the open period this year. The total request exceeded \$129 million, with the majority of suggestions falling into one of the following three goal areas: pest survey (goal 1), outreach and education (goal 5), and pest identification and technology development (goal 3). A draft report is being prepared that will describe the projects and activities the 10201 evaluation team identified as worthy of funding consideration and inclusion in the FY11 spending plan. Evaluations were based on three criteria: alignment with the goals of Section 10201, potential impact, and technical approach.

Moving forward, there are still many tasks to be completed before a final spending plan will be published. First, APHIS intends to contact many of the parties who submitted suggestions to request clarification and facilitate collaboration between similar suggestions that may benefit from broader cooperation and coordination. Additionally, since this is not a competitive grant program, APHIS has some flexibility with how Section 10201 funds may be directed to address unforeseen needs in the upcoming fiscal year. As such, APHIS must also identify potential projects and activities (primarily in the area of rapid response pest mitigation) that should be considered for funding, above and beyond what was suggested by stakeholders. Finally, prior to the release of the final spending plan, APHIS must seek the review and approval of the department. Once the tasks listed above are complete and departmental approval is granted, APHIS will release the FY11 spending plan – as close to October 1, 2010 as possible.

APHIS may not approach a cooperator to initiate the cooperative agreement or procurement process until the final spending plan has been released.

If you have any questions, please send an email to: PPQ.Section.Farmbill-10201@aphis.usda.gov

Thanks!
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