



Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

We're hoping that you too might be experiencing what we're observing here in the NERA office, a small but welcome decrease in email traffic. Importantly, we hope that's an indicator that as summer winds down, all of you are taking some time off to enjoy the remains of the season.

"This morning, the sun endures past dawn. I realize that it is August: the summer's last stand." – Sara Baume (2018) in *A Line Made by Walking*, Mariner Books, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company, New York, NY.

Action items:

- Our colleagues at North Carolina State University's Conference and Guest Services are seeking your registration for [agInnovation's 2024 Fall Meeting](#) 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. The room block closes on August 22. We look forward to seeing you in NC!

Reminders/Updates:

- On August 1, we sent the NERA assessment notes. Should you have any questions about your assessment please contact [David and Rick](#). Many thanks for your support!
- As we shared in our last NERA News, 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 the roadmap is ready for prime time, we'll share it with you. In the meantime, we forwarded to the directors the "one-pagers" that are supporting the effort. If any of you directors have feedback on the one pagers, please forward that to [David and Rick](#).
- *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:

- Together, NIFA and the APLU are seeking a speaker for the Morrill Lecture to honor outstanding contemporary leadership in teaching and significant contributions as an educator. Nominations of an individual can be made on the [National Institute of Food and Agriculture, and Association of Public and Land-grant Universities Memorial Lecture Series](#) site. Nominations are due on August 23, 2024.
- Sara Delheimer has shared the [August MRF Impacts social media tool kit](#). Please share the toolkit, use the materials, and deploy the sample posts.
- North Dakota State University is searching for an [Executive Director for the NDSU Food, Energy, and Water Security \(FEWS\) Initiative](#). This role is pivotal in leading innovative efforts to address critical challenges at the

nexus of food, energy, and water security.

- NIFA is hosting an [Environmental Justice Listening Session](#) on Tuesday, August 20 from 3:00-4:30 PM ET. [Registration](#) is free and required.
- The [National Society of High School Scholars has just published their 2024 Career Interest Survey](#). This survey provides a glimpse into the world of our incoming students.
- *And again:* The Communications and Marketing Committee has posted their [August 2024 Communications Toolkit](#). Check it out, it's the "Year in Review" version and provides a compilation of the previous 11 kits.
- *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:* NERA directors are an excellent source of information on how to do stuff well. We post the "[Best Practices](#)" sessions from our virtual and face-to-face meetings. If you're looking for a station profile or a session about NIMSS or Northeastern Ecosystems, check out the archived materials on our "Resources" tab on the NERA website.

The Parting Shot:



The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station is hosting the [114th Plant Science Day](#) on August 7, 2024 at their Lockwood Farm in Hamden, CT. (Lockwood Farm photo courtesy of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, New Haven).



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