

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-