Today’s Challenges for Food & Agriculture

U.S. Pork Production is Evolving
Pork Industry Animal Welfare Research

- Gestation sow housing
  - Evaluate and optimize characteristics of a housing system to benefit individual well-being, management/labor, lifetime productivity and reproductive performance/efficiency

- 2002 – 2012
  - >$1.5 M
U.S. Pork Industry

- Finishing
- Gestation & Farrowing
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Current Sow Housing Status

Dr. Ron Plain, U of Missouri
- Owners of ~63% of the 5.7M animal U.S. sow herd
- Today ~17% in stalls and pens during gestation
- Expected to grow to 23% by 2015

NPPC
- States + announced company commitments
- ~8% of 5.7M national sow herd in pen housing
- 15% by 2018
50 Years of Improvement: 1959-2009

Environmental Sustainability

- Carbon Footprint
- Water Footprint
- Air Footprint
- Land Footprint

- Total land use reduced 59%
- Carbon footprint reduced 35% per lb. carcass wt.
- Breeding herd decreased 39%
- Water use reduced 41% per lb. carcass wt.
Economics of Conversion

It’s not simple! You can’t just take stalls out!

• **30% reduction in inventory capacity** = increase footprint to maintain production

• Conversion Estimate $200 - $600 / space = $1.4M for 2400 sow farm

• Industry cost best case = Loss of $1.239 billion

• Industry cost worst case = Loss of $6.100 billion

• Drought losses estimate = $4 to $9+ loss per head marketed
Our Food Company Requests

- Work with those of us who support your business mission and goals
- Reflect your commitment to improving animal welfare through investments in research and engagement with the industry & academic experts who understand the science
- Be open to listening to producers — beyond your immediate suppliers — who will be effected by your decisions
- Do your due diligence — evaluate the economic, scientific, consumer, and environmental consequences of your welfare decisions
- Consider the long-term agenda of animal rights activists