

(xii) The delivery of technical assistance under section 1242 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 3842), including the approval of persons or entities outside of USDA to provide technical services;

(xiii) The authority for partnerships and cooperation provided by section 1243 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 3843), except for responsibilities assigned to the Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services; and

(xiv) The incentives for beginning farmers and ranchers and Indian tribes and the protection of certain proprietary information related to natural resources conservation programs as provided by section 1244 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 3844), except for responsibilities assigned to the Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

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(18) Administer the agricultural management assistance provisions of section 524(b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1524(b)), except for responsibilities assigned to the Administrator, Risk Management Agency.

(19) [Removed and reserved]

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(25) Administer the following provisions of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 with respect to functions otherwise delegated to the Chief, Natural Resources and Environment:

(i) The equitable relief provisions of section 1613 (7 U.S.C. 7996);

(ii) The tracking of benefits under section 1614 (7 U.S.C. 7997); and

(iii) The development of a plan and related report to coordinate land retirement and agricultural working land conservation programs under section 2005 (16 U.S.C. 3801 note).

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Subpart K—Delegations of Authority by the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics

■ 26. Amend § 2.65 to revise paragraphs (a)(40) and (a)(104) to read as follows:

§ 2.65 Administrator, Agricultural Research Service.

(a) * * *

(40) Facilitate access, including through the National Agricultural Library, by research and extension professionals, farmers, and other interested persons in the United States to, and the use by those persons of, organic research conducted outside the United States (7 U.S.C. 5925d).

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(104) Administer grants to consortia of land-grant colleges and universities to enhance the ability of the consortia to

carry out multi-State research projects aimed at understanding and combating diseases of wheat, triticale, and barley caused by *Fusarium graminearum* and related fungi or *Tilletia indica* and related fungi (7 U.S.C. 7628).

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■ 27. Amend § 2.66 as follows:

■ a. Remove and reserve paragraphs (a)(58), (a)(59), (a)(60), (a)(66) through (a)(71), (a)(75), (a)(77), (a)(87), (a)(94), (a)(103), and (a)(112);

■ b. Revise paragraphs (a)(9), (a)(10), (a)(20), (a)(39), (a)(51), (a)(102), and (a)(124); and

■ c. Add new paragraphs (a)(21), (a)(38), (a)(40), and (a)(131) through (a)(140) to read as follows:

§ 2.66 Administrator, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service.

(a) * * *

(9) Make grants and enter into contracts and other agreements for outreach and technical assistance to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers (7 U.S.C. 2279(a)(3)).

(10) Administer, in cooperation with land-grant colleges and universities where applicable, a rural development research and extension program, a small farm research and extension program, and a rural health and safety education program under the Rural Development Act of 1972, as amended (7 U.S.C. 2661–2667).

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(20) Provide policy direction and coordinate the Department's work with national and international institutions and other persons throughout the world in the performance of agricultural research, extension, teaching, and development activities; administer a program of competitive grants for collaborative projects involving Federal scientists or scientists from colleges and universities working with scientists at international agricultural research centers in other nations focusing either on new technologies and programs for increasing the production of food and fiber or training scientists and a program of competitive grants to colleges and universities to strengthen United States economic competitiveness and to promote international market development; and establish a program in coordination with the Foreign Agricultural Service to place interns from United States colleges and universities at Foreign Agricultural Service field offices overseas (7 U.S.C. 3291, 3292b).

(21) Administer a program of competitive grants to colleges and universities and State cooperative institutions for the acquisition of special

purpose scientific research equipment for use in the food and agricultural sciences (7 U.S.C. 3310a).

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(38) Develop and implement a program to communicate with the public regarding the use of biotechnology in producing food for human consumption (7 U.S.C. 5921a).

(39) Administer a rural electronic commerce extension program through grants to regional rural development centers and competitive grants to land-grant colleges and universities and to colleges and universities (including community colleges) with agricultural or rural development programs (7 U.S.C. 5923).

(40) Conduct a research initiative known as the Agricultural Genome Initiative; and make grants or enter cooperative agreements on a competitive basis with individuals and organizations to carry out the Initiative (7 U.S.C. 5924).

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(51) Administer a cooperative forestry program in accordance with the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act, and administer a competitive forestry, natural resources, and environmental grant program (16 U.S.C. 582a–582a–8).

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(58)–(60) [Removed and reserved]

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(66)–(71) [Removed and reserved]

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(75) [Removed and reserved]

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(77) [Removed and reserved]

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(87) [Removed and reserved]

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(94) [Removed and reserved]

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(102) Implement and administer the Community Food Projects Program and the Innovative Programs for Addressing Common Community Problems pursuant to the provisions of section 25 of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2034).

(103) [Removed and reserved]

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(112) [Removed and reserved]

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(124) Administer an Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems (7 U.S.C. 7621).

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(131) Cooperate with other Federal agencies (including the National Science Foundation) in issuing joint requests for proposals, awarding grants, and administering grants under any