

Permit No.	Permittee	Date issued	Organisms	Field test location
97-071-01r ..	University of Wisconsin	6-3-97	<i>Rhizobium</i> and <i>Sinorhizobium</i> bacterial strains genetically engineered to enhance yield on host legumes.	Wisconsin.
97-083-02r ..	Sanford Scientific, Inc	6-3-97	Geranium plants genetically engineered for disease resistance and extended flower life.	California.
97-087-02r ..	Pure Seed Testing, Inc	6-24-97	Creeping bentgrass plants genetically engineered for tolerance to the herbicide glufosinate and to contain the proteinase inhibitor gene derived from potato.	Oregon.

The environmental assessments and findings of no significant impact have been prepared in accordance with: (1) The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA)(42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), (2) regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), (3) USDA regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR part 1b), and (4) APHIS' NEPA Implementing Procedures (7 CFR part 372).

Done in Washington, DC, this 31st day of July 1997.

Terry L. Medley,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 97-20752 Filed 8-6-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Farm Service Agency

Inviting Preapplications for Rural Cooperative Development Grants

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS) announces the availability of approximately \$1.7 million in competing Rural Cooperative Development Grant (RCDG) funds for fiscal year (FY) 1997. This action will comply with legislation which authorizes grants for establishing and operating centers for rural cooperative development. The intended effect of this notice is to solicit preapplications for FY 1997 and award grants before September 15, 1997.

DATES: The deadline for receipt of a preapplication is August 20, 1997. Preapplications received after that date will not be considered for FY 1997 funding.

ADDRESSES: Entities wishing to apply for assistance should contact the Rural Development State Offices to receive

further information and copies of the preapplication package.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

James E. Haskell, Assistant Deputy Administrator, Cooperative Services, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Stop 3250, Room 4016, South Agriculture Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3250. Telephone (202) 720-8460.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Rural Technology and Cooperative Development Grants (RTCDG) program was established by interim rule on August 12, 1994 (59 FR 41386-98) and published as a final rule February 12, 1996 (61 FR 3779-87) and was authorized by section 310B(f) through (h) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. § 1932). The Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (the 1996 Act) removed "technology" from RTCDG, thereby directing the focus of the program specifically to cooperative development. The 1996 Act also clarified that public bodies were not eligible applicants, and modified application requirements and applicant selection criteria. The primary objective of the RCDG program is to improve the economic condition of rural areas through cooperative development. The program is administered through Rural Development State Offices acting on behalf of RBS. RBS is one of the successors of the Rural Development Administration pursuant to the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (Pub. L. 103-354).

Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis to nonprofit corporations and institutions of higher education based on specific selection criteria. The priorities described in this paragraph will be used by RBS to rate preapplications. RBS review of preapplications will include the complete preapplication package submitted to the Rural Development State Office. Points will be distributed according to ranking as compared with other preapplications on hand. All factors will receive equal weight with points awarded to each factor on a 5, 4,

3, 2, 1 basis depending on the applicant's ranking compared to other applicants.

(a) Preference will be given to applications that:

(1) demonstrate a proven track record in administering a nationally coordinated, regionally or State-wide operated project;

(2) demonstrate previous expertise in providing technical assistance in rural areas;

(3) demonstrate the ability to assist in the retention of business, facilitate the establishment of cooperatives and new cooperative approaches, and generate employment opportunities that will improve the economic conditions of rural areas;

(4) demonstrate the ability to create horizontal linkages among businesses within and among various sectors in rural areas of the United States and vertical linkages to domestic and international markets;

(5) commit to providing technical assistance and other services to underserved and economically distressed rural areas of the United States;

(6) commit to providing greater than a 25 percent matching contribution with private funds and in-kind contributions;

(7) evidence transferability or demonstration value to assist rural areas outside of project area; and

(8) demonstrate that any cooperative development activity is consistent with positive environmental stewardship.

Fiscal Year 1997 Preapplication Submission

Due to the short preapplication period for FY 1997 funds, qualified applicants should begin the preapplication process as soon as possible. Preapplications must include a clear statement of the goals and objectives of the project and a plan which describes the proposed project as required by the statute and 7 CFR part 4284, subpart F. Each preapplication received in the State Office will be reviewed to determine if the preapplication is consistent with the eligible purposes outlined in 7 CFR part 4284, subpart F. Preapplications without supportive data to address

selection criteria will not be considered. Copies of 7 CFR part 4284, subpart F, will be provided to any interested applicant by making a request to the Rural Development State Office or RBS National Office.

Preapplications must be completed and submitted to the State Rural Development Office as soon as possible but no later than August 20.

For ease of locating information, each preapplication must contain a detailed Table of Contents containing page numbers for each component of the preapplication. The preapplication must also contain a project summary of 250 words or less on a separate page. This page must include the title of the project and the names of the primary project contacts and the applicant organization, followed by the summary. The summary should be self-contained and should describe the overall goals, relevance of the project, and a listing of all organizations involved in the project. The project summary should immediately follow the Table of Contents.

The National Office will score applicants based on the grant selection criteria contained in 7 CFR part 4284, subpart F, and will select awardees subject to the availability of funds and the awardee's satisfactory submission of a formal application and related materials in accordance with subpart F. Entities submitting preapplications that are selected for award will be invited by the State Office to submit a formal application prior to September 15. It is anticipated that grant awardees will be selected by September 15, 1997.

Dated: July 30, 1997.

Jill Long Thompson,
Under Secretary, Rural Development.
[FR Doc. 97-20739 Filed 8-6-97; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410-XY-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Glenwhite Run Watershed, Pennsylvania

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of a finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; the Council on Environmental Quality Guidelines (40 CFR, Part 1500); and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly the Soil Conservation Service)

Guidelines (7 CFR, Part 650); the Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, gives notice that an environmental impact statement is not being prepared for the Glenwhite Run Watershed, Blair and Cambria Counties, Pennsylvania.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Janet L. Oertly, State Conservationist, USDA—Natural Resources Conservation Service, One Credit Union Place, Suite 340, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110-2993, telephone (717) 782-2202.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The environmental assessment of this federally-assisted action indicates that the project will not cause significant local, regional, or national impacts on the environment. As a result of these findings, Janet L. Oertly, State Conservationist, has determined that the preparation and review of an environmental impact statement is not needed for this project.

The project concerns a plan for water quality improvement. The planned works of improvement involve eight treatment sites that are the source of ground and surface water pollution. Treatment of these sites will involve the installation of waterways, diversions, and passive treatment systems.

The "Notice of a Finding of No Significant Impact" (FONSI) has been forwarded to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. A limited number of copies of the FONSI are available to fill single copy requests at the above address. The environmental assessment and basic data may be reviewed by contacting Janet L. Oertly.

No administrative action on implementation of the proposal will be taken until thirty (30) days after the date of this publication in the **Federal Register**.

(This activity is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 10.904—Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention and is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372 which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials)

Janet L. Oertly,
Statement Conservationist.
[FR Doc. 97-20777 Filed 8-6-97; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410-16-M

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Georgia Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the Georgia Advisory Committee to the

Commission will convene at 1:00 p.m. and adjourn at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, August 29, 1997, at the Atlanta Federal Center, Dining Room Two, 61 Forsyth Street, SW (at Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive), Atlanta, Georgia 30303. The purpose of the meeting is to: (1) Discuss the status of the Commission; (2) discuss civil rights conference plans; (3) discuss civil rights problems and/or progress in the State and nation; and (4) hold a brief new member orientation session.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Committee Chairperson Victoria Jenkins, 404-758-6350, or Bobby D. Doctor, Director of the Southern Regional Office, 404-562-7000 (TDD 404-562-7004). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least five (5) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, July 30, 1997.
Carol-Lee Hurley,
Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit.
[FR Doc. 97-20836 Filed 8-6-97; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6335-01-P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Kentucky Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the Kentucky Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 1:00 p.m. and adjourn at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 4, 1997, at the Louisville Free Public Library, Western Branch, 604 S. 10th Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40203. The purpose of the meeting is to: (1) Release the report, Bias and Bigotry in Kentucky; (2) discuss the status of the Commission; (3) discuss plans for adopting a new project; and (4) discuss civil rights problems and/or progress in the State and nation.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Committee Chairperson Emily C. Boone, 502-585-3430, or Bobby D. Doctor, Director of the Southern Regional Office, 404-562-7000 (TDD 404-562-7004). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter