

# Science Policy Office

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[www.agronomy.org](http://www.agronomy.org) | [www.crops.org](http://www.crops.org) | [www.soils.org](http://www.soils.org)

**Headline:** Ask your Representative to join the new, bipartisan Agriculture Research Caucus

On June 5, U.S. House of Representatives members Jimmy Panetta (D, CA-21) and Rodney Davis (R, IL-13), establish the bipartisan Congressional Agriculture Research Caucus to focus on topics related to agriculture research, innovation, and mechanization efforts. As Congress prepares for the 2018 Farm Bill, the Caucus will provide a platform to highlight the challenges facing agricultural producers across the country.

Reps. Panetta and Davis hope to educate and engage other members of Congress on these issues. That's where we need your engagement.

You can help develop new congressional champions for food, agriculture and natural resources research by asking your Representative to join the Agriculture Research Caucus.

By joining the Agriculture Research Caucus, your Representative will help elevate agricultural research as a national priority. [Email your Representative today!](#)

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**Headline:** Join the House Agriculture Research Caucus

Dear XXX,

I write to ask you to consider joining Congressmen Rodney Davis and Jimmy Panetta in the newly-formed, bipartisan Agriculture Research Caucus.

By investing in agricultural research today, we will ensure U.S. agriculture remains competitive globally and continues to lead the way in food and agriculture innovation.

As a constituent living and working in your district, I know that agricultural research has a direct impact on our community. The Agriculture Research Caucus will provide members of Congress with a place to highlight the importance of agricultural research in their districts and to come together to make it a national priority.

See the Dear Colleague letter below for more information on joining the caucus.

I look forward to working with you to ensure that agriculture research can support the future success of the U.S. agricultural enterprise. Thank you for your consideration.

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Dear Colleague:

We invite you to become a member of the newly established House Agriculture Research Caucus and join us in elevating the importance of agricultural research and extension, particularly in the context of the upcoming Farm Bill.

Agriculture is the economic engine for our nation's rural communities and directly impacts our urban populations. Scientific discovery and its on-farm applications provide producers with the knowledge and means to increase productivity, address agriculture adversity, and also provide consumers with high-quality, safe food that is nutritious and appetizing. Agriculture research is the frontline defense against critical challenges facing the industry, from production efficiency and labor shortages to environmental stewardships and protection against biological threats.

During the 115th Congress, the House Agriculture Research Caucus will discuss how to best support and further promote agricultural research innovation at USDA, land-grant universities, and non-land grant colleges of agriculture. Additionally, the Caucus will examine the role of private industry within the traditional agricultural research framework.

Investing in agricultural research and extension increases economic prosperity – for every \$1 invested in public agriculture research, more than \$20 of economic activity is generated. Investing in agricultural research also supports critical agricultural workforce development.

Please join us as members of the House Agriculture Research Caucus in elevating the importance of agricultural research and extension. For more information, please contact Jimmy Ballard with Rep. Rodney Davis ([Jimmy.Ballard@mail.house.gov](mailto:Jimmy.Ballard@mail.house.gov)) or Brandon Honeycutt with Rep. Panetta ([Brandon.Honeycutt@mail.house.gov](mailto:Brandon.Honeycutt@mail.house.gov)).

Sincerely,  
Rep. Rodney Davis  
Member of Congress

Rep. Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress

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