



Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

It certainly seems like we've turned a corner on the pandemic as the region and the country begins to reopen. We thought it interesting that the Kentucky Derby attracted a limited, live audience of 51,838 people and that was the largest crowd at an American sporting event in over 14 months. While we'll hold our NERA summer meeting virtually, the annual Experiment Station Section's fall meeting, September 27-30, 2021 is set to be face-to-face in Squaw Valley, CA. We'll be sending a poll mid-June to gauge your intent and capability to attend. More normal coming...

"The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little." – Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1937, [Inaugural Address](#).

Action items:

- The USDA is seeking examples of how our 1862 and 1890 universities work together on state and national levels. If you have a compelling example of 1862/1890 collaboration, would you please share that with [me](#).
- Please cast your ballot on the selection of an ESS representative on the Communications and Marketing Committee. The Northeast's own Wendie Cohick (Rutgers) is in the running.
- Hold the date: The Experiment Station Section is planning on holding its annual meeting face-to-face in Squaw Valley, CA on September 27-30, 2021. Stay tuned!

Reminders/Updates:

- NERA's Executive Committee authorized the Association's signature on two sign-on letters. One of the letters supported the [America Grows Act](#), an initiative to increase the USDA budget by 5% each year for the next 10 years. The other letter was in support of the APLU's ask for [infrastructure](#) (\$11.5 billion.)

Informational items:

- As you have heard, the updated [NIFA Policy Guide](#) is now available for your review. To that end, NIFA will be hosting a webinar to discuss the NIFA Policy Guide on May 5th at 4 PM EDT. Click to [register](#).
- NIFA has announced that it's supporting a new priority area "Extension, Education, and USDA Climate Hubs Partnership" and will be hosting an introductory webinar and Q&A session with national program leaders on May 13 from 3 – 4 PM EDT. This program area supports projects that provide effective, translatable, and scalable approaches to address climate change through regional partnerships including

USDA Climate Hubs and Extension. [Register now](#) to reserve your spot.

- The USDA announced that it will host the first-ever **Food Loss and Waste Innovation Fair** on May 26 (12 - 4 PM EDT), to showcase USDA investments and business leadership in reducing food loss and waste throughout the food system. Click [here](#) for more information and to access the registration link.
- The [Northeast SARE Annual Report](#) is now available on line, check it out.
- In an effort to increase efficiency and standardization, USDA's Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights and NIFA will postpone its current requirements issued in the Sexual Harassment Responsibilities Memo dated December 12, 2020 until further notice. Both agencies are collaborating to take into consideration an online method of reporting similar to NSF and NASA to include a similar timeframe for submissions.
- Colorado State University (CSU)'s College of Agricultural Sciences and Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station invites applications and encourages nominations for [Director, CSU Center for Agricultural Research, Innovation and Education](#) (CARIE) at the Spur Campus of the National Western Center in Denver, Colorado.
- The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Texas A&M University, College Station invites applications for a tenured, [Professor and Head](#) that will serve as the chief administrative officer of the Department and as an advocate for Poultry Science and its allied disciplines.
- The United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, Office of National Programs, Animal Production and Protection, in Beltsville, MD has an opening for a [Food Animal Production National Program Leader](#).



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Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors (NERA)

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NERA and its member institutions are committed to the principles of affirmative action, diversity, and inclusion.

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