

July 13, 2022

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Agriculture
Senate Committee on Appropriations
709 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Hoeven
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Agriculture
Senate Committee on Appropriations
338 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman Baldwin and Ranking Member Hoeven:

The undersigned organizations and institutions represent stakeholders from across the food and agricultural research enterprise. Individually and collectively, our organizations have submitted FY 2023 appropriations requests supporting the broad suite of research, education, and extension programs within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). As the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies continues its work on its FY 2023 appropriations bill, we encourage the Subcommittee members to prioritize increased investments to advance agricultural research at USDA.

Last month, the House Appropriations Committee approved the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies bill, which provides \$3.6 billion for food and agricultural research, extension, and education within the USDA Research, Education, and Economics (REE) mission area. We appreciate the House's leadership as these investments in research, education, and extension programs within USDA are critical to ensuring agricultural productivity, nutrition security, sustainability, and food system equity.

As you work with your colleagues on the Subcommittee to develop the Agriculture Appropriations bill, we urge you to make the following investments to *at least* the levels that were put forward by the House.

- Agriculture Advanced Research and Development Authority (AgARDA) \$2,000,000
- Agricultural Research Service (ARS) \$1,794,934,000
- National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) \$1,768,023,000
 - Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) \$500,000,000
 - Hatch Act (Research and Education Programs) \$265,000,000
 - Evans-Allen (Research and Education Programs) \$92,837,000
 - Smith-Lever (Extension Activities) \$330,000,000
 - 1890 Extension (Extension Activities) \$76,000,000

Our organizations appreciate that the Subcommittee must make difficult choices, balancing the current challenges impacting producers and consumers with the future needs of the food and agricultural system. Multiple studies have demonstrated that a strategic investment in our nation's food and agricultural innovation, education, and extension will provide a significant return on that investment, providing both short- and long-term solutions.

We respectfully ask that you consider our request as you finalize spending priorities for the Senate's FY 2023 appropriations for USDA. Thank you for your consideration and please do not hesitate to contact [Julie McClure](#) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Agricultural & Applied Economics Association
American Association of Mycobacterial Diseases
American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges
American Dairy Coalition
American Dairy Science Association
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Feed Industry Association
American Institute of Biological Sciences
American Malting Barley Association
American Phytopathological Society
American Seed Trade Association
American Society for Microbiology
American Society for Nutrition
American Society of Agronomy
American Society of Animal Science
American Society of Plant Biologists
American Veterinary Medical Association
Animal Health Institute
APLU Board on Agriculture Assembly
Aquatic Plant Management Society
California Citrus Mutual
Carbon180
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Cornell University
Colorado State University
Council for Agricultural Science and Technology
Crop Science Society of America
Ecological Society of America
Edge Dairy Farmer Cooperative
Entomological Society of America
Extension Committee on Organization and Policy/Cooperative Extension System
Farm Journal Foundation
FASS
Institute of Food Technologists
Michigan State University, AgBioResearch
Mycobacterial Diseases of Animals – Multistate Initiative
National Association of Plant Breeders
National Association of Wheat Growers
National Barley Improvement Committee
National Cattlemen's Beef Association
National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research
National Corn Growers Association
National Grange
National Milk Producers Federation
National Pork Producers Council
National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition
North American Craft Maltsters Guild
North American Meat Institute
North Carolina State University College of Agriculture and Life Science
North Central Weed Science Society

Northeastern Weed Science Society
Purdue University
SoAR Foundation
Soil Science Society of America
Southern Weed Science Society
The Breakthrough Institute
University of Florida/IFAS
US Dairy Forage Research Center Stakeholder Committee
Washington State University
Weed Science Society of America
Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors
Western Society of Weed Science