



USSA Newsletter

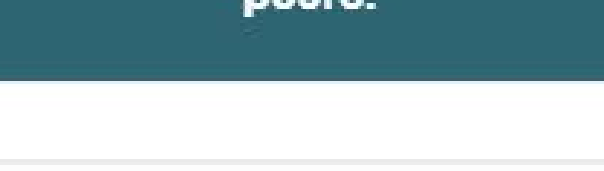
Welcome to our latest issue!

This month, our lead story is the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture's recent visit to the UK, following a historic trade deal. We also celebrate the 90th anniversary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service by exploring the agency's history and evolution.

Other highlights include the financial benefits of U.S. grain exports and new resources from USSA members that showcase U.S. sustainable agriculture, from forest products to animal feed.

Keep reading for more on these stories and other sustainability news!

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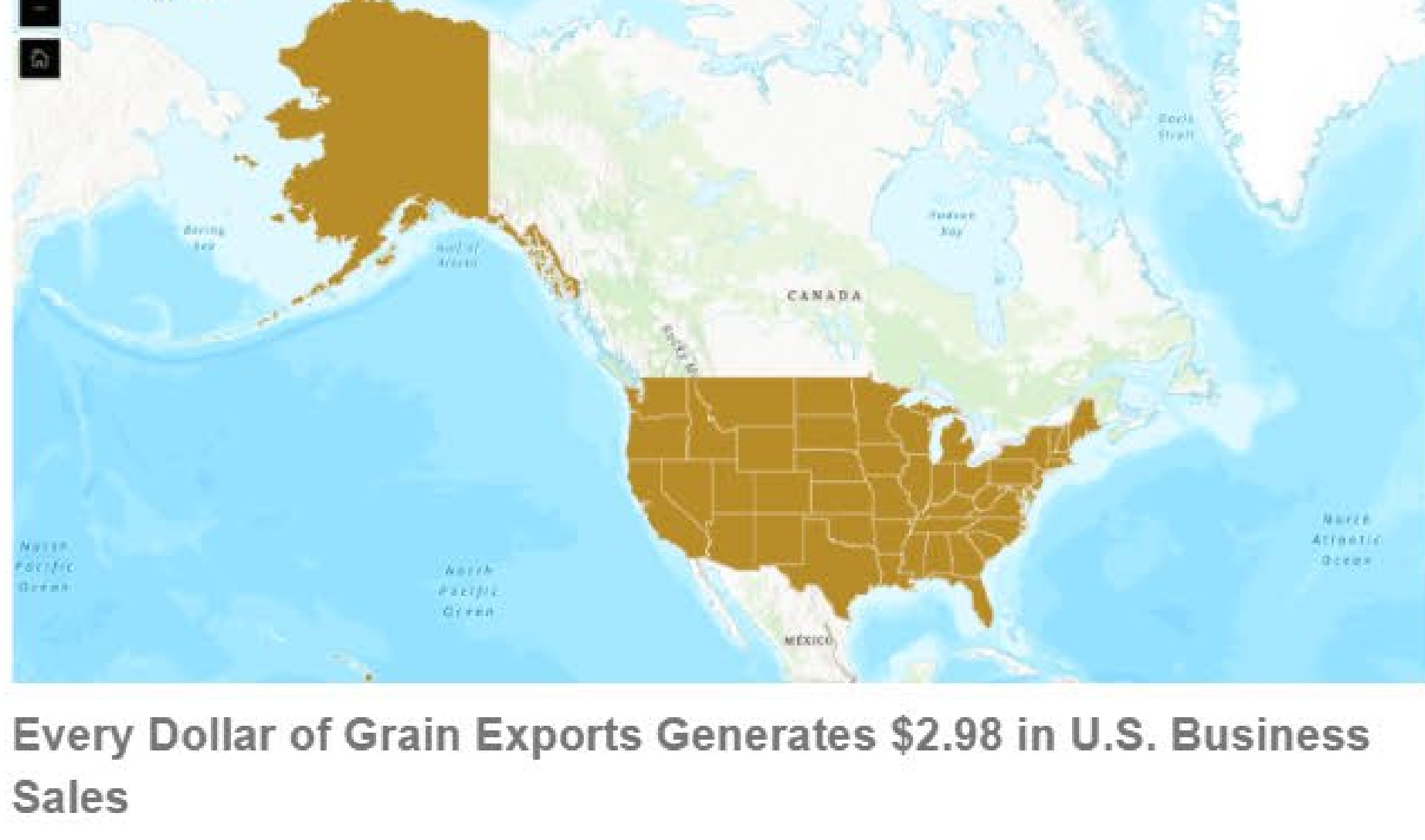


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U.S. Visit to the UK Aims to Boost Trade

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins recently visited the UK following the announcement of a trade deal aimed at lowering tariffs and removing trade barriers. Secretary Rollins met with UK government officials, toured facilities importing U.S. products and hosted a roundtable with industry representatives, including USSA members, to discuss support for agricultural exports. [Read about the highlights of Secretary Rollin's visit.](#)



Every Dollar of Grain Exports Generates \$2.98 in U.S. Business Sales

Grain exports play an important role in the American economy, providing economic benefits that extend beyond direct sales. In 2023, these exports contributed an additional \$57.24 billion in business sales, according to a new analysis, while supporting hundreds of thousands of jobs. [Learn more about the financial impact of U.S. grain exports.](#)



New Insights into Sustainable U.S. Agriculture, From Forests to Feed

As part of a commitment to share information about U.S. agriculture, USSA members have released a series of videos to bring their sector's sustainability stories to life. These resources cover the \$267 billion animal feed manufacturing industry, the cultivation of nutritious, sustainable U.S. peanuts and the use of U.S. softwoods in iconic building projects. [Learn more and watch the videos.](#)



USDA NRCS Marks 90 Years of Helping People Help the Land

On 27 April 2025, USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service turned 90. The agency was established in 1935 as the Soil Conservation Service in response to the widespread devastation caused by the Dust Bowl. However, there were calls for a coordinated solution to soil erosion long before then, as outlined by NRCS historian Shelby Callaway in an article commemorating the anniversary. [Read Shelby's article for more on the history of NRCS.](#)



The Virginia Family Farm Conserving Centuries of Stewardship

The Ellis family - Benjamin, Shannon and their son Tripp - farm in the environmentally sensitive and highly regulated Chesapeake Bay Watershed. They recently received the American Soybean Association 2025 Conservation Legacy Award for their commitment to responsible farming, a legacy nurtured over generations. [Read their story, which dates back to the 17th century.](#)

IN OTHER NEWS

Here are some of the other stories that made the headlines this month:

- **RESEARCH:** Reduced or no-till cultivation, combined with higher crop yields and better equipment, has led to a dramatic rise in soil organic levels in the U.S. Midwest. That's demonstrated by a new South Dakota State University study, as outlined [here](#).
- **RESOURCE:** The American Hardwood Export Council (AHEC) has released an illustrated guide to U.S. hardwoods covering properties, applications and environmental credentials. Check it out [here](#).
- And finally, congratulations to USSA member The California Prune Board, whose Virtual Trip to California was honored in three categories at the prestigious Davos Communications Awards 2025! Watch a video of the immersive experience [here](#).

For more on the above, check out our [social media accounts](#)!

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 who work and rely on them for food, clothing and materials.

Today, we represent more than twenty-five farming, fishery, forestry associations, and related production & processing sectors who are together responsible for approximately \$10.6 billion of annual U.S. food and agricultural exports to the UK and EU (2023).

USSA Member Organizations:

Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute; Almond Board of California; American Feed Industry Association; American Hardwood Export Council; American Peanut Council; American Seed Trade Association; California Prune Board; Cotton Council International; Florida Department of Citrus; 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; North Carolina SweetPotato Commission; Organic Trade Association; Softwood Export Council; 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; U.S. Wheat Associates; USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council; USA Poultry & Egg Export Council; and USA Rice Federation.

[Learn More About Our Members](#)



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