Council of Producers & Distributors of Agrotechnology

Strengthening U.S. Agriculture Through the Farm Bill:
Supporting Farmers, Innovation & the Environment

2026 CPDA POLICY BACKGROUND PAPER

THE ISSUE

Farmers operate in an increasingly complex environment shaped by global competition, supply chain volatility, weather variability, and evolving regulatory requirements. A strong, bipartisan Farm Bill provides the long-term policy certainty farmers need to make planting, investment, and risk management decisions.

The Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026 represents an opportunity to strengthen the tools, technologies, and programs farmers rely on to remain productive, resilient, and globally competitive while reinforcing America's science-based regulatory and conservation systems.

Timely passage of a Farm Bill supports farm income stability, strengthens rural economies, and helps ensure the United States maintains leadership in food production, agricultural innovation, and food and national security.

CONSERVATION PROGRAMS REQUIRE MODERN DELIVERY SYSTEMS

Voluntary, incentive-based conservation programs are most effective when farmers can access practical technical assistance and implementation support. Technical Service Providers play a critical role in helping farmers design and implement conservation plans that improve soil health, water quality, and long-term farm sustainability.

However, Technical Service Provider shortages have limited USDA's ability to fully implement authorized conservation programs. Expanding certification pathways, allowing non-federal certifying entities, and streamlining certification processes can help scale technical assistance delivery and ensure conservation investments reach farms efficiently.

Strengthening Technical Service Provider capacity also helps accelerate adoption of new technologies, including precision application tools, conservation practices, and advanced crop input technologies.

SUPPORTING APPLIED RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Long-term agricultural competitiveness depends on continued investment in applied research and technology development. Farm Bill support for Centers of Excellence focused on crop production, crop protection, and agricultural resilience provides an opportunity to accelerate innovation and improve technology adoption across diverse production systems.

Targeted research investment can help accelerate development of next-generation crop protection technologies, improve application precision, and expand understanding of tools such as adjuvants that improve product performance and environmental outcomes.

CONSERVATION PROGRAMS SHOULD REFLECT MODERN AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY

Conservation programs and practice standards must evolve alongside advances in agricultural technology. Updating conservation practice standards to reflect modern agrotechnology, including adjuvants and precision application technologies, can improve both conservation outcomes and farm economic viability.

Incentive-based conservation programs can help accelerate adoption of technologies that reduce offsite movement, improve soil health, reduce erosion, and improve water quality while maintaining agricultural productivity.

FARMERS NEED ACCESS TO MODERN TOOLS AND TECHNOLOGIES

Farmers depend on access to proven crop protection tools and adjuvant technologies to protect yields and manage pests. Adjuvants improve pesticide performance, enhance spray deposition, reduce off-target movement, and help farmers maximize the crop protection inputs they use on their farms.

Adjuvant technologies also support environmental and conservation outcomes. Drift reduction adjuvants can reduce offsite movement and help protect sensitive habitat, including habitat for threatened and endangered species. Adjuvants can also improve pesticide efficiency, reduce the number of field passes, reduce fuel use, and reduce agriculture's overall environmental footprint.

Despite these benefits, industry estimates suggest only about 25 percent of pesticide applications currently include drift and deposition adjuvants, highlighting an opportunity to improve productivity, environmental performance, and conservation outcomes through increased adoption.

POLICY PERSPECTIVE

CPDA supports timely enactment of a bipartisan Farm Bill that strengthens farm safety net programs, supports agricultural innovation, and ensures conservation programs reflect modern agricultural technology and real-world farm practices.

CPDA supports policies that encourage adoption of technologies, including adjuvants, that improve pesticide performance, reduce environmental exposure, and support conservation outcomes.

CPDA supports strengthening Technical Service Provider capacity to ensure conservation programs can be effectively delivered and implemented at scale.

CPDA supports Centers of Excellence that enhance crop production, crop protection, and agricultural resilience, including advancing research, education, and adoption of innovative spray technologies such as adjuvants.

CONCLUSION

Timely passage of a strong, bipartisan Farm Bill is essential to supporting farmers, strengthening rural economies, and ensuring continued U.S. leadership in food production and agricultural innovation.

Policies that support technology adoption, strengthen conservation delivery systems, and invest in agricultural research help ensure farmers maintain access to the tools they need to produce safe, affordable, and abundant food while supporting long-term environmental stewardship.

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