

2018 FARM BILL

ISSUE:

The 2018 Farm Bill is a major, multi-year piece of federal legislation that governs the nation's policy on agricultural production, food consumption, and related federal programs. After several months of formal negotiations, the House and Senate have approved another five-year Farm Bill to expire in 2023. President Trump signed the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 on December 20, 2018.

IMPACT:

The Farm Bill has far-reaching jurisdiction over farm safety net programs. For Florida, this Farm Bill achieves several priorities including, but not limited to:

- Maintaining \$125M in research funding to combat citrus greening;
- Strengthening safety net programs for row crops and dairy;
- Providing \$300M in funding for animal disease prevention and management;
- Allocating pilot money for a feral hog mitigation program;
- Fully funding the Specialty Crop Block Grant program;
- Expanding the definition of livestock to include certain aquaculture;
- Prioritizing standing USDA disaster relief programs.

ACTION:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture will immediately begin its work to carry out its legislative directive. Florida Farm Bureau will work with USDA and congressional offices to ensure funding and programming are implemented appropriately. Florida Farm Bureau members are encouraged to reach out to their representatives to thank them for supporting Florida's farmers and ranchers.



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\$867 BILLION

PROJECTED FARM BILL
TOTAL COST OVER 10 YEARS

\$125 MILLION

IN RESEARCH FUNDING
FOR CITRUS GREENING

50% DROP

IN NET FARM INCOME
OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS

FFBF POLICY:

“ We support national farm policy that includes production price and yield loss safety nets, specialty crop block grants, producer-friendly conservation programs, permanent comprehensive disaster risk management, and long-term renewable energy benefits. ”

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Florida Farm Bureau (FFB) is the state's largest general agriculture membership organization, with 147,000 member-families. Florida Farm Bureau's Agricultural Policy Department facilitates the policy development process initiated by its active membership and ratified annually by the organization's voting delegates. FFB National Affairs works to advance policies through Florida's congressional delegation and federal regulatory agencies.

