

The University of Illinois

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 the 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 Illinois (FY 2009), each dollar we receive under the Hatch Act is leveraged by \$2.82 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)	\$6,025,443	\$6,025,443	\$6,989,514
State	\$16,982,330	\$15,043,975	\$13,539,578
Total	\$23,007,773	\$21,069,418	\$20,529,092

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).

The annual Hatch allocation to the Illinois AES:

- Funds **translational research** that allows to turn fundamental discoveries into tools and technologies that farmers, livestock producers, and other stakeholders can use to produce agriculture systems .
- Supports **strategic investment** in research initiatives of importance to Illinois stakeholders.
- Enables **targeted research efforts**, balanced between discovery and application, as well as between long-term and short-term outcomes.
- Provides **critical seed funding** for faculty research efforts which lead to further competitive and private sector support.

BENEFITS OF HATCH FUNDS

As shown above, if Congress increases the FY 2011 Hatch Act appropriation to \$240 million, our pro rata increase would be \approx \$964,071. We would use such an increase to develop or expand research efforts in the following areas:

- Support the research in seven stations of the **Illinois Research and Education Network** [St. Charles, Brownstown, Dixon Springs, South Farms, Orr, Monmouth, and Shabonna]
- Support research in the **Center for Advanced Bioenergy Research** [CABER], the **National Soybean Research Laboratory** [NSRL], the **Plant Breeding Center**, the **Center for Family Resiliency**, the **Division of Nutritional Sciences** and the **Environmental Change Institute**
- Support research demonstrating the effect of climate change on production agriculture and the development of mitigation strategies
- Work to increase **ethanol production efficiency** from corn and cellulosic biomass
- Ongoing work of the **National Atmospheric Deposition Program** which has provided measurements of the chemicals in precipitation since 1977
- Studies on the effect of food insecurity on **childhood obesity**
- **Non thermal Food safety** interventions for liquid food processing
- Research into beef cattle grazing systems that **improve production** and profitability while **minimizing risk and environmental impacts**
- Germ cell and embryo development and manipulation for **improvement of livestock**
- Sequencing of the swine ,dairy cow and beef cattle genome

OTHER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The Illinois AES conducts research in the following areas:

- Continued support of **Farmdoc**, which has consistently delivered unbiased and timely economic information to agricultural producers and businesses since 1999
- Studies into the effects of anthropogenic change on forest disease dynamics and the consequences for **ecosystem processes**
- Support for work at the **Child Development Laboratory**
- Research on **agricultural infotronic systems** to develop safe and efficient mechanized precision farming operations
- Control of Phytophthora blight in pumpkins [**Illinois ranks first in the nation in pumpkin production**]
- Development of the recently-patented herbicide-resistant wine grape cultivar "Improved Chancellor"