



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of Communications
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20250-1300
Voice (202) 720-4623
Email: oc.news@usda.gov
Web: <http://www.usda.gov>

Factsheet

Office of Communications (202) 720-4623

2014 Farm Bill Implementation: By the Numbers

2014 Farm Bill programs impact every American and millions of people around the world. Since President Obama signed it into law one year ago, USDA has made important progress to implement every title of the 2014 Farm Bill, including:

- Hosted more than 4,000 listening sessions and engagement events with stakeholders.
- Brought critical disaster assistance to help 226,772 producers in 46 states rebuild after drought, blizzards, flooding, and other extreme weather.
- Enrolled 23,000 dairies—more than half of all dairy farms in America—in the new Margin Protection Program, which offers dairy producers a range of choices of protection that are best suited for their operation.
- Kickstarted 115 high-impact, locally-led conservation projects in all 50 states and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico with \$800 million in public and private investments through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program.
- Partnered with beginning farmers to begin or continue conservation work on nearly 2 million acres through more than \$200 million in financial assistance.
- Worked with more than 60 agricultural organizations to expand export markets for U.S. farm and ranch products. Every dollar invested in trade promotion provides \$35 in economic benefits.
- Announced \$200 million for up to 10 pilot projects to test innovative approaches to give Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program recipients the opportunity to get training, get a good job and build stronger futures for their families.
- Raised the borrowing limit for the microloan program from \$35,000 to \$50,000. Since the program began in January 2013, USDA has issued nearly 10,000 microloans. 70% went to beginning farmers.
- Brought clean drinking water and reliable wastewater systems to communities in 40 states and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico through \$150 million in Farm Bill-financed grants and a total of \$387 million in investments.

- Guaranteed \$30.9 million in financing to American Indian/Alaska Native-owned businesses. The loans are projected to help the businesses save 54 jobs and create an additional 104 jobs.
- Established the 15-member Foundation for Food and Agricultural Research, which will leverage a total of \$400 million for new agricultural research.
- Designated 1 new Land-Grant Institution, Central State University in Wilberforce, Ohio.
- Made 39 awards to organizations that will use the funds, over the next 3 years, to help about 18,000 early-stage farmers and ranchers (those in their first 10 years) be more successful, and about 2,500 farmers get started.
- Designated 94 National Forest areas in 35 states to receive additional support to address insect and disease threats that weaken forests and increase the risk of forest fire.
- Collected more than 200,000 tons of biomass to reduce fire, disease and insect threats on public lands while providing more biomass feedstock for advanced energy facilities.
- Strengthened local food economies by providing support for 374 projects including farmers markets, CSAs, food hubs, aggregation businesses, local food processors, farm to institution activities and other efforts.
- Supported 19 projects in 14 states to help partners and stakeholders prevent the introduction or spread of invasive plant pests and diseases that threaten America's agricultural economy.
- Provided better crop insurance coverage for almost 1,300 beginning farmers and ranchers, only 10 percent into the reporting cycle.
- Strengthened the farm safety net for farmers and ranchers with more than 294 million acres and \$109 billion worth of crops covered under the federal crop insurance program.
- Expanded the coverage for 26 organic crops so that these producers can buy the level of insurance that meets their production needs.
- Issued 101,462 receipts for service to USDA customers since December 1, 2014.
- Appointed 1 Military Veterans Agricultural Liaison to provide information, resources and support for active duty military and veterans interested in agriculture.