



Alfalfa is the 4th
most valuable field
crop in the US!

NAFA Farm Bill Priorities

Being recognized in policy and research funding decisions
is critical in keeping pace with other cropping choices.

Alfalfa is the Nation's 4th most valuable field crop and should be considered when agricultural policy such as the farm safety net, disaster relief, conservation incentives, and public research are being set.

Title I: Commodity Programs

- NAFA requests the Agriculture Committee provide Title I status for alfalfa, enabling it to be on a level playing field with other valuable field crops in the U.S.
- NAFA supports additional funds to write a strong farm bill, but any new funding under Title I must not disincentivize alfalfa or other non-program crop production.
 - Should row crop groups prioritize new funding for a more coupled version of Title I programs, alfalfa must not be adversely affected and, in fact, should be incentivized in rotations since it is one of the most sustainable, nitrogen-fixing crops on the agricultural landscape.

Title II: Conservation

- Alfalfa is the ultimate cover crop, but as a perennial it does not fit well in the current NRCS cover crop “rules.” A broader and bolder vision for cover crops including nitrogen-fixing perennials such as alfalfa must be considered.
- NAFA requests more emphasis on Resource Conserving Crop Rotation authorities and other NRCS programs that will promote systemic and more enduring conservation benefits.

Title VII: Research

- NAFA requests continued authorizing language for alfalfa research in the new Farm Bill. The current Farm Bill includes alfalfa in the “High Priority Research and Extension Initiatives,” Section 7209: (1)(A) Alfalfa Seed and Alfalfa Forage Systems.

Title XI: Crop Insurance

- Crop insurance should be fully protected and strengthened to effectively meet the risk management needs of farmers including, most importantly, the creation of a legitimate revenue insurance policy for alfalfa farmers.
- Federal Crop Insurance is key to the sustainability of the Nation's 4th most valuable field crop, a crop that enhances soil conservation, has nitrogen-fixing capabilities, and is the ultimate regenerative crop.

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