



*U.S. Canola Association
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2024 Federal Policy Priorities

FARM BILL

Crop Insurance:

- Support enhancements, including increased premium support for higher coverage levels and increased coverage and premium support for the Supplemental Coverage Option (SCO).
- Oppose requiring farmers to choose between enhanced crop insurance and ARC/PLC.

Commodity Programs (Title I):

- Ensure equitable treatment for canola/Other Oilseeds if revisions occur to Reference Prices under the Price Loss Coverage (PLC) program.
- Marketing Assistance Loans - Support enhanced marketing assistance loan provisions to address increased borrowing costs.

Research (Title VII)

- **National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) Supplemental and Alternative Crops (SAC) Competitive Grants Program** – increase authorization from \$2 million to \$10 million per year.
- Support additional mandatory funding for agricultural research to increase productivity, keep pace with global competitors, modernize facilities, and ensure nutrition security and a sustainable food system.

APPROPRIATIONS FY2025

- Increase funding to \$10 million in FY2025 for the NIFA Supplemental and Alternative Crops program which supports the **National Canola Research Program**.

Include report language stating: “Supplemental and Alternative Crops—The Committee recognizes the importance of nationally coordinated, regionally managed canola research and extension programs. The Committee encourages the Secretary to seek input from stakeholders and give priority consideration to proposals in the peer review process that address research needs in production areas with the greatest potential to expand, as well as those where canola production is established and needs to be maintained.”

- Support continued funding for the **Sclerotinia Initiative** and report language: “Sclerotinia—The Committee is aware of the economic importance of controlling sclerotinia, a fungal disease that affects sunflowers, soybeans, canola, edible beans, peas and lentils, and encourages the Agricultural Research

Service to maintain funding of \$2.4 million to both core research and cooperative projects of the National Sclerotinia Initiative.”

- Include Report Language directing USDA National Ag Statistics Service (NASS) to include Idaho in canola acreage reports.

BIODIESEL & RENEWABLE DIESEL

- Ensure canola is fully incorporated into **GREET modeling** used to determine eligibility for federal tax credits for biofuels, Sustainable Aviation Fuel and state low-carbon fuel standards.
- We support annual Renewable Volume Obligations (RVO) under the Renewable Fuels Standard that accurately reflect production and market capacity for biomass-based diesel.
- **Co-sponsor the Renewable Fuel for Ocean-Going Vessels Act** (H.R. 6681), a bipartisan bill introduced by Reps. Miller-Meeks (R-IA) and Garamendi (D-CA) and Sens. Brown (D-OH) and Ricketts (R-NE) to allow biodiesel and renewable diesel used in ocean-going vessels to generate RIN credits in the Renewable Fuel Standard program (See separate one-pager).

CROP PROTECTION PRODUCTS

- Ensure that Endangered Species Act (ESA) compliance plans, product registration reviews, and other rulemakings developed by EPA are science-based and workable for farmers, and that effective and safe products remain available.
- Support the Agricultural Labeling Uniformity Act (H.R. 4288). While states have authority to regulate the sale and use of pesticides within their jurisdiction, they should not be able to impose labeling or packaging requirements in addition to or inconsistent with the scientific conclusions of the EPA. We support provisions to ensure pesticide labeling uniformity and prevent state and local governments from adopting inconsistent labeling or packaging that would disrupt commerce, diminish farmer access to essential products, and erode science and evidence-based regulation.

LABOR

- **H-2A Temporary Ag Worker Program** – The H-2A program is needed to provide workers for farm operations. USCA supports legislative efforts to expand and streamline the program and to temporarily freeze the wage rate for H-2A ag visa holders.

BIOTECH, TRADE & REGULATORY APPROVALS

- Secure approval of **canola biotech traits**, including specialty omega-3 fatty acids, that are pending in China and other foreign markets.
- Improve the **plant biotechnology regulatory framework**. Urge the Biden Administration to coordinate with the USDA, EPA and FDA on a science-based biotech regulatory framework so that it provides legal certainty, encourages continued domestic and global adoption of new traits, provides transparency and predictability in markets, and enhances harmonization of global trait approvals.