

University of California

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.

CONTACT

Barbara Allen-Diaz
Associate Director
Agricultural Experiment Station and
Cooperative Extension
1-510-987-9359
barbara.allen-diaz@ucop.edu

Note: UC does not support increases in formula funds in lieu of major increases in competitive funds.

VALUE OF HATCH ACT FUNDS

In California (FY 2009), each dollar we receive under the Hatch Act is leveraged by \$14.33 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)	\$ 5,788,098	\$ 5,788,098	\$ 6,714,194
State	\$ 82,948,447	\$ 79,805,437	\$ 79,805,437
Total	\$ 88,736,545	\$ 85,593,535	\$ 86,519,631

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); estimated using 1.16 increase factor. * Includes Regular Hatch and Multistate Research Funds.

Additional Program Data

- Employ a headcount of over 700 agricultural experiment station (AES) academic researchers
- Have three colleges and the School of Veterinary Medicine on the UC Berkeley, UC Davis, and UC Riverside campuses, with a total of 43 departments and 80 centers/institutes
- Maintain 10 research and extension centers, i.e. educational field stations located throughout the state that link AES and Cooperative Extension resources to solve specific problems

BENEFITS OF HATCH FUNDS

As shown above, if Congress increases the FY 2011 Hatch Act appropriation to \$240 million, our pro rata increased share would be \approx \$926,096. We would use such an increase to expand our collaborative and integrated research efforts to:

- Improve California's water quality, quantity, and security by developing improved water management practices and providing science-based information to support effective water policies
- Enhance the competitiveness and sustainability of California's food production system by improving opportunities for markets and new products
- Ensure a safe food supply by developing improved methods to prevent, detect, respond, and recover from food borne illness outbreaks
- Promote nutritional health by improving the nutritive value of California commodities, and designing specific diets for individuals at particular stages of their lives
- Manage endemic and invasive pests and diseases using UC's integrated pest management, an ecosystem-based prevention strategy
- Ensure sustainable natural ecosystems by developing methods to determine climate change impacts and information to promote fire-resilient ecosystems

OTHER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

California's AES conducts research in the following priority areas. Here are a few 2009 examples:

- **Childhood Obesity** - A UC study showed obesity prevention efforts in schools can be more effective if they use a multi-faceted program: one that promotes individual and community health through the school cafeteria, nutrition education, school gardening, and waste management, while incorporating agriculture into the school environment. This has policy implications.
- **Global Food Security and Hunger** - Over the past several years, more rice has been consumed than grown worldwide. UC research provides new targets for biotechnologically-based interventions to boost global average yields for rice.
- **Food Safety** - An innovative UC study focuses on conducting and analyzing experiments involving use of edible films and coatings to improve food safety and quality, and minimize packaging cost.
- **Sustainable Energy** - At the request of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, UC addressed the specific problem of high grain prices during 2008 and the effects of biofuels demand, forming a foundation for work on the stability of food markets in the presence of biofuels.
- **Climate Change** - UC research developed a simulation model that can perform risk assessment and quantify climate change impact on water management; for example, on water consumption by agriculture. This tool was released for public use by California Water Resource Department.

