

## **Briefing on the 2002 Farm Bill & USDA Programs and Services**

### **Holiday Inn**

Syracuse, NY  
March 24, 2003

### **Introduction:**

This year's event was designed to highlight changes in the 2002 Farm Bill and to acquaint attendants with a wide array of USDA offerings. The day was filled with a variety of break out sessions and agency exhibits. Opening speakers included Lou Gallegos, Assistant Secretary for Administration for the USDA and Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-NY).

### **Agricultural Research Service's Breakout Session:**

Larry Robertson (USDA-ARS, PGRU) gave a presentation outlining the various aspects of the Public Seed Initiative. He addressed the projects uprising, goals and future involvements to a modest group of New York State farmers, Public Seed Initiative Staff and ARS officials.

In addition to the Public Seed Initiative's breakout session, there was also an exhibit displaying the PSI poster, pictures from events and some small scale-seed cleaning equipment.



**Above: Larry Robertson addressing a group of local farmers and USDA officials at the USDA outreach conference in Syracuse, NY.**



**Above: Public Seed Initiative's exhibit at the 2003 USDA outreach conference in Syracuse, NY.**

### **Seminar Attendants:**

John Kreutter  
Jean Hirsch  
Marcia Waffmen  
Amy Thompson  
Ken Nibbell

Greg Swartz  
John Gorzynski  
Mark Henning  
Matt Falise  
Teri Ferrin