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Agricultural Experiment Station News February 1973

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The coming crunch. Bad news came from Washington on the last day of January! I am sure that your Chairman (Superintendent) has already told you about our problem, but I shall summarize briefly.

President Nixon has recommended a reduction of 18% in the Hatch funds going to Experiment Station for the new year starting on July 1. This amounts to a reduction of about $166,000 of formula Hatch funds, and about $57,000 of Regional Research funds for the Nebraska Station. McIntire Stennis Forestry funds would also be reduced about $11,000, or 25% compared to this year. This proposed cut, coupled with the present necessity to reduce the seriously excessive negative balance now carried by the Nebraska Station means that we are facing a net reduction of about $250,000, or 5% in the Experiment Station budget on July 1, 1973, compared to the present level.

We think there is hope that Congress might restore the cuts in Hatch funds; however, they may still be impounded by the President. In any case such restoration will not be effective until next fall or winter. Alternatively, we can ask for help from State government; the possibility of such help is unknown at this time.

How will we solve this $250,000 problem? The answer is simple, but painful; the budget will have to be reduced, and all departments and stations will have to share in the reduction. We will start, logically, by terminating vacant professional lines, under the assumption that preserving support for our present staff should take priority over recruiting replacement staff. But this won't solve the problem; we will have to reduce operating budgets, equipment, hourly labor, classified staff, and graduate assistance until the books are balanced. That means that we will have to reduce our level of activity; we have no choice. This will not allow business as usual.

We ask your understanding and patience during this trying time. In the meantime please be assured that we will be trying in every way to get the Hatch funds restored. We are not giving up!

Howard W. Ottoson

P.S. Concerning Agricultural Research Service. The President has also recommended a cut of about 8 or 9 percent in appropriations for the Agricultural Research Service. This reduction will have impacts on Nebraska Agricultural Research also, including the termination of cooperative programs at North Platte and Scottsbluff, and the transfer of three professional members out of the state. It also means the termination of a professional position at Lincoln; the net reduction of activity in Nebraska amounts to about $135,000 per year. Beyond this, USMARC stands to lose its impounded increase of 1½ million dollars which it was allocated for the present year.
PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Arnold, Roy G. - Asst. Dir. of Resident Instr. and Asso. Prof. of FS&T (readjustment)
Ball, Ellen M. - Asso. Prof. of Plant Pathology (leave of absence)
Burbank, John A. - Asso. Ext. Agric. and County Ext. Agent-at-large (adjustment)
Hartung, T. E. - Asso. Dean of the College of Ag. and Dir. of Resident Instr. (appointment)

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

Anderson, Frank N. - Agronomy (SB Sta.) - Growers-GW Joint Res. Comm. $8,250
Burnside, Orvin C. - Agronomy - BASF Wyandotte Corporation 500
Campbell, John B. - Entomology (NP Sta.) - McLaughlin Gormley King Co. 1,000

Daigger, Louis - Agronomy (SB Sta.) - Growers-GW Joint Research Comm. 1,000
Farlin, S., R. Britton and T. Kolpfenstein - Ani. Sci. - Neb. Livestock Fnd. 4,000
Fenster, Charles F. - Agronomy (SB Sta.) - Dow Chemical Co. 1,200
Fischbach P. E. - Agricultural Engineering - Water Resources Res. Institute 9,915

Hagen, Arthur F. - Entomology (SB Sta.) - Union Carbide Corporation 1,000
Kerr, Eric D. - Plant Path. - (SB Sta.) - Growers-GW Joint Research Comm. 2,670
Kolpfenstein, T. and R. Britton - Animal Science - CPC International Inc. 6,000
Kolpfenstein, T. and R. Britton - Animal Science - Distillers Feed Res. 4,000

Lucas, Leo - North Platte Station - Norden Laboratories 1,000
Lucas, Leo - North Platte Station - Miscellaneous Donors 3,250
Mayo Z. B. - Entomology - E. I. DuPont 750
Nichols, J. T. - Agronomy (NP Sta.) - Water Resources Res. Institute 9,645

Nordquist, Paul T. - Agronomy (NP Sta.) - Growers-GW Joint Research Comm. 2,000
Sullivan, Thomas S. - Poultry Science - Mercr and Company 1,000
Twiehaus, M. J. - Veterinary Science - Dellen Laboratories 897

Twiehaus, M. J. - Veterinary Science - Hess and Clark 800
White, R. G. and John Campbell - Vet. Sci. and Entomology (NP Sta.) - Chemagro 1,200
Wicks, Gail A. - Agronomy (NP Sta.) - Growers-GW Joint Research 4,800
Wicks, Gail A. - Agronomy (NP Sta.) - Dow Chemical Company 1,800

1973-74 STATE BUDGET PENDING

The Governor's budget recommendations include $500,000 of the Board of Regents squeezed down $1,200,000 request for program improvement at UN-L. Agriculturally related items fared with a total of $245,000 in the Governor's recommendation as compared to $280,000 requested by the Board.

UNSTA (Curtis) $40,000 (of $50,000)
Livestock Development Ext. & Res. (Vet. Sci., An. Sci., Info.) 97,000 (of $97,000)
Range Management Res. & Ext. (SB Sta.) 28,000 (of $28,000)
Sandhills Agril. Lab. 50,000 (of $50,000)
Turf Management 0 (of $25,000)
Irrigation Res. (Agril. Eng.) 30,000 (of $30,000)

$245,000 (of $280,000)

These are identified appropriation request which cannot be programmed to offset the problems described by Director Ottoson.

The Governor's capital improvement recommendations include the Veterinary Science building (phase I) and $465,000 (of 750,000) requested for UNSTA and outstande stations as two of the five items for UN-L.

R.W. Kleis
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NEBRASKA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION PUBLICATIONS - January 1973


ABSTRACTS


BULLETINS PRINTED

86th Annual Report of the Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station.
