

# APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST

## FY 2014 AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS

# National Institute of Food and Agriculture

*Funding Priorities of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities*

*April 10, 2013*

The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)—the extramural science funding agency within the U.S. Department of Agriculture—supports research, extension, and higher education at America’s land-grant universities and related institutions. Most NIFA programs, projects, and activities were cut by 7.6% or more when H.R. 933, the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act of 2013, was enacted into law.

**The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities vigorously opposed these reductions and we urge Congress to fully restore all NIFA programs to at least their FY2012 levels in the FY 2014 Agriculture and Related Agencies Appropriations bill.**

While we strongly support full restoration of those programs cut in the final FY2013 bill, we believe that it is critically important to restore and—whenever possible—grow funding for the core capacity programs (Table 1) which help undergird the infrastructure of land-grant colleges of food, agriculture, and natural resources and Cooperative Extension units across America. We also believe that the main extramural competitive grants program at NIFA—the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (Table 2)—must be funded at \$383.376 million, the same level proposed in the President’s FY2014 Budget Request.

1. CORE CAPACITY PROGRAMS	F Y 2012*	F Y 2013*	PRESIDENT	A·P·L·U GOAL
Smith-Lever 3(b)-3(c)	294.000	271.618	294.000	294.000
Hatch Act	236.334	218.349	236.334	236.334
Evans-Allen	50.898	47.023	50.898	50.898
1890 Institutions Extension	42.592	39.349	42.592	42.592
McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry	32.934	30.427	32.934	32.934
1994 Institutions Research and Extension Programs	6.113	5.648	6.113	6.113

\*All Numbers are \$Millions; FY2013 numbers are best estimates as of 04-10-2013.

2. CORE COMPETITIVE PROGRAM	F Y 2012*	F Y 2013*	PRESIDENT	A·P·L·U GOAL
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)	264.470	276.980	383.376	383.376

**We all agree that addressing the federal budget deficit is necessary to ensure the country’s long-term financial security. But, as every farmer knows, as hungry as we may be right now for budgetary “fixes,” we simply cannot afford to eat our “seed corn.” Yet that is exactly what would happen if all funding for America’s land-grant universities, provided by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, is not restored in the FY2014 Agriculture Appropriations bill.**

