

# University of the Virgin Islands

## BACKGROUND

The Hatch Act provides basic capacity funding for State Agricultural Experiment Stations. The act requires that states provide a 100% match (50% for the Insular Land Grant Institutions) 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 modest increases in the last two fiscal years, but this has barely slowed the steady erosion of this vital program in recent decades.

**The land-grant system strongly supports funding for Hatch Act funding at \$240 million in FY 2011.**

## CONTACT

Dr. James Rakocy  
AES Director  
340-692-4031  
[jrakocy@uvi.edu](mailto:jrakocy@uvi.edu)

Dr. Robert Godfrey  
AES Assistant Director  
340-692-4042  
[rgodfre@uvi.edu](mailto:rgodfre@uvi.edu)



January 2010

## VALUE OF HATCH ACT FUNDS

In US Virgin Islands (FY 2009), each dollar we receive under the Hatch Act appropriation is leveraged by \$0.69 in state funding:

### Funds Leveraged by Our Pro Rata Share of Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c) Appropriation

	FY 2009 <sup>1</sup>	FY 2010 <sup>2</sup>	FY 2011 <sup>3</sup>
Federal (Hatch)	920,199	920,199	1,067,430
State	605,066	605,066	701,876
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,525,265</b>	<b>\$1,525,265</b>	<b>\$1,769,306</b>

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

- State funds are the only other funds received that are applied to the Hatch funds.
- There are no additional sources of local funds to leverage against Hatch funds.

### BENEFITS OF HATCH FUNDS

As shown above, if Congress increases the FY 2011 Hatch appropriation to \$240 million, our pro rata share would be ≈ \$147,231. We would use such an increase to develop or expand our research efforts in the following areas:

- Tropical forage production and evaluation
- Livestock production for small scale farmers
- Tropical fruit production

### OTHER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The Virgin Islands AES conducts research in the following areas:

- Environmental physiology of livestock – hair sheep and beef cattle
- Intensive production of fish and crops in an integrated system
- In vitro propagation of plants and field cultivation of genetically modified varieties
- Evaluation of water use for production of vegetable crops
- The suitability of forages for use as either hay or in managed grazing systems