



## NATIONAL COALITION FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

Media Advisory

### ***DIVIDE AND MULTIPLY!***

#### ***“Animal Productivity and Genetic Diversity—Cloned and Transgenic Animals”***

**Washington, DC** – September 23, 2009 – Two novel animal breeding techniques are the subject of the eighth 2009 National C-FAR “Lunch~N~Learn” Hill Seminar on Monday, September 28, from 12:00–12:55 p.m. in 1302 Longworth House Office Building. The featured speaker is Dr. Robert Wall, Research Physiologist, Agricultural Research Service’s Animal and Natural Resources Institute, Beltsville, Maryland.

“Like any breeding tools, cloning and transgenesis have their strengths and limitations,” said Dr. Wall. “Some of the most compelling projects enhance animal well-being and decrease the environmental impact of animal production.”

“This presentation is an excellent example of how federally funded food and agriculture research and extension can produce the scientific outcomes and outreach needed to meet 21<sup>st</sup> century challenges and opportunities, both today and in the future,” said Joseph H. Layton, Jr., President of the National Coalition for Food & Agricultural Research (National C-FAR).

Dr. Wall was a member of the team that produced the first transgenic livestock and since has focused his research on improving the efficiency of genetically engineered animals. His lab has produced lean, feed-efficient pigs and recently has genetically engineered cattle that resist infection by *Staph. aureus*, a mastitis causing bacterium. Dr. Wall chaired the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) Task Force for CAST Issue Paper 43, *Animal Productivity and Genetic Diversity: Cloned and Transgenic Animals*, Part 8 of a 9-part series on *Animal Agriculture’s Future through Biotechnology*.

The seminar is open to the public and the media.

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**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 in 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](http://www.ncfar.org/Hill_Seminar_Series.asp) for more information about the seminar series and past topics. Interviews with National C-FAR President Joseph H. Layton, Jr. are available by request. For additional information, go to [www.ncfar.org](http://www.ncfar.org); or contact Tom Van Arsdall, Executive Director, at [tom@vanarsdall.com](mailto:tom@vanarsdall.com) or (703) 509-4746.

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