



Today is the last day to tap the room block rate for the [2024 Northeast Joint Summer Session](#) on June 3-5 in Providence, RI. Now is a good time to reserve your room.

We've included in this newsletter several shout-outs, clear evidence that you are making a difference. Last, be sure to check out the NCFAR summary. The number that's been floated for the RFA is substantial.

"...Land-grant universities are thought to reflect a common set of values that include, but are not limited to, academic integrity and ethics, humility, mutual respect and dignity, courage, common sense, a can-do attitude and the promotion of active citizenship and service activities that come to resemble the servant leadership principles..." Steven M. Gavazzi and E Gordon Gee (2018) in *Land-grant Universities for the Future: Higher Education for the Public Good*, Johns Hopkins Press, Baltimore, MD.

Action items:

- Today is the *final day* (the deadline was extended through today) to make a room reservation in the room block for the 2024 Northeast Joint Summer Meeting at the Omni in Providence, RI, June 3-5. Check out the [meeting website](#) which includes links to registration, lodging reservations, and a draft program. Here are the direct links to the [room block](#) and to [registration](#). We're also offering an optional tour of the [Gotham Greens](#), a commercial, urban-based, production facility for leafy greens on June 3. Contact [Rick and Dave](#) if you're interested in attending the tour.
- NIFA has announced its 2023 Partnership Awards. NERA celebrates that the **Multistate Effort** was awarded to the University of Vermont Agritourism Research and Extension Collaborative and the **Effective and Efficient Use of Resources** award went to the University of Connecticut's Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program. Remarkably, two of the four awards went to Northeast institutions. Great job to both institutions!
- We reported in the NERA Supplement last Monday that the Regional Executive Directors were attending the annual meeting of the National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research (NCFAR; NERA is an NCFAR member). One of the activities of meeting participants was to visit with congressional delegates (or their staffers) who were on ag committees: House or Senate-Ag Committees or House or Senate Ag Appropriations subcommittees. (We've posted on the NERA website the NCFAR leave behinds including the [FY2025 Appropriations Requests](#) and a one page [Farm Bill-Research infographic](#).) Rick visited the offices of Senator Fetterman (PA), Representative Pingree (ME), and Representative Thompson (PA). The good news: each of the offices that Rick visited knew, appreciated, and supported the capacity lines, AFRI, and the Research Facilities Act (RFA). This past Friday, the House Committee

on Agriculture Chairman, GT Thompson, released additional details on the bipartisan policies and priorities included in the 2024 Farm Bill. Here are several pertinent links that include Rep.

Thompson's [May 10 open letter](#), the House Ag Committee's [Farm Bill page](#), Title by [Title Overview](#) of the 2024 Farm Bill, and a Title by [Title Summary](#) of the 2024 Farm Bill. If you look at one page, check out page 21 from the Title VII Summary. You'll see that the first line in the Summary notes, "Supports the modernization of agricultural research facilities..." by providing "at least \$1 billion in mandatory funding... under the Research Facilities Act". While we're not there yet, the news is encouraging.

- *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*; NE2249 *Sustainable and Inclusive Rural Economic Development to Enhance Housing, Health, Entrepreneurship, and Equity*; NE2333 *Biological Improvement of Chestnut through Technologies that Address Management of the Species and its Pathogens and Pests*; and NRSP8 *Genomic Capacity: Building Applied Genomic Capacity for Animal Industries*. If you're interested, please contact Rick.

Reminders/Updates:

- Mike Hoffmann, director emeritus of Cornell University's Agricultural Experiment Station, recently wrote a guest editorial in the *Syracuse Post Standard* titled "[We all eat. Let's use the power of food to confront climate change](#)". Take a look at the article and you'll hear Mike's message, "May the power of food be with you."

- The University of California-Davis School of Veterinary Medicine is hosting a webinar titled *Combating Avian Influenza: A One Health Event* on May 16, 2024, from 10:30 AM - 3:00 PM ET. Free [registration](#) is required.

- *Hold the date:* the [2024 BAA Summer Leadership Meeting](#) (formerly known as Joint COPS) will be held in Providence, RI on July 16-18, 2024. During this meeting, agInnovation will host a hybrid business session on July 16 from 8:30 AM – 11:45 AM ET. Click here to view the [hybrid meeting URL](#); the password is "NCRA2023!\$" (no quotes).

Informational items:

- The U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) has issued a national call for authors, public comment, and technical inputs for the Sixth National Climate Assessment (NCA6). More information about the effort is available on the [USGCRP](#) website and in the [Federal Register](#).

- The [2024 Research Center Administrator's Society](#) is meeting in Lincoln, NE on September 8-11, 2024.

- The Northeast Regional Aquaculture Center (NRAC) is seeking preproposals. The [RFA for NRAC 2025 Preproposals](#) is posted on the NRAC website. Please share this information with faculty that might have interest in applying.

- *And again:* Please consider nominating an individual or a team from your institution for an [agInnovation Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion award](#). We know that there are many deserving individuals and teams in the Northeast that offer the best in DEI programming. The same holds for nominating a scientist for a new agInnovation honor, the [Agricultural Research Innovation Award of Excellence](#).

- *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's [Rules of Operation](#) are posted on the NERA website. Those rules were last

modified in 2021 and provide a look at the way that NERA makes sausage.

The Parting Shot:



Ginseng berries, Randolph County, West Virginia. (Emily Hilliard photo, courtesy of [A&M 4224](#), WVU West Virginia Folklife Program Collection)

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

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