

The University of Tennessee

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 Tennessee (FY 2009), each dollar we receive under the Hatch Act is leveraged by \$4.58 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) | 5,234,546 | 5,234,546 | 6,072,073 |
| State | 23,972,400 | 23,399,500 | 22,608,000 |
| Total | \$29,206,946 | \$28,634,046 | \$28,680,073 |

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).

Of the annual Hatch allocation to the TN AES:

- 100% provides full or partial funding for 82 FTE faculty positions

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 \$837,527. We would use such an increase to develop or expand research efforts and graduate student funding in the following areas:

- Plant-based bioenergy to fuel the future
- Global food security through development of new plant varieties
- Enhanced animal reproductive efficiency
- Novel approaches in food quality and safety
- Environmental sustainability and protection
- Childhood and adult obesity

OTHER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The Tennessee AES conducts research in the following areas

- The economics of biofuels, land use, water resources, and rural development
- Animal and livestock health, nutrition, physiological genomics, and reproduction
- The interface of biological systems, soils, and engineering
- Fungal, insect, nematode, and viral pathogens of crops and animals
- Food microbiology and safety, food biopolymers, and food quality
- Tree improvement, avian ecology, wetlands preservation, and wildlife and fisheries health
- Cropping systems, biofuel development, agronomic breeding, and agricultural security