



National Oilseed Processors Association 2018 Farm Bill Principles

Policy Should:

- Provide opportunities for soybeans and soy products to be competitive in a global market.
- Provide opportunities for livestock and poultry products to be competitive in a global market.
- Continue moving conservation programs toward addressing targeted environmental needs on sensitive lands while minimizing programs that idle productive land.
- Maintain a unified Farm Bill that includes farm programs and nutrition programs together.
- Protect crop insurance as a linchpin of the farm safety net, recognizing it is of central importance to farmers and lenders and is crucial to the economic security of rural communities.
- Ensure programs are compliant with the World Trade Organization agreements.

NOPA advocates and supports policies that:

- **Agricultural Trade**
 - Promote U.S. agricultural competitiveness and foster opportunities for growth in domestic and export markets.
 - Comply with U.S. commitments to the WTO for domestic farm income supports, thereby reducing the threat of challenge from trading partners.
 - Support trade promotion activities under the Foreign Market Development and Market Access Program and P.L. 480 Food Aid Programs.
 - Increase competitiveness by supporting U.S. government trade enforcement mechanisms that reduce tariff and non-tariff trade barriers for oilseed products and meat and poultry.
- **Commodity Programs**
 - Minimize market distortion in farm programs and policies while maintaining a strong safety net for farmers during periods of low commodity prices.
- **Conservation and Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)**
 - Support balanced conservation programs so as not to impede the productivity and opportunities for the U.S. agricultural sector to grow and compete in global markets.
 - Prioritize scarce resources to working lands programs like the Environmental Quality Incentive Program and the Conservation Stewardship Program which are key to meeting sustainability expectations.
 - Target the most environmentally sensitive portions of farms.
 - Address escalating rental rates that make it difficult for beginning farmers to access cropland.

➤ **Research/Energy**

- Support agricultural competitiveness through adequate public investment in research.
- Fund research to improve pest and disease resistance in row crops, specialty crops, and livestock/poultry.
- Support value added opportunities for growers in existing Energy Title programs.

In summary, Congress should develop commodity programs that minimize market distortions, comply with international trade obligations and allow U.S. agriculture to retain its natural competitiveness and continue to grow and prosper. NOPA believes that adherence to these market-oriented basic principles will promote U.S. agricultural competitiveness and foster opportunities for growth in domestic and export markets.

Established in 1929, NOPA represents 13 companies that are engaged in the production of food, feed, and renewable fuels from oilseeds. NOPA's member companies process more than 1.8 billion bushels of soybeans annually at 65 plants located in 21 states throughout the country — including 59 plants that process soybeans, accounting for approximately 95% of all soybeans that are processed (crushed) in the United States.

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