

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commodity Exchanges</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton Standards</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grain Standards</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naval Stores</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Importation of Adulterated Seeds [Repealed]</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insecticides and Environmental Pesticide Control</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Laboratory Accreditation</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insect Pests Generally [Repealed, Omitted, or Transferred]</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden Nematode [Repealed]</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant Pests [Repealed]</td>
<td>150aa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursery Stock and Other Plants and Plant Products [Repealed, Omitted, or Transferred]</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubber and Other Critical Agricultural Materials</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Packers and Stockyards</td>
<td>181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warehouses</td>
<td>241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honeybees</td>
<td>281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associations of Agricultural Products Producers</td>
<td>291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges</td>
<td>301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Experiment Stations</td>
<td>361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bureau of Animal Industry</td>
<td>391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bureau of Dairy Industry</td>
<td>401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Matters</td>
<td>411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperative Marketing</td>
<td>451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton Statistics and Estimates</td>
<td>471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dumping or Destruction of Interstate Produce</td>
<td>491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perishable Agricultural Commodities</td>
<td>499a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco Statistics</td>
<td>501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco Inspection</td>
<td>511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco Control [Repealed]</td>
<td>515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco Reform</td>
<td>518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Marketing [Omitted or Transferred]</td>
<td>521</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Agricultural Service [Repealed]</td>
<td>541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perishable Agricultural Commodities [Transferred to Chapter 20A]</td>
<td>551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Export Standards for Apples</td>
<td>581</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Export Standards for Grapes and Plums</td>
<td>591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Adjustment</td>
<td>601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Marketing Agreements</td>
<td>671</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton Marketing [Repealed or Omitted]</td>
<td>701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco Industry [Repealed]</td>
<td>751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potato Act of 1935 [Repealed]</td>
<td>801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-Hog-Cholera Serum and Hog-Cholera Virus</td>
<td>851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Electrification and Telephone Service</td>
<td>901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telemedicine and Distance Learning Services in Rural Areas</td>
<td>950aaa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peanut Statistics</td>
<td>951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm Tenancy</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar Production and Control [Omitted or Repealed]</td>
<td>1100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938</td>
<td>1281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price Support of Agricultural Commodities</td>
<td>1421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crop Insurance</td>
<td>1501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seeds</td>
<td>1551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution and Marketing of Agricultural Products</td>
<td>1621</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stabilization of International Wheat Market</td>
<td>1641</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halogeton Glomeratus Control [Repealed]</td>
<td>1651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food for Peace</td>
<td>1691</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Commodity Set-Aside</td>
<td>1741</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Market Development</td>
<td>1761</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wool Program [Repealed]</td>
<td>1781</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soil Bank Program</td>
<td>1801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus Disposal of Agricultural Commodities</td>
<td>1851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interchange of Department of Agriculture and State Employees [Repealed]</td>
<td>1881</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
48. Humane Methods of Livestock Slaughter ...1901
49. Consultation on Agricultural Programs ...1911
50. Agricultural Credit ...1921
51. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ...2011
52. Farm Labor Contractor Registration [Repealed] ...2041
53. Cotton Research and Promotion ...2101
54. Transportation, Sale, and Handling of Certain Animals ...2131
55. Department of Agriculture ...2201
55A. Department of Agriculture Advisory Committees ...2281
56. Unfair Trade Practices Affecting Producers of Agricultural Products ...2301
57. Plant Variety Protection ...2321
58. Potato Research and Promotion ...2611
59. Rural Fire Protection, Development, and Small Farm Research and Education ...2651
60. Egg Research and Consumer Information ...2701
61. Noxious Weeds ...2801
62. Beef Research and Information ...2901
63. Farmer-to-Consumer Direct Marketing ...3001
64. Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching ...3101
65. Wheat and Wheat Foods Research and Nutrition Education ...3401
66. Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure ...3501
67. Implementation of International Sugar Agreement, 1977 ...3601
68. Agricultural Subterminal Facilities ...3701
69. Swine Health Protection ...3801
70. Animal Cancer Research ...3901
71. Agricultural Trade Suspension Adjustment ...4001
72. National Agricultural Cost of Production Standards Review Board [Omitted] ...4101
73. Farmland Protection Policy ...4201
74. Floral Research and Consumer Information ...4301
75. International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs ...4401
76. Dairy Research and Promotion ...4501
77. Honey Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information ...4601
78. Agricultural Productivity Research [Repealed] ...4701
79. Pork Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information ...4801
80. Watermelon Research and Promotion ...4901
81. National Commission on Agriculture and Rural Development Policy [Omitted] ...5001
82. State Agricultural Loan Mediation Programs ...5101
83. Agricultural Competitiveness and Trade ...5201
84. National Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research ...5301
85. Administration of Environmental Programs ...5401
86. Water Quality Research, Education, and Coordination ...5501
87. Export Promotion ...5601
88. Research ...5801
89. Pecan Promotion and Research ...6001
90. Mushroom Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information ...6101
91. Lime Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information ...6201
92. Soybean Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information ...6301
93. Processor-Funded Milk Promotion Program ...6401
94. Organic Certification ...6501
95. Rural Revitalization Through Forestry ...6601
96. Global Climate Change ...6701
97. Fresh Cut Flowers and Fresh Cut Greens Promotion and Information ...6801
98. Department of Agriculture Reorganization ...6901
99. Sheep Promotion, Research, and Information ...7101
100. Agricultural Market Transition ...7201
101. Agricultural Promotion ...7401
102. Emergency Food Assistance ...7501
103. Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform ...7601
104. Plant Protection ...7701
105. Hass Avocado Promotion, Research, and Information ...7801
106. Commodity Programs ...7901
107. Renewable Energy Research and Development ...8101
108. Tree Assistance Program ...8201
109. Animal Health Protection ...8301
110. Enhancing Controls on Dangerous Biological Agents and Toxins ...8401
111. Brown Tree Snake Control and Eradication ...8501
112. Biomass Research and Development [Repealed] ...8601
113. Agricultural Commodity Support Programs ...8701
114. Agricultural Security ...8901
CHAPTER 18—COOPERATIVE MARKETING

Sec.
452. Supervision of division of cooperative marketing.
453. Authority and duties of division.
454. Advisers to counsel with Secretary of Agriculture; expenses and subsistence.
455. Dissemination of crop, market, etc., information by cooperative marketing associations.
456. Rules and regulations; appointment, removal, and compensation of employees; expenditures; authorization of appropriations.
457. Separability.

§ 451. “Agricultural products” defined

When used in this chapter the term “agricultural products” means agricultural, horticultural, viticultural, and dairy products, livestock and the products thereof, the products of poultry and bee raising, the edible products of forestry, and any and all products raised or produced on farms and processed or manufactured products thereof, transported or intended to be transported in interstate and/or foreign commerce.

(July 2, 1926, ch. 725, § 1, 44 Stat. 802.)

§ 452. Supervision of division of cooperative marketing

The division of cooperative marketing shall be under the direction and supervision of the Secretary of Agriculture.

(July 2, 1926, ch. 725, § 2, 44 Stat. 802.)

Codification

First sentence of section, which provided that “The Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized and directed to establish a division of cooperative marketing with suitable personnel in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the Department of Agriculture or in such bureau in the Department of Agriculture as may hereafter be concerned with the marketing and distribution of farm products” was omitted from the Code as executed.

Transfer to Secretary of Agriculture

Act Aug. 6, 1953, ch. 335, § 9, 67 Stat. 394, provided: “There is hereby transferred from the Farm Credit Administration to the jurisdiction and control of the Secretary of Agriculture the Division of Cooperative Marketing (by whatever name now called) authorized and created under and by virtue of an Act of Congress of July 2, 1926 (Public, Numbered 450, Sixty-ninth Congress), entitled ‘An Act to create a Division of Cooperative Marketing in the Department of Agriculture; to provide for the acquisition and dissemination of information pertaining to cooperation; to promote the knowledge of cooperative principles and practices; to provide for calling advisers to counsel with the Secretary of Agriculture on cooperative activities; to authorize cooperative associations to acquire, interpret, and disseminate crop and market information, and for other purposes [this chapter]’, together with all functions pertaining to the work and services of such Division, its personnel, property (including office equipment), assets, funds, contracts, and records used and employed in the execution of its functions, powers, and duties, and so much of the unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations, and other funds available or to be made available for salaries, expenses, and all other administrative expenditures as the Director of the Bureau of the Budget [now Director of the Office of Management and Budget] shall determine, for use in the execution of the functions, powers, and duties of said Division.”

Transfer of Functions

Farmer Cooperative Service established in Department of Agriculture Dec. 4, 1953, pursuant to Secretary’s Memorandum 1320, Supp. 4, 1953, as successor to functions of Cooperative Research and Service Division, Farm Credit Administration.
Farm Credit Administration from Food Production Administration of Department of Agriculture and returned it to its
former status as a separate agency of Department.

Ex. Ord. No. 9280, Dec. 5, 1942, 7 F.R. 10179, made Farm Credit Administration a part of Food Production
Administration of Department of Agriculture.

Farm Credit Administration transferred to Department of Agriculture by 1939 Reorg. Plan No. I, § 401, 4 F.R. 2727,
53 Stat. 1423, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

Ex. Ord. No. 6084, Mar. 27, 1933, set out as a note preceding section 2241 of Title 12, Banks and Banking, changed
name of Federal Farm Board to Farm Credit Administration and name of office of Chairman of Federal Farm Board
to Governor of Farm Credit Administration.

Ex. Ord. No. 5200, Oct. 1, 1929, transferred, eff. Oct. 1, 1929, from Department of Agriculture to jurisdiction and
control of Federal Farm Board the whole of Division of Cooperative Marketing in Bureau of Agricultural Economics
of Department of Agriculture, all functions pertaining to work and services of such division, its records, property,
including office equipment, personnel, and unexpended balances of appropriation, pertaining to such work or services.

Exceptions From Transfer of Functions
Functions of Corporations of Department of Agriculture, boards of directors and officers of such corporations;
Advisory Board of Commodity Credit Corporation; and Farm Credit Administration or any agency, officer, or entity
of, under, or subject to supervision of said Administration excepted from functions of officers, agencies, and employees
transferred to Secretary of Agriculture by 1953 Reorg. Plan No. 2, § 1, eff. June 4, 1953, 18 F.R. 3219, 67 Stat. 633,
set out as a note under section 2201 of this title.

§ 453. Authority and duties of division

(a) The division shall render service to associations of producers of agricultural products, and
federations and subsidiaries thereof, engaged in the cooperative marketing of agricultural products,
including processing, warehousing, manufacturing, storage, the cooperative purchasing of farm
supplies, credit, financing, insurance, and other cooperative activities.

(b) The division is authorized—

(1) To acquire, analyze, and disseminate economic, statistical, and historical information
regarding the progress, organization, and business methods of cooperative associations in the
United States and foreign countries.

(2) To conduct studies of the economic, legal, financial, social, and other phases of cooperation,
and publish the results thereof. Such studies shall include the analyses of the organization,
operation, financial and merchandising problems of cooperative associations.

(3) To make surveys and analyses if deemed advisable of the accounts and business practices of
representative cooperative associations upon their request; to report to the association so surveyed
the results thereof; and with the consent of the association so surveyed to publish summaries of the
results of such surveys, together with similar facts, for the guidance of cooperative associations
and for the purpose of assisting cooperative associations in developing methods of business and
market analysis.

(4) To confer and advise with committees or groups of producers, if deemed advisable, that may
be desirous of forming a cooperative association and to make an economic survey and analysis of
the facts surrounding the production and marketing of the agricultural product or products which
the association, if formed, would handle or market.

(5) To acquire from all available sources information concerning crop prospects, supply, demand,
current receipts, exports, imports, and prices of the agricultural products handled or marketed by
cooperative associations, and to employ qualified commodity marketing specialists to summarize
and analyze this information and disseminate the same among cooperative associations and others.

(6) To promote the knowledge of cooperative principles and practices and to cooperate, in
promoting such knowledge, with educational and marketing agencies, cooperative associations,
and others.
(7) To make such special studies, in the United States and foreign countries, and to acquire and disseminate such information and findings as may be useful in the development and practice of cooperation.

(July 2, 1926, ch. 725, § 3, 44 Stat. 802.)

§ 454. Advisers to counsel with Secretary of Agriculture; expenses and subsistence

The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized, in his discretion, to call advisers to counsel with him and/or his representatives relative to specific problems of cooperative marketing of farm products or any other cooperative activity. Any person, other than an officer, agent, or employee of the United States, called into conference, as provided for in this section, may be paid actual transportation expenses and not to exceed $10 per diem to cover subsistence and other expenses while in conference and en route from and to his home.

(July 2, 1926, ch. 725, § 4, 44 Stat. 803.)

Transfer to Secretary of Agriculture

Transfer of Division of Cooperative Marketing “(by whatever name now called)” from Farm Credit Administration to Secretary of Agriculture, by act Aug. 6, 1953, ch. 335, § 9, 67 Stat. 394, see note set out under section 452 of this title.

Transfer of Functions

Farmer Cooperative Service in Department of Agriculture as successor to functions of Cooperative Research and Service Division, Farm Credit Administration, see note set out under section 452 of this title.

For prior transfers of functions, see notes set out under section 452 of this title.

Exceptions From Transfer of Functions

Functions of Corporations of Department of Agriculture, boards of directors and officers of such corporations; Advisory Board of Commodity Credit Corporation; and Farm Credit Administration or any agency, officer, or entity of, under, or subject to supervision of said Administration excepted from functions of officers, agencies, and employees transferred to Secretary of Agriculture by 1953 Reorg. Plan No. 2, § 1, eff. June 4, 1953, 18 F.R. 3219, 67 Stat. 633, set out as a note under section 2201 of this title.

§ 455. Dissemination of crop, market, etc., information by cooperative marketing associations

Persons engaged, as original producers of agricultural products, such as farmers, planters, ranchmen, dairymen, nut or fruit growers, acting together in associations, corporate or otherwise, in collectively processing, preparing for market, handling, and marketing in interstate and/or foreign commerce such products of persons so engaged, may acquire, exchange, interpret, and disseminate past, present, and prospective crop, market, statistical, economic, and other similar information by direct exchange between such persons, and/or such associations or federations thereof, and/or by and through a common agent created or selected by them.

(July 2, 1926, ch. 725, § 5, 44 Stat. 803.)

§ 456. Rules and regulations; appointment, removal, and compensation of employees; expenditures; authorization of appropriations

The Secretary of Agriculture may make such rules and regulations as may be deemed advisable to carry out the provisions of this chapter and may cooperate with any department or agency of
the Government, any State, Territory, District, or possession, or department, agency, or political subdivision thereof, or any person; and may call upon any other Federal department, board, or commission for assistance in carrying out the purposes of this chapter; and shall have the power to appoint, remove, and fix the compensation of such officers and employees not in conflict with existing law and make such expenditure for rent, outside the District of Columbia, printing, telegrams, telephones, books of reference, books of law, periodicals, newspapers, furniture, stationery, office equipment, travel, and other supplies and expenses as shall be necessary to the administration of this chapter in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, and there is hereby authorized to be appropriated, such sums as may be necessary after the fiscal year 1927, for carrying out the purposes of this chapter.

(July 2, 1926, ch. 725, § 6, 44 Stat. 803.)

Transfer to Secretary of Agriculture

Transfer of Division of Cooperative Marketing “(by whatever name now called)” from Farm Credit Administration to Secretary of Agriculture, by act Aug. 6, 1953, ch. 335, § 9, 67 Stat. 394, see note set out under section 452 of this title.

Transfer of Functions

Farmer Cooperative Service in Department of Agriculture as successor to functions of Cooperative Research and Service Division, Farm Credit Administration, see note set out under section 452 of this title.

For prior transfers of functions, see notes set out under section 452 of this title.

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§ 457. Separability

If any provision of this chapter is declared unconstitutional or the applicability thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of the chapter and the applicability of such provision to other persons and circumstances shall not be affected thereby, and nothing contained in this chapter is intended nor shall be construed, to modify or repeal any of the provisions of sections 291 and 292 of this title.

(July 2, 1926, ch. 725, § 7, 44 Stat. 803.)