

COFFEE R&D & SEED SYSTEMS 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 and seed systems support is essential to generate and ensure access to the mutually beneficial innovations needed to ensure the future of coffee.

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

Coffee [or Tropical] Plant Health Initiative Amendments Act	The Farm Bill & USAID	Seed System Investment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadens scope of an existing program from one coffee pest to <u>all</u> coffee pests and diseases • Enables U.S. researchers to obtain USDA funding for coffee research and extension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directs federal programs and funding for coffee ag R&D and authorizes USDA to engage in coffee • Creates opportunities for international collaboration and public R&D aligned with industry needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public support improves coffee innovation distribution through enablers like regulatory policies and finance • USAID and USDA/FAS are well-positioned to invest in collaboration with the coffee industry
<p>WHY WE SUPPORT IT</p>	<p>WHY WE SUPPORT IT</p>	<p>WHY WE SUPPORT IT</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 and USDA/FAS support helps them do so

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.