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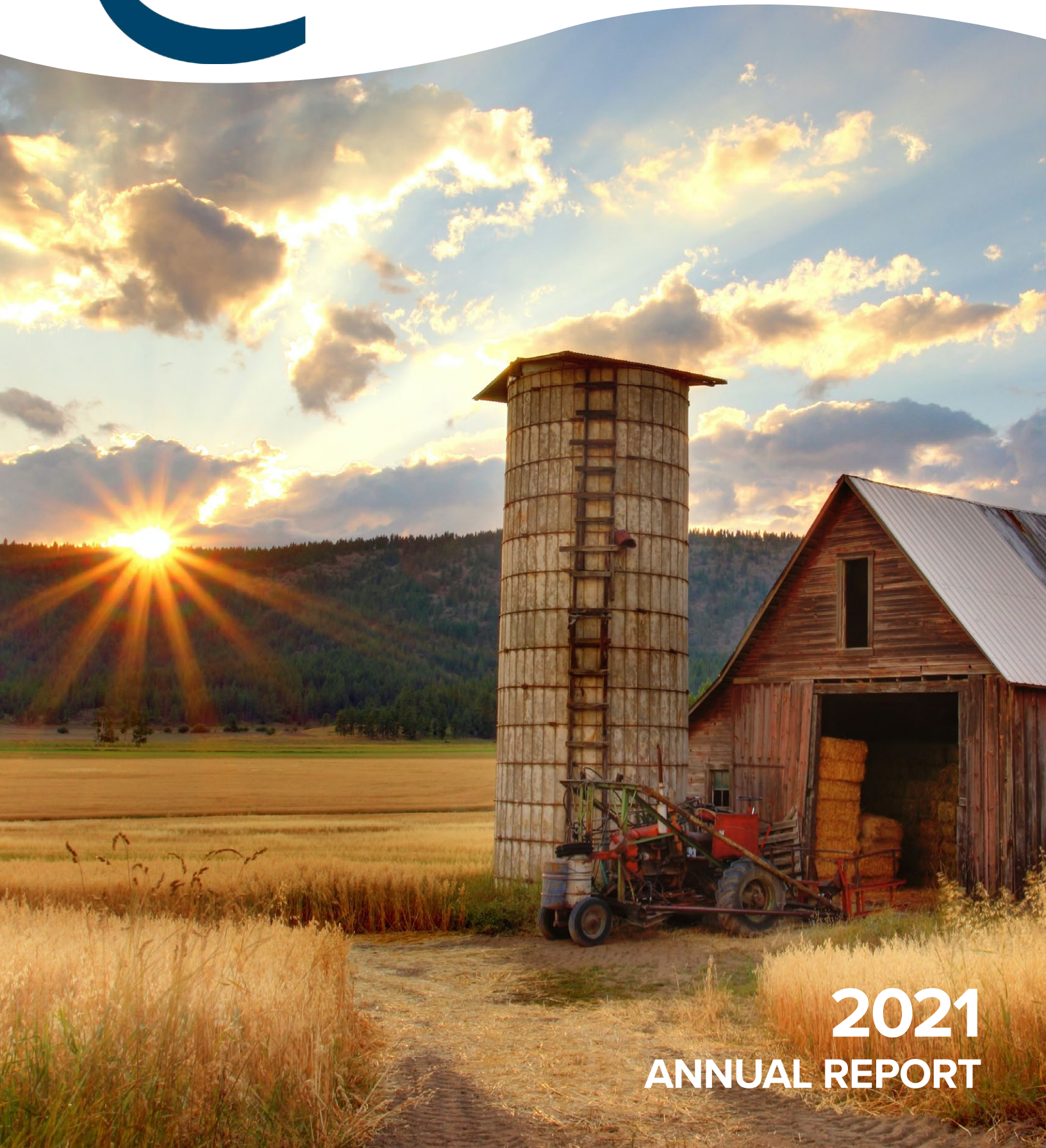
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2021 ANNUAL REPORT



Table of Contents

The Council on Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics: Mission, Goals	3
C-FARE’s Core Values, Support the Agricultural and Applied Economics Profession.....	4
C-FARE’s Events, Programming and Outreach	5-10
The Impact of Applied Research in Agriculture and Applied Economics on The U.S. Economy	5
Aquaculture in The Northeast	5
Managing Public lands in 2021 and Beyond	6
Brandt Forum Impacts of a Digitally Driven Global Economy	6
Global Trade Policy Under The New Administration.....	7
Innovative Centers to Advance Integrated Programs in Food Systems.....	7
Rural Communities One Year Post COVID-19	8
Agricultural Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation	8
Emerging Issues in Child Nutrition Reauthorization	9
Brandt Forum Impacts of a Digitally Driven Global Economy on the Future of Farming	9
Carbon Sequestration: The Geological and Biological Potential	10
Podcast - Get A Grip on FARE.....	10
C-FARE’s Monthly Newsletter	11
Contact Us.....	12



The Council on Food, Agricultural, and Resource Economics

C-FARE is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code that promotes the work of applied economists and serves to incorporate economic thinking into the analysis of food, agricultural, and resource decisions. The council aims to be a conduit between the academic research community and Washington policymakers and agency leaders. Incorporated in 1993, C-FARE is based in Washington and governed by a board of applied economists representing a range of public and private sector interests.

C-FARE's Mission

C-FARE's mission is to enhance national decisions concerning food, agriculture, and resources. The council achieves this by elevating agricultural and applied economics research, modeling, and analysis before federal lawmakers and policy advisors.

C-FARE's Goals

C-FARE's Board of Directors has adopted a set of goals to serve the needs of the profession.

 <p>GOAL 1</p> <p>Advance the role of agricultural and applied economists in identifying and informing research and policy issues.</p>	 <p>GOAL 2:</p> <p>Significantly increase the understanding that public and federal program audiences have of the value of food, agricultural, resource, and applied economics information and analysis.</p>	 <p>GOAL 3:</p> <p>Maintain and increase resources and opportunities that support agricultural and applied economics research, outreach, and education.</p>	 <p>GOAL 4:</p> <p>Foster opportunities to build human capital for a vibrant national workforce equipped with the skills required to inform private and public economic policy.</p>
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C-FARE's Core Values

Collaboration: C-FARE advances the applied economics profession through its continuous development of effective communication pathways that connect the profession to users of food, agricultural, natural resource and applied economics information and analysis.

Excellence: C-FARE distills authoritative economic analysis from the agricultural and applied economics profession into information that communicates effectively with its critical audiences.

INTEGRITY: C-FARE is guided by the highest level of objectivity.

INNOVATION: C-FARE identifies and facilitates innovative analyses and engagement.

RELEVANCE: C-FARE's actions are timely, proactive, and responsive to critical issues.

Support the Agricultural and Applied Economics Profession

Facilitating Webinars, Seminars, and Briefings on Timely Topics

C-FARE develops webinars, seminars, and briefings. These activities are designed to inform and/or train stakeholders on the application of economics relevant to current policy issues or legislative initiatives. C-FARE's activities highlight the strengths of economic analysis in multidisciplinary research and education.

Monitoring Federal Policymaking

C-FARE monitors and reports on budgets, bills, legislation, rulemaking, and initiatives under discussion in federal policymaking circles. C-FARE also nurtures public comments that encourage federal policy and programs that incorporate applied economic analyses in program development, policy implementation, and requests for research.

Engaging Federal Stakeholders and Decisionmakers

C-FARE volunteer experts regularly meet with decisionmakers to provide information on the importance of economic research, extension, and education, as well as the value of many federal data series.

Nominating Members of the Profession for Policy Advisory Board/Panel Positions

Advisory boards and panels offer opportunities for the profession to broaden its influence. C-FARE seeks to enhance the presence of food, agricultural, and resource economists on key federal advisory boards.

Providing Information to Students and Young Professionals

C-FARE's intern briefings and informational updates help support the professional growth of the next generation of applied economists. At the briefings, speakers talk about their backgrounds, skills, and academic experience. Experts elaborate on experiences and skills they've found necessary to build a career in the private, public or non-profit sectors in Washington.



C-FARE's Events, Programming and Outreach

WEBINAR, January 22nd – The Impact of Applied Research in Agriculture and Applied Economics on The U.S. Economy



Moderator:

Gal Hochman, Rutgers University

Presenters:

Robbin Shoemaker, USDA NIFA

Keith Coble, Mississippi State University

Madhu Khanna, University of Illinois

David Zilberman, University of California at Berkeley

The importance of research in agricultural and applied economics has only heightened as the population increases. Today's farmers produce 262 percent more

food with two percent fewer inputs as compared to 1950. A significant component of this increase in agricultural productivity is due to large investments in public agricultural research.

Key Takeaways:

- For many years, crop insurance in the U.S. was plagued by poor actuarial experience due to a lack of knowledge regarding farming and agriculture. Agricultural economists were asked to tackle the issues that made crop insurance difficult and unaffordable. In many cases, the proposed solutions provided by agricultural and applied economists were adopted by the USDA. Today the crop insurance market is almost a \$4 billion per year industry and sells \$1 billion per year of index insurance.
- "Agricultural economics evolves in two directions. First, with increased data we are able to be more precise in our analysis, understand behavior and choices better, and provide better advice. Second, while the focus of agricultural economics has been on markets, it's turning towards understanding value change and the linkage between innovation, value change, and markets. Markets and new products are the result of innovation and are outcomes of new value changes that implement these innovations." – David Zilberman

WEBINAR, February 1st – Aquaculture in the Northeast



Moderator:

Gal Hochman, Rutgers University

Panelists:

Robert Rheault, East Coast Shellfish Growers Association

Deborah Bouchard, University of Maine

Tim Sullivan, USDA NIFA

Tessa Getchis, Connecticut Sea Grant/Uconn Extension

Mike De Luca, Rutgers University

C-FARE and the Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association (NAREA) hosted a free webinar on Monday, February 1st, to discuss aquaculture in the Northeast and provide a status on the industry. They also provided the attendees with an update about how the aquaculture industry is faring during the pandemic.

Key Takeaways:

- There are 1300 shellfish farms between Maine and Florida, producing \$170 million in farmed shellfish. Oyster production has doubled in the past five years and there has been a rapid evolution in production techniques. As the industry moves more towards floating gear there are more multiple use conflicts with other user groups.
- Aquaculture has a \$150 million impact in Maine alone and employs 700 individuals directly at 190 farms. The number of LPA licenses each year has risen year after year, which shows this is a growing industry.
- USDA-NIFA's budget for aquaculture projects averages \$21 million per year based on the last five years.
- COVID-19 led to the shellfish industry having revenues decrease by 93%, with a total loss of 70% of the workforce.

C-FARE's Events, Programming and Outreach

WEBINAR, March 15th – Managing Public lands in 2021 and Beyond



Moderator:

Sean Cash, Tufts University

Presenters:

Margaret Walls, Resources for The Future

Courtney Schultz, Colorado State University

Kevin Boyle, Virginia Tech University

To further our understanding of the economic aspects of public land management, C-FARE joined forces with the

Association of Environmental and Resource Economics (AERE) to host a free webinar titled “Managing Public Lands in 2021” on Monday, March 15th. Our panel of speakers consisted of three scholars in public land management, forestry, and resource management.

Key Takeaways:

- The first public land issue that Ms. Walls brought up was the “30 by 30” policy recommendation by the Secretary of The Interior regarding the U.S.’ need to “conserve at least thirty percent of US lands and waters by 2030.” For comparison, the U.S. is currently at 14% conservation depending on the measure.
- The U.S. Forest Service and USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service are working together to improve the health of forests where public forests and grasslands connect to privately owned lands.
- Ms. Schultz stated, “We have to get fire back on the landscape [through] natural ignition because I can’t plan enough fire to do it.”
- Kevin Boyle’s research found that, on average, visitors would pay \$13 more than the current access boat fee for Fort Sumter located in Charleston, South Carolina.

C-FARE's Brandt Forum – April 2nd and 5th (10AM to 1:30PM): Impacts of a Digitally Driven Global Economy



Moderators:

Gal Hochman, Rutgers University

Andrew Muhammad, University of Tennessee

Speakers:

Thomas Reardon, Michigan State University

Wendy Earon, IBM CTO for Retail, Travel & Transportation, and Consumer Packaged Goods

Kellee James, CEO of Mercaris

Jason Henderson, Purdue University

Darin Detwiler, Northeastern University

Ron Hicks, CEO of HerdX

The panelists' presentations are available here: <https://www.cfare.live/april-2021/replay>

This year's C-FARE Brandt Forum brought together scholars and business leaders to discuss the disruptions of digitalization. Because of the pandemic, the event “Impacts of a digitally-driven global economy: opportunities and challenges for U.S. agriculture” was a two-day virtual event held on April 2nd and April 5th, 10am to 1:30pm EST.

C-FARE's Events, Programming and Outreach

WEBINAR, May 21st – Global Trade Policy Under The New Administration



Moderator:

Andrew Muhammad, University of Tennessee

Opening Remarks:

Daniel Whitley, Acting Administrator, USDA Foreign Ag Service

Speakers:

Shawn Arita, Office of Chief Economist

David Blanford, Pennsylvania State University

Jason Hafemeister, Secretary's Trade Counsel

The Trump Administration rejected multilateralism in favor of bilateral negotiations and protectionist policies.

These policies resulted in trade retaliation, most notably from China.

These actions raise the question about how the Biden Administration will treat the policies that were put in place in the previous four years. Has the new trade normal shifted to bilateral trade agreements and quid-pro-quo trade policies, or will future trade policy and cooperation alleviate the tensions among countries?

Key Takeaways:

- Jason Hafemeister presented on the "Fruits of Globalization" and showed that extreme global poverty has decreased overtime due to increasing global trade.
- Utilizing data from a recent Chicago Council Survey from June 2019, overall, 87% of Americans think international trade is good for the U.S. economy. This is a large change in the public perception of international trade from 2016 which was only 59% positive.
- China purchased \$26 billion in agricultural exports in 2012 and only \$9.2 billion in 2018 due to retaliatory tariffs. Arita went into detail on the crash in agricultural exports to China that was caused by Chinese retaliatory tariffs due to the ongoing trade war that was started under the Trump Administration.

WEBINAR, June 14th – Innovative Centers to Advance Integrated Programs in Food Systems



Moderator:

Gal Hochman, Rutgers University

Presenters:

Jianguo "Jack" Liu, Michigan State University

Paula E Faulkner, MEA Center

Kathleen Liang, North Carolina A&T State University

David Anderson, Texas A&M

Glynn Tonsor, Kansas State University

To further support conversations regarding innovative centers across the U.S., C-FARE hosted a free webinar titled "Innovative Centers to Advance Integrated Programs in Food Systems" on Monday, June 14th. The panel of speakers consisted of three leaders, each being a part of the center's management they are representing today.

Key Takeaways:

- COVID-19 has had effects on each of the centers as they have had to adapt to no longer being in person.
- The MEA Center seeks to boost the collective capacity of the 1890 land-grant institutions to provide supportive learning environments and programs to increase the diversity of the U.S. agricultural workforce spanning careers in food, agriculture, natural resources, and human sciences. Currently, 7/19 1890s Land Grant Universities act as Co-leads with the MEA Center, but Faulkner thinks that these numbers will grow over time.
- The Center for Environmental Farming Systems was one of the first centers to begin field research into organic farming practices over twenty years ago. CEFS also supports a myriad of programs, such as the CEFS Farm to School program and NC 10% Campaign.

C-FARE's Events, Programming and Outreach

WEBINAR, July 12th – Rural Communities One Year Post COVID-19



Moderator:

Jane Kolodinsky, University of Vermont

Presenters:

Laura Brown, UConn Extension

Julia Cho, USDA Rural Development

Elizabeth E. Davis, University of Minnesota

Brian Whitacre, Oklahoma State University

The COVID-19 pandemic has had far-reaching impacts on most sectors of the U.S. economy, and these impacts have

been uneven across rural and urban areas. Rural areas were already lagging behind urban areas in many sectors before the pandemic, including educational attainment, access to health care and broadband, and the general economy.

C-FARE commissioned an Agricultural & Applied Economics Association Choices issue to examine how COVID-19 affected rural areas.

Key Takeaways:

- American trail use surged during the COVID-19 pandemic. This led to some new negative impacts such as overcrowding and littering and an increase in the cost of maintenance, but also could lead to positive health benefits for new users.
- Rural America is more vulnerable to the COVID-19 pandemic due to factors such as an aging population. There also was a potentially attributable increase in mortality rate from COVID-19 at hospitals that did not receive Community Facilities funding.
- Nearly 60% of rural census tracts are defined as "childcare deserts". Rural families also spend 12% of their income on childcare. During COVID-19 Minnesota saw a 9% decrease in childcare providers.
- Rural residents with low broadband availability were disadvantaged coming into the COVID-19 pandemic.

WEBINAR, August 27th – Agricultural Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation



Moderator:

Barry Barnett, University of Kentucky

Presenters:

Jesse Tack, Kansas State University

Roderick "Rod" M. Rejesus, North Carolina State University

Eric Belasco, Montana State University

Brittany Goodrich, University of California, Davis

While agriculture has always been subject to the vagaries of weather, climate change is likely to increase weather risk exposure for many farmers. The challenge for policymakers will be ensuring that future federal programs assist farmers with their exigent risk management needs while also facilitating adaptation to a changing climate.

To further understand these issues, C-FARE hosted a webinar discussing various issues related to climate change impacts on Federal Crop Insurance and other federal farm programs.

Key Takeaways:

- Adaptation is a real possibility, and the intersection of climate change with cover crops, pasture/forage/rangeland, and agriculture policy will be important in determining how we can move forward
- There are various reasons as to why producers avoid crop insurance, most popular is that they feel that their farms are just too small and it is not worth the trouble.
- Crop insurance likely disincentivizes adoption of climate change adaptation practices, which could be an unintended consequence of subsidizing crop insurance.

C-FARE's Events, Programming and Outreach

WEBINAR, September 27th – Emerging Issues in Child Nutrition Reauthorization



Moderator:

Sean Cash, Tufts University

Presenters:

Travis A. Smith, University of Georgia

Will Davis, Mississippi State University

Becca Jablonski, Colorado State University

Every five years, Child Nutrition Reauthorization (CNR) provides Congress with an opportunity to revisit and update the child nutrition and school meal programs that it authorizes. Programs such as summer and afterschool meals, school breakfast and lunch, and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) fall under this umbrella, and their

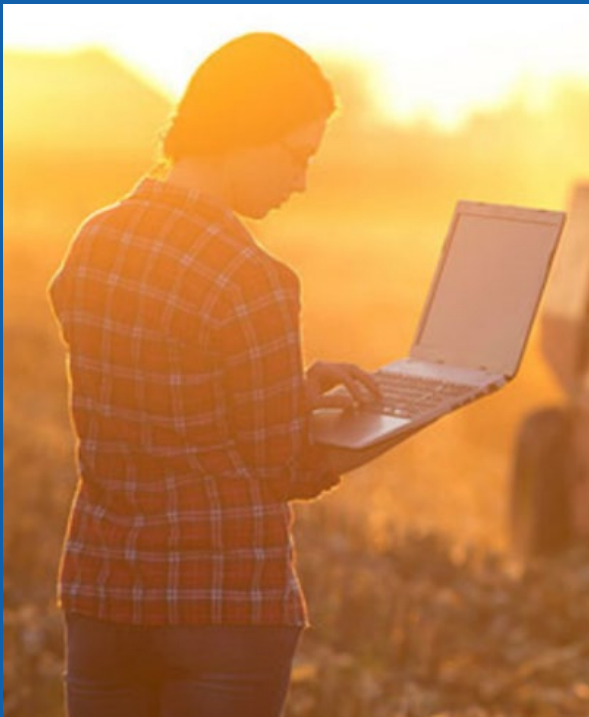
implementation has changed greatly in the last few years in response to COVID-19 as well as technological changes and changing trends in areas as diverse as school food procurement and the spread of tele-health.

As Congress picked up the gauntlet of reauthorization again this year, C-FARE assembled a panel of three experts to discuss their work and insights on priority issues around these programs that impact the lives of millions of children and families across the country.

Key Takeaways:

- What's the cost of letting kids stay on WIC until they start kindergarten, instead of ending benefits at age 61 months? For 508,000 4-year-olds, assuming uniform births across months, food package costs would increase by \$88.8 million (or about 1.7% of the current 5 billion).
- The National School Lunch Program is the 2nd largest food and nutrition assistance program in the U.S. and feeds 84% of low-income, food-insecure households with school aged children.
- Introducing universal free school meals into low-income schools with Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) actually leads to detrimental effects on child weight, however CEP does have a positive effect on academic achievement and disciplinary outcomes.

C-FARE's Brandt Forum November 2nd – Impacts of a Digitally Driven Global Economy on the Future of Farming



Moderator:

Gal Hochman, Rutgers University

Presenters:

Kevin Barnes, National Agriculture Statistics Service

David Zilberman, University of California, Berkeley

Israel Talpaz, SeeTree

Amir Szuster, Agritask

Scott H Irwin, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

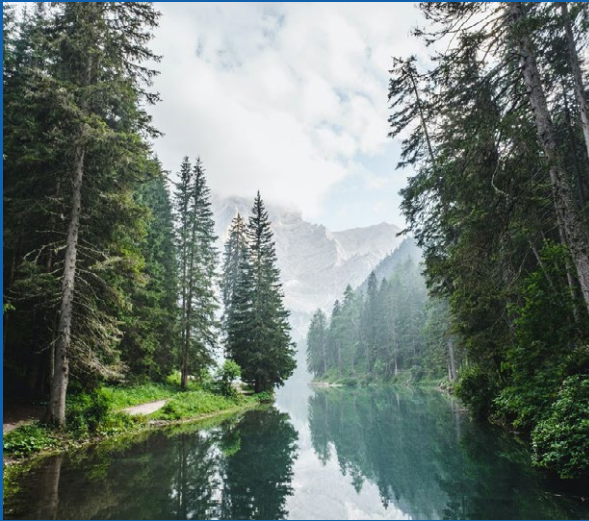
The panelists' presentations are available here: <https://www.cfare.live/replay>

The agricultural and food system depends upon a value chain that includes production and processing systems that encompass agricultural inputs to deliver food products to consumers. The emergence of technologies and e-commerce into these business interactions and trading activities disrupts the configuration of food supply chains and impacts relationships among participants at various stages. The changes born from these technologies can disrupt agricultural and food supply chains and challenge the U.S. competitiveness in food, farming, and resource markets.

C-FARE assembled a panel of scholars and business leaders to discuss their work and insights on priority issues.

C-FARE's Events, Programming and Outreach

WEBINAR, December 8th – Carbon Sequestration: The Geological and Biological Potential



Moderator:

Gal Hochman, Rutgers University

Presenters:

Daniel Schrag, Harvard University

Keith Paustian, Colorado State University

Carbon sequestration can significantly reduce CO₂ emissions to the atmosphere and is essential to any climate mitigation scheme. In geologic carbon sequestration, usually, the CO₂ is pressurized until it becomes a liquid and then injected into porous rock formations in geologic basins. Other forms of carbon sequestration include biological carbon sequestration, which refers to the storage of atmospheric carbon in vegetation, soils, woody products, and aquatic environments. While both methods have significant potential to reduce atmospheric carbon, each of these methods raises concerns. These include the potential for geological carbon sequestration to be costly and risky, and for biological carbon sequestration to be temporary and difficult to quantify.

Key Takeaways:

- Quantitative, sector-specific modeling of a low-carbon economy shows that carbon capture and sequestration is almost certainly essential to achieve an ultra-low carbon economy.
- There are a lot of co-benefits of rebuilding soil carbon stocks, including increased soil health, increased water quality and biodiversity, and greater climate resilience to name a few.

Podcast

Get A Grip on FARE

C-FARE created Get a Grip on FARE to provide a resource for those looking to learn more about the bureaucratic institutions that support the U.S. by providing information on the status of food, agriculture, and resource economics.

We will also create timely content to educate those interested in important issues as they arise. The institutions we plan to cover first are USDA ERS, The Office of The Chief Economist, and more will be announced at a later date.

Episode One: Meeting ERS

In our first episode, Gal Hochman, C-FARE Board Chair, and Jane Kolodinsky, Board Member, interview Spiro E. Stefanou, Acting Administrator of USDA ERS. This interview comes after several years of drastic changes to ERS, including its move to Kansas City, which caused many of its employees to exit. In this interview, we wanted to learn more about how ERS adapts and changes to its current situation and what its future holds.



Episode Two: Meeting NASS

In our second episode, Gal Hochman, C-FARE Board Chair, and Jane Kolodinsky, Board Member, interview Kevin Barnes, Acting Administrator of USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). This interview discusses how NASS manages and collects data, adapts to the current situation, and what the future holds.

Episode Three: Meeting NRCS

In our third episode, Gal Hochman, C-FARE Board Chair, and Jane Kolodinsky, Board Member, interview Terry Cosby, Chief of the National Resources Conservation Services (NRCS). This podcast discusses how the NRCS provides financial assistance to farmers and other private landowners and managers and offers conservation planning for farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners wanting to make conservation improvements to their land.

C-FARE's Monthly Newsletter

C-FARE curates a monthly newsletter to boost industry-related topics and information directly to our audiences inboxes. The content of these newsletters provide resources to those looking to learn more about food, agriculture, and resource economics for academic researcher to policymakers authored by our board members.

January Newsletter – Market Corner by Luis Ribera, Texas A&M, C-FARE Board Member

“The U.S. and world population are expected to grow by approximately 30 percent by the year 2050 and world real income per capita is expected to grow by 98 percent. Population and income growth translate into a higher demand for high-valued food such as more protein-based foods and fruits and vegetables. It also means a higher demand for feed for livestock. Agricultural productivity has increased dramatically.”

February Newsletter – Market Corner by Jane Kolodinsky, The University of Vermont, C-FARE Board Member

“Banned in the U.S. in 1937, the decline of the U.S. hemp industry likely began with the invention of the cotton gin and the industrial revolution that ensued, which focused on efficiency and quantity in agriculture. Until the invention of the hemp decorticator in 1917, the harvesting and processing of hemp was very labor-intensive”



March Newsletter – Market Corner by Kimberly Morgan, University of Florida, C-FARE Board Member

“Faced with the onset of the COVID-19 human health pandemic in early 2020, the UF/IFAS Farm Labor Supervisor (FLS) team rapidly collated and conveyed information to farm labor supervisors about how best to ensure the safety and well-being of the 150,000+ migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their families who work on Florida farms and ranches.”

April Newsletter – Market Corner by Matt Holt, Virginia Tech University, C-FARE Board Member

“In January 2020, the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources (CUPAHR) released a comprehensive report entitled: ‘The Aging of the Tenure Track Faculty in Higher Education: Implications for Succession and Diversity’. The results showed that, overall, the professoriate across the United States is an aging population.”

May Newsletter – Market Corner by Andrew Muhammad, University Of Tennessee, C-FARE Board Member

“In 2020, U.S. agricultural exports reached a record \$150 billion. This was, in part, driven by record exports to China which could be attributed to the Phase One Trade Agreement where China has agreed to import at least \$80 billion dollars in U.S. agricultural exports over a two-year period (2020-2021).”

June Newsletter – Market Corner by Jane Kolodinsky, University of Vermont, C-FARE Board Member

“The COVID-19 pandemic has had far-reaching impacts on most sectors of the U.S. economy, and these impacts have been uneven across rural and urban areas. On the one hand, rural areas were already lagging behind urban areas in many sectors before the pandemic, including educational attainment, access to health care, and broadband.”

July Newsletter – Market Corner by Roderick M. Rejesus, NC State University, C-FARE Board Member

“Agriculture is one sector in the economy that is considered to be most vulnerable to climate change because it relies heavily on favorable weather conditions to achieve good crop yield outcomes. Moreover, a large and growing literature has documented that climate change has strong negative impacts on mean yields and yield risk (or yield variability).”

August Newsletter – Special Edition – Market Corner by Barry J. Barnett University of Kentucky, C-FARE Board Member

“Current U.S. federal farm policy focuses on risk management. Projected spending for the Federal Crop Insurance Program exceeds that of all other farm-related programs authorized in the 2018 farm bill. In 2020, the Federal Crop Insurance Program provided almost \$114 billion in insurance coverage to U.S. agricultural producers.”

Opinion Editorial by Gal Hochman, Rutgers University, C-FARE Board Chair

“Western Canada is facing record-high temperatures and a lack of rainfall. The extreme weather stresses the crops, leading to crop losses, affecting crop quality, and reducing forage and water supplies for livestock. Since the beginning of the growing season in April, the Prairies in Western Canada received somewhere between 40% to 85% of their average precipitation.”

September Newsletter – Market Corner by Michael Adjemian, University of Georgia, C-FARE Board Member

“In 2018, several major trading partners placed retaliatory tariffs on U.S. agricultural exports in response to U.S.-initiated tariffs on washing machines, solar panels, steel, aluminum, and a range of Chinese products. U.S. soybean exports were easily the foremost target of agriculturally-directed trade retaliation, accounting for nearly half of the total trade war retaliation, and were directed by China, historically the United States’ main soybean export destination.”

October Newsletter – Special Edition – Market Corner by David Zilberman, University of California, Berkley, C-FARE Board Member

“With growing concern about environmental protection and climate change, there is a drive to develop a circular economy. The circular economy is contrasted with the linear system that we have today where we apply various inputs to produce outputs and, in the process, generate residues that may cause harm.”



Opinion Editorial by Gal Hochman, Rutgers University, C-FARE Board Chair

“During the last summer, economic growth weakened. Even though a few sectors showed strength, deceleration in economic activity in contact-intensive industries such as dining out, travel, and tourism became common because of safety concerns due to COVID-19. However, we also witnessed a slowdown in sectors of the economy impacted by supply disruptions and labor shortages, as opposed to the softening of demand. The auto sales and home sales activity are two examples.”

December Newsletter – Market Corner by Jane Kolodinsky, University of Vermont, C-FARE Board Member

“The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (H.R. 3684) was enacted after being signed by the president on November 11, 2021. It authorizes \$1.2 trillion in federal spending over five years, with Alaska, Wyoming, Montana, and Vermont to receive the most per capita. Yes, it addresses roads and bridges, which are crumbling in many areas, rural and urban. However, in rural America, ‘getting from here to there’ is critical to improving quality of life in rural communities as these improvements are directly tied to access jobs, economic development, education, and healthcare.”

CONTACT US

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