

The image is a promotional graphic for the Farm Foundation. It features a central globe with a human eye superimposed on it, surrounded by various agricultural and scientific symbols like a microscope, a plant, and a globe. The text "Knowledge to Thrive" is at the top left, and "in a World of Change" is below it. The main title "Farm Foundation" is in a large, bold, black serif font. Below it, "Cooperative Innovation" is written in a smaller, black sans-serif font. The dates "November 1-2, 2004" and the location "Kansas City, MO" are at the bottom right. The background is a mix of green, blue, and yellow with a grid pattern.

Knowledge  
to Thrive

in a  
World  
of *Change*

**Farm Foundation**

Cooperative Innovation

November 1-2, 2004  
Kansas City, MO

## **Farm Foundation**

- | Founded in 1933
- | Trustees are leaders in agriculture & agribusiness
- | Funding
  - Private endowment
  - Support from individuals, businesses and government agencies
- | Every \$1 invested leverages \$6

## Farm Foundation

- | Is unique in the agricultural community
- | 70-year reputation for objectivity
- | Don't lobby or advocate
- | Do provide an agenda-free environment for discussion and dialogue on economic and policy issues
- | Promote understanding of the relationship among natural resources, human capital, technology, public institutions and society.

## Farm Foundation

### Program Focus

Environmental and Natural Resources  
Globalization  
Rural Community Viability  
Role of Agricultural Institutions  
Consumer Issues  
New Technology

# Farm Foundation

## Why this project?

Role of Agricultural Institutions Priority Area

### Objective

Identify new institutional arrangements with the potential to serve agriculture and the food system more effectively in today's global and fast-changing economy

### High Priority Topic

Examine the long-term economic viability of cooperatives of all types with particular attention to issues of access to capital and the role of cooperatives in value added processing

# Farm Foundation

## I Goal: More informed public policy

- Supply private and public decision makers with informative economic analysis.
- Identify gaps in research/analysis and set a future research agenda.
- Increase public understanding of the issues by fostering dialogue and building networks.