

Office of the Secretary, USDA

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States to, and the use by those persons of, organic research conducted outside the United States (7 U.S.C. 5925d).

(13)–(14) [Reserved]

(15) Solicit and consider input and recommendations from persons who conduct or use agricultural research, extension, or education (7 U.S.C. 7612(b)).

(16) Consider the results of the annual review performed by the Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board regarding the relevance to priorities of the funding of all agricultural research, extension, or education activities conducted or funded by the Department and the adequacy of funding, when formulating each request for proposals, and evaluating proposals, involving an agricultural research, extension, or education activity funded, on a competitive basis, by the Department; and solicit and consider input from persons who conduct or use agricultural research, extension, or education regarding the prior year's request for proposals for each activity funded on a competitive basis (7 U.S.C. 7613(c)).

(17) Establish procedures that ensure scientific peer review of all research activities conducted by the Economic Research Service (7 U.S.C. 7613(d)).

(18) Include in each issuance of projections of net farm income an estimate of the net farm income earned by commercial producers in the United States that will in addition show the estimate of net farm income attributable to commercial producers of livestock, loan commodities, and agricultural commodities other than loan commodities (7 U.S.C. 7998).

(19) Conduct surveys and analysis and publish reports relating to organic production, handling, distribution, retail, and trend studies (including consumer purchasing patterns) (7 U.S.C. 5925c).

(20) Ensure that studies carried out by the Economic Research Service document the number, location, and economic contributions of socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers in agricultural production (7 U.S.C. 2279(h)).

(b) *Reservation.* The following authority is reserved to the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics: Review all proposed decisions hav-

ing substantial economic policy implications.

[60 FR 56393, Nov. 8, 1995, as amended at 62 FR 65596, Dec. 15, 1997; 64 FR 40736, July 28, 1999; 65 FR 5418, Feb. 4, 2000; 68 FR 27446, May 20, 2003; 74 FR 3410, Jan. 21, 2009]

§ 2.68 Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

(a) *Delegations.* Pursuant to § 2.21 (a)(3) and (a)(8), subject to reservations in § 2.21(b)(2), the following delegations of authority are made by the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics to the Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service:

(1) Prepare crop and livestock estimates and administer reporting programs, including estimates of production, supply, price, and other aspects of the U.S. agricultural economy, collection of statistics, conduct of enumerative and objective measurement surveys, construction and maintenance of sampling frames, and related activities. Prepare reports of the Agricultural Statistics Board of the Department of Agriculture covering official state and national estimates (7 U.S.C. 476, 951, and 2204).

(2) Take such security precautions as are necessary to prevent disclosure of crop or livestock report information prior to the scheduled issuance time approved in advance by the Secretary of Agriculture and take such actions as are necessary to avoid disclosure of confidential data or information supplied by any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or association (18 U.S.C. 1902, 1905, and 2072).

(3) Improve statistics in the Department; maintain liaison with OMB and other Federal agencies for coordination of statistical methods and techniques.

(4) Administer responsibilities and functions assigned under the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended (50 U.S.C. App. 2061 *et seq.*), and title VI of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5195 *et seq.*), concerning coordination of damage assessment; and food and agricultural aspects of agricultural statistics.

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(5) Enter into contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements to further research and statistical reporting programs in the food and agricultural sciences (7 U.S.C. 3318).

(6) Enter cost-reimbursable agreements relating to agricultural research and statistical reporting (7 U.S.C. 3319a).

(7) Cooperate and work with national and international institutions and other persons throughout the world in the performance of agricultural research and extension activities to promote and support the development of a viable and sustainable global agricultural system. Such work may be carried out by:

(i) Exchanging research materials and results with the institutions or persons;

(ii) Engaging in joint or coordinated research;

(iii) Entering into cooperative arrangements with Departments and Ministries of Agriculture in other nations to conduct research, extension, and education activities (limited to arrangements either involving no exchange of funds or involving disbursements by the agency to the institutions of other nations), and then reporting these arrangements to the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics;

(iv) Stationing representatives at such institutions or organizations in foreign countries; or

(v) entering into agreements with land-grant colleges and universities, other organizations, institutions, or individuals with comparable goals, and, with the concurrence of the Foreign Agricultural Service, international organizations (limited to agreements either involving no exchange of funds or involving disbursements by the agency to the cooperator), and then reporting these agreements to the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics (7 U.S.C. 3291(a)).

(8) Represent the Department in international organizational activities and on international technical committees concerned with agricultural science, education, and development activities, including library and information science activities.

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(9) Take a census of agriculture in 1998 and every fifth year thereafter pursuant to the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997, Public Law 105–113 (7 U.S.C. 2204g); ensure that the census of agriculture documents the number, location, and economic contributions of socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers in agricultural production (7 U.S.C. 2279(h)).

(10) Develop surveys and report statistical analysis on organically produced agricultural products (7 U.S.C. 5925c).

(11) Assist the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service with respect to Dairy Product Mandatory Reporting (7 U.S.C. 1637–1637b).

(b) *Reservation.* The following authority is reserved to the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics: Review all proposed decisions having substantial economic policy implications.

[60 FR 56393, Nov. 8, 1995, as amended at 62 FR 65596, Dec. 15, 1997; 65 FR 5418, Feb. 4, 2000; 68 FR 27446, May 20, 2003; 74 FR 3410, Jan. 21, 2009]

Subpart L—Delegations of Authority by the Chief Economist

§2.70 Deputy Chief Economist.

Pursuant to §2.29, the following delegation of authority is made by the Chief Economist to the Deputy Chief Economist, to be exercised only during the absence or unavailability of the Chief Economist: Perform all the duties and exercise all the powers which are now or which may hereafter be delegated to the Chief Economist.

§2.71 Director, Office of Risk Assessment and Cost-Benefit Analysis.

(a) *Delegations.* Pursuant to §2.29(a)(2), the following delegations of authority are by the Chief Economist to the Director, Office of Risk Assessment and Cost-Benefit Analysis:

(1) Responsible for assessing the risks to human health, human safety, or the environment, and for preparing cost-benefit analyses, with respect to proposed major regulations, and for publishing such assessments and analyses in the FEDERAL REGISTER as required