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. NASDA believes in maintaining fairness and equity in farmers and food business’ access to trading markets.

The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture 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.

1,048,000
Full-time civilian jobs supported by U.S. ag exports in 2018.

$140 BILLION
U.S. ag exports rose to 139.6 billion in 2018, producing a total economic output of $302.5 billion.

1:7,500
Every $1 billion of U.S. ag exports in 2018 supported approximately 7,500 American jobs throughout the economy.

THE ROAD AHEAD: IMPLEMENTATION, ENFORCEMENT AND DIVERSIFICATION
Without 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:
• Leverage existing trade relationships and secure new agreements to 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 and Foreign Market Development 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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