FACTSHEET

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE addresses many challenges facing the nation through exemplary agricultural science. NIFA works with the best and brightest scientists to find innovative solutions to issues related to agriculture, food, the environment, and communities. With a timely, integrated approach and collaboration with other federal science agencies, NIFA also serves as a vital contributor to science policy decision-making. NIFA is the extramural science funding agency within USDA’s Research, Education, and Economics mission area.

INTEGRATED APPROACH TO SCIENCE

AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE AT NIFA integrates research, education, and extension to ensure research discoveries go beyond the laboratory. Once these discoveries are applied in classrooms and communities, people can put the knowledge into practice and improve their lives.

RESEARCH provides answers to complex issues facing our nation and the world.

EDUCATION strengthens schools and universities to train the next generation of scientists, educators, producers, and citizens.

EXTENSION takes knowledge gained through research and education to the people who need it most.

PRIORITY SCIENCE AREAS

FOOD SECURITY
NIFA supports science to boost domestic agricultural production to meet the growing global food demand and fight hunger and food insecurity in vulnerable populations.

CLIMATE VARIABILITY AND CHANGE
NIFA-funded projects help producers adapt to changing weather patterns while reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing carbon sequestration in agricultural and forest production systems.

WATER
NIFA water programs work to improve water quality and the efficient use of water resources for sustainable agriculture, forest production, and ecosystem services.

SUSTAINABLE BIOENERGY
NIFA contributes to energy independence through the development of optimum biomass for bioenergy production and the production of value-added, bio-based products.

CHILDHOOD OBESITY PREVENTION
NIFA is committed to improving children’s health by developing nutrition and physical activity intervention strategies that reduce obesity and related chronic diseases.

FOOD SAFETY
NIFA aims to reduce food-borne illnesses by addressing the causes of microbial contamination and anti-microbial resistance, educating consumer and food safety professionals, and developing enhanced food processing technologies.

LEADERSHIP
Sonny Ramaswamy, Director

STRUCTURE
Institute of Food Production and Sustainability
Institute of Bioenergy, Climate, and Environment
Institute of Food Safety and Nutrition
Institute of Youth, Family, and Community
Center for International Programs

EMPLOYEES
Approximately 350

BUDGET
Total FY16.......................... $1,490,930,000
Research and Education* ...........$824,391,000
Extension..................................475,891,000
Integrated...................................30,900,000
Mandatory and Endowment** ..159,748,000

PARTNER LAND-GRANT INSTITUTIONS
Total ........................................112
1862 Land-Grant Universities ..........57
1890 Land-Grant Universities ............19
1994 Land-Grant Universities ..........36

MISSION
Invest in and advance agricultural research, education, and extension to solve societal challenges.

VISION
Catalyze transformative discoveries, education, and engagement to address agricultural challenges.

IMPACTS
To learn more about NIFA’s impact on agricultural science, visit www.nifa.usda.gov/impacts.

*Estimated interest on Tribal College Endowment Fund is included in total. | **Farm Bill funding amounts are based on H.R. 2642, The Agricultural Act of 2014 and include impact of sequestration of mandatory funds in FY 2016. | NIFA invests in and advances agricultural research, education, and extension and seeks to make transformative discoveries that solve societal challenges. | USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer | June 2016