



COMMUNICATIONS THEMES

December 2023

Administered by U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA), the Hatch Multistate Research Fund (MRF) supports agricultural innovation and sustainability by providing federal funds to collaborative research projects led by State Agricultural Experiment Stations and land-grant universities. The Multistate Research Fund Impacts Program (MRF Impacts) communicates the public value of these projects.

Below we share Hatch Multistate projects that are connected to priority topics and timely themes as well as materials and messaging you may use to promote these projects.

Food Security, Nutrition, and Health

Scientists at #LandGrantUniversities are working to improve food production, access, and affordability. See how Hatch Multistate research projects bring together researchers in different states to keep food on every table: <https://bit.ly/MRF-FoodSecurity> #AgIsAmerica

To help end hunger, improve nutrition, and reduce diet-related chronic diseases, scientists at #LandGrantUniversities are working together to improve food quality and safety: <https://bit.ly/MRF-FoodSafety> #AgIsAmerica

As part of @USDA_NIFA-supported Hatch Multistate research projects, scientists at #LandGrantUniversities are working together to improve human nutrition, health, and wellness: <https://bit.ly/MRF-Health> #AgIsAmerica

The foods and drinks we consume contain natural chemicals (like vitamins and minerals) that can positively or negatively impact human health. Since 1971, a multistate project has brought together researchers at land-grant universities to conduct cutting-edge research on dietary bioactive chemicals. Research like this will help accomplish goals laid out by the USDA's new ASCEND for Better Health initiative and the Biden-Harris Administration's national strategy to reduce diet-related diseases. See what the team has learned so far: <https://bit.ly/DietaryChemicals> @AgIsAmerica @USDAScience @USDA_NIFA

Precision technologies like GPS, sensors, robotics, and thermal imaging can help farmers fine-tune irrigation, fertilization, disease and pest control, harvesting, and more. Precision can boost productivity while also conserving resources and reducing impacts on our soil, water, and air, making it a key strategy for addressing food security and #sustainability. See how a team of scientists at land-grant universities is advancing #precisionag: <https://bit.ly/precision-ag> #AgIsAmerica #NIFAimpacts

National Pear Month

After adopting a recommended storage strategy, a major local pear packer in the Pacific Northwest documented a nearly \$2,000,000 annual increase in market value and almost \$800,000 reduction in repacking costs for a single pear variety. Learn more: <http://bit.ly/fresh-fruit-quality>

Based on research from a multistate project on fresh fruit quality, the California #pear industry is now combining various methods to effectively reduce scald, a disorder that affects pears during post-harvest storage. Learn more: <http://bit.ly/fresh-fruit-quality>

December 5: World Soil Day

[Projects](#) tackling soil issues (with slideshow graphics)

[YouTube video](#) featuring MRF projects related to soil

It's #WorldSoilDay! Soil and water provide the foundation for food production, ecosystems, and human well-being. See how collaborative research by scientists at land-grant universities is helping to:

- [improve soil health](#)
- [protect water resources](#)

Improper soil and water management practices affect soil erosion, soil biodiversity, soil fertility, and water quality and quantity. See how a @USDA_NIFA-supported multistate research project is improving drainage on agricultural lands: <https://bit.ly/MRF-Drainage> @FAO @AgIsAmerica #WorldSoilDay

Soil and water provide the foundation for food production, ecosystems, and human well-being. A multistate project is enhancing our understanding of how particulate matter impact soil health and water quality--and how these impacts can be reduced: <http://bit.ly/MRF-Particulates> @FAO @AgIsAmerica #WorldSoilDay

December 21: First Day of Winter

Snow is pretty, but it can be dirty. Pollutants in the atmosphere fall back to the ground in snow and can accumulate in soil, water & plants. Run by #landgrantuniversity researchers, the @NADProgram provides national deposition monitoring: <http://bit.ly/2FdLEbv> #WinterSolstice

December 25: Christmas Day

Merry Christmas! See how @USDA_NIFA-supported Hatch Multistate research projects affect the production, quality, and safety of our holiday feasts: <https://mrfimpacts.org/single-post/research-that-s-fit-for-a-feast> #ChristmasDinner #Christmas #happyholidays #AgIsAmerica

December 31: New Year's Eve

How about a toast to the New Year and the research that's making it easier for American farmers to grow high-quality wine grapes: <https://bit.ly/Winegrapes> #NewYearsEve #NYE2023 #Cheers

Cheers to the New Year and the research behind your glass of beer. For example, @WSUCAHNRS designed a robotic hop twining machine, which will cut labor costs. Other researchers found ways to prevent mycotoxin infections in barley malt. @CSUAgSci research on the effects of market structure and regulations on beer sales is helping states consider new policies. Learn more: <https://bit.ly/MRF-wine-beer>