



November 2021 Newsletter



## U.S. and EU Agree to Collaborate on Sustainable Agriculture

The U.S. and EU have created a new transatlantic cooperation, which U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack says is “the first real opportunity in almost a decade for our respective ministries to work in partnership to ensure a sustainable, climate-smart future for all of agriculture.” The partnership will see the U.S. and EU exchange knowledge and information and promote mutual understanding and trust to address the global challenges of sustainability and climate change. [Read more.](#)



## USDA Signals Commitment to Climate Action at UN Climate Summit

At COP26, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack underscored the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s support for President Biden’s whole-of-government approach to combating climate change. Secretary Vilsack highlighted USDA initiatives that put agriculture, forestry and rural communities at the heart of global solutions to the climate crisis – from a partnership to increase investment in climate-smart agriculture to an initiative to accelerate climate action in the global dairy sector. [Read more.](#)

---



## The U.S., EU and Partners Make Global Methane Pledge at COP26

The United States, the European Union and partners formally launched the Global Methane Pledge, described by President Biden as a “game-changing

commitment” to reduce global methane emissions and “keep 1.5 degrees in reach”. The U.S. has said that it will identify and cost-effectively reduce emissions from the largest sources – oil and gas, landfill and agriculture – through regulation, financial incentives, disclosure of actionable data, and public and private partnerships. [Read more.](#)

---



## **California’s Almond Farmers Recognized for Protecting Pollinators**

The Almond Board of California (ABC) and the state’s almond farmers have received a Business for Bees Award for their exceptional work protecting pollinators. Given by The North American Pollinator Protection Campaign, the award recognizes the exceptional steps ABC is taking to protect bees and pollinators and to advance sustainability and innovation. [Read more.](#)

---



## Latest USSA Podcast Takes Deep Dive into Water Conservation

The latest episode of USSA's podcast focuses on water conservation and how America's farmers are rising to the challenge of climate change. We speak to an Arkansas rice farmer who describes his pioneering approach to irrigation as a giant mathematical equation. And we hear from a California almond grower about the benefits of whole orchard recycling and the potential of groundwater banking. [Find out more about the episode.](#)



And listen to *This Is U.S. Sustainability* on [Apple](#), or [Spotify](#).

---





## Sixth-Generation Farmer Amy Bruch Is Organic Farmer of the Year

The Organic Trade Association has named Amy Bruch of Cyclone Farms, Nebraska as its Organic Farmer of the Year. A soil health expert, Amy and her husband Tyler are credited with creating one of the most cutting-edge organic farms in the country. This has seen them convert nearly 2,500 acres (1,012 hectares) to organic row crops, small grains, pulses, and oilseeds. [Read more.](#)

---



## It's (Virtual) Open House at This Fifth-Generation Sustainable Soybean Grower's Farm

Doug Winter is a fifth-generation soybean grower from Mill Shoals, Illinois and the vice chairman of the U.S. Soybean Export Council. He operates a 1,300-hectare (3,200-acre) farm producing soybeans, white corn, yellow corn and soft red winter wheat which anyone, no matter where in the world they are, can visit at any time. All that's required is an Internet connection for access to the U.S soy industry's first live farm webcam. [Read more and visit the farm.](#)

---



## **Rice is More than a Tasty Grain, Says The Rice Foundation's Steve Linscombe**

When you think about rice, you probably think about the fluffy, white grains that you eat. However, while that's certainly the tastiest part of the rice, it's not the whole story, according to Steve Linscombe, Executive Director of The Rice Foundation. He outlines how the use of rice's by-products is growing, from providing alternative animal feed sources to sustainably powering our electricity. [Read Steve's article.](#)

---

## DID YOU KNOW?

A handful of healthy soil contains more microbes than there are people on Earth. (Source: [USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service](#))



**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. Livestock Genetics Export, Inc.; U.S. Meat Export Federation; U.S. Soybean Export Council; and U.S. Wheat Associates

[Learn More About Our Members](#)

## WHAT WE'RE WATCHING AND LISTENING TO THIS MONTH:

- + This [new video from the U.S. Meat Export Federation](#) neatly captures U.S. farmers' and ranchers' multi-generational commitment to sustainability.
- + From meat to wheat and the story of America's wheat farmers. [Learn more about why they do what they do.](#)
- + Want to know the truth about organic farming? Tune in to ['The Dirt on Organic Farming'](#) podcast for "honest and fair answers to six common criticisms of organic agriculture".





