



March-April 2021



Countering Climate Change Is Top Priority for U.S. Agriculture, Says Secretary Vilsack

Supporting regenerative agriculture and climate smart farming, and making new technology more accessible to farmers are key priorities for the Biden-Harris administration, says new U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack. Addressing the Forum for the Future of Agriculture, Secretary Vilsack outlines how climate initiatives can create new revenue streams for farmers and help the U.S. achieve its 2050 goal of zero net emissions from agriculture. [Learn how science, greater cooperation and transparent trading can help achieve a net zero future.](#)



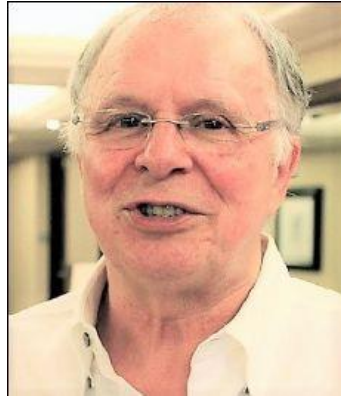
Pandemic Drives Demand for Sustainability, Finds U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol

Two-thirds of clothing brands and retailers in the UK and U.S. have seen increased demand for sustainable products in the past year, while a similar proportion have enhanced sustainable business practices in their own business. That's according to a U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol survey of 1,000 sustainability decision-makers, which found a growing trend of environmental sustainability. [Read the findings.](#)



19-21 July: Mark Your Calendar for the UN Food Systems Summit Pre-Meet

The Pre-Meet gathering for the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit will take place in Rome this July. Providing an opportunity to “mobilize the bold commitments we need to build sustainable food systems that work for people, planet, and prosperity,” the gathering will set the tone and ambition for September’s inaugural Summit. [Read more about the hybrid gathering.](#)



Insight & Opinion: Sustainable Food – A Common Goal but How to Get There?

While the U.S. and E.U. share a common vision – to feed 10 billion people by 2050 – their views on how to get there differ. Which is better for farmers and food security: a U.S.-style approach focused on technology and innovation or the EU’s Farm to Fork strategy with its aspirational goals, which include reducing chemical use and converting more farmland to organic farming?

USSA's David Green offers a U.S. perspective.



Iowa Farmer Jack Boyer’s Focus on Soil Health Saves Crops

Fourth-generation maize and soy farmer Jack Boyer is Field to Market’s Farmer of the Year 2020, honored for his commitment to continuous improvement in soil health. He says that applying his agricultural engineering

training to farming practices has paid dividends, helping save his crops from the devastating derecho windstorm that swept through Iowa in August 2020. [Read his story.](#)



NASA Harvest and CropX Partner to Advance Sustainable Ag

A NASA Harvest and CropX partnership will provide farmers and industry experts with unprecedented insights to farm more sustainably by conserving resources and improving crop yields. Together, NASA's Earth-observing satellites and CropX's soil data monitoring and analytics will support science-driven decision making. [Read about this new partnership.](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

In the past 5 years, U.S. farmers have adopted 132% more renewable energy sources such as geothermal, solar panels, and windmills.

(Source: @USagricultureUK – USDA FAS London)

A Century of American Sustainability

For more than 100 years, there has been an ongoing commitment to sustainability through conservation programs and practices that protect natural resources.



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.

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

[Learn More About Our Members](#)

WHAT WE'RE READING, VIEWING & LISTENING TO THIS MONTH

- + [How to Avoid a Climate Disaster](#) – the new book by Bill Gates on how to avoid the worst climate outcomes
- + [Wholesome](#) – a video on the people behind the wheat export supply chain, from U.S. Wheat Associates
- + [Words on Wood](#) – a podcast from the American Hardwood Export Council and Disegno, the Quarterly Journal of Design



