

**U.S. Department of Agriculture
FY 2020 Conference Report
As required by the Office of Management and Budget Memorandum 17-08**

CONFERENCE NAME	AGENCY PROVIDING SPONSORSHIP FUNDS	TOTAL USDA EXPENSES	CITY	STATE	START DATE	END DATE	EXPLANATION OF MISSION IMPACT	PARTICIPANTS
Agricultural Outlook Forum	Office of the Chief Economist	\$214,228.59	Arlington	VA	2/20/2020	2/21/2020	The forum provided U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) staff and stakeholders - producers, policy makers, business leaders, and government and industry analysts - the opportunity to learn about USDA programs and priorities for the coming year (day 1), as well as attend a full day of sessions (day 2) explaining USDA's first agricultural commodity supply and demand projections for the coming marketing year.	748
American Society of Agronomy/Crop Science Society of America/Soil Science Society of America International Meeting	Natural Resources Conservation Service	\$469,139.32	San Antonio	TX	11/10/2019	11/13/2019	The annual meeting is one of the few gatherings that brings together approximately 4,000 scientific leaders from industry, government agencies, and academic institutions in one unique environment. It is the premiere opportunity for professionals working in agronomic, crop, soil, and related sciences to hear about the latest research, meet and learn from their peers, expand their knowledge base, and take advantage of an abundance of networking opportunities to enhance their career. The meeting featured more than 3,500 technical presentations, along with a host of networking events and award ceremonies. The world-class exhibition displayed the latest scientific equipment, supplies, services, and reference materials available.	263
California All Employee Training	Natural Resources Conservation Service	\$222,991.00	Sacramento	CA	10/21/2019	10/24/2019	As the Fiscal Year 2020 training plan was being developed, required, mandatory, and needed training for employees to maintain their technical skills was identified. After reviewing the cost for conducting the training sessions, one course at a time, throughout the year-it was determined that having an all employees training session with all employees being trained at one time at a centrally located site, could save between \$70,000 and \$100,000 in direct training cost.	333
National Direct Agricultural Marketing Summit	Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)	\$126,562.11	Rosemont	IL	10/7/2019	10/9/2019	AMS staff attendance was necessary at the summit to (1) improve the capacity and performance of farms and businesses that participate in direct markets; (2) bring academic researchers, industry representatives, and government officials together to engage in a robust dialogue about the economic footprint of direct-to-consumer farm marketing in an era of growing demand for locally-produced food; and (3) ensure that attendees learn best practices from fellow farmers market promotion program and local food promotion program grantees and national grant specialists on successful grant implementation, reporting, and impact assessment.	22
National Self-Help Housing Training Conference	Rural Development (RD)	\$299,050.00	Albuquerque	NM	2/4/2020	2/6/2020	Headquarters' employees were involved in presenting specialized training to attendees. RD field staff attendees benefited from the latest training, sharing of best practices, and networking with the self-help and packaging organizations in attendance. Upon returning to their home states, attendees shared with co-workers who were unable to attend. Consistent nationwide delivery of this program is highly dependent on training by headquarters and field staff.	40
Society of American Foresters National Convention	Forest Service (FS)	\$196,713.52	Louisville	KY	10/29/2019	11/3/2019	The convention is an important event in support of the FS and USDA goals related to ecosystem science, fire prevention and recovery, adaptation and mitigation, forest health, restoration of forest ecosystems, sustainable management of the nation's forests, and outreach and diversity. The convention audience was comprised of approximately 1,200 natural resource professionals working in public and private settings, managers, CEOs, researchers, administrators, educators, and students. The Forest Management Expo had more than 100 booths and over a dozen career fair booths. The conference featured presentations related to sustaining our nation's forests and grasslands, delivering benefits to the public, applying knowledge globally, strengthening our diversity and outreach, and excelling as a high-performing agency.	87
Total		\$1,528,684.54						1,493