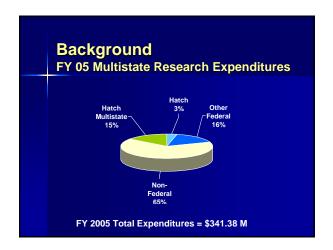
Strategies for Improving Research and Extension Impacts Multistate Collaborations H. Michael Harrington Executive Director, WAAESD Funding Research and Extension to Assure Future U.S. Agricultural Competitiveness **Farm Foundation Conference** March 14, 2007



Background

Hatch Multistate Research Program

- 25% of Hatch fund is set aside for these activities, since 1946
 Oversight by regional review committees and Directors
- All projects undergo scientific peer review
- Participants from university research and Extension, ARS and private entities
- Fifty years of outstanding success.
- Required Annual Reports

But...

Background

AREERA of 1998

- Amended the Hatch and the Smith-Lever Acts to require integrated research and extension activities.
- SAES must spend at least 25% of Hatch funds on integrated activities
- Extension must also expend funds in integrated and multistate activities: the lesser of 25% of Smith-Lever Sections 3(b) funds or 2x the amount spent in 1997
- Required Plans of Work and Annual Reports

But....

Background

Special Grants

- Some \$180 million in FY 2006
- Approximately 80 % were for research, 20% for extension
- Nearly all of these involve more than one state
- Outstanding accomplishments

But...

Reporting

Multistate Program

- Captured in the NIMSS
- 127 Research Projects
- 137 CCs and ERAs
- 7 National Research Support Projects (NRSPs)

AREERA and Special Grants Activities

- Reported in state Annual Reports, CRIS
- Some captured in the Multistate Program

But...

But... What about Impacts?

Impacts Defined

- The quantifiable difference a program makes in the quality of life for its clients and general citizenry
- A measurable change in condition
- The change in understanding or within a discipline.
- The quantifiable measurable benefits of the research outputs as experienced by those who receive them.



- Description of the program
- Number of persons attending a meeting
- Number of persons enrolled in a program
- Reports, publications, patents, data, workshops or information

These are outputs!!!

Capturing Impacts

- Continuous education about impacts
- Regional associations are implementing a formal process for collecting impacts from multistate activities

Are there impacts from multistate activities?

You better believe it!!

W1185 Biological Control in Pest Management Systems of Plants

■ The introduction of parasitoids for control of the pink hibiscus mealybug has resulted in a >98% decline of this pest and minimized its chances for movement and establishment in new locations in California.

S1010 Dynamic Soybean Pest Management for Evolving Agricultural Technologies and Cropping Systems

- In the North Central States, use of the soybean aphid economic thresholds to determine when to apply pesticides saved the majority of soybean growers \$10-\$16/acre in treatment costs and protecting up to 47 million acres of cropland from receiving an unnecessary insecticide application.
- In Nebraska, the Dakotas, Kansas, Virginia, Quebec and Ontario, the new soybean aphid economic thresholds indicated treatment was warranted and saved soybean growers from losing up to \$140/acre to the soybean aphid.

NC-1034 Impact Analysis and Decision Strategies for Agricultural Research

■ During the first-year adoption of Bt cotton in the U.S., the total net world benefit was \$240 million. U.S. farmers received 59%, the developers and marketers of the technology received 26%, and U.S. consumers received 9%. The remainder of the world received the balance of the net benefits.

NC-140 Rootstock and Interstem Effects on Pome- and Stone-Fruit Trees

- The financial benefit to U.S. fruit growers from earlier returns, greater yield, and higher fruit quality was \$200 million over the five-year period.
- Since most new plantings were dwarf trees, growers reduced chemicals use by almost 40 percent resulting is a \$100 million_savings over the five-year period..

NRSP 4 High Value Specialty Crop Pest Management (IR-4)

■ From 1998 to 2003, the total economic impact/loss avoidance was at least \$7.5 billion covering 47 states.

Take it to the bank!!!

- Increased awareness of impacts at all levels
- Increased understanding of the definitions of impact
- Increased understanding of the need to measure and quantify impacts
- Increased understanding to the need to communicate impacts.