

THEMES & RESOURCES

July 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: Increasing Food Security & Safeguarding National Security

Worldwide, 1 in 10 people are affected by hunger. As part of @USDA_NIFA-funded multistate research projects, scientists at land-grant universities are helping build a more resilient food system that improves food security.

<https://www.mrfimpacts.org/impact-statements/categories/food-security>

Strengthening local food systems can improve food access, farmer profitability, economic stability & community vitality. See how land-grant universities across the South are spearheading innovative research & Extension.

<https://bit.ly/MRF-localfoods> #localfood #NIFAimpacts @Ext100Years

Smart Irrigation Month

Smart irrigation is vital to the sustainability of the nursery/greenhouse industry. Hatch Multistate projects are helping growers use less water, recycle water, and reduce the amount of pollutants in runoff water. <https://bit.ly/IrrigationMRFI> #SmartIrrigationMonth #NIFAimpacts

Irrigation helps plants get enough water (especially during a #heatwave), but some methods waste time, money & water. See how a multistate research team has made irrigation systems more efficient, durable & easy to use:

<https://bit.ly/MRF-microirrigation> #SmartIrrigationMonth #drought

Research & Extension has provided climate data which farmers use to schedule irrigation. Scheduling irrigation helps conserve resources and improve yields. <http://bit.ly/climate-data-monitoring> #SmartIrrigationMonth #drought #heatwave

To help farmers use water sustainably, @uarizonacals promoted smartphone technology that allows farmers, Extension & scientists to share data & make irrigation decisions in real-time without traveling long distances. <https://bit.ly/MRF-WaterUse> #SmartIrrigationMonth

It's #SmartIrrigationMonth! @ucdavisCAES scientists designed sensors to detect water stress in #almond trees & recommended ways to reduce water use during irrigation. Learn more: <https://bit.ly/MRF-microirrigation>

National Blueberry Month

Graphic: <https://www.mrfimpacts.org/single-post/juicy-blueberry-research>

Learn how @USDA_NIFA-supported Hatch Multistate Research Projects are improving blueberry production and quality: <https://www.mrfimpacts.org/single-post/juicy-blueberry-research> #NationalBlueberryMonth #NIFAimpacts #MRFimpacts #blueberry

Scientists at land-grant universities developed #blueberries with desirable qualities like cold tolerance & longer shelf life; designed technologies that make blueberry production more efficient; and improved trade & marketing: <https://www.mrfimpacts.org/single-post/juicy-blueberry-research> #NationalBlueberryMonth

National Hemp Month

Graphic: <https://www.mrfimpacts.org/single-post/hemp-research>

Hemp is used in rope, textiles, bioplastics/fuels, wellness products & more. A @USDA_NIFA-funded project is assessing varieties, production practices & economic viability and sharing info with growers, policymakers, etc: <https://www.mrfimpacts.org/single-post/hemp-research> #NIFAimpacts #NationalHempMonth

@aamuedu @CentralState87 & @UMESNews are part of a multistate project studying industrial hemp production & processing in the US: <https://www.mrfimpacts.org/single-post/hemp-research>

National Picnic Month

Graphic: <https://bit.ly/MRF-picnic>

It's National Picnic Month and we have a basket full of research on your favorite picnic treats! Learn more about these projects: <https://mrfimpacts.org/single-post/picnics-are-packed-with-research> #PicnicMonth #NIFAimpacts #AglIsAmerica

July 2: First Morrill Act Signed in 1862

On this day in 1862, President Lincoln signed the First Morrill Act to establish #LandGrantUniversities. See how researchers & Extension educators are working together to sustain agriculture and impact the environment, economy, and society: <https://www.mrfimpacts.org/> #AglIsAmerica

July 7: World Chocolate Day

Graphic: <https://bit.ly/MRF-chocolate>

It's World Chocolate Day! Researchers at land-grant universities across the U.S. are improving chocolate production and manufacturing and enhancing the taste and health benefits of chocolate. <https://bit.ly/MRF-chocolate> @agsciences @CTAHRNews #WorldChocolateDay

July 11-17: National Forest Week

Graphic: <https://bit.ly/MRF-forests>

It's #NationalForestWeek! As part of multistate research projects, scientists and Extension educators at land-grant universities are working together to sustain our forests. See how they're managing eastern pine tree issues: <https://bit.ly/MRF-pine> #NIFAimpacts

July 11: World Population Day

#WorldPopulationDay focuses on issues facing human populations. See how a @USDA_NIFA-supported multistate project is monitoring changes in rural populations related to healthcare, migration, housing, poverty, and more: <https://bit.ly/rural-change>

July 13: National French Fry Day

As part of a multistate project improving food quality & food safety, researchers at @ACESIllinois @VTCals & @TexasTech developed new tools that reduce the amount of oil foods soak up during frying. This makes fries less fatty. See more research from this project: https://www.mrfimpacts.org/files/ugd/d070cb_0fcf69f3aa3d42fe8a33278d3c6e9165.pdf

July 16: National Cherry Day

Graphic: <https://www.mrfimpacts.org/single-post/science-puts-the-cherry-on-top>

Dwarfing rootstocks tested by @RutgersSEBS @OSUAgSci @CAFE_UMass & @CANRatMSU have led to an increase in sweet cherry acreage. And here's the cherry on top: These rootstocks allow more trees/acre, increasing cherry yields by ~\$260M/year. <http://bit.ly/MRF-RootstockUse> #NationalCherryMonth

It's #NationalCherryMonth! Using @ucdavisCAES & @OSUAgSci findings to store and ship cherries, growers are able to cut costs by shipping fresh cherries by boat instead of by air. Learn more: <http://bit.ly/MRF-FruitQuality> #NationalCherryMonth

July 25: National Wine and Cheese Day

Wine and cheese is a perfect pairing, made even better by science! Researchers at land-grant universities are breeding better wine grapes, helping American wine makers market their wines, and improving the safety and shelf life of cheese. Learn more: <http://bit.ly/MRF-wine>

July 28: World Nature Conservation Day, #WorldNatureConservationDay

Land-grant universities are working together to calculate the economic value of fresh air, clean water, biodiversity, recreation & other goods/services ecosystems provide so land managers & policymakers can balance resource use & conservation: <https://www.mrfimpacts.org/single-post/2018/06/11/the-economic-value-of-ecosystem-services-w-3133-2012-2017> #WorldNatureConservationDay