



"This funding will move the timing of my research efforts up 6 months to a year," says UAF livestock nutritionist Jim Vinyard.



LEVERAGING STATE SUPPORT TO STRENGTHEN ALASKA'S FOOD SYSTEM

FY-25 EQUIPMENT FUNDS

With improved equipment we can grow more grain for testing, build infrastructure for animals for nutrition research, and increase collaboration with other Alaska industries and home producers.

For the 2025 growing season we are now able to:

- Upgrade a plot combine that has been in use for over 30 years.
- Replace a bailer that is over 20 years old.
- Replace two large and aging tractors (model year 1968 and 1982) with a single 140 horsepower tractor.
- Purchase animals and build the infrastructure to house these animals for livestock nutrition research.
- Upgrade lab facilities that were damaged during the 2018 earthquake in Palmer to meet current health and safety standards.
- Expand grain and oilseed drying facilities at both farms, allowing researchers to dry grain more efficiently and at a lower cost.
- Purchase grain quality analysis equipment that will allow researchers to analyze hundreds of grain samples in-house instead of shipping samples to Lower 48 facilities.

FY-26 CAPITAL REQUEST

The \$5M capital budget request will allow UAF to continue increasing efforts to strengthen Alaska's food system through efforts such as:

- Developing animal feed that utilizes Alaska-grown materials (from both the land and sea). Feed that can be grown and produced in-state and sold in Alaska markets for Alaska livestock will reduce the need for importing costly feed from outside sources.
- Investigating the economic and logistical challenges of growing oilseed varieties in cold climates and using those varieties within Alaska.
- Developing strategies to take research results and deliver them into the hands of Alaskans, putting research knowledge to work for Alaska farmers.
- Leveraging state dollars to increase the institute's ability to solicit federal and private research grants and create sustainable funding for continued food systems work.

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