

Sunshine Act Meetings

Federal Register

Vol. 56, No. 231

Monday, December 2, 1991

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices of meetings published under the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (Pub. L. 94-409) 5 U.S.C. 552b(e)(3).

FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

Farm Credit Administration Board;
Special Meeting

AGENCY: Farm Credit Administration.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the Government in the Sunshine Act (5 U.S.C. 552b(e)(3)), of the special meeting of the Farm Credit Administration Board (Board).

DATE AND TIME: The special meeting of the Board was held at the offices of the Farm Credit Administration in McLean, Virginia, on November 26, 1991, from 1:30 p.m. until such time as the Board concluded its business.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Curtis M. Anderson, Secretary to the Farm Credit Administration Board, (703) 883-4003, TDD (703) 883-4444.

ADDRESS: Farm Credit Administration, 1501 Farm Credit Drive, McLean, Virginia 22102-5090.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This meeting of the Board will be closed to the public. The matter to be considered at the meeting is:

* Closed Session

A. New Business

1. Farm Credit Administration Budget Formulation
Issues for Fiscal Year 1993.
Dated: November 26, 1991.

Curtis M. Anderson,

Secretary, Farm Credit Administration Board.
[FR Doc. 91-28885 Filed 11-26-91; 4:51 pm]

BILLING CODE 6705-01-M

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Agency Meeting

Pursuant to the provisions of the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (5 U.S.C. 552b), notice is hereby given that at 10:05 a.m. on Tuesday, November 26, 1991, the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation met in closed session to consider the following:

Matters relating to the probable failure of certain insured banks.

Recommendations concerning administrative enforcement proceedings.

Recommendation regarding the liquidation of depository institutions' assets acquired by

* Session closed to the public—exempt pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552b(c)(9).

the Corporation in its capacity as receiver, liquidator, or liquidating agency of those assets:

Case No. 47,763

Southeast Bank, National Association
Miami, Florida
Application for waiver of the cross-guaranty provisions of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act.
Personnel Matters.

In calling the meeting, the Board determined, on motion of Director C.C. Hope, Jr. (Appointive), seconded by Vice Chairman Andrew C. Hove, Jr., concurred in by Mr. Stephen R. Steinbrink, acting in the place and stead of Director Robert L. Clarke (Comptroller of the Currency), Director T. Timothy Ryan, Jr. (Office of Thrift Supervision), and Chairman William Taylor, that Corporation business required its consideration of the matters on less than seven days' notice to the public; that no earlier notice of the meeting was practicable; that the public interest did not require consideration of the matters in a meeting open to public observation; and that the matters could be considered in a closed meeting by authority of subsections (c)(2), (c)(4), (c)(6), (c)(8), (c)(9)(A)(ii), and (c)(9)(B) of the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (5 U.S.C. 552b(c), (c)(4), (c)(6), (c)(8), (c)(9)(A)(ii), and (c)(9)(B)).

The meeting was held in the Board Room of the FDIC Building located at 550—17th Street, NW., Washington, DC.

Dated: November 26, 1991.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Robert E. Feldman,

Deputy Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 91-28941 Filed 11-27-91; 2:58 pm]

BILLING CODE 6714-01-M

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM BOARD OF GOVERNORS

TIME AND DATE: 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, December 4, 1991.

PLACE: Marriner S. Eccles Federal Reserve Board Building, C Street entrance between 20th and 21st Streets, NW., Washington, DC 20551.

STATUS: Open.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Summary Agenda:

Because of its routine nature, no substantive discussion of the following item is anticipated. This matter will be voted on without discussion unless a member of the Board requests that the item be moved to the discussion agenda.

1. Proposed boundary change of the Louisville Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

Discussion Agenda:

2. Proposed 1992 Federal Reserve Bank budgets.
3. Cost of Federal Reserve notes in 1992.
4. Any items carried forward from a previously announced meeting.

Note.—This meeting will be recorded for the benefit of those unable to attend. Cassettes will be available for listening in the Board's Freedom of Information Office, and copies may be ordered for \$5 per cassette by calling (202) 452-3884 or by writing to: Freedom of Information Office, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, DC 20551.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Mr. Joseph R. Coyne,
Assistant to the Board; (202) 452-3204.

Dated: November 27, 1991.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Associate Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 91-28953 Filed 11-27-91; 2:59 pm]

BILLING CODE 01-6210-M

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM BOARD OF GOVERNORS

TIME AND DATE: Approximately 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, December 4, 1991, following a recess at the conclusion of the open meeting.

PLACE: Marriner S. Eccles Federal Reserve Board Building, C Street entrance between 20th and 21st Streets, NW., Washington, DC 20551.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Personnel actions (appointments, promotions, assignments, reassignments, and salary actions) involving individual Federal Reserve System employees.
2. Any items carried forward from a previously announced meeting.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Mr. Joseph R. Coyne,
Assistant to the Board; (202) 452-3204.
You may call (202) 452-3207, beginning at approximately 5 p.m. two business days before this meeting, for a recorded announcement of bank and bank holding company applications scheduled for the meeting.

Dated: November 27, 1991.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Associate Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 91-28954 Filed 11-27-91; 2:59 pm]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-M

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM BOARD OF GOVERNORS

TIME AND DATE: 4:00 p.m., Thursday, December 5, 1991.

PLACE: Marriner S. Eccles Federal Reserve Board Building, C Street entrance between 20th and 21st Streets, N.W., Washington, DC 20551.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Personnel actions (appointments, promotions, assignments, reassignments, and salary actions) involving individual Federal Reserve System employees.
2. Any items carried forward from a previously announced meeting.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Mr. Joseph R. Coyne, Assistant to the Board; (202) 452-3204. You may call (202) 452-3207, beginning at approximately 5 p.m. two business days before this meeting, for a recorded announcement of bank and bank holding company applications scheduled for the meeting.

Dated: November 27, 1991.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Associate Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 91-28955 Filed 11-27-91; 2:59 pm]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-M

NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

Regular Meeting of The Board of Directors

TIME AND DATE: 8:30 a.m., Wednesday, December 11, 1991.

PLACE: Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, 1325 G Street, N.W., 8th Floor Board Room, Washington, DC.

STATUS: Open.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Jeffrey T. Bryson, General Counsel/Secretary (202) 376-2441.

AGENDA:

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Minutes: July 24, 1991, Regular Meeting

III. Personnel Committee Report, December 3, 1991, Closed Meeting

IV. Treasurer's Report

V. Executive Director's Quarterly Management Report

VI. Adjourn

Jeffrey T. Bryson,

General Counsel Secretary.

[FR Doc. 91-28902 Filed 11-27-91; 2:56 am]

BILLING CODE 7570-01-M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DATE: Weeks of December 2, 9, 16, and 23, 1991.

PLACE: Commissioners' Conference Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

STATUS: Open and Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:**Week of December 2**

Friday, December 6

11:30 a.m.

Affirmation/Discussion and Vote (Public Meeting) (if needed)

Week of December 9—Tentative

Thursday, December 12

10:00 a.m.

Periodic Briefing on EEO Program (Public Meeting)

11:30 a.m.

Affirmation/Discussion and Vote (Public Meeting) (if needed)

1:30 p.m.

Periodic Meeting with the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) (Public Meeting)

Week of December 16—Tentative

Monday, December 16

2:00 p.m.

Briefing on Regulatory Application of PRA (Public Meeting)

Tuesday, December 17

10:00 a.m.

Briefing by DOE on Status of Civilian High Level Waste Program (Public Meeting)

Thursday, December 19

10:00 a.m.

Periodic Meeting with Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) (Public Meeting)

11:30 a.m.

Affirmation/Discussion and Vote (Public Meeting) (if needed)

2:00 p.m.

Briefing on Status of Technical Specifications Improvement Program (Public Meeting)

Week of December 23—Tentative

There are no Commission meetings scheduled for the Week of December 23.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

By a vote of 4-0 on November 22, the Commission determined pursuant to U.S.C. 552b(e) and § 9.107(a) of the Commission's rules that "Discussion of EPA MOU and a BRC Issue" (Closed—Ex. 9 and 10), be held on November 22 and on less than one week's notice to the public.

By a vote of 4-0 on November 26, the Commission determine pursuant to U.S.C. 552b(e) and § 9.107(a) of the Commission's rules that "Affirmation of Promulgation of a Final Rule Revoking the Vacated Attorney Exclusion Rule for NRC Investigations and Inspections and Promulgation of a Proposed Rule Replacing the Vacated Provisions" (Public Meeting), be held on November 26 and on less than one week's notice to the public.

Note.—Affirmative sessions are initially scheduled and announced to the public on a time-reserved basis. Supplementary notice is provided in accordance with the Sunshine Act as specific items are identified and added to the meeting agenda. If there is no specific subject listed for affirmation, this means that no item has as yet been identified as requiring any Commission vote on this date.

TO VERIFY THE STATUS OF MEETING CALL (RECORDING): (301) 492-0292.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:

William Hill (301) 492-1661.

Dated: November 26, 1991.

William M. Hill, Jr.,

Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 91-28920 Filed 11-27-91; 2:57 pm]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-M

Corrections

Federal Register

Vol. 56, No. 231

Monday, December 2, 1991

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains editorial corrections of previously published Presidential, Rule, Proposed Rule, and Notice documents. These corrections are prepared by the Office of the Federal Register. Agency prepared corrections are issued as signed documents and appear in the appropriate document categories elsewhere in the issue.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 91-146]

Availability of Proposed Revision of Veterinary Biologics Memorandum No. 800.65 Concerning Eggs for Production of Animal Biological Products

Correction

In notice document 91-26805 beginning on page 56970 in the issue of Thursday, November 7, 1991, make the following correction:

On page 56971, in the first column, under **DATES**, in the third line, "January 6, 1991" should read "January 6, 1992".

BILLING CODE 1505-01-D

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Agency Information Collection Under Review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

Correction

In notice document 91-22361 appearing on page 47064, in the issue of Tuesday, September 17, 1991, in the second column, the file line was omitted, and should read "[FR Doc. 91-22361 Filed 9-16-91; 8:45 am]".

BILLING CODE 1505-01-D

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Parts 141 and 142

[WH-FRL-3868-8]

Drinking Water; National Primary Drinking Water Regulations; Total Coliforms

Correction

In rule document 91-935 beginning on page 1556 in the issue of Tuesday, January 15, 1991, make the following correction:

On page 1557, in the third column, in the file line at the end of the document, "FR Doc. 91-925" should read "FR Doc. 91-935".

BILLING CODE 1505-01-D

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

American President Lines, LTD., Agreements Filed

Correction

In notice document 91-26365, beginning on page 56222, in the issue of Friday, November 1, 1991, make the following correction:

On page 56223, in the first column, "Agreement No.:00224-2-585" should read "Agreement No.: 224-200585".

BILLING CODE 1505-01-D

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Social Security Administration

20 CFR Part 416

[Regulation No. 16]

RIN 0960-AC26

Supplemental Security Income for the Aged, Blind, and Disabled; Subpart P—Residence and Citizenship

Correction

In rule document 91-25526 beginning on page 55073, in the issue of Thursday, October 24, 1991, make the following correction:

§ 416.1618 [Corrected]

On page 55076, in the first column, in § 416.1618(d)(2), in the third line, "(13)" should read "(13)".

BILLING CODE 1505-01-D

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-120-02-4212-13; 62-029; OR-45444]

Exchange of Public Land, Coos County, Oregon

Correction

In notice document 91-26248 appearing on page 56085 in the issue of Thursday, October 31, 1991, make the following corrections:

In the first land description for Willamette Meridian, Oregon, T. 25 S., R. 13 W., Sec. 7 should read "Lots 5, 6, 8, SE¼SE¼SW¼, S½SE¼SE¼NE¼"; and Sec. 18 should read "Lot 7, E½E½N W¼".

BILLING CODE 1505-01-D

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[G-010-G1-0125-4212-13; NMNM 65196]

Issuance of Exchange Conveyance Document and Order Providing for Opening of Public Land in San Juan Co.; NM

Correction

In notice document 91-25732 beginning on page 55334 in the issue of Friday, October 25, 1991, make the following correction:

On page 55335, in the first column, in the second land description for New Mexico Principal Meridian, T. 31 N., R. 10 W., in sec. 10, "NE¼SE¼" should read "NE¼SW¼".

BILLING CODE 1505-01-D

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities; Meeting

Correction

In notice document 91-22277 appearing on page 47108 in the issue of

Tuesday, September 17, 1991, in the second column, in the file line, at the end of the document, "FR Doc. 2227" should read "FR Doc. 91-22277".

BILLING CODE 1505-01-D

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-29851; File No. SR-Amex-91-25]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change by the American Stock Exchange, Inc. Relating to New Listing Standards for Emerging Growth Companies

Correction

In notice document 91-26074 beginning on page 55958, in the issue of

Wednesday, October 30, 1991, make the following correction:

The table on page 55959 should have appeared as set forth below:

NUMERICAL CRITERIA

	Original				Maintenance (All)	
	Companies not presently traded in NASDAQ		Companies presently traded in NASDAQ		Regular	Alternate
	Regular	Alternate	Regular	Alternate		
Total Assets.....	\$4M.....	\$3M.....	\$2M.....	\$2M.....	\$2M.....	\$2M.....
Capital & Surplus.....	\$2M.....	\$2M.....	\$1M.....	\$2M.....	\$1M.....	\$2M.....
Total Mkt Value.....	\$2.5M.....	Over \$10M.....	\$2.5M.....	\$2.5M.....	\$500,000.....	\$1M.....
Public Float.....	250,000 shs.....	400,000 shs.....	250,000 shs.....	250,000 shs.....	250,000 shs.....	250,000 shs.....
Public Shareholders.....	300.....	300.....	300.....	300.....	300.....	300.....
Minimum Price.....	\$3.....	\$2.....	\$1.....	Below \$1.....	\$1.....	Below \$1.....

BILLING CODE 1505-01-D

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 71

[Airspace Docket No. 91-AGL-12]

Proposed Alteration of Transition Area; Austin, Minnesota

Correction

In proposed rule document 91-27385, beginning on page 57866 in the issue of

Thursday, November 14, 1991, make the following corrections:

On page 57867, in the third column, under **The Proposed Amendment**, in the last line, "(24 CFR ****" should read "(14 CFR ****"; and two lines above the signature, "Des Plaines" should read "Des Plaines".

BILLING CODE 1505-01-D

Testis Testis

**Monday
December 2, 1991**

Part II

Department of Agriculture

Cooperative State Research Service

**Grants and Cooperative Agreements;
Availability, etc.: Competitive Research
Program**

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Cooperative State Research Service****National Competitive Research Initiative Grants Program (Competitive Research Grants Program); Fiscal Year 1992: Solicitation for Applications**

Applications are invited for competitive grant awards in agricultural, forestry and related environmental sciences under the National Competitive Research Initiative Grants Program (NCRIGP) administered by the Office of Grants and Program Systems, Cooperative State Research Service (CSRS), for fiscal year 1992.

The authority for this program is contained in section 2(b) of the Act of August 4, 1965, as amended by section 1615 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (FACT Act) (7 U.S.C. 450i(b)). Under this program, subject to the availability of funds, the Secretary may award competitive research grants, for periods not to exceed five years, for the support of research projects to further the programs of the Department of Agriculture (USDA). Proposals may be submitted by any State agricultural experiment station, college, university, other research institution or organization, Federal agency, private organization, corporation, or individual. Proposals from scientists at non-United States organizations will not be considered for support.

Section 734 of Public Law No. 102-142 an Act Making Appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1992, and for other purposes, prohibits CSRS from using the funds available for the NCRIGP for fiscal year 1992 to pay indirect costs on competitively-awarded research grants that exceed 14 percent of the total direct costs under each award.

Applicable Regulations

Regulations applicable to this program include the following: (a) The regulations governing the NCRIGP, 7 CFR part 3200, which set forth procedures to be followed when submitting grant proposals, rules governing the evaluation of proposals and the awarding of grants, and regulations relating to the post-award administration of grant projects; (b) the USDA Uniform Federal Assistance Regulations, 7 CFR part 3015; and (c) the USDA Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments, 7 CFR part 3016.

Section 1402 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977, as amended by section 1602 of the FACT Act requires that research supported by the NCRIGP address, among other things, one or more of the following purposes of agricultural research and extension: (1) Continue to satisfy human food and fiber needs; (2) enhance the long-term viability and competitiveness of the food production and agricultural system of the United States within the global economy; (3) expand economic opportunities in rural America and enhance the quality of life for farmers, rural citizens, and society as a whole; (4) improve the productivity of the American agricultural system and develop new agricultural crops and new uses for agricultural commodities; (5) develop information and systems to enhance the environment and the natural resource base upon which a sustainable agricultural economy depends; or (6) enhance human health by fostering the availability and affordability of a safe, wholesome, and nutritious food supply that meets the needs and preferences of the consumer and by assisting farmers and other rural residents in the detection and prevention of health and safety concerns.

The Secretary of Agriculture has identified several specific areas to support American agriculture in the 1990s including: alternative fuels, new products and processes, mechanisms for expanding markets abroad, providing the public with a safe and wholesome food supply, and protecting the land and water for future generations, while ensuring the farmers the best return on their efforts. Furthermore, the Secretary has identified, global change, information technology systems, rural development and biotechnology, and strengthening of the Nation's agricultural research capabilities as key parts of the Department's agenda.

Specific Research Divisions To Be Supported in Fiscal Year 1992

CSRS is soliciting proposals, subject to the availability of funds, for support of high priority research of importance to agriculture, forestry and related environmental sciences, in the following Research Divisions:

Natural Resources and Environment (\$17.039 M)
 Nutrition, Food Quality, and Health (\$6.153 M)
 Animal Systems (\$23.666 M)
 Plant Systems (\$37.866 M)
 Markets, Trade, and Policy (\$3.787 M)

Processing Antecedent to Adding Value or Developing New Products (\$3.787 M)

Pursuant to the provisions of section 2(b)(10) of the Act of August 4, 1965, as amended by section 1615 of the FACT Act (1965 Act, as amended) no less than 10 percent (\$9.230 M) of the available funds listed above will be made available for Agricultural Research Enhancement Awards (excluding New Investigator Awards), and no more than 2 percent (\$1.846 M) of the available funds listed above will be made available for equipment grants. Further, no less than 20 percent (\$18.460 M) of the funds listed above shall be made available for grants for research to be conducted by multidisciplinary teams, and no less than 20 percent (\$18.460 M) of the funds listed above shall be made available for grants for mission-linked research grants. (See below).

The opportunities for research in the above areas have been underscored as a means of providing the scientific and technological advances urgently needed for meeting major challenges now facing agriculture in the United States. Many agricultural and scientific communities, among them the Board on Agriculture of the National Research Council, the State Experiment Station Committee on Organization and Policy, the Joint Council on Food and Agricultural Sciences, the National Agricultural Research and Extension Users Advisory Board, users communities, USDA agencies, and professional and scientific groups have called for an increased investment in competitively awarded research as a means of providing new knowledge for improved national agricultural competitiveness, sustainability, and economic performance; for credible environmental stewardship; for improved human health; and for the revitalization of rural communities.

Research is needed which will form a broad base of knowledge for addressing cost-effective prevention and solution of problems associated with agricultural production, particularly for generating production systems that are sustainable both environmentally and economically; for developing means to protect natural resources and wildlife; for optimizing national and international economic factors; for optimizing livestock and crop quality and productivity; for protecting human health and food safety; for finding new uses of agricultural products, including use as fuel; and for adding value to all stages of agricultural products. To provide this knowledge, research in the following six

specific research divisions will be supported:

Natural Resources and the Environment

Increased knowledge is necessary to develop innovative techniques for prudent management of our nation's natural resources and for addressing potential environmental problems such as UV-B radiation and global climate change. Accordingly, in the area of Natural Resources and the Environment, research programs will include: Water Quality, Plant Responses to the Environment, Forest/Rangeland/Crop Ecosystems, and Improved Utilization of Wood and Wood Fiber. Research opportunities in forest biology will be provided in the above four program areas, as well as in all programs in the Plant Systems research area.

Nutrition, Food Quality, and Health

In response to the increased awareness of the dependency of optimal human health on optimum nutrition and food quality, research opportunities on nutritional requirements for optimal health will be continued. Research proposals will be supported in food safety, specifically focused on microbial agents responsible for food-borne illness.

Animal Systems

Research across a broad range of animal science areas is needed to enhance animal production efficiency, to improve animal products, and to better protect the health and well-being of animals of agricultural importance including aquaculture species. Accordingly, research areas will include: Reproductive Biology of Animals, Cellular Growth and Developmental Biology of Animals, Animal Molecular Genetics, and Mechanisms of Animal Disease.

Plant Systems

The Plant Genome program will continue to provide opportunity in mission-oriented research targeted for the identification, characterization, alteration, and manipulation of genes controlling traits of agricultural importance. This program area is part of the larger USDA Plant Genome Research Program. The Photosynthesis Program has been expanded to cover proposals in plant respiration and metabolism in chloroplasts and mitochondria and is now named Photosynthesis/Respiration. Other NCRIGP programs in the FY 91 Plant Systems (Nitrogen Fixation and Metabolism; Plant Genetic Mechanisms and Molecular Biology; Plant Growth and Development; Plant Pest

Interactions; and Alcohol Fuels) will continue in FY 1992.

Markets, Trade, and Policy

In the increasingly competitive global market environment, exports of commodities and value-added products need to be increased in ways that can revitalize rural economies. Accordingly, the new area of Markets, Trade, and Policy has been established as an important component of the NCRIGP. Research will be supported in two areas: (1) Market Assessments, Competitiveness and Technology Assessments, and (2) Rural Development.

Processing Antecedent to Adding Value or Developing New Products

In response to a growing awareness of the need to enhance the competitive value and quality of U.S. agricultural and forestry products, the area of Processing Antecedent to Adding Value or Developing New Products has been developed as a second new program of the NCRIGP. Research will be supported in the area of Processing for Development of New Value-Added Products and should focus on developing new uses for agricultural materials by improving efficiencies in the processing of raw products as well as on processing and preservation methods for converting agricultural materials into value-added food and non-food products.

While basic guidelines are provided to assist members of the scientific community in assessing their interest in the program areas and to describe areas where new information is vitally needed, the guidelines are not meant to establish boundaries or to discourage the creativity of potential applicants. The USDA encourages submission of innovative projects that are "high-risk", as well as innovative proposals with potential for more immediate application. In all instances, innovative research will be given high priority.

For research addressing biological issues, agriculturally important organism(s) should be used to accomplish the research objectives. The use of other organisms as experimental model systems must be justified relative to the goals of the appropriate research program areas and to the long-term objectives of USDA.

Types of Proposals

Under the NCRIGP, CSRS may make project grants, including renewals to existing NCRIGP-funded projects, to support research, including research conferences, and to improve research capabilities in selected areas related to

the food and agricultural sciences. 7 CFR 3200.1 (a) states that each year CSRS will announce through publication of a Notice the high priority research areas and categories to improve research capabilities for which proposals will be solicited and the extent that funds are available therefor. The NCRIGP solicits proposals that are single or multidisciplinary, fundamental or mission-linked. The following definitions apply:

- **Fundamental Research:** Research that tests scientific hypotheses and provides basic foundation knowledge that supports applied research and from which major conceptual breakthroughs are expected to occur.

- **Mission-linked Research:** Research on specifically identified agricultural problems which, through a continuum of efforts, provides information and technology that may be transferred to users and may relate to a product or process.

- **Multidisciplinary Research:** Research in which scientists from two or more disciplines are collaborating closely for a common goal.

Note to Multidisciplinary Research Teams: The NCRIGP recognizes the value of research performed as a team effort and recommends the following be taken into consideration when assembling a research team and constructing a proposal:

In order to be competitive the number of objectives and the level of personnel involved in the proposal should be appropriate to the NCRIGP program area and to the research proposed. A clear management strategy should be provided which identifies the effort of each member of the team. Participation should be limited to those investigators integral to the proposed research and should not include investigators or objectives peripheral to the hypothesis being tested. It is unlikely that requests for more than three years of funding will be supported.

The project types for which proposals are solicited are:

1. Conventional Projects

(a) Standard Research Grants

Research will be supported that is fundamental or mission-linked performed by individual investigators, co-investigators within the same discipline, or multidisciplinary teams. Any State agricultural experiment station, college, university, other research institution or organization, Federal agency, private organization, corporation or individual may apply. The research proposed must be solicited

specifically in the research program areas described herein.

(b) Conferences

Scientific meetings that bring together scientists to identify research needs, update information, or advance an area of research are recognized as integral parts of research efforts. Support for a limited number of such meetings covering subject matter encompassed by this solicitation will be considered for partial or, if modest, total support. These proposals should be submitted to the appropriate research program areas described in this solicitation. Applicants considering submission under this category are strongly advised to consult the appropriate NCRIGP staff before preparation and submission of the proposal. Any State agricultural experiment station, college or university, other research institution or organization, Federal agency, private organization, corporation, or individual is an eligible applicant in this area.

II. Agricultural Research Enhancement Awards

In order to contribute to the enhancement of research capabilities in the research program areas described herein, the second part of this solicitation solicits applications for competitive grants to be awarded in the following categories:

(a) Postdoctoral Fellowships

In accordance with section 2(b)(3)(D) of the 1965 Act, as amended, individuals who have recently received or will soon receive their doctoral degree are encouraged to submit proposals. These proposals can be submitted directly by the individual or through an institution. The following requirements apply: (1) The doctoral degree must be received after January 1, 1989 and no later than June 15, 1992; (2) the individual must be a citizen of the United States; (3) the proposal must contain documentation that (a) arrangements have been made with an established investigator with regard to all necessary facilities and space for conduct of the research and (b) that the host institution has been informed of these arrangements; and (4) the research proposed must be solicited in and directly submitted to one of the program areas described in this document. The proposal should initiate the individual's independent program, rather than supplement or augment research programs in the laboratory of the established investigator. Postdoctoral awards are limited to two year's duration and are not renewable. A separate peer review panel will not be assembled for the purpose of reviewing

these proposals. Proposals should be submitted to the appropriate research program area described in this solicitation by the designated deadline for that particular program area.

(b) New Investigator Awards

Pursuant to section 2(b)(3)(E) of the 1965 Act, as amended, investigators or coinvestigators who have completed graduate or postdoctoral training, are beginning their independent research careers and do not have an extensive research publication record are encouraged to submit proposals. All individuals who have not received competitively-awarded Federal research funds beyond the level of pre- or postdoctoral research awards, and who have less than five years of post-graduate (terminal degree) research experience, are eligible for this award. The proposal must contain documentation which lists all prior Federal research support. The research proposed shall be appropriate to one of the program areas described in this document, and the proposal must be submitted directly to that program area. A separate peer review panel will not be assembled for the purpose of reviewing these proposals. Proposals should be submitted to the appropriate research program area described in this solicitation by the designated deadline for that particular program area.

(c) Strengthening Awards

Pursuant to sections 2(b)(3) (D) and (F) of the 1965 Act, as amended, proposals are solicited that request funds for Research Career Enhancement Awards, Equipment Grants, Seed Grants or Strengthening Standard Research Project Awards. Research Career Enhancement Awards, Seed Grants, and Strengthening Standard Research Project Awards will be available to ensure that faculty of small and mid-sized institutions who have not previously been successful in obtaining competitive grants under section 2(b) of the 1965 Act, as amended (Competitive Research Grants Program) receive a portion of the grants. See program area 80.0 for eligibility requirements.

The project subject for any Strengthening Award shall be appropriate to one of the research program areas described in this document. More specific description of the Strengthening Awards Program is found under Program Area 80.0.

Specific Research Divisions

The following specific Research Divisions and the program areas therein and guidelines are provided as a base from which proposals for both

Conventional Projects and Agricultural Research Enhancement Awards shall be developed:

Natural Resources and the Environment

Research in the area of natural resources and the environment is needed to address contemporary issues of importance not only for agriculture but for society as a whole. Biological systems are influenced markedly by the environment. Further, the impact of possible environmental changes on sustainability and economic viability of agriculture and forestry, and the need to enhance the stewardship of natural resources to minimize negative environmental consequences require expanded knowledge in diverse scientific disciplines. To garner such knowledge, research will be supported in the following topic and program areas:

21.0 Water Quality

Non-point runoff of water contaminants and pollutants, including pesticides and other organics, inorganic nutrients, animal wastes, excess salts and metals is a major landscape problem. The goal of this program area is to support innovative research that tests hypotheses regarding basic underlying mechanisms that affect water quality. It is anticipated that results from this research will be readily transferable to development of methods for enhancement of water quality within and exiting from specific agricultural and forest ecosystems. Studies are needed in the disciplines of soil chemistry and physics; uptake, transport, degradation, and fate of water-borne contaminants of agricultural origin; and, ecology of landscape elements affecting water quality, including interactions of wetland, riparian, or buffer ecosystems with agricultural and forest ecosystems. Proposals may be developed from the following specific research areas and guidelines:

Soils/Microorganisms

This area will support research on soil and microbial processes that affect accumulation, persistence, degradation, disappearance and transport of water contaminants and pollutants, including pesticides and other organics, inorganic nutrients (including nitrogen and phosphorus), excess salts, and metals. Proposals should emphasize studies that will enhance basic knowledge of the biological and physicochemical mechanisms affecting these phenomena specifically relating to water quality. The problem areas include, but are not

limited to: (a) Physical properties and processes of soils (including litter or surface sediments) under both aerobic and anaerobic conditions, including surface chemistry of soil components, adsorption, diffusion and mass flow of contaminants and their accessibility to microorganisms and plant roots; (b) basic biochemical, genetic, and molecular mechanisms of microbial uptake, transformation, sequestration, and detoxification of pesticides and other organics, nutrients, and metals; and (c) ecology of microbes involved in the above processes.

Plant/Water Contaminant Interaction

This area will support research on: (a) Basic biochemical, genetic, and molecular mechanisms of whole plant uptake, transport, transformation, sequestration, and detoxification of water contaminants; (b) cellular, morphological, and developmental adaptations of plants as related to water contaminants (i.e., anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, root morphology and rhizosphere interactions); and (c) basic studies involving tolerant species that accumulate or modify contaminants. (See also Plant Responses to the Environment, 22.1).

Wetland, Riparian, and Forest Ecosystems

This area will support research on biogeochemical, physiological, and/or ecological processes and mechanisms in wetland, riparian, or buffer ecosystems (natural or constructed) related to disposal, treatment, storage and/or reduction of contaminated non-point source run-off from agricultural or forest systems. Proposals are encouraged which study mechanisms related to reduction, interception and processing, and interactions of source and receiving sites, rather than solely with impact at receiving sites. Nutrient budget studies and estimates of contaminant retention and treatment capacity should be included and should be presented in the context of hypotheses regarding mechanisms affecting such parameters. Statistically-based studies that emphasize spatial variability are encouraged. Although proposals that deal with questions at the landscape level, as well as those that deal with interactions of components of ecosystems, are encouraged, the questions should be unique, hypothesis-driven and discrete from other on-going studies in these landscapes and at a scale appropriate to this program. Proposals in which agricultural lands, forests, or rangelands are part of the hydrological unit are encouraged.

Further guidelines for proposal development: The three research areas presented above are not mutually exclusive. Investigators may elect to study a question which considers a soil/microorganism and or plant/contaminant problem in an ecosystem context. Questions that span two or more research areas and/or two or more scientific disciplines may require a multicollaborator, multidisciplinary approach. The scientific question to be studied should be justified for this program by relating it to a specific problem in water quality.

Support will not be provided for research applications that propose screening, monitoring or survey projects; nor for studies in: technology or instrument development; policy and economic decisions; genetic engineering for water quality enhancement; municipal, urban, or industrial wastewater treatment, including studies of natural or constructed ecosystems for such treatment; bioremediation; animal and human health issues or development of models without strong experimental and field validation components.

Investigators should note that a complementary Water Quality Program exists within the CSRS Special Grants Program. For further information about the Special Grants Program, contact the Proposal Services Branch at the address listed under "How to Obtain Application Materials." Applicants should select the most appropriate program for submission. Submission of duplicate proposals or proposals with substantial overlap to both programs is discouraged.

22.0 Atmosphere and Global Climate Change

A strong scientific basis is needed for understanding the impact of potential atmospheric and global climate change. The objective of this program area, which is a part of the U.S. Global Change Research program, is to support research which provides an understanding of plant responses to the environment. Such knowledge can provide the basis for developing strategies for adapting to possible changes accompanying projected global climate fluctuations, and for decreasing the impact of environmental stress on agricultural and forest productivity.

22.1 Plant Responses to the Environment

The goal of this program is to understand the fundamental mechanisms of the plant's response to environmental factors, both natural and anthropogenically perturbed.

Environmental factors may include: water, temperature, light (including UV-B), nutrient, and atmospheric chemical composition (including carbon dioxide, ozone, sulfur dioxide, and other greenhouse gases). Mechanisms may be studied at the ecophysiological, whole plant, cellular, or molecular levels. It is recommended, however, that studies at the cellular and molecular levels be considered in relation to the response at the level of the whole plant. Proposals are encouraged that are based on testable hypotheses and that go beyond descriptive levels of experimentation. Hypotheses that consider single or multiple factors are appropriate. Examples of research to be supported include: (a) Expression and regulation of genes and gene products that are relevant in plant response to environmental factors; (b) identification of biochemical, cellular, morphological, and phenological changes that take place in plants in response to environmental signals; and (c) the interactions of multiple factors and how they affect plant physiological processes.

Ecosystem studies specifically directed toward understanding the physiological response to the environmental factors listed above are also appropriate for this program; other ecosystem studies should be submitted to the Forest/Rangeland/Crop Ecosystem program (23.0). Program areas that support studies directed toward understanding aspects of plant biology that do not emphasize an environmental component are described in Plant Systems (51.054.0). For plant-water interactions, see also the Water Quality Program (21.0).

23.0 Forest/Rangeland/Crop Ecosystems

The goal of this program area is to further the understanding of underlying biological and ecological processes in ecosystems that can contribute to enhanced plant productivity and to the well-being and sustainability of plant communities. Structure and function of ecosystems reflect the many complex interactions and interdependencies among plant species, other organisms, and the physical factors operating within these systems. Human influence contributes to complex perturbations of these systems; yet, a lack of understanding of the intricacies of ecosystems is a barrier to obtaining sustainable agricultural and forest production. Therefore, investigations on how major landscapes function at ecophysiological, population, community, and biogeochemical levels

will provide knowledge essential for improving long-term agricultural and forestry practices.

Within this context, studies that examine the developmental, structural, or functional attributes controlling component ecosystem processes, as well as whole ecosystem responses, will be considered. Proposals that explore the implications of alternative management systems on ecosystem processes also are encouraged. Simulation modeling may be useful for integration of research results. Studies are encouraged in, but not limited to, the following areas: (a) Influence of abiotic and biotic factors on carbon, nutrient, water, and energy flow in ecosystems and on the mechanisms that control such fluxes; (b) soil physical and chemical properties and processes that affect water and nutrient availability; (c) responses of plant communities and soil food webs to management practices, disturbance, and environmental change (includes successional and mycorrhizal studies); and (d) interspecific antagonisms and interactions among plants in relationship to management practices.

Because of limited funding, large whole ecosystem manipulations are not expected to receive support. Applicants who propose studies of wetland or riparian ecosystems, or those interested in the ecosystem as it relates to water or soil contamination or water quality, should apply to the Water Quality program area (21.0). Studies that focus only on the mechanisms of plant physiological response to abiotic or biotic factors should apply to the Plant Responses to the Environment program area (22.1) or the Plant Pest Interactions topic area (51.0).

24.0 Improved Utilization of Wood and Wood Fiber

This program area encourages research on those critical barriers to improved wood utilization, providing the scientific base from which new research and development can proceed. The program area will place emphasis on the following:

Wood chemistry and biochemistry represent important areas where new basic information is vitally needed and that have great potential for expanding efficient wood utilization. Basic questions that need to be addressed include principles governing the biological, physical, or chemical reactions in wood and woodbase materials. Examples of research subjects of interest include: Conversion to products; deterioration mechanisms; new wood treatment chemistry; lignocellulosic polymer modification;

surface chemistry; and fundamental studies in adhesives.

Physical/mechanical properties of wood and basic wood processing technology constitutes an area of investigation in which an improved base of scientific knowledge can ensure future development of new materials, products, and processes. Research is encouraged that advances an understanding of the structure, physical properties, and basic processing characteristics of wood and wood-base materials. Examples of such research include, but are not limited to: Anatomy and ultrastructure; wood formation; viscoelasticity; heat and mass transfer phenomena; lignocellulosic modification; particle/fiber consolidation; surface and defect evaluation methods; non-destructive property evaluation; and materials science principles.

Structural wood engineering relates to the structural performance of wood and wood-base materials as individual components and in systems. Significant improvements in the use of wood will depend on the development of an expanded scientific base of knowledge. The goal of research in this area is to stimulate innovative approaches in the structural use of wood. Examples of relevant research include: Reliability-based design; performance modeling and behavior of wood/non-wood composites; new approaches in fasteners and connectors; moisture and environmental effects; and basic failure mechanisms.

Forest engineering research that emphasizes the impact of engineering practices upon the safety of forest operation and the ergonomics of forest system components also will be considered in this program area. Examples of such research include: Studies of engineering-system-related stand regeneration; engineering characteristics of trees, stand, and soils; and systems for controlling and monitoring equipment. Research on the development of equipment, instrumentation, and control systems should contain a significant portion of work involving effects of equipment and instrumentation on wood quality or wood products.

Nutrition, Food Quality, and Health

The health of the U.S. citizen significantly depends on the quality and quantity of the country's food supply and the nutrients consumed by individuals. Research will be supported which will contribute to the improvement of human nutritional status by increasing our understanding of requirements of nutrients. Data generated from these studies will form

the scientific basis for dietary recommendations, as well as for new developments by the food industry in response to the needs engendered by those recommendations. Safety of food products is of paramount importance to the producer, processor, distributor, and consumer. In response to this need, research in food safety, particularly focusing on the pathogenesis, prevention and control of food-borne disease-causing microorganisms, is in place.

31.0 Human Nutrient Requirements for Optimal Health.

Our need to understand the interplay between optimal nutrition and optimal health serves as an impetus for research which will improve our understanding of nutrient requirements in the normal healthy human population. The primary objective of this program is to support research that will help to fill gaps in our knowledge of human nutrient requirements and factors influencing them.

Examples of research that will be emphasized include: (a) Bioavailability of nutrients; (b) the interrelationship of nutrients; (c) nutrient requirements of healthy individuals across all age groups; (d) mechanisms underlying the relationship between diet and health maintenance, such as the effect of nutrients on the immune system; (e) the cellular and molecular mechanisms underlying nutrient requirements, including the modulation of gene expression by nutrients. A better understanding of human nutrient requirements contributes to the USDA's emphasis on nutrition education.

Support will not be provided for research addressing nutrient requirements and disease states, demonstration or action projects, or for surveys of the nutritional status of population groups. In addition, the use of animals as model systems must be justified.

Proposals dealing with processing techniques in food technology should be clearly oriented toward determining effects on human nutrient bioavailability or metabolism.

Proposals that concern utilization or production of a food commodity should emphasize the relationship to specific human nutrient requirements.

32.0 Food Safety.

The primary objective of this program is to increase our understanding of the disease-causing microorganisms that contaminate food with the goal of decreasing food-borne illnesses. Proposals are solicited for research on the mechanisms of microbial

pathogenesis in humans and control of food-borne microorganisms with an emphasis on those growing at refrigeration temperatures. Proposals may address either pre- or post harvest (slaughter) origin of the microbial agent. Such proposals should clearly address areas of microbial food safety and not plant or animal health issues. Model systems must clearly address microbial food safety concerns and be justified along program guidelines.

Animal Systems

Research across a broad range of animal science areas is needed urgently for the future enhancement of animal production efficiency as well as to address such areas as the modification of animal products. The critical need for a better understanding of the biology of animal production performance necessitates this broad approach. To accomplish this, research will be supported under the following categories: (a) Animal reproductive biology; (b) cellular growth and developmental biology of animals; (c) animal molecular genetics; and (d) mechanisms of animal disease. Emphasis should be given to innovative approaches to research questions related to animals primarily raised for food or fiber, including aquaculture species, or that otherwise contribute significantly to the agricultural enterprise of the country. The use of experimental model systems should be justified relative to the objectives of the specific research program area.

41.0 Reproductive Biology of Animals

Suboptimal reproductive performance in animals of agricultural importance is a major factor limiting more efficient production of animal food products. New knowledge in this area is required to solve the problem of increased costs of animal production and to decrease the impact of consequent high costs of animal food products to the consumer. Therefore, the primary objective of this program area is to increase our knowledge of reproductive biology in animals of agricultural importance with the goal of increasing reproductive efficiency.

This program will consider for support innovative research on: (a) Mechanisms affecting embryo survival, endocrinological control of embryo development, mechanisms of embryo-maternal interactions, and embryo-implantation; (b) factors controlling ovarian function including follicular development, ovulation, and corpus luteum formation and function; (c) factors controlling male reproductive

function; (d) gamete physiology, including oogenesis and spermatogenesis, gamete maturation, mechanisms regulating gamete survival *in vivo* or *in vitro*; (e) parturition, postpartum interval to conception, and neonatal survival.

Because alterations in animal behavior and animal well-being may impair fecundity, this program also encourages research on the mechanisms controlling animal responses to physical and biological stresses that impinge upon reproductive efficiency. Research should contribute to an understanding of the causes, consequences, and avoidance of stress, rather than merely describing the physiological effects of stress on reproductive efficiency.

Model systems should be justified in terms of the program guidelines. Multidisciplinary research is encouraged.

42.0 Cellular Growth and Developmental Biology of Animals

Suboptimal growth and development are limiting factors in animal productivity, and basic information regarding developmental processes in animals of agriculture importance, including aquaculture species, is largely lacking. The primary objective of the program is to increase our understanding of the biological mechanisms underlying animal growth, development, and lactation. Increased knowledge in these areas would be useful in increasing protein and decreasing fat in food products of animal origin, improving production, and improving control and manipulation of muscling, growth, metabolism, tissue partitioning, and mammary function.

The following categories of research should be emphasized: (a) Cell proliferation and differentiation; (b) genetic mechanisms underlying growth and development; (c) metabolic regulators such as growth factors; (d) synthesis and degradation of protein and lipid at the cellular or tissue level; (e) metabolic and nutritional aspects of growth and development including rumen microfloral development; (f) developmental biology of the immune system; and (g) cellular and molecular aspects of the effect of environmental stress on growth and development. Model systems should be justified in terms of the program guidelines. Multidisciplinary research is encouraged.

Proposals dealing essentially with aspects of reproduction should be submitted to Reproductive Biology of Animals (41.0). Proposals addressing research on disease agents (biotic or abiotic) should be submitted to the

Mechanisms of Animal Disease program (44.0).

43.0 Animal Molecular Genetics

A lack of basic information about the genes and gene products of traditional food and fiber animals and aquaculture species currently exists. The primary objective of this program is to increase our understanding of the structure, organization, function, regulation, and expression of genes in agriculturally important animals. Increased knowledge in this area would aid in improving animal productivity and efficiency, genetic localization of economically important production traits, marker assisted selection, and use of transgenic methodology.

The following areas of research should be emphasized: (a) Identification, isolation, characterization of genes, gene products, and their regulatory mechanisms; (b) identification of DNA segregation markers; (c) interactions between nuclear and organellar genes and the molecular basis of genetic replication; and (d) development and application of methods to modify the animal genome. Model systems should be justified in terms of the program guidelines. Multidisciplinary research is encouraged.

44.0 Mechanisms of Animal Disease

A major limiting factor in agriculture is the lack of basic information about both infectious and noninfectious causes of disease in traditional food and fiber animals and aquaculture species. In order to sustain animal health and well-being and to prevent animal disease, the primary objective of this program is to increase our understanding of pathogenesis and disease mechanisms. Host-agent interactions and defense mechanisms of the host animal are also of interest. Increased knowledge in this area would result in decreased contamination of food products of animal origin, decreased use of antimicrobial agents and more effective immunizations and diagnostic methods to provide assistance with preventive herd health management schemes with the outcome of improved efficiency and sustainability of the animal production unit and its environmental setting.

The following categories of research represent areas of emphasis of the program: (a) Mechanisms that alter the normal physiologic state at the molecular, cellular or organ level to produce disease resulting from both biotic and abiotic causes; (b) genetic and cellular mechanisms of disease resistance, e.g. molecular immunology and immunogenetics; (c) pathogenesis;

(d) both host and microbial factors influencing colonization of mucosal surfaces; and (e) host-environment interactions that compromise the host defense systems or cause predisposition to disease. Epidemiologic studies on animal diseases that provide insight to etiologic factors and/or control also will be considered.

Because alterations in animal behavior and animal well-being may impair animal health, this program also encourages research on the mechanisms controlling animal responses to physical and biological stresses that impinge upon animal health and well being. Proposals which address this relationship in an attempt to more clearly define the condition of the well-being of animals are encouraged.

Model systems should be justified in terms of the program guidelines. Multidisciplinary research is encouraged.

Proposals involving reagent development *per se* will not be considered for support. In addition, proposals involving free-living insects that are not intermediate hosts or vectors of animal diseases will not be considered.

Plant Systems

Additional knowledge in a broad range of plant sciences is critical for improvement of crop and forest quality, productivity, sustainability, and for addressing the environmental impact of certain agricultural practices. Innovative research on plant systems will be supported in the following areas: (a) Plant pest interactions; (b) genomes, genetics, and diversity; (c) plant growth and development; (d) energy and metabolism; (e) alcohol fuels; and (f) ecosystems.

51.0 Plant Pest Interactions

Damage resulting from plant pests is a major factor in reducing crop and forest productivity. In some situations, plant pests can be controlled by chemical pesticides, but chemical application may result in negative environmental consequences. It is acknowledged widely that understanding plant pest interactions significantly improves our ability to develop successful and environmentally safe control strategies, and thus leads to a more sustainable agricultural or forest system. But despite considerable successful research on plant responses to pests, there is still great opportunity and need to further our understanding of plant defenses, and the basic biology of stress-causing organisms and biotic agents that suppress pests.

The goal of this topic area is to support research on biotic stresses encountered by plants during interactions with other plants, including weeds; with pathogens such as fungi, viruses, bacteria, and nematodes; and with arthropods such as insects and mites. The research supported in this topic area will focus on the identification of novel strategies that are both effective and compatible with social and environmental concerns and also enhance the sustainability of managed and non-managed ecosystems. Within this context, research which emphasizes the following is encouraged: (a) How plant-pest interactions are established; (b) mechanisms of plant response to biotic stresses; (c) mechanisms of pest response to host defenses; and (d) genetics of these interactions. Applications using molecular genetics as a tool to clarify plant-pest relations are appropriate to this program area. Proposals focused on mapping of plant resistance genes or traits should be directed to the Plant Genome program area, 52.1.

Additionally, the program recognizes that fundamental research in the area of biological control will provide critical information leading to sustainable agricultural and forest production systems and for the development of alternatives to pesticides. Therefore, research which emphasizes how damage from pests can be reduced, including basic studies on biological control organisms, is encouraged.

Host plants, pests, or components of natural control may be studied separately or as an interactive unit. However, all proposals should indicate how the anticipated information will further our understanding of plant-pest interactions and the cause, consequence or mechanism of stress avoidance in crop plants and forest species.

Research at the molecular, cellular, organismal or population level will be considered for those program areas described below.

51.1 Pathology

Emphasis will be placed on crop and forest stresses arising from interactions with biological agents such as fungi, bacteria, viruses, viroids, and mycoplasma-like organisms. Studies focusing on the three-way interactions of a pathogen, its host, and other host-associated microorganisms also are appropriate.

51.2 Entomology (includes Mites)

In addition to the aforementioned subject areas related directly to insect-plant relations, studies of the basic biology of insects in the following areas

are encouraged: (a) Behavioral physiology; (b) chemical ecology; (c) endocrinology; (d) population dynamics; (e) genetics; (f) behavioral ecology; (g) pathology; (h) predator/parasite-insect relationships; and (i) toxicology including basic pesticide resistance studies. Proposed studies in these areas must include a justification for how anticipated results will be relevant to a reduction in plant stress.

51.3 Nematology

Emphasis will be placed on understanding the basic biology of plant parasitic and entomophagous nematodes and their interactions with host organisms. Applicants may propose to study the nematode away from the host if there is significant justification.

51.4 Weed Science

Emphasis will be placed on crop and forest stresses arising from interactions with other plants, particularly weedy species. This program area will emphasize studies on how stressful interactions are established between plants, how plants react to stresses generated by such interactions, how such interactions are influenced by environmental and other factors inherent to the interacting organisms, and how the interactions reduce plant productivity and usefulness.

To provide adequate scientific evaluation of applications, proposals submitted under these program areas will be reviewed by the peer review panel whose collective expertise is most appropriate to the scientific content of each proposal.

52.0 Genomes Genetics and Diversity

Significant impact on agricultural productivity can be achieved by understanding the molecular and cellular processes of plants and their inheritance, and translating these processes into desirable plant performance. In the topic area of Genomes, Genetics and Diversity, research which will promote the genetic improvement of crop plants and forest species is encouraged. Research on agriculturally important genes will be encouraged in two program areas. The Plant Genome program area will support mission-oriented studies to produce low density maps, localized high density maps, and development of methods with high potential applicability to crop improvement. The Genetic Mechanisms and Molecular Biology program area will focus on obtaining basic information about plant genes and genetic processes. Specific information about the two program areas follows:

52.1 Plant Genome

Grants will be awarded to support mission-oriented research in the area of plant genome. This grant program area is part of the USDA Plant Genome Research Program. The Plant Genome Research Program was established to facilitate development of new or improved crop plants and forest species and to maintain germplasm resources, thereby promoting stability and profitability of plant production and improvement of the quality of food, fiber, feed, and non-food products, including biofuels. To accomplish these goals, the Plant Genome program will foster and coordinate research related to identification, characterization, alteration, and rapid and precise manipulation of genes controlling traits of agricultural importance.

Following the discovery of scientific principles of heredity, application of genetic principles enabled the rapid improvement of many useful crop varieties. In conventional plant breeding, sexual hybridization and selection techniques have offered the chief means of genetic improvement, leading to substantial increases in yield, acquisition of pest resistance, and exploitation of other genetic traits of economic importance. However, many traits are controlled by multiple genes, limiting the rate at which improved varieties can be bred. Linkage maps carrying molecular markers are needed to facilitate breeding of traits controlled by multiple loci. Furthermore, in some commodities the application of current plant breeding methods may be approaching the point of diminishing returns because the desired genes do not exist within plant populations that can be hybridized. Genes that encode traits of potential economic importance are present in the plant population as a whole, but efficient means need to be developed to identify and isolate the responsible genes and transfer them to agriculturally important crop plants. The objective of the USDA Plant Genome Research Program is to facilitate full exploitation of the available gene pool for crop improvement. This will be accomplished by supporting high quality research designed to develop information and research tools that will equip the plant breeder and other plant scientists to meet and/or overcome present and future challenges.

Potential applicants to the NCRIGP Plant Genome Program area are advised that this is a mission-oriented, targeted program area. As such, the program is seeking proposals that are not only of high scientific quality but also are of high potential applicability to crop

improvement as well. The use of non-cultivated plants as experimental model systems must be justified with regard to applicability to agriculture and forestry. Priority will be given to proposals that plan timely dissemination of information, mapping data, and materials to a clearly identified community of users, as well as to the scientific community as a whole. Coordinated proposals designed to bring complementary talents to bear on mapping needs are encouraged but proposals from single investigators will also be appropriate for submission. The specific areas of emphasis listed below offer exceptional opportunities for advancing agriculture and forestry.

(a) *Construction of genetic and/or physical maps.* Application of genomic strategies to problems in agriculture requires the development of tools. Accordingly, the objective of this section of the program is to construct maps for crop and forest species that are directly useful to breeders for crop improvement and to other biologists for fundamental plant science research. There are no prescribed priorities for specific commodities or for any particular types of maps to be constructed. The applicant should determine the nature of the map to be constructed (e.g., genetic or physical, high density or low density) for the particular species of interest. An assessment of the present state of the species' genome map, available genetic materials, the rationale for choice of the mapping population, and the future applications of the map for plant breeding or other research should be described in the proposal. It is not anticipated that any complete plant nuclear genome sequencing project will be supported under this program.

Construction of low resolution maps (i.e., those with a goal of containing gaps no larger than 25 centimorgans) will suffice for many plant breeding and research applications. High resolution maps (i.e., with gaps no larger than 5 centimorgans) likely will be limited in the number that will be funded, depending on the relationship of physical and genetic distances in the particular species. Strong justification will be needed in terms of a high density map's immediate and future scientific impact. For construction of genome maps with molecular markers at low or high density, a time frame of three years will usually be appropriate, unless unusual aspects of the particular species' genome produce difficulties that justify a longer-term effort.

Proposals for mapping should clearly describe communication or involvement with scientists (such as plant breeders,

geneticists, physiologists, or biochemists) who will use the mapping tools that are to be created. Interaction of laboratories engaged in mapping with the users of the technology is essential to ensure early and efficient application of the tools developed.

(b) *Detailed mapping and sequencing of specific regions of the genome.* The identification and isolation of genes involved in specific genetic traits of economic significance is an important application of genome mapping. The goal is to provide support for investigators to use the available tools, such as existing physical and genetic maps, cytogenetic stocks, alien addition lines, near-isogenic lines, mutants, transposons, and molecular markers to locate, identify, and isolate specific genes that are important to agriculture and forestry. Economically important traits are complex and likely will require experimental approaches drawn from many disciplines.

No priorities for specific commodities or genetic traits to be addressed have been established. The applicants should identify genes that affect the economic value of a specific commodity or are relevant to yield and agricultural productivity. In order to justify the project duration, investigators should describe the genetic tools presently available and the biological properties of the particular species of interest with respect to their impact on the length of time required to identify, locate, and isolate a gene of interest.

(c) *Development of new mapping and cloning strategies.* Research to produce new methods and materials that can be applied to genome mapping, genome manipulation, gene isolation, or gene transfer is encouraged. The biology of the plant and its genome exhibits some fundamental differences from other eukaryotic systems and may require unique technical strategies. These differences include, but are not limited to, the polyploid nature of many plant genomes, the existence of the chloroplast genome and a large mitochondrial genome, the presence of the cell wall, the meristematic control of plant growth, and additional complex biosynthetic pathways. At the same time, plant systems offer unique advantages because of the ability to produce inbreds and interspecific sexual and somatic hybrids, the relative simplicity of introducing genes into many plant species, the possibility of regenerating plants from single cells, and the ease of cultivating large segregating populations. Research leading to the development of mapping, gene cloning, gene introduction, and

sequencing technologies that are designed to overcome technical obstacles due to the complexity of plant systems, or research that is designed to take advantage of unique features of the plant systems will be supported. Proposals that present innovative approaches to technology development are encouraged.

52.2 Plant Genetic Mechanisms and Molecular Biology

The goal of this program area is to encourage new approaches for the development of genetically superior varieties of crop and forest species. One of the major limiting factors for the application of biotechnology to agriculture is the lack of basic information about genes. Studies addressing the basic cellular, molecular, and genetic processes that contribute new information required for the development of novel approaches to crop and forest improvement will be given high priority. This program area will emphasize, but is not limited to, research in the following categories: (a) Identification, isolation, and characterization of agriculturally important genes and gene products; (b) relationships between gene structure and function; (c) regulatory mechanisms of expression of nuclear and organellar genes, including all stages from transcription to post-translational modification; (d) interactions between nuclear and organellar genes, and between extrachromosomal and chromosomal genes [for nuclear-chloroplast genome interactions, see also the Photosynthesis and Respiration Program (54.1)]; (e) mechanisms of recombination, transposition, replication and repair; (f) molecular, biochemical, and cellular processes controlling regeneration of whole plants from single cells; (g) alteration and use of germplasm resources; and (h) development of molecular, cellular, genetic or cytogenetic methods for identifying or altering plant characteristics or genes that are important targets for genetic manipulation.

53.0 Plant Growth and Development

Optimal growth and development are essential for optimal productivity of agriculturally important crop plants and forest species. A basic understanding of developmental processes in these plants is largely lacking, but new experimental approaches are being developed through advances in molecular and cellular biology. The goal of this program area is to further the understanding of the fundamental mechanisms that underlie the regulation of the plant life cycle,

including seed germination, differentiation, organogenesis, flowering, fertilization, embryogenesis, fruit development, seed development, senescence, and dormancy. This program area will emphasize, but is not limited to, studies on: (a) Developmental regulation of gene expression; (b) mechanisms of cell division, expansion, and differentiation; (c) development and organization of meristems; (d) photomorphogenesis; (e) cell biology including cytoskeleton, membrane biology, organelle development, and cell wall structure and properties (for photosynthetic membranes and chloroplast development, see also the Photosynthesis Program (54.1)); (f) biochemistry of primary and secondary metabolism related to plant growth and development; (g) hormonal regulation of growth and development, including biosynthesis, metabolism, perception, and mode of action of hormones; and (h) analysis and control of growth patterns. Proposals emphasizing the use of emerging experimental techniques for the investigation of these processes are encouraged.

54.0 Energy and Metabolism

54.1 Photosynthesis and Respiration

Central to crop and timber production are the plant processes by which solar energy is captured and transformed into the forms of energy found in food and fiber. Many of the complexities of these unique processes are still poorly understood, and thus, cannot be subjected to molecular, genetic and managerial manipulations designed to solve agricultural problems such as sustainability, yield, efficiency, and resource utilization.

The objectives of this program area are to encourage research that will elucidate underlying mechanisms of energy capture, transduction, and utilization in crop and forest plants.

Categories of innovative research sought in this area will include, but not be limited to, studies of the following processes: (a) Photosynthetic energy conversion, including early events of photon capture and charge separation; (b) electron transport and energy transduction, including studies of biosynthesis, organization, and function of components of electron transport in photosynthesis and respiration (see also 52.2 and 53.0); (c) carbon dioxide transport and concentration; (d) biochemistry of carbon fixation, carbon assimilation and respiration; (e) control of photosynthate partitioning, translocation and utilization; (f) mechanisms controlling photosynthetic and respiratory processes in leaves,

plants and canopies (see also 22.1 and 23.0); (g) metabolism and interactions (see also 52.2 and 53.0) of nucleus, cytoplasm, chloroplasts, mitochondria and other cellular compartments that are involved in photosynthesis or respiration; and, (h) metabolism unique to chloroplasts and mitochondria. Investigators proposing studies that focus primarily on mechanisms regulating expression of genes involved in photosynthesis and respiration should consider whether submission to the Plant Genetic Mechanisms program is more appropriate. Those investigators focusing on development of photosynthetic and respiratory structures should consider whether submission to the Plant Growth and Development program (53.0) is more appropriate.

It is expected that experimental approaches to the study of the processes outlined above will be drawn from many disciplines, including biochemistry, biophysics, chemistry, microbiology, genetics, physiology, and cellular, developmental and molecular biology. Multidisciplinary approaches are encouraged.

54.2 Nitrogen Fixation/Metabolism

The high levels of nitrogen required by crops must be supplied to soils in the form of compounds usable to plants, such as ammonia and nitrate which are then assimilated by plants. These compounds are supplied, for the most part, either by application of fertilizers or by the action of microorganisms that "fix" atmospheric nitrogen. Fertilizer application can be costly in terms of energy costs and effects on the quality of surface and ground water. Only certain groups of crop and forest plants are capable of forming the bacterial plant symbioses capable of the more cost-effective, environmentally-sound biological nitrogen fixation. Development of alternative crop production methods for supplying nitrogen is desired. As a basis for developing such alternatives, a broad understanding is sought of the fate of nitrates and ammonia in the soil, as well as how nitrogen is fixed biologically. Furthermore, enhancement of crop yield, quality, nutritive value, and development of novel plant products, will depend upon elucidation of mechanisms by which plants take up, transport and metabolize nitrogen compounds.

Innovative research is solicited which uses disciplinary approaches of biochemistry, molecular biology, microbiology, genetics, physiology, cellular and developmental biology, and

ecology. Multidisciplinary approaches are encouraged. Problem areas include, but are not limited to: (a) Nitrification and denitrification; (b) ecology and competitive interactions of nitrogen-fixing organisms; (c) factors controlling symbiont specificity; (d) mechanisms regulating infection and nodulation of the root by symbiotic nitrogen-fixing organisms; (e) mechanisms of nitrogen-fixation in free-living, associative, and symbiotic organisms; (f) mechanisms of and influencing uptake and transport of nitrogen in the plant; and (g) plant metabolism of nitrogenous compounds, related to problems (a-g) listed above.

55.0 Alcohol Fuels Research

Proposals will be considered for research relating to the physiological, microbiological, biochemical, and genetic processes controlling the biological conversion of agriculturally important biomass material to alcohol fuels and industrial hydrocarbons. The scope of this program area includes studies on factors that limit efficiency of biological production of alcohol fuels and the means for overcoming these limitations.

Forest/Rangeland/Crop Ecosystems

The goal of the program area is to further the understanding of underlying biological and ecological processes in ecosystems that have the potential to contribute to enhanced plant productivity and to the sustainability of plant communities. Interested applicants are directed to the complete program area description under the Natural Resources and the Environment Research Division (23.0).

Markets, Trade, and Policy

The United States agricultural and forest product sectors need to increase exports of commodities and value-added goods in an increasingly competitive global market environment. Further, increased output for export is expected to be produced by sustainable production practices and contribute to revitalization of rural economies through employment and income growth. This challenge requires research to provide knowledge on environmentally compatible, cost-reducing technologies to enhance producer and processor competitiveness in the marketplace. Rural area leaders need knowledge about the implications of these new technologies and export market growth prospects in order to assess employment and income opportunities and to determine supplemental infrastructure and organizational needs.

Two new program areas are being introduced to begin to fulfill these

research needs. They are: (1) Market Assessments, Competitiveness, and Technology Assessments and (2) Rural Development. The former is to assess market preferences, demand, utilization, and provide forecasts for various agricultural and forest products and commodities; determine the ability of the U.S. to compete for these markets; and assess the impacts of new product and production technologies on U.S. competitiveness, the environment, and rural economies. The Rural Development program has three objectives: (1) To develop new theoretical, conceptual, and methodological techniques to apply to rural revitalization issues; (2) to determine the forces impacting rural areas; and (3) to evaluate methods for revitalizing rural areas. To the extent that investigations in Market Assessments, Competitiveness, and Technology Assessment described above have implications for Rural Development, integrated interdisciplinary studies are encouraged, but investigators must indicate only one program area to which the proposal is submitted.

61.0 Market Assessments, Competitiveness, and Technology Assessments

This Program Area will support research in three broad categories:

(1) Market Assessments.

The purpose of market assessment studies is to identify, describe, and quantify the size of potential international markets for agricultural and forest commodities and value-added products that may be supplied by the U.S. Information is needed on the demographic, cultural, social, ethnic, religious, and other factors that influence consumer preferences for and use of foods, fibers, and forest products. These factors may include sensory properties, preservation method, form, packaging, labeling, and other characteristics. Empirical estimates are needed on the sensitivity of quantities purchased to changes in own price, income, and the prices of substitute foods, along with forecasts of future use. Similar economic information is needed for semiprocessed food and non-food items of agricultural origin that are exported by the U.S. for further processing into finished products for local consumption or export.

Research proposals are requested that will assess international markets for manufactured dairy products; beef, pork, broiler, and turkey products; fresh and processed fruits and vegetables; oilseeds and oilseed products; wheat

and milled wheat products; corn products; and forest products, including lumber, composite materials, veneer, furniture, chips, and pulp. Market assessments are limited to the Pacific-Rim countries of Asia and Oceania, the European Community, Eastern Europe, Canada, Mexico, Argentina, Brazil, and Chile. Interdisciplinary proposals are encouraged. Future requests for proposals will include other commodities and products as well as other countries.

(2) Competitiveness.

The purpose of competitiveness studies is to ascertain the ability of the U.S. to compete in particular global markets for agricultural and forest products and determine the public and private strategies that can be employed to enhance U.S. competitiveness. Global is defined as any marketplace, including the U.S. Research is needed to provide empirical analyses and assessments of U.S. competitiveness in global markets relative to its principal competitors for raw and processed agricultural and forest products. The research should estimate the sensitivity of U.S. exports to changes in costs of factors used for production and marketing, fiscal policies, trade policies, monetary exchange rates, geopolitical restructuring, and other factors that affect competitiveness. This research should determine the conditions under which agricultural and forest product value-adding industries can locate in the U.S. and compete effectively for the domestic and export markets.

Competitiveness research proposals are requested for fiscal year 1992 that address the same commodities, products, and markets as listed above under market assessment studies plus the ability of the U.S. to compete for and retain its domestic market for the indicated commodities and products.

(3) Technology Assessment.

Technology assessment studies are to determine the benefits and costs of adopting new products and/or production methods. Research is needed to assess the socioeconomic and ecological impacts of adopting sustainable systems and practices applied to agricultural and forestry production. Proposals are requested that will provide empirical estimates of the impacts of sustainable practices on the competitiveness of U.S. produced agricultural commodities and forest products in global markets and the ecology, employment levels, and economic diversity of production areas utilizing the selected practices.

Interdisciplinary research proposals are encouraged.

62.0 Rural Development

In recent years, rural areas dependent on agriculture, forestry, and other natural resource extraction industries have been subjected to various forces that are reducing their economic vitality. Symptoms include outmigration, loss and degradation of essential services, and multiple job holding.

The action and interaction of these forces are poorly understood, hindering the development of effective public policies to revitalize depressed rural areas. Theoretical and empirical research is needed that will provide a better understanding of the processes by which these forces reduce economic vitality and the policies that can restore vitality. Exploratory research also is needed to provide new theories, concepts, and methodological techniques for developing rural revitalization policies.

Proposals are being requested in three areas:

- (1) To Develop New Theoretical, Conceptual, and Methodological Techniques to Apply to Rural Revitalization Issues.

Proposals are requested for exploratory research to focus on new ways to improve the social and economic well-being of rural families and communities at the national, regional, and community levels. These may be abstract studies based entirely on theory and concepts.

- (2) To Determine the Forces Impacting Rural Areas.

Empirical studies are needed to identify the forces that impact population change, employment, wage levels, and other indicators of social and economic viability. These studies may assess the influence of various agricultural, fiscal, monetary, trade, labor, and environmental policies and programs. Other elements for study may include the influence of changing demand for agricultural and forest products, industry restructuring, growth in labor productivity, and factors causing outmigration of young adults.

- (3) To Evaluate Methods for Revitalizing Rural Areas.

Empirical research proposals are requested to address the issue of how to diversify the economies of rural areas highly dependent on agriculture, forestry, and other natural resource extractive industries. These proposals may involve case studies, sectorial analyses, or regional comparisons.

Examples of these studies include assessment of the structure of labor and capital markets, availability of support services, and investigations of sustainable agricultural systems as they affect employment diversification and entrepreneurial opportunity. Multidisciplinary approaches are encouraged.

Processing Antecedent To Adding Value or Developing New Products

Research in the area of processing antecedent to adding value or developing new products is needed to enhance the competitive value and quality of U.S. agricultural and forestry products. European countries sell about 75% of their agricultural output as value-added consumer products, while only one-third of U.S. agricultural exports are high value-added products. Instead, the U.S. sells over 50% of its agricultural output as bulk commodities such as corn, wheat and logs. In the U.S., the food processing and distribution system accounts for about 75% of the retail price of food and fiber products. Less than 30% of U.S. food exports are considered high value-added products.

Research will be supported in the area of Processing for Value-Added Products. Proposals dealing with forest products should be directed to the Improved Utilization of Wood and Wood Fiber program area (24.0).

71.0 Processing For Value-Added Products

Developing new uses for agricultural materials by enhancing process efficiencies and developing the knowledge base to support quantifiable and innovative processing/preservation methods for conversion of agricultural materials into new value-added food and non-food products is a top priority for U.S. agriculture. Research should emphasize processes that are environmentally acceptable and energy-efficient. Proposals should identify potential applications of the research or address an identified market need.

Proposals are encouraged in two general areas: (1) To increase the understanding of the physical, chemical and biological properties of agricultural materials and food products that are important for quantifying, predicting, and controlling the quality of food and nonfood products, and (2) to develop innovative processes for better utilization and more efficient conversion of agricultural materials and co-products to high value-added food and non-food products.

Examples of research to be supported in the food area include: (1) Methods for rapid monitoring of quality during

processing and distribution; (2) new uses for food components in further processed foods; (3) innovative methods of extending shelf life and maintaining quality; and (4) innovative processing as a substitute for food additives in food preservation. Proposals dealing with issues of microbiological safety of foods should be directed to the Food Safety program area (32.0).

Examples of research to be supported in the non-food area include: (1) Development of superior lubricating products and other uses of industrial oilseeds; (2) development of specialty fibers such as for garment and bedding insulation, yarn, and facial tissue; (3) development of polymers such as higher nylons and interpenetrating polymer networks, strippable coatings, and flexible coatings; and (4) improved leather tanning techniques. Proposals dealing with alcohol fuels should be directed to the Alcohol Fuels Research program area (55.0).

II. Agricultural Research Enhancement Awards Program

The NCRIGP announces the implementation of a new strengthening program to help institutions develop competitive research programs and to attract new scientists into careers in high priority areas of national need in agriculture, food and environmental sciences. In addition to providing support for postdoctoral fellowships and for research awards for new investigators as described earlier, this program will include Strengthening Awards. All proposals submitted under this part of the solicitation of applications, in addition to fulfilling the requirements in this part, also shall be appropriate to one of the research program areas described under the Specific Research Divisions part of this solicitation.

80.0 Strengthening Awards

Strengthening Awards are available to ensure that faculty of small and mid-sized institutions who have not previously been successful in obtaining competitive research grants under section 2(b) of the 1965 Act, as amended, receive a portion of the grants. In addition, in order to ensure that such grants shall have the maximum strengthening effect, strengthening awards will be limited to faculty at small and mid-sized institutions that previously have had limited institutional success in obtaining grants under any Federal competitive research grants program. Further, institutions located in States that have had an average funding level from the USDA NCRIGP no higher

than the 33rd percentile, based on a three year rolling average of funding by the USDA NCRIGP and the Competitive Research Grants Office, which was subsumed by the NCRIGP, are particularly encouraged to apply for Strengthening Awards. The following States (USDA-EPSCoR States) fall into this category:

Alaska	Mississippi	South Carolina
Arkansas	Montana	South Dakota
Connecticut	North Dakota	Vermont
Hawaii	New Hampshire	West Virginia
Idaho	New Mexico	Wyoming
Maine	Rhode Island	

However, all applicants for strengthening awards must meet the criteria described herein for the type of award for which the applicant applies. An individual applicant may apply for only one of the following types of awards this fiscal year. A separate peer review panel, aside from the peer review panels assembled for review of Standard Research Grant applications, will be assembled for the evaluation of Research Career Enhancement Awards, Equipment and Seed Grants. Strengthening Standard Research Project Award applications will be reviewed by the peer review panel in the appropriate research program area along with Standard Research Grant applications.

In addition to being appropriate to one of the research program areas described under the Research Divisions described in this solicitation, proposals for Strengthening Awards also should fit within one of the following specified program areas:

80.1 Research Career Enhancement Awards

Grants within this program area are authorized by section 2(b)(3)(F) of the 1965 Act, as amended. The purpose of these awards is to provide an opportunity for faculty to enhance their research capabilities by funding sabbatical leaves. Funds will be designated for faculty at small and mid-sized institutions who have not received a competitive grant under section 2(b) of the 1965 Act within the past five years. These awards will be limited to faculty at small and mid-sized institutions that previously have had limited institutional success in obtaining grants under any Federal competitive research grants program. This Sabbatical leave shall be conducted in a Federal research laboratory or a research laboratory at an institution which confers doctoral degrees in the topic area.

Documentation that arrangements have been made with an established investigator with regard to all facilities and space necessary for conduct of the research must be provided in the

proposal. Awards will be limited to one year's salary and funds for supplies. These awards are not renewable. Proposals should be submitted by the deadline date indicated in this solicitation.

80.2 Equipment Grants

Grants within this program area are authorized by section 2(b)(3)(D) of the 1965 Act, as amended. Funds will be designated for equipment grants to strengthen the research capacity of institutions. Institutions that previously have had limited success in obtaining grants under any Federal competitive research grants program may apply. Each request shall be limited to one major piece of equipment within the cost range of \$10,000-\$100,000. The amount requested shall not exceed 50 percent of this cost. Documentation that the remaining 50 percent will be matched by the applicant. Although arrangements for sharing equipment among faculty are encouraged, it must be evident that the principal investigator is a principal user of the requested equipment. This program is not intended to replace requests for equipment in individual research projects. Rather, it is intended to help fund items of equipment that will upgrade the research infrastructure. Proposals should be submitted by the deadline date indicated in this solicitation.

80.3 Seed Grants

Grants within this program area are authorized by section 2(b)(3)(F) of the 1965 Act, as amended. The purpose of these awards is to provide funds to enable investigators at small and mid-sized institutions to collect preliminary data in preparation for applying for a research project grant. Faculty who have not been successful in obtaining a competitive grant under section 2(b) of the 1965 Act, as amended (Competitive Research Grants Program) with the past five years are eligible. These awards will be limited to faculty at small and mid-sized institutions that have had limited institutional success in obtaining grants under any Federal competitive research grants program. These awards will be \$50,000 (including indirect costs) for two years and are not renewable. Proposals should be submitted by the deadline date indicated in this solicitation.

Strengthening Standard Research Project Awards

Grants within this program area are authorized by section 2(b)(3)(F) of the 1965 Act, as amended. Investigators at small and mid-sized institutions may wish to apply for a Standard Research

Project Grant. Faculty who have not been successful in obtaining a competitive grant under section 2(b) of the 1965 Act, as amended (Competitive Research Grants Program) with the past five years are eligible. These awards will be limited to faculty at small and mid-sized institutions that have had limited institutional success in obtaining grants under any Federal competitive research grants program. Proposals should be submitted to the appropriate research program area described in this solicitation by the designated deadline for that particular program area. A separate peer review panel will not be assembled for the purpose of reviewing these proposals.

How to Obtain Application Materials

Please note that potential applicants who are on the Competitive Research Grants mailing list, who sent applications in fiscal year 1991, or who recently requested placement on the list for fiscal year 1992, will automatically receive copies of this solicitation and the Grant Application Kit. All others may request copies from: Proposal Services Branch, Cooperative State Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, room 303, Aerospace Center, Washington, DC 20250-2200; telephone: (202) 401-5049.

Specific Guidelines for Proposal Preparation and Submission

Section I. Overview

The following are specific guidelines presented to provide direction in proposal preparation and submission. Pursuant to 7 CFR 3200.4(c), the following guidelines for proposal format and content supplement those guidelines set out by that section. If the section and the supplemental guidelines herein conflict, the supplemental guidelines take precedence, in accordance with 7 CFR 3200.4(c).

Eligibility

The eligibility requirements for grants under section 2(b) of the 1965 Act, as amended, are listed in 7 CFR 3200.3. Proposals may be submitted by any State agricultural experiment station, college, university, other research institution or organization, Federal agency, private organization, corporation, or individual. Unsolicited proposals will not be considered and proposals from scientists at non-United States organizations will not be accepted.

The same investigator is not likely to receive more than one grant award under the NCRIGP in any one fiscal year. To minimize the time and effort

expended in preparing and reviewing proposals, the submission of more than one proposal from the same principal investigator (or team of investigators) therefore is discouraged strongly. In addition, in any one fiscal year applicants may not submit the same research proposal to more than one research program area within the NCRIGP or to any of the other programs sponsored by CSRS. Duplicate proposals, essentially duplicate proposals, or predominantly overlapping proposals will be returned to the proposing scientist without review.

In preparing the proposal, applicants are urged to ensure that the name of the principal investigator (or project director) and, where applicable, the name of the submitting institution are typed at the top of each page. This will permit easy identification in the event that the application becomes disassembled during the review process.

Format and Contents for Applications

Pursuant to 7 CFR 3200.4(c), the following guidelines for proposal format and content supplement those guidelines set out by that section. If the section and the supplemental guidelines herein conflict, the supplemental guidelines take precedence, in accordance with 7 CFR 3200.4(c). For purposes of in-depth evaluation as well as for consistency, organization, and clarity, it is important that proposals contain certain information and that they be of similar format. Therefore, all applications submitted should follow the guidelines listed below and be assembled in the indicated order.

I. Conventional Projects

(a) Standard research grants. Grant Application Cover Page (Form CSRS-661).

Each copy of the proposal must contain a Grant Application Cover Page, which should be assembled as the first page of the application. At least one copy of this form must contain pen-and-ink signatures as outlined below. A copy of this form is located in the Grant Application Kit and may be duplicated as necessary. In completing the Cover Page, please note the following:

- Title of Proposal (Block 6). Choose an appropriate project title and place it in this block. The other guidelines for this component are listed in 7 CFR 3200.4(c)(1).

- Program Area and Number (Block 8). From among the announced research program areas, choose the program area that is most appropriate to the effort being proposed and insert the name and number in this block. It is important that only one program area be selected. In

instances where the appropriateness of the chosen program area may be in question, the final program area assignment will be made by the NCRIGP scientific staff. The principal investigator will be informed of any changes in assigned program areas.

- Principal investigator(s)/Project Director(s)—Block 15. List the name(s) of the proposing principal investigator(s) in this block. If there is more than one investigator, all must be listed and all must sign the Grant Application Cover Page. Co-principal Investigators should be limited to those required for genuine scientific collaboration; minor collaborators or consultants should not be designated as co-principal investigators. Only the principal investigator listed in Block 15.a. will receive direct correspondence from the NCRIGP.

- Other Possible Sponsors (Block 22). List the names or acronyms of all other public or private sponsors including other agencies within USDA, to whom the application, or a substantially similar application, has been or will be sent. In addition, if the application is submitted to another organization after it has been submitted to the NCRIGP, you must inform the NCRIGP program officer immediately. Failure to accurately and completely identify other possible sponsors will delay the processing of the application and may result in its being returned without review. The identification of other sponsors must include the name(s) of the program(s) within the sponsoring organization to which you have applied or will apply.

- Signatures. Sign and date the Grant Application Cover Page in the places indicated at the bottom of the page. The other guidelines for this component are listed in 7 CFR 3200.4(c)(1). Applications that do not contain the signature of the authorized organizational representative cannot be considered for support. Proposals submitted by individuals who lack organizational affiliation need only be signed by the proposing principal investigator.

Table of Contents

To facilitate the location of information, each proposal must contain a table of contents, which should be assembled as page 2.

Project Summary

The proposal must contain a project summary. The other guidelines for the project summary are listed in 7 CFR 3200.4(c)(2).

Project Description

All proposals should be submitted on standard 8½" x 11" paper with typing on one side of the page only. In addition, margins must be at least 1", type size should be 12 characters per inch or larger, and there should be no page reductions. Applicants are encouraged to include original illustrations (photographs, color prints, etc.) to all copies of the proposal. Reviewers are not required to read beyond the 15-page limit. Other guidelines for the project description are listed in 7 CFR 3200.4(c)(3).

The project description must contain the following components:

- *Introduction*. The guidelines for this component are listed in 7 CFR 3200.4(c)(3)(i).

- *Progress Report*. The guidelines for this component are listed in 7 CFR 3200.4(c)(3)(ii). In addition, the progress report must be limited to three pages (within the 15-page limit).

- *Rationale and Significance*. The guidelines for this component are set out in 7 CFR 3200.4(c)(3)(iii).

- *Experimental Plan*. The guidelines for this component are set out in 7 CFR 3200.4(c)(3)(iv).

Facilities and Equipment

The guidelines for facilities and equipment are set out in 7 CFR 3200.4(c)(4).

Collaborative Arrangements

The guidelines for this area are set out in 7 CFR 3200.4(c)(5).

References to Project Description

The guidelines for this area are set out in 7 CFR 3200.4(c)(6).

Vitae and Publication List(s)

The guidelines for this area are set out in 7 CFR 3200.4(c)(7).

Conflict of Interest List

To assist program staff in excluding from proposal review those individuals who have conflicts of interest with the project personnel, a list of such persons should be appended for each investigator for whom a curriculum vitae is provided. List the following individuals:

- Collaborators on research projects within the past five years
- Co-authors on publications published within the past five years
- Thesis or postdoctoral advisors within the past five years
- Graduate students or postdoctoral associates within the past five years

Budget (Form CSRS-55)

In addition to the following, the guidelines for this area are set out in 7 CFR 3200.4(c)(8).

Salaries of faculty members and other personnel who will be working on the project may be requested in proportion to the effort they will devote to the project. However, grant funds may not be requested to augment the salary or rate of salary for project personnel or to reimburse them for consulting or other activities that constitute a part of their normal assignment. In addition, the recovery of indirect costs under grant awards made to institutional recipients may not exceed the lesser of the institution's applicable negotiated indirect cost rate or the equivalent of 14% of total direct costs.

Budget Justification

All salaries and wages, nonexpendable equipment, foreign travel, and "All Other Direct Costs" for which support is requested must be individually listed (with costs) and justified on a separate sheet of paper and placed immediately behind Form CSRS-55.

Current and Pending Support (Form CSRS-663)

The guidelines for this area are set out in 7 CFR 3200.4(c)(10).

Addenda to Project Description

The guidelines for this subject are set out in 7 CFR 3200.4(c)(11).

Assurance Statements (Form CSRS-662)

In addition to the following, the guidelines for this subject are set out in 7 CFR 3200.4(c)(9).

With regard to compliance with the regulations set out in 7 CFR 3200.4(c)(9) for research involving special considerations, proposing scientists who lack organizational affiliation or whose organization finds it impractical to maintain the required Institutional Review Board or Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee may wish to negotiate with a local university or other research organization to have this service performed for them.

Certifications Regarding Debarment and Suspension, Drug-Free Work Place, and Lobbying

In addition to the following, the guidelines for this subject are set out in 7 CFR 3200.4(c)(12). By signing the Grant Application Cover Page, applicants are providing the certifications required by Departmental regulations. Submission of the individual forms found in the Grant Application Kit is no longer required. For additional information, refer to the

certification at the bottom of Form CSRS-661, Grant Application Cover Page.

(b) *Research conference applications.* Proposals requesting support for research conferences should be submitted under the appropriate research program area described herein by the designated deadline for that particular program area. Applicants considering submission under this category are strongly advised to consult the appropriate NCRIGP staff before preparation and submission of the proposal. In addition to the following, the guidelines set forth in 7 CFR 3200.4(c), not in conflict with the following guidelines, apply to this category:

- A Grant Application Cover Page (Form CSRS-661) appropriately completed and signed;
- The project summary page stating the objectives of the research conference, symposium, or workshop, as well as the proposed location and probable inclusive date(s) of the conference;
- A justification for the meeting;
- Names and organizational affiliations of the chairperson and other members of the organizing committee;
- A proposed program (or agenda) for the conference, including a listing of scheduled participants and their institutional affiliations;
- The method of announcement or invitation that will be used;
- A curriculum vitae for the submitting project director(s) and a brief listing of relevant publications (each vitae and publications listing, combined, should not exceed three (3) pages); and
- An estimated total budget (Form CSRS-55) for the conference, together with an itemized breakdown of all support requested from the NCRIGP. The budget for the conference may include an appropriate amount for transportation and subsistence costs for participants and for other conference-related costs.

- A Current and Pending Support statement (Form CSRS-663) as described in 7 CFR 3200.4(c)(11).

II. Agricultural Research Enhancement Awards Applications**(a) *Postdoctoral fellowships.***

Proposals requesting support for postdoctoral fellowships should be submitted under the appropriate research program area described herein by the designated deadline for that particular program area. Such proposals can be submitted directly by the individual or through an institution. In either case, applications should contain the specified information and be

assembled in the order indicated in 7 CFR 3200.4(c) and the supplemental guidelines under "Format and Content" for Standard Research Grants herein. Indicate on the Project Summary Page that this is a Postdoctoral Fellowship Application.

Applications also should include:

- A letter of support from the scientific host stating his or her willingness to serve in this capacity and to allow the use of all facilities and space necessary for conduct of the research. The letter also must provide assurance that the project is not simply an extension of the host's ongoing research.

- Documentation that the host investigator's institution has been informed of these arrangements. Postdoctoral applicants from Federal laboratories must notify the appropriate regional office.

The grant application cover sheet (Form CSRS-661) of proposals submitted by individuals who lack organizational affiliation need only be signed by the proposing principal investigator. Proposals submitted through an institution must be signed by the proposing principal investigator and endorsed by the authorized organizational representative.

(b) *New investigator awards.*

Research proposal applications from new investigators should be submitted under the appropriate research program area described herein by the designated deadline for that particular program area. Applications should contain the specified information and be assembled in the order indicated in 7 CFR 3200.4(c) and the supplemental guidelines under "Format and Content" for Standard Research Grants herein. Indicate on the Project Summary Page that this is a New Investigator Application.

(c) *Strengthening awards.* See Program Description contained under section 80.0, Strengthening Awards, for eligibility requirements.

(1) *Research career enhancement awards.* Applications from faculty wishing to enhance their research capabilities through sabbatical leaves should be submitted under the Research Career Enhancement Program. Proposals should originate through the applicant's home institution and be submitted by the Research Career Enhancement Awards deadline date found in the program announcement. In addition to following the guidelines set forth in 7 CFR 3200.4(c), the following guidelines also apply:

- A grant application cover sheet (CSRS-661) completed as described in the supplemental guidelines under

"Format and Contents" for Standard Research Grants herein. Indicate Program Area 80.1 in Block 8.

- Project Summary page indicating overall project goals and supporting objectives. Indicate on the Project Summary page that this is a Research Career Enhancement Award application.

- A general description of the research interests and goals of the applicant in order to provide perspective for the proposal (one page).

- A statement of how the proposed activities will serve to enhance the scientific research capabilities of the applicant (one page).

- Curriculum vitae and a list of publications. Guidelines for this component are contained in 7 CFR 3200.4(c)(7).

- A letter from the scientific host indicating willingness to serve in this capacity, and a description of the host's contribution to the proposed activities both scientifically and with regard to use of facilities and equipment.

- A statement signed by the Department Head or equivalent official at the host institution indicating a commitment to provide research space and facilities for the period of the applicant's presence.

- Budget (Form CSRS-55), Budget Justification, and Current and Pending Support (CSRS-663) as outlined in the supplemental guidelines under "Format and Contents" for Standard Research Grants herein. (Note that the budget should be limited to one year's salary and funds for supplies.)

(2) Equipment grants—Applications requesting assistance in purchasing equipment should be submitted to the Equipment Grant Program. Proposals should be submitted by the Equipment Grants deadline date found in this program announcement. In addition to following the guidelines set forth in 7 CFR 3200.4(c), the following guidelines also apply. Proposals for Equipment Grants should include the following:

- A grant application cover sheet (CSRS-661) completed as described in the supplemental guidelines under "Format and Contents" for Standard Research Applications herein. Indicate Program Area 80.2 in Block 8.

- Project Summary page indicating equipment sought and the overall project goals for its use. Indicate on the project summary page that this is an Equipment Grant application.

- A general description of the research interests and goals of the applicant in order to provide perspective for the proposal (one page).

- Budget (Form CSRS-55) and Budget Justification. Justification should: Describe the instrument requested, including the manufacturer and model number if known; provide a detailed budget breakdown of the equipment and accessories required; indicate the amount of funding requested from USDA; and provide a statement that the necessary matching funds will be made available from an institutional or other source. (Note that no more than 50 percent of the equipment cost will be provided by the USDA).

- Indicate on the Project Summary Page that this proposal qualifies as an Equipment Grant application.

No installation, maintenance, warranty, or insurance expenses may be paid from these awards.

Computer equipment is eligible only if it is to be used specifically for scientific purposes and is carefully justified. Purchase of a computer primarily for use as a word processor or for other administrative purposes is not permitted.

(3) Seed grants—Applications from faculty wishing to collect preliminary data should be submitted to the Seed Grant Program. Proposals should be submitted by the Seed Grants deadline date found in the program announcement. Such proposals should be completed as described in 7 CFR 3200.4(c) and the supplemental guidelines under "Format and Contents" for Standard Research Grants herein, with the following modifications:

- Program Area 80.3 should be indicated in Block 8 of the grant application cover sheet (CSRS-661) and that this is a Seed Grant application on the Project Summary Page.

- Project Description must be limited to five (5) single- or double-spaced pages.

- Note that the budget should be limited to a total of \$50,000 (including indirect costs) for two years.

- Indicate on the Project Summary Page that this proposal qualifies as a Seed Grant application.

(4) Strengthening Standard Research Projects—Faculty who are eligible for the Strengthening Award Program may wish to apply for a Standard Research Project Award. Such applications should be completed as described in 7 CFR 3200.4(c) as supplemented by "Format

and Contents" for Standard Research Grants herein and should be directed to the appropriate research program area described herein and submitted by the designated deadline for that particular program area.

- Indicate on the Project Summary Page that this proposal qualifies as a Strengthening Standard Research Project application.

What to Submit

An original and 14 copies of the application and pertinent addenda to the project description are requested. Due to the heavy volume of proposals that are received each year and the difficulty in identifying proposals submitted in several packages, all copies of each proposal must be mailed in a single package. In addition, please see that each copy of the proposal is stapled securely in the upper left-hand corner. Do not bind any of the copies of the proposal, as it will only delay processing.

Every effort should be made to ensure that the proposal contains all pertinent information when originally submitted. Prior to mailing, it is urged that the proposal be compared with the checklist in section VII.

Where to Submit

The research grant application must be postmarked by the relevant date indicated in the program announcement and submitted to the following address:

National Competitive Research Initiative Grants Program, c/o Proposal Services Branch, Cooperative State Research Service, room 303 Aerospace Center, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250-2200, Telephone: (202) 401-5049.

If you plan to hand deliver your proposal or use special mail services such as overnight express, the following street address must be included and a different zip code used: 901 D Street, SW., Washington, DC 20024.

Do not submit the proposal to individual program officers and do not submit it through your Senator or Congressional Representative, as these actions could delay the receipt of the application.

When To Submit

To be considered for funding during FY 1992, proposals must be postmarked by the following dates:

Postmarked dates	Program codes	Program areas	Contacts (202)
January 13, 1992.....	21.0	Water Quality.....	401-6030
	23.0	Forest/Rangeland/Crop Ecosystems.....	401-5114
	51.1	Pathology.....	401-4310
	51.4	Weed Science.....	401-4310
January 21, 1992.....	31.0	Human Nutrient Requirements for Optimal Health.....	205-0250
	54.1	Photosynthesis and Respiration.....	401-6030
	55.0	Alcohol Fuels Research.....	401-4310
January 27, 1992.....	52.1	Plant Genome.....	401-4871
	52.2	Plant Genetic Mechanisms and Molecular Biology.....	401-5042
February 3, 1992.....	22.1	Plant Responses to the Environment.....	401-4871
	51.2	Entomology.....	401-5114
	51.3	Nematology.....	401-5114
February 10, 1992.....	43.0	Animal Molecular Genetics.....	401-4399
February 18, 1992.....	24.0	Improved Utilization of Wood and Wood Fiber.....	401-4002
	41.0	Reproductive Biology of Animals.....	401-6234
February 24, 1992.....	42.0	Cellular Growth and Developmental Biology of Animals.....	205-0250
March 9, 1992.....	53.0	Plant Growth and Development.....	401-5042
	54.2	Nitrogen Fixation/Metabolism.....	401-6030
March 16, 1992.....	44.0	Mechanisms of Animal Disease.....	401-4399
	71.0	Processing for Value-Added Products.....	401-4002
March 30, 1992.....	61.0	Market Assessments, Competitiveness, and Technology Assessments.....	401-4425
	62.0	Rural Development.....	401-4425
April 6, 1992.....	80.1	Research Career Enhancement Awards.....	401-5114
	80.2	Equipment Grants.....	401-5114
	80.3	Seed Grants.....	401-5114
April 13, 1992.....	32.0	Food Safety.....	401-4399

Section III. Proposal Review and Evaluation

Peer Evaluation

In addition to the following, Peer Evaluation will be conducted in accordance with 7 CFR 3200.11 and 3200.14.

Evaluation Factors

So that the respective peer panel may accomplish the most complete review possible, the panel will take into account the evaluation factors that follow, pursuant to 7 CFR 3200.5(a).

Standard Research Grants, Postdoctoral Fellowships and New Investigator Awards

The following evaluation factors will be used in reviewing applications for Standard Research Grants, Postdoctoral Fellowships, New Investigator Awards:

- Scientific merit of the proposal, consisting of:
 - Conceptual adequacy of the hypothesis;
 - Objectives and approach;
 - Preliminary data;
 - Impact of anticipated results; and
 - Probability of success of project.
- Qualifications of proposed project personnel and adequacy of facilities.
 - Relevance of project to long-range improvements in and sustainability of U.S. agriculture or to one or more of the research purposes set out in section 1402 of the 1977 Act, as amended.

However, because section 2(b)(10) of the 1965 Act, as amended, requires not less than 20% of the funds appropriated to carry out section 2(b) to be available

for research conducted by multidisciplinary teams and requires not less than 20% of the funds appropriated to carry out section 2(b) to be available for mission-linked research, CSRS reserves the right to reevaluate standard research grant proposals to attain these amounts.

Research Conference Applications

In evaluating proposals for the support of research conferences, the following factors will be considered:

- Relevance of the proposed conference to agriculture in the U.S. and the appropriateness of the conference in fostering scientific exchange.
- Qualifications of organizing committee and appropriateness of invited speakers to the topic areas being covered.
- Uniqueness and timeliness of conference.
- Appropriateness of budget request.

Strengthening Awards

The following evaluation factors will be used in reviewing applications for Research Career Enhancement Awards, Equipment Grants, and Seed Grants:

- The merit of the proposed activities or research equipment as a means of enhancing the research capabilities of the applicant and/or institution.
- The applicant's previous research experience and background.
- The appropriateness of the proposed activities or research equipment for the goals proposed.
- Relevance of project to long-range

improvements in and sustainability of U.S. agriculture or to one or more of the research purposes set out in section 1402 of the 1977 Act, as amended.

- Whether or not the applicant institution is located within a USDA-EPSCoR State.

The evaluation factors used for Standard Research Projects also will apply for Strengthening Standard Research Project Grants with the addition of the following factor:

- Whether or not the applicant institution is located within a USDA-EPSCoR State.

Proposal Disposition

In addition to the following, the guidelines set out in 7 CFR 3200.5(b) apply to this subject.

The NCRIGP reserves the right to negotiate with the principal investigator or project director and/or with the submitting organization or institution regarding project revisions (e.g., reductions in the scope of work), funding level, or period or method of support prior to recommending any project for funding.

A proposal may be withdrawn at any time before a final funding decision is made regarding the proposal; however, withdrawn proposals normally will not be returned. One copy of each proposal that is not selected for funding (including those that are withdrawn) will be retained by the NCRIGP for a period of one year. The remaining copies will be destroyed.

Section IV. Grant Awards

General

This topic is covered by the guidelines set out in 7 CFR 3200.6.

Obligations

In addition to the following, the guidelines for this subject are set out in 7 CFR 3200.6(e). For any grant awarded, the maximum financial obligation of CSRS shall be the amount of funds authorized for the award. This amount will be stated on the award instrument and on the approved budget. However, in the event an erroneous amount is stated on the grant award instrument, the approved budget, or any supporting document, CSRS reserves the unilateral right to make the correction and to make an appropriate adjustment in the

amount of the award to align with the authorized amount.

Section V. Post-Award Administration Conditions That Apply

The guidelines set forth in 7 CFR 3200.7 apply to this subject area.

Release of Information

The guidelines for this subject are contained in 7 CFR 3200.13.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Competitive Research Grants Program is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.206. For reasons set forth in the Final rule-related Notice to 7 CFR part 3015, subpart V (48 FR 29115, June 24, 1983), this program is excluded from the scope of Executive Order 12372 which requires

intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials. In accordance with the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980 (44 U.S.C. 3504(h)), the collection of information requirements contained in this notice have been approved under OMB Document No. 0524-0022.

The award of any grant under the NCRIGP during FY 1992 is subject to the availability of funds. One copy of each proposal that is not selected for funding will be retained for a period of one year. The remaining copies will be destroyed.

Done at Washington, DC, this 22nd day of November, 1991.

William D. Carlson,

Associate Administrator, Cooperative State Research Service.

[FR Doc. 91-28593 Filed 11-29-91; 8:45 am]

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