



**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



Tools to Fund Agricultural Research

OAK BROOK, IL Jan. 21, 2015: "Tools to Fund Agricultural Research" is the topic to be examined at the Farm Foundation Forum on Wednesday, Jan. 28. The Forum will be 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. EST on Wednesday, Jan 28, at the National Press Club, 529 14th Street NW, Washington D.C. A live audiocast will be available free of charge.

For more than a decade, constraints on state and federal budgets have resulted in reductions in public funding of agricultural research. Funding for basic research has declined, limiting the ability of scientists to explore new and interconnected areas of study. The decline in public funding has also changed the dynamic of private funding, as companies step in to fund work being done at public institutions. Cutbacks in research investments also slow the pipeline of new information and technologies needed to sustain and expand agricultural production and productivity.

Panel members for the Jan. 28 Forum are:

- Keith Fuglie of USDA's Economic Research Service, who will provide an overview of trends in public and private research funding, including the funding model used in Australia.
- Dr. Harold Browning of the Citrus Research and Development Foundation, who will to discuss that industry-led research effort.
- Steve Rhines of the Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, who will discuss the potential role of agricultural research organizations in financing agricultural research.
- Mark McKenna of the Foundation for Food and Agricultural Research, will discuss this non-profit corporation authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill to combine public funding and private donations in support of agriculture research

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Moderating the session will be journalist Urban Lehner, retired editorial director of DTN/Progressive Farmer.

There is no charge to participate in the Forum or the live audiocast, but registration is requested.

To attend the event, register here:

<https://secure.farmfoundation.org/np/clients/farmfoundation/eventRegistration.jsp?event=373&>

For those people unable to attend the event in person, a live audiocast of this Forum is being provided. It will include speaker PowerPoints as available, and the opportunity for the audiocast audience to submit questions. To participate by audiocast, register here:

<https://www.webcaster4.com/Webcast/Page/219/7095>

Audiocasting is made possible by a grant from Farm Credit. After the event, an audio file is posted to the [Farm Foundation website](#) for those unable to be part of the live event.

Who should participate in the Forum: People with an interest in agricultural, food and rural policy, including members of Congress, congressional staff, executive branch officials, industry representatives, NGO representatives, academics and members of the media.

The Forum: Farm Foundation, NFP organizes these public forums to engage all stakeholders in informed dialogue on food, agricultural and rural policies. Participants examine current policies, explore and analyze alternative policy proposals, and give voice to new proposals.

Audio from the session will be posted on the Farm Foundation [website](#). Presentations and audio files from past Forum sessions are also available at the website.

For more information contact:

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Farm Foundation, NFP serves as a catalyst for sound public policy by providing objective information to foster a deeper understanding of issues shaping the future for agriculture, food systems and rural regions. The Foundation has an 82-year history of objectivity. It does not lobby or advocate.