

HOUSE BILL NO. 769

INTRODUCED BY ELLIOTT, SCHYE, PATTERSON,
KASTEN, COBB, T. NELSON, RAPP-SVRCEK, L. NELSON

IN THE HOUSE

MARCH 9, 1989	INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK & IRRIGATION.
MARCH 10, 1989	FIRST READING.
MARCH 16, 1989	COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL DO PASS AS AMENDED. REPORT ADOPTED.
MARCH 17, 1989	PRINTING REPORT.
MARCH 18, 1989	SECOND READING, DO PASS. ON MOTION, TAKEN FROM ENGROSSING AND REREFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS.
MARCH 20, 1989	ON MOTION BY CHIEF SPONSOR, REPRESENTATIVE L. NELSON ADDED AS SPONSOR.
MARCH 22, 1989	COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL DO PASS AS AMENDED. REPORT ADOPTED. ON MOTION, RULES SUSPENDED AND BILL PLACED ON SECOND READING BY END OF 67TH LEGISLATIVE DAY.
MARCH 23, 1989	PRINTING REPORT. SECOND READING, DO PASS. ON MOTION, RULES SUSPENDED AND BILL PLACED ON THIRD READING BY END OF 67TH LEGISLATIVE DAY. THIRD READING, PASSED. AYES, 84; NOES, 10. TRANSMITTED TO SENATE.

IN THE SENATE

MARCH 27, 1989

INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE
ON FINANCE & CLAIMS.

FIRST READING.

IN THE HOUSE

APRIL 8, 1989

ON MOTION, RULES SUSPENDED TO ALLOW
TRANSMITTAL AFTER 83RD DAY.

IN THE SENATE

APRIL 15, 1989

COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL BE
CONCURRED IN. REPORT ADOPTED.

APRIL 18, 1989

SECOND READING, CONCURRED IN.

APRIL 19, 1989

THIRD READING, CONCURRED IN.
AYES, 41; NOES, 9.

RETURNED TO HOUSE.

IN THE HOUSE

APRIL 19, 1989

RECEIVED FROM SENATE.

SENT TO ENROLLING.

REPORTED CORRECTLY ENROLLED.

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 161
2 INTRODUCED BY Walt Schy Patton, T. E. Nelson
3 J. Nelson Roy Smith
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "THE MONTANA SUSTAINABLE
5 AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACT; AND PROVIDING AN
6 APPROPRIATION."

8 WHEREAS, an ever-increasing number of farmers and
9 ranchers in Montana are seeking ways to adopt resource
10 conserving, energy efficient, and economical production
11 techniques that improve soil quality, protect ground and
12 surface water resources, reduce soil erosion, and generate
13 higher value cash crops; and

14 WHEREAS, over the long term, adoption of more
15 diversified, resource-conserving systems of agricultural
16 production can benefit the producing, consuming, and
17 tax-paying public; and

18 WHEREAS, the widespread adoption of environmentally
19 sound and economically viable agriculture production
20 management systems depends on a program that will allow
21 effective broad-based transfer of low-input, sustainable
22 agriculture information to Montana producers.

24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

25 NEW SECTION. **Section 1.** Short title. [This act] may

1 be cited as the "Montana Sustainable Agriculture Research
2 and Education Act".

3 NEW SECTION. **Section 2.** Purpose. The purpose of [this
4 act] is to promote more research and education on
5 sustainable agricultural practices, such as crop rotations,
6 green manuring, integrated pest management, and maintenance
7 of livestock health and quality with reduced use of growth
8 hormones and antibiotics. [This act] is intended to foster
9 economically and ecologically beneficial means of soil
10 improvement, pest management, irrigation, cultivation,
11 harvesting, animal husbandry, transportation, and marketing
12 for Montana agriculture, based on methods designed to
13 accomplish the following:

14 (1) control pests and diseases of agricultural
15 importance through management practices and alternatives
16 that reduce or eliminate dependence on pesticides and
17 petrochemicals;

18 (2) improve soil fertility and tilth through the use
19 of practices that reduce dependence on synthetically
20 compounded petrochemical-based fertilizers;

21 (3) produce, process, and distribute food and fiber in
22 ways that consider the interactions among soil, plants,
23 water, air, animals, tillage, machinery, labor, energy, and
24 transportation to enhance resource efficiency, conservation,
25 and public health; and

(4) provide Montana farmers and ranchers with useful agriculture production and marketing information on alternative and specialty crops and livestock.

NEW SECTION. Section 3. Duties of Montana agricultural experiment station and cooperative extension service. The Montana agricultural experiment station and the cooperative extension service shall:

(1) develop a usable data base of existing research in low-input, sustainable agriculture;

(2) conduct educational programs for producers using material from the data base. Programs must include teaching producers techniques of low-input agriculture, assessment of risks involved with change, and marketing of products from their farms and ranches.

(3) extend research on the use of legumes to supply a portion of the nitrogen required by field crops;

(4) work with producers in establishing integrated pest management;

(5) begin research and development of marketable specialty crops and livestock that are integral to sustainable farming systems; and

(6) identify specific areas in which additional research is needed to enhance the adoption and success of low-input, sustainable agriculture in Montana.

NEW SECTION. Section 4. Advisory committee. (1)

Montana state university shall establish a program advisory committee that will assist the Montana agricultural experiment station and the cooperative extension service in:

(a) refining and implementing program goals outlined in [this act];

(b) responding to the interests and needs of producers seeking to make a transition to low-input, sustainable agriculture; and

(c) evaluating the activities and outcomes of these research and extension programs.

(2) The committee must be composed of a majority of producers representing different commodity areas and stages of transition to low-input, sustainable agriculture, as well as representatives from the Montana agricultural experiment station, cooperative extension service, soil conservation service, Montana department of agriculture, consumer and environmental groups, and agribusinesses.

(3) Members of the committee who are not employed by Montana state university must be appointed for a period not exceeding 3 years and must receive compensation in accordance with 2-15-122(5).

NEW SECTION. Section 5. Report to legislature. The Montana agricultural experiment station and the cooperative extension service shall report to the legislature regarding the expenditures, activities, and outcomes of the program

1 provided for in [this act] and the level of active
2 involvement of the program advisory committee established
3 pursuant to [section 4].

4 NEW SECTION. **Section 6.** Extension of authority. Any
5 existing authority to make rules on the subject of the
6 provisions of [this act] is extended to the provisions of
7 [this act].

8 NEW SECTION. **Section 7.** Appropriation. There is
9 appropriated \$352,900 from the general fund to Montana state
10 university for the biennium ending June 30, 1991, to
11 implement [this act].

-End-

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
ON AGRICULTURE LIVESTOCK
& IRRIGATION

HOUSE BILL NO. 769

INTRODUCED BY ELLIOTT, SCHYE, PATTERSON,

KASTEN, COBB, T. NELSON, RAPP-SVRCEK

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "THE MONTANA SUSTAINABLE
AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACT; AND PROVIDING AN
APPROPRIATION."

WHEREAS, an ever-increasing number of farmers and
ranchers in Montana are seeking ways to adopt resource
conserving, energy efficient, and economical production
techniques that improve soil quality, protect ground and
surface water resources, reduce soil erosion, and generate
higher value cash crops; and

WHEREAS, over the long term, adoption of more
diversified, resource-conserving systems of agricultural
production can benefit the producing, consuming, and
tax-paying public; and

WHEREAS, the widespread adoption of environmentally
sound and economically viable agriculture production
management systems depends on a program that will allow
effective broad-based transfer of low-input, sustainable
agriculture information to Montana producers.

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sustainable agricultural practices, such as crop rotations,
green manuring, integrated pest management, and maintenance
of livestock health and quality with reduced use of growth
hormones and antibiotics. [This act] is intended to foster
economically and ecologically beneficial means of soil
improvement, pest management, irrigation, cultivation,
harvesting, animal husbandry, transportation, and marketing
for Montana agriculture, based on methods designed to
accomplish the following:

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importance through management practices and alternatives
that reduce or eliminate dependence on pesticides and
petrochemicals;

(2) improve soil fertility and tilth through the use
of practices that reduce dependence on synthetically
compounded petrochemical-based fertilizers;

(3) produce, process, and distribute food and fiber in
ways that consider the interactions among soil, plants,
water, air, animals, tillage, machinery, labor, energy, and
transportation to enhance resource efficiency, conservation,

1 and public health; and

2 (4) provide Montana farmers and ranchers with useful
3 agriculture production and marketing information on
4 alternative and specialty crops and livestock.

5 NEW SECTION. Section 3. Duties of Montana
6 agricultural experiment station and cooperative extension
7 service. The Montana agricultural experiment station and the
8 cooperative extension service shall:

9 (1) develop a usable data base of existing research in
10 low-input, sustainable agriculture;

11 (2) conduct educational programs for producers using
12 material from the data base. Programs must include teaching
13 producers techniques of low-input agriculture, assessment of
14 risks involved with change, and marketing of products from
15 their farms and ranches.

16 (3) extend research on the use of legumes to supply a
17 portion of the nitrogen required by field crops;

18 (4) work with producers in establishing integrated
19 pest management;

20 (5) begin research and development of marketable
21 specialty crops and livestock that are integral to
22 sustainable farming systems; and

23 (6) identify specific areas in which additional
24 research is needed to enhance the adoption and success of
25 low-input, sustainable agriculture in Montana.

1 NEW SECTION. Section 4. Advisory committee. (1)
2 Montana state university shall establish a program advisory
3 committee that will assist the Montana agricultural
4 experiment station and the cooperative extension service in:
5 (a) refining and implementing program goals outlined
6 in this act;
7 (b) responding to the interests and needs of producers
8 seeking to make a transition to low input, sustainable
9 agriculture; and
10 (c) evaluating the activities and outcomes of these
11 research and extension programs.
12 (2) The committee must be composed of a majority of
13 producers representing different commodity areas and stages
14 of transition to low input, sustainable agriculture, as well
15 as representatives from the Montana agricultural experiment
16 station, cooperative extension service, soil conservation
17 service, Montana department of agriculture, consumer and
18 environmental groups, and agribusinesses.
19 (3) Members of the committee who are not employed by
20 Montana state university must be appointed for a period not
21 exceeding 3 years and must receive compensation in
22 accordance with 2-15-122(5).

23 NEW SECTION. Section 4. Report to legislature. The
24 Montana agricultural experiment station and the cooperative
25 extension service shall report to the legislature regarding

1 the expenditures, activities, and outcomes of the program
2 provided for in [this act] ~~and--the--level--of--active~~
3 ~~involvement-of-the-program--advisory--committee--established~~
4 ~~pursuant-to-{section-4}.~~

5 NEW SECTION. **Section 5.** Extension of authority. Any
6 existing authority to make rules on the subject of the
7 provisions of [this act] is extended to the provisions of
8 [this act].

9 NEW SECTION. **Section 6.** Appropriation. There is
10 appropriated \$352,900 from the general fund to Montana state
11 university for the biennium ending June 30, 1991, to
12 implement [this act].

-End-

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AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACT; ~~AND PROVIDING AN~~
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ranchers in Montana are seeking ways to adopt resource
conserving, energy efficient, and economical production
techniques that improve soil quality, protect ground and
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WHEREAS, over the long term, adoption of more
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production can benefit the producing, consuming, and
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sound and economically viable agriculture production
management systems depends on a program that will allow
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25 low-input, sustainable agriculture in Montana.

1 NEW SECTION. --Section 4. --Advisory --committee. --(1)--
2 Montana state university shall establish a program --advisory
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4 experiment station and the cooperative extension service in:
5 {a} --refining and implementing program goals outlined
6 in {this act};

7 {b} --responding to the interests and needs of producers
8 seeking to make a transition to low input, sustainable
9 agriculture; and

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11 research and extension programs;

12 {2} --The committee must be composed of a majority of
13 producers representing different commodity areas and stages
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