# 2019 NASDA Annual Report

NASDA grows and enhances agriculture by forging partnerships and creating consensus to achieve sound policy outcomes between state departments of agriculture, the federal government and stakeholders.

## **PUBLIC POLICY**

NASDA continues to unify and elevate states' voices on the highest profile and most impactful agricultural and food policy issues. The NASDA Board of Directors established NASDA's top priorities for the the year: workforce development, promoting international trade and harmonization, successfully implementing FDA's Food Safety Modernization Act, and advocating for new animal biotechnology regulation.

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

NASDA engaged with the White House, Congress and associations on tackling the workforce development issue. Results included successful comments on the new Department of Labor H-2A process, streamlined H-2A application monitoring from USDA and continued conversations with Congressional committees on the need for agriculture labor reform.

## INTERNATIONAL TRADE

With headwinds facing the farm economy and uncertainty in the global marketplace, U.S. agriculture exports are more critical than ever. NASDA members are leading efforts to expand market access and promote new trade agreements that will benefit rural economies for years to come.



Through a mix of public advocacy, engagement with the White House and written testimony on Capitol Hill, NASDA helped build momentum for ratification of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement. In addition, NASDA worked closely with the Administration to develop a bilateral trade deal with Japan and respond to unjustified retaliatory tariffs on agricultural producers. This includes promoting exchanges with a diverse set of trading partners, including Chile and the United Kingdom.

#### FOOD SAFETY MODERNIZATION ACT

We continue to work towards implementation of the Food Safety Modernization Act through policy engagement on definition of farm, agricultural water, and funding for FDA and the states. Further, NASDA increased focus on establishing recall, response, recovery and related policies between FDA and the states.

#### ANIMAL BIOTECHNOLOGY

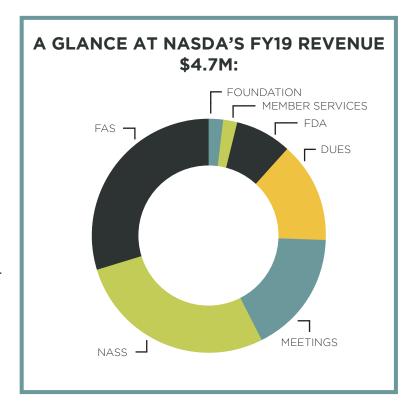
Animal biotechnology can provide new tools to American farmers and ranchers. NASDA members have been heavily engaged in exploring solutions on how to unleash this technology in the past year. NASDA led and facilitated multiple conversations with FDA, USDA, the White House, and impacted stakeholders addressing the need to review the currently regulatory framework for animal biotechnology.



## NASDA FOUNDATION

The NASDA Foundation is growing a portfolio of projects that advance and amplify the work of NASDA members. Over the past year, the NASDA Foundation:

- Awarded a \$25,000 grant to New Mexico through the Invasive Pest Grant Program to help the state combat the pecan weevil.
- Hosted the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program Conference in Arlington, Virginia for state departments of agriculture staff.
- Hosted the Congressional Farm Tour in Louisville, Kentucky. Congressional staff learned about the hemp industry and valueadded agriculture.
- Received \$425,000 from the Oregon and Washington State Specialty Crop Block Grant Programs to help build the Women's Farm to Food Accelerator Program.



#### NASDA - NASS PARTNERSHIP

The NASDA-NASS (National Agricultural Statistics Service) cooperative agreement serves the need for high quality ag and rural data for the U.S. It ensures that farmers and ranchers have a voice in the future of rural communities and all of agriculture. This year, the 2017 Census of



**OVER** NASDA ENUMERATORS **COLLECTING FARM DATA** 



#### NASDA - FAS PARTNERSHIP

Through our cooperative agreement with USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service, NASDA utilized approximately \$4 million in MAP and ATP program funds to help small and medium U.S. food and beverage companies export their products all over the world.







# NASDA - FDA PARTNERSHIP

NASDA holds two cooperative agreements with the FDA. This year, through the produce safety agreement, NASDA and its development team trained 470+ state regulatory and extension staff on how to perform On-Farm Readiness Review assessments. Teams of these produce safety staffs then conducted over 1,000 On-Farm assessments. NASDA has applied for a second five-year cooperative agreement to assist in the implementation of the Produce Safety Rule. Through the animal food cooperative agreement, NASDA has been working on a state-level training program for the Animal Food Model Implementation Framework released in September 2018.







