



House Appropriations Committee 2005 Session Budget Amendment Form

Proposed by Delegate: _____
(Print Name) (Signature)

Requests can be made by completing this form and submitting it to the House Appropriations Committee staff office on the 9th floor of the GAB.

Agency Name: VPI-Coop. Ext./Agriculture Experiment Station (Agency 229), Item C-123, Project Code 16080

Increase/Decrease

Use this section to indicate whether your amendment would require an Increase or Decrease in appropriated funds.

General Fund (GF) monies are derived from taxes levied on individual and corporate income, sales, public service corporations, and insurance companies. The General Fund is the major source of support for many State functions.

Nongeneral Fund (NGF) monies consist of special fund revenues, higher education operating monies (tuition, special revenues and federal grants), highway maintenance and construction funds, trust and agency funds, and federal trust funds.

<u>Funding</u>	<u>First Year</u>	<u>Second Year</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase	GF \$ _____	GF \$ <u>4,650,000</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease	NGF \$ _____	NGF \$ _____

Employment Level

Use this section to indicate if a change in the employment level of the agency is desired or necessary. The employment level is the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) positions dedicated to a specific program activity or agency. If you are unsure, leave the space blank.

<u>Employment Level</u>	<u>First Year</u>	<u>Second Year</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Increase	GF FTE _____	GF FTE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease	NGF FTE _____	NGF FTE _____

Explanation of Amendment

Please explain the purpose of your amendment or attach explanatory materials. THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF REQUESTING AN AMENDMENT as it ensures the staff has adequate background information to draft your budget amendment request.

EXPLANATION OF AMENDMENT: (Explain or Attach Materials)—See Attached Materials

This capital amendment will complete initial funding for equipment for the Agriculture/Natural Resources project, project code 16080.

**Please return this signed, original form (and the co-patron signature sheet if applicable) to the:
House Appropriations Committee Staff, 9th Floor, General Assembly Building
Telephone: (804) 698-1590 FAX: (804) 698-1802**

Abbitt	Hogan	Orrock
Albo	Howell, A.T.	Parrish
Alexander	Howell, W. J.	Petersen
Amundson	Hugo	Phillips
Armstrong	Hull	Plum
Athey	Hurt	Pollard
BaCote	Ingram	Purkey
Barlow	Janis	Putney
Baskerville	Joannou	Rapp
Bell	Johnson	Reese
Black	Jones, D.C.	Reid
Bland	Jones, S.C.	Rust
Brink	Keister	Saxman
Bryant	Kilgore	Scott, E. T.
Byron	Landes	Scott, J. M.
Callahan	Lewis	Shannon
Carrico	Lingamfelter	Sherwood
Cline	Louderback	Shuler
Cole	Marrs	Sickles
Cosgrove	Marshall, D. W.	Spruill
Councill	Marshall, R. G.	Stump
Cox	May	Suit
Dillard	McDonnell	Tata
Dudley	McDougle	Van Landingham
Ebbin	McQuigg	Van Yahres
Eisenberg	Melvin	Ward
Fralin	Miles	Wardrup
Frederick	Moran	Ware, O.
Gear	Morgan	Ware, R. L.
Griffith	Nixon	Watts
Hall	Nutter	Weatherholtz
Hamilton	O'Bannon	Welch
Hargrove	Oder	Wright

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VIRGINIA TECH

Agency 229

**Capital Expenses
Budget Amendment Proposal**

	<u>2004-05</u>	<u>2005-06</u>	<u>Biennium</u>
Additional Funds Requested:			
General Fund	--	\$4,650,000	\$4,650,000
Nongeneral Fund	--	--	--

Title: Agriculture/Natural Resources Equipment Funding

Justification Statement:

The Agriculture and Natural Resources Laboratory building was authorized in the 2002 General Obligation Bond (GOB) Program. Funding of \$1,188,000 to equip the building was subsequently authorized in Chapter 4 of the 2004 General Assembly, supported by VCBA bonds. The amount of the equipment funding was based on an earlier request from the 2000-2002 biennium, and falls significantly short of the \$5,832,000 requested on June 1, 2001, which was derived from updated cost data for the state-of-the-art equipment needs of the new laboratory. Consequently, Virginia Tech is requesting \$4.65 million of General Fund support to fully equip the laboratory building to meet the modern demands of plant sciences research and discovery.

The construction of the 84,277 gross square foot (GSF) research laboratory facility for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the College of Natural Resources is well underway. Completion of the building is expected in 2005, but it will not be fully functional without the scientific equipment required by the research endeavors of the academic programs that will be housed in the new building.

The agriculture and natural resources industries are historically substantial elements of the Virginia economy. While other emerging industries become important components of a diversified state economy, the agriculture and natural resources industries are projected to continue as a major force in the state's prosperity.

Scientific discoveries that lead to new products or processing are critical to the advancement of any industry, including agriculture and natural resources. Virginia Tech is a well-known leader in the research and discovery of these disciplines. The transfer of applied research activities conducted by the Cooperative Extension/Agriculture Experiment Station Division of Virginia Tech to agribusiness clientele is one of the major reasons for the success of the Virginia agriculture and natural resources industries.

Without adequate scientific equipment for the Agriculture/Natural Resources project, the ability of the Cooperative Extension/Agriculture Experiment Station to carry out the cutting edge research required to help Virginia's agriculture industries will be significantly hampered. In turn, the agribusiness community will find it more difficult to remain competitive and will be unable to generate new economic development.

To maintain Virginia's leadership role in the agriculture and natural resources industries, the University's need for scientific equipment for the Agriculture/Natural Resources project must be fully met. To accomplish this goal, Virginia Tech is requesting \$4.65 million of General Fund support for equipment for the Agriculture and Natural Resources Research Laboratory project, project code 16080.