TRADE
INTERNATIONAL TRADE

State departments of agriculture operate on the front lines of U.S. export promotion – and for good reason. Food, agriculture, and forestry exports provide a vital source of income to U.S. companies and support rural prosperity.

The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) advocates for a comprehensive approach to federal trade policy that emphasizes:

- Trade agreements that increase market access for U.S. products;
- Development of new export markets; and
- Promotion of science-based trade standards globally

THE ROAD AHEAD: IMPLEMENTATION, ENFORCEMENT, AND DIVERSIFICATION

Without full implementation and robust enforcement, trade agreements are nothing more than words on a page. State departments of agriculture stand ready to support their federal partners across a wide range of implementation and enforcement activities, including trade promotion, technical assistance, data collection, and monitoring. By working together, states and the federal government can help ensure that the benefits of new trade deals, like the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) and Phase One of the U.S.-China trade agreement, are fully realized.

State departments of agriculture are also at the forefront of diversifying export markets for U.S. producers. The U.S. must keep pushing forward to remain on a level playing field with our competitors, particularly in the fast-growing markets of the Asia-Pacific region.

OUR ASK

To increase export opportunities for U.S. food, agriculture, and forestry producers, NASDA is asking Congress and the Administration to:

- Secure new trade agreements that increase market access and reduce non-tariff trade barriers;
- Fully fund trade promotion programs, including the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Market Access Program (MAP) and Foreign Market Development (FMD) program; and
- Engage with global trade institutions, including the World Trade Organization and Codex Alimentarius Commission, to promote U.S. agriculture and food trade standards.

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