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# Farm Foundation

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*2003 Annual Report*

# Mission

*Farm Foundation's mission is to improve the economic and social well-being of U.S. agriculture, the food system and rural communities by serving as a catalyst to assist private and public sector decision makers in identifying and understanding forces that will shape the future.*

*A Catalyst for Agriculture and Rural America*



## ***The Work of Farm Foundation***

We are a private, operating foundation focused on the economic well-being of agriculture, the food system and the people of rural America.

We are supported by individuals, corporations, government agencies and other foundations who share our commitment to agriculture and rural America.

We believe that agriculture, the food system and the people who live in rural America are important, integral elements of our national economy and social structure.

We are unique in addressing issues significant across the face of agriculture and rural America—regardless of geographic, livestock or crop boundaries.

We believe the development of human capital, technology and institutions through education and research-based information, leads to improved decisions and promotes leadership development.

We promote understanding of the relationships among natural resources, human capital, technology, public institutions and society.

We create an “agenda-free zone” for the discussion and debate of timely issues, a role made possible by our 70-year policy not to advocate specific positions, lobby or take political stands. We bring various stakeholders and their diverse viewpoints to the table for meaningful professional discussion, dialogue and debate on cutting-edge issues.

We look over the horizon—and encourage others to do so—to address today’s issues that have the potential to be problems tomorrow.

**We are Farm Foundation.**

# Foundation Leadership



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**Don Villwock**, Vice Chairman  
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# Chairman's & President's Message



**Roderick N. Stacey**  
*Chairman*



**Walter J. Armbruster**  
*President*

Some of the most prominent characteristics of the global food system today are strong political interest groups, single-issue confrontations, international trade conflicts, and the mixed actions and reactions of a consolidating industry.

But the speed of change in today's agricultural business climate demands ongoing attention to crucial fundamentals: the growth of human capital, long-term approaches to critical issues, objective analysis of alternative policy approaches, and progress toward consensus among diverse industry stakeholders.

Among all the forces in agriculture, Farm Foundation stands alone in focusing on these long-term issues. Founded to foster economic and social well-being in agriculture and rural America, Farm Foundation nurtures dialogue among diverse audiences on economic and policy issues.

We are often at the forefront in identifying and giving attention to developing issues with long-term implications. We cultivate resources for public policy education, and encourage networking to broaden the impacts of land grant universities.

Were founders Alexander Legge and Frank Lowden to review Farm Foundation's 2003 project portfolio, they would no doubt be taken aback by such things as biotechnology, bioenergy or the acronyms of world trade—NAFTA, WTO and FTAA. That would be overshadowed, however, in their pride of Farm Foundation's aggressive leadership addressing timely, cutting-edge issues directly influencing the economic health of agriculture and rural America.

It's the business strategy Legge and Lowden conceived 70 years ago and one that we continue to follow today.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'W. J. Armbruster'.

Walter J. Armbruster



# Programs For A World of Change

Developed by the Board of Trustees, Farm Foundation's strategic plan guides our program activities. The plan has four objectives:

- Identify forces of change that will shape the future;
- Stimulate research and education that increase human capital and build a body of knowledge on the forces of change and the issues evolving from them;
- Foster informed dialogue and build networks to increase understanding and move toward consensus on important public issues and policies; and
- Encourage public and private institutions to communicate to the media and the public about the issues facing agriculture and the people living in rural areas.

To pursue these objectives, the Board of Trustees has identified six priority programming areas, and specific topics to be addressed within each:

## ***Globalization***

Today's agricultural marketplace is the world. That marketplace is constantly being reshaped by trade agreements, political disputes, new technologies, consumer preferences, market players and growing concerns about food safety and security.

Every element of the food chain—farmers, suppliers, processors, food retailers and consumers—need information to better understand the economic opportunities and risks of this fast-paced business environment.

## ***Environmental and Natural Resource Issues***

The economic success of agriculture and rural communities is closely tied to understanding of the relationships between food and fiber production, environmental quality, the sustainability of fragile ecosystems and land use patterns.

Attempts to integrate traditional and alternative policy options toward the goal of meeting environmental objectives generate new challenges. Today we are concerned not just with how and how much agricultural production exists, but where that production is taking place—domestically and globally. Society's understanding of private property as related to production agriculture, natural resources and environmental quality continues to evolve.

## ***New Technologies***

The future of production agriculture, agribusiness and rural people will be profoundly affected by how well they adopt and adapt to new biotechnology and information technologies. Public- and private-sector research and education is required on the economic and social benefits/costs of adopting new technologies in agriculture.

Knowledge-based debate is needed on intellectual property law, public support of research and development, and other public policies directly affecting the creation and adoption of new technologies.



### **Consumer Issues**

Nutrition, food safety, technological and demographic changes, and demands for convenience and other attributes in food products are transforming the way foods are produced, processed, marketed and accepted by consumers. The changes reverberate through the entire food chain—from farmers and processors to consumers and policy makers.

Understanding is needed of how food consumption habits are influenced by health concerns, food safety issues, marketing and new technologies in food production and processing. Increased emphasis on food labels has potential impacts throughout the food supply chain.

Greater understanding is needed of risk assessment processes, as well as foods designed to address specific health concerns. Global political threats require us to examine how intentional contamination of food would impact all participants in the food chain. Despite agriculture's many success stories, we must still continue to address the implications of hunger, food security and poverty issues for society, agriculture, rural communities and rural people.

### **The Role of Agricultural Institutions**

U.S. agriculture and rural communities are served by a combination of private and government-supported agencies and institutions. Farmers and agribusinesses work to build their operations in a dynamic market, policy and resource environment. We must explore new public and private arrangements that have the potential to more effectively serve agriculture and the food system in today's fast-changing, global economy.

### **Rural Community Viability**

Agriculture and agribusiness, as well as every sector of the general public, have a significant stake in assuring that people living in rural America have a satisfactory socio-economic environment, quality education, and access to communications technology and good health care. These critical issues require informed, innovative leadership, development of human capital and strong civic engagement in rural communities.

Better understanding is needed of the impacts in rural America of demographic, economic and social changes—particularly changing linkages between agriculture, agribusiness, environmental and resource policies, urban centers and rural communities. Attention is also needed to identify the key elements of effective local, state and national rural policy.

*The pages that follow give you an in-depth look at just a few of Farm Foundation's current projects in these six priority areas.*







# Consumer Issues



## ***Traceability and Assurance Panel***

A critical assessment of traceability, transparency and quality assurance (TTA) in the U.S. food system is being carried out by a 25-member panel organized by Farm Foundation. This diverse group includes producers, grain merchants, food processors, food retailers and government regulators. More than one panel member noted that their participation was based on two factors—the critical importance of the issue and Farm Foundation’s reputation for objectivity.

Comprehensive TTA systems are not currently required in the U.S. food system, nor are they commonplace, though many elements of such systems are in use. Uncertainty is high concerning the costs and benefits of such systems. Yet there is growing pressure from foreign customers and competitors to account for sourcing, production and processing practices, and quality assurances.

When the panel completes its work, it will outline system options, technical barriers, potential benefits and costs, as well as regulatory and legal issues that must be addressed. This information will be a valuable tool for the policy leaders and the food system stakeholders as they tackle TTA.

## ***Emerging Roles of Food Labels***

Food labeling is one of the most contentious issues in the food system today. With enactment of the Farm Security and Investment Act of 2002, country-of-origin labeling becomes mandatory in 2004 for beef, lamb, pork, fish and perishable agricultural commodities. This, along with other proposals, would add an array of new dimensions to food labels’ previous functions—communicating content, nutrition values and marketing messages.

How the expanded role of food labels affects consumer buying habits, diets and international agricultural trade are major questions for policy makers and all participants in the food system.

Farm Foundation partnered with USDA’s Economic Research Service to bring together about 100 representatives of the food industry, agricultural commodity and policy groups, consumer interests, international organizations, government agencies and academics to examine the issue. The workshop built understanding by policy makers of the viewpoints of the respective stakeholders, by industry leaders of the roles and economics of food labels, and by researchers of the challenges for practical implementation.

## ***Global Markets for High-Value Foods***

Economic growth worldwide has increased demand for high-value foods. Since high-value foods are often highly processed foods, such strategic information as consumer demographics, processing capabilities, and grocery sales is critical for the food industry as they build marketing strategies. The availability of that information varies widely by markets and country.

This project brought together food industry executives, policy makers and researchers to identify where information gaps exist, how they can be filled and what research work is needed in this important market arena. The knowledge helps food industry participants better understand the market for high-value foods, and enhances policy makers’ understanding of how U.S. policies affect global food markets.







# Environmental and Natural Resource Issues



## ***Performance-Based Environmental Policies***

Agriculture is perceived as a leading contributor of nonpoint source pollution to ground and surface water in the U.S. Current policies and programs to control agricultural pollution have focused on voluntary, design-based measures, such as storage lagoons, stream bank fencing, grass buffer strips or nutrient management plans. While positive environmental outcomes may result from these programs, the technical- and cost-effectiveness of these programs are unknown, bringing into question whether the ultimate goal of increased environmental quality is being achieved.

Responding to increased interest in performance-based policies, Farm Foundation convened a workshop of farmers, watershed officials, private consultants, and representatives from government and non-governmental organizations. They took the first steps in designing performance-based environmental policies by identifying specific technical, economic and administrative barriers, as well as strategies to overcome those barriers. At a briefing immediately after the workshop, senior USDA officials discussed the potential for providing funding to support the second phase of the project—testing the strategies in the field.

## ***Want to Build an Ethanol Plant?***

Policy and technical forces are making ethanol the most talked about value-added product in U.S. agriculture today.

This Farm Foundation project will produce an Internet-based decision tool to help producers, cooperatives and local government leaders assess the economic feasibility of building an ethanol plant. When completed, the "e-plant analyzer" will allow the user to evaluate prospective sites, plant sizes and infrastructure options.

## ***CAFO Guidelines***

When the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued its preliminary regulations for Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs), industry and academic leaders questioned EPA's analysis of the economic impacts on farmers. Farm Foundation partnered with the Food and Agriculture Policy Research Institute (FAPRI) to do a comprehensive analysis of the proposed regulations on the livestock industry and rural communities. That analysis was submitted to EPA as a formal comment on the proposed regulations. The final rules addressed several points raised in the analysis.





# Globalization



## ***Biosecurity and NAFTA***

When a country faces a foreign threat from hostile individuals or foreign animal diseases, one of the first responses is tightening border controls. Farm Foundation and the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, convened a workshop of security experts, executives from businesses involved in international agricultural trade, and senior state and provincial agricultural officials from the United States, Canada and Mexico.

Participants focused on partnerships, protocols and business arrangements to keep trade flowing while addressing security concerns of the respective governments. The work begun at that workshop continues in ongoing task force meetings, and is being incorporated in intra-country and cross-border security strategies and policies. The ultimate benefit to all: effective, efficient border security measures.

## ***Trade Disputes Conference***

Farm Foundation has for nine years supported the Policy Disputes Information Consortium, an annual gathering of Canadian, Mexican and U.S. trade analysts, commodity group leaders, government officials and educators to examine specific trade issues.

The Consortium is particularly significant when you consider that Canada and Mexico are the

No. 1 and No. 3 markets for U.S. agricultural exports, as well as the No. 1 and No. 3 suppliers of agricultural imports to the U.S. The consortium, has addressed such issues as structural changes in the food system as a source of trade disputes; progress in implementing NAFTA; the need for harmonization of domestic policies, especially in the grain and livestock sectors; and understanding causes of trade disputes. Consortium findings are widely distributed to industry and policy leaders.

## ***Pacific Food System Outlook***

Farm Foundation provides leadership for the Pacific Food System Outlook (PFSO) of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), a structure that brings top political and policy leaders together to address common issues. APEC's 21-member economies, with a total population of 2.5 billion people, represent more than 47% of world trade.

Used by private industry and public-sector policy makers, the PFSO report is the only coordinated, region-wide effort that examines the impact of specific issues on the Pacific food system—from producer to consumer. The report issued in October 2002 addressed food safety issues. Other timely issues previously addressed include the critical role of infrastructure; water availability and policy; and the impact of the Asian financial crisis on the Pacific food system.







# New Technologies



## ***The New Science of Food***

Public discussions on biotechnology and the food system are a critical component in the adoption of new technology and in the development of public policies for all stakeholders in the food chain—from farmers to consumers. A book published by Farm Foundation, *The New Science of Food: Facing Up to Our Biotechnology Choices*, provides a framework for people to learn about the issues, and the views of others, as they consider their own preferences for policies on biotechnology and food.

Farm Foundation developed the book with the National Issues Forums, for use by community, civic and educational groups interested in addressing public issues.

## ***Technology Roadmap***

If the U.S. tree fruit industry is to remain competitive in the world market—especially given pressure from New Zealand and China—experts believe it must reduce its costs by as much as 30%

over the next 10 years. Farm Foundation leveraged its staff and financial resources with producer groups, private industry, USDA agencies and a number of universities to convene a workshop addressing the issue.

The result was the National Tree Fruit Technology Roadmap, a national research and development effort designed to keep the industry competitive in the global marketplace.

## ***Intellectual Property Rights***

Biotechnology has produced dynamic new tools for agriculture, but has also spawned debate on the ownership of and access to intellectual property rights.

A national conference is planned to discuss the complexity of issues surrounding intellectual property rights. The industry as a whole will benefit from frank discussions designed to identify workable models that protect the interests of researchers, sponsors and the public, while providing incentives for investigation and innovation.





# Role of Agricultural Institutions



## ***Farmer Cooperatives***

Through a series of annual conferences, Farm Foundation has collaborated with the University of Wisconsin Center for Cooperatives to help the leadership of farmer-owned cooperatives deal with the challenges their businesses face in a changing economic climate.

More than 100 farmer-owners, cooperative CEOs and senior staff participated in the 2002 conference, *Restructuring for Troubled Times*, which featured case studies of cooperatives around the country.

The conference offered "timely information at what could be a critical crossroads for the cooperative system," one participant wrote. Other participants cited the new ideas, approaches and networking opportunities offered at the conference.

## ***Farm Bill Education***

On May 20-21, 2002, just seven days after President Bush signed into law the Food Security and Investment Act of 2002, Farm Foundation sponsored a conference to explain key elements of the new law to more than 60 agricultural professionals.

As a follow-up to that, Farm Foundation collaborated with USDA's Farm Service Agency to present four "train-the-trainer" workshops around the country. These workshops provided people

who work directly with farmers and ranchers accurate, easily comprehensible information on the new legislation, including producer reporting requirements and participation options. It is estimated that the more than 160 professionals who participated trained an additional 1,000 people in Extension services, banks, farm management companies and other organizations, who then helped more than 100,000 land owners and farmers.

The reach of the program was further expanded by media participation in the workshops, and by posting on the Internet the training materials, including decision-making tools producers could use to analyze different sign-up scenarios.

## ***National C-FAR***

The National Coalition for Food and Agriculture Research (C-FAR) was organized just as the 2002 Farm Bill was being debated. By the time the legislation was finalized, the research title included innovative language to increase research and education funding, language that was partially attributable to National C-FAR.

Farm Foundation provided seed money to start National C-FAR, which is a grass-roots organization to increase public support for agricultural research and education. Farm Foundation continues to support National C-FAR's work with congressional briefings for Capital Hill staffers.





# Rural Community Viability



## ***Rural Entrepreneurship***

Entrepreneurship is a key factor in economic growth and vitality for rural communities today, yet no workable economic and social science framework exists from which to analyze entrepreneurship or the factors that make some regions more successful in growing and attracting entrepreneurs.

Farm Foundation partnered with the Center for the Study of Rural America at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, in a workshop to begin development of a sound framework for the study of rural entrepreneurship. The future research results will help rural communities attract and foster entrepreneurs, who can contribute to long-term economic vitality of the region.

## ***The Changing Face of Rural America***

The changing ethnic mix of rural America's population may be the single most important social phenomenon of the 1990s and the first decade of the 21st Century. Farm Foundation continues to partner with Phil Martin of the University of California-Davis, to help business and civic leaders understand the relationship of this demographic in their rural communities. This topic, important in almost every region of the country, is addressed through workshops and a newsletter of in-depth reports.

## ***United Farms and Communities***

The success of rural development depends in part on the collaboration of farms and rural communities.

While large-scale commercial agricultural operations may be somewhat removed from the economic life of a rural community, other enterprises are emerging with more direct ties.

Farm Foundation partnered with the Delta Enterprise Network in a workshop to make rural community leaders aware of the economic potential in smaller-scale enterprises. The success stories shared offered new energy for business-community relations.

## ***National Public Policy Education Conference***

The National Public Policy Education Conference, sponsored by Farm Foundation since 1951, is designed to help Extension educators and other professionals who work with citizens and stakeholder groups on issues related to agriculture, the food system and rural communities, develop strong programs.

Experts explain all facets of selected issues and provide participants with materials they can use in public education programs. This combination of research-based information and educational materials and techniques is unique among training opportunities for policy educators.

This year's conference will cover five issues: biotechnology and the food system; impacts of an aging population on rural communities; payment limits and other agricultural policy issues; growth and sprawl; and America's bioenergy potential as it relates to agriculture.



# Selected Farm Foundation Projects

The following lists are selected programs in Farm Foundation's six program areas. For more information, contact the Farm Foundation office, or visit the Farm Foundation Web site, [www.farmfoundation.org](http://www.farmfoundation.org)

## **Consumer Issues**

GMO Educational Materials  
Modeling European Agricultural Policy  
Identity Preservation in the Food System  
Pacific Food System Outlook 2002-2003: Safer Food Supplies  
A Retail Perspective on Food Industry Trends  
Advancing the Food Assistance Research Agenda  
Income Volatility & Implications for Food Assistance Programs  
Global Markets for High-Value Foods  
2003 Food Foresight Focus Group  
Food Assistance & Nutrition Program  
Economic Impacts of Animal Disease  
Emerging Roles for Food Labels  
Innovative Methods Using Household Micro-Data  
Building Dialogue on Public Issues (NPPEC 2002)

## **Environmental and Natural Resource Issues**

EPA CAFO Effluent Limitation Guidelines  
Evaluating Natural Resource Disputes  
Agriculture, Forestry and Greenhouse Gas Modeling Forum  
Sustaining Critical Mass in Agriculture  
Government Policy and Farmland Markets  
Discovery Conference on Nitrogen Losses to the Atmosphere  
Performance-based Environmental Policies for Agriculture  
Food, Land and People 2002  
Aquaculture, Water Use & Effluent Discharge  
Bio-Security & Bio-Fuels Workshop  
Land Use Conflict Video  
OECD International Conference on Organic Agriculture  
Cattlemen's Land Trusts  
Changing Policy Framework for Contract Agriculture  
Economics of Invasive Species Workshop  
Competing Water Use Policies  
Energy Policy Workshop  
EnviroInfo Vienna 2002  
Conservation Options for Agricultural Landowners  
Common Research Issues Between Australia & the U.S.  
Partners for Agricultural Literacy  
What the Public Values About Farmland  
Want to Build an Ethanol Plant?  
National Agricultural Easement Programs  
Building Dialogue on Public Issues (NPPEC 2002)

## **Globalization**

Free Trade of the Americas, WTO & the New U.S. Farm Legislation  
Modeling European Agricultural Policy  
Middle Income Countries Workshop  
Pacific Food System Outlook 2002-2003: Safer Food Supplies  
Free Trade Agreement of the Americas  
Biosecurity Collaboration in NAFTA  
Bio-Security & Bio-Fuels Workshop  
OECD International Conference on Organic Agriculture  
2nd International Agricultural Trade & Policy Conference  
Agriculture Policy Reform and the WTO  
Global Markets for High-Value Foods

Agricultural Trade Disputes  
9th Mexico/U.S./Canada Trade Disputes Workshop  
Role of GMOs in Trade Disputes  
Agricultural Competitiveness & World Trade Liberalization  
National Tree Fruit Technology Roadmap

### ***New Technologies***

GMO Educational Materials  
Graduate Level Distance Education in Agricultural Economics  
IFAFS Agricultural Biotechnology Project  
Impact of Biotechnology and Related Intellectual Property Rights  
Employee Management for Production Agriculture Conference  
Product Differentiation in Grains & Oilseeds  
Web Site on International Agricultural Trade  
National Tree Fruit Technology Roadmap  
Communicating Social Aspects of Biotechnology  
Building Dialogue on Public Issues (NPPEC 2002)

### ***The Role of Agricultural Institutions***

Policy-Oriented Social Science Research Consortium  
Using History & Accomplishments to Plan for Future  
Workshop on Contracting Practices in Agriculture  
National Coalition for Food & Agriculture Research  
Farm Bill 2002 - Educational Materials  
Farm Bill 2002 - Producer Survey  
History of Farm Foundation  
Information Resources for Policy Analysis  
2002 Farm Bill - Issues & Possibilities for Southern Agriculture  
Restructuring for Troubled Times - Farmer Cooperatives 2002  
Council on Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics 2002 Symposium and Congressional Briefing  
Federation of Southern Cooperatives Training Workshop  
Impact of Biotechnology & Related Intellectual Property Rights  
Farm Bill Education Project  
Farm Savings Accounts Workshop  
Dairy Policy Forum 2002: A Follow-up to the 2002 Farm Bill  
2002 American Agricultural Law Association Student Scholarships  
Want to Build an Ethanol Plant?  
National Agricultural Easement Programs  
National Food & Agribusiness Management Education Commission

### ***Rural Community Viability***

People, Place & Policy in A New Millennium  
National AgrAbility Consensus Conference  
Training for Successful Community Practice  
Targeted Rural Economic Development  
Rural Social Science Education Program  
Conference on Classifying Rural Places  
Workshop on Rural Livelihoods and Adjustment  
Opportunities to Incorporate Agriculture into Rural Development  
Western Community Viability  
Changing Policy Framework for Contract Agriculture  
Public Issues Education Handbook 2002  
2002 American Agricultural Law Association Student Scholarships  
3rd National Small Farm Conference  
Uniting Farms and Communities  
Immigration and the Changing Face of Rural America 2003  
Rural Entrepreneurship Researchers Workshop  
Farm Foundation Fellowships 2002-2003  
George Washington Carver Awards  
Building Dialogue on Public Issues (NPPEC 2002)





# Financial Highlights

## Statements of Financial Position For Fiscal Years Ended April 30<sup>a</sup>

	2002 <sup>b</sup>	2003 <sup>c</sup>
Cash	\$33,264	\$22,555
Money Market Fund	0	0
Securities		
Vanguard Index 500 Fund	10,183,788	9,728,920
PIMCO Total Return Fund	12,300,521	11,095,916
PIMCO Low Duration Fund	191,220	317,986
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$22,708,793</b>	<b>\$21,165,377</b>

## Statements of Activities For Fiscal Years Ended April 30<sup>a</sup>

	2002 <sup>b</sup>	2003 <sup>c</sup>
<b>REVENUE AND GAINS</b>		
Dividends and interest	\$779,769	\$674,016
Net realized and unrealized gains on investments	(977,793)	(824,804)
Investment expenses	(12,281)	(9,621)
<b>NET INVESTMENT RETURN</b>	<b>(210,305)</b>	<b>(160,409)</b>
Gifts	167,309	287,961
<b>TOTAL REVENUE AND GAINS</b>	<b>\$(42,996)</b>	<b>\$127,552</b>
<b>PROGRAM AND OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		
Administration	\$372,377	\$351,795
Development	64,885	173,996
Programs:		
Globalization	149,875	183,091
Environmental Issues	143,056	235,129
New Technologies	134,720	105,682
Consumer Issues	134,788	170,678
Agricultural Institutions	219,967	228,596
Rural Communities/Leadership	187,524	209,978
Bennett Agricultural Round Table	11,200	12,023
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM AND OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$1,418,392</b>	<b>\$1,670,968</b>
<b>INCREASE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$(1,461,388)</b>	<b>\$(1,543,416)</b>

a Modified Cash Basis

b Taken from 2002 audited financial statements

c Unaudited

# Farm Foundation Annual Fund Contributors 2002-03



## *\$2,500 and over*

Economic Research Service-USDA  
Kettering Foundation  
Land O'Lakes, Inc.  
Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.  
Union Pacific Corporation

## *\$1,000 - \$2,499*

Agway Foundation  
Nicholas C. Babson  
Butler, Snow, O'Mara, Stevens & Cannada  
Farm Management Company  
Farmers National Company  
Farmland Management Services  
Gold Kist Foundation  
Hancock Agricultural Investment Group  
Seeley G. Lodwick  
MetLife Foundation  
The J.C. Robinson Seed Co.  
Joseph P. Sullivan  
Verdant Partners

## *\$500 - \$999*

Jay Armstrong  
Bestifor Farms  
Robert Boozer  
Jeffrey A. Conrad  
Becky Doyle  
W.H. Dunklin & Son, Inc.  
ExSeed Genetics, Div. of BASF Plant Science  
Farm Progress Companies  
Barry L. Flinchbaugh  
Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association  
Dan Glickman  
Hancock Land Company  
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Mid America Ag Network, Inc.  
Northwest Horticultural Council  
Nuffer, Smith and Tucker Inc.

The Ohio State University  
The Peoples Group, Ltd.  
Jack Prince  
Public Land Users Services  
Red Hill Farms  
Rob Robinson  
Henry E. Rodegerdts  
William B. Sayre  
Scherer Farms  
Smith Orchards  
Robert Stallman  
Stason Farms  
Tate Farms  
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## *\$499*

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Bailey Farms, Inc.  
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Frank L. Bauer  
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Gale A. Buchanan  
C-ARC Enterprises, Inc.  
James A. Christenson  
Mark L. Darrington  
Ed Dickinson  
Dorr's Pine Grove Farm Co.  
Diane Duren Knutson  
Erwin Farm  
Kenneth R. Farrell  
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Wolf Foundation



# Farm Foundation's Bennett Agricultural Round Table



One of the objectives of Farm Foundation's strategic plan is to foster dialogue and build networks to increase understanding of public issues and policies. We do this through dozens of conferences and workshops across the country involving diverse groups—producers, researchers, agribusiness leaders, regulators, interest groups and policy makers. Many of the programs follow the model used in the Bennett Agricultural Round Table.

Farm Foundation has administered the Round Table since the 1983 retirement of its founders, Charles Dana and Edith Thoman Bennett. They originally brought together a diverse group of agricultural leaders to advise the Eisenhower Administration on agricultural policy development. These leaders quickly recognized the value of exchanging ideas and discussions on timely policy issues across the diverse business of agriculture. Thus the Round Table was born.

The Round Table's June 2002 meeting in Wilmington, Del., focused on biotechnology's role in the fast-paced world of agriculture. The January 2003 meeting in San Diego, Calif., centered on agricultural trade in the Pacific Rim markets.

*Steering Committee members who provide leadership to the Round Table include:*

**Nicholas C. Babson**, Chair

**James A. Christenson**, Vice Chair

**Bruce Andrews**

**Jay Armstrong**

**Robert Boozer**

**Larry Groce**

**Carol Keiser**

**Martha Roberts**

**Henry E. Rodegerdts**

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1211 West 22nd Street, Suite 216 • Oak Brook, IL 60523  
(630) 571-9393 • [www.farmfoundation.org](http://www.farmfoundation.org)