WHEN GOOD FOOD GOES BAD

“Food Safety and Fresh Produce: An Update”

Washington, DC – July 22, 2009 – Food safety and fresh produce is the subject of a National C-FAR “Lunch~N~Learn” Hill Seminar on Monday, July 27, from 12:00–12:55 p.m. in 1302 Longworth House Office Building. The featured speaker is Dr. William McGlynn, Research and Extension Food Science Specialist, Oklahoma State University.

“Consumption of fresh produce in the United States has increased substantially in recent years, but so have outbreaks of food-related illnesses associated with these foods,” said McGlynn. “Only a comprehensive food safety system, from farm to table, will minimize the risk of foodborne illness.”

“This presentation is an excellent example of how agricultural research and extension can produce the scientific outcomes and outreach needed to meet 21st century challenges and opportunities,” said M. Stephanie Patrick, President of the National Coalition for Food & Agricultural Research (National C-FAR).

Dr. McGlynn’s research focuses on improving the safety and quality of processed fruits and vegetables. He also serves as a resource to help commercial food processors understand and comply with processing and labeling regulations. Dr. McGlynn chaired the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) Task Force for the CAST Commentary (QTA 2009-1) Food Safety and Fresh Produce: An Update.

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 entering its fifth year, regularly presents leading-edge researchers working to provide answers to pressing issues confronting the public and Congress. The Hill Seminar Series and Success Profiles help demonstrate the value of public investment in food and agricultural research—investment that returns 45 percent per year on average. 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 M. Stephanie Patrick 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.

CAST is an international consortium of 33 scientific and professional societies. It assembles, interprets, and communicates credible science-based information regionally, nationally, and internationally to legislators, regulators, policymakers, the media, the private sector, and the public. CAST Special Publication No. 30 and other reports are available at www.cast-science.org.