

AMERICAN  
SEED RESEARCH  
SUMMIT



# American Seed Research Summit - Framework

- Organized by ASTA, ASRF & NCCPB
- Met in Chicago – Sept. 25 – 26, 2008
- Involving seed research leaders
  - from industry, government & academia
  - composed of research scientists, key administrators & company science executives
  - across constituencies, disciplines & crops



# How Do We Move Forward?

- Urgent need for strategic seed research & education goals - NOW
- Seed plays a key role in ensuring ag production system security
- Seed is the delivery system for:
  - Improved genetics
  - Technology
  - New planting and production methods
  - Crop protection strategies that improve ag efficiency

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# American Seed Research Seminar - Goals

- Review the current state of seed-related research and identify key research issues.
- Identify future needs, strategic priorities and critical gaps in research.
- Develop strategies and an action plan to address key research issues.



# Identified Key Research, Education and Policy Goals

- Research –
  - Strengthen public & private partnerships to accomplish national seed research priorities
  - Coordinate and engage industry stakeholders to support stable funding for seed and breeding education, research and development
- Education –
  - Attract and develop a pool of diverse, high quality plant researchers



# Identified Key Research, Education and Policy Goals

- Regulatory –
  - Ensure the global regulatory system governing the development and implementation of new technology is efficient, effective and science-based
- Communications & Outreach -
  - Develop an education and advocacy program to communicate the value of seed and crop research to all sectors of the public



# Identified Key Research, Education and Policy Goals

- Identified research priorities and scientific & policy goals
- Broad, ambitious research agenda requires broad, ambitious and novel partnerships
- New models & mechanisms for pooling public and private resources are urgently needed
- Achieving SRS research & policy objectives will provide knowledge & tools to breed for higher yield, quality, resource efficiency & stress tolerance



# SRS Conclusions

- SRS was an important step in identifying status of seed research
- Opportunity to mobilize our resources to address the food & energy challenges we face
- Scientific developments outlined clear paths for accelerating the pace of crop improvement while reducing overall inputs