



Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

We're thrilled to be coming to you with our [200th NERA News](#). We hope that you find the newsletter to be a valued resource and a means to keep your email inbox free of NERA clutter!

Our colleagues at North Carolina State University, hosts of agInnovation's fall meeting, are urging you to register for the meeting now if you plan to attend in September. Details on registration can be found in the "Informational Items" section.

Editor's note: Finding a quote with the number "200 something" was challenging.

We chose a passage from President John F. Kennedy's "We Choose to Go to the Moon" speech and use **two-hundred** forty thousand as our 200 number. We also share the passage as a continuing message for all of us "to be bold."

"But if I were to say, my fellow citizens, that we shall send to the moon, 240,000 miles away from the control station in Houston, a giant rocket more than 300 feet tall, the length of this football field, made of new metal alloys, some of which have not yet been invented, capable of standing heat and stresses several times more than have ever been experienced, fitted together with a precision better than the finest watch, carrying all the equipment needed for propulsion, guidance, control, communications, food and survival, on an untried mission, to an unknown celestial body, and then return it safely to earth, re-entering the atmosphere at speeds of over 25,000 miles per hour, causing heat about half that of the temperature of the sun—almost as hot as it is here today—and do all this, and do it right, and do it first before this decade is out—then we must be bold." – John F. Kennedy, September 12, 1962, Rice University, [John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum](#).

Action items:

- George Smith, chair of agInnovation, is leading an effort to substantially increase funding for agricultural research across all governmental agencies. The effort is called the "agInnovation Research Roadmap." Once information on the initiative can be disseminated, we'll share that with all of you. In the meantime, we've asked only the directors for feedback on the initial, "Roadmap one-pagers" supporting the effort. If you have feedback on those docs, please share with [David and Rick](#).
- By recommendation of the Administrative Advisor, Christine Smart, the Multistate Activities Committee, and

with support from the Office of the NERA Executive Director, the multistate research project, NE2105: *Industrial hemp products, production, markets, and associated challenges for the stakeholders*, will be terminated early effective September 30, 2024. The project has few Appendix E participants and has not met nor filed annual reports. Please share any concerns about project closure with [Rick](#).

Reminders/Updates:

- With the passage of the NERA budget, NERA assessments will be sent by email on August 1. Many thanks for your support!
 - We've posted the [APLU Board on Agriculture Assembly Fiscal Year 2025 Appropriations Request](#) on the NERA website. (The lines that will interest you the most include: Hatch FY24-\$265M, FY25 request-\$300M; Evans-Allen FY24-\$89M, FY25 request-\$113M; McIntire-Stennis FY24-\$38M, FY25 request-\$46M; AFRI FY25-\$455M, FY25 request-\$500M.) Given the current political landscape, we're not making any prognostications...
 - A continuing ask: We are seeking Administrative Advisers (AA) for several projects as our NERA ranks evolve. Many thanks to the AAs that are rotating off projects. Projects that are seeking AAs include: NE2201 *Mycobacterial Diseases of Animals* and NRSP8 *Genomic Capacity: Building Applied Genomic Capacity for Animal Industries*. If you're interested, please contact [Rick](#).
-

Informational items:

- NCFAR is hosting an in-person Lunch-N-Learn session titled "Coordination and Collaboration Across The Land Grant System: The Western Water Network", tomorrow on July 23 at 12:00 PM ET in room 2220 Rayburn House Office Building. [Registration is required](#). This session may be of interest to your government relations staff that are in Washington, DC.
 - The College of Agriculture and Plant Sciences 2.0 at Purdue University is pleased to announce a new Ph.D. graduate and post-doc training program supporting the **Coalition for Sustainable and Regenerative Agriculture (CSRA)**. This initiative represents a transformative shift in the agricultural landscape, focusing on fostering connected research to explore agricultural production approaches that enhance sustainable and regenerative agriculture and will prepare students to address these global challenges. For more information contact Jessica Orr (jessorr@purdue.edu) or Ron Turco (rturco@purdue.edu).
 - The National Science Foundation (NSF)'s efforts to make federal progress on biotechnology and biomanufacturing will continue in August and September with a series of six Advancement Workshops organized through the Catalyzing Across Sectors to Advance the Bioeconomy ([CASA-Bio](#)) initiative. The workshops will be fully virtual and highly interactive with one 90-minute orientation and 2 full days. When completing the [application form](#), interested participants are asked to describe a project they have worked on related to their workshop topic of interest and explain their anticipated contributions to the workshop. Good luck!
 - Michigan State University is seeking applicants for the role of [Associate Director of AgBioResearch](#). The position is 100% administrative.
 - The [2024 agInnovation Fall Meeting](#) will be held in Raleigh, NC on September 22-25, 2024. The theme for the meeting is "Reimagining the Land-grant University-Industry Relationship". [Registration](#) is live, an [agenda](#) is posted, and [room reservations](#) are available. We look forward to seeing you in NC!
 - The Communications and Marketing Committee has shared their [August 2024 Toolkit](#) titled "Year in Review". Any of the materials are ready for sharing!
 - *The forever green reminder:* In past NERA newsletters, we've made a pitch for "station" photos for both the NERA website and **The Parting Shot**. At the spring meeting we discussed institutions having image libraries. The image libraries are rich archives of photos. We encourage you to share shots from your libraries as well as other image sources. Please [forward pictures to us](#) with a caption and a photo credit.
-

From the Archive:

- *The context:* We shared in the “Reminders/Updates” a link to a page on the NERA website called [National Updates](#). Here you’ll find a number of archival documents from national communications themes to a Farm Bill Primer to the National Academies report on “Enhancing Coordination between Land-grant Universities and Colleges”. Check it out.

The Parting Shot:



200th NERA News!

200th NERA News photo collage (photos courtesy of you! All of these have appeared in the NERA News or are posted on the NERA website).



Follow @NERASAES on Twitter

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

www.nerasaes.org

35 Campus Avenue

Green Hall room 115

University of Rhode Island

Kingston, RI 02881

Executive Director, [Dr. Richard C. Rhodes III](#): (401) 874-2468

Coordinator, [David Leibovitz](#): (401) 874-4801

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

Please do not reply directly to this MailChimp message.