UF | IFAS Research

UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

FLORIDA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

AGRICULTURE

NATURAL RESOURCES

HUMAN SYSTEMS

Mission

The research mission of the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS), conducted under the auspices of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station (FAES), is to discover new scientific knowledge, encourage innovative study, and create applications based on sound science that address challenges facing agriculture, natural resources, and interrelated human systems in Florida, our country, and the world.

History

FAES was founded in 1887 at Florida Agricultural College in Lake City, the state's original land-grant institution. When UF officially began operations in 1906, FAES was relocated to Gainesville. For much of the 20th century, FAES was headquartered on the UF main campus in Newell Hall, named for former FAES director Wilmon Newell, who served from 1921-1943.

The first off-campus FAES facility was the Citrus Research and Education Center (REC) in Lake Alfred, established in 1917 to aid the state's citrus growers. It was followed by the Everglades REC in Belle Glade, North Florida REC in Quincy, and the Tropical REC in Homestead, all of which were established in the 1920s. Additional facilities opened in the decades that followed, increasing the statewide presence of FAES.

Funding

According to the most recent National Science Foundation figures, since fiscal year 2001, UF has ranked first or second among U.S. universities in total research expenditures in agricultural sciences and natural resources and conservation.[1]

Financial support for UF/IFAS research activities comes from a variety of sources, including federal contracts and grants; state programs and appropriations; check-off programs sponsored by producers; contracts and grants from non-profit organizations and private companies; donations; and revenues from the licensing of crop cultivars, products, and technologies developed by UF/IFAS personnel.

Faculty

UF/IFAS employs nearly 600 faculty members with research appointments, many of whom are award-winning, internationally recognized experts who publish papers in leading peer-reviewed journals and are inducted into prestigious organizations such as the National Academy of Sciences and as fellows in the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

The University of Florida is a land-grant university and an Association of American Universities member. Our faculty are committed to the UF/IFAS research mission while also assuming Extension and teaching responsibilities. Findings from their research are used as the basis for Extension programs taught statewide via publications, distance education, and field day events, and are the foundation of many of the classes taught by our faculty.

Research

At UF/IFAS, research scientists work diligently to discover solutions to some of the most vexing problems in Florida and the world. Our research spans three comprehensive areas: agriculture, natural resources, and human-systems research.

Our researchers play leading roles in cross-disciplinary, campus-wide research initiatives such as:

- Biodiversity Institute
- Emerging Pathogens Institute
- Florida Climate Institute
- One Health
- UF Genetics Institute
- UF Informatics Institute
- UF Water Institute

Our researchers are actively involved in UF/IFAS-based centers of excellence such as:

- Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants
- Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology
- Center for Nutritional Sciences
- Center for Public Issues Education in Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Center for Remote Sensing
- Center for Stress Resilient Agriculture
- Institute for Sustainable Food Systems
- Plant Innovation Center

[1] "Table 43. Total federally financed higher education R&D expenditures in the agricultural sciences and natural resources and conservation, ranked by FY 2016 total: FYs 2013-16" NCSES Data. National Science Foundation. Accessed 30 March 2018 from https://bit.ly/2GpCzKD.

FACULTY*

481 on-campus (CY 2019)	**161** off-campus (CY 2019)	**558** with research appointments (CY 2019)
14 departments + 1 school	**12** Research and Education Centers	**5** NAS members** (CY 2019)
20 AAAS fellows** (CY 2020)	**1,565** refereed journal publications (CY 2019)	**54** U.S. plant patents issued (FYs 2017-19)
55 cultivars released (FYs 2017-19)	**50** species licensed	**5** plant variety protection certificates (FY 2017-19)

*Excluding county faculty
**Currently active faculty funded by the state

ADMINISTRATIVE GOALS***

RESEARCH PROGRAMS

Expand our global leadership in transformational basic and applied research by developing "seed" programs to support strategic research initiatives, increasing awareness of funding opportunities, and funding targeted investments in equipment and infrastructure.

RESEARCH CULTURE

Enrich our research culture to strengthen innovation and discovery by encouraging the recruitment and retention of diverse, top-performing faculty and staff, developing and improving student research experiences, and promoting synergies between the land-grant missions.

RESEARCH PEOPLE

Build satisfaction and quality of life on the job for faculty and staff by facilitating professional development, fostering an inclusive and collegial environment, and recognizing distinction in disciplinary and interdisciplinary research.

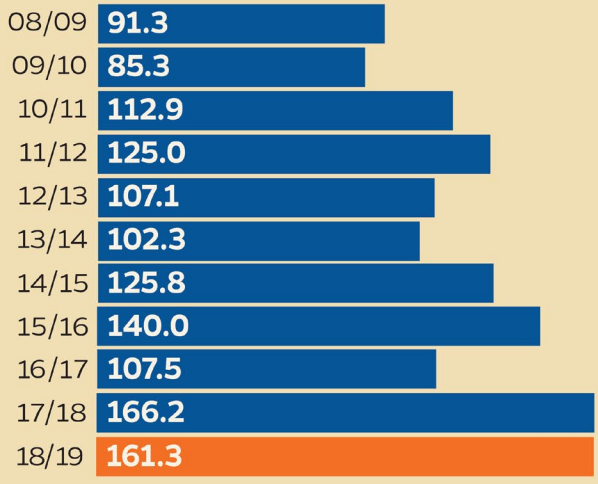
***Developed in collaboration with faculty and unit leaders in 2016

FUNDING

UF/IFAS Agricultural Sciences Research Expenditures

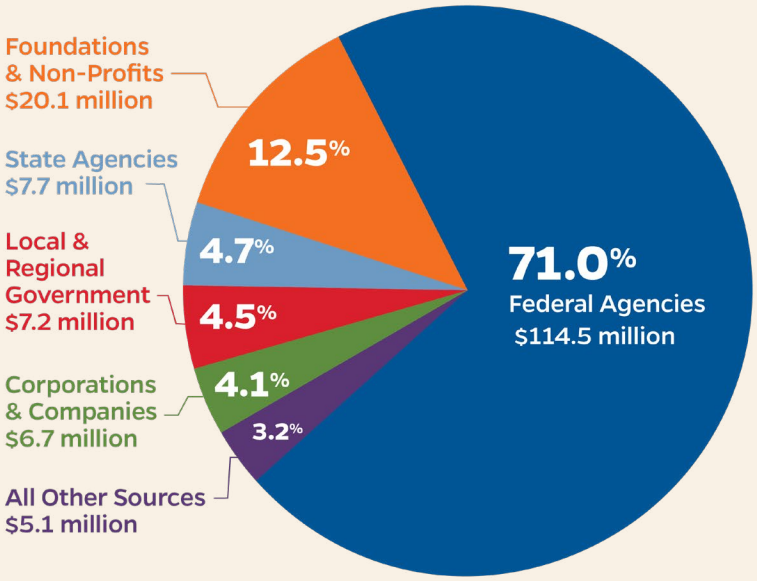
$154.1 MILLION in FY 2016[1]

Sponsored Research Awards



SPONSORS (FY 2018-19)

Awards Totaling $161.3 MILLION



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UF/IFAS Units

★ Gainesville Campus Departments

- Agricultural and Biological Engineering
- Agricultural Education and Communication
- Agronomy
- Animal Sciences
- Entomology and Nematology
- Environmental Horticulture
- Family, Youth and Community Sciences
- Food and Resource Economics
- Food Science and Human Nutrition
- Horticultural Sciences
- Microbiology and Cell Science
- Plant Pathology
- School of Forest Resources and Conservation
- Soil and Water Sciences
- Wildlife Ecology and Conservation

Off-Campus Research and Education Centers (REC)

1 Citrus REC | LAKE ALFRED
2 Everglades REC | BELLE GLADE
3 Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory | VERO BEACH
4 Fort Lauderdale REC | FORT LAUDERDALE
5 Gulf Coast REC | BALM, PLANT CITY
6 Indian River REC | FORT PIERCE
7 Mid-Florida REC | APOPKA
8 North Florida REC | MARIANNA, QUINCY, SUWANNEE VALLEY
9 Range Cattle REC | ONA
10 Southwest Florida REC | IMMOKALEE
11 Tropical REC | HOMESTEAD
12 West Florida REC | JAY, MILTON

Research and Demonstration Sites

13 Hastings Agricultural Extension Center | HASTINGS
14 Nature Coast Biological Station (NCBS) | CEDAR KEY
15 Ordway-Swisher Biological Station (OSBS) | MELROSE
16 Plant Science Research and Education Unit (PSREU) | CITRA
17 Tropical Aquaculture Laboratory (TAL) | RUSKIN, APOLLO BEACH