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NASDA members champion 2026 as the International Year of the Woman Farmer

WASHINGTON, D.C.— National Association of State Departments of Agriculture members passed an [action item](#) today at [NASDA's Winter Policy Conference](#) supporting the United Nations' resolution declaring 2026 as the International Year of the Woman Farmer.

“As state agricultural leaders, we recognize the essential contributions of women in farming and agribusiness,” said NASDA Vice President, Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Commissioner Amanda Beal. “Supporting the International Year of the Woman Farmer aligns with our commitment to advancing opportunities for all U.S. farmers and ranchers, ensuring that women in agriculture have the resources, recognition and support they need to succeed.”

Through this action, NASDA acknowledges the vital contributions of women farmers and supports programs that enhance access to critical tools and opportunities. NASDA encourages domestic and international efforts to uplift and celebrate women in agriculture while advocating for policies that foster opportunity for the entire agricultural sector.

The action item encourages the U.S. government to provide leadership in support of the International Year of the Woman Farmer and urges states to implement additional programs that help women in agriculture gain access to credit, land and technology through training and mentorship opportunities. By backing initiatives like the International Year of the Woman Farmer, NASDA continues to support and strengthen American agriculture at all levels.

The U.S. introduced the resolution declaring 2026 as the International Year of the Women Farmer with 123 countries serving as co-sponsors. The UN General Assembly adopted it May 2, 2024, marking a global commitment to empowering and recognizing the contributions of women in agriculture.

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NASDA is a nonpartisan, nonprofit association which represents the elected and appointed commissioners, secretaries and directors of the departments of agriculture in all 50 states and four U.S. territories. NASDA enhances American food and agricultural communities through policy, partnerships and public engagement. To learn more about NASDA, please visit www.nasda.org.

