



Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

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Hopefully, most of you will be attending the [Joint Summer Session in Washington, DC](#) when this newsletter goes out. So we'll keep this mercifully short.

“We live in a society exquisitely dependent on science and technology, in which hardly anyone knows anything about science and technology.” Carl Sagan, [Skeptical Inquirer, 1990, 13: 263-269](#).

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### Action items:

- A tribute to recognize Meryl Broussard's service and career will be held at the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, 800 9th Street, SW, Washington, DC, on Thursday, June 6, 2019, beginning at 2:00 p.m. in Waterfront Centre room 1410. During this tribute guests will be welcome to share their individual memories and stories about Dr. Broussard.
- Match on NIFA competitive grants continues to be an issue. NERA compiled input from you and shared that with ESCOP's Committee on Budget and Legislation. In the meantime, NIFA has heard the system (from both NERAOC and ESCOP) which sought information on the 30% ICR limit and match requirements. NIFA has posted resource materials on the [NIFA Farm Bill webpage](#) and has developed a FAQ for the [2018 Farm Bill Matching Requirements](#). While there aren't any silver bullets on either site, both sites are evidence that ICR and match are big issues.
- Doug Steele is seeking members of the LGU community that could serve as an advisory committee during the transition of NIFA to sites outside of Washington, DC. We'll discuss this during the NERA business meeting. I'd ask that you each consider how best for us to provide a NE perspective to who stays and who goes.

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### Reminders/Updates:

- The annual Experiment Station Section meeting will be held in conjunction with Cooperative Extension in Nashville, TN on September 23 - 26, 2019. The [2019 Joint ESS/CES-NEDA Meeting site](#) is now open and it includes a summary, agenda, and hotel and meeting registrations. Register early; we'll be doing a face-to-face NERA meeting at this join session.

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### Informational items:

- *Last call:* Northeast SARE has released the calls for preproposals for 2020 [Research and Education, Professional Development](#) and [Research for Novel Approaches in Sustainable Agriculture](#) projects. Preproposals are **due by June 25** at 5 p.m. ET. Applicants selected to submit full proposals will be contacted in mid-August with full proposals due by Oct. 29. Project awards will be made in late February 2020. More information on how to apply may be found at [www.northeastsare.org/getgrant](http://www.northeastsare.org/getgrant).



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

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