WATERSHED VIEW OF
AG CONSERVATION

Effectiveness of Ag Conservation Practices
at the Watershed Scale

Washington, DC – April 22, For Immediate Release – The effectiveness of agricultural conservation practices at the watershed scale will be discussed at National C-FAR's hill research seminar on Friday, April 26—twice: at 10 am in 337 Russell Senate Office Building, and at the noon ‘Lunch~N~Learn’ seminar in 1300 Longworth House Office Building. The featured speaker is Deanna Osmond, Ph.D., Department of Soil Science, North Carolina State University.

"Results from a federally funded study provide important lessons to federal and state agency personnel, farm and nonprofit organizations, and farmers about better protecting water quality and using limited resources more efficiently," says Deanna Osmond of North Carolina State University.

Abstract: Excess nutrients have resulted in deteriorating water quality throughout the United States and the world. We have to look no further than the Chesapeake Bay and Gulf of Mexico to see the impacts of the nutrients. USDA as part of their overall Conservation Effects Assessment Program (CEAP) developed a study through the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) and the Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) that retrospectively analyzed the effectiveness of conservation practices at a watershed scale. The results from each of the 13 watersheds studied were synthesized and many lessons were learned about the efficacy of agricultural conservation to protect water quality. To better protect our waters, while maintaining productivity of agricultural lands, it is important to translate these findings into policy and practice.

Seminar presentations are available at http://www.ncfar.org/Hill_Seminar_Series.asp. 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 sixth year, regularly presents leading-edge researchers working to provide answers to pressing issues confronting the public and Congress. The Hill Seminar Series helps demonstrate the value of public investment in food and agricultural research—investment that returns 45 percent per year on average, and $20 in economic benefit from every $1 investment in food and ag research.

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