



**Farmers for a Sustainable Future  
Announcement Toolkit**

**[www.sustainablefarming.us](http://www.sustainablefarming.us)**



## Background

- We represent U.S. farmers and ranchers who are committed to producing the world's food, feed and fiber supply in a sustainable way. Farmers and ranchers play a leading role in promoting soil health, conserving water, enhancing wildlife, efficiently using nutrients and caring for their animals. For decades they have pushed past the boundaries of innovation by investing in agricultural research and adopting practices with the goals of improving productivity, providing clean and renewable energy, and enhancing sustainability.
- Learn more at [www.sustainablefarming.us](http://www.sustainablefarming.us)

## Farmers and Ranchers at the Forefront of Climate-Smart Farming

- Farmers and ranchers are at the forefront of climate-smart farming, putting scientific solutions, technology and innovation to work to protect our land, air and water, and reduce the impact of greenhouse gas emissions.
- If you combine all of U.S. agriculture, it accounts for 9 percent of U.S. emissions, with 91 percent coming from other sources. (EPA)
- Combined, U.S. agriculture, land use and forestry are a net sink for emissions – meaning they eliminate more than they produce, removing 729 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions from the atmosphere in 2017 alone. (EPA)
- Farmers are leading the way by reducing their relatively small footprint through management practices that sequester carbon dioxide, such as no-till farming, planting cover crops and other practices that trap excess carbon. (USDA 2017 Census of Agriculture)
- There is potential to achieve even more in the area of carbon sequestration, but farmers and ranchers can't go it alone - partners are needed who are willing to invest in the future.



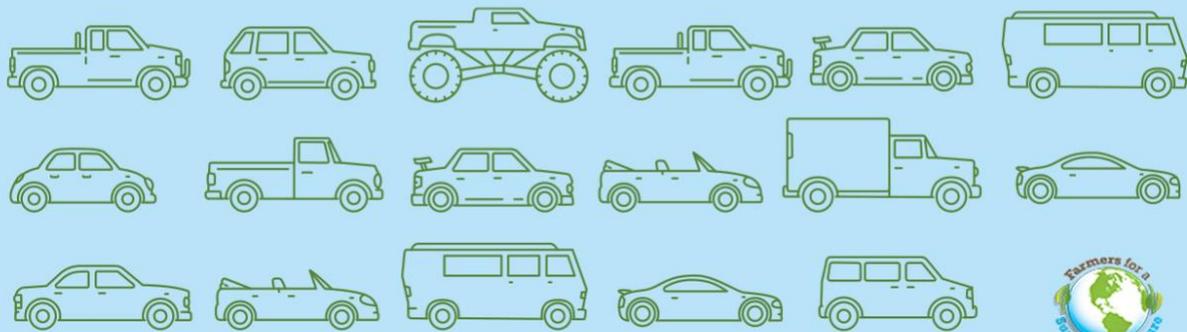
- For U.S. agriculture to continue to lead the way in sustainability, our nation must prioritize its investment in ag research and innovation.
- Over the last 70 years, U.S. farms have nearly tripled in production while the amount of resources used (including land, energy and fertilizer) has remained virtually stable. (USDA ERS)
- Livestock is responsible for less than 3% of GHGs in the last 30 years. Yet it's a common misperception that livestock is responsible for a far higher amount. (EPA)
- Steps farmers and ranchers are taking to make their footprint even smaller:
- Methane digesters turn methane into energy.
- Conservation programs preserve green spaces (like grasslands, forests and wetlands) that absorb greenhouse gases.
- Conservation tillage, cover crops and rotational crops trap carbon.
- Clean, American-grown energy is making a huge dent in GHGs. In 2018 alone, ethanol and biodiesel use in agriculture reduced GHG emissions the equivalent of removing 17 million cars from the road, according to the EPA.
- More than 140 million acres of U.S. farmland are used for conservation efforts and wildlife habitats—that land area is equal to the states of California and New York combined. (USDA NRCS and USDA FSA)

## Digital Assets

- Click [HERE](#) to download social media graphics for Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram
- Check out Farmers for a Sustainable Future on Twitter [@Farmers\\_FSF](#)
- Learn more about FSF's principles [HERE](#)
- View the FSF factsheet [HERE](#)



The use of **ETHANOL AND BIODIESEL** in 2018 reduced GHG emissions by 71 MMT-equivalent to **17 MILLION CARS** off the road



**15% of All Farmland Is Used for Conservation & Wildlife Habitat Efforts**



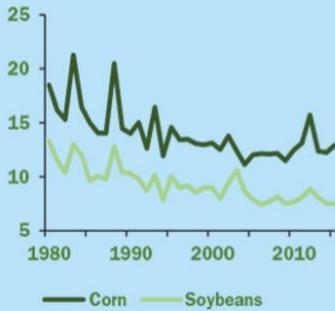
**140,000,000 acres equals**



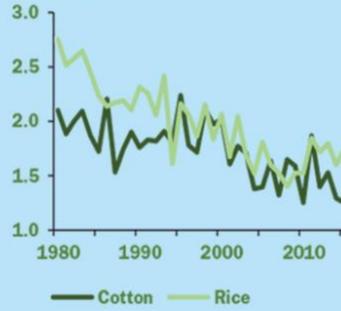


# Greenhouse Gas Emmissions Are Trending **DOWN** In U.S. Agriculture

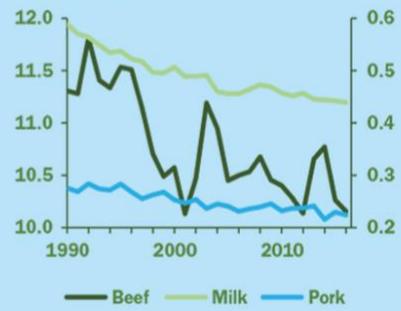
Corn and Soybeans



Cotton and Rice

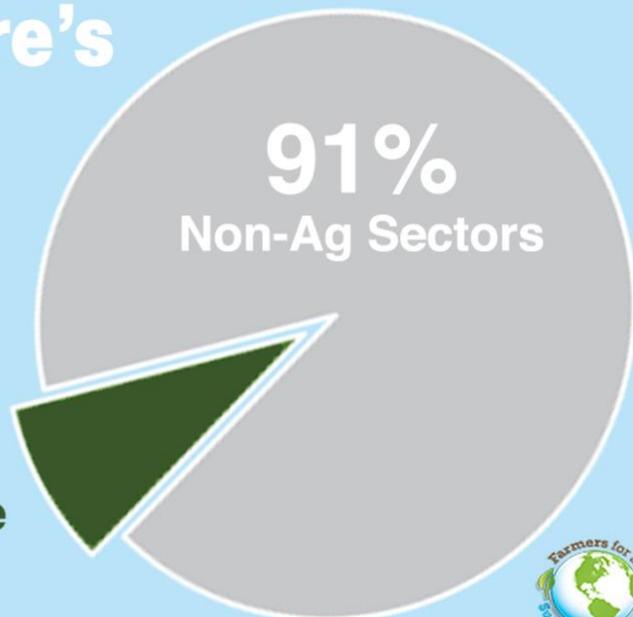


Beef/Milk/Pork



## U.S. Agriculture's Share Of GHG Emissions, 2017

**9%**  
Total Agriculture





America's farmers and ranchers are **committed** to producing the world's food and fiber in a **sustainable way**

