PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release

Farm Foundation® Forum to examine new regulatory review regime

OAK BROOK, IL July 11, 2019: The challenges and opportunities of implementing a new biotechnology regulation review process will be the topic of the Farm Foundation® Forum on Tuesday, July 23, 2019. The Forum will be 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. EDT at the Holeman Lounge of the National Press Club, 529 14th Street NW, Washington, D.C. A live audiocast will also be available.

Issued in June, the Executive Order Modernizing the Regulatory Framework for Agricultural Biotechnology Products instructs the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Commissioner of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to examine regulatory changes that can help streamline the review process for agricultural biotechnology. This review of regulations and the creation of guidance documents is to be completed within six months.

The order also calls for regulatory decisions to be science-based and consistent with legal and economic factors, and to involve the public in guidance and regulation development.

“This executive order has the potential to bring significant changes to the biotechnology review process in the United States,” says Megan Provost, Farm Foundation Vice President of Policy and Programs. “Agricultural stakeholders, including farmers, ranchers, agribusinesses and foreign governments, should be keenly interested in these regulatory developments. This Forum will examine opportunities and challenges those changes might create.”

Provost will moderate the discussion of a panel that will include:

- Fan Li Chou, Ph.D., Biology Technician in the Office of Pest Management Policy at USDA;
- Mike Mendelsohn, Chief of the Emerging Technologies Branch of the Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division in the Office of Pesticide Programs at EPA;
- Laura Epstein, Senior Policy Analyst in the Center for Veterinary Medicine at FDA; and
- Stanley Abramson of Arent Fox LLP.

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

- Register HERE if you plan to attend the Forum in person at the National Press Club.
- For the free live audiocast, register HERE. Audiocasting is made possible by a grant from Farm Credit.
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, Embassy representatives, academics and members of the media.

The Forum: Farm Foundation 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 options, 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:
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