



NATIONAL COALITION FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

'Lunch~N~Learn' Hill Seminar Series Highlights, 2005-2008

http://www.ncfar.org/Hill_Seminar_Series.asp

GOAL: Inform Hill Staff & other policy stakeholders about the value of public investment in food & ag research through hill seminars featuring leading edge researchers on topics of high interest. Helps staff make more informed recommendations about federal funding for food and ag RE&E.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Over 1,000 Hill Staff Reached over Past 4 Years Through 30 Seminars—
 - 9 Seminars, 2008 [507 attendees]
 - 21 Seminars, 2005-7 [2005, 100+; 2006, 215; 2007, 400].
- Leading presenters from 35 institutions across the nation, wide range of disciplines and topics.
- Positive feedback from Hill & Agency Staff.
- Honorary Host Committee—Leading Members of Congress.

2008

BLOWIN' IN THE WIND—*Implications of Gene Flow in the Scale-up and Commercial Use of Biotechnology-derived Crops: Economic and Policy Considerations* (CAST Issue Paper), Dr. David Gealy, **USDA, ARS**, Dale Bumpers National Rice Resource Center (47 attendees)

CHOICES—CLIMATE CHANGE & AGRICULTURE—*Environmental Choices: Outlook & Investigation on Climate Change as it Relates to Agriculture & Natural Resources*, Dr. Bruce McCarl, **Texas A&M** & Dr. Brent Sohngen, **The Ohio State University** (45 attendees)

SHOTS ARE FOR THE BIRDS (and Other Animals)—*Avian Influenza Vaccines & Vaccine Development Using Recombinant DNA Technology* (CAST Reports) Dr. Karen Burns Grogan, Chicken Scratch, LLC & Dr. Robert Silva, **USDA, ARS**, Avian Disease and Oncology Laboratory (30 attendees)

WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE & NOT A DROP TO SPARE—*Water Quality & Quantity Issues for Turfgrasses in Urban Landscapes*, (CAST Report), Dr. Michael Kenna, Director, Green Section Research, **U.S. Golf Association** (65 attendees)

YOU HUMANS THINK YOU'RE THIRSTY? TRY LIFE AS A PLANT!—*The Quest to Improve Crop Plant Use & Drought Tolerance*, Dr. James Specht, **Univ of Nebraska-Lincoln** (63 attendees)

FOOD NANOSCIENCE???—*How Tiny Particles Have a Big Impact*, Dr. Bernadene Magnuson, **University of Toronto** & Cantox Health Services (45 attendees)

\$VALUING YOUR DIET—*Effects of Rising Food Prices on Food Insecurity & Diet Quality*, Dr. Parke Wilde, **Tufts University** & Deborah Rhoades, RD, **University of Maryland Extension** (55 attendees)

FROM STUMP TO PUMP—*Cellulosic Biofuels from America's Forests Ready to Make the Leap Forward*, Dr. Theodore Wegner, **USDA Forest Service**, Forest Products Laboratory (80 attendees)

LIVING OFF THE FAT OF THE LAND—*Convergence of Energy & Agriculture: III. Considerations in Biodiesel Production*, Dr. Jon Van Gerpen, **University of Idaho** (77 attendees)

2007

BIOFUEL FEEDSTOCKS—*The Risk of Future Invasions*, CAST Report, **Dr. Joseph DiTomaso**, U of California-Davis

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CONVERGENCE OF AG & ENERGY—*Cellulosic Biomass for Biofuels*, CAST Report, **Dr. Steven L. Fales**, Iowa State U

WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW WON'T HURT YOU!—*CAST Report on Probiotics & Human Health*, **Dr. Mary Ellen Sanders**, Dairy & Food Technologies, Centennial, CO

WILD PIGS AND SPINACH—*Food Safety Microbiological Concerns of Fresh Produce and Microbiological Issues, Imported Foods*, **Dr. Michael Doyle**, Univ of Georgia

OUR VULNERABILITY TO ANIMAL DISEASES—*Zoonotic Diseases and Their Potential for Infecting Humans*, **Dr. James Roth**, Iowa State University

IF POLLINATORS ARE IN TROUBLE, SO ARE WE!—*Insect & Other Animal Pollinators and Their Vital Role in Ag & Healthy Ecosystems*, **Dr. May Berenbaum**, U of Illinois

HEALTH MAY BE A DIFFERENT ANIMAL—*CAST Report on the Role of Transgenic Livestock in the Treatment of Human Disease*, **Dr. Carol L. Keefer**, U of Maryland

CREATE-ING A BETTER FUTURE FOR AGRICULTURE —*CREATE-21*, **Dr. Robert Steele**, Penn State & **Dr. L. Washington Lyons**, Assn of Extension Administrators

WHY A NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE—*Fundamental Research Benefiting Food, Fiber, Fuels and the Environment*, **Dr. William Danforth**

CULTIVATING OUR COMPETITIVE EDGE—*Research, Extension and the Future of Agriculture*, **Dr. Philip Pardey**, U of Minnesota & **Dr. Julian Alston**, U of California-Davis

2006

AGRICULTURE TRADE POLICY—*Responding to a Moving Target*, **Dr. David Blandford**, Pennsylvania State University, Dept of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology

GENOMICS? BIOINFORMATICS? TRANSLATION PLEASE!—*Realizing the Promises of Bioinformatics*, **Dr. William Beavis**, Chief Scient Ofcr, Natl Ctr for Genome Research, Santa Fe, NM

PURPLE CARROTS—*A Kaleidoscope of Carrots for Nutritional Needs and Market Niches*, **Dr. Philipp Simon**, USDA, ARS & Professor, Dept of Horticulture, U of Wisconsin

EDEN WORKS! A NATIONAL NETWORK IN DISASTER READINESS—*Cooperative Extension Initiative Successfully Reduces Impact of Disasters at the Community Level*, **Dr. Edwin Jones**, EDEN Chair, North Carolina State University

TURNING GREEN INTO YELLOW—*Improving Plants for Use as Home-Grown Biofuels*, **Dr. Kenneth Keegstra**, Director, Plant Research Laboratory, Michigan State U-Dept of Energy

DRINK THE BEST AND DRIVE THE REST—*Optimizing Biomass as a Renewable Resource*, **Dr. Sharon Shoemaker**, California Institute of Food and Agricultural Research UC-Davis

REBUILDING THE FOOD CHAIN FOR NEMO—*An Integrated Approach to Sustainability in Aquaculture Through Alternative Diets*, **Dr. Wendy Sealey**, Hagerman Fish Culture Experiment Station, University of Idaho

2005

MAD COWS AND Bt POTATOES: GLOBAL PUBLIC GOODS IN THE FOOD SYSTEM—
Globalization and Demand Shape Innovation and Incentives in U.S. Food & Ag, Dr. Laurian Unnevehr,
Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics, University of Illinois

POWERING AN ENHANCED GREEN REVOLUTION WITH PROTEIN-PACKED CORN—
Corn Engineered to Produce Twice the Protein Could Dramatically Impact Human Nutrition in Undeveloped
and Near-developed Countries and also Benefit Livestock Operations Worldwide,, Dr. Daniel Gallie,
Department of Biochemistry, University of California-Riverside

DOWN TO EARTH SCIENCE FROM OUTER SPACE—*Applying NASA Technologies and*
Interagency Collaborations to Advance Agricultural Science and Natural Resource Management,
Dr. David Shaw, *GeoResources Institute, Mississippi State University*

ENERGY—OUR ‘GROWING’ NEED—*Expanding the Use of Biomass to Produce Renewable Fuels and*
Biodegradable Plastics, Providing a Near-term Alternative to Foreign Petroleum, Dr. Lonnie Ingram,
Florida Center for Renewable Chemicals and Fuels, University of Florida

DIET BY DESIGN—*Nutrigenomics Combines Molecular Nutrition Research with State-of-the-Art*
Genomics, Tools to Revolutionize Wellness and Disease Management, Dr. John Milner, *National Cancer*
Institute & Dr. Leena Hilakivi-Clarke, *Georgetown University*

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