

# COMMUNICATIONS THEMES

June 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.

## APLU Theme: Urban and Controlled Environment Agriculture

Greenhouses, growth chambers, and other controlled environments can be used to produce high quality food, fiber, ornamental, and other kinds of crops even in harsh climates. See how a team of land-grant university researchers and Extension educators is working to advance controlled environment design, technology, and management:

- <https://bit.ly/MRF-CEA>
- <https://bit.ly/greenhouse-energy>

Thanks for research by multistate projects, greenhouses, growth chambers, and other controlled environments are able to produce higher quality plants while using less energy and water. Learn more about these @USDA\_NIFA-supported projects:

- <https://bit.ly/MRF-CEA>
- <https://bit.ly/greenhouse-energy>

#AgIsAmerica #NIFAimpacts

## National Pollinator Month

Pollinators contribute to ecosystem health and a sustainable food supply. See how multistate research teams supported by @USDA\_NIFA are protecting pollinators: [@USDA\\_NIFA](https://www.mrfimpacts.org/impact-statements/categories/pollinators) <https://www.mrfimpacts.org/impact-statements/categories/pollinators> @USDA\_Science #PollinatorMonth

## National Dairy Month

The Multistate Research Fund supports dairy research by #landgrantuniversities. Working together, scientists are improving the efficiency of milk production, boosting cow welfare, reducing environmental impacts & more: <http://bit.ly/MRF-dairy> #NationalDairyMonth #NIFAimpacts

## National Fresh Fruit and Vegetables Month

With @USDA\_NIFA funding, #landgrantuniversities across the U.S. are collaborating to improve fruit and vegetable production and marketing and better understand the health benefits of fresh produce: <https://mrfimpacts.org/impact-statements/categories/fruits-vegetables>

## National Employee Wellness Month

June is #NationalEmployeeWellnessMonth! See how scientists from 10+ land-grant universities are improving protective gear for hazardous jobs: <http://bit.ly/MRF-PPE> #wellness #EmployeeWellness

It's #EmployeeWellness month! See how multistate research projects support human health and wellbeing: <https://www.mrfimpacts.org/impact-statements/categories/human-health-nutrition>

## National Safety Month

For over 20 years, a @USDA\_NIFA-funded team of experts at land-grant universities has conducted research & outreach and guided engineering & legislation that protect farmer health & safety. See the impacts of this Hatch Multistate project: <https://bit.ly/ag-safety-health> #agsafety #SafetyMonth

## June 1: World Milk Day

Got milk research? We do! Administered by @USDA\_NIFA, the Multistate Research Fund supports many projects about #dairy. Working together, land-grant universities are improving the production and quality of milk. Learn more: <http://bit.ly/MRF-dairy> #WorldMilkDay #EnjoyDairy #AgIsAmerica

## June 5: World Environment Day

Plastic is largely produced from fossil fuels that intensify the climate crisis. As part of a multistate project, scientists, engineers & educators at land-grant universities are working to find bio-based alternatives to plastic: <https://bit.ly/biobased-systems> #BeatPlasticPollution

29 land-grant universities are working together with @USDA\_NIFA support to develop bio-based products and systems that are more environmentally friendly and sustainable than nonrenewable fossil fuels: <https://bit.ly/biobased-system> #BeatPlasticPollution #WorldEnvironmentDay

#Landgrantuniversities are working together to reduce the environmental impacts of agriculture. Supported by @USDA\_NIFA, scientists are reducing pollution, mitigating climate change, protecting biodiversity & more: <https://www.mrfimpacts.org/impact-statements/categories/environmental-health> #WorldEnvironmentDay

## June 6: Higher Education Day

On #NationalHigherEducationDay, learn how a multistate team is helping to make college campus environments healthier for students: <https://bit.ly/HealthyYoungAdults> #landgrantuniversities

## June 7: World Food Safety Day

Foodborne illnesses are a threat to human health & economies. Scientists from #landgrantuniversities have found new ways to prevent, detect & manage the pathogens that cause foodborne illnesses: <https://www.mrfimpacts.org/impact-statements/categories/food-safety> @USDA\_NIFA #WorldFoodSafetyDay #FoodSafety #SafeFood

## June 8: World Ocean Day

Scientists at land-grant universities, @USDA & @EPA developed tools & strategies to keep chemicals from draining off fields into the Gulf of Mexico, where they create a dead zone. Dive into this & other research to celebrate #WorldOceanDay: <http://mrfimpacts.org/impact-statements/tag/water> #Protect30x30

Researchers at #landgrantuniversities are improving management, trade, and marketing strategies for fisheries. This work ensures profitability and food security while also protecting our oceans: <https://bit.ly/fisheries-aquaculture> #WorldOceanDay

#Landgrantuniversities are helping protect our oceans. For example, @uricels scientists showed that advanced septic systems can significantly reduce the amount of nitrogen that enters coastal waters. Learn more: <http://bit.ly/MRF-SepticSystems> #WorldOceanDay

## June 11-13: ACE Conference

Throughout the conference of the Association for Communication Excellence in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Life and Human Sciences @MRFimpacts will be tweeting comments on sessions, best practices for #scicomm and more. Stay tuned! #ACE2023 #theviewlooksgreat #ACEinAsheville

## June 19: Juneteenth National Independence Day

#Juneteenth commemorates the emancipation of African American slaves. Today, we celebrate the achievements of African American scientists and their work to make the world a better place: <https://bit.ly/MRF-HBCUs> @USDA\_NIFA @USDA\_Science

## June 19-25: National Pollinator Week

Pollinators contribute to ecosystem health and a sustainable food supply. See how multistate research teams supported by @USDA\_NIFA are protecting pollinators: <https://www.mrfimpacts.org/impact-statements/categories/pollinators> @USDA\_Science #PollinatorWeek

As part of a multistate project, @MSUCollegeofAg & @wsucahnrns studied the effects of pesticides on #bees & @ucdaviscaes developed a fiber that detects neonicotinoids, a common type of insecticide, in nectar & sap. Learn more: <https://bit.ly/MRF-agrochemicals> #SaveTheBees #PollinatorWeek

As part of a multistate project on chemical signals between pests, plants & pollinators, @ucdavisCAES identified floral chemistry & microbial traits that affect the patterns & preferences of hummingbirds & bees: <https://bit.ly/chemical-ecology> #PollinatorWeek #NIFAimpacts #savethebees

Scientists at #landgrantuniversities are finding new ways to protect #bees. For example, @CAFE\_UMass found that exposure to pollen from sunflowers can reduce pathogen infection in bumblebees. <https://bit.ly/chemical-ecology> #PollinatorWeek #NIFAimpacts #savethebees

As part of a multistate project on honey bee health, @PurdueAg bred honey bees with increased tendency to bite and remove mites from their bodies, which could eliminate the need for miticides. Learn more: <https://bit.ly/MRF-bees> #PollinatorWeek #NIFAimpacts #savethebees

## June 27: National Onion Day

Onions are widely grown and consumed in the U.S. Research-based management practices are helping onion growers protect yields from pests and save hundreds of dollars per acre: <https://bit.ly/onion-pests> #NIFAimpacts #NationalOnionDay