Be a Part of the Insect Agriculture Industry

Joining the North American Coalition for Insect Agriculture (NACIA) links you with a passionate and knowledgeable global community of innovative companies, researchers and individuals who are leading the charge to grow an environmentally sustainable and highly beneficial alternative protein source for feed and food.

Since founding in 2016, NACIA has been a unified industry voice to advocate for the insects as food and feed industry with regulators, the media and the public. We connect members to difficult-to-access, industry-specific knowledge via education series and with each other via a Members-only Forum to confer with the companies and researchers in the industry. NACIA is also developing industry resources, including Best Practices Guidelines for farming and other reference guides for companies farming or using insects for food and feed.

As part of an international platform for insects as food and feed groups around the world, including the International Platform of Insects for Food and Feed, Asian Food and Feed Insect Association and Insect Protein Association of Australia, we give members a global perspective of the industry’s growth potential and resources to address challenges of growing a novel industry.

NACIA Mission

The mission of the North American Coalition for Insect Agriculture is to encourage positive use of insects in North America.

Who is NACIA?

NACIA members number over 100 of the leading companies, researchers and individuals who are building the insect agriculture industry in North America and beyond.

Member Spotlight: Beta Hatch

Founded in 2015, Beta Hatch’s insect-rearing platform uses the yellow mealworm to convert low-value grain byproducts into high-value proteins, oils and nutrients for animal feed and crop fertilizer. Through a circular, zero-waste system, Beta Hatch combines valorization of agricultural byproducts, harnessing of waste heat, and supply chain innovation to enable insect-rearing at scale.

Beta Hatch uses advanced genetics and a breeding program to selectively bred insects. Using novel diet blends that allow for customization of the nutritional profiles of the finished products to meet specific industry and animal feed demands.

Beta Hatch uses a highly scalable, capital efficient hub & spoke production model, in which eggs are produced at its Washington-based hatchery and then reared at a network of grower-owned and operated insect ranches. www.betahatch.com

For more information, visit nacia.org
Member Spotlight: Jiminy’s

Since 2017, Jiminy’s has made sustainable pet food and treats using insect protein. Jiminy’s products nourish our pets and promote long-term stewardship of the earth. Jiminy’s products are human grade; made with the best ingredients that are carefully chosen to enhance pets’ health and happiness.

There are over 89 million dogs in the US who consume more than 32 billion pounds of protein a year. In fact, according to a UCLA Study, cats and dogs are responsible for 25 to 30% of the environmental impact of meat consumption in the US. Reducing the carbon “pawprint” of the pet food industry is possible by replacing traditional animal protein with insect protein. Jiminy’s products are nutritious, pre-biotic, sustainable, humane and hypoallergenic. www.jiminys.com

Academic Spotlight: Valerie Stull

Dr. Valerie Stull is an interdisciplinary environmental health scientist who investigates the intersections of environment and global health, including food security in a changing climate. She has worked in Zambia, South Africa, Kenya, Rwanda, India, Peru and Palestine on research agricultural development projects with non-profit organizations, donors agencies and governments. At the forefront of her current research is the MIGHTi Project, assessing optimal ways to use edible insects for human nutrition, economic development, recycling and agroecosystem sustainability. A founding member of NACIA, Dr. Stull was part of a research partnership that conducted the first ever study of its kind to assess the direct health impacts of insect consumption on adults, specifically measuring the impacts of cricket powder consumption on the human Microbiome. www.mighti.co

Non-profit Spotlight: Farms for Orphans

Farms for Orphans (FFO) is feeding and empowering the world’s vulnerable children through innovative, environmentally-sustainable agriculture. FFO is working to alleviate food-insecurity, malnutrition and poverty in orphaned and street children in the DRC through the introduction of scalable, climate-smart farming methods that preserve indigenous traditions of consuming wild-harvested edible insects of the Congo Basin, while creating livelihoods for vulnerable populations. They provide training, resources and mentorship to organizations that support vulnerable youth, as well as to the youth themselves, in palm weevil farming. www.farmsfororphans.org

For more information, visit nacia.org