



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 [11 in 2009, 200 attendees first 4—9 in 2008, with over 500 attending—21 in 2005-7] featuring top researchers discussing publicly funded, leading-edge research that promises to address present and future challenges.

+ **Research Success Profiles**—National C-FAR produces and distributes a series of 1-page Research Success Profiles to key hill staff and other target audiences (Administration and food & agricultural media) illustrating examples of how public funding of food and agricultural research, extension and education yields tremendous returns on investment to the food and agricultural system and the public.

+ **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.

+ **Active Support for Increased Funding**—National C-FAR submits comments to the 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.

For more information, go to <http://www.ncfar.org>, and SEE attached Exhibit on the Hill Seminar Series.

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