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Form **990-EZ****Short Form****Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax**

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)

OMB No 1545-1150

2014**Open to Public Inspection**Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

▶ Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.

▶ Information about Form 990-EZ and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.**A** For the 2014 calendar year, or tax year beginning

, 2014, and ending

, 20

B Check if applicable:

- ☐ Address change
☐ Name change
☐ Initial return
☐ Final return/terminated
☐ Amended return
☐ Application pending

C Name of organization

North American Arabidopsis Steering Committee

Number and street (or P O box, if mail is not delivered to street address)

Room/suite

One Shields Ave; Dept Plant Biology, UC Davis, c/o Siobhan Brady

2251 LSA

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code

Davis, CA 95616-5270

D Employer identification number

20-5589892

E Telephone number

530-752-2721

F Group Exemption
Number ▶**G** Accounting Method: ☒ Cash ☐ Accrual Other (specify) ▶**I** Website: ▶ http://arabidopsis.org/portals/masc/countries/NAASC_Info.jsp**H** Check ☐ if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).**J** Tax-exempt status (check only one) — ☐ 501(c)(3) ☐ 501(c) () ◀ (insert no) ☐ 4947(a)(1) or ☐ 527**K** Form of organization: ☒ Corporation ☐ Trust ☐ Association ☐ Other**L** Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets

(Part II, column (B) below) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ

\$

Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (see the instructions for Part I)Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I ☐

Revenue	1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received	1	\$87,173
	2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts	2	0
	3	Membership dues and assessments	3	0
	4	Investment income	4	\$1,036
	5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory	5a	0
	b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses	5b	0
	c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a)	5c	0
	6	Gaming and fundraising events		
	a	Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000)	6a	0
	b	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ of contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) (attach Schedule G if the sum of such gross income and contributions exceeds \$15,000)	6b	0
c	Less: direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events	6c	0	
d	Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c)	6d	0	
7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	7a	0	
b	Less: cost of goods sold	7b	0	
c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a)	7c	0	
8	Other revenue (describe in Schedule O)	8	0	
9	Total revenue. Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8	9	88,209	
Expenses	10	Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O)	10	50,374
	11	Benefits paid to or for members	11	0
	12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits	12	0
	13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors	13	34,089
	14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance	14	0
	15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping	15	4,818
	16	Other expenses (describe in Schedule O)	16	17,298
	17	Total expenses. Add lines 10 through 16	17	106,579
Net Assets	18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9)	18	(18,370)
	19	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	19	225,822
	20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	20	0
	21	Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 18 through 20	21	207,452

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

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Part II Balance Sheets (see the instructions for Part II)Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part II ☐

	(A) Beginning of year	(B) End of year
22 Cash, savings, and investments	225,822	22 207,452
23 Land and buildings	0	23 0
24 Other assets (describe in Schedule O)	0	24 0
25 Total assets	225,822	25 207,452
26 Total liabilities (describe in Schedule O)	0	26 0
27 Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21)	226,822	27 207,452

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments (see the instructions for Part III)Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part III ☒What is the organization's primary exempt purpose? Supports North American plant science- Arabidopsis

Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title.

Expenses
 (Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations, optional for others)

28 <u>A primary function is to organize and secure funding for the annual International Conference on Arabidopsis Research (ICAR) when it's held in the U.S., and to support participation by U.S. scientists when it's abroad</u> <u>We hosted ICAR 2014 including supporting 15 early career and 23 mid/late career invited speakers/scientists.</u> (Grants \$ <u>28,879</u>) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐	28a	52,741
29 <u>Another major function is to enable participation by US early-career researchers (ECR) and under-represented minorities (URM) in the annual International Conference on Arabidopsis Research, as well as develop career building opportunities for them. We supported 10 ECR and 15 URM participants to join ICAR 2014</u> (Grants \$ <u>16,679</u>) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐	29a	20,088
30 <u>An additional major function is that the Steering Committee (NAASC) develops new programs such as career development workshops for students and other young scientists, and also for groups under-represented in US science. We supported 6 members to attend ICAR 2014 and present new career development workshops.</u> (Grants \$ <u>4,816</u>) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐	30a	8,225
31 Other program services (describe in Schedule O) (Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐	31a	
32 Total program service expenses (add lines 28a through 31a)	32	81,054

Part IV List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees (list each one even if not compensated—see the instructions for Part IV)Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part IV ☐

(a) Name and title	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC) (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
Siobhan Brady Treasurer, Director	0.5	0	0	0
Nicholas Provart President, Director	0.5	0	0	0
Keiko Torii Vice President, Director	0.25	0	0	0
Jose Alonso Assistant Secretary, Director	0.25	0	0	0
Erich Grotewold Director	0.25	0	0	0
Sarah Assmann Director	0.25	0	0	0
Richard Vierstra Director	0.25	0	0	0
Doris Wagner Director	0.25	0	0	0

Part V Other Information (Note the Schedule A and personal benefit contract statement requirements in the instructions for Part V) Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part V ☐

	Yes	No
33 Did the organization engage in any significant activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," provide a detailed description of each activity in Schedule O	33	✓
34 Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the amended documents if they reflect a change to the organization's name. Otherwise, explain the change on Schedule O (see instructions)	34	✓
35a Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year from business activities (such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a, among others)?	35a	✓
b If "Yes," to line 35a, has the organization filed a Form 990-T for the year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O	35b	
c Was the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III	35c	✓
36 Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N	36	✓
37a Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions ► 37a		
b Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?	37b	✓
38a Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the tax year covered by this return?	38a	✓
b If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved	38b	
39 Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:		
a Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9	39a	
b Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities	39b	
40a Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under: section 4911 ► ; section 4912 ► ; section 4955 ►		
b Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year, or did it engage in an excess benefit transaction in a prior year that has not been reported on any of its prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I	40b	✓
c Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958 ► 0		
d Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization ► 0		
e All organizations. At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T	40e	✓
41 List the states with which a copy of this return is filed ► none		
42a The organization's books are in care of ► Dr. Siobhan Brady Telephone no. ► 530-752-2721 Located at ► One Shields Ave; Dept Plant Biology, UC Davis, ZIP + 4 ► 95616-5270		
b At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: ► See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR).	42b	✓
c At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside the U.S.? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: ►	42c	✓
43 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041 —Check here ► ☐ and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year ► 43		
44a Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ	44a	✓
b Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ	44b	✓
c Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year?	44c	✓
d If "Yes" to line 44c, has the organization filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O	44d	✓
45a Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	45a	✓
b Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," Form 990 and Schedule R may need to be completed instead of Form 990-EZ (see instructions)	45b	✓

- 46 Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I

	Yes	No
46		✓

Part VI Section 501(c)(3) organizations only

All section 501(c)(3) organizations must answer questions 47–49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51.

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI ☐

- 47 Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II

	Yes	No
47		✓

- 48 Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E

	Yes	No
48		✓

- 49a Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?

	Yes	No
49a		✓

- b If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization?

	Yes	No
49b		✓

- 50 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and title of each employee	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
none				

f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000 0

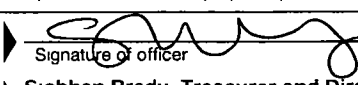
- 51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and business address of each independent contractor	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
none		

d Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000 0

- 52 Did the organization complete Schedule A? **Note.** All section 501(c)(3) organizations must attach a completed Schedule A ☒ Yes ☐ No

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here	Signature of officer 	Date February 26, 2015
	Siobhan Brady, Treasurer and Director Type or print name and title	

Paid Preparer Use Only	Print/Type preparer's name	Preparer's signature	Date	Check ☐ if self-employed	PTIN
	Firm's name			Firm's EIN	
	Firm's address			Phone no	

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions ☐ Yes ☐ No

SCHEDULE A
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Public Charity Status and Public Support

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

▶ Information about Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No 1545-0047

2014

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Name of the organization

North American Arabidopsis Steering Committee

Employer identification number

20-5589892

Part I Reason for Public Charity Status (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions.

The organization is not a private foundation because it is: (For lines 1 through 11, check only one box.)

- 1 ☐ A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i)**.
- 2 ☐ A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)**. (Attach Schedule E.)
- 3 ☐ A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**.
- 4 ☐ A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**. Enter the hospital's name, city, and state: _____
- 5 ☐ An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 6 ☐ A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v)**.
- 7 ☐ An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 8 ☐ A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 9 ☒ An organization that normally receives: (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions—subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975. See **section 509(a)(2)**. (Complete Part III.)
- 10 ☐ An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety. See **section 509(a)(4)**.
- 11 ☐ An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in **section 509(a)(1)** or **section 509(a)(2)**. See **section 509(a)(3)**. Check the box in lines 11a through 11d that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e, 11f, and 11g.
 - a ☐ **Type I.** A supporting organization operated, supervised, or controlled by its supported organization(s), typically by giving the supported organization(s) the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the directors or trustees of the supporting organization. **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and B.**
 - b ☐ **Type II.** A supporting organization supervised or controlled in connection with its supported organization(s), by having control or management of the supporting organization vested in the same persons that control or manage the supported organization(s). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and C.**
 - c ☐ **Type III functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with, and functionally integrated with, its supported organization(s) (see instructions). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A, D, and E.**
 - d ☐ **Type III non-functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with its supported organization(s) that is not functionally integrated. The organization generally must satisfy a distribution requirement and an attentiveness requirement (see instructions). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and D, and Part V.**
 - e ☐ Check this box if the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, Type III functionally integrated, or Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organization.
 - f Enter the number of supported organizations
 - g Provide the following information about the supported organization(s).

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1–9 above or IRC section (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization listed in your governing document?		(v) Amount of monetary support (see instructions)	(vi) Amount of other support (see instructions)
			Yes	No		
(A)						
(B)						
(C)						
(D)						
(E)						
Total						

Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2010	(b) 2011	(c) 2012	(d) 2013	(e) 2014	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")						
2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
4 Total. Add lines 1 through 3						
5 The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f)						
6 Public support. Subtract line 5 from line 4.						

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2010	(b) 2011	(c) 2012	(d) 2013	(e) 2014	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4						
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
10 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.)						
11 Total support. Add lines 7 through 10						
12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions)					12	
13 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here						☐

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

14 Public support percentage for 2014 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f))	14	%
15 Public support percentage from 2013 Schedule A, Part II, line 14	15	%
16a 33¹/₃% support test—2014. If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 ¹ / ₃ % or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization		☐
b 33¹/₃% support test—2013. If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 ¹ / ₃ % or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization		☐
17a 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2014. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization		☐
b 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2013. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization		☐
18 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions		☐

Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II.

If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2010	(b) 2011	(c) 2012	(d) 2013	(e) 2014	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")	66,001	70,270	23,773	35,523	\$87,173	282,740
2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose	0	0	101,934	0	0	101,934
3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 Total. Add lines 1 through 5	66,001	70,270	125,707	35,523	\$87,173	\$384,673
7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons	0	0	7,250	0	\$8,640	\$15,890
b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of \$5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year	0	0	0	0	0	0
c Add lines 7a and 7b	0	0	7,250	0	\$8,640	\$15,890
8 Public support (Subtract line 7c from line 6.)						\$368,783

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2010	(b) 2011	(c) 2012	(d) 2013	(e) 2014	(f) Total
9 Amounts from line 6	66,001	70,270	125,707	35,523	\$87,173	\$384,673
10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources	2849	1915	1350	1381	1036	\$8,531
b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975	0	0	0	0	0	0
c Add lines 10a and 10b	2849	1915	1350	1381	1036	\$8,531
11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on	0	0	0	0	0	0
12 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.)	0	0	0	0	0	0
13 Total support. (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12.)	68,850	72,185	127,057	36,904	\$88,209	\$393,204
14 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here ☐						

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

15 Public support percentage for 2014 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	15	93.8 %
16 Public support percentage from 2013 Schedule A, Part III, line 15	16	95.14 %

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage

17 Investment income percentage for 2014 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	17	2.2 %
18 Investment income percentage from 2013 Schedule A, Part III, line 17	18	3.13 %
19a 33 1/3% support tests—2014. If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here . The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ☒		
b 33 1/3% support tests—2013. If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here . The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ☐		
20 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions ☐		

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

▶ Information about Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No 1545-0047

2014

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Name of the organization

North American Arabidopsis Steering Committee

Employer identification number

20-5589892

Part III Organization's primary exempt purpose (cont) Line 28

The organization, North American Arabidopsis Steering Committee (NAASC), was formed to forge relationships, foster communication among North American scientists, and provide North American representation to the international community involved in research and education using the plant Arabidopsis thaliana. Arabidopsis thaliana is a small flowering plant that is widely used worldwide as a model organism for basic research in plant genetics and molecular biology. The function of NAASC is to serve as a liaison between members of the community and government and not-for-profit granting agencies, to provide representation of the community to international research efforts and service facilities and initiatives such as ABRC, and to play a major role in planning, running, and fundraising for the annual International Arabidopsis conferences. Members of NAASC also participate in domestic and international efforts involving plant biology research and support of plant biology communities, especially Arabidopsis, research and support of plant biology communities, especially Arabidopsis, such as the IAIC and the AIP.

Line 29: The ICAR has proven to be an extremely effective venue for this purpose, particularly for exposing young scientists to the field. We believe that proactive steps must be taken to fully engage scientists from minority serving institutions, women, and junior scientists in all aspects of professional research. Ensuring the participation of scientists from diverse backgrounds is critical to the vitality of science in the US. To facilitate participation and engage diverse participants, NAASC engages in fundraising specifically to support US scientists that are early in their career, and under-represented groups in US science. We award travel funding to the ICAR via a competitive process. We also solicit feedback via surveys to gauge the effectiveness of our programs and make changes as recommended. In addition, we strive to support early career and under-represented scientists through cohort development and networking at the meetings (see next, Line 30).

Line 30: Based on survey feedback from previous grantees, we identified new opportunities to focus on for early career and under-represented groups in US science for 2014: (1) Identification of networking contacts from within the Arabidopsis community for under-sented (URM) awardees attending ICAR 2014. (2) Facilitate a strong URM cohort and facilitate communication amongst them after ICAR. (3) Develop and hold new workshops dedicated to the experience of science from the perspective of three URM scientists including one at the graduate student level, one at the early faculty level, and one at the mid career faculty level. For Early Career Researchers (ECR) we developed a second set of workshops for scientists at the beginning of their training (ECR1-graduate students and young postdocs) and scientists making transitions into independent positions (ECR2-late postdocs, early faculty). The URM and ECR groups also shared a session on key career development information with an emphasis on getting funding, networking and collaborations. NAASC also emphasize

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ÉCR in the scientific program by making available 90 slots for oral presentations from submitted abstracts- with an emphasis on early career applicants. In addition, we focused on early-career and new speakers in the main invited speaker program.

Finally, we held special luncheons to support young scientists (the 'Emerging Scientist Luncheon') which provides an informal space for networking with more experienced faculty and those later in their career. We also held several URM social functions for awardees including a networking lunch (with NAASC and faculty) and an informal dinner with the awardee cohort and several leaders.