



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

JAN 17 2020

Mr. Pat Murphy  
President  
U.S. Canola Association  
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, Suite 320  
Washington, D.C. 20003

Dear Mr. Murphy:

Thank you for your letter of December 9, 2019, regarding the impact of retaliatory tariffs on U.S. agricultural exports, the U.S. canola sector, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Market Facilitation Program (MFP).

On July 25, USDA announced the details of MFP and other programs that are part of the \$16 billion package to assist agricultural producers while the Administration continues to work on free, fair, and reciprocal trade deals. Although canola has not specifically been targeted under the retaliatory tariffs, canola growers are eligible for MFP in 2019. County rates for MFP eligible crops can be viewed at <https://www.farmers.gov>. These rates were calculated based on trade losses estimated to result from the retaliatory tariffs and were not based on changes in commodity prices over the past 18 months.

I recognize the difficulties your producers, like many American farmers, face with low commodity prices. Moreover, this year has been particularly hard on many farmers due to the wet spring this year. However, the Trump administration is actively engaged in bilateral negotiations with China and other key trading partners to address trade barriers and create better market access opportunities for U.S. farmers and ranchers.

Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sonny Perdue". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "S" and "P".

Sonny Perdue  
Secretary