

## **Meeting of the National Genetic Resources Advisory Council Scheduled for April 21-22, 2016, Griffin, Georgia**

GRIFFIN, GEORGIA, April 21-22, 2016—The National Genetic Resources Advisory Council (NGRAC), a sub-committee of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics (NAREEE) Advisory Board of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), is holding a meeting beginning on April 21 through the afternoon of April 22, 2016, in Griffin, Georgia. The meeting will focus on genetic conservation and preservation, including crop genetic vulnerability, crop wild relatives, as well as specific issues impacting the National Genetic Resources Program. The members will also hear a briefing on the status of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources. The meeting will be held at University of Georgia Research Garden Education Building located at 129 Ellis Road, Griffin, on the grounds of the University of Georgia Research Garden. The meeting is open to the public.

The meeting's agenda includes two full days of featured experts in food and agriculture and a tour of the Agricultural Research Service's (ARS) Plant Genetic Resources Conservation Unit. Among those invited to speak are: Dr. Catherine Woteki, USDA Chief Scientist and Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics (REE); Dr. Gary Pederson, Supervisory Geneticist, USDA ARS, Griffin, GA; Dr. Harvey Blackburn, Animal Geneticist, USDA ARS, Ft. Collins, CO; Katlyn Scholl, U.S. Department of State; and Dr. Colin Khoury, post doctorate with the Agricultural Research Service and Research Scientist/Crop Diversity Specialist with the International Center for Tropical Agriculture.

The NGRAC was established in March 1992, under USDA Departmental Regulation 1043-8 as directed by Section 1632 of P.L. 101-624. The NGRAC was re-chartered in May 2011 and in April 2012, the NGRAC was inactivated as a standalone entity and transitioned as a subcommittee of the NAREEE Advisory Board. The NAREEE Advisory Board was established by the Federal Agricultural Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, P.L. 104-127, Sec. 802.

Meeting Location: University of Georgia Research Garden Education Building, 129 Ellis Road, Griffin, GA 30223

Members of the public interested in attending the meeting must register by contacting Shirley Morgan-Jordan at [shirley.morgan@ars.usda.gov](mailto:shirley.morgan@ars.usda.gov) or by calling (202) 720-3684. A draft agenda will be sent upon request. At the end of each meeting day, the floor will be open for public comment, or interested individuals may provide written comment for the public record postmarked by April 29, 2016.

The agenda and additional information can be found on [GRIN](#).