



The U.S. Sustainability Alliance



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DID YOU KNOW?

In the U.S. every dollar invested in agricultural research returns \$20 to the economy.

USDA Report: Technical Innovations Benefit Agriculture and the Economy

An insect repellent made from coconut oil and a solar-powered system for recycling contaminated water into fertilizer are just two of hundreds of innovations featured in the latest U.S. Department of Agriculture's [Technology Transfer report](#). The report, which showcases the work being done by USDA scientists and researchers to solve problems for farmers, foresters, rangers and producers, includes 320 inventions, 48% more than last year, as well as 471 licenses, 120 patent applications and 67 patents received. "Studies show that every dollar invested in agricultural research returns \$20 to our economy," said U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Mr. Sonny Perdue, speaking at the report's launch. *Find out about some of the key innovations [here](#).*



EDF Guide Points the Way to More Sustainable U.S. Poultry



A new guide by not-for-profit NGO Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) aims to help U.S. poultry companies improve their sustainability. The industry has made significant progress, reducing its climate change impacts by 36% per 1000 kg of poultry meat produced between 1965 and 2010. The guide suggests that focusing on four areas could reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve water quality, with feed production offering the greatest opportunity.

Many of the practices outlined in the guide are highlighted through the U.S. Poultry & Egg Association's awards for family farmers engaged in poultry and egg production. The guide is a tool that supports the U.S. Roundtable for Sustainable Poultry & Eggs whose mission is to support and communicate continuous improvement in sustainability.

The [Poultry Sustainability Guide](#) focuses on how companies can improve the sustainability of their

own operations, and engage producers and supply chain partners in their sustainability journey. [Read more.](#)

USSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Jennifer James, USA Rice Federation

USA Rice farmer, Jennifer James, spoke to *Farmers Guardian*, a leading UK farming publication, about her life and what it is really like growing rice, corn and soybeans in Arkansas. The interview provides a unique insight into farming throughout the year, from the hustle, bustle and excitement of harvest time to the transformation of the rice fields into a home for migrating waterfowl in the winter. Jennifer's deep-rooted commitment to sustainability comes across loud and clear. She is the fourth generation in her family to farm and, one day, she hopes to pass on the land to her son. [Read Jennifer's story here.](#)

The Latest Facts on Beef

Did you know that American beef cattle production represents just 3.3% of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions? Typically, American beef cattle spend two-thirds of their lives grazing on land that is unsuitable for crops, converting rangeland into safe and accessible protein for millions of people to eat. That's not all. The U.S. beef industry also utilizes and recycles 99% of every carcass to make life-saving pharmaceuticals, gasoline alternatives, and hundreds of other household and industrial uses. [Read more about the industry's commitment to the environment.](#)



Technology and Farming Practices Help U.S. Farmers Do More with Less, Finds USDA Report



U.S. agriculture is increasingly more sustainable by doing more with less. That is one of the findings of a USDA Economic Research Service report on how natural resources (land and water) and commercial inputs (such as energy, nutrients, and pesticides) are being used in U.S. agriculture. According to [Agricultural Resources and Environmental Indicators](#), from 1948 to 2015, agricultural output grew 1.48% per year, while aggregate input use increased by only 0.1%. This is due in part to the adoption of precision technologies, which has led to more efficient resource use. [For other notable findings, read a summary of the report here.](#)

U.S. Firms are Cream of the Crop in World Economic Forum Tech Pioneers 2019

U.S. food and agricultural innovators were among those honored by [The World Economic Forum](#) in its Technology Pioneers of the Year, which showcases technology start-ups from around the world that are using novel technologies to “transform their industries.” More than half of the 56 companies

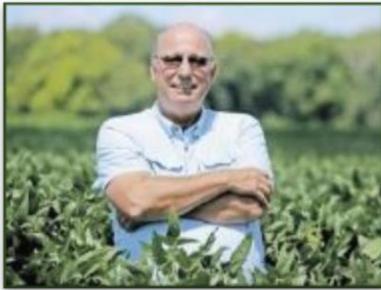
recognized hail from North America, with U.S. innovators enjoying particular success in the area of *Food Security and Agriculture* with:

- *Full Harvest*: the first B2B marketplace for imperfect and surplus produce
- *ImpactVision*: hyperspectral imaging software for detecting food quality and reducing waste
- *Inari Agriculture*: a seed pioneer using CRISPR gene-editing technology to produce healthier crops more sustainably



Learn [more](#) about this year's winners.

Farmer Viewpoint: How AgTech Attracts International Buyers of U.S. Soy



With [research](#) showing that precision tools can boost farm profitability by up to 4.4%, it is easy to see why a growing number of farmers are embracing technology. Doug Winter, a soybean farmer from southern Illinois, is one of them. He shares his views on the evolution of technology and where it is heading, outlining the compelling benefits for farmers and international buyers alike.

Read his article [here](#).



The U.S. Sustainability Alliance strives to provide current and important stories about America's farmers, fishermen and foresters. Please let us know how we're doing by taking our 1-minute survey.

[SURVEY](#)

USSA Member Organizations:

Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute; Almond Board of California; American Hardwood Export Council; American Peanut Council; Cotton Council International; Food Export Association of the Midwest; Food Export USA Northeast; National Renderers Association; North American Export Grain Association; Organic Trade Association; Softwood Export Council; USA Poultry & Egg Export Council; USA Rice Federation; U.S. Dairy Export Council; U.S. Dry Bean Council; U.S. Grains Council; U.S. Hide, Skin and Leather Association; U.S. Meat Export Federation; U.S. Soybean Export Council; and U.S. Wheat Associates



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