



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1005

1. Title of Project: UF/IFAS - Upgrade/Repair Student Research Fields, Immokalee

2. Senate Sponsor: Kathleen Passidomo

3. Date of Submission: 12/27/2018

4. Project/Program Description:

Provides equipment upgrades to the experimental fields used to conduct research, train graduate students and support the agriculture industry at the UF/IFAS Southwest Florida Research and Education Center (SWFREC) in Immokalee. This center conducts high priority research, Extension and teaching functions to generate new technologies to solve problems related to agricultural production and protection of natural resources. The equipment upgrade would include automation of irrigation and drainage systems, improved mechanization of field operations to facilitate cutting-edge research and graduate student training. The current system is over 30 years old and in constant need of repairs. Research fields do not drain properly and experienced severe impacts during Hurricane Irma in 2017. Modification of the center's drainage systems will prevent future loss of research from flooding due to an inefficient system.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds : Board of Governors

State Agency Contacted? Yes

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	1,257,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	
Total State Funds Requested	1,257,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percent
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	1,257,000	78.22%
Federal	0	0.00%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.00%
Local	0	0.00%
Other	350,000	21.78%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	1,607,000	100.0%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		

9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested? No



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10. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		
Other Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs:		
Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	The equipment upgrade would include automation of irrigation and drainage systems and improved mechanization of field operations to facilitate cutting-edge research and graduate student training.	1,257,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,257,000

11. Program Performance:

a. What is the specific purpose or goal that will be achieved by the funds requested?

Equipment upgrades to the experimental fields used to conduct research, train graduate students and support the agriculture industry at the SWFREC. Enables students to learn with equipment and management consistent with current industry practices. Prevents continual loss of research from flooding due to an inefficient system; reduce repair and maintenance costs.

b. What are the activities and services that will be provided to meet the intended purpose of these funds?

Enable the center to teach more Masters and doctoral students who utilize the experimental fields to conduct thesis and dissertation research. Supports high priority research, Extension and teaching functions to generate new technologies to solve problems related to agricultural production and protection of natural resources in the 5-county area including Collier, Lee, Charlotte, Hendry and Glades Counties.

c. What are the direct services to be provided to citizens by the appropriations project?

Improvements will bolster research efforts to improve food production and advance farm practices that reduce or prevent impacts to the environment. Provide high quality, well-trained employees to fill the workforce shortage in the agricultural and natural resources fields.

d. Who is the target population served by this project? How many individuals are expected to be served?

Target population: university/college students, Southwest Florida farmers in Collier, Lee, Charlotte, Hendry and Glades counties, Cattle ranchers, sugarcane and ornamental plant growers, and consumers.



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e. What is the expected benefit or outcome of this project? What is the methodology by which this outcome will be measured?

Improve agricultural production/promotion and education of students as well as area farmers by providing science-based information to be used to make management and regulatory decisions. Performance will be measured through advances based on research, employment of grad students and farmer/stakeholder participation and surveys.

f. What are the suggested penalties that the contracting agency may consider in addition to its standard penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for in the contract?

None.

12. The owner(s) of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owner(s) of the facility and the entity.

University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS)

13. Requestor Contact Information:

- a. **Name:** Kelly Morgan
- b. **Organization:** University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS)
- c. **E-mail Address:** conserv@ufl.edu
- d. **Phone Number:** (239)658-3400

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS)
- b. **County:** Collier
- c. **Organization Type:**
 - For Profit
 - Non Profit 501(c) (3)
 - Non Profit 501(c) (4)
 - Local Entity
 - University or College
 - Other (Please specify)
- d. **Contact Name:** Jack Payne
- e. **E-mail Address:** jackpayne@ufl.edu
- f. **Phone Number:** (352)392-1971

15. Lobbyist Contact Information

- a. **Name:** Mary Ann Hooks
- b. **Firm Name:** University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS)
- c. **E-mail Address:** mgosa@ufl.edu
- d. **Phone Number:** (850)322-7259