American Seed Research Summit - Framework

• Organized by ASTA, ASRF & NCCPB
• Met in Chicago – Sept. 25 – 26, 2008
• Involving seed research leaders
  – from industry, government & academia
  – composed of research scientists, key administrators & company science executives
  – across constituencies, disciplines & crops
How Do We Move Forward?

• Urgent need for strategic seed research & education goals - NOW
• Seed plays a key role in ensuring ag production system security
• Seed is the delivery system for:
  – Improved genetics
  – Technology
  – New planting and production methods
  – Crop protection strategies that improve ag efficiency
American Seed Research Seminar - Goals

• Review the current state of seed-related research and identify key research issues.

• Identify future needs, strategic priorities and critical gaps in research.

• Develop strategies and an action plan to address key research issues.
Identified Key Research, Education and Policy Goals

• Research –
  – Strengthen public & private partnerships to accomplish national seed research priorities
  – Coordinate and engage industry stakeholders to support stable funding for seed and breeding education, research and development

• Education –
  – Attract and develop a pool of diverse, high quality plant researchers
Identified Key Research, Education and Policy Goals

• Regulatory –
  – Ensure the global regulatory system governing the development and implementation of new technology is efficient, effective and science-based

• Communications & Outreach -
  – Develop an education and advocacy program to communicate the value of seed and crop research to all sectors of the public
Identified Key Research, Education and Policy Goals

• Identified research priorities and scientific & policy goals
• Broad, ambitious research agenda requires broad, ambitious and novel partnerships
• New models & mechanisms for pooling public and private resources are urgently needed
• Achieving SRS research & policy objectives will provide knowledge & tools to breed for higher yield, quality, resource efficiency & stress tolerance
SRS Conclusions

• SRS was an important step in identifying status of seed research
• Opportunity to mobilize our resources to address the food & energy challenges we face
• Scientific developments outlined clear paths for accelerating the pace of crop improvement while reducing overall inputs