



2021 ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE

The 2021 in-person Annual Meeting and AG PRO EXPO in Monterey, California has been canceled. The NAICC Executive Board is currently conducting a 4-question survey to determine our next steps. If you have not yet offered your input, please click [HERE](#) to complete the survey. The last day to do so is Wednesday, September 23rd.

HAPPENINGS ON THE HILL

Significant Changes to FIFRA Proposed

New legislation has been introduced into both houses of Congress that would effectively replace key parts of the Federal Insecticide Rodenticide and Fungicide Act (FIFRA). The bill is called the FIFRA Reform and Children's Health Protection Act of 2020 (H.R. 7940, S. 4406) and was sponsored by Representative Joe Negues (D-CO) and Senator Tom Udall (D-NM). If enacted, this legislation would in effect replace U.S. Environmental Protection Agencies (EPA) science-based risk/benefit procedures with a more European Union (EU) type hazard-based process. Click [HERE](#) to read Senator Udall's Letter to Colleagues.

NAICC has joined CropLife America as one of the more than 300 signees on a letter to Congress "affirming their support for pesticide regulations in place today under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)." Click [HERE](#) to read the press release.

USDA Updates Conservation Provisions for Highly Erodible Land and Wetlands

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) published its final rule on determining whether land is considered highly erodible or a wetland, integrating input from the public and making updates in accordance with the 2018 Farm Bill. This final rule follows a focused effort by USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to improve consistency and use of science in making determinations.

Click [HERE](#) for the Final Rule that was made available for public inspection today, August 27, and it will be published tomorrow, August 28, in the Federal Register. This follows an interim final rule published Dec. 7, 2018.

EPA and USDA Announce Competition to Advance Agricultural Sustainability in the United States

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced the Next Gen Fertilizer Challenges, a joint EPA-USDA partnership and competition to advance agricultural sustainability in the United States. The competition includes two challenges that seek proposals for new and existing fertilizer technologies to maintain or improve crop yields while reducing the impacts of fertilizers on the environment.

The first challenge, the *EEFs: Environmental and Agronomic Challenge*, aims to identify existing Enhanced Efficiency Fertilizers (EEFs) that meet or exceed certain environmental and agro-economic criteria.

The second challenge, the *Next Gen Fertilizer Innovations Challenge*, aims to generate new concepts for novel technologies that can help address environmental concerns surrounding agriculture practices while maintaining or increasing crop yields.

Registrants must submit their entries by October 30, 2020, for the *EEFs: Environmental and Agronomic Challenge* and by November 30, 2020, for the *Next Gen Fertilizer Innovations Challenge*. Winners will be announced in the winter of 2021.

An informational webinar will be held on September 24, 2020 at 10:00 – 11:00 AM ET.

More information about the challenges and the webinar is available at <https://www.epa.gov/innovation/next-gen-fertilizer-challenges>.

4th Annual [CRISPR AgBio Congress](#) December 1-3 2020

Join the community dedicated to harnessing next-generation CRISPR tools to enable precise and efficient plant genome modification to deliver sustainable and superior agricultural products to market faster. This is your opportunity to keep up with the latest developments in the field and leverage knowledge from industry leaders and academic pioneers. New for 2020, we'll be delivering this meeting digitally, which means you can access all the content and networking opportunities from the comfort of your own home.

Click [HERE](#) to download the Event Guide to view the full range of topics that will be addressed.

NAICC's Updated Address, Phone and Fax Numbers

700 Wood Duck Drive
Vonore, TN 37885

Phone: 423-884-3580
Fax: 423-884-3199

FIVE (5) FEAE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR 2021

NAICC's Foundation for Environmental Agriculture Education (FEAE) is providing five scholarships (sponsored in part by Belchim Crop Protection and Wilbur Ellis) to undergraduate and graduate students that are pursuing a degree in a major or discipline closely aligned to crop production and meet the additional qualifications. Please pass along the link below to anyone (or their parent/guardian) who you think would qualify.

Application deadline is December 1, 2020. Please review the scholarship criteria and application form at [FEAE Scholarships](#).



Buy and Sell Equipment on the NAICC Website

Have something to sell? Looking for a specific piece of equipment? Check out the [NAICC Member Marketplace](#). Log in to [Members Only](#) portal on the NAICC website and scroll down to the NAICC Member Marketplace. Choose **Items for Sale** or **Items Wanted**. It is just that easy.

NAICC

Your professional society representing the nation's crop production, research consultants and quality assurance professionals.

National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants

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