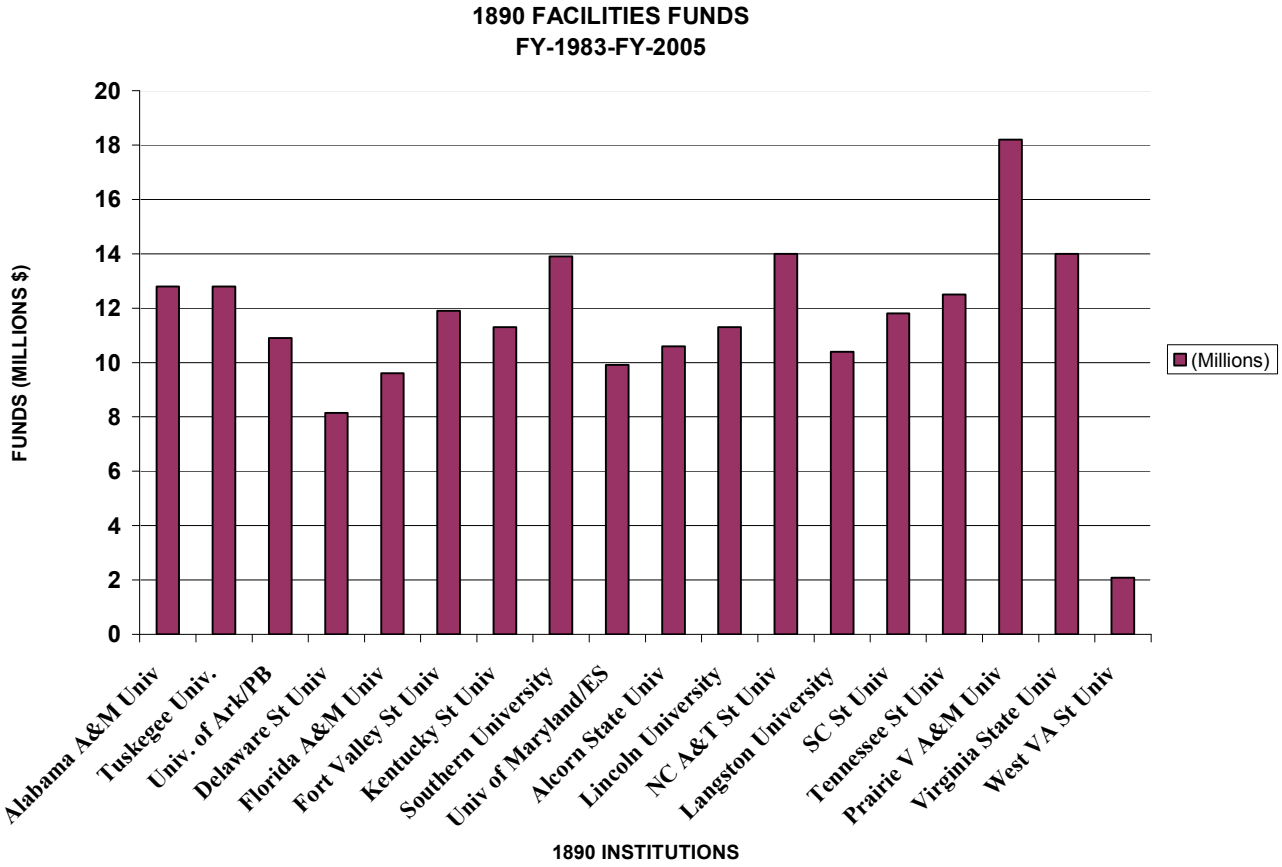
The 1890 Facilities Grant Program

The 1890 Facilities Grant Program is authorized under Section 1447 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977, as amended. This act provides funding to upgrade research, teaching, and extension facilities at the 1890 Land-Grant Universities. Grants are made for the acquisition and improvement of agricultural and food sciences facilities and equipment, including libraries, so that the 1890 Institutions may participate fully in preparation of human capital in the food and agricultural sciences.

Authorizations and Appropriations

- FY 1983-1987 – Section 1433 (Research)
- FY 1988-1992 – Section 1444 (Extension)
- FY 1993-1997 – Section 1447 (Research and Extension)
- FY 1998- 2007 – Section 1447 (Research, Extension and Teaching)



Program Outcomes

- Enhanced the effectiveness of programs at the 1890 land grant institutions in research, extension and education.
- New cutting edge research technology has responded to customer needs.
- Experiential learning opportunities have been improved.
- Extension outreach service has been enhanced by at least 60 percent through new programs in health, nutrition and family life skills
- New degree programs:
    - Ph.D. (Plant & Soil Science Program) – Alabama A&M University
    - Ph.D. (Food Science Program) – University of MD - Eastern Shore
- More than 1,000 new students have matriculated in the Food and Agricultural Sciences
- Recruited faculty with expertise to enhance programs
- Experiential learning opportunities enhanced
- Constructed new/renovated research office complexes, extension office conference centers and combined research and extension office centers
- Cutting edge research technology applied to customer issues
- State-of-the art teaching and learning environments
- Leveraging new dollars from state and private sector
- New regional, national and international collaborative efforts and partnerships
- Financial management for rural underserved communities

Leveraging of Federal Funds

Alcorn State University:

- New enterprise opportunities to limited resource farmers
- Linkages with the University of Nebraska in biotechnology; University of Mississippi in natural products research and outreach; and University of Southern Mississippi in polymeric product development that are environmentally friendly
- Increased collaborations between integrated staff from research, extension and allied agricultural programs

Alabama A&M University:

- Program linkages enhanced with the U.S. Forest Service – Center of Excellence in Forestry (Forest Biotechnology Center and accredited forestry degree program)
- Remote Sensing with NASA and USDA – Center for Climatology and Hydrology

- US Housing and Urban Development – Community Development Corporation
- Established two doctoral programs (Plant and Soil Science and Food Science)

University of Maryland - Eastern Shore:

- Collaborative Conferences/Retreats (Fatherhood Conference, Caregivers Conference (Area Agency on Aging)
- Mini Medical School Collaborations between UMES and the University of Maryland School of Medicine in Baltimore
- Rural Development Center Expo

Specialized Research and Technology Centers

Aquaculture Research Centers:

- University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff
- Delaware State University
- Kentucky State University
- University of Maryland-Eastern Shore
- Langston University
- Virginia State University

Goat Research Centers:

- Tuskegee University
- Fort Valley State University
- Langston University
- Virginia State University
- Prairie View A&M University

Facilities Development

The 1890 Facilities Development Program has greatly enhanced research, extension and teaching program in these universities.

Some of the major facilities established have been:

- Goat Research Centers
- Aquaculture Research Centers
- Meat Processing Laboratories
- Fish Disease Diagnostic Laboratory
- Communication Technology Centers
- Herbarium
- Livestock Show Arena
- Fresh Water Shrimp

Southern University, Baton Rouge, LA

Old Livestock Arena, Southern University
There was a greater than 40-year-old pavilion (above) where the Livestock Show was held, prior to 1890 Facilities funding.

New Livestock Arena, Southern University
The Multi-Purpose Livestock Show Arena was built to increase the capacity of the Extension program serving youth from low-income families from across the state of Louisiana. The arena consists of 53,943 square feet. The arena houses a regulation size horse show ring, swine, sheep and beef cattle stables.

University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (UAPB)

The 1890 Extension Complex, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (UAPB)
This complex features 22,000 square feet of floor space. The main areas of the building are a specialists' office area, an administrative wing, a fish disease/health laboratory, an auditorium, a demonstration kitchen, a work shop, a media center, publication room and archiving space.

Lonoke Pavillion and Faculty Office, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (UAPB)
Funds designated for research/demonstration and farm equipment, and vehicles have enhanced research and Extension programs at the University's 871-acre Lonoke Farm. Features include water management research and technology transfer centers, twelve commercial-size fish ponds for farm-size production, and an aquaculture research and demonstration facility.

Virginia State University

Cooperative Extension Center, Virginia State University
The Cooperative Extension Center at VSU is an extension complex that's used primarily for video conferencing, publications, and other forms of communication.

University of Maryland, Eastern Shore

Richard A. Henson Center, University of Maryland at Eastern Shore
The Richard A. Henson Center houses the Department of Human Ecology. The Henson Center supports a smart classroom, textiles research and teaching labs, nutrition/dietetics classrooms, offices, and a shop for training in retailing.

Southern University

Agriculture Research and Extension Center, Southern University
This facility includes extension and research offices, laboratories, conference rooms, and video and publications production space.

Delaware State University

The Claude E. Phillip Herbarium, Delaware State University
This is a 3,672 square feet building that was completed in 1999. The herbarium has approximately 106,000 specimens and it ranks 87 out of 525 herbaria in the U.S. The herbarium functions as an active center for education and research.