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NABC REPORT 27

*Stewardship for the Sustainability of  
Genetically Engineered Crops:  
The Way Forward in Pest Management,  
Coexistence, and Trade*

Proceedings of the 27th annual conference of  
the North American Agricultural Biotechnology Council,  
hosted by The Pennsylvania State University,  
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## NABC Report 27

### *Stewardship for the Sustainability of Genetically Engineered Crops: The Way Forward in Pest Management, Coexistence, and Trade*

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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We thank Dr. Thompson and his team for a most successful conference.

### *Planning Committee*

Gary A. Thompson (Chair) and Dave Mortensen, The Pennsylvania State University;  
Ralph W. F. Hardy, Allan Eaglesham, and Susanne Lipari, NABC;  
Greg Jaffe, Center for Science in the Public Interest; Carol Mallory-Smith, Oregon State University; Steve Pueppke, Michigan State University; Anthony Shelton, Cornell University  
Smooth operation of the conference resulted from the contributions of the following:

### *Session Moderators*

Gary A. Thompson, Dave Mortensen, David Abler, and  
Leland Glenna (The Pennsylvania State University)  
Carol Mallory-Smith (Oregon State University)  
Steve Pueppke (Michigan State University)

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On behalf of NABC, we thank Gary A. Thompson for first-rate

Ralph W. F. Hardy  
*President, NABC*

February 2016

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## PREFACE

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NABC Report 27 provides an overview of stewardship and sustainability of genetically engineered crops. The meeting combined presentations by 20 US and Canadian leaders from academia, government, industry and public interest groups, question and answer sessions providing an opportunity for dialog by all attendees, and a concluding session with a panel representing academia, grower-input industry, and a not-for-profit food consumer organization. The objective of the meeting was to provide a broad overview of issues requiring stewardship and sustainability. Current status and the road forward were emphasized for four dominant issues—resistance management, coexistence, trade and markets, and social and economic concerns. All of these issues have been central to agriculture for decades—well before the introduction of genetically engineered products for agriculture in the 1990s. For example, I recall chairing a National Research Council committee on ecologically based pest management, which for the most part preceded the introduction of genetically engineered ag products. It is important to recognize that the issues discussed at NABC 27 were not initiated by genetic engineering. Genetically engineered crops are not unique for these issues, but have their own subset. These must be dealt with to ensure sustainability of these products to continue as an integral part of crop ag practices. The beneficial impact of GE crops in farm sustainability was addressed by a 2010 NRC report, e.g. herbicide-resistant crops enabled broad use of no-till practices and the use of herbicides with less residual persistence in our soils, and plants genetically engineered for pest resistance have reduced the use of chemical pesticides. NABC 27 explored in an open forum the road forward to promote sustainability of these products, the ones now in use, those in development and still others being conceived in our laboratories. This stewardship has responsibilities for farmer-growers, ag input industries, processors, academe, and government. I hope that the reader will find NABC Report 27 to be a balanced, thoughtful, and useful presentation of the road forward.

Ralph W. F. Hardy  
President, NABC

Susanne E. Lipari  
Executive Coordinator

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