

ACRONYMS

1862s	Land-Grant Institutions Established by the Passage of the First Morrill Act (1862): the Morrill Act was intended to provide a broad segment of the population with a practical education that had direct relevance to their daily lives.
1890s	1890 Land-Grant Colleges and Universities and Tuskegee University (historically black land-grant colleges and universities): Through the Act of August 30, 1890 (the Second Morrill Act), and several other authorities, these institutions may receive federal funds for agricultural research, extension, and teaching.
1994s	Native American Institutions which received land-grant status in 1994 as a provision in the Elementary and Secondary Education Reauthorization Act, titled "The Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994."
AA	The Administrative Advisor to a multistate research project, research coordinating committee, information exchange group or research advisory committee.
AASCARR	American Association of State Colleges of Agriculture and Renewable Resources: an affiliate of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), is an organization of approximately 60 state colleges and universities that offer undergraduate education in agriculture and renew-able resources. AASCARR's purpose is to promote leadership in agricultural and renewable resource education. The association works closely with the Academic Programs Section of APLU and the Office of Higher Education at the U. S. Department of Agriculture to promote the importance of agricultural education.
ACOP	Academic (Programs) Committee on Organization and Policy: A unit of the APLU, CFERR, and Board on Agriculture. The representative governing body of the APS.
AEA	Association of Extension Administrators: the regional association for 1890 universities' extension administrators.
AFRI	Agriculture and Food Research Initiative: a competitive research grants program administered by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) of USDA. The purpose of the AFRI is to support high priority fundamental and mission-linked research of importance in the biological, environmental, physical, and social sciences relevant to agriculture, food, and the environment.
AHS	Administrative Heads Section: a unit of the APLU Commission on Food, Environment, and Renewable Resources, Board on Agriculture Assembly. Members are the chief administrators of the member universities' agricultural programs.
AIHEC	American Indian Higher Education Consortium: the entity representing the 30 Native American Colleges that were given land-grant status by the Congress of the United States in 1994 and who is a member of APLU as a system.
AMS	Agricultural Marketing Service: the USDA agency providing standardization, grading and market news for specific commodities and overseeing marketing agreements and orders.
APHIS	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service: the USDA agency providing leadership in ensuring the health and care of animals and plants.
APLU	Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (formerly NASULGC, National Association of State Universities and Land-grant Colleges): the nation's oldest higher education association whose membership comprises 214 institutions, including state universities, all of the nation's land-grant colleges and universities, and several public university systems. It is a voluntary non-profit association of major public research universities with campuses located in all fifty states, the U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia.
APS	Academic Programs Section: a unit of the APLU Commission on Food, Environment, and Renewable Resources, Board on Agriculture Assembly Members are the designated administrators of academic programs at the colleges of agriculture of all the states and territories.
ARD	Association of Research Directors: the official representative body of the agricultural research

	administrators at the 1890 land-grant universities.
AREERA	Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (the 1998 reauthorization of the research and education titles of the Farm Bill): this legislation ensures that federally funded agricultural research, extension, and education address high-priority concerns with national or multistate significance. It was signed into law on June 23, 1998 and became Public Law 105-185.
ARS	Agricultural Research Service: The principal in-house research agency of USDA.
ASRED	Association of Southern Region Extension Directors: the southern region association of 1862 universities' cooperative extension directors.
BAA	Board on Agriculture Assembly: a unit of the APLU Commission on Food, Environment, and Renewable Resources. The purpose of this Board is the promotion of agriculture in all of its phases (food, environment, agriculture, natural resources, and international) in the state universities and land-grant colleges of the states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the territories of the Pacific, and the Virgin Islands.
BAC	Budget and Advocacy Committee: a standing committee of the Assembly's Policy Board of Directors that serves at the pleasure of the BAAPBD and prepares annual budget recommendations and supporting materials for the Research, Extension, and Education Title of the Farm Bill.
BNR	Board on Natural Resources: a unit of the APLU Commission on Food, Environment, and Renewable Resources. The purpose of this Board is to promote university-based programs dealing with natural resources, ecology, energy, and the environment. The sections of the Board are: Fish and Wildlife Resources; Mineral and Energy Resources; Forest Resources; Water Resources; and, Ecology.
BOA	Board on Oceans and Atmosphere: a unit of the APLU Commission on Food, Environment, and Renewable Resources. The purpose of this Board is to ensure that the nation maintains and benefits from a strong and diverse capability in the marine (including Great Lakes), oceanic, and atmospheric sciences.
BoHS	Board on Human Sciences: a unit of the APLU Commission on Food, Environment, and Renewable Resources. The membership is comprised of lead administrators of academic units of state colleges and land-grant universities. The administrators are responsible for research, academic, and outreach programs addressing nutrition and health, food science and food safety, textiles and material science, human development from infancy to old age, family dynamics and functioning, design of living and working environments, and resource management. Some human sciences colleges also administer social work, education, and physical fitness programs.
BVM	Board on Veterinary Medicine: a unit of the APLU Commission on Food, Environment, and Renewable Resources. The membership of this Board includes the administrators of veterinary medicine and veterinary science departments at APLU-member institutions.
Cage	The Cage commonly refers to the USDA Secretary's suite of offices. Named because the outer (reception) office is square in shape with glass walls and doors.
CARET	Council for Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching: a APLU-affiliated national grassroots organization of laypersons from the constituencies served by the land-grant colleges of agriculture. Each state and territory may appoint up to three delegates. CARET members who work closely with their respective agricultural programs. They offer guidance and support for programs in agricultural research, extension, and teaching.
CBO	Congressional Budget Office: provides Congress with objective, timely, non-partisan analysis needed for economic and budget decisions and to provide the information and estimates required for the Congressional budget process.
CC	Coordinating Committee: Single function multistate activity that manages activities other than original research.
CCC	Commodity Credit Corporation: a federally-owned and operated corporation within USDA created to stabilize, support, and protect agricultural prices and farm income through loans, purchases,

	payments, and other operations.
CES	Cooperative Extension System: a national, publicly-funded, non-formal educational system that links the educational and research resources and activities of USDA; land-grant universities in every State, territory, and the District of Columbia; and approximately 3,150 county administrative units. This unique federal, state and local partnership focuses on practical solutions to critical issues affecting people's daily lives.
CES	Cooperative Extension Section: A unit of the APLU CFERR, Board on Agriculture. Members are designated administrators of the cooperative extension services of all the states and territories.
CFERR	Commission on Food, Environment, and Renewable Resources: the APLU unit that monitors programs and develops policy positions in the areas of agriculture, human sciences, natural resources, oceans and atmosphere, ecological sciences, and veterinary medicine.
CFO	Chief Financial Officer: The Office of the CFO provides financial management leadership and service to support quality program delivery by USDA.
CGA	Council on Governmental Affairs: a unit of APLU composed of representatives, designated by the presidents and chancellors of member institutions, who serve as the principal points of contact for their respective institutions on legislative and regulatory matters at the federal level.
CIO	Chief Information Officer: The Office of the CIO has primary responsibility for supervision and coordination within the USDA for the design, acquisition, maintenance, use, and disposal of information technology by USDA agencies.
CIP	Commission on International Programs: the APLU unit that monitors programs and develops policy positions to incorporate a global dimension into the learning, discovery, and engagement activities of member institutions while striving to make internationalization an integral part of each university's mission and strategic plan.
CLP	Committee on Legislation and Policy: a standing committee of the BAA Policy Board of Directors that is responsible for representing the system's interests during development and implementation of each new Farm Bill and also any other authorizing legislation that may impact land-grant universities.
CMC	Communication and Marketing Committee: a joint committee with ESCOP, ECOP, and AHS, an ESCOP standing committee responsible for the joint marketing initiative.
COO	Chief Operating Officer: common designation for the day-to-day operating director of an agricultural experiment station and voting member of the regional associations.
CRI	Children's Research Initiative: a National Science Foundation grants program focusing on the areas of children's research that was funded initially in Fiscal Year 2001.
CRIS	Current Research Information System (USDA): replaced by REEport.
CRS	Congressional Research Service: works exclusively for the Congress of the United States, conducting research, analyzing legislation, and providing information at the requests of committees, Members, and their staffs. The Service makes such research available, without partisan bias, in many forms including studies, reports, compilations, digests, and background briefings. Upon request, CRS assists committees in analyzing legislative proposals and issues, and in assessing possible effects of these proposals and their alternatives. The Service's senior specialists and subject analysts are also available for personal consultations in their respective fields of expertise.
CSRS	Civil Service Retirement System: A federal government retirement system which provides annuities to qualified employees who retire because of age and years of service, involuntary separation not for cause, or disability, to widows or widowers and minor children of employees who die and, in certain circumstances, to the survivors of annuitants.
DCC	Diversity Catalyst Committee: A standing ESCOP committee that champions a long-term diversity and inclusion agenda for ESS with goals, metrics, timelines, implementation activities, and continuity of practice. The DCC engages in topics of diversity in research leadership across the Land-grant university system, provides ideas and actions for consideration, and supplements

institutional, regional and national diversity and inclusion efforts.

ECOP	Extension Committee on Organization and Policy: A unit of the APLU CFERR, Board on Agriculture. The representative governing body of the Cooperative Extension Section.
ED	Executive Director; an executive, PhD level staff person employed by one of the regional associations.
EFNEP	Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program: an Extension education program designed to assist limited resource audiences in acquiring the knowledge, skills, attitudes and changed behavior necessary for nutritionally-sound diets.
EIRP	Extension Indian Reservation Program: an Extension program providing assistance and education in agriculture, community development, family living, and societal issues facing Native Americans. (Separate from the Tribal Colleges Extension Program, which provides funding to the thirty 1994 institutions to conduct Extension programs.)
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency: an independent agency of the federal government providing leadership in the nation's environmental science, research, education, assessment, and enforcement efforts.
EQIP	Environmental Quality Incentives Program: provides a single, voluntary conservation program for farmers and ranchers who face serious threats to Farm Act.
ERS	Economic Research Service: The USDA/REE Agency that provides information and analysis on agriculture, food, natural resources and rural America.
ESCAP	Experiment Station Committee on Organization and Policy: A unit of the APLU CFERR, Board on Agriculture. The representative governing body of the Experiment Station Section (ESS).
ESS	Experiment Station Section: a unit of the APLU Commission on Food, Environment, and Renewable Resources, Board on Agriculture Assembly. Members are the designated administrators of the experiment stations of all the states and territories.
FACT	Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (1990 Farm Bill): a five-year farm bill signed November 28, 1990.
FAIR	Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (1996 Farm Bill): the omnibus food and agriculture legislation signed into law on April 1996 providing a 7-year framework for the Secretary of Agriculture to administer various agricultural and food programs.
FAS	Foreign Agricultural Service: the USDA agency that represents the diverse interests of U.S. farmers and the food and agricultural sector abroad.
FCS	Food and Consumer Service: the USDA agency which administers nutrition assistance programs, with the dual mission of improving the nation's health by getting food to people who need it and strengthening the agricultural economy.
FF	Formula Funds: distributed from the federal government through the Hatch Act authority for the federal-state partnership, now commonly called "capacity funds".
FFAR	Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research: established by the 2014 Farm Bill to be a nonprofit entity to raise funds to support agricultural research.
FFY	Federal Fiscal Year: The federal, 12-month accounting year (October 1 through September 30)
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act: A federal statute which allows any person the right to obtain federal agency records unless the records (or part of the records) are protected from disclosure by any of the nine exemptions in the law.
FQPA	Food Quality Protection Act of 1996: the legislation that rewrote the laws under which the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) decides whether a pesticide is safe enough to us. This measure became Public Law 104-170 and was signed into law on August 3, 1996.
FS	Forest Service: the USDA agency that administers the lands and resources of the National Forest System
FSA	Farm Service Agency: the USDA agency with the mission to help farmers conserve land and water resources, provide credit to new or disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, and help farm operations

	recover from the effects of disaster.
FSIS	Food Safety and Inspection Service: the USDA agency with the mission to protect consumers by ensuring that meat, poultry, and egg products are safe, wholesome, and accurately labeled.
FSLI	Food Systems Leadership Institute: a leadership program of APLU that is intended to further develop leadership competencies for current administrators in the context of the food system.
FY	Fiscal Year: An accounting year of 12 months (usually July 1 through June 30)
GAO	General Accounting Office: Investigative arm of Congress. Charged with examining matters relating to the receipt and disbursement of public funds, GAO performs audits and evaluations of government programs and activities.
GASEPA	Globalizing Agricultural Science and Education Programs for America: is an agenda, developed by a committee representing major program areas within the colleges of agriculture, their affiliates, and stakeholders. This agenda is designed to meet the needs of American agriculture and its food systems, including increased competitiveness, market development, and increased market access in other nations.
GPRA	Government Performance and Results Act: a law passed in 1993 which requires that federally funded agencies develop and implement an accountability system based on performance measurement, including setting goals and objectives and measuring progress toward achieving them.
HACCP	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point: a meat and poultry inspection process that targets pathogens that cause foodborne illness, strengthens industry responsibility to produce safe food, and focuses inspection and plant activities on prevention objectives.
HEP	Higher Education Programs: the Higher Education Program administered by NIFA.
HSI	Hispanic-Serving Institution: A two- or four-year institution with at least a 25% Hispanic student enrollment. While not designated as land-grant institutions, HSIs participate in specified USDA programs as authorized by Congress to promote and strengthen the ability of these schools to carry out education, applied research and community development programs.
IACC	International Agriculture Coordinating Committee: a committee charged with formulating, coordinating and implementing an advocacy strategy to increase the awareness that international agriculture is a fundamental component of the development process, to enhance the resources available to the university community to internationalize all aspects of their campus activities, and to engage more widely the capacities of U. S. universities in solving problems of the world's poor. The purpose of this group is: to establish an advocacy agenda with relevant federal agencies and the U. S. Congress; to enhance communication, coordination, and cooperation among APLU-member institutions; and, to ensure broad dialogue and communication within the university community to enhance the resource base for international activities on campuses. The Committee is composed of 45 university members who directly support the advocacy efforts.
IAS	International Agriculture Section: a unit of the APLU Commission on Food, Environment, and Renewable Resources, Board on Agriculture Assembly. Members are the designated administrators of international agriculture programs at the colleges of agriculture of all the states and territories.
ICOP	International Committee on Organization and Policy: the representative governing body of the International Agriculture Section.
IEG	Information Exchange Group: Synonymous with Coordinating Committee
IPM	Integrated Pest Management: the control of pests or diseases by using an array of crop production strategies, combined with careful monitoring of insect pests or weed populations and other methods.
LEAD21	Leadership Development for the 21 st Century: an APLU beginning leadership development program for faculty and others who have had no or very little administrative experience.

MRC	Multistate Research Committee: a standing committee of SAAESD that conducts the final review and approval of all S and SCC multistate projects.
MRF	Multistate Research Funds: That portion of the federal formula funds that is allocated to the states and territories for support of multistate research projects.
NMCC	National Multistate Coordinating Committee: all the Executive Directors or their equivalents working with experiment station, extension, and academic programs sections of the APLU Board on Agriculture Assembly and the NIFA Associate Director, who meet twice yearly to discuss issues of concern to the land grant university system.
NAL	National Agricultural Library: Part of the Agricultural Research Service and a major international source for agriculture and related information, one of four national libraries in the U.S.
NAREEE	National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board: established by the FAIR Act of 1996, this Board is charged with reviewing long-term and short-term national policies and priorities relating to agricultural research, extension, education, and economics and advising the Secretary of Agriculture on such matters.
NASS	National Agricultural Statistics Service: The USDA/REE Agency that Administers USDA's program for collecting and publishing timely national and state agricultural statistics.
NC-FAR	National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research: a national broad-based stakeholder coalition in the food, agriculture, nutrition, conservation, and natural resources sectors to: (1) increase and enhance federal investments in U. S. food and agricultural research and education and (2) expand participation by stakeholders in priority setting and funding.
NCRA	North Central Regional Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors
NERA	Northeastern Regional Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors
NIFA	National Institute for Food and Agriculture: unites the extramural research, higher education, and extension education and outreach resources of USDA. NIFA contributions are strengthened by a broad spectrum of public and private partner-ships, including other USDA agencies, federal and state government departments, non-profit organizations, and private sector entities. NIFA is also the federal partner of the Cooperative Extension System.
NIPMCC	National Integrated Pest Management Coordinating Committee: a subcommittee of the ESCOP Science and Technology Committee that makes recommendations to ESCOP and ECOP on programs, policies, reports, and other matters that affect pest management implementation, and make recommendations on budget matters relating to pest management.
NIMSS	National Information Management Support System: a database management computer program for collection and management of information relative to the regions' multistate research activities.
NPGCC	National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee: joint committee of representatives from SAES, ARS, and NIFA, which acts in an advisory capacity to the ARS and NIFA Directors and the SAES directors on matters related to the national and regional plant germplasm repositories.
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Agency: the USDA lead agency for conservation technical assistance to help people conserve, maintain, and improve natural resources and the environment.
NRSP	National Research Support Project: National research support projects supported by Multistate Research Funds (taken off-the-top) and other sources of funds.
NRSPRC	NRSP Review Committee charged with reviewing NRSP proposals and budgets and making recommendations annually to the ESS on proposal and budget approval.
NSF	National Science Foundation: an independent agency of the federal government to: promote the progress of science; advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; and, secure the national defense.
NSTC	National Science and Technology Council: coordinates research and development activities and programs that involve more than one federal agency.
OBPA	Office of Budget and Program Analysis: USDA office, which coordinates the preparation of the

	Department's budget, estimates, legislative reports and regulations.
OED	Office of the Executive Director
OGC	Office of General Counsel: Serves as the legal advisor and counsel for the Secretary and program agencies of the USDA.
OMB	Office of Management and Budget: Assists the President in overseeing the preparation of the Federal budget and supervises its administration in Executive Branch agencies.
OSTP	Office of Science and Technology Policy: provides the President with timely policy advice and coordinates the U. S. science and technology investment.
PBD	Policy Board of Directors: the nine-member governing body of the Board on Agriculture Assembly which takes appropriate action on key matters affecting the interests of the member institutions of the Assembly and is responsible to the Association for the management of Assembly affairs. The Policy Board of Directors acts as a Legislative Committee for the Assembly.
PCAST	President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology: advises the President on issues involving science and technology and their roles in achieving national goals and assist the NSTC in securing private sector participation in its activities.
PY	Professional Year: A full-time equivalent graduate student or postdoctoral research associate.
REE	Research, Education and Economics: A USDA mission area comprised of four agencies: the National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA), the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), the Economic Research Service (ERS), and the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).
RMA	Risk Management Agency: USDA agency with the mission to improve the economic stability of agriculture by offering producers a sound system of crop insurance.
SAAESD	Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors
SCC	Southern Coordination Committee: a single-function multistate activity that involves significant activity in either research, extension, or education but does not involved original research.
SAES	State Agricultural Experiment Stations: a structure for federated, yet independent, research institutions in each State and territory to address the location-specific problems of farmers and to build a core of basic scientific knowledge related to agriculture. On March 2, 1887, President Grover Cleveland signed legislation promotion "scientific investigation and experiment respecting the principles and applications of agricultural science" through annual grants to each State and territory to establish agricultural experiment stations under the direction of the land-grant colleges.
SERA	Southern Extension/Education and Research Activity: an integrated multistate project that involves a significant component of at least two of the three functional areas; research, extension, or education.
SERARC	SERA Review Committee: a joint standing committee of SAAESD and ASRED that conducts the final review and approval of SERA multistate activities.
SERD	Science and Education Resources Development: provides national leadership for strengthening college and university programs in the food and agricultural sciences and producing graduates to fulfill the nation's requirements for scientific and professional expertise, as well as important data bases for management and information. The leadership for international programs and linkages is centered here.
SSSC	Social Science Subcommittee: functions as a subcommittee of the ESCOP Science and Technology Committee and makes recommendations for specific actions to help the Land-grant system address high priority research and education issues leading to outcomes that deal with social issues in a significant, measurable way and that will generate sustained financial support.
SY	Scientist Year: A full-time equivalent research scientist.
TEFAP	Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program: provides food assistance to needy Americans through the distribution of USDA commodities.
TY	Technical Year: A full-time equivalent technical support staff person.
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture: The third-largest civilian department of the U.S.

government, overseeing a variety of agencies, government corporations, and other entities that employ more than 100,000 people at over 15,000 locations in all 50 states, the U.S. territories, and 80 countries.

USTR United States Trade Representative: directs all US trade negotiations of and formulates trade policy.

WAAESD Western (Regional) Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

WIC Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children: a grant program whose goal is to improve the health of pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women, and infants and children up to 5 years old, by providing supplemental food, nutrition education, and access to health care.