The Agricultural Experiment Station

The Agricultural Experiment Station (AES) is a partnership between the federal and state governments and the nation’s land grant universities. AES scientists conduct basic and applied research designed to serve the public by:

1. Ensuring a continuing safe, sustainable supply of nutritious foods, useful fibers, and natural resources products;
2. Maintaining a physical environment of high quality by supporting wise management of natural resources; and
3. Contributing to public health and the economic and social well-being of people and communities.

AES faculty provide cutting-edge science to address pressing challenges and support economic innovation. Their work can be applied to a wide range of specific areas related to agriculture and natural resources, including (but not limited to) agricultural production; crop and animal protection; product improvement and marketing; nutrition and public health; forestry and wildlife conservation; environmental science and policy; and community and economic development.

The California Agricultural Experiment Station

In California, AES funds support the work of over 650 faculty members in 38 departments, spread among four colleges and one professional school. Most of these faculty hold split appointments, with a percentage of the appointment devoted to AES. The participating colleges and school are UC Berkeley College of Natural Resources, UC Davis College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, UC Davis College of Biological Sciences, and UC Riverside College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences. Boosted by a strong state funding partnership, the state AES funds in California flow to the Office of the President and then directly to the Chancellor’s offices on the three participating campuses. Day to day management of the funds and responsibility for reporting on AES activities and impacts rests with the campus Deans.

The California AES at UC Davis in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CA&ES)

CA&ES requires that each faculty member with an AES appointment has at least one federally-approved USDA-NIFA AES project (Hatch, Multistate or Animal Health) at all times and provide annual reports on activities and impacts for each project. CA&ES faculty of the CA AES have projects and outreach programs relevant to the state of CA. Currently there are 325 faculty with AES appointments in the CA&ES and 360 federally-approved projects.

Partnership with University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR)

UC ANR is a statewide network of University of California researchers and educators dedicated to the creation, development and application of knowledge in agricultural, natural and human resources. UC ANR has county-based Cooperative Extension Advisors who provide academic expertise in counties throughout California. In addition, more than 100 Cooperative Extension Specialists are part of the faculty in the same departments as AES faculty, enabling close collaboration. Many AES research and extension projects are carried out in partnership with UC ANR Specialists, County Advisors, and Community Educators in partnership with local county and statewide collaborators.