Association of Public & Land-grant Universities

National Land-grant Impacts Database Inputter Training

Introduction: Andrea Putman,
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities



APLU's Board on Agriculture Assembly (BAA)

The **Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU)** is a membership organization that works to advance the mission of land-grant and public research universities. The association's membership consists of more than 250 land-grant and public research universities, state university systems, and affiliated organizations spanning across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, five U.S. territories, Canada, and Mexico.

The **BAA** and its member institutions advance critical agricultural **research, education, and Cooperative Extension** to develop and deliver cutting-edge, cost-effective solutions that address key regional and national priorities.

agInnovation/Colleges of Agriculture and Natural Resources/Cooperative Extension

Learn more about us at [agisamerica.org.](agisamerica.org)

BAA Communications

Social Media

- LinkedIn
- **@AgIsAmerica** on Facebook and X

Monthly Communications Toolkits

Growing Together: Conversations with CEOs

Spotlights

- Blog
- National Ag Day

FANR Focus Monthly Newsletter

- Newsletter Sign Up

Learn more about our initiatives at AgIsAmerica.



USDA Federal Capacity Funds

- **Formula-based annual appropriations** from the U.S. Congress to land-grant and public universities.
- Funds are intended to **sustain food, agriculture, and natural resources research and Cooperative Extension capacity in every state and territory.**
- Institutions leverage capacity funds through **required 1:1 matching funds**, greatly extending the power of each federal dollar contributed.
- Congress' intention in providing capacity funds to every state and territory is **to ensure that local needs are met**.
- The USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture **(NIFA) oversees these grants.**

Capacity Program/Mission Area

Capacity Program	Mission Area
Hatch Act (1887)	Research
Smith-Lever Act (1914)	Cooperative Extension
McIntire-Stennis (1962)	Research
Evans-Allen (1977)	Research
1890 Agricultural Cooperative Extension (1977)	Cooperative Extension

NIDB Communications Team



Kim Scotto



Today's Speakers



Frankie Gould
Vice Chancellor for Strategic Communications and Outreach
LSU Ag Center



Sara Delheimer
Program Coordinator
Multistate Research Fund Impacts

WHAT is the NIDB?
WHY do we need it?

24/7 *public* search

All land-grants

All mission areas

More than NIFA

Focuses on *impact*

Quality control



WHO uses the NIDB impact statements?



Agricultural Systems

PHOTO: Edwin Remsberg, University of Maryland

Research and Extension make agricultural systems more efficient, profitable, competitive and resilient.

Strategies and tools for managing crop pests and diseases have increased productivity and profitability.

- Extension units nationwide diagnose pest problems. In **New Mexico**, free diagnoses saved producers an estimated $36,000 in testing fees in 2025, while also supporting biosecurity and export compliance. In **Indiana**, lab results and recommendations saved clients $890,000 in reduced crop loss and pesticide use. In **Maine**, diagnoses saved the potato industry over $6 million in 2024. *New Mexico State University Cooperative Extension Service, Purdue Extension, University of Maine Cooperative Extension; funded by Smith-Lever (3b&c) Capacity Funds, Other USDA Capacity – Extension, State Appropriations.*
- Extension professionals in **North Dakota** lead a national coalition to raise awareness of soybean cyst nematode and adoption of management practices, resulting in average yield gains worth nearly $58 per acre nationwide. *NDSU Extension Service.*
- A corn rootworm monitoring network creates an estimated $160 million benefit for **Iowa's** farmers. *Iowa State University; funded by Hatch Multistate Capacity Funds.*
- Integrated pest management practices prevented yield losses of 10% to 40% while also reducing insecticide applications across major crops in **Louisiana** for estimated annual savings up to $10 million in rice, $11 million in sugarcane, $20 million in soybean, $9 million in corn and $3 million in cotton. *LSU Ag Center; funded by Smith-Lever (3b&c) Capacity Funds, State Appropriations.*

Continued

landgrantimpacts.org

The National Land-grant Impacts Database (NIDB) documents the impacts of land-grant universities' (LGU) research, education and Cooperative Extension. The featured projects and programs are supported by a variety of funding sources and partners. Much of this work is supported by USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture capacity and competitive grants programs. Capacity funding forms the foundation for the LGU's agricultural research and Extension system.

This document was prepared by the NIDB communications team. The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities' Board on Agriculture Assembly manages the NIDB.

APLU Board on Agriculture Assembly

USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

- In **Mississippi**, scientists helped develop an effective new vaccine for enteric septicemia in catfish, which costs farmers up to $45 million annually. Research in **Alabama** led to improved disease diagnostics and management, winter feeding strategies and probiotic feed, enhancing productivity and profitability for farmers of shrimp, catfish, crawfish and other aquatic species. *Mississippi Agricultural & Forestry Experiment Station, Auburn University Research; funded by AFRI, Hatch Capacity Funds.*
- Scientists in **Oregon** are developing stronger, cheaper wood composites as well as nanocomposites used in textiles, coatings and sensors. Extension specialists refined forest pest management, identified sustainable practices and ensured Christmas tree seedling survival for the $117.6 million fir industry. These efforts support jobs and keep the state's forest products industry competitive. *Oregon State University Extension Service; funded by State Appropriations, Non-Profit Grants & Contracts.*

Research and Extension help farmers stay in business through training, new markets and disaster recovery.

- Research in **Alabama** and Extension in **Iowa** shed light on how to make fair, profitable farmland lease decisions. The estimated impact of the program on the Iowa's agricultural economy is nearly $1 million dollars. *Auburn University Research, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach; funded by Smith-Lever (3b&c) Capacity Funds, State Appropriations, Hatch Capacity Funds.*
- Programs in **Oklahoma, Maine, Connecticut** and other states help new farmers plan their businesses, increasing the likelihood of long-term success. *University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, University of Connecticut Extension; funded by Smith-Lever (3b&c) Capacity Funds, State Appropriations, Other USDA Competitive.*
- Researchers in **Virginia** created a global market model and work closely with the federal government to advise trade negotiations, market access strategies and policy decisions. *Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station; funded by Hatch Multistate Capacity Funds.*



- Researchers in **Montana** found that wool pellets could be used to improve soil health and improve crop yield. This new use for unmarketable wool could provide $2.5 million in income for sheep producers in Montana. *Montana Agricultural Experiment Station.*
- **Arkansas** research showed that beer production could be a new market for rice, potentially helping offset declining exports of rice grown in Arkansas and other states. *Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station; funded by Other USDA Competitive, State Appropriations.*
- To diversify income through access to niche markets, research and Extension helped farmers adopt new crops, including improved oat varieties to boost profits in **South Dakota**, drought-tolerant, gluten-free teff in **Nevada**, and small grains in **Alaska**. *South Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station, Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station, Alaska Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station; funded by Hatch Capacity Funds, Hatch Multistate Capacity Funds, Other USDA Capacity – Research.*
- Extension in multiple states helped farmers, ranchers and foresters recover after hurricanes, wildfires and other disasters. Assistance included immediate forage provision, disaster assessment, financial aid and mental health support. In **Georgia**, direct financial support totaled $43.4 million covering nearly 72,000 acres of cropland, timber and pastures. *University of Georgia Cooperative Extension; funded by County Funding.*

To see more impacts in this focus area, scan the QR code or visit landgrantimpacts.org/ag-systems

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USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

AMERICA'S PUBLIC & LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITIES

Leveraging Discovery, Education, and Engagement for Climate-Smart Solutions



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Land-grant Impacts

Taking Care of America's Forests

Forests purify air, filter water, store carbon, provide food and shelter for a diverse array of plants and animals, and produce natural resources like timber, paper, and medicine. Land-grant universities work to protect forests that are under threats from pests, pathogens, deforestation, and climate change.

Protecting Habitats and Biodiversity

Natural ecosystems provide clean air and water, food and shelter for wildlife, and recreation opportunities. Agriculture, urbanization, climate change, pests, and other stressors put America's landscapes and native species, including essential pollinators, at risk. U.S. land-grant universities are working to restore and protect ecosystems and biodiversity.



APLU BOARD ON AGRICULTURE ASSEMBLY

OCTOBER 2026 TOOLKIT

LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITIES: Advancing Artificial Intelligence And Emerging Technologies For Producers

In the Spotlight: Land-Grant Impacts

AI solutions for agriculture's most pressing problems

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign created the AI for Future Agricultural Resilience, Management, and Sustainability (AIFARMS) National AI Institute for Agriculture to tackle challenges such as meeting global demand for food, reducing environmental impacts of farming, increasing affordability, and enhancing accessibility. The institute leverages dramatic advancements in AI, such as low-cost semi-autonomous systems that augment human efforts.

Funding Sources: Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) and Hatch Capacity Funds

Cooperative Extension Serving Up Food Safety



August 4, 2025

Extension provides critical training to reduce contamination of fresh produce through their Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) programs. Both GAP and FSMA focus on building systems to prevent contamination rather than responding after it occurs.

Recent Extension Program Highlights

- **University of Georgia** and **Fort Valley State University** agents guided 20 producers through a Demystifying the Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Audit training program. The workshop covered best practices related to field sanitation and hygiene; worker health and hygiene; and effective recordkeeping. After the training, producers said they planned to adopt one or more practices.
- A **Penn State** Extension team is delivering training and other educational resources that will help Pennsylvania's food and agricultural industry comply with FSMA. The team's website includes guides, publications, articles and videos.
- **North Carolina State University** Extension has developed commodity-specific guidance that provides preventative on-farm practices to reduce the possibility of contamination. In addition to vegetables and fruits, there are guides for fresh herbs, mushrooms and greenhouse products.


COMMODITY
CLASSIC


18 USC 707
SMITHSONIAN
INSTITUTION

agInnovation
science that feeds the world

WHO WE ARE | OUR WORK | OUR PROMISE | OUR PRIORITIES | NEWS | EN



Our Work In Action

Learn about the work being accomplished by Land-grant university research and extension. These impact summaries and statements demonstrate how our work makes a difference in the lives of people, communities, and the environment. In essence, they help you understand why you should care about the work land-grant universities achieve.

Discover Our Impacts In Food Security

Land-Grant Impacts

› VIEW DATABASE › DATABASE LOGIN

HOME | LAND-GRANT MISSION | SEARCH IMPACTS | FEATURED IMPACTS | RESOURCES | OUR TEAM

Featured Food Security Impacts



Research and Extension ensure everyone has ample access to affordable, safe, nutritious food

Invasive pests damage crops, costing U.S. agriculture an estimated $30 billion every year. Pest management research and Extension stabilize the food supply chain. Research and [...]

Read more

All | Story | Summary



Supporting meat and dairy industries

Meat and dairy provide critical protein and a wide variety of other products for consumers and represent economically important industries across the country, not just [...]

Read more



The U.S. prepares for a potential screwworm outbreak

As a New World Screwworm (NWS) outbreak spreads from Central America to Mexico, states in the Southwest are ramping up efforts to raise awareness among [...]

Read more



Producers learn to manage for bird flu during outbreak

Highly pathogenic avian influenza, also known as bird flu, plagues the U.S. poultry industry. In addition to poultry impacts, the dairy industry experienced a spillover [...]

Read more

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY | EXTENSION



Our Work & Impact

National Land-Grant Impacts Database

The National Land-Grant Impacts Database (NIDB) is the nation's most extensive repository of the land-grant system's collective impacts statements in research, education, and Extension. It serves as a comprehensive and important resource for the land-grant system to tell their stories.

EXPLORE IMPACTS IN COLORADO →



Agriculture is America @AgIsAmerica · Sep 19

Ornamental growers can spend millions in labor costs each year counting plants before fulfilling orders.

@AuburnAg researchers are developing an AI-powered robot to inventory plants; assess quality; and spot pests, saving growers time and money: landgrantimpacts.org/robots-make-pl...



Alabama Extension

HOW to INPUT statements

FAQs & GUIDELINES

WHEN to INPUT?

The NIDB is always open

Ideally: submit throughout the year

Deadline for consideration by 2027 NIDB Comms Team:
January 15, 2027

When to EDIT vs. add NEW statement?

Add new statement to share or update program results/impacts year after year

Use “edit” function to correct typos, errors

HOW MANY/WHAT TYPES to submit?

~10 (or more!)

Balance research & Extension

Best of the best

Cover a range of topics

Focus on priority topics

PRIORITY TOPICS

Wildfire	prevention, detection, and risk reduction strategies, including integrated management practices	number of acres protected
	protecting crops and livestock	number of acres/animals
Farmer profitability	using fewer inputs/using inputs more efficiently	percent reduction
		dollar amount of cut costs
		reduced environmental impacts due to agrochemical runoff/leaching; reduced spending on mitigation
	increasing mechanization and automation	increased output per acre
		percent increase in efficiency
		reduction in labor costs
	financial management trainings	number of farmers participating, estimated value of trainings
	value-added agriculture (production or manufacturing processes, marketing or services that increase the economic value of primary agricultural commodities by responding consumer trends/desires)	competitive advantage, higher prices resulting in higher returns
Soil	better soil health/fertility	increased soil organic matter, increased water-use and fertilizer efficiency resulting in reduced inputs/costs, increased output per acre
	reducing soil erosion	percent/amount decrease in soil erosion and associated reductions in air/waterway contamination, landslides, etc.
	precision technology, such as soil moisture sensors	
	soil remediation	increased amount of safe, productive urban and rural land
	cover crops to improve soil health; LGU capacity to test varieties	number varieties developed/identified, acres planted, improvements in soil health and associated improvements in crop yield/quality
Food as medicine	preventing/managing chronic disease (stories that focus on specific conditions)	change in healthy habits; measured health outcomes
	reducing healthcare system strain through improved individual/community health	fewer hospital visits, lower healthcare expenses
	developing novel, nutrient-dense varieties and higher quality foods	
	allergens	
	food safety	reduced foodborne illness incidents/outbreaks
	education/workshops	measured change in knowledge/behavior/health
	research/programs that focus on young people	

WHAT makes a GOOD impact statement?

Short, clear

NO jargon

Use 3rd person, active voice

Connect the dots: what, where, when, who, how, why

Focus on **IMPACT**

WHAT is IMPACT?

Impact is **CHANGE** in:

- Attitude/Knowledge
- Behavior/Skills
- Condition (economic, environmental, social)

Occurs at the level of individual, group, state, region, nation, world…

Observed/measured or anticipated/estimated

Quantitative and qualitative

Impact is NOT

Program descriptions
(number of events,
participants, fliers, calls)

"In 2022, I conducted 25 EFNEP activities in 19 counties to address childhood obesity in West Virginia. These events reached 1,763 youths."

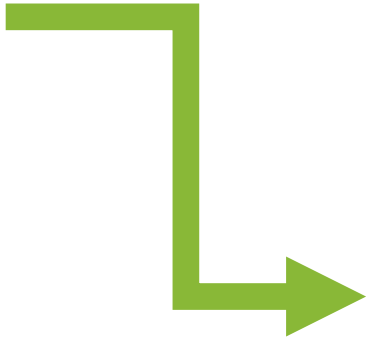


DO submit

Program impacts on
knowledge, attitude,
behavior, and/or condition

Do NOT submit

Project funding/award announcements



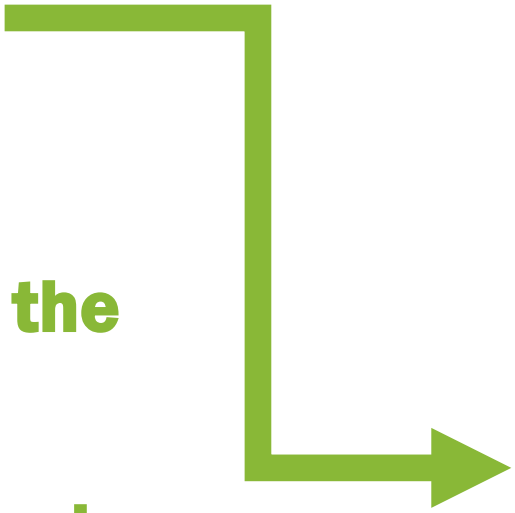
DO submit

When project has finished or achieved a milestone/impact

Impact is NOT

Technical findings

“Studies showed that rumen-protected methionine influences the inflammatory process through expression of IL1β, PTGES3, MUC1 and SOD1 in bovine cytological smear samples.”



DO submit

Who is using the findings/how/to what benefit

Relevance: Significant yield and quality losses occur if farmers dig peanuts too early or too late. Existing tools and methods for determining when peanuts are at the right maturity can be inaccurate and difficult to use.

Response: As part of a project funded by USDA NIFA and the Georgia Peanut Board, University of Georgia scientists designed the Peanut Pod Blasting Method, an innovative, but simple way to accurately determine peanut maturity and the best time to harvest. Scientists have worked with Extension to demonstrate the tool to over 150 peanut farmers.

Results: In 2025, farmers using this method saved an average of 300 pounds of peanuts per acre and increased gross returns by $60 per acre. Statewide, that's an extra 173 million pounds of peanuts, worth an estimated $35 million.

Public Value: By developing a more accurate method to determine optim peanut harvest time, UGA researchers have helped farmers meet growing consumer demand for high-quality peanuts. Georgia is a top producer of peanuts. Sustaining the industry supports the state's economy.

Relevance: In West Virginia, youth obesity is higher than the national average, but many families lack access to knowledge about food and nutrition that can help them make healthy choices.

Response: In 2022, West Virginia Cooperative Extension professionals led a six-week course to teach 1,763 high school students across West Virginia about nutrition, meal planning, and cooking skills...

Results & Impacts: 85% of students showed improved food and nutrition knowledge and skills after the course. Furthermore, one year after the course, a mother reported that her son now helps plan grocery lists and cooks meals at home instead of eating fast food. Over the past year, the family has saved money on food expenses, spent more time together as a family, and had better health reports at their check-ups. “I never dreamed how a simple class could change my family’s daily life and future so much and help my wallet at the same time,” she said.

Public Value: By improving the knowledge and skills of families across West Virginia, Extension educators are facilitating healthier choices that mitigate obesity and related health issues, which can be costly for families and create strain on the state’s healthcare system.

RESOURCES

Impact Writing Tips: How to Craft Your Impact Statement

Title: A short, descriptive title that will help database users know what the impact statement is about.

Relevance:

- What is the issue?
- Who cares about the issue?
- Why do they care about the issue?

Connect your impact to timely topics. The NIDB team has created a **list of high priority topics** for submissions.

Funding Source(s): Select funding source(s) from the dropdown menu. You can provide additional information about funding in the body of the impact statement.

Urban Impacts: Was this impact in an urban area?

Submission Year: Select the year you are

Any QUESTIONS?