Lunch ~ N ~ Learn SEMINAR

THE NATIONAL COALITION FOR FOOD & AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

ARS MISSION, PROGRAMS AND CHALLENGES

June 20, 2016
PROGRAM

Welcome and Introduction

GINA LUKE
NATIONAL C-FAR REPRESENTATIVE

Distinguished Speaker

DR. CHAVONDA JACOBS-YOUNG
ADMINISTRATOR, AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Open Forum

Closing

GINA LUKE

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. For additional information, go to www.ncfar.org; or contact Tom Van Arsdall, Executive Director, at tom@vanarsdall.com.
ABSTRACT
ARS is USDA's chief scientific in-house research agency. The ARS vision is to lead America towards a better future through agricultural research and information, finding solutions to agricultural problems that affect Americans every day from field to table. ARS conducts research to develop and transfer solutions to agricultural problems of high national priority and provide information access and dissemination to: ensure high-quality, safe food, and other agricultural products; assess the nutritional needs of Americans; sustain a competitive agricultural economy; and enhance the natural resource base and the environment and provide economic opportunities for rural citizens, communities, and society as a whole. The presentation will include a focus on the agency’s important research on the health of honey bees and other pollinators, in keeping with the start of National Pollinator Week. ARS has 750 research projects within 17 National Programs; employs 2000 scientists and post docs and 6,000 other employees; operates 90+ research locations, including overseas laboratories; and has a $1.1 billion fiscal year budget. ARS is one of four agencies in USDA's Research, Education and Economics (REE) mission area. The others are National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), Economic Research Service (ERS), and National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY
Chavonda Jacobs-Young, Ph.D., has served as Administrator of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s chief scientific in-house research agency since February 2014. Previously, Dr. Jacobs-Young had served as ARS Associate Administrator for National Programs, Director of the Office of the Chief Scientist at USDA and Acting Director for USDA’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Dr. Jacobs-Young has also served as a senior policy analyst for agriculture in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. Dr. Jacobs-Young is a native of Georgia. She holds M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Wood and Paper Science and a B.S. degree in Pulp and Paper Science and Technology from North Carolina State University. She also is a graduate of American University’s Executive Leadership in Public Policy Implementation Program.
SEMINAR SERIES DESCRIPTION

National C-FAR’s Seminar Series regularly presents leading-edge researchers to address pressing issues confronting the public and Congress. National C-FAR and the Seminar Series serve as a resource to policymakers and staff.

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