

FY2010 Agriculture Appropriations Requests

**Project Title:** 1890 Colleges and Tuskegee (Extension)  
**Amount:** \$43,000,000 (Programmatic Funding)  
**Recipient:** 1890 Land-Grant Universities and Tuskegee University (The 1890 Institutions)  
**Purpose:** This Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) program provides funding to support extension activities at the 1890 Institutions in order to provide useful, research-based educational opportunities that respond to the changing needs of limited-resource clients.

**Description:** The 1890s Extension program benefits America by supporting outreach at the 1890 Institutions focused on: 1. Agricultural diversification and marketing strategies to reverse the decline of small minority-owned farms; 2. Risk management education that provides farmers and ranchers with tools to address risk related issues; 3. Increasing viability and competitiveness of farms through sustainable practices; 4. Improving nutrition, diet, and health of limited resource families with emphasis on reducing obesity; 5. After school enrichment programs to enhance youth skills in science, technology, and math; 6. Improving the economic viability of rural communities and 7. Protecting the environment and natural resource management.

**Project Title:** Clemson University Veterinary Institute  
**Amount:** \$1,000,000  
**Recipient:** Clemson University, SC  
**Purpose:** The goal of this project is to establish centers for veterinary education in the State of South Carolina, which currently has no veterinary school.

**Description:** Food animal agriculture contributes roughly \$1 billion in direct cash receipts to the South Carolina economy. Initial funding will serve as the seed money to develop the first of four centers within the Institute. These centers will expand the opportunities for South Carolina students to pursue careers in veterinary medicine, improve the veterinary care of agricultural and companion animals, safeguard the health of our animal industry and the public health of its citizens, and increase research that leads to new products that foster economic growth. The centers will also provide the platform for expanded opportunities and collaborative work with other universities, veterinary schools, and states. In addition to an estimated 25 new hires for each of the centers, the CUVI will produce 20 – 25 Doctors of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) and PhDs annually.

**Project Title:** Evans – Allen Program  
**Recipient:** 1890 Land-Grant Universities and Tuskegee University (The 1890 Institutions)  
**Amount:** \$48,953,000 (Programmatic Funding)  
**Purpose:** This Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) program provides funding to support agricultural research at the 1890 Land-Grant Institutions, including Tuskegee University.

**Description:** The Evans-Allen program provides critical base funding for the agricultural research programs at the 1890 Institutions. The taxpayer realizes a substantial return on this investment, as these campuses are powerful economic instruments of their states and the nation. Evans-Allen Program funding at the 1890 Institutions benefits the nation through: 1. Improved nutrition and health of urban and rural populations with an emphasis on obesity; 2. Development of economically competitive and sustainable small-scale agricultural systems; 3. Improved crop diversity and alternative crops and marketing strategies for farmers; 4. Increased bio-based energy production; 5. Greater food safety and improved nutritional quality; 6. Better natural resource management/stewardship and 7. Creation of new value-added plant and animal products.

**Project Title:** Operation Oak  
**Amount:** \$400,000  
**Recipient:** National Wild Turkey Federation  
Edgefield, SC 29824  
**Purpose:** The Operation Oak Program is seeking a continued federal partnership to supply high-quality oak and other mast producing hardwood species seedlings to meet the needs of timber production and wildlife management and to reverse the decline of hardwood regeneration.

**Description:** The loss of quality oak-dominated hardwood habitats is a serious problem for wildlife species dependent on this habitat type throughout the southeast, mid-Atlantic and Northwestern states. Oak habitats are being lost to development at a very rapid rate and lack of active forest management is negatively impacting habitat quality on a national scale. The National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) would like to establish “oak groves” around the southeastern U.S. by providing high quality oak seedlings to local NWTF Chapters, private landowners, and federal and state agencies. This program would provide regionally based native plant species to landowners while also offering a naturally selected high quality oak seedling that has demonstrated superior growth rates and earlier acorn production. In addition, the NWTF would educate landowners and provide plans to restore oak savanna habitats in the Northwestern United States. These oak savanna habitats have been identified as extremely critical and declining habitats for numerous state and federally listed plant and animal species.

**Project Title:** Peach Tree / Fruit Tree Genetics Research  
**Amount:** \$500,000  
**Recipient:** Clemson University, SC  
**Purpose:** The goal of this project is to identify genes that influence the progression of disease in fruit trees, and also identify those genes controlling quality and yield of fruits, so as to ensure a more sustainable fruit tree crop.

**Description:** Federal funding is requested to support the continued development of peach tree and other fruit tree genomics research at Clemson University – work that underpins the future of competitive specialty crop agriculture

in South Carolina and the U.S. Clemson expects to sequence the entire peach genome in the very near future, and this genomics resource will revolutionize the way we approach fruit tree genetics and will provide the means to breed higher quality, more disease resistant trees in the future. Fresh and processed products derived from the Rosaceae plant family (almonds, apples, apricots, blackberries, peaches, pears, plums, sweet cherries, tart cherries, strawberries, raspberries, roses and other ornamentals) make vital contributions to human nutrition, health and well-being, and collectively constitute the economic backbone of many rural economies across the U.S. Currently the domestic production value of rosaceous crops is over \$8 billion and global per-capita production and consumption of these crops is expanding in both domestic and export markets. However, these industries face continual pest and disease pressures, which can result in loss of entire crops. Thus, genomics, genetics, and breeding are critical research priorities for this industry, and for the South Carolina peach industry in particular.