



FFAR

Bold science for big challenges



FFAR Benefits American Farmers

The Foundation for Food & Agriculture Research (FFAR) is a proven, innovative public-private model for addressing the most pressing challenges facing American farmers and rural areas. Through partnerships across the country – including with the private sector, U.S. universities and farmers themselves – FFAR is fighting agricultural pests and diseases, such as avian flu, reducing high production costs, lowering consumer prices and ensuring Americans have nutritious foods for a healthy life. FFAR is also increasing U.S. competitiveness globally at a time when China and Brazil are challenging America's dominance in agriculture and innovation.

The need for innovative solutions that bolster U.S. competitiveness, profitability and food quality is not new.

- In the 2014 Farm Bill, Congress created FFAR to boldly address these troubling trends and amplify federal investment in food and agriculture research by requiring that it matches every federal dollar with at least \$1 from a non-federal source.
- Among its recipients, 77 U.S. universities – 58% of which are land-grant colleges and universities – receive grant funding to address agricultural concerns felt by rural farmers and train the next generation of researchers. Additional universities have received sub-awards or partnered with FFAR's research programs.
- FFAR is on track to responsibly absorb and leverage at least \$75 million in federal funding per year, if provided by Congress in the coming Farm Bill.

FFAR is exceeding Congress' expectations and working for American farmers who need innovative solutions that increase profitability.

- FFAR has mobilized over \$775 million of public-private investment in bold food and agriculture research, leveraging \$1.40 for every \$1 of Farm Bill funding invested.
- Due to its efficiency, innovation and ability to attract more private funding than expected, Congress has appropriated \$422 million to FFAR in the past ten years, including \$37 million in the 2023 Farm Bill extension.
- FFAR strategically invests federal funding up front. As of December 2024, it had generated over \$80 million in interest and investment gains, an amount significantly greater than FFAR's operational costs to date.
- Well over 40% of FFAR's research grants support production agriculture. This research enhances animal production and welfare, improves crop yields and increases farmer profitability.

400+

GRANTS THAT IMPROVE
FARMER LIVELIHOODS

\$1:1.40

AVERAGE RATIO OF FFAR TO
MATCHING FUNDS

\$775M

FUNDING FOR FOOD &
AGRICULTURE RESEARCH

550+

FUNDING PARTNERS
MAKING A BIGGER IMPACT



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FFAR's research benefits farmers and consumers.

- FFAR also leverages check-off dollars to address U.S. farmers' most pressing concerns, such as:
 - The global soybean market increasingly demands high-protein soybeans. To help U.S. farmers remain competitive, FFAR and the United Soybean Board co-funded research to increase soybean protein content and quality.
- By partnering with the private sector, FFAR ensures its innovative solutions are commercialized and deployable to U.S. farmers. Successful partnerships include:
 - Bay State Milling uses three high-fiber wheat varieties developed through FFAR-funded research in products like pasta and ice cream cones, helping consumers eat their recommended daily amount of fiber.
 - Acceligen researchers identified ways to breed cattle to withstand heat stress, protecting animal productivity and farmer profitability in regions with high temperatures.

FFAR is uniquely positioned to quickly respond to U.S. agriculture's urgent needs.

- FFAR funds research to prevent and combat unanticipated pests and pathogens, such as avian flu and African swine fever. Once proposals are received, FFAR advances innovative, high-impact programs quickly – in just 2–3 months.
 - FFAR awarded grants to USDA and Kansas State University to develop safe and rapidly deployable vaccines for African Swine Fever Virus (ASFV), a highly contagious, fatal swine disease.
 - Through a FFAR grant, the Colorado Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association is developing a pest management strategy to protect sweet corn from corn earworm, a destructive moth.
 - A grant to AgriNerds, Inc. provides producers with real time data on the proximity of waterfowl to their operations. With H5N1, or "bird flu," spreading from waterfowl to farms, this knowledge helps producers understand and minimize their exposure risk.

FFAR complements other U.S. government research.

- USDA reviews FFAR research programs to ensure there is complementarity with its own research programs, including those of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

Contact FFAR

Please contact us with any questions.

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