Hatch Act & AFRI: Complementary Investments that Strengthen American Agriculture

Strengthening Public Ag R&D Investments Strengthens America's Future

Global Competitiveness – equipping US producers to lead on the world stage

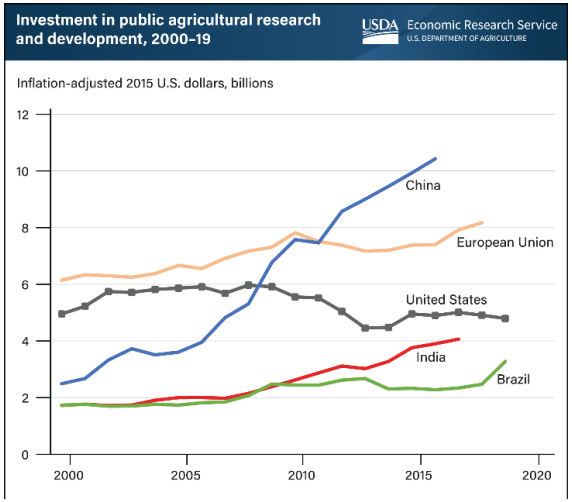
National & Food Security – safeguarding America's food, fuel, and fiber supply

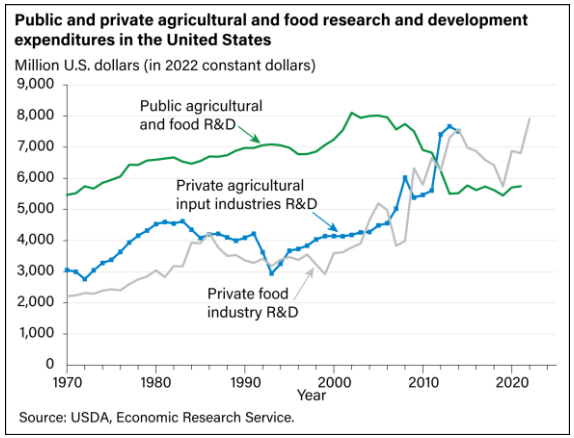
Agricultural Productivity – protecting long-term productivity and producer profitability through sustained research and innovation

Cybersecurity & Research Security – safeguarding agricultural technologies, data, and research infrastructure against emerging threats

Economic Impact – powering a $4T sector and supporting 15% of U.S. jobs, delivering 20-to-1 return on investment

Public Good – delivering unbiased research in areas the private sector overlooks





agInnovation science that feeds the world

APLU Board on Agriculture Assembly

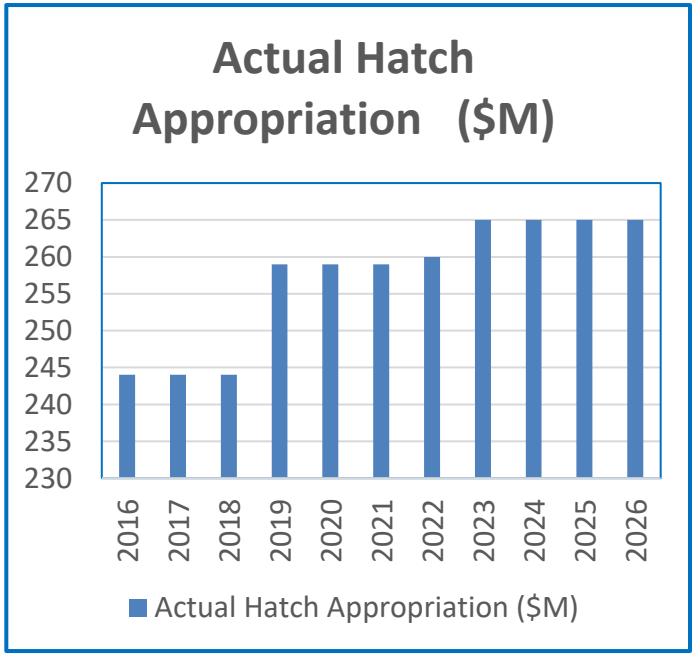
Hatch Act - $375M Request

History and Justification

Hatch funding has been the foundation of US Agricultural innovation for nearly 140 years. These funds support Agricultural Experiment Station research across all 50 states, D.C., and territories.

Hatch Funding Critical For:

- **Location-Specific Solutions** – AES conduct long-term, research to provide science-based solutions
- **Collaborative Impact** – multistate research, enabling regional and national solutions that extend beyond state borders
- **Stakeholder-Driven Research** – research priorities are guided by farmers, ranchers and many other stakeholders across the food and ag system
- **Rapid Crisis Response** – enables rapid response and science-informed solutions to emergencies such as disease outbreaks, extreme weather, and invasive species
- **Sustained Leadership –** State match fuels discovery, drives competitive grants, and leverages public-private partnerships.



Elevator Pitch - Hatch Act

- ✓ Foundational to US National & Security and Competitiveness.
- ✓ Hatch funding fuels efficient, science-based solutions—providing stable support for rapid response, and sustaining the expertise, infrastructure, and equipment needed to tackle challenges year-round.
- ✓ Like competitive grants, capacity funding follows merit-based criteria but is guided by state priorities and stakeholder input—ensuring targeted, responsive investments.
- ✓ Publicly funded research tackles high-risk areas with broad social benefits that private firms avoid due to low or diffuse returns.

Capacity Funds are the bedrock for innovation that secures long-term U.S. food supplies, environmental sustainability, nutritional security, and economic growth.

For every capacity program $1, another $9.98 is generated from other funding sources

Consequences of Flat Funding

- **Erodes U.S. research capacity** to address state, regional, and national challenges and respond to emerging crises
- **Accelerates declines in agricultural productivity**, threatening producer profitability and long-term food security
- **Increases agricultural cybersecurity and research security risks**, leaving critical technologies, data, and research infrastructure more vulnerable
- **Shifts agricultural innovation overseas**, increasing dependence on foreign research and technologies
- **Shrinks the scientific workforce**, weakening expertise and the pipeline of future agricultural scientists
- **Weakens U.S. global competitiveness**, jeopardizing America's leadership in agricultural innovation
- **Increases food prices and supply chain vulnerabilities**, affecting producers, consumers, and national security

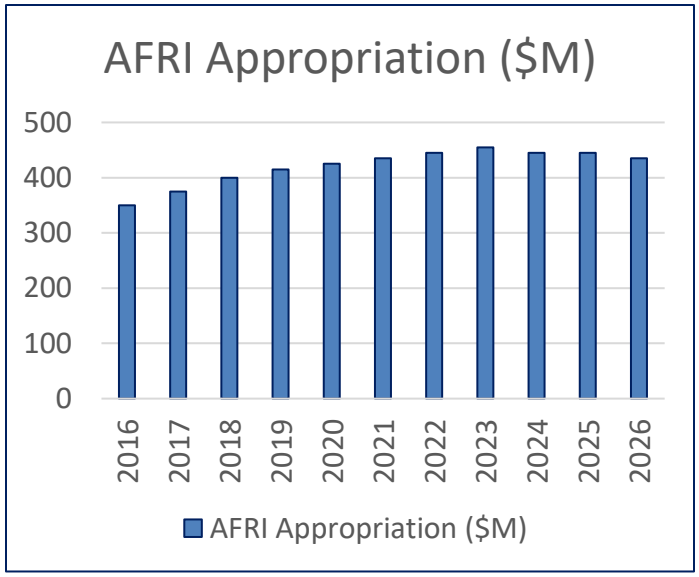
AFRI - $500 M Request

History and Justification

AFRI strengthens research, Extension, and education—leveraging integration and capacity program investments to achieve impacts no single mission can deliver alone.

AFRI: Established in 2008 Farm Bill

- Nation's leading competitive ag science grants program
- Funds pioneering research to tackle critical ag & environmental challenges
- ***Request is $65 million above FY2026 = $500 M***



Elevator Pitch - AFRI

AFRI builds on federal capacity investments to drive discovery and innovation that keep U.S. agriculture globally competitive, resilient, and profitable.

- *AFRI strengthens research, Extension, and education—leveraging integration to achieve impacts no single mission can deliver alone.*
- *Competitive funds address large, national food supply and environmental challenges through integrated research, teaching, and Extension programs.*
- *Funds leverage capacity-supported research, human and physical infrastructure and LGU partnerships.*

Consequences of Flat Funding

Eroding Research, Education and Extension Capacity - weakening food security, nutrition and health, workforce , and the U.S. economy.

Outsourcing Innovation - shifting research abroad and privatizing knowledge

Shrinking Workforce - fewer scientists to support U.S. agriculture, food sectors, and communities

Losing Global Edge - falling behind nations investing in public Ag R&D