



NATIONAL COALITION FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

Media Advisory

Soybean Fields Forever

“Sustainability of U.S. Soybean Production: Conventional, Transgenic, and Organic Production Systems”

Washington, DC – July 20, 2009 – Environmentally sustainable, yet profitable, soybean production is the subject of the fifth 2009 National C-FAR “Lunch~N~Learn” Hill Seminar on Monday, July 20, from 12:00–12:55 p.m. in 1302 Longworth House Office Building. The featured speaker is Dr. Bryan Young, Professor of Weed Science, Southern Illinois University.

A new Special Publication from the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) documents the ecological and economic implications of U.S. soybean production in conventional, transgenic, and organic production systems. “A comprehensive, historical review of the literature demonstrates a clear movement towards environmental and economic sustainability of soybean production in the United States and will continue to evolve in this direction with the adoption of new technologies in the future,” according to Young.

“This presentation is an excellent example of how agricultural research and extension can produce the scientific outcomes and outreach needed to meet 21st century challenges and opportunities,” said M. Stephanie Patrick, President of the National Coalition for Food & Agricultural Research (National C-FAR).

Dr. Young’s responsibilities include teaching, research, and outreach. His primary research efforts are directed towards applied field and greenhouse research to improve weed management in corn, soybeans, wheat, and certain horticultural crops. He is a member of the CAST Task Force that completed CAST Special Publication No. 30, *Sustainability of U.S. Soybean Production: Conventional, Transgenic, and Organic Production Systems*.

The seminar is open to the public and the media.

NATIONAL C-FAR is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, consensus-based, and *customer-led* coalition that brings food, agriculture, nutrition, conservation, and natural resource stakeholders together with the food and agriculture research and extension community, serving as a forum and a unified voice in support of sustaining and increasing public investment at the national level in food and agricultural research, extension, and education. National C-FAR’s Hill Seminar Series, now entering its fifth year, regularly presents leading-edge researchers working to provide answers to pressing issues confronting the public and Congress. The Hill Seminar Series and Success Profiles help demonstrate the value of public investment in food and agricultural research—investment that returns 45 percent per year on average. Go to http://www.ncfar.org/Hill_Seminar_Series.asp for more information about the seminar series and past topics. Interviews with National C-FAR President M. Stephanie Patrick are available by request. For additional information, go to www.ncfar.org; or contact Tom Van Arsdall, Executive Director, at tom@vanarsdall.com or (703) 509-4746.

CAST is an international consortium of 33 scientific and professional societies. It assembles, interprets, and communicates credible science-based information regionally, nationally, and internationally to legislators, regulators, policymakers, the media, the private sector, and the public. CAST Special Publication No. 30 and other reports are available at www.cast-science.org.