

**266.39 Leopold center for sustainable agriculture.**

1. For the purposes of [this section](#), “*sustainable agriculture*” means the appropriate use of crop and livestock systems and agricultural inputs supporting those activities which maintain economic and social viability while preserving the high productivity and quality of Iowa’s land.

2. The Leopold center for sustainable agriculture is established in the Iowa agricultural and home economics experiment station at Iowa state university of science and technology. The center shall conduct and sponsor research to identify and reduce negative environmental and socio-economic impacts of agricultural practices. The center also shall research and assist in developing emerging alternative practices that are consistent with a sustainable agriculture. The center shall develop in association with the Iowa cooperative extension service in agriculture and home economics an educational framework to inform the agricultural community and the general public of its findings.

3. *a.* The Iowa agricultural and home economics experiment station shall employ a director for the center, who shall be appointed by the president of Iowa state university of science and technology. The director of the center shall employ the necessary research and support staff. The director and staff shall be employees of Iowa state university of science and technology. No more than five hundred thousand dollars of the funds received from the agriculture management account annually shall be expended by the center for the salaries and benefits of the employees of the center, including the salary and benefits of the director. The remainder of the funds received from the agriculture management account shall be used to sponsor research grants and projects on a competitive basis from Iowa colleges and universities and private nonprofit agencies and foundations. The center may also solicit additional grants and funding from public and private nonprofit agencies and foundations.

*b.* The director shall prepare an annual report.

[87 Acts, ch 225, §230](#); [99 Acts, ch 91, §1, 2](#); [2010 Acts, ch 1061, §180](#); [2017 Acts, ch 159, §53](#); [2024 Acts, ch 1170, §296](#)

For provisions relating to ongoing activities and expenses of the Leopold center for sustainable agriculture administered by the college of agriculture and life sciences at Iowa state university of science and technology, see [2017 Acts, ch 168, §33](#)

Subsections 3 and 5 stricken and former subsection 4 renumbered as 3