

Overview of FY 2017 Request

America’s Land-grant universities and related institutions provide much of the research, education, and public outreach that sustains U.S. food, fiber, and renewable fuel production while addressing many urgent and important local, regional, national, and global problems. Financial support for this world-renowned enterprise comes from both public and private sources, but the most significant funding source is the federal-state partnership managed by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)—USDA’s extramural science agency—and funded by NIFA and state and local governments.

As shown in the Table, the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities supports Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) funding at \$700 million. We also support funding for the five capacity priorities that support research, education, and extension efforts at America’s Land-grant universities and related institutions at the levels contained in the Table.

In addition to AFRI, the Smith-Lever, Hatch Act, McIntire-Stennis, Evans-Allen, and 1890s Extension programs are the foundation on which America’s Land-grants meet the critical challenges of today and tomorrow. This predictable source of funding is vital to deliver extension education and sustain the basic and translational research at Land-grant institutions.

We urge Congress to continue to make overall NIFA funding a high priority and specifically request funding for the five capacity programs that support research, education, and extension efforts at America’s Land-grant universities and related institutions at the levels also outlined in the Table.

* APLU opposes the elimination of the New Technologies for Ag Extension (NTAE), Animal Health and Disease Research—Section 1433, and Capacity Building for Non-Land Grant Colleges of Agriculture programs.

* APLU supports the proposed increases to 1890 Institution Capacity Building Grants and 1890 Facilities Grants.



APLU PRIORITY REQUEST FOR FY 2017	
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)	\$700,000,000
Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c)	\$304,000,000
Hatch Act	\$256,201,000
Evans-Allen	\$60,500,000
1890 Institutions Extension	\$49,350,000
McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry	\$35,500,000

*See Note Below



Want to know more?

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Feeding 9.6 billion by 2050

The U.S. Census Bureau maintains digital clocks which display net population growth both domestically and worldwide. Those clocks show a net gain of one person in the United States every 15 seconds and another person worldwide about every half second.

At present rates, the global population will reach 9.6 billion by 2050 and experts believe that agricultural productivity must double from current levels to feed a global population of that magnitude. One private-sector group that has been out front on this issue is Global Harvest Initiative (GHI).

Each year, GHI publishes a Global Agricultural Productivity (GAP) Report® to “mark the progress made toward sustainably doubling agricultural output to meet the 2050 demand for food, fiber, fuel and other industrial products derived from agriculture.” This annual report also “highlights key policies required to encourage more investment and innovation, and to build efficient, sustainable agricultural value chains.”

We believe that GHI’s 2015 GAP Report® could help inform the congressional debate over funding for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) and is worth reading in its entirety. We could highlight the following key recommendation:

“Investment in agricultural research and development (R&D) is a principal driver of agricultural productivity growth. Agricultural R&D investments have long gestation periods: typically it takes more than a decade to realize the full benefits of R&D activities that are in progress today. But, given time, these investments pay high dividends, from higher profits for farmers to more abundant food supply at lower cost for consumers, along with high social returns, including greater opportunity and a higher quality of life in rural communities. Commitments to public research are also important to reducing the talent gap and filling the pipeline for the next generation of agricultural scientists.”

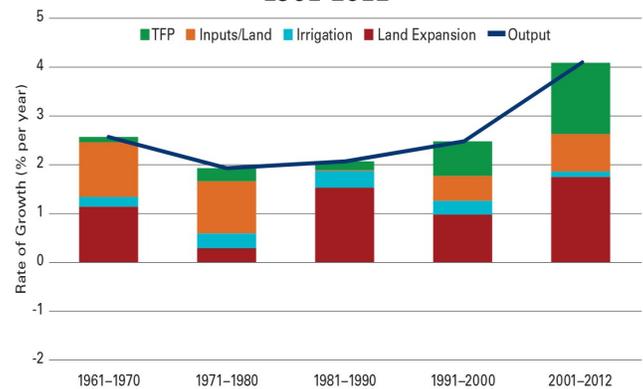
Learn more at:

- www.globalharvestinitiative.com
- www.landgrantimpacts.org
- [GHI 2015 GAP Report](#)



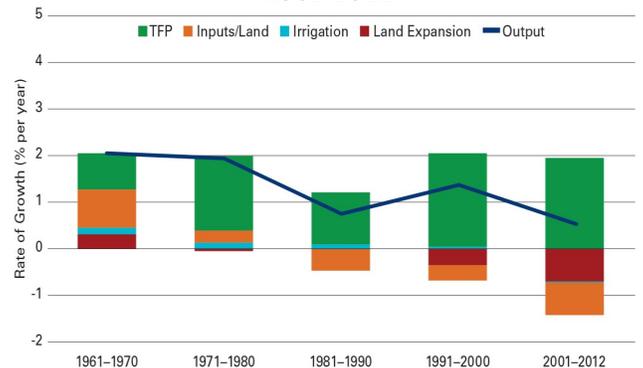
www.census.gov/popclock
Feb. 15, 2016—6:30 PM (UTC)

Sources of Growth in Agricultural Output: Low Income Countries
1961-2012



Source: Economic Research Service (2015).

Sources of Growth in Agricultural Output: High Income Countries
1961-2012



Source: Economic Research Service (2015).

Reprinted from GHI’s 2015 GAP Report®, these two charts demonstrate the profound difference that total factor productivity (TFP) has made in the developed world over the past 50 years: “Total factor productivity is the ratio of agricultural outputs (gross crop and livestock output) to inputs (land, labor, fertilizer, machinery and livestock). When TFP rises, more output can be produced from a fixed amount of inputs. TFP growth can result from increased effectiveness of inputs, more precise use of inputs, or the adoption of improved production practices.”