



The Foreign Agricultural Service's Role in Addressing MRL-Related Trade Issues







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environmental justice

ethics

pollinators

worker safety

tradition

energy

packaging

climate change

food safety

innovation

diet diversity

nutrition

carbon footprint

Expectations about food are constantly evolving

labeling

choice

local sourcing

food security

animal welfare

price

sustainability

water

accessibility

convenience

human rights

food waste





Feeding More People

Food Production

Delivering New Benefits

Global Distribution Networks



Social Expectations



Technology and Innovation

Making Food Accessible

Legal Standards and Regulatory Frameworks

Ensuring Food Safety







The current population is expected to grow to 9.7 billion by 2050, with much growth expected in regions that are net importers of food.





Expected increase in global demand for food by 2050



Potential reduction in agricultural yields due to climate change.

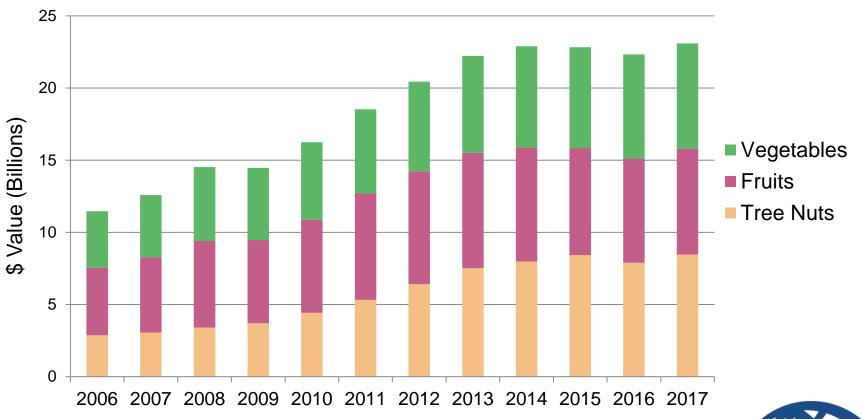
Crop protection tools and international trade are critical to achieving global food security

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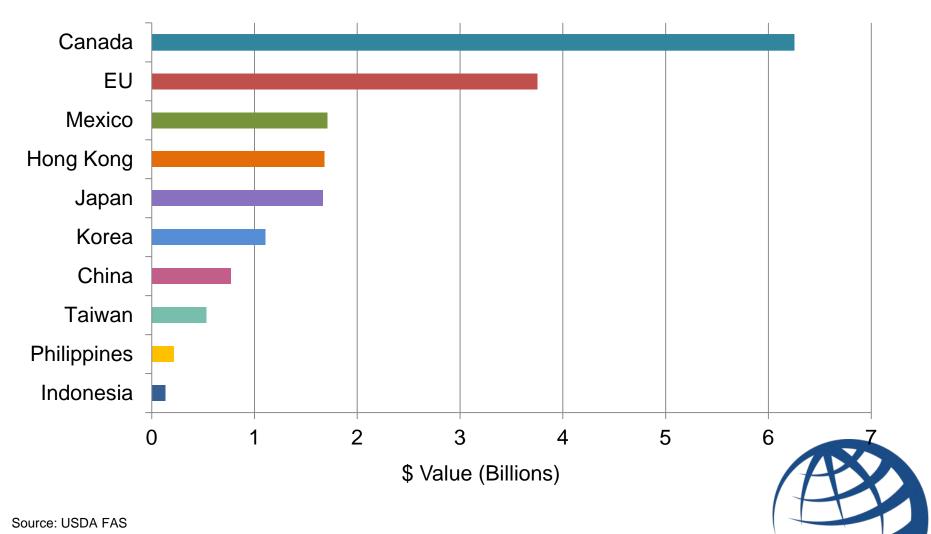
U.S. Specialty Crop Exports

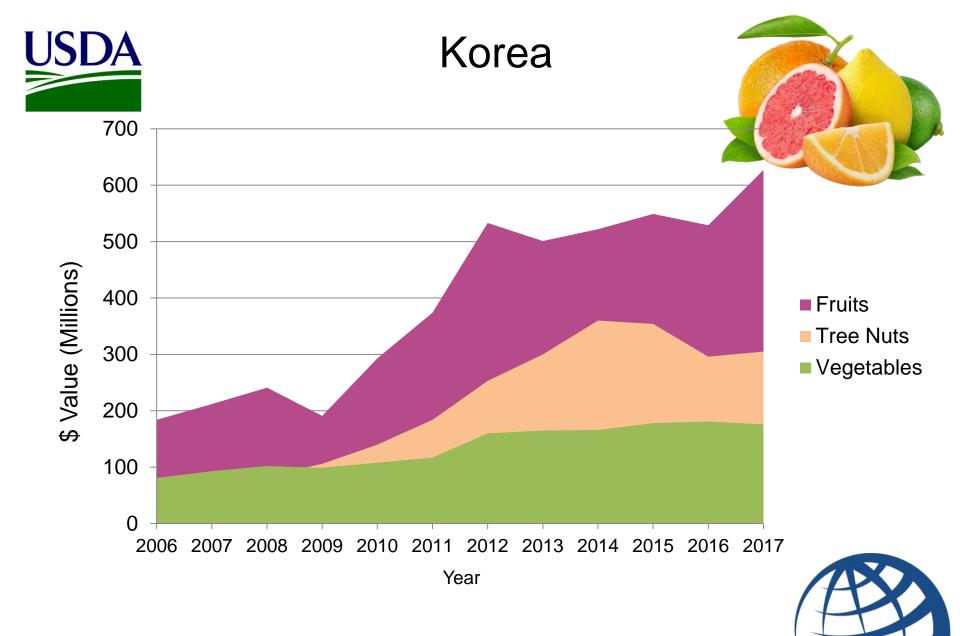
U.S. exports of tree nuts, fruits, and vegetables grew to ~\$23 billion in 2017





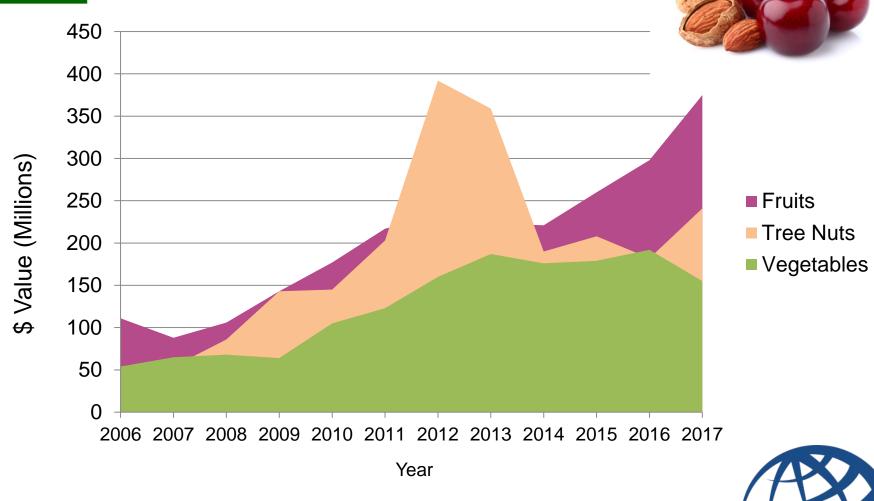
Top Specialty Crop Markets in 2017

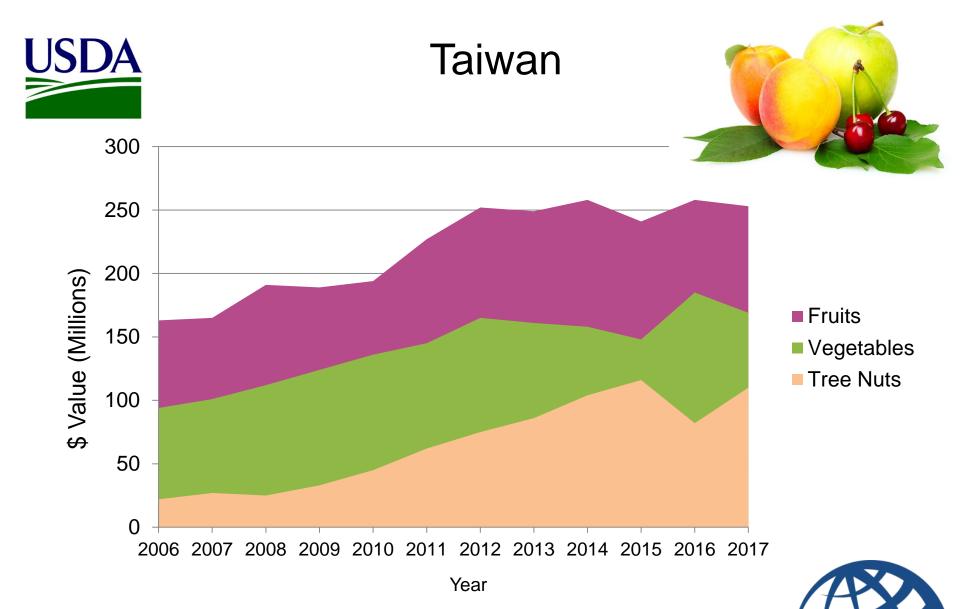






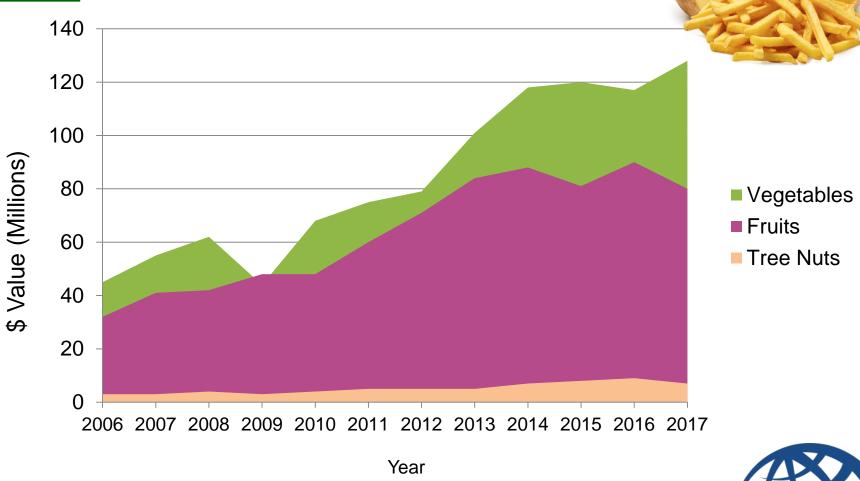
China





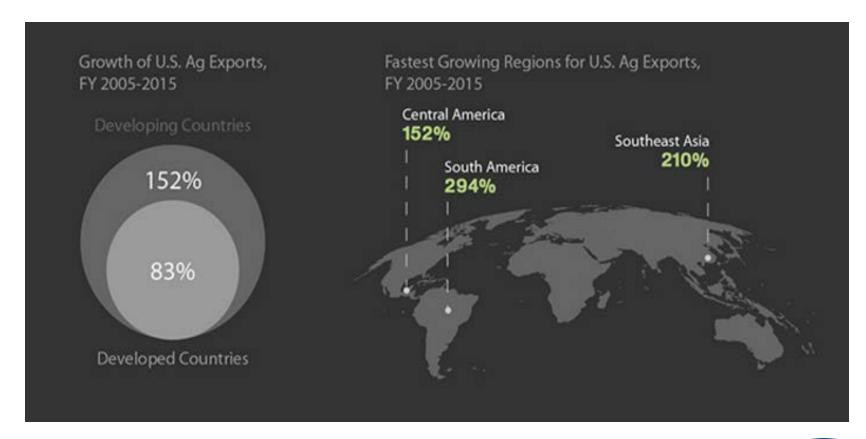


Philippines





Growing Markets







"Missing" MRLs



Asynchronous approvals for new compounds

Reevaluation of old compounds

Major MRL regime changes

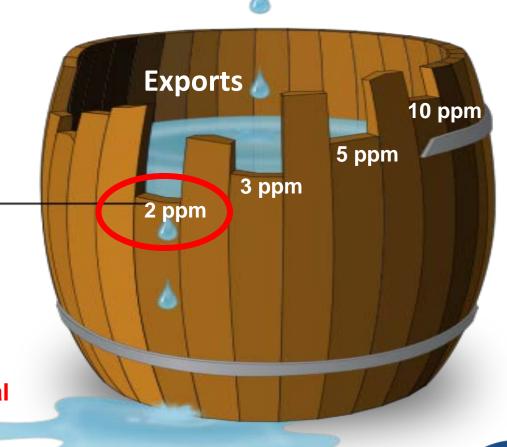




"Disharmonized" MRLs

Disharmonized
MRLs are like
uneven staves on a
barrel. The lowest
MRL is the limiting
factor for exports

Lost trade potential





MRLs Violations and Commercial Risk

Violations can trigger sanctions for entire industry

Potential losses and increased costs of compliance deter trade

Violations may damage the reputation of commodities, even when there is no risk

Risk of violations may limit use/adoption of newer crop protection tools

Lost trade potential and increased costs for food production and regulatory compliance





Consumer Perceptions



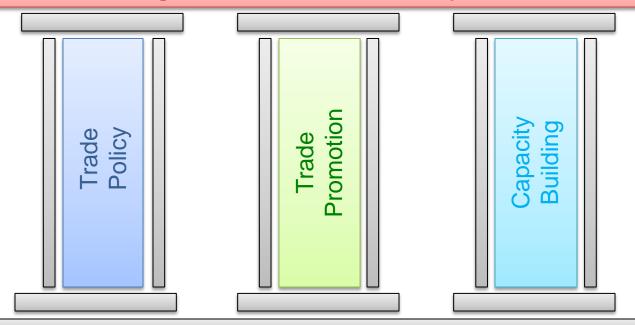


Foreign Agricultural Service

Linking U.S.

agriculture to the world to enhance export opportunities and promote global food security

U.S. Agricultural Producers and Exporters



FAS Headquarters and Overseas Offices



Interagency Partners











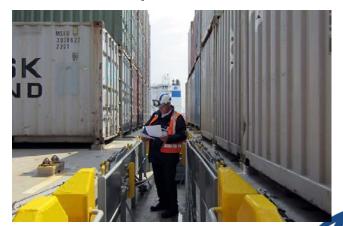


On the Ground Assistance



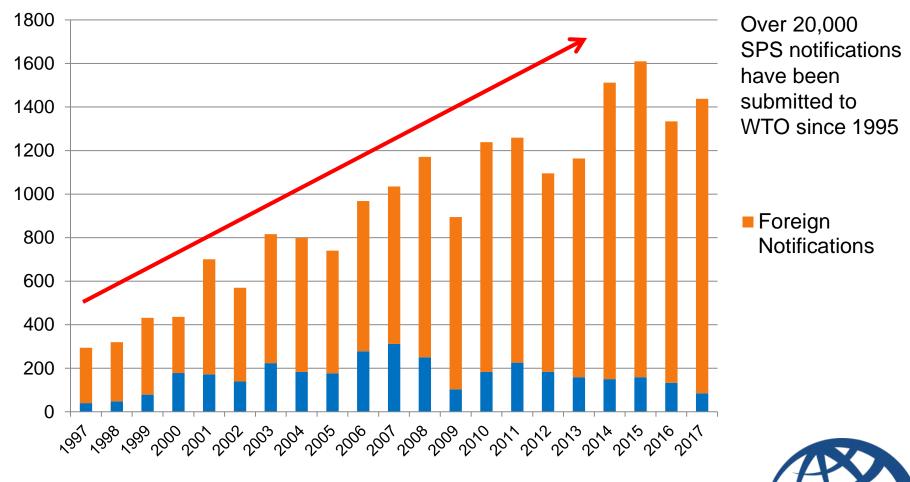
FAS foreign service officers in 95 offices around the world provide assistance with exports, including obtaining the release of detained U.S. shipments







WTO Notifications



Source: USDA STAR System



Tools and Outreach



www.globalmrl.com

U.S. Grower MRL Priority Database

www.mrlpriority.com



ams.usda.gov/datasets/pdp



apps.fas.usda.gov/gats



gain.fas.usda.gov





Bilateral and Multilateral Engagement



















TASC Program (Technical Assistance for Specialty Crops)

Funding for projects that address sanitary, phytosanitary and technical barriers affecting the export of U.S. specialty crops.

Eligible activities include residue data generation; seminars and workshops; study tours; field surveys; pest and disease research; pre-clearance programs.



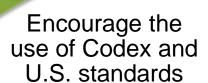
Visit: https://www.fas.usda.gov/programs/technical-assistance-specialty-crops-tasc





Capacity Building

Promote alignment of MRL policies and laboratory analytical procedures

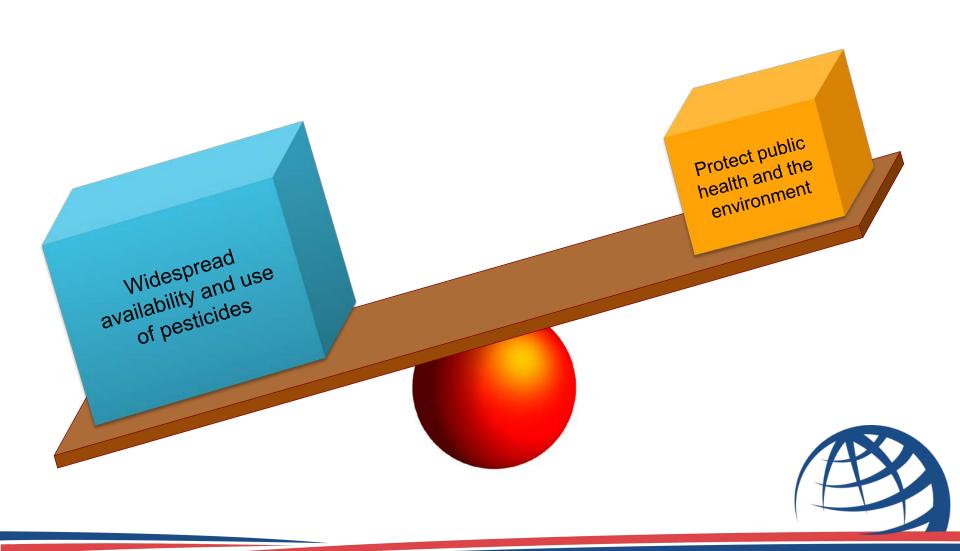


Support residue research to remove MRL trade barriers and reduce U.S. cost burden for generating data

Enhance
capacity for
agricultural
development
and participation
in international
trade









Support agriculture and food production

Ensure availability of efficacious crop protection tools

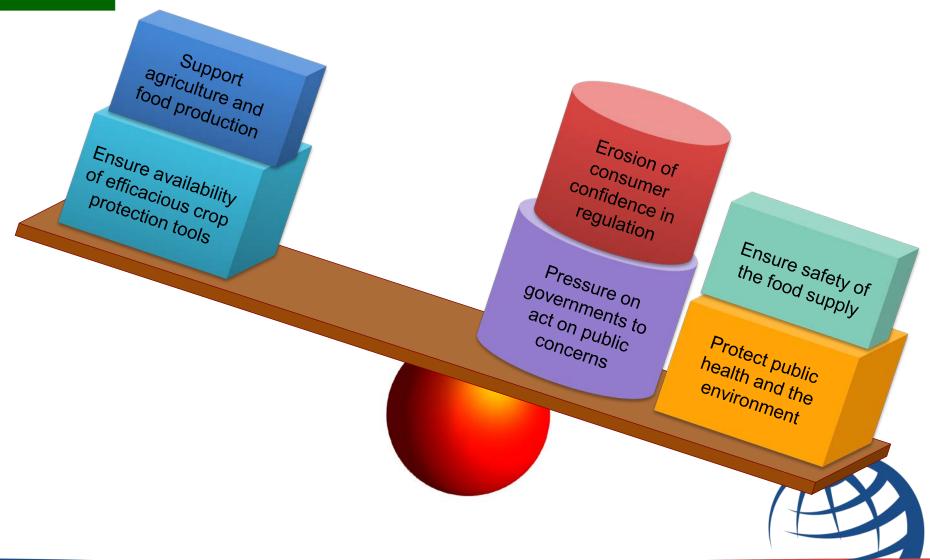
Ensure safety of the food supply

Protect public health and the environment











Support agriculture and food production

Ensure availability of efficacious crop protection tools

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Erosion of consumer confidence in regulation

Pressure on governments to act on public concerns

Ensure safety of the food supply

Protect public health and the environment







We need collaborative messaging and risk communication in order to:

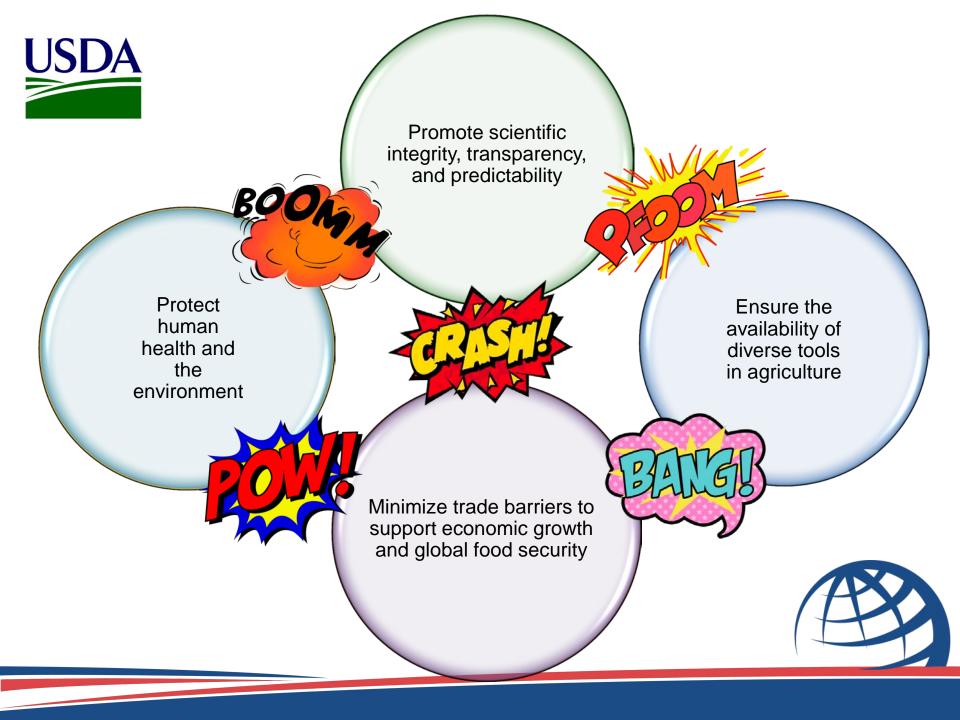
Stop the erosion of science and spread of misinformation

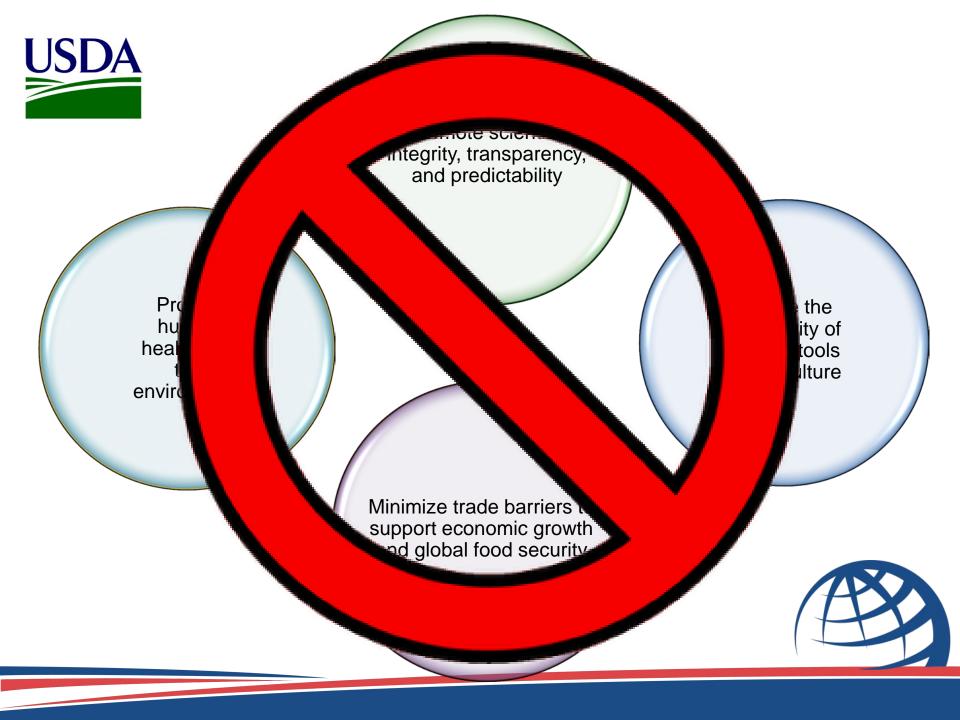
Facilitate understanding of how risks are evaluated and decisions are made

Inspire confidence in the work of scientists and regulators

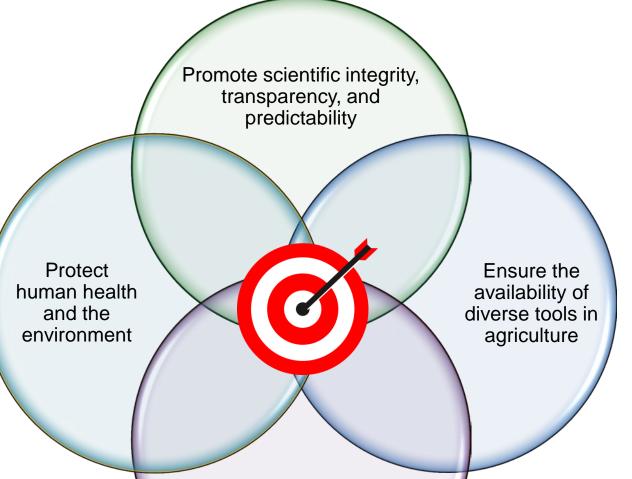
Encourage people to overcome food fears and embrace the role of modern tools and technologies











Minimize trade barriers to support economic growth and global food security





Questions?

Please keep in touch:

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