



# NATIONAL COALITION FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

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## Providing Value in Support of Enhancing Federal Investment in Food & Agricultural Research, Extension and Education

### **National C-FAR Assets & Role:**

+ **Strength Through Diversity**—Members of National C-FAR find common ground in the recognition that enhanced public funding for food and agricultural research, extension and education is vital to the future of the food and agricultural system and the nation. The coalition brings together stakeholders in the research, extension and education community and entities representing research ‘customers’—e.g., the diverse array of stakeholder organizations who need and benefit from research outcomes. National C-FAR is in a position to *complement* the efforts of allied groups, such as APLU, CoFARM and CAST.

+ **Customer-Led**—The coalition provides a critical validating voice by ensuring stakeholder groups representing research ‘customers’ play a leadership role in the coalition, embracing a strong partnership with those in the research, extension and education community.

+ **Leveraging Active Ownership Involvement**—National C-FAR works to keep member organizations aware of new developments and opportunities to take action. The Board is strongly supported by member involvement through the Research Outreach Committee (ROC) and work groups.

### **National C-FAR Action Program:**

National C-FAR’s unique strength lies in education and outreach initiatives like the highly successful hill seminar series. This longer term investment is undertaken to build a stronger foundation of awareness and information for hill staff and policy makers to help them make more informed and positive decisions about funding. National C-FAR is actively engaged in farm bill implementation and the annual budget and appropriations process with the objective of sustaining and increasing federal funding for food & ag RE&E.

+ **Hill Research Seminar Series**—National C-FAR conducts a “Lunch~N~Learn” hill seminar educational series—51 seminars in the past 5+ years, over 2,500 attendees. Featuring top researchers discussing publicly funded, leading-edge research that promises to address present and future challenges. [http://www.ncfar.org/Hill\\_Seminar\\_Series.asp](http://www.ncfar.org/Hill_Seminar_Series.asp)

+ **Active Support for Increased Funding**—National C-FAR submits comments to the Administration and congressional appropriations and budget committees and during the federal FY budget process each year in support of maintaining and enhancing public investment in food and agricultural research, extension and education. National C-FAR also facilitates and participates in group efforts toward the same ends.

+ **Collaboration with APLU-BAA**—National C-FAR is collaborating with APLU-Board on Agriculture Assembly (BAA) on outreach initiatives to help leading “customers” voice their views to the public about the value of federal investments in food and ag research.

+ **Participation in Implementation of New Farm Bill**—National C-FAR is reaching out to key policy makers and stakeholders to evaluate how best to protect existing funding and increase future funding for research, extension and education in the next Administration and Congress. The ROC reports to the Board and facilitates National C-FAR’s role in the Farm Bill implementation process.

For more information, go to <http://www.ncfar.org>.

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