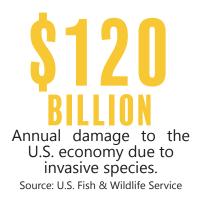


Invasive species have been estimated to cost the US economy more than \$120 billion annually, with more than half of that amount representing damage to American agriculture. Invasive Species could potentially put our country's agriculture, forests, natural resources, animal and human health, and prosperity at risk. Building upon the successes of the USDA invasive species programs is critical to safeguard America's agriculture.

PLANT PEST & DISEASE MANAGEMENT & DISASTER PREVENTION PROGRAM

Under this program, funding is available for cooperators in all U.S. States and Territories. This includes State and Federal agencies, Tribal Nations, universities, nongovernmental organizations, and private entities. Funded projects are focused on critical needs and opportunities to strengthen, prevent, detect, and mitigate invasive pests and diseases.



NATIONAL CLEAN PLANT NETWORK

Network funding supports established university and government clean plant centers to develop, maintain, and provide stock of select specialty crops. Industry and others use the stock material to start or regrow clean plant orchards, vineyards, groves, and other commercial plantings.

PLANT HEALTH IN THE NEXT FARM BILL

NASDA urges Congress to support increased funding for these highly successful invasive species programs. The State Departments of Agriculture are the first line of defense in protecting U.S. agriculture against the environmental, ecological, and economic impact of invasive pests, and rely on these programs to develop adequate and efficient strategic initiatives to combat invasive plants and pests.

THE FARM BILL IMPACTS EVERYONE.

Agricultural producers, the rural economy, and communities of every size rely upon a forward looking, and fully funded Farm Bill. NASDA calls for enhanced investment in American agriculture that provides producers the tools they need to succeed. The Farm Bill is also vital to providing consumers access to the safest, highest quality and affordable food supply, which is essential for our nation's economy and security.



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