MORE CROP FOR THE DROP

Technology Implementation in Agriculture for Enhancing Crop Water Productivity

Washington, DC—February 3, for Immediate Release – Extension to translate research outcomes on enhancing crop water productivity will be the subject of National C-FAR’s research seminar on Monday, February 8, at 10 AM in 328A Russell Senate Office Building, and again at noon in 1300 Longworth House Office Building. The presenter is Dr. Irmat Suat, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; and the moderator is Dr. Steve Slack, former director of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC).

“Water security is a pressing issue for agriculture, human health, and even national security, says Slack. “Research, academic programs, and Cooperative Extension must join with the federal government and other partners to assure this finite resource is conserved, protected, and managed for maximum food production and human health.”

“The State of Nebraska is serious about reducing water use while maintaining quality produce and yields. This goal is accomplished through science-based education delivered by Cooperative Extension and its partners to producers on the ground where they live, work and engage in agriculture as their livelihood,” says Suat.

“These presentations provide excellent examples of the value of federally funded food and agricultural research, Extension and education in producing the scientific outcomes and outreach needed to meet 21st century challenges and opportunities,” says Chuck Conner, President of the National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research (National C-FAR).

Highlights: Use of the valuable resource of water is of critical concern in food production. The purpose of this session is to give an overview of the water situation in the United States, which will be accomplished by the moderator, Dr. Steve Slack, Ohio State University. Then the focus will turn to an issue related to water security, specifically the use of irrigation in food production allowing for peak production and economic gain for producers while conserving the scarce and valuable resource of water. The guest speaker is Dr. Suat Irmak, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The session is sponsored by the Cooperative Extension and Experiment Station Sections of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities Board on Agriculture Assembly. The seminar is open to the public and the media.

The National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research (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 tenth 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.