

## AGRICULTURE

### BIO-BASED RENEWABLE PRODUCTS

Achieving widespread use of biofuels and bio-based products in America will require the development of a range of biofuels and bio-based products from a range of feedstocks. This will mean expanded production of today's biofuels—including ethanol and biodiesel—and today's bio-based products. It will require consistent Congressional support for research, development, demonstration and commercialization to help improve existing products and create new, including those from cellulosic and switchgrass feedstocks. The Partnership supports federal incentives to assist with market development, demonstration and commercialization of biofuels and biobased products.

To this end, The Partnership supports:

- Protecting the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) and promoting an increase in RFS volumes for all biofuels.
- Urging Congress and the Administration to explore and support emerging trade markets that benefit Iowa agricultural products.
- Creation of a federal production tax credit for bio-based chemicals and materials.
- Extending the cellulosic ethanol and biodiesel blenders credits and working to make the biodiesel credit a producers credit to protect the U.S. biodiesel industry from unfair trade practices in the sector.
- Continued funding and implementation of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Biofuel Infrastructure Partnership (BIP) to support installation of higher biofuel blend infrastructure to give consumers more choice at the pump.
- Full funding for loan guarantee and/or grant programs to accelerate the commercialization of lignocellulosic biofuels, overcome technology barriers and provide the requisite mechanism for investors seeking funding assistance.
- Increased funding of the USDA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative to expand the program's capability to fund research and implementation on key issues of national and regional importance to agriculture and biotechnology.

- Authorizing Hatch Act funds to support the development of new bio-based products and improve knowledge concerning the complex linkages between food, nutrition and human health.

## **BIOTECHNOLOGY**

The Partnership supports policies that support the continued development and expansion of biotechnology. The Partnership's objective is to maintain the position of American business as a leader in biotechnology and to promote new applications of biotechnology in food, feed, fiber, medical applications and manufactured products.

- To enhance Central Iowa's competitive edge, The Partnership supports the rigorous enforcement of science-based and nationally-uniform federal regulations to sustain public confidence in these products. The Partnership also urges the federal government to advocate for science-based regulations with governments around the world.
- The Partnership urges the federal government to ensure that innovative and promising biotechnology products are approved in a timely manner and to protect and encourage the acceptance of new technology in agriculture, including gene editing.
- The Partnership supports the creation of a bio-based product innovation center in Central Iowa. In December 2014, Congress authorized the Revitalize American Manufacturing Innovation legislation, which codified the existing Innovative Manufacturing Institutes and authorized the creation of others, including one for biomanufacturing.
- Expansion of the USDA National Institute for Food and Agriculture's Coordinated Agriculture Projects (CAP) program. Currently, seven CAPS are funded, including one at Iowa State University.

## **CROP INSURANCE**

The Partnership supports the existing public-private partnership between farmers and government under the Federal Crop Insurance Program. These risk management tools offer stability and protection throughout the agriculture system and The Partnership

opposes any additional cuts to the program.

### **ANIMAL HEALTH**

The Partnership urges Congress to fully fund USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) for Foreign Animal Disease preparedness and continued research. The Partnership also supports the development of an adequate vaccine bank to address an outbreak of foot and mouth disease in the U.S.