South Dakota

Canada and Mexico are the top export markets for U.S. agriculture, totaling a combined $40 billion in 2018. In fact, more than 29 percent of all U.S. farm and food exports went to our North American neighbors last year. The U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement, or USMCA, will make a good trade relationship even better, ensuring preferential market access for U.S. agricultural exporters and solidifying commitments to fair and science-based trade rules.

30,200
South Dakota jobs supported by agricultural exports

$3.6 billion
Annual value of South Dakota agricultural exports

Source: USDA-ERS 2017 State Export Data

Key Provisions

Biotechnology
For the first time, the agreement specifically addresses agricultural biotechnology – including new technologies such as gene editing – to support innovation and reduce trade-distorting policies.

Geographical Indications
The agreement institutes a more rigorous process for establishing geographical indications (GIs) and lays out additional factors to be considered in determining whether a term is a common name.

Sanitary/Phytosanitary Measures
The agreement strengthens disciplines for science-based measures that protect human, animal, and plant health while improving the flow of trade.

Soybeans
U.S. soybean growers maintain access to Mexico, their #3 customer, and to a combined market totaling nearly $2.1 billion in 2018.

Corn
U.S. corn farmers maintain access to Mexico, their #1 customer, and to a combined market totaling nearly $3.4 billion (27% of total export sales) last year.

Beef
U.S. beef producers maintain access to a $1.8 billion market that accounted for nearly 22% of 2018 exports.

Wheat
Canada agrees to terminate its discriminatory wheat grading system, enabling U.S. growers along the border to be more competitive.

Pork
U.S. pork producers maintain access to two of their largest export markets, which combined totaled $2.1 billion (32% of total exports) in 2018.

Top U.S. Agricultural Exports to Canada and Mexico, 2018

1 Corn ($3.4 billion)
2 Prepared Foods ($2.7 billion)
3 Fresh Fruit ($2.2 billion)
4 Soybeans ($2.1 billion)
5 Pork & Pork Products ($2.1 billion)
6 Dairy Products ($2.0 billion)
7 Fresh Vegetables ($2.0 billion)
8 Beef & Beef Products ($1.8 billion)
9 Snack Foods ($1.7 billion)
10 Poultry & Eggs ($1.6 billion)

Source: USDA-FAS Global Agricultural Trade System BICO HS-10

United States Department of Agriculture
Foreign Agricultural Service

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