

## Fiscal Year 2024 Funding Priorities for Entomology

The Entomological Society of America (ESA) calls for sustained funding growth at federal agencies to allow researchers to work toward revolutionary breakthroughs in food security and safety, environmental and human health, as well as fundamental understanding of insect biology.

ESA recognizes the difficult environment the nation faces as we continue to address high inflation, reduce the national debt, and ensure fiscal sustainability. Nonetheless, it is also necessary to make strategic investments, including in scientific research, to address national priorities, foster long-term economic growth, and job creation. Robust investments in agencies and programs detailed below are vital to ensure America's ability to meet critical challenges. These include: improving crop production and protection; training the next generation of scientists and engineers; preventing and treating vector-borne diseases; and ensuring a safe and healthy environment. These investments will also drive future economic success and job growth.

- **U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA):** ESA requests no less than \$2.080 billion for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), including at least \$500 million for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI), which administers competitive funding for innovative research, extension, and education activities. ESA also supports a top-line funding level of at least \$1.95 billion for the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and \$1.188 billion for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), with strong support for pest management research, invasive species programs, and pollinator health.
- **U.S. Forest Service (USFS):** ESA requests \$9.7 billion in discretionary funds, of which \$349 million is for Forest and Rangeland Research and no less than the FY 2020 enacted level of \$100 million for Forest Health Management. These programs support research, development, and land management activities designed to mitigate hazards posed by invasive species and other harmful insects, diseases, and plants.
- **National Invasive Species Council (NISC):** ESA requests at least \$2 million for NISC, to coordinate policy, communication, and technology use across 16 federal agencies involved with invasive species control.
- **National Science Foundation (NSF):** ESA joins the research community by requesting \$11.9 billion for NSF, including strong support for the Directorate for Biological Sciences (BIO), which is the nation's primary funder of fundamental research on biodiversity, ecology, and environmental biology.
- **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):** ESA requests \$967.8 million for EPA Science and Technology, of which \$40 million is requested to support the Science to Achieve Results (STAR) Program. ESA also requests strong support for programs across the agency that advance the safe application of pesticides.
- **National Institutes of Health (NIH):** ESA joins the research community by requesting \$51 billion for NIH's base program funding, including increased support for vector-borne disease research at National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). ESA also supports at least \$2.5 billion for the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) to supplement the core investment in NIH's base funding.
- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):** ESA supports \$11.581 billion for CDC, including at least \$88.603 million to fund scientific activities to address vector borne disease, global health, and core infectious diseases. This should include funding for programs authorized in the *Kay Hagan Tick Act*.

*ESA, headquartered in Annapolis, Maryland, is the largest organization in the world serving the professional and scientific needs of entomologists and individuals in related disciplines. Founded in 1889, ESA has over 7,000 members affiliated with educational institutions, health agencies, private industry, and government. Members are researchers, teachers, extension service personnel, administrators, marketing representatives, research technicians, consultants, students, pest management professionals, and hobbyists. For more information about the Entomological Society of America, please see <http://www.entsoc.org/>.*