

2024 POLICY OF THE



NORTHARVEST

BEAN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

Preamble:

The Northharvest Bean Growers Association views its annual resolutions as broad policy statements that the organization can work with effectively. Specific policy is the responsibility of its Board of Directors and implementation of that policy rests with the Executive Leadership Committee.

Mission Statement:

Northharvest Bean Growers Association represents the largest group of dry bean farmers in America, working together to fund research, promote, and produce the finest beans in the world.

FARM BILL:

1. Strong market promotion programs are critical to increasing demand for U.S. Commodities around the world. Northarvest Bean Growers Association (NBGA) supports the Market Access Program (MAP) and Foreign Market Development (FMD) program for dry edible beans.

Date: 4/10/2024

2. NBGA supports the Regional Agricultural Promotion Program (RAPP) financial expansion into the USDA-FAS, MAP & FMD funds for international market and promotion development.

Date: 4/10/2024

3. NBGA supports the PL480, McGovern Dole and Section 32 food aid programs in the farm bill for dry edible beans.

Date: 4/10/2024

4. NBGA supports continued funding for the USDA-ARS on the Pulse Crop Health Initiative and the National Sclerotinia Initiative.

Date: 4/10/2024

5. NBGA supports continued funding for USDA-AMS for the Specialty Crops Block Grant program.

Date: 4/10/2024

6. NBGA supports funding for the USDA-AMS local food to school market program.

Date: 4/10/2024

7. NBGA supports providing federally subsidized revenue insurance as a safety net for farmers.

Date: 4/10/2024

8. NBGA supports expanding disaster aid & crop insurance to rural processors to help them survive unforeseen natural disasters, supply chain disruptions and pop-up trade barriers.

Date: 4/10/2024

9. NBGA supports keeping the agricultural titles and the nutrition title in the farm bill together.

Date: 4/10/2024

10. NBGA supports a strong conservation title in the farm bill. USDA's engagement in data integration and analysis at the farmer-level helps to assess costs, benefits, and risk profiles from conservation practice adoption. Incentives and research programs help farmers reach federal and state goals.

Date: 4/10/2024

11. NBGA supports the inclusion of an Energy Title in the Farm Bill that includes specific authorization and funding for the Bioenergy Program.

Date: 4/10/2024

12. NBGA supports the authorization of a dry bean purchase program under the authorization of appropriations in the Farm Bill, appropriations could be sought each year to fund the program. Dry edible beans purchased under the program would be used for domestic and international programs but would be additive, thus not taking away from any other commodities. The program's authorization would not result in a CBO score.

Date: 4/10/2024

INFRASTRUCTURE:

1. NBGA supports fair, efficient, and cost-effective movement of commodities in the U.S. transportation system.

Date: 4/10/2024

2. NBGA encourages support for agencies such as the Surface Transportation Board and Federal Maritime Commission to maintain flow of agricultural shipments.

Date: 4/10/2024

3. NBGA supports federal infrastructure funding toward improving commercial transportation, including locks and dams, navigation projects, rural roads, and bridges.

Date: 4/10/2024

4. NBGA supports competitive development of a viable railroad system in the United States.

Date: 4/10/2024

5. NBGA supports upgrading our nation's energy infrastructure grid.

Date: 4/10/2024

6. NBGA supports the expansion of high-speed internet to all rural communities.

Date: 4/10/2024

7. NBGA supports rural development programs that are fully funded to support rural business and allows communities to thrive. (i.e. labor/workforce shortages, educational opportunities, natural resource support structure, and technology development)

Date: 4/10/2024

REGULATORY:

1. NBGA supports development of global harmonization of phytosanitary regulations, in particular tolerances of maximum residue levels (MRL's)

Date: 4/10/2024

2. NBGA supports Federal Government oversight and guidance for cyber-security protections of agriculture business and farms.

Date: 4/10/2024

3. NBGA supports maintaining universal Federal insecticide, fungicide, and rodenticide act (FIFRA) labeling under the purview of U.S. EPA & the 2022 Endangered Species Act workplan.

Date: 4/10/2024

4. NBGA supports the Navigable Waters Protection Rule (NWPR), which differentiates state waters from those subject to federal jurisdiction. Waters of the United States (WOTUS) subject's farmers to unnecessary cost and regulations.

Date: 4/10/2024

5. NBGA supports subsurface drainage such as tiling to increase dry bean productivity.

Date: 4/10/2024

6. NBGA supports producer's rights to irrigation.

Date: 4/10/2024

7. NBGA supports the domestic feeding programs following the dietary guidelines for nutrition and the dietary guidelines advisory committee follows the science provided to adjust human nutrition needs accordingly.

Date: 4/10/2024

VALUE-ADDED:

1. NBGA supports federal and state funded research programs that focus on value-added processing of emerging cropping systems like dry beans.

Date: 4/10/2024

2. NBGA supports value-added wet and dry milling of dry beans into high protein, fiber separation, and ingredient blending to increase the health benefits of finished products.

Date: 4/10/2024

3. NBGA supports federal and state funded research that focuses on advancing packaging that is friendly to the consumer of the product and can be recycled.

Date: 4/10/2024

TAXES:

1. NBGA supports Federal and State tax incentives to cover the expenses of implementing conservation practices as outlined and supported by the USDA.

Date: 4/10/2024

RESEARCH:

1. NBGA supports the Food Innovation Initiative for region five development commission located in Brainerd, MN as a USDA Regional Food Business Center to support Specialty Crops Research.

Date: 4/10/2024

2. NBGA supports development of Federal and State funding for dry bean breeding programming to continue to advance varieties that thrive in North Dakota and Minnesota.

Date: 4/10/2024

3. NBGA supports development of Federal and State research funding programs that support climate smart best management practices to increase dry bean sustainability.

Date: 4/10/2024

4. NBGA requests report language directing Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIS) to examine whether dry edible bean crop insurance premiums are too high relative to other commodities planted on the same ground.

Date: 4/10/2024

TRADE:

1. NBGA supports the federal government prioritizing and fully funding global food assistance programs that purchase U.S. grown commodities as a critical component of U.S. ‘soft diplomacy’ to meet world hunger needs.

Date: 4/10/2024

2. NBGA supports the development of free trade agreements that feature agriculture market access as a key component in negotiation of pacts.

Date: 4/10/2024

3. NBGA supports normalization of trade deficits with competitive trade policies from the United States Federal Government.

Date: 4/10/2024

4. NBGA encourages the United States Federal Government to negotiate down trade tariffs that work as a barrier to entry for U.S. dry edible beans. *Date: 4/10/2024*

5. NBGA is opposed to tariff-based policy that triggers retaliatory actions. *Date: 4/10/2024*