

Texas Agrilife Research

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 Texas (FY 2009), each dollar we receive under the Hatch Act is leveraged by \$7.77 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)	\$7,259,153	\$7,259,153	\$8,420,617.48
State	\$56,451,605	\$56,451,605	\$56,451,605
Total	\$63,710,758	\$63,710,758	\$64,872,222.48

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

- The Borlaug Institute for International Agriculture leverages state and federal funds in the translational delivery of Texas research results throughout the globe
- Approximately 100 faculty at 13 research and extension centers perform basic and translational research impacting production agriculture, natural resources and human health
- Extramural grants and contracts matched or surpass combined state and federal appropriations for the last three fiscal years

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 \$1.1 million

. We would use such an increase to:

- Advance breeding and agronomic practices for development of bioenergy and food crops
- Apply high through-put genomics to increasing efficient feed utilization in livestock
- Improve agricultural water use through more efficient irrigation management and development of drought tolerant crops

OTHER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Texas Agrilife Research conducts research in the following areas

- Integration of wildlife and livestock enterprises
- Systems approaches to shrimp and fish mariculture on the gulf coast
- Food policy and food safety
- Diagnosis and treatment of plant and animal diseases