



This past Wednesday was Earth Day, powered by a theme of “Our Power, Our Planet”. The theme reminded me of the role that you play as innovators protecting our natural resources: safe water, productive soils, and climate resilience. To you all, continue to advance solutions, our people and planet are depending on you.

In the spirit of learning together, leading together, now is a great time to register for the Joint Summer Session. Check out the second Action Item.

“A chorus of living wood sings to the woman: *If your mind were only a slightly greener thing, we’d drown you in meaning.* The pine she leans against says: *Listen. There’s something you need to hear.*” — Richard Powers (2018) in *The Overstory*. W.W Norton & Company, New York, NY.

Action items:

- When you get a chance, congratulate Troy Ott! He’ll be recognized this July in Indianapolis during the 59th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Reproduction with the **Distinguished Service and Leadership Award**.
- [Registration](#) and [room reservations](#) are now open for the [Joint Summer Session](#) June 1-3, 2026, in Burlington, VT. The theme for the meeting is Learning Together, Leading Together. The agenda is posted on the [Joint Summer Session landing page](#).
- The [notes from the agInnovation Northeast zoom call on April 16 at 8:00 AM](#) are now posted on the website. Check them out!
- *Request for information:* We’ve heard from one of our station

directors that a NIFA national program director reached out to the PD of a Hatch Project and shared that while the project had been approved under a different administration, the project was not aligned with current administration priorities and national interests (e.g., Executive Order...). As such, the NPL requested that the PD review and revise the project. We're interested to know if you've received similar notices. If so, would you please [share the project title, PD, and the reason for the change to Rick and David](#).

- Thanks for encouraging your graduate students to submit abstracts. We'll be contacting graduate students this week on what happens next. We're thrilled to be hosting our first (and not last) Graduate Post Doctoral Forum at Rutgers University, May 26-28.
- Thank you for casting a ballot on our recommendation to the NRSP Review Committee on the disposition of NRSP_TEMP12 *Building Integrated Research Networks to Advance the Conduct and Application of Science with Urban Communities*. The region will be recommending to the Review Committee approval of the proposal with revisions. The [response that we will be sending to the Review Committee](#) is posted on our agInnovation Northeast webpage.

Reminders/Updates:

- On April 23 the USDA shared an update on its reorganization. This press release was dedicated to the [restructuring and reorganization of the Research, Education and Economics mission area](#). Take a look and share any [reflections or concerns with David and Rick](#).
- *Last call:* We've asked each station to submit two research descriptions, one on a mature research project and the other on a new project for a semiannual publication, **agInnovation Northeast: Impacts**. Those descriptions are trickling in, slowly! If you haven't sent your descriptions there's still time. We've [posted the request](#) on the agInnovation Northeast website!
- *Save the dates:*
 - [Joint Summer Session \(agInnovation Northeast and NEED\)](#), Shelburne, VT, June 1-3, 2026 (hosted by the University of Vermont)
 - agInnovation Annual Meeting, Grand Junction, CO, September 21-25, 2026 (hosted by Colorado State University)
- *agInnovation Northeast virtual meeting dates (2026, all begin at 8:00 AM)*

- May 21, July 16, August 20, October 15, November 19, December 17 (agInnovation Northeast Winter Meeting)
-

Informational items:

- The APLU's Communication and Marketing Committee has released the May toolkit titled "[Investing in Today's Youth and College Students Fortifies Tomorrow's Workforce](#)." Check it out, share with your communicators, and use the resources.
 - Sara Delheimer has shared the [Multistate Research Fund Impacts May toolkit](#). As Sara always notes, please feel free to share this toolkit and use/adapt the materials and the sample posts as you see fit!
 - The [National Urban Research and Extension Center](#) is hosting a series of webinars, the Urban Food Series. The last webinars will be held on May 5, *The State of Urban Agriculture: Insights from Extension and Research*. [Here's the link to register](#).
 - *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:

- You might have been in the position of being asked "What does agInnovation Northeast do?" If you'd like a concise summary, [check out our landing page](#) and scroll down to "The value of agInnovation Northeast: What we do". Yes, you will need to know this for the next agInnovation Northeast test.

The Parting Shot:

Mark Schrader, Cornell, reminds us it's springtime!



Help wanted: capable machine operator, must have waders
(Thompson Vegetable Research Farm, Cornell University; photo
credit: Rick Randolph, Farm [and water!] Manager)

35 Campus Avenue
Green Hall room 115
University of Rhode Island
Kingston, RI 02881

Executive Director, [Dr. Richard C. Rhodes III](#): (401) 874-2468
Coordinator, [David Leibovitz](#): (401) 874-4801

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

Please do not reply directly to this MailChimp message.