HISTORY

MSU AgBioResearch was founded as the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station on Feb. 26, 1888. It is part of a nationwide network of agricultural experiment stations created after the passage of the 1887 Hatch Act. These stations are charged with conducting research and development projects on behalf of farmers. In 1925, the Purnell Act added agricultural economics, rural sociology and home economics to the experiment station mission.

Today, the focus of MSU AgBioResearch has broadened to include a full spectrum of research centered on food, energy and the environment.

MISSION

To engage in innovative, leading-edge research that combines scientific expertise with practical experience to generate economic prosperity, sustain natural resources and enhance the quality of life in Michigan, the nation and the world.

Success is based on the efforts of outstanding researchers; close partnerships and collaborations with MSU Extension, seven MSU colleges, federal and state agencies, commodity groups and other key stakeholders; and exceptional legislative support.

WHO WILL? SPARTANS WILL.

agbioresearch.msu.edu

RESEARCHERS

More than 300 researchers from the MSU Colleges of:

- Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Natural Science
- Engineering
- Veterinary Medicine
- Social Science
- Communication Arts and Sciences
- Arts and Letters
• Food and health. Microbial and chemical food safety, food nutrition, consumer choice and diet.

• Enhancing profitability in agriculture and natural resources. Reducing dependency on chemicals; enhancing resistance to disease, insect and environmental stresses; identification and development of value-added agricultural products.

• Environmental stewardship, natural resources policy and management. Land use policy and management, air quality, soil conservation, waste management and use, ecosystem management and landscape ecology.

• Secure food and fiber systems. New, emerging and reemerging infectious diseases, invasive species (insects, plants, pathogens and aquatic animals) and agro-security.

• Families and community vitality. Community and economic development, recreation/tourism, youth, aging, family dynamics and community security.

We maintain a balance between applied and basic research and heavily rely on input from our constituents in identifying research priorities. An emphasis is placed on integrated and multidisciplinary endeavors. Programs are continually evaluated for relevance and progress to meet changing needs.

ACHIEVEMENTS

• Increasing the viability of algae-based biofuels
• Developed educational program for children of parents with mental illnesses
• Linked fatty acids in fish oil to reduced arthritis inflammation
• Completed the first assembly of sea lamprey genome

• Discovered revolutionary processes to make apple juice marketable
• First to demonstrate the transmission of soil viruses
• Developed the first hybrid pickling cucumber
• Introduced winter wheat varieties that doubled statewide yields
• Conducting the longest study on evolution with E. coli
• Introduced the Balaton tart cherry to Michigan