

# University of Florida

## 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 Florida (FY 2009), each dollar we received under the Hatch Act was leveraged by \$8.75 in state funding:

### Funds Leveraged by Our Pro Rata Share of Hatch Act Appropriation

	FY 2009 <sup>1</sup>	FY 2010 <sup>2</sup>	FY 2011 <sup>3</sup>
Federal (Hatch)	3,307,842	3,410,728	3,956,444
State	28,949,650	28,517,838	27,091,946
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$32,257,492</b>	<b>\$31,928,566</b>	<b>\$31,048,390</b>

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).

**An Additional Note About Leveraging:** These Hatch and State funds combined enabled UF-IFAS faculty to generate \$91 million in external contracts and grants in FY 2009.

### Of the annual Hatch allocation to the FL Agricultural Experiment Station:

- 63 % provides salaries for faculty researchers in agriculture
- 17% funds materials and supplies for faculty research projects to meet Florida's emerging needs in agriculture and natural resources
- 4% provides funds for research facilities and equipment
- 16% provides competitive research innovation grant awards for faculty

## 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  $\approx$  \$545,716. We would use such an increase to develop or expand research efforts in the following areas:

- Increasing agricultural production with less land, chemical inputs, energy consumption
- Understanding pathways of entry, mechanisms of survival and dispersal by invasive insects, pathogens and plants
- Preserving the quality and safety of food from farm to fork
- Plant breeding for bioenergy and health-promoting crops
- Impacts of global change on conservation and management of natural resources
- The Florida Climate Institute to respond to risks and opportunities of global climate change

## OTHER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Examples of research conducted by the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station are:

- Molecular and genomics approaches to plant breeding
- Youth, family and community development
- Economic, environmental, and social sustainability of natural resources
- Remediation and restoration of contaminated soils and waters
- Models of animal performance particularly in tropical and subtropical environments
- Developing bioenergy production systems