PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release

Biotech regulatory review is focus of Tuesday’s Farm Foundation® Forum

OAK BROOK, IL  July 22, 2019: A review of the U.S. agricultural biotechnology regulatory review process by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has the potential to impact biotechnology research work and the end-uses of that work, as well as the landscape of international trade.

The potential challenges and opportunities generated by reviewing and updating that regulatory process, which President Trump set in motion with an Executive Order on June 11, will be examined at 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.

“This review and update has implications for both crop and livestock producers, as well as for public and private research organizations,” says Megan Provost, Farm Foundation Vice President of Policy and Programs. “This Forum will explore what the short- and long-term impacts of a streamlined regulatory regime may be for the research process, crop and livestock producers, and the international trade environment.”

The Executive Order Modernizing the Regulatory Framework for Agricultural Biotechnology Products instructs the Secretary of USDA, the Administrator of EPA and the Commissioner of 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.

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

- Fan-Li Chou, Ph.D., Biology Coordinator 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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