

## [A Century of American Sustainability](#)

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September 2020

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### DID YOU KNOW?

Alaska seafood is sustainable by law. When Alaska became a state in 1959, Alaskans wrote sustainability into their Constitution - calling for all fisheries to be sustainably managed.



### **Technology is Key to Feeding a Growing World, says U.S. Secretary of Agriculture**

Innovation and technology have enabled the United States to increase its production of food and fiber by 400% in the past 90 years while using 10% less land, says U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue. Speaking exclusively to EU affairs newspaper *New Europe*, he expresses fears that the EU's Farm to Fork will turn back the clock on agricultural advances, threatening the livelihoods of farmers and leading to less productivity and more food insecurity around the world. [Read the interview in full.](#)

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## USA Rice Conservation Program Renewed for \$7M

The Mid-South Graduated Water Stewardship Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), led by USA Rice, has been renewed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for \$7M. The new funding will allow the Partnership to implement working lands conservation practices for rice producers in Missouri, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana, focused on water management, nutrient management, and winter habitat for wildlife. [Read more news from USA Rice.](#)



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## California Dairy Sector Can Achieve Climate Neutrality, Say UC Davis Researchers



Climate neutrality is within reach for the California dairy sector, according to University of California, Davis researchers. A new whitepaper by experts including air quality specialist Professor Dr. Frank Mitloehner identifies methane as an important, misunderstood climate change mitigation opportunity and highlights how, by continuing to reduce their methane emissions, dairies can effectively create negative warming, or ‘cooling.’ [Take a closer look at the research findings.](#)

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## ***Insight & Opinion:*** Innovation is Helping Farmers Rise to the COVID-19 Challenge

COVID-19 has upended life as we know it, creating unprecedented supply chain disruption. Yet, U.S. farmers have managed to adapt and find ways to keep putting food on our tables while protecting their own livelihoods. U.S. Sustainability Alliance’s David Green considers the innovations that have helped them rise to the challenge. [Read more.](#)





### **U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol Launches Nationwide Grower Recruitment Drive**

American cotton growers can now join the U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol, a new standard for verifying the sustainability progress of U.S. cotton. As consumers continue to demand eco-friendly products, enrolling in the Trust Protocol will help growers showcase data-driven,

measurable, and verified sustainability practices and achieve continuous improvement. [Learn more.](#)

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### **USSA Farmer Spotlight: Cotton Farmer Lloyd Arthur on Maximizing Irrigation Efficiency**

Lloyd Arthur is a fifth-generation cotton farmer living in Ralls, Texas with his wife Angela. They have four children, and together the family has created an award-winning farming operation. He talks to us about the strategies that have enabled him to conserve water on the farm while boosting yields. [Read about these strategies.](#)



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### **USFRA and WBCSD Highlight Agriculture's Role in Meeting UN Sustainability Goals**

U.S. Farmers & Ranchers in Action (USFRA), which represents farmer and rancher-led organizations, has published a new SDG roadmap report which has been endorsed by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD). The report highlights the key role of U.S. agriculture in reaching the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals and assesses opportunities for U.S. agriculture to continue to drive a resilient and sustainable agricultural system in the next decade. [Find out more.](#)

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## Reducing Food Loss Requires Food System Change, Finds New Report

Consumer food waste is a major environmental concern, driven not just by an individual's food choices but by a system that encourages consumers to make decisions that lead to wasted food. That's according to a new report from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. It identifies 11 drivers of waste and outlines strategies to mitigate them. [Read its recommendations.](#)



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## Cargill to Advance Regenerative Agriculture Practices Across Four Million Hectares by 2030



Privately-owned global food company Cargill is supporting farmer-led efforts to adopt regenerative agriculture practices across 10 million acres (four million hectares) of North American farmland in the next ten years. The initiative will focus primarily on row crop rotations including corn, wheat, canola and soybeans and other staple crops, to benefit

the long-term profitability and resiliency of farmers and build on the company's 2030 climate commitment. [Read more about this Cargill initiative.](#)

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## Smithfield Foods to Become Carbon Negative by 2030

In a protein industry first, meat processor Smithfield Foods has committed to becoming carbon negative in all company-owned operations in the United States by 2030. The pledge requires Smithfield to effectively remove more carbon from the atmosphere than it emits, without purchasing carbon credits to offset emissions. [Read more about how it plans to reach its goal.](#)



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### **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; Leather and Hide Council of America; North American Export Grain Association; North American Renderers 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. Meat Export Federation; U.S. Soybean Export Council; and U.S. Wheat Associates

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The U.S. Sustainability Alliance (USSA) is a group of American farmers, fishermen and foresters who have come together to explore and share our values regarding sustainable practices and conservation programs.

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