



## NATIONAL COALITION FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

Media Advisory

### **WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW WON'T HURT YOU**

*CAST Report on Probiotics: Their Potential to Impact Human Health*

Washington, DC – October 9, 2007 – Highlights of a new report being released by the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST Issue Paper 36, *Probiotics: Their Potential to Impact Human Health*), will be presented at the fourth 2007 National C-FAR Hill Seminar by Dr. Mary Ellen Sanders on Thursday, October 11, from 12:00-12:55 in 1302 LHOB.

“To the uninitiated, the list of benefits from probiotics seems too diverse to be possible,” says Sanders, who chaired the CAST task force. “But once it is appreciated that probiotics can impact any colonized regions of the body and that colonizing bacteria have the potential to influence the body locally and systemically, the scope of benefits can be appreciated.”

“We are honored to partner with CAST in featuring Dr. Sanders and the new CAST report in today’s ‘Lunch~N~Learn’ Hill Seminar,” said Joe Layton, President of National C-FAR. “This is an excellent example of how food and agriculture researchers can produce the scientific outcomes needed to meet 21<sup>st</sup> century challenges and opportunities.”

Dr. Mary Ellen Sanders is an internationally recognized consultant in the area of probiotic microbiology. She helps food and supplement companies develop new probiotic products and provides technical support for enhancing existing probiotic produce lines. Other members of the task force that authored CAST Issue Paper 36 are Drs. Glenn Gibson, University of Reading, U.K.; Harsharnjit Gill, Department of Primary Industries, Werribee, Australia; and Francisco Guarner, University Hospital Vall d’Hebron, Barcelona, Spain.

The seminar is open to the public and the media. Questions related to the presentation and CAST Issue Paper 36 should be directed to CAST Executive Vice President John Bonner at [jbonner@cast-science.org](mailto:jbonner@cast-science.org) or (515) 292-2125.

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**CAST IS** a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) organization composed of 38 scientific societies and many individual, student, company, nonprofit, and associate society members. For more information about CAST and access to CAST publications, go to <http://www.cast-science.org>.

**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 regularly presents leading-edge researchers working to provide answers to pressing issues confronting the public and Congress. Interviews with National C-FAR President Joe Layton 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).