October 19, 2011

Dear Members of the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction:

We, the 1,200 undersigned organizations, companies, institutions, and individuals, are writing to strongly urge you to place a high priority on funding for research for food and agriculture as you carry out your important charge.

The success of the agriculture and food industry plays a significant role in the overall health and security of the U.S. economy and has been one of the few bright spots in recent years. In 2010, U.S. farms and ranches spent $288 billion to produce goods valued at $369 billion; the value of U.S. food and agriculture exports is expected to be more than $140 billion in 2011, creating a record trade surplus of $42.5 billion. Furthermore, the jobs of 21 million Americans depend on the vitality of the U.S. agriculture and food sector.

Investments in publicly funded research are critical for maintaining a successful agriculture and food sector. For every $1 invested in publicly funded agricultural research, $20 in economic activity is generated. Budgetary decisions made today have far reaching impacts, as the scientific research funded today will be responsible for enhancing the Nation’s agricultural productivity and economic prosperity in the future.

Therefore, we strongly urge you to support funding for research for food and agriculture as you develop overall budget proposals for the future. Recent studies have concluded that funding for research for food and agriculture needs to be increased steadily and significantly if future challenges are to be met. At a minimum, we request that funding in the current budget for agricultural research programs be maintained and that further cuts be avoided. Continued investment in science for food and agriculture is essential for maintaining the nation’s food, economic, and national security.

Thank you for your consideration and for your support of research for food and agriculture.

Sincerely,

1,200 organizations, companies, institutions, and individuals (list attached)

cc: U.S. House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture
   U.S. Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture
   U.S. House Committee on Agriculture
   U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture
Companies

1. A&L Great Lakes Laboratories, Inc.
2. AAA Soil Consultants
3. Aregsun Farming Co.
4. Arizona Pest Management Center
5. C. Richard & Associates
6. CID Bio-Science, Inc.
7. Cropper Farms
8. Dakota Indexing LLC
9. Data2Bio, LLC
10. Dow AgroSciences LLC
11. DuPont
12. Eversole Associates
13. Foggy Bottom Farms
14. Food Polymer Science Consultancy
15. Franklin & Franklin Tax Service
16. Franklin Properties
17. GCC-Smart Tools, Inc.
18. Glades Crop Care, Inc.
19. Grand Canyon State Electric Cooperative Association
20. GrassRoots Biotechnology
22. Heartland Plant Innovations
23. Houston Spraying & Supply, Inc.
24. Hy-Line International
25. Hy-Line North America, LLC
26. IE-Strategic Crop Services
27. Infinite Enzymes
28. Irrometer Company, Inc.
29. J. Rettenmaier USA LP
31. Kerr Pacific Corp.
32. KHH BioSci Inc.
33. Lake Seed, Inc.
34. Lester R. Vough, PhD, LLC
35. Mendel Biotechnology
36. Mennel Milling Company
37. MidAtlantic Farm Credit
38. NebraskaLand National Bank
39. New York Botanics, LLC
40. Recombinetics, Inc.
41. Redrock Services, Inc.
42. River Run Farm
43. Silver Lining Farm
44. Soil Works, Inc.
45. Southeast Soil & Environmental Service, Inc.
46. Star of the West Milling Co.
47. Syngenta Biotechnology, Inc.
48. Terra West Consulting, Inc.
49. Van Arsdall & Associates

Educational and Research Institutions

1. Arizona Agricultural Experiment Station, Tucson, AZ
2. Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, Ithaca, NY
3. Carnegie Institution for Science, Washington, DC
4. Carnegie Institution for Science Department of Plant Biology, Stanford, CA
5. Clemson University College of Agriculture, Forestry & Life Sciences, Clemson, SC
6. Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO
7. Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, St. Louis, MO
8. Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station, Moscow, ID
9. Iowa State University, Ames, IA
10. Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS
11. Kansas State University College of Agriculture, Agriculture Research & Cooperative Extension, Manhattan, KS
12. Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
13. Michigan State University College of Agriculture & Natural Resources, East Lansing, MI
14. Montana Agricultural Experiment Station, Bozeman, MT
15. Montana State University College of Agriculture, Bozeman, MT
17. New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM
18. New Mexico State University Agricultural Experiment Station, Las Cruces, NM
19. North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station, Fargo, ND
20. Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural & Environmental Sciences, Columbus, OH
21. Ohio State University Department of Plant Pathology, Columbus, OH
22. Oregon State University College of Agricultural Sciences, Corvallis, OR
23. Purdue University College of Agriculture, West Lafayette, IN
24. Purdue University Department of Animal Sciences, West Lafayette, IN
25. Tennessee State University College of Agriculture, Human & Natural Sciences, Nashville, TN
26. University of Alaska Fairbanks Agricultural & Forestry Experiment Station, Fairbanks, AK
27. University of Alaska Fairbanks School of Natural Resources & Agricultural Sciences, Fairbanks, AK
28. University of California System Cooperative Extension and Agricultural Experiment Station, Davis, CA
29. University of California System Division of Agriculture & Natural Resources, Oakland, CA
30. University of California, Berkeley, College of Natural Resources, Berkeley, CA
31. University of California, Davis, College of Agriculture & Environmental Sciences, Davis, CA
32. University of California, Davis, School of Veterinary Science, Davis, CA
33. University of California, Riverside, College of Natural & Agricultural Sciences, Riverside, CA
34. University of Connecticut College of Agriculture & Natural Resources, Storrs, CT
35. University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine, Athens, GA
36. University of Illinois, Urbana, IL
37. University of Illinois Department of Crop Sciences, Urbana, IL
38. University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Lexington, KY
39. University of Louisiana at Monroe, Monroe, LA
40. University of Maryland Eastern Shore School of Agricultural & Natural Sciences, Princess Anne, MD
41. University of Minnesota College of Agricultural & Natural Resource Sciences, St. Paul, MN
42. University of Minnesota Department of Applied Economics, St. Paul, MN
43. University of Minnesota Department of Food Science & Nutrition, St. Paul, MN
44. University of Minnesota Department of Plant Biology, St. Paul, MN
45. University of Minnesota Department of Plant Pathology, St. Paul, MN
46. University of Minnesota Extension, St. Paul, MN
47. University of the Virgin Islands Agriculture Experiment Station, Kingshill, USVI
48. Utah State University College of Agriculture, Logan, UT
49. Veterinary Diagnostic and Investigational Laboratory, Tifton, GA
50. Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, Blacksburg, VA
51. Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA
52. Virginia Tech College of Natural Resources & Environment, Blacksburg, VA
53. Virginia–Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, Blacksburg, VA
54. Washington State University Department of Horticulture, Pullman, WA

Organizations and Associations

1. AACC International
2. Agribusiness Industry Network
3. American Association of Avian Pathologists
4. American Association of Swine Veterinarians
5. American Bakers Association
6. American College of Veterinary Pathologists
7. American Dairy Science Association
8. American Dietetic Association
9. American Farmland Trust
10. American Feed Industry Association
11. American Phytopathological Society
12. American Seed Trade Association
13. American Sheep Industry Association
14. American Society for Horticultural Science
15. American Society for Microbiology
16. American Society for Nutrition
17. American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers
18. American Society of Agronomy
19. American Society of Animal Science
20. American Society of Plant Biologists
21. American Veterinary Medical Association
22. Animal Health Institute
23. Aquatic Plant Management Society
24. Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
25. Association of Public and Land-grant Universities Board on Agriculture Assembly Policy Board of Directors
26. Association of Public and Land-grant Universities Board on Human Sciences
27. Biotechnology Industry Organization
28. Botanical Society of America
29. California Association of Winegrape Growers
30. California Grape & Tree Fruit League
31. Cherry Marketing Institute
32. Crop Science Society of America
33. Ecological Society of America
34. Entomological Society of America
35. Federation of Animal Science Societies
36. Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association
37. Florida Weed Science Society
38. Georgia Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association
39. Idaho Grain Producers Association
40. Illinois Plant Breeding Center
41. Institute of Food Technologists
42. International Association of Refrigerated Warehouses
43. International Wheat Genome Sequencing Consortium
44. Kentucky Horse Council
45. Kentucky Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders
46. National Aquaculture Association
47. National Association of Federal Veterinarians
48. National Association of Plant Breeders
49. National Association of Wheat Growers
50. National Barley Growers Association
51. National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research (NC-FAR)
52. National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
53. National Farmers Union
54. National Grape & Wine Initiative
55. National Potato Council
56. National Watermelon Association
57. North American Millers’ Association
58. North Central Weed Science Society
59. Northeastern Weed Science Society
60. Poultry Science Association
61. Soil Science Society of America
62. Southern Weed Science Society
63. Southwest Council of Agribusiness
64. Sports Turf Managers Association
65. U.S. Apple Association
66. United States Animal Health Association

67. United States Consortium of Soil Science Associations
68. Vermont Grass Farmers’ Association
69. Weed Science Society of America
70. Western Growers Association
71. Western Society of Weed Science
72. Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine
73. Wine Institute
74. WineAmerica, The National Association of American Wineries

Other Institutions

1. Brookings County Conservation District, Brookings, SD
2. Charles Valentine Riley Memorial Foundation, Flower Mound, TX
3. Council for Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching (CARET), Washington, DC
4. Hamlin County Conservation District, Hayti, SD

Individuals¹

(by location)

Alabama
1. David Allison, Distinguished Professor, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL
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4. Nada K. Nadarajah, Auburn, AL
5. Michael Newman, Decatur, AL
6. Tim Sherman, Mobile, AL
7. Alisha Sledge, Huntsville, AL
8. Robert Taylor, Huntsville, AL
9. Lloyd Walker, Dean and Research Director, Alabama A&M University, Normal, AL

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¹ Those listed have signed as individuals and do not necessarily speak for their organization.
² Indicates member of the National Academy of Sciences.
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69. Ann Hirsch, Professor, Los Angeles, CA
70. Jodie Holt, Riverside, CA
71. Chris Horner, Operations Manager, Monsanto Company, Davis, CA
72. Russell Hovey, Associate Professor, University of California, Davis, Davis, CA
73. An-Ping Hsia, Temple City, CA
74. Wei Hu, Postdoctoral Scholar, University of California, Davis, Davis, CA
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104. Joy Mench, Davis, CA
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107. Elliot Meyerowitz (NAS), Pasadena, CA
108. Richard Michelmore, Professor, Genome Center Director, University of California, Davis, Davis, CA
109. James Millam, Professor, University of California, Davis, Davis, CA
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126. Ivan Rueda, Member, American Society of Plant Biologists, Pacoima, CA
127. Anne Runkel, Graduate Student, Department of Plant & Microbial Biology, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA
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130. Julian Schroeder, Professor, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, CA
131. Jianxiu Shang, Stanford, CA
132. Maeraj Sheikh, Riverside, CA
133. Michael Singer, Davis, CA
134. Laurie Smith, Professor, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, CA
135. Shauna Somerville, Professor, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA
136. Davide Sosso, Department of Plant Biology, Carnegie Institution for Science, Stanford, CA
137. Patricia Springer, Riverside, CA
138. Michael Steinwand, Berkeley, CA
139. Solomon Stonebloom, Joint BioEnergy Institute, San Francisco, CA
140. Larry Stowell, Managing Director, PACE Turf, LLC, San Diego, CA
141. Steven Theg, Professor, University of California, Davis, Davis, CA
142. Roger Thilmony, El Cerrito, CA
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Colorado

1. Saseendran Anapalli, Fort Collins, CO
2. Lorinda Anderson, Assistant Professor, Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, CO
3. Mauricio Antunes, Special Assistant Professor, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO
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5. Randall Basaraba, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO
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17. Gary Peterson, Fort Collins, CO
18. Craig Ramsey, Fort Collins, CO
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25. Robert Zimdahl, Fort Collins, CO

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5. Rebecca Kelly, Monsanto Company, Mystic, CT
6. Robert E. Marra, Department of Plant Pathology & Ecology, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, New Haven, CT
7. Alberto Rivetta, New Haven, CT
8. Donna Scherer, Senior Patent Agent, Monsanto Company, Mystic, CT
9. Clifford Slayman, Hamden, CT
10. Virginia Ursin, Technology Prospecting Lead, Monsanto Company, Mystic, CT

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2. Jung-Youn Lee, Associate Professor, University of Delaware Delaware Biotechnology Institute, Newark, DE
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District of Columbia
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2. Ian Maw, Vice President, Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources, Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, Washington, DC

Florida
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2. Gary Anderson, Davenport, FL
3. Meghan Barnett, Jupiter, FL
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5. Barry Brecke, President, Southern Weed Science Society, Jay, FL
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13. Angela Guttmann, Pensacola, FL
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16. Jim Handley, Executive Vice President, Florida Cattleman’s Association, FL
17. Zhenli He, Associate Professor, University of Florida, Fort Pierce, FL
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19. Eric Johnson, North Palm Beach, FL
20. Harry Klee, Gainesville, FL
21. Tim Leeder, West Palm Beach, FL
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27. Sandy McCarthy, Jupiter, FL
28. H. Charles Mellinger, Director of Technical Services, Glades Crop Care, Inc., Jupiter, FL
29. Madeline Mellinger, President, Glades Crop Care, Inc., Jupiter, FL
30. Chris Miller, Glades Crop Care, Inc., West Palm Beach, FL
31. Robert Morrissey, Executive Director, National Watermelon Association, Lakeland, FL
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33. David Oppenheimer, Associate Professor, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
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37. Brent Sellers, Bowling Green, FL
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8. Andrew Johnson, Athens, GA
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