

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 15

INTRODUCED BY SCHYE, CONOVER, BARDANOUVE, SPAETH,
SCHULTZ, IVERSON, YELLOWTAIL, ERNST, COBB,
BOYLAN, NATHE, RAPP-SVRCEK, BRADLEY

IN THE HOUSE

January 26, 1985	Introduced and referred to Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.
February 2, 1985	Committee recommend bill do pass. Report adopted.
February 4, 1985	Bill printed and placed on members' desks.
February 5, 1985	Second reading, do pass. Considered correctly engrossed.
February 6, 1985	Third reading, passed. Transmitted to Senate.

IN THE SENATE

February 7, 1985	Introduced and referred to Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.
March 16, 1985	Committee recommend bill be concurrent in. Report adopted.
March 21, 1985	Second reading, concurred in.
March 23, 1985	Third reading, concurred in. Ayes, 47; Noes, 2. Returned to House.

IN THE HOUSE

March 25, 1985

Received from Senate.

Sent to enrolling.

Reported correctly enrolled.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 15

INTRODUCED BY Debye Barbara Speth
Yellowtail Grady Debb Speth
A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF Grady

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING THE MONTANA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM IN SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE.

WHEREAS, the costs of agricultural chemicals, including fertilizers, herbicides, insecticides, and fungicides, have risen dramatically; and

WHEREAS, the fertility of much of Montana soils is declining due to erosion, saline seep, depletion of nutrient reserves, declining levels of organic matter, soil compaction, and other factors; and

WHEREAS, agricultural research and the experience of low-chemical farmers in Montana and the United States have shown that farm operating costs can be lowered and soil fertility improved by adopting "sustainable agricultural" practices that are based on low- and no-chemical agricultural methods, crop rotations, nutrient recycling, etc.; and

WHEREAS, food safety and on-farm health are concerns shared by consumers and farmers alike; and

WHEREAS, low-chemical, sustainable agricultural

practices are a promising means of addressing the problems stated above; and

WHEREAS, applicable research on low-chemical, sustainable agriculture is limited in Montana at this time; and

WHEREAS, knowledge on sustainable agriculture as it is applicable to Montana is difficult for farmers and ranchers to obtain.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station is requested to:

- (1) identify areas of research needed by Montana farmers and ranchers desiring to make a transition to profitable, low-chemical farming techniques, including but not limited to alternative cropping practices; methods for building soil organic matter and natural soil fertility; nonchemical pest control; livestock production without hormones, growth stimulants, or antibiotics; comparative economics of chemical and nonchemical farming; and marketing of organically grown Montana agricultural products; and

- (2) incorporate, to the extent feasible, a comprehensive research program in low-chemical, sustainable agriculture applicable to Montana addressing the needs



-2- INTRODUCED BILL
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LC 1219/01

1 identified in subsection (1) into its existing research
2 programs.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Cooperative
4 Extension Service is requested to make readily available all
5 pertinent existing information on sustainable agriculture to
6 Montana agriculturists and to widely disseminate future
7 sustainable agriculture research findings of the Montana
8 Agricultural Experiment Station.

-End-

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
ON AGRICULTURE LIVESTOCK
& IRRIGATION

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 15
2 INTRODUCED BY Debye Conner Barbara Speth
3 Yellowtail Obbs Speth
4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF Bradley

5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING THE
6 MONTANA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION TO DEVELOP A
7 COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM IN SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE.

8
9 WHEREAS, the costs of agricultural chemicals, including
10 fertilizers, herbicides, insecticides, and fungicides, have
11 risen dramatically; and

12 WHEREAS, the fertility of much of Montana soils is
13 declining due to erosion, saline seep, depletion of nutrient
14 reserves, declining levels of organic matter, soil
15 compaction, and other factors; and

16 WHEREAS, agricultural research and the experience of
17 low-chemical farmers in Montana and the United States have
18 shown that farm operating costs can be lowered and soil
19 fertility improved by adopting "sustainable agricultural"
20 practices that are based on low- and no-chemical
21 agricultural methods, crop rotations, nutrient recycling,
22 etc.; and

23 WHEREAS, food safety and on-farm health are concerns
24 shared by consumers and farmers alike; and

25 WHEREAS, low-chemical, sustainable agricultural

1 practices are a promising means of addressing the problems
2 stated above; and

3 WHEREAS, applicable research on low-chemical,
4 sustainable agriculture is limited in Montana at this time;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, knowledge on sustainable agriculture as it is
7 applicable to Montana is difficult for farmers and ranchers
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-End-

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 15

INTRODUCED BY *Debye Conover Bradley Speth*
Walt, Jess, Adams, Oddy, Stegman, Miller, Kelly, Smith
Yellowtail
A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF *Bradley*

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING THE MONTANA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM IN SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE.

WHEREAS, the costs of agricultural chemicals, including fertilizers, herbicides, insecticides, and fungicides, have risen dramatically; and

WHEREAS, the fertility of much of Montana soils is declining due to erosion, saline seep, depletion of nutrient reserves, declining levels of organic matter, soil compaction, and other factors; and

WHEREAS, agricultural research and the experience of low-chemical farmers in Montana and the United States have shown that farm operating costs can be lowered and soil fertility improved by adopting "sustainable agricultural" practices that are based on low- and no-chemical agricultural methods, crop rotations, nutrient recycling, etc.; and

WHEREAS, food safety and on-farm health are concerns shared by consumers and farmers alike; and

WHEREAS, low-chemical, sustainable agricultural

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REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING THE
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farmers and ranchers desiring to make a transition to
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building soil organic matter and natural soil fertility;
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economics of chemical and nonchemical farming; and marketing
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1 comprehensive research program in low-chemical, sustainable
2 agriculture applicable to Montana addressing the needs
3 identified in subsection (1) into its existing research
4 programs.

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-End-

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