



Jessica Brown <jessica.brown@lacity.org>

This is our chance to advance science-based food and farm policy

1 message

Union of Concerned Scientists <action@ucsusa.org>

Thu, Jun 14, 2018 at 6:41 AM

Reply-To: ucsaction@ucsusa.org

To: Jessica Brown <jessica.brown@lacity.org>



Dear Jessica,

Right now, Congress is writing a new farm bill that will affect what farmers grow and how they grow it, as well as the price of food and who can afford it. This massive piece of legislation has huge implications for our health, our economy, social justice, and the environment—and it could make healthy food more affordable for millions while also supporting farmers across the country. But with powerful agribusiness companies seeking to maintain the status quo, we'll need to fight to ensure that Congress prioritizes funding for proven programs and science-based practices. The House recently voted down a version of the bill that would have slashed conservation funding, neglected local food programs, and made it harder for millions of people to put food on the table. Now the fight moves to the Senate, where we have a chance not just to preserve these effective programs, but to build on them. We need your help to ensure the farm bill makes nutritious food more accessible to everyone, opens new opportunities for farmers and struggling rural economies, and protects the environment we all depend upon. —Katy

Science in Action

Congress must pass a farm bill that works



for farmers, eaters, and communities

The Senate version of the farm bill, which just passed out of the Agriculture Committee yesterday, includes new funding for critical, science-based programs that reduce hunger and financial insecurity, expand opportunities through local food systems, and equip farmers with much-needed tools to protect our soil, water, and air. But the Senate can do more. By making strategic changes to the bill before it comes to the Senate floor for a final vote, your senators can bring us one step closer to a food system we can all be proud of. [Write your senators today to urge them to pass a 2018 farm bill that works for farmers, eaters, and communities.](#)

Cartoon of the Month



Stand up for Science

- > **ACT:** [How will you stand up for science this election? We want to know.](#)
- > **LISTEN:** [The Federal Scientist Who Blew the Whistle](#)
- > **READ:** [The ABCs of Sidelining Science by the Trump Administration](#)

Ask a Scientist

N. from Sun City, AZ, asks "I have read that industrial agriculture, especially animal agriculture, creates nearly as much air pollution and water pollution as vehicles. What are the facts about this?"

Agriculture in the United States accounts for only 9 percent of the nation's global warming emissions, less than half of that of cars and trucks. In some cases, however, the US agricultural sector is responsible for even more air and water pollution than vehicles. For example, agriculture is the biggest source of fine-particle air pollution in much of the country and the biggest polluter of rivers and streams. That's the bad news. The good news is there are several cost-effective solutions to clean up the agricultural sector. [READ MORE](#)



Marcia DeLonge
Senior Scientist, Food & Environment Program
[>> Read Marcia's blog](#)



[Do you have a question for UCS scientists? Submit your question today.](#)

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This Just In

From Farm to Fork and Sea to Shining Sea: Ranking State Food Systems

Community and government initiatives in every state are taking important steps to build healthier, more sustainable and just food systems—from farm to fork—but there is still much more that should be done. Our latest analysis examined public data on topics ranging from farming outlook and sustainability, investments in healthy farm and healthy food infrastructure, rates of diet-related health outcomes, and social disparities that are both a cause and consequence of our current food and farm policies. We found numerous bright spots, but also a lot of room for improvement. To ensure that healthy food is available for everyone, that farmers can prosper, and that food is grown in ways that protects our air, water, and soil—we need to move away from piecemeal approaches to more holistic solutions. To see how your state ranks on the many components of healthy, just, and sustainable food systems, explore our interactive online scorecard. [READ MORE](#)



[Read More >](#)

Links for Jessica

[> On our podcast: Atmospheric scientist Don Wuebbles discusses ozone recovery, all-nighters at the White House, and communicating about climate science](#)

> ***In the media:*** *Bloomberg: Sharp Exchanges Highlight BP Fears of Climate Legal Jeopardy*

> ***On our blog:*** *Hundreds of Leading Scientists Stand Up for Science Integrity and Plead for Climate Action*

> ***On social media:*** *US-North Korean Summit Could Be a Good Start to Years of Negotiations*

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