

COFFEE R&D ADVOCACY PRIORITIES

The National Coffee Association and World Coffee Research have teamed up to support a shared legislative agenda for coffee agricultural research and development (R&D).

WHY ADVOCATE?

* Coffee agricultural R&D is under-resourced by the federal government compared to other commodities with similar economic impact. We can unlock funding for coffee R&D that will benefit long-term supplies, including by strengthening grower resilience to pests and disease.
* Our companies rely on coffee grown in more than 40 countries, often by smallholders in low-income settings. Collaborative research is essential and can generate the mutually beneficial innovations needed to ensure the future of coffee.

Our R&D-related advocacy focuses on the following priorities for the 119th Congress:

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| Coffee Plant Health Initiative Amendments Act * Broadens scope of an existing program from one coffee pest to all coffee pests and diseases
* Enables U.S. researchers to obtain USDA funding for coffee research and extension

WHY WE SUPPORT IT* Broadening the scope of existing research would open the door for federal funding to flow to more areas of coffee ag R&D
* Research protects global coffee supplies and U.S. growers in Hawai’i and Puerto Rico from emerging pests and disease
 | The Farm Bill* Directs federal programs and funding for ag R&D and authorizes USDA R&D programs relevant to coffee
* Creates opportunities for international collaboration and public R&D aligned with industry needs

WHY WE SUPPORT IT* Helps fill the significant investment gap in R&D to ensure coffee’s future
* USDA grant programs enable the coffee industry to access high-quality research
* Changes would enhance collaboration between U.S. scientists and international partners to protect coffee
 | Seed System Investment* Public support improves coffee innovation distribution through enablers like regulatory policies and finance
* USAID is well-positioned to invest in collaboration with the coffee industry

WHY WE SUPPORT IT* Seed systems in coffee-producing countries are the conduit for getting better coffee trees to farmers
* Current seed systems have never handled the scale of innovation that is coming – they must prepare; USAID support helps them do so
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APPROPRIATIONS: We also advocate for USAID and USDA funding that benefits coffee, including USAID agricultural R&D investments and USDA international collaborative research programs and AFRI.