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October 2022 Newsletter

Welcome to the U.S. Sustainability Alliance newsletter. This month we share alarming data, but also some solutions, from The Global Agricultural Productivity Report and preview the [latest podcast](#) in our *This is U.S. Sustainability* series on the often-surprising ways the U.S. almond industry reuses waste - for beer, jet fuel, bioplastics, and more.

We also feature an Alabama soybean farmer and front-line conservationist and report on SIAL Paris. Read on for our highlights from the world’s leading food trade show, plus plenty more sustainability news and views.

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PRODUCTIVITY: Agricultural Productivity Growth is Key to Feeding the World, Finds GAP Report

Global agricultural productivity growth is in decline, and current efforts to expand agriculture production to feed a growing global population are inadequate to deal with the challenges the world faces, from climate change to conflict. Those are the key findings of the 2022 Global Agricultural Productivity Report (GAP Report) produced by research institution Virginia Tech. [Read the report's recommendations for reversing this worrying trend.](#)



PRODUCTS: Ambassador Bauer Pays Tribute to America's Family Farmers, Highlights Work of USSA

At SIAL Paris, a leading international food trade show, U.S. Sustainability Alliance and its members shone a light on the sustainability of American food products, with an endorsement from the U.S. ambassador to France underscoring their efforts. [Read the key highlights from the show.](#)



WASTE: From Jet Fuel to Beer, New USSA Podcast Uncovers Innovative Uses for Food and Farm Waste

The latest episode of *This is U.S. Sustainability*, the U.S. Sustainability Alliance podcast, is now [available to download](#). Tune in to hear how the almond industry and the wider food sector are reducing waste by finding productive uses for parts of the plant and leftover ingredients that would otherwise be thrown away. Jet fuel, beer, and bioplastics are just some of the many applications we'll be talking about. [Read more about what to expect.](#)





SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES, SOIL: Wendy Yeager - Soybean Farmer, Front-line Conservationist, Innovator

Fourth-generation Alabama farmer Wendy Yeager grows multiple crops on her 445-hectare family farm near Orrville, from soybeans to cotton. She describes herself as a front-line conservationist for whom sustainability is a way of life. It is simply part of how she runs her operation as she, like many American farmers, works hard to protect the land for future generations. [Read more about what sustainability means to Wendy.](#)



SUSTAINABLE SOURCING: U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol Welcomes New Member Ralph Lauren

Luxury brand Ralph Lauren has joined the U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol, signaling its commitment to sourcing sustainable U.S. cotton. The company’s membership supports its Timeless by Design strategy to have a lasting, positive impact on the planet and the communities it serves. [Read more about Ralph Lauren’s sustainable cotton goals.](#)



SOCIAL PURPOSE: Organic Trade Association and Black Farmers Index Partner to Diversify Organic Agriculture

The Organic Trade Association (OTA) and Black Farmers Index, the largest public listing of black agriculturalists in the U.S., have joined forces to diversify organic agribusiness in the United States. The initial focus of the partnership will be getting more black growers on The Index certified as organic and supporting black growers who are already certified. [Read more about the partnership.](#)



CARBON, SOIL: \$8 Million in USDA Funding Will Expand Soil Carbon Monitoring

Soil carbon monitoring is set to receive an \$8 million boost under plans from USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to expand carbon monitoring in soil on working agricultural lands and assess how climate-smart practices affect carbon sequestration. This investment reflects how essential soil health management is to USDA's strategy for climate-smart agriculture. [Read more.](#)



ONE HUNDRED YEARS STRONG

For more than 100 years, our commitment to conservation and sustainability has been supported by, and enshrined in, U.S. laws and policies that have helped to shape our food production and environmental safeguards.

WHAT WE'RE READING AND WATCHING THIS MONTH:

This month, we're celebrating the quality and diversity of U.S. ingredients – from farm (and sea!) to table. Check out:

- + [The new Savor the States recipe book](#)
- + [A video tribute to farmers in the Northeast from DelicioUS!](#)
- + [Your complete guide to Alaska seafood](#)



The USSA is the voice of U.S. sustainable food and agricultural production. It represents the fertile lands and expansive waters of a great country and gives a voice to all that work and rely on them for food, clothing and materials.

Today, we represent more than twenty farming, fishery and forestry associations and supply chain partners who are together responsible for more than \$5 billion of annual U.S. food and agricultural exports to the EU.

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; Intertribal Agriculture Council; Leather and Hide Council of America; North American Export Grain Association; North American Renderers Association; Organic Trade Association; Softwood Export Council; USA Dry Pea & Lentil 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](#)



Forward

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The U.S. Sustainability Alliance · 16305 Swingley Ridge Road, Suite 200 · Chesterfield, MO 63017 · USA