

ASA LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY PRIORITIES

July 2016

Trade Expansion (Senate Finance and House Ways & Means Committees, Agriculture Committees)

- a. Support passage of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)
- b. Achieve new market access and eliminate barriers for U.S. soy and meat in the US-EU Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) negotiations.
- c. Develop low-level presence (LLP) policies domestically as well as internationally that facilitate trade and innovation in biotech products.
- d. Improve the timeliness and predictability of regulatory approvals for new biotech traits by China and the EU.
- e. Support legislative efforts to remove barriers to trade with Cuba, including ending the embargo.
- f. Engage with U.S. government to mitigate and reverse anti-GMO/biotechnology regulations in Taiwan.

✓ **Environmental Regulations** (EPA, USDA and multiple committees of jurisdiction)

- a. Support Congressional efforts to abolish the Waters of the U.S. proposed rule.
- b. Support efforts to improve pollinator habitat; oppose efforts to ban neonicotinoid crop protection products.
- c. Support funding for voluntary, incentive-based programs to achieve water quality and environmental goals.
- d. Ensure that decisions on crop protection products are based on science and the value to crop production, as well as follow established timelines and procedures.

✓ **Biotech and Food Regulations** (USDA, FDA, and multiple committees of jurisdiction)

- a. Enact legislation to preempt state biotech labeling laws and support establishing a non-pejorative national approach based on disclosure of biotech ingredients in food products through QR codes, 800 numbers, websites, etc.
- b. Work with the Administration and industry allies to develop and implement regulatory reforms that enhance the timeliness of biotech trait approvals and companion herbicides; avoid pre-market approval requirements for new plant breeding techniques, including gene editing.

✓ **Biodiesel Demand** (EPA; Senate Finance and House Ways & Means Committees)

- a. Extend the biodiesel tax incentive for 2017 and beyond and shift it from a blender to a production credit.
- b. Seek appropriate implementation and enforcement of RFS and WTO requirements for imported biodiesel.

✓ **Transportation and Infrastructure** (Senate Environment & Public Works Committee and Commerce, Science & Transportation Committee, House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee, Appropriations Committees)

- a. Support enactment of an Energy & Water Appropriations bill that includes increased funding for Inland Waterways Trust Fund and Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund, and urge inclusion of funding for Navigation Ecosystem Sustainability Program (NESP) on the Upper Mississippi River.
- b. Support reauthorization of the Water Resources Reform & Development Act (WRRDA) that accelerates implementation of reforms included in WRRDA-2014 and improves the potential for major upgrades to locks and dams on the Upper Mississippi River System.

✓ **FY-2017 Budget and Appropriations** (Agriculture and Appropriations Committees)

Protect funding for crop insurance, export market development programs (FMD and MAP), food aid, agriculture research, conservation practices on working lands, and Inland Waterways and Harbor Maintenance Trust Funds.

✓ **Aquaculture** (NOAA; Senate Commerce and House Natural Resources Committees)

Support implementation of NOAA's Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Plan to develop an environmentally sound and economically sustainable aquaculture fishery.