



NATIONAL COALITION FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

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January 29, 2003

National C-FAR – January 2003 Update

Progress Report: National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research

***Note from Secretary/Treasurer:** This electronic newsletter provides a year-end review of the activities, finances, and membership of National C-FAR during 2002 and a discussion of the challenges and opportunities for 2003 and beyond. We strongly encourage members and friends of National C-FAR to read this newsletter and send us any comments and concerns you may have.*

Progress: Since our founding just two years ago on January 30, 2001, the National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research (National C-FAR) has become a broad-based and influential national advocate for food and agricultural research and education. A highlight of the efforts to date has been the passage in the 2002 Farm Bill of a “Sense of Congress” provision that calls for a “doubling food and agricultural research over the next 5 years.” Other major accomplishments in our second year include the following.

- Created and incorporated a non-profit organization and contracted with the Federation of Animal Science Societies (FASS) to provide administrative support
- Achieved a membership of 95 major food and agricultural organizations and individuals
- Continued developing a rapport and credibility with congressional and administrative staff
- Contracted with DITTUS Communications to help us develop a roadmap for our education strategy
- Published four research success stories and distributed them to key congressional staff
- Met with top USDA officials and discussed our objectives, strategies and plans
- Held an annual meeting on June 25–26 in Washington, DC; 45 persons attended and new Board members were elected
- Held Legislative Committee meetings in Washington, DC on a monthly basis to discuss strategy
- Co-sponsored with the Food and Society Project three regional stakeholder meetings at University of California, Davis; Texas A&M University; and University of Georgia
- Participated in two meetings of National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics (NAREEE) Advisory Board
- Kept Board and members updated with periodic electronic newsletters and two conference calls

Challenges and Opportunities: Although we made progress in 2002, major challenges remain as we seek to double federal food and agricultural research and education. Although we have raised the visibility and support for enhanced federal funding of food and agricultural

research and education, we must promote it to a higher priority on the agenda of our members and on the national agenda. The major contributions of food and agricultural research to society still are not widely recognized or appreciated. Significant increases in federal appropriations have not yet occurred. Indeed, Congress rescinded federal funding for one major competitive grants research program at USDA, and many states are reducing their support of food and agricultural research and education. The burgeoning federal and state budget deficits suggest that garnering increased funding will be even more challenging. Some are even questioning whether a goal of doubling is reasonable or realistic in view of the war and fiscal climate. Unless support for food and agricultural research and education is broadened and strengthened, it is likely that both federal and state support will continue to drift downward.

Momentum Has Slowed: Regrettably, some of the momentum built by National C-FAR in the initial months has slipped in recent months. This loss of momentum is attributable to at least six factors. First, the tragic September 11 terrorist attack rightfully consumed much of the attention of the President and Congress and derailed many advocacy plans and activities. Second, the debate and eventual passage of the 2002 Farm Bill commanded the attention of most food and agricultural-related organizations. The highly sensitive and delicate negotiations of the commodity and conservation program provisions during the Farm Bill debate deflected efforts to strengthen the food and agricultural research and education provisions. Basically, the Research Title in the 2002 Farm Bill extended existing provisions, added the “Sense of Congress” for doubling funding, and called for some reports and studies, as if we did not already have a bumper crop of them. Third, farm income has been hard hit by six consecutive years of declining commodity prices. The squeaky wheel got the grease—attention was focused on short-term emergency programs. Longer-term solutions via food and agricultural research and education have been neglected. Fourth, the tough times in agriculture and the economic slowdown have reduced the staffing and availability of funds for many agricultural organizations. Fifth, the evenly divided Congress and the shift of control in the Senate from Republicans to Democrats stalemated actions on 2003 appropriations, resulting in flat funding maintained by continuing resolutions until the present time. Sixth, support for membership organizations such as National C-FAR tend to start out strong and then faded somewhat until rekindled. Failure of several organizations to renew memberships in 2002 reflects several of these factors.

Some Encouraging Signs! Although some of the momentum and membership has been lost, we still have a strong and broad base to build upon. The prospects ahead are not as dim as the saga of the past several months might imply. The economy is recovering, and farm commodity prices seem to have bottomed and turned upward. The Farm Bill is behind us for five or more years, hopefully allowing our members and the federal government to devote more time and energy to research and education. The deep cuts at the state level, which previously had off-set some of the federal cuts, are underscoring the growing public funding crisis in food and agricultural research and education and sparking more grassroots concerns. Clearly, the compelling case for investing in food and agricultural is as strong as ever. We must not toss in the towel; rather, we must raise the banner higher. There, of course, is no guarantee that if we push for added funding that it will be forthcoming, but it is guaranteed that if we do not push, added funding will not be forthcoming. If we do not speak up a bad thing will happen – nothing!

What Steps Should National C-FAR Take in 2003 to Rekindle Momentum to Reach our Goal? These are some of the major steps we are suggesting for 2003:

1. Send out notices of membership dues in early February, actively encourage renewals, and recruit new members.
2. Hold a Board conference call tentatively scheduled for **10:00 – 11:30 am Central time on Monday, February 24 or Tuesday, February 25** to review the report of the

- Legislative Committee on implementing the recommendations of DITTUS Communications. DITTUS is expected to recommend a series of “mini-summits” on food and agricultural research during the next year, which eventually may build the momentum for a major national summit or “happening” in 2004. In addition, the Board may discuss the appointment of a planning committee. That committee would then bring to the membership (at the annual meeting) their recommendations for future plans and strategies, including staffing. Secretary/Treasurer, Joe Coffey, is moving to Florida in July and will no longer be conveniently located to Washington, DC.
3. Hold our third annual meeting in Washington, DC in late May or early June. **The proposed dates are Tuesday, May 20 or Tuesday, June 10. Please mark your calendars and let us know which of these two dates would be preferable.** We anticipate beginning at 10:00 a.m. and adjourning at 2:00 p.m. The Board would meet from 2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The purpose of this annual meeting would be to attract new members, re-engage with Congressional and Administration leaders, review the plans, and elect new board members.
 4. Request an Opportunity to participate in the Ministerial Conference on Agricultural Science and Technology on June 23–25, 2003 in Sacramento, California, being held by Agriculture Secretary Veneman.
 5. Work closely with the Food and Society Project and the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics (NAREEE) Advisory Board to increase funding of food and agricultural research.

The Research, Education and Economics Task Force was appointed by Agriculture Secretary Veneman on January 21. The Task Force was authorized by the 2002 Farm Bill to conduct a review of the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and to evaluate the merits of establishing one or more National Institutes focused on disciplines important to the progress of food and agricultural science. The eight members appointed to the task force were: Robert F. Wideman, professor, Center of Excellence for Poultry Science, University of Arkansas; Michael Bryan, president, BBI International; Victor L. Lechtenberg, dean, College of Agriculture, Purdue University; Harry Alan Wood, director, Life Sciences and Biotechnology Institute, Mississippi State University; William Danforth, professor, Internal Medicine, Washington University; Nancy Betts, interim associate dean, Graduate Studies and Research, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Richard Coombe, chair, Watershed Agricultural Council of the NYC Watersheds; and Luis Sequeira, professor emeritus, Departments of Bacteriology and Plant Pathology, University of Wisconsin. Danforth will chair the group which will report its findings by May 2003. This work of the Task Force will be of considerable interest to National C-FAR. We are pleased that two members, Lechtenberg and Danforth, have been active supporters.

Secretary/Treasurers 2002 Report: National C-FAR, as the attached statements for the period ending December 31, 2002 indicate, remains in a sound financial condition with \$82,935.37 of capital at the close of the 2002 fiscal year ending December 31, 2002. (Originally, our fiscal year was July 1 to June 30, but because of cost savings in filing taxes and reports, the Board and members approved the change to January 1 to December 31.) For 2002, we had \$88,200 of revenue from membership dues and total expenses of \$73,220.76, leaving a net income for the year of \$14,979.24 to add to total capital. There was no investment revenue for the funds in the National C-FAR account, which were transferred to FASS from Illinois C-FAR, who provided the administrative support prior to March 2002. Delays in setting up the account and budget uncertainties necessitated maintaining the funds in cash. (Cash flow projections are being developed for 2003 so that surplus funds can be invested.)

Major expenses for the year were \$6,503.92 for the annual meeting held in Washington, DC, June 25–26; \$24,000 for professional fees of the secretary/treasurer; and \$18,093.83 in professional fees, which includes \$12,500 for DITTUS. The fees for Administrative,

Marketing & Meeting, Membership, Production, Editorial, and Network support paid to Federation of Animal Science Societies (FASS) for their support of National C-FAR total \$10,256.59. These fees charged are per an agreement dated March 2002. FASS is reimbursed for the services provided per a negotiated rate schedule and in conformance with agreed to accounting policies.

The beginning balance on January 1, 2002 of \$67,956.13 plus the \$14,979.24 net income for 2002 leaves us with a Total Capital balance as of December 31, 2002 of \$82,935.37. A payment due DITTUS of \$12,500 upon the completion of their consulting project is listed as an account payable.

The Bylaws, Article III, Section 2 states that “All dues for the current year shall be paid to the Organization by July 31 of each year. If dues are not received when due, all rights and benefits of membership shall be immediately terminated.” In the initial two years, several members were late joining and paying dues. There was some confusion also because of the original July 1 to June 30 fiscal year. For the new year, 2003, the dues notice will be issued by early February with the due date immediate but no later than July 31, 2003. A list of the 95 current members and the 23 members who did not renew is attached. Dues notices will be sent to all current and past members plus invitations for eligible organizations who are not now members.

**NCFAR Membership Categories
As of 12/31/2002**

National	Over \$5M	8
National	Under \$5M	16
Affiliate	Corporate	2
Affiliate	Individual	18
Affiliate	LocStFedAg/Univ	46
Affiliate	RegStLoc/Org	4
Honorary		1
Total Memberships 2002		95

National C-FAR Expired Member List

January 13, 2003

National Members

American Seed Trade Association
American Vintners Association
CSARE (Consortium for Sustainable Agriculture
Research and Education)
Ducks Unlimited, Inc.
National Farmers Union
National Grain & Feed Association
Sustainable Agriculture Coalition
USA Rice Federation

University Members

Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research
Northeast Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment
Station Directors
Southern Illinois University
University of Delaware
University of Maryland, College Park
Washington University in St. Louis
Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors
(WAAESD)

Corporate Members

Gold Kist, Inc.
Monsanto

Affiliate Members

Barry Sackin (American School Food Service Association)
Becky Doyle (Andrews, Doyle & Associates)
Delmar K. Banner (Lietz, Banner & Ford)
Dr. Stephanie Smith (Institute of Food Technologists)
Jack Cooper (Food Industry Environmental Network)
Robert Mustell (RAM Associates)

National C-FAR 2002 Membership List

January 13, 2003

National Members

American Dietetic Association
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Feed Industry Association
American Society for Nutritional Sciences
American Society of Animal Science
American Soybean Association
American Veterinary Medical Association
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
Biotechnology Industry Organization
CARET
CoFARM
Croplife America
*Federation of Animal Science Societies (FASS)
Forest Landowners Association
Institute of Food Technologists
National Agricultural Biotechnology Council
National Chicken Council
National Corn Growers Association
National Cotton Council
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
National Pork Producers Council
*Northwest Horticultural Council
U.S. Rice Producers Association
Wildlife Management Institute

University Members

Academic Committee on Organization and Policy
(ACOP) of NASULGC
Association of 1890 Research Directors
Auburn University
Clemson University
Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station
Cornell University
Donald Danforth Plant Science Center
Experiment Station Committee on Organization and
Policy (ESCOP) of NASULGC
Extension Committee on Organization and Policy
(ECOP) of NASULGC
Farm Foundation
Iowa State University
Kansas State University
LSU Agricultural Center
Michigan State University
Mississippi State University
North Carolina State University
North Central Reg Assoc of Agricultural Experiment
Station Directors
North Dakota State University
Ohio State University
Oklahoma State University
Oregon State University
Pennsylvania State University
Purdue University
South Dakota State University

Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment
Station Directors (SAAESD)
Texas A & M University System
University of Arizona
University of Arkansas
University of California, DANR
University of California, Davis
University of Connecticut
University of Florida
University of Georgia
University of Idaho
University of Illinois, College of ACES
University of Illinois Extension & Outreach
University of Kentucky
University of Minnesota
University of Missouri – Columbia
University of Tennessee
University of Wisconsin – Madison
Utah Agricultural Experiment Station
Virginia Tech
Washington State University
Washington University West Campus
Wyoming Agriculture Experimental Station

Corporate Members

Land O' Lakes
Nestle Purina PetCare Co.

Affiliate Members

A.J. & Jeanne Harland
Brian M. Hyps (American Society of Plant
Physiologists)
Constance Locher-Bussard, R.D.
Deborah T. Hanfman
Dr. Bernadette Dunham
Dr. Gale A. Buchanan (University of Georgia)
Dr. Ken Lee (Ohio State University)
Dr. Martin A. Massengale (University of Nebraska)
Dr. Teresa A. Gruber (CAST)
Dr. Terry Nipp (AESOP Enterprises, Ltd.)
Dr. W. David Shoup (Southern Illinois University)
Illinois Corn Marketing Board
Illinois Farm Bureau
Illinois Soybean Program Operating Board
John L. Huston
Kellye Eversole (Eversole Associates)
Larry L. Groce (GROCE & Associates)
North American Millers' Association
*Richard Herrett (Agricultural Research Institute)
Rod Nilsestuen (Wisconsin Federation of Coops)
Seeley G. Lodwick (Green Bay Farms)
Tamara Wagester (C-FARE)

Honorary Member

Dr. Norman Borlaug

* - New Members as of 2002

	2002	2001
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash and Investments	82,226.71	79,435.41
Prepaid Postage	524.47	0.00
Prepaid A/M 2003	12,741.90	0.00
Total Current Assets	95,493.08	79,435.41
Property and Equipment		
Total Property and Equipment	0.00	0.00
Other Assets		
Total Other Assets	0.00	0.00
Total Assets	95,493.08	79,435.41
LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	12,500.00	11,479.28
Due to FASS	57.71	0.00
Total Current Liabilities	12,557.71	11,479.28
Long-Term Liabilities		
Total Long-Term Liabilities	0.00	0.00
Total Liabilities	12,557.71	11,479.28
Capital		
General Fund	67,956.13	0.00
Net Income	14,979.24	67,956.13
Total Capital	82,935.37	67,956.13
Total Liabilities & Capital	95,493.08	79,435.41

	December 31, 2002	December 31, 2001
Revenues		
Membership Dues		
< \$5M Budget	12,500.00	12,500.00
> \$5M Budget	10,000.00	10,000.00
Reg/State/Local Organizations	5,500.00	1,500.00
Gov't Local/State/Fed Univer.	53,600.00	41,100.00
Individuals	1,600.00	1,400.00
Corporate	5,000.00	2,500.00
Total Membership Dues	88,200.00	69,000.00
Total Revenues	88,200.00	69,000.00
Expenses		
Meeting Expenses	6,503.92	0.00
Total Annual Meeting	6,503.92	0.00
General & Administrative		
Telephone	1,715.58	857.11
Supplies	515.53	89.94
Postage	232.73	0.00
Shipping	255.16	0.00
Printing	433.43	79.00
Promo Mktg Materials	505.00	0.00
Equipment Lease	77.68	0.00
Network Line Charges	269.57	63.80
Board Travel	1,001.50	0.00
Consultant Travel	2,900.72	10,283.40
FASS Staff Travel	1,751.90	0.00
Total G & A	9,658.80	11,373.25
Service Fees		
FASS Service Fees		
Administration Fees	43.75	0.00
Marketing & Meeting Fees	1,467.00	0.00
Membership Fees	6,553.50	0.00
Production Fees	166.25	0.00
Editorial Fees	70.00	0.00
Network Fees	1,956.09	0.00
SubTotal	10,256.59	0.00
Bank Service Fees	21.00	6.00
Visa Service Fees	216.22	0.00
Audit/Tax Fees	1,340.65	0.00
Professional Fees-Sect/Treas	24,000.00	0.00
Professional Fees	18,093.83	3,790.94
Total Service Fees	53,928.29	3,796.94
Other Expenses		
Professional Liability Insur.	2,990.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	139.75	0.00
Total Other Expenses	3,129.75	0.00
Total Expenses	73,220.76	15,170.19
Net Income	14,979.24	53,829.81