

# Sustainability



America's sugar producers have spent decades investing in sustainability. For sugar growers and workers, protecting our air, land, and water is a personal mission.

- We've invested in new research, technologies, and techniques that boost efficiency and protect the planet.
- U.S. farmers produce 16 percent more sugar on 11 percent less land than they did 20 years ago.
- We've increased yield per acre by 29 percent while using less water, less energy, and fewer agricultural chemicals.

**U.S. sugar policy provides stability for the domestic sugar industry, allowing us to invest in our farms, factories, and communities.**

## DID YOU KNOW...

Beet and cane molasses and pulp is used in **animal feed**?



Sugar producers also use sugarcane biomass to produce **electricity** and **eco-friendly kitchenware**, and beet juice for **runway and road deicer**.

#SugarSustainably

# Global Sugar Production

**"I need a strong Farm Bill that stops foreign governments from having a yard sale of heavily subsidized sugar here in the U.S. and I need a government to say we want our food produced in America."**

Ardis Hammock, 3rd Generation Sugarcane Grower in Florida



More than 100 countries produce sugar. Many foreign producers are inefficient and rely heavily on government subsidies. Countries will typically satisfy domestic needs first, then dispose of surplus sugar on the world market. That sugar is sold at whatever price it will bring, often below its cost of production. This is called dumping, and it is illegal in the U.S.

**The world sugar market is highly volatile and distorted – we've seen dumped sugar prices double in just a year and a half period of time.**

# The Cost and Price of Sugar

Time and again, Congress has supported U.S. sugar policy which is designed to operate at zero cost to taxpayers.

Some suggest agriculture policy, sugar included, should be eliminated. They argue that the cost to consumers is too high, though Americans spend less of their household income on food than any other consumer in the world. Peer-reviewed academic research published in 2020 also concluded:

- U.S. sugar policy does not harm the financial performance of corporate manufacturers of candy and other sugar-containing goods.
- U.S. sugar-using companies do not pass on lower prices to consumers when relative sugar prices decrease.

Most Americans have no idea how much they pay for sugar because sugar is so affordable. Yet, every one cent per pound decrease in the price of sugar costs sugar farmers \$90 per acre.

**Once in the past 18 years, U.S. sugar policy incurred a cost.**

*In 2013, Mexico flooded the U.S. market with dumped, subsidized sugar.*

*The U.S. government found Mexico's actions violated U.S. trade law.*



**A single chocolate bar contains less than two cents worth of sugar.**