Sustaining High Cost Research & Teaching Facilities and Programs

Suggested topics:

- dual purpose facilities
- multi-institutional facilities/programs
- industry support
- facilities needed for teaching after research program ends, etc.



Considerations for Animal Research

- Animal research, per publication, costs as much as 4 times that of crop research
- Federal funding for animal research has declined in recent years
- Experiment Station facilities offer invaluable support for teaching and outreach efforts
- The ideal animal research facility should be research-active, high impact and important to the state economy



Challenges to Animal Research

- Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee requirements (federal mandates)
- Animal welfare concerns of the public
- Environmental compliance/Best Management
 Practices
- Pasture management and land stewardship
- Costs of feed and veterinary care



Pressure from neighbors



Case Study 1: Alltech & UK Nutrition Research Alliance









Alliance Operations

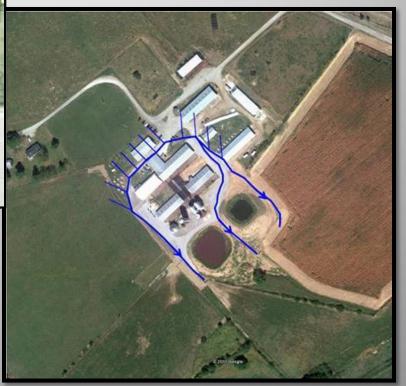
- Began in 2004
- Alltech funds operational costs of facility
- Management committee (majority UK)
- Alltech scientists are adjunct professors
- Virtually no restrictions on publications (over 10 in refereed journals each year)
- Additional funding for interns, students and post-docs through Master Agreement



Case Study 2: Dairy



- On site since 1960's
- High phosphorus soils
- Watershed of City of Georgetown, KY
- Visible from interstate/subdivision
- Only milking cows and babies on site
- High research output began in 2010
- High student use





Efforts to partner: UK Dairy

- 2005: Plan to merge with E. Kentucky University
- Over-budget/environmental concerns/stakeholder opposition
- 2010: resumption of plans with EKU/ discussions with University of Tennessee
- 2011-2012: dairy industry asked UK President to preserve and invest in the existing dairy



Meat Science: Regional Teaching Opportunities?





Educational Partnerships





Unsolved: Horse Research



- About 650 horses at UK on less than 300 acres
- Difficulty with sale or euthanasia
- Donations by the public and stakeholders



Case Study 3: Eden Shale facility



- All operations will be suspended December 2012
- Negotiating with the Kentucky Beef Network to operate as a demonstration farm

