

NYFEA

The National Young Farmer Education Association has experienced many changes in the past year. After the introduction of the NYFEA Washington D.C. Institute in 2008 and its transition into the highly successful Agriculture's Promise program, it was voted on and approved during the summer Leadership Conference to discontinue the summer conferences. The feeling of the membership was that more benefit would occur from encouraging attendance at the April Washington D.C. meeting. What started out as an opportunity for NYFEA members to gather in Washington D.C. and meet with legislators has grown into a combined effort of NYFEA and several other agriculture based organizations to unite and meet with legislators, USDA employees, and others who impact agriculture policy. More information on the Agriculture's Promise program can be found at www.agriculturespromise.com

The Annual NYFEA institute was held in Mobile, AL in December. The board voted to develop a research committee and charged the committee with developing a plan of research to determine the needs of the members and how the organization can best meet those needs. The intent of the committee is to frame their research plan within the priority areas of the National Research Agenda.

In addition to these changes, NYFEA has also embraced social networking. In another effort to bring agriculture leaders together, NYFEA can now be found on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Ning](#), and the Agriculture's Promise [blog](#). In a continued effort to make information available and develop connections among agriculture stakeholders, NYFEA is utilizing every potential avenue. Now, you can follow NYFEA through the social networking source of your choice.

Looking ahead, this year's Annual Institute will be held in Monterey, CA, December 9-11, 2010. The dates for the next Agriculture's Promise forum are still under discussion and will be released soon.

Respectfully submitted,

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