

2014 Farm Bill APHIS Provisions

The following provisions in the 2014 Farm Bill are specific to APHIS' animal and plant health programs. Additional detail regarding each section will be provided at the March 13, Farm Bill Listening Session.

Biotechnology Regulatory Services Provision

Section 10008: IMPORTATION OF SEED

This section amends the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to prevent importers from having to notify the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) when importing seeds containing certain plant-incorporated protectants (PIPs). It also requires USDA to share with EPA a list of seeds containing PIPs, if requested.

Plant Protection and Quarantine Provisions

Section 10007: CONSOLIDATION OF PLANT PEST AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT AND DISASTER PREVENTION PROGRAMS

This provision combines the legislative language for the National Clean Plant Network (NCPN) with the Plant Pest and Disease Management and Disaster Prevention Program (2008 Farm Bill Section 10201) in the Plant Protection Act. It authorizes permanent funding for both programs, giving \$62.5 million per year in Commodity Credit Corporation funding from FY 2014-FY2017 and \$75 million per year in FY 2018 and beyond. At least \$5 million must go to NCPN annually. It also caps "indirect costs" charged against the cooperative agreements to 15% of the value of the agreement.

Related Guidance from Farm Bill Managers' Report Language

The Managers recognize the importance of the Federal government, specifically the USDA, developing and maintaining the highest technological capability of identifying plant pests and invasive species. Further, the Managers believe that the advanced technological capabilities acquired through development of plant pest and disease detection technologies should facilitate the development of a coordinated, interagency response plan for the federal government to effectively mitigate plant pests and disease. The Managers encourage USDA to take the appropriate steps to facilitate information and technology sharing with other appropriate agencies of the Federal government involved in managing invasive pests such as Department of the Interior, Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Section 10017: CLARIFICATION OF USE OF FUNDS FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

This provides a permanent fix to a technicality that was preventing the 2008 Farm Bill 10201 program and the NCPN from releasing Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) cooperative funding because of a conflicting provision that had limited the use of CCC funding for technical

assistance programs. Congress had been providing APHIS with year-to-year waivers of this requirement, typically as part of the appropriations process.

Section 7209: HIGH-PRIORITY RESEARCH AND EXTENSION INITIATIVES

Paragraph 8(b) reauthorizes \$2.75 million in annual funding, through 2018, for a nationwide honey bee pest and pathogen surveillance program.

Veterinary Services Provisions

Section 12101: TRICHINAE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

This section requires that APHIS' voluntary trichinae certification program be amended to include an alternative certification program consistent with international standards, with regulations required one year after international standards are adopted.

Section 12103: NATIONAL AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH PLAN

This provision re-authorizes the National Aquatic Animal Health Plan through 2018.

Section 12105: NATIONAL ANIMAL HEALTH LABORATORY NETWORK

This section codifies the National Animal Health Laboratory Network under the Animal Health Protection Act, and authorizes \$15 million in annual funding through FY 2018.

Section 12107: NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

This provision requires the Secretary to administer the surveillance program for low pathogenic avian influenza for commercial poultry without amending the regulations for the governance of the General Conference Committee. It also requires that funding levels stay at FY 2013 levels. It further requires that NPIP maintain its existing location.

Wildlife Services Provision

Section 12108: SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING FERAL SWINE ERADICATION

This section expresses the sense of Congress that feral swine is a threat to domestic swine and the agriculture industry, and that the Secretary should prioritize a program of eradication under the Animal Health Protection Act.