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3-17-1993

Agriculture News Release - 1993-03-17a

United States. Congress. House. Committee on Agriculture

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news release

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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(NR93-021)

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SUBCOMMITTEE HEARING SCHEDULED ON RESEARCH OVERSIGHT AT USDA

For immediate release, Wednesday, March 17, 1993

Washington -- The House Agriculture Subcommittee on Department Operations and Nutrition has scheduled a public hearing to review the research agenda at U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) science and education agencies, according to Subcommittee Chairman Charles Stenholm, D-Texas and Ranking Minority Member Bob Smith, R-Oregon. The hearing will focus on the impact of President Clinton's proposed deficit reduction and economics stimulus package as well as the influence of increasing consumer and environmental concerns upon research priorities.

The hearing will be held on March 25, 1993, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in room 1300 of the Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D. C. The Subcommittee expects to hear from a number of individuals both inside and outside the agriculture research system to discuss how to make our nation's agriculture research more efficient and responsive to the concerns facing American agriculture today.

"The Subcommittee has a unique opportunity to respond to food safety and nutrition questions affecting both producers and consumers and through research oversight to target research into those areas of most pressing concern," Stenholm said. "Recent problems brought on by consumer concerns about the safety of our nation's meat supply and the use of pesticides illustrate the need to reevaluate our nation's agriculture research," he added.

Questions concerning the hearing should be directed to Stan Ray or Mike Westendorf of the Subcommittee staff at 202-225-2171.

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NOTE: The Committee has available copies of the General Accounting Office (GAO) report, GAO/RCED-93-18, entitled: PEANUT PROGRAM, Changes Are Needed to Make the Program Responsive to Market Forces. Mail requests for copies to Jim Davis, 1301 LHOB, Washington, DC 20515. For more expeditious delivery, you may fax requests to 202-225-3158.