



North American Agricultural Biotechnology Council

What is it?

Where is it going?

Why are we asking for your input?

Some NABC History

National Agricultural Biotechnology Council

Founded in 1989

Founding Members:

**Cornell, Iowa State, UC Davis, Boyce-Thompson Institute
Ralph WF Hardy, President**

Currently has 20 members from US and Canada

**Initial focus on discussing transgenics in agriculture but
scope expanded to include other topics relevant to
agricultural biotechnology (water, climate change, etc.)**

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Goals and Objectives

To address agricultural biotechnology from a multi-constituency perspective.

Through annual meetings, publications, and other efforts, the NABC strives to:

- **Provide an open forum** for people with different interests and concerns to come together to speak, to listen, and to learn from meaningful dialogue on the potential impacts of agricultural biotechnology
- **Define issues and public policy options** related to biotechnology in the food, agricultural, and environmental areas
- **Promote increased understanding** of the scientific, economic, legislative, and social issues associated with agricultural biotechnology by compiling and disseminating information
- **Facilitate communication** among researchers, administrators, policymakers, practitioners, and other constituencies to ensure the safe and efficacious development of biotechnology for the benefit of society
- **Sponsor meetings and workshops**, and publish and distribute reports that provide foundations for addressing issues

Some NABC Meeting Publications

http://nabc.cals.cornell.edu/Publications/Reports/pubs_reports.html

[NABC Report 26](#): **New DNA-Editing Approaches: Methods, Applications and Policy for Agriculture** (2014, Cornell)

[NABC Report 25](#): **Biotechnology and North American Specialty Crops: Linking Research, Regulation, and Stakeholders** (2013, TAMU)

[NABC Report 24](#): **Water Sustainability in Agriculture** (2012, Arkansas)

[NABC Report 23](#): **Food Security: The Intersection of Sustainability, Safety and Defense** (2011, Minnesota)

[NABC Report 22](#): **Promoting Health by Linking Agriculture, Food, and Nutrition** (2010, UC Davis)

[NABC Report 21](#): **Adapting Agriculture to Climate Change**
(2009, Saskatchewan)

NABC Present and *Future*

Current context:

Ralph Hardy and other staff are retiring over the next 2 years
NABC member group needs to be ~25 to be stable

Options

1. **Articulate and Implement a Future Agenda**
 - What is needed and who needs it?
 - Find new leadership and perhaps leadership structure
 - Find new members (and retain the old)
2. **Declare victory and disband**
 - Not a good plan if there is a need.