

University of Georgia

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

J. Scott Angle
Dean and Director
Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
1-706-542-3924
caesdean@uga.edu

Robert Shulstad
Associate Dean for Research
1-706-542-2151
agresch@uga.edu



THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
**COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL &
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**

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VALUE OF HATCH ACT FUNDS

In Georgia (FY 2009), each dollar we receive under the Hatch Act is leveraged by \$7.56 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)	\$ 5,309,162	\$ 5,315,597	\$ 6,085,296
State	\$40,164,835	\$37,743,953	\$37,783,360
Total	\$45,473,997	\$43,059,550	\$43,868,656

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

- UGA's total agricultural research program currently ranks 4th in the nation.
- State budget cuts of more than 20% from FY09 to FY11 threaten our ability to maintain essential programs, faculty and staff.

Annual Hatch Allocation: To meet emerging Agricultural Research needs

- 87% faculty and staff researchers
- 8% materials and supplies
- 4% equipment
- 1% travel

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 ≈ \$849,466. We would use such an increase to:

- Retain critical employees to continue to help Georgia's agricultural producers and food processors remain competitive and contributing to the safe and nutritious food supply essential to the nation and the world.
- Provide essential operating funds to allow applied researchers to redirect their programs to address the immediate needs of agricultural producers, such as herbicide resistant weeds, invasive species, and disease infestations threatening people, poultry, cattle or plants, management of bioenergy crops.
- Replace critical equipment on our research farms and labs.

OTHER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Plant breeders are developing new varieties: peanut, soybean, wheat and small grains, blueberries, pecans, pasture, biofuels and turf grasses; ornamental plants for greater yield, nutrition, flavor, and consumer appeal; disease, pest and herbicide resistance; drought and shade tolerance and adaptability to use in developing biofuels and biomedical products.
- Agricultural production and climate change: UGA is a leader in increasing water use efficiency in agricultural production and is becoming a leader in increasing energy efficiency throughout agricultural production.
- Food Safety: UGA's Center for Food safety is a world leader in identifying and finding solutions to prevent food borne bacterial diseases caused by Salmonella, E coli, and Listeria on produce, poultry and meat.