

Report on Geographically Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers

PREFACE

This report was prepared in fulfillment of the requirements of Section 10906 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (the 2002 Farm Bill):

SEC. 10906. REPORT ON GEOGRAPHICALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMERS AND RANCHERS.

(a) DEFINITION OF GEOGRAPHICALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMER OR RANCHER.—
In this section, the term “geographically disadvantaged farmer or rancher” means a farmer or rancher in—

- (1) an insular area (as defined in section 1404 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3103) (as amended by section 7502(a)); or
- (2) a State other than 1 of the 48 contiguous States.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes—

- (1) barriers to efficient and competitive transportation of inputs and products by geographically disadvantaged farmers and ranchers; and
- (2) means of encouraging and assisting geographically disadvantaged farmers and ranchers—

- (A) to own and operate farms and ranches; and
- (B) to participate equitably in the full range of agricultural programs offered by the Department of Agriculture