



## COOPERATOR FACT SHEET



### ABOUT THE MEMBER

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Name of member

USA Rice Federation

Date of foundation

1994

Web Address

<https://www.usarice.com/>

Social media handles

LinkedIn: USA Rice Federation

Facebook: @usarice

Instagram: @think\_rice

YouTube: @TheUsaRiceFederation

### ABOUT THE SECTOR

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Brief description

USA Rice Federation (USA Rice) is the global advocate for all segments of the U.S. rice industry. Our mission is to ensure the health and vitality of a unified U.S. rice industry by advocating on behalf of farmers, millers, merchants, and allied businesses.



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### Estimated acres farmed (if relevant)

2.8 million acres of sustainably managed farmland, 96% of US rice farms are family owned.

### Number of businesses

TBC

### People employed [directly/indirectly]

The U.S. rice industry provides jobs for more than 125,000 people in the U.S.

### Annual output [eg tonnes of grain]

More than 20 billion pounds of rice each year, providing 80 percent of the rice consumed in the United States.

### Value of sector

The U.S. rice industry contributes more than \$34 billion to the U.S. economy.

### % of global market

The U.S. is the 6th largest rice exporter in the world and the largest rice exporter outside of Asia, responsible for approximately 5% of global exports.

### Export value (\$)

Value of total U.S. rice exports is about \$1.9 billion with average export volume of about 3.5 billion kilograms per year.



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### ABOUT SUSTAINABILITY

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#### Vision/mission statement

Committed to conserving resources while producing a high-quality and profitable crop.  
Meeting increased demand with reduced environmental impact.

#### Key areas of focus

Greenhouse gas emissions, energy use, biodiversity & habitat creation, land use efficiency, soil loss, water use.

#### Accomplishments with historic/trend data

Outstanding accomplishments in the past 36 years across the three pillars of sustainability (environmental, economic, and social).

Advances in farming practices and innovation:

- Increased rice yields by 62%.
- Increased land use efficiency by 39%.
- Decreased energy use by 34%.
- Decreased greenhouse gas emissions by 41%.
- Decreased soil loss by 28%.
- Decreased water use by 52% (as determined by Field to Market in the 2016 National Indicators Report).

Rice conservation practices continue advancing and evolving, and the goal remains the same: produce more rice while using less water and less energy; improve water quality, air quality, and soil conservation; and enhance wildlife habitats to support biodiversity. All without the use of genetically modified organisms (GMO's).

The net economic contribution of U.S. rice milling to the U.S. economy was \$34 billion (including forward market linkages). Innovative techniques and improvements in U.S. rice production have reduced the time spent in fields to just seven man-hours per acre as compared to the 300 hours often still required in less developed countries. Meanwhile, rice farms and mills abide by a range of laws and regulations ensuring the safety of their workers and environmental compliance. For more information please visit:

<https://www.usarice.com/sustainability/sustainability-report>

#### Comparison of standards with the rest of world

A July 2025 International Rice Industry Sustainability Report comparing sustainability and conservation agriculture practices across seven countries revealed that U.S. producers scored higher than the other top rice-producing countries based on their use of: conservation tillage, rice straw incorporation/retention, use of certified seeds, land leveling, nutrient management plans, direct seeding, dry seeding, use of sulfate- containing fertilizer, use of urease inhibitors, crop rotation, rice-crawfish rotation, winter flooding. The full report can be found at:

<https://www.usarice.com/sustainability/international-sustainability-report>

#### Current & future activities

- Ongoing commitment to sustainability, conservation, and environmental stewardship.
- Rice conservation practices continue to advance and evolve. Goal: Produce more rice while using fewer resources, improving water and air quality, soil conservation, and enhancing wildlife habitats.
- Regular content on The Rice Stuff podcast and in the USA Rice Daily.
- Presentations at international meetings and exhibitions like Gulfood in Dubai, the Anuga Rice Conference in Germany and more.