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AMERICAN MUSHROOM INSTITUTE JOINS AG AND CLIMATE GROUP AS ORIGINAL MEMBER

Avondale, PA, February 23, 2021 – The American Mushroom Institute (AMI) recently joined the newly-formed Food and Agriculture Climate Alliance as one of its original members, the association announced today.

The Food and Agriculture Climate Alliance (FACA) consists of national organizations representing farmers, ranchers, forest owners, agribusinesses, manufacturers, the food and innovation sector, state governments, sportsmen, and environmental advocates. These groups have broken through historical barriers to develop and promote shared, feasible climate policy priorities across the entire agriculture, food and forestry value chains.

“If you’re looking for the intersection of responsible climate policy and agriculture, you need look no further than mushroom production,” said AMI President Rachel Roberts. “The process of growing mushrooms is one of the most sustainable practices in ag; mushrooms are a fairly low-energy footprint crop, are water efficient and have a very low carbon footprint. In addition, the mushroom growing process recycles byproducts of other ag sectors for production, and then reuses mushroom compost to manufacture beneficial products like green roofs, soil amendments, mining reclamation projects, and more.”

“Burdens on mushroom farmers to overhaul and adapt not just practices but also infrastructure needed to withstand excessive rainfall and elevated energy-use events, for example, are not practical without wider policies to fund or sustain changes,” explains Roberts. The group will advocate for recommendations and guidance for legislators on how to achieve successful climate policies with ag, including farmer incentives. Congress and the Biden Administration have expressed high levels of interest in FACA policies, and AMI, along with other members, are developing detailed and specific proposals such as a carbon bank concept, tax credits, and other incentives.

FACA’s original 40+ recommendations cover six areas: soil health, livestock and dairy, forests and wood products, energy, research, and food loss and waste. They are outlined in a [50-page report \[PDF\]](#) and summarized in a one-page [hand-out \[PDF\]](#).

AMI joins other ag groups like American Farm Bureau Federation, National Corn Growers Association, National Cattleman’s Beef Association, Ducks Unlimited, The Nature Conservancy and other national organizations in addressing climate policy issues.

To learn more about the mushroom growing process, climate impacts, and sustainability, visit <https://www.americanmushroom.org/main/sustainability/>

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About AMI

The American Mushroom Institute (AMI), headquartered in Avondale, Pennsylvania, is a national voluntary trade association representing the growers, processors and marketers of cultivated mushrooms in the United States and industry suppliers worldwide. AMI members grow more than 96% of all cultivated mushrooms produced in the U.S. The \$3.1 billion/year industry supports more than 21,000 jobs. For more information, visit www.americanmushroom.org.