



United States
Department of
Agriculture



Cooperative State
Research, Education,
and Extension Service

Washington, DC
20250-2200

DATE: September 26, 2005
TO: State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors
FROM: Gary Cunningham
Associate Administrator
SUBJECT: Use of Hatch Multistate Research Funds

The Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) delegates to the State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors authority to use Hatch Multistate Research Funds (MRF) for the support of regional Coordinating Committees (CCs), the Education/Extension and Research Activities (ERAs), and the Development Committees (DCs).

It is appropriate to use a limited and reasonable amount of these funds on these committees if the proposals outlining their activities meet the following criteria:

- Multistate (i.e., results benefiting two or more states)
- Multidisciplinary/cooperative
- Peer-reviewed
- Has clearly defined objectives
- Each participant listed has direct involvement in the accomplishment of objectives
- Has identified outcomes and impacts
- Directly addresses the needs of stakeholders and based on priorities developed from stakeholder input
- Addresses CSREES goals
- Documented in CRIS and included in the Plan of Work Report of Accomplishments and Results.

CSREES reserves the right to restrict the use of MRF funds on these types of projects if it is demonstrated that an excessive amount of MRF funds are used for this purpose.

cc: Executive Directors