

# COMMUNICATIONS THEMES

September 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.

## Our latest Impact Statements:

Understanding and Mitigating the Adverse Impacts of Agrochemicals (W4045): <https://bit.ly/MRF-Agrochemicals2023>

- Sample social media posts available in the toolkit [here](#).
- Participating institutions and researchers: <https://bit.ly/W4045>

Improving Wine Grapes for American Growers & Winemakers (NE1720): <https://bit.ly/Winegrapes>

- Sample social media tips available in the toolkit [here](#).
- Participating institutions and researchers: <https://bit.ly/NE-1720>

Sustainable Management of Nematodes in Plants and Soils (NE2140): <https://bit.ly/MRF-Nematodes>

- Additional messaging and social media posts available in the toolkit [here](#).
- Participating institutions and researchers: <https://bit.ly/NE2140>

Sustainable Hemp Production (S1084): <https://bit.ly/MRF-hemp>

- Sample social media posts available in the toolkit [here](#).
- Participating institutions and researchers: <https://bit.ly/S-1084>

## APLU Theme: Celebrating Educators' Determination and Impact

In addition to doing research, members of Hatch Multistate projects also teach & train students. In just the last 2 years, members of one multistate project developed 20 Master's, PhD & post-doc scholars & 3 research assistants in the field of nematology: <https://www.mrfimpacts.org/single-post/sustainable-nematode-management>

Participating in a Hatch Multistate project gives students & early-career scientists/educators valuable networking, mentorship & experience that helps them advance their careers & make a difference in agriculture. See the impacts of multistate projects: <https://www.mrfimpacts.org/impact-statements>

## Back to School

This time of year, many students are headed to college campuses. See how a team of researchers & Extension educators at land-grant universities is helping college students make healthier eating, exercise & stress mgmt choices. <https://bit.ly/HealthyYoungAdults> #BackToSchool #college

Tis the season when students head back to campus! Researchers & Extension educators at land-grant universities are helping colleges nationwide provide healthier campuses for their students. <https://bit.ly/HealthyYoungAdults> #BackToSchool #college

Through surveys of college students in multiple states, researchers have found that campus outdoor areas have positive impacts on student health, wellbeing, and learning. Learn more about the benefits of outdoor spaces: <https://bit.ly/OutdoorRecreationBenefits> #BackToSchool #College #Outdoors

## National Chicken Month

[Impact Statements about poultry research](#)

New genetics insights & tools have led to chicken breeds with desirable growth & disease resistance traits. Other research is ensuring chicken welfare & reducing the environmental impacts of chicken production. Learn more: <https://www.mrfimpacts.org/impact-statements/categories/poultry> #NationalChickenMonth #AgiAmerica

As part of a team safeguarding poultry welfare, @UCAHNR developed computer programs to sort chicken vocalizations, helping producers identify and address stress early on and improve egg and meat production. Learn more: <https://bit.ly/MRF-poultrywelfare> #NIFAimpacts #NationalChickenMonth

A @USDA\_NIFA multistate project's findings about satellite cells (precursors to skeletal muscle cells) could help eliminate "wooden breast," a costly meat quality defect in poultry. See the project's other impacts on meat quality: <https://bit.ly/MRF-ImprovingMeat> #NationalChickenMonth

## National Potato Month

[Hatch Multistate projects](#) on potatoes

[Graphic](#) featuring potato research

@USDA\_NIFA-supported multistate research projects have played a big role in improving potato production & quality. Learn more: <https://www.mrfimpacts.org/single-post/potato-research-extension> #NationalPotatoMonth #NIFAimpacts #AgIsAmerica

Scientists from @USDA @uidaho @MSUCollegeofAg @wsucahnr & @UWMadisonCALs developed virus detection training for potato growers, inspectors, and regulators so they can act quickly and prevent serious losses. <https://bit.ly/MRF-potato-viruses> #NIFAimpacts #AgIsAmerica #PotatoMonth

It's #NationalPotatoMonth! Over 70% of #potato varieties grown in the U.S.—and all potato varieties released in the past 5 years—were created using genetic material from the U.S. Potato Genebank. Learn more: <https://bit.ly/us-potato-genebank> #NIFAimpacts #AgIsAmerica

## National Preparedness Month

Climate monitoring helps farmers and communities take action and prepare for droughts, floods, heat waves, and severe storms. See how other land-grant universities are working together to help collect climate data: [bit.ly/climate-data-monitoring](https://bit.ly/climate-data-monitoring) #NPM2023 #NationalPreparednessMonth #BeReady

Coordination improves climate monitoring. @ucdavisCAES @UCSanDiego & @CA\_DWR work with @NWS @NASA & others to monitor snowpack. This helps prepare for & mitigate the impacts of #drought & floods. See how other universities help collect climate data: [bit.ly/climate-data-monitoring](https://bit.ly/climate-data-monitoring) #NPM2023 #NationalPreparednessMonth #BeReady

Researchers and Extension educators across the U.S. are working together to help family-owned businesses cope with natural disasters and economic recessions. This work guides government assistance and helps businesses survive and thrive. <https://bit.ly/MRF-familybusiness> #NPM2023 #NationalPreparednessMonth #BeReady

Part of preparing for disasters is making sure first responders have the gear they need to respond effectively & safely. A @USDA\_NIFA-funded multistate project is designing better protective gear: <https://bit.ly/MRF-PPE> #NPM2023 #NationalPreparednessMonth #BeReady

Thanks to @OSUAgSci research and models, local businesses and residents now have more accurate predictions of tsunami damage and know how to invest in disaster preparedness. This work is part of a multistate project on rural resilience. <https://bit.ly/MRF-ruralhealth> #NPM2023 #NationalPreparednessMonth #BeReady

Rain & snow can carry biological, chemical & radiological threats. @NADProgram monitors precipitation chemistry. Tracking is a key step in disaster preparedness. <https://bit.ly/MRF-NADP> #NPM2023 #NationalPreparednessMonth #BeReady

## National Rice Month

As part of an MRF project, researchers identified effective ways to manage pests in rice fields. For example, @arkagresearch released 9 rice varieties with competitive yield & resistance to rice water weevils. Learn more: <https://bit.ly/ricefieldsmrfi> #NIFAimpacts #NationalRiceMonth

## September 4: National Wildlife Day

[Graphic](#) featuring multistate research project impacts on wildlife

Happy #NationalWildlifeDay! Multistate research projects impact wildlife in many ways. See how research and Extension are helping create a harmonious relationship between agriculture, rural communities, and #wildlife. Learn more: <https://www.mrfimpacts.org/single-post/these-impacts-are-wild>

## September 4: Labor Day

This #LaborDay we'd like to thank all the scientists working on @USDA\_NIFA-supported Hatch Multistate research projects for their dedication and innovation. See how their work is impacting agriculture, the economy, the environment--and YOU: <https://www.mrfimpacts.org/> #NIFAimpacts #AgIsAmerica @USDAScience

## September 7: International Day of Clean Air

[Impact Statements on air quality](#)

As a part of @USDA\_NIFA-supported multistate research projects, researchers at land-grant universities have found ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions & odors from farms and minimize air pollution from agrochemicals: <https://www.mrfimpacts.org/impact-statements/categories/air-quality> #CleanAir #airquality @USDAScience

## September 13: National Peanut Day

We're nuts about #peanuts! From more precise irrigation to new peanut varieties with better flavor, collaborative land-grant university research is improving peanut production & quality. Learn more: <http://mrfimpacts.org/single-post/we-re-nuts-for-peanut-research> #NIFAimpacts #NationalPeanutDay

## September 15-October 15: Hispanic Heritage Month

Research helps identify challenges communities face--and solutions. For example, studies found that Hispanic Americans in rural areas with small, rapidly growing Hispanic populations have more barriers to healthcare access: <https://bit.ly/rural-change> #HispanicHeritageMonth #RuralAmerica

Researchers are examining why Hispanic Americans, especially in rural areas, see lower returns on investment in #highereducation. Findings can help improve educational attainment & opportunities. <https://bit.ly/rural-pop-change> #HispanicHeritageMonth #RuralAmerica #Diversity

## September 17-23: National Farm Safety and Health Week

September 18: Equipment and Rural Roadway Safety

- As part of a multistate effort to reduce injury, illness & death on farms, researchers guided new safety standards for grain bins, tractors, and other farm facilities & machinery. <http://bit.ly/ag-safety-health> #NIFAimpacts #agsafety #TractorSafety #FarmSafety #NFSHW #necasag
- A @USDA\_NIFA-supported research team has influenced new safety standards for agricultural facilities, machinery, and personal protective equipment. Learn more: <http://bit.ly/ag-safety-health> #agsafety #TractorSafety #FarmSafety #NFSHW #necasag
- Mechanization can prevent manual labor injuries. 60% of the tomato processing industry adopted machines designed by @ucdavisCAES to inspect tomato juice. Each season, machines eliminate ~200,000 repetitive motion hazards: <http://bit.ly/MRF-Automato> #FarmSafety #NFSHW #necasag

September 19: Health and Wellness

- Working in agriculture can be dangerous, but an MRF team is trying to make it less so by identifying training, engineering & legislation that prevent injury, illness & death. Learn more: <https://bit.ly/ag-safety-health> #NIFAimpacts #agsafety #FarmSafety #NFSHW #necasag
- As part of a multistate project on farm safety, researchers identified ways to help farmworkers manage financial stress, which can lead to distraction, injury, and other mental and physical health problems. See other project efforts: <https://bit.ly/ag-safety-health> #agsafety #FarmSafety #NFSHW #necasag

September 21: Confined Spaces

- As part of a multistate project on farm safety, researchers modeled the force needed to extract mires of different body sizes from below the grain surface, helping researchers explore new rescue techniques and improve grain bin safety. See other project efforts: <https://bit.ly/ag-safety-health> #agsafety #FarmSafety #NFSHW #necasag #grainbins
- Members of a @USDA\_NIFA-supported multistate research project published a report on confined spaces and grain bin injuries. Findings have been widely shared via websites ([agconfinedspaces.org](http://agconfinedspaces.org)), trainings, outreach events, and popular media outlets. See other project efforts: <https://bit.ly/ag-safety-health> #agsafety #FarmSafety #NFSHW #necasag #grainbins

## September 24-28: National HBCU Week Conference

- [HBCU Impacts video \(YouTube\)](#)
- HBCU Impacts graphics: <http://bit.ly/MRF-HBCUs>
- In 1890, some historically black colleges were added to the land-grant university system. See how these HBCUs contribute to multistate research projects on hemp, honey bees, irrigation, climate change, sheep and goat production, and more: <http://bit.ly/MRF-HBCUs> #HBCUweek #HBCU @WHI\_HBCUs