



While summer has officially started, our work continues in earnest. We're actively engaged in appropriations and reconciliation conversations. To that end, please don't hesitate to share your comments, reflections, and concerns. If you'd like to share those anonymously, we've created a portal for submissions (see the link in the second "Reminders/Updates").

Conversely, we hope that you'll find some time in the upcoming months to relax and recharge!

"Almost everything will work again if you unplug it for a few minutes, including you." – Anne Lamott (2018) in *Almost Everything: Notes on Hope*. Riverhead Books, New York, NY.

Action items:

- As our fiscal year is set to turn over next week, we'd share that our ranks are also turning over. Please welcome [Wendy Powers](#) who has been appointed as the Dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Maryland and Director of MAES and Maryland Extension. Extend congratulations to [Lynne McLandsborough](#) who has been named as Director of the University of the Massachusetts Center for Agriculture, Food and the Environment and Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research and Engagement.
- Lewis-Burke Associates (LBA), the advocacy group that supports our work and that of the APLU, has developed several informational spreadsheets that we've added to our website under Workroom>[National Updates 2025](#). These include: [FY 2026 Agricultural Appropriations: BAA Priorities](#) and [FY 2026 NIFA Accounts of Interest](#). We've also posted updates (dated June 12,

2025) on the [reconciliation](#) and [appropriations bills](#). Give them a look!

- agInnovation is seeking a representative for the APLU BAA's Communications and Marketing Committee to replace Leslie Edgar. (Leslie has been [appointed as the J.R. Simplot Endowed Dean](#) of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, University of Idaho.) If you're interested in serving, [please contact Rick and David](#).

- As we discussed during our business meeting, we have a number of Administrative Adviser (AA) slots open. Here are the projects seeking replacements (current AA is in parentheses). [Please contact Rick and David](#) to share your interest in serving.

- NE2101: *Eastern White Pine Health and Responses to Environmental Changes* (George Criner)
- NE2201: *Mycobacterial Diseases of Animals* (Rick Rhodes)
- NE2334: *Genetic Bases for Resistance and Immunity to Avian Diseases* (Robert Taylor)
- NRSP8: *Genomic Capacity: Building Applied Genomic Capacity for Animal Industries* (John Kirby)
- NE2220: *Multi-state Coordinated Evaluation of Grape Cultivars and Clones* (Margaret Smith)
- NE2231: *Collaborative Potato Breeding and Variety Development Activities to Enhance Farm Sustainability in the Eastern US* (Margaret Smith)
- NECC2202: *Formal Structure for the Minor Use Animal Drug Program* (Margaret Smith)
- NECC29: *Corn Improvement Conference* (Margaret Smith)

- During the agInnovation Northeast business meeting, [the directors voted to approve the budget](#). We'll be sending out via email, assessment invoices on July 1. Be on the look out for the email. Many thanks for your continuing support, we work for you!

- Our next agInnovation Northeast virtual meeting will be on July 17 at 8:00 AM. We'll send out connection details and an agenda a week prior to the meeting.

Reminders/Updates:

- Here's the line-up for our agInnovation Northeast virtual meetings which start at 8:00 AM: **July 17**, August 14, October 16, November 20, and December 11, (regularly scheduled winter virtual meeting). Agendas and connection details will be sent to you prior to the meeting.

- *Continuing:* If you have had grants cancelled, programs paused, or lost access to databases, we'd like to hear what program, what agency, the dollar amount of the loss, and/or the impact of the loss. We've posted to our website, a [summary that the North Central Region](#) drafted in response to recent Executive Orders and Administrative Actions. Don't hesitate to reach out with your reflections. [We're here for you!](#) We've also created a portal for you to enter your anonymous reflections on our [agInnovation Northeast Comment Submission Form](#).
 - The BAA Summer Leadership Meeting and New Administrators Orientation will be held July 14-16 in Washington, DC at the Royal Sonesta Hotel. agInnovation will hold an in-person business meeting during this event on July 15 at 8:00 am. [Visit the meeting website](#) for more information about registration and lodging.
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Informational items:

- Damona Doye and Alton Thompson are drafting a session, *Prioritizing AI Strategies and Roadmapping AI Implementation*, for the 2025 Joint agInnovation/CES-NEDA Meeting (September 15-18, 2025, St. Louis, MO). To prepare for the session, Damona and Alton are hosting a virtual session, *Preparing for What's Next in AI for Cooperative Extension and Agricultural Research*, on July 24, 3-4:30 PM ET. Please consider registering for the virtual session here: [Extension Foundation Virtual AI Convening](#).
- The University of Maine School of Food and Agriculture is seeking applications for the position of [Manager/Lecturer for the Dr. Matthew Highlands Pilot Plant for Food Research and Innovation](#).
- The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS) at North Carolina State University is seeking applications for the position of [Associate Dean and Director of the North Carolina Agricultural Research Service](#).
- We're currently in the throes of a complex legislative period that includes reconciliation ([H.R. 1 – One Big Beautiful Bill Act](#)) and appropriations (check out the LBA documents highlighted in the Action Items.) While all of you are well-versed in appropriations, the reconciliation process is less well-known. We've posted to the agInnovation Northeast website under Workroom>[Reports/Whitepapers](#), a report from the Congressional Research Service a document titled "[The Reconciliation Process: Frequently Asked Questions](#)".
- *The forever green reminder:* In past newsletters, we've made a

pitch for “station” photos for both the agInnovation Northeast website and **The Parting Shot**. 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: The agInnovation Northeast website is a one-stop-shopping archive for documents that you might want or need. Check out the items we have archived in the [Workroom>National Updates 2025](#) (and referred to in Action Items in this newsletter).

The Parting Shot:



“A taste of summer.” (Watermelon variety trials and stakeholder feedback. Photo credit: University of Delaware.)

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