

# Massachusetts Extension & Center for Agriculture

## BACKGROUND

The Smith-Lever Act of 1914 establishes the Cooperative Extension Service and provides federal funds for cooperative extension activities. The act requires that states provide a 100% match from non-federal resources (many states provide a greater match).

Funding under Smith-Lever sections 3(b) and 3(c) are distributed to cooperative extension units at eligible land-grant 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 Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c) at \$350 million in FY 2011.**

## CONTACT

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## VALUE OF SMITH-LEVER FUNDS

In Massachusetts (FY 2009), each dollar we receive under the Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c) appropriation is leveraged by more than \$1.67 in state and local county funding. This in turn leverages an additional \$2.33 for every federal dollar or an additional \$6M over federal funds:

### 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 (Smith-Lever)	2,565,713	2,649,727	3,056,003
State	2,556,829	2,290,553	2,290,553
Extension	(1,607,750)	(1,285,905)	(1,285,905)
Faculty Match	(949,079)	(1,004,648)	(1,004,648)
Local/County	1,733,161	1,728,999	1,728,999
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,855,703</b>	<b>\$6,669,259</b>	<b>\$7,075,555</b>

NOTES: (1) FY 2009 funds are actual amounts; (2) FY 2010 is estimated; (3) FY 2011 assumes a \$350 million appropriation (as requested by the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities).

## PROGRAM DATA

- 135 Extension staff & faculty
- Maintain 14 regional offices including two county offices
- Population of state 6,449,755
- More than 1.1 million educational contacts in the past year; print, web and face-to-face programming.
- More than 83,000 youth reached by the Massachusetts 4-H program, with an additional 52,000 youth participating in school enrichment programs in the past year.

## BENEFITS OF SMITH-LEVER FUNDS

As shown above, if Congress increases the FY 2011 Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c) appropriation to \$350 million, our pro rata share would be ≈ \$ 406,276. UMass Extension would use such an increase to address emerging issues with the following key initiatives:

- Improved nutrition and safety of locally produced and consumed foods.
  - **Build a Better Body: Food, Fitness & Fun** – A science-based 4-H and nutrition curriculum coupled with fitness programs at summer, out-of-school lunch sites for underserved, low-income youth.
- Food production initiatives bringing innovation management practices to farmers in Massachusetts.
  - **Tillage systems for reduced soil erosion**, that reduce threats to water quality and the occurrence of damaging vegetable diseases
  - **High-density greenhouse production systems** for year round vegetable production.
- Advanced Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for all agricultural crops.
  - **Virtual IPM Portal- Interactive Website** for agricultural producers to access timely information and enter local data. Includes an online weather system and allows growers to track pest and disease pressure for individual crops.
- Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) for integrated fruit & vegetable farms.
  - **Expanded training in Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)** to assist growers in developing and implementing farm food safety plans, and in preparing for GAP certification with the goal of preventing and controlling the contamination of fresh, local produce.
- Cultivating the Next Generation’s Interest in Science, Engineering & Technology (SET).
  - **Increase capacity to offer SET youth programs and camps**, and develop a pipeline for at-risk youth to enroll in UMass Amherst undergraduate programs.
- Appropriate renewable energy technologies.
  - **Green Industry Building Certificate Program** for energy efficient practices among trades people to increase demand for energy efficiency among building owners and operators.
  - **Increase farm viability** by integrating renewable energy products and systems that reduce fossil fuel inputs into heat and electricity



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