

Alaska Agricultural & Forestry Experiment Station, University of Alaska Fairbanks

BACKGROUND

The Hatch Act provides basic capacity funding for State Agricultural Experiment Stations. The act requires that states provide a 100% match from non-federal resources (many states provide a greater match). Hatch Act funding is distributed by USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture to eligible institutions under a statutory formula.

Congress has provided small increases in recent years, but this has barely slowed the steady, decades-long erosion of this vital program.

The land-grant system strongly supports Hatch Act funding at \$240 million in FY 2011.

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VALUE OF HATCH ACT FUNDS

In Alaska (FY 2009), each dollar we receive under the Hatch Act is leveraged by \$3.52 in state funding:

Funds Leveraged by Our Pro Rata Share of Hatch Act Appropriation

	FY 2009 ¹	FY 2010 ²	FY 2011 ³
Federal (Hatch)	\$1,089,642	\$1,128,080	\$1,308,573
State	\$3,836,534	\$3,612,831	\$3,612,831
Total	\$4,926,176	\$4,740,911	\$4,921,404

NOTES: (1) FY 2009 funds are actual amounts; (2) FY 2010 is estimated; (3) FY 2011 assumes a \$240 million appropriation (as requested by the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities).

Additional Program Data

- One. 95% of funds provide faculty salary to conduct research relevant to Alaska.
- Two. 5% is used for materials, supplies and equipment related to this research.
- Three. A maximum of 3 months of Hatch funds are provided to faculty on an internally competitive basis.

BENEFITS OF HATCH FUNDS

As shown above, if Congress increases the FY 2011 Hatch Act appropriation to \$240 million, our pro rata share would be \approx \$180,493. We would use such an increase to provide additional materials, supplies and equipment to support:

- One. Energy Crops and Biomass Conversion Technology
- Two. Research & Outreach to support local Food Security
- Three. Controlled Environment Production of Horticultural Crops

OTHER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- One. Peony Research, Outreach & Business Development
- Two. Reindeer Meat Quality & Animal Production
- Three. Turfgrass Research for sports fields, golf courses and runways.