NIFA update
(formerly CSREES)

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NIFA

• We are undergoing a reorganization and waiting for final approval from the Secretary. The tentative new divisions are: Food Production and Sustainability; Bioenergy, Climate and Environment; Food Safety and Nutrition; Youth, Family and Community; International Programs. We anticipate the changes around October.

• The priority science areas for funding are: global food security and hunger, climate change, sustainable energy, childhood obesity, food safety
NIFA

• The pending budget in the House and Senate is about flat with the 2010 appropriations at $1.3 billion. However some changes of interest to ICCA are that regional pest management centers, crops at risk from FQPA, and FQPA mitigation for food crops have been zero’d out of both house and senate. Remaining in the budget are methyl bromide transition, organic transition, Extension pest management, and sustainable ag research and extension (SARE) at flat funding from previous years.

• There is a major increase in the new competitive grant program called Ag and Food Research Initiative, or AFRI from 2010 level of $262 million to approx. $310 mil. This funding is spread across the priority areas listed in No. 2 above.

• At this point neither the House or Senate have passed their bills.