

Oregon State University OAES

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 Oregon (FY 2009), each dollar we receive under the Hatch Act is leveraged by \$9.0 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)	3,197,483	3,197,483	3,709,080,
State	28,847,079	28,933,666	28,933,666
Total	\$32,044,562	\$32,131,149	\$32,642,746

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). State funding will probably be lower than shown estimate.

Of the annual Hatch and state allocations to the OAES:

- 97% of Hatch dollars support research personnel
- 78% of all AES funding support AES personnel
- 27% of all AES funding supports 11 branch stations (15 locations), many of which integrate research and extension functions at those locations
- 15% of all AES funding supports supplies, equipment, laboratories and other facilities for agricultural research

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 \$511,597. We would use such an increase to:

- Develop sustainable, environmentally friendly and economically viable technologies and bio-based products, including biofuels, from renewable resources.
- Enhance the capacity of managed landscapes and their biota to optimize the production of ecosystem services such as biodiversity, carbon sequestration, bioremediation, etc.
- Provide enhanced agricultural water resource management and watershed enhancement and sustainability.
- Develop a wholesome, high value/high quality and safe food supply.
- Sustainably address challenges facing Oregon's agricultural producers of food, feed, fiber, horticulture, and bioproducts.
- Develop opportunities and policies that improve the economies, social vitality and quality of life of rural communities and individuals, including nutrition and obesity management.

OTHER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Faculty are determining the possible environmental and health effects of nanoparticles associated with agricultural and industrial operation, and developing model systems, such as Zebra fish and yeast, to evaluate the risks.
- OAES researchers have developed new varieties of wheat, barley, potatoes and oysters for the Pacific Northwest which have earned additional millions of dollars for the regional economy.
- Dryland cropping researchers are exploring strategies for more sustainable farming methods, including intercropping with a legume, alternative rotation crops, site-specific farming, and finding wheat varieties that are tolerant to drought and heat stress for conventional and organic crops.
- OAES researchers are studying the impact that the burning of fuels like coal and biomass may have on the health of residents of the US and the globe.
- Fishery scientists are identifying the optimum tradeoffs between economic costs and ecological services of conservation practices in an intensely managed watershed to aid landowners, policy makers, and regulators determine which conservation practices (and where) yield the best return on investment.
- Nutritional faculty study the female triad – how the synergy of sports, hormones and bone growth affects the health of girls and women.