



Navigating a Turbulent American Sugar Market

July 31–August 5, 2026

The Hythe Vail
Vail, Colorado

#Sugar2026

as of 7.31.26



July 31–August 5, 2026
The Hythe Vail | Vail, Colorado

To view the Symposium App,
visit sugaralliance.org/ASA-symposium-2026
and enter the PW: **Sugar2026**

Note: ASA will not be printing the Symposium Speaker Biographies or the Advanced Registration List this year. Both can be found in the Symposium App.



Dear Symposium Attendees:

Welcome to Vail! The American Sugar Alliance (ASA) is delighted to welcome its members and invited guests to the 41st International Sweetener Symposium. We are thrilled to be able to gather, visit with friends and colleagues, and discuss the myriad of complex issues our industry is confronting during this turbulent period, as well as focus on preparing for our industry's future.

This year's Symposium program theme, "**Navigating a Turbulent American Sugar Market,**" is an especially timely topic which will encompass a broad range of issues affecting the industry. An outstanding line-up of speakers will address these topics and all points of view are welcome to achieve in-depth discussion.

ASA invites all registered participants, spouses and children to attend the Symposium evening functions. Registered participants and spouses are invited to attend the breakfasts and general sessions; however, the luncheons are limited to registered participants due to space limitations.

We hope you enjoy the spectacular Rocky Mountains in the company of your industry colleagues, and we trust this important sugar event will be of great interest and value to you, our members and guests.

Executive Committee
American Sugar Alliance

Optional Tours

Optional tours are being promoted to help you fully experience Vail and the Rocky Mountains. The Symposium schedule allows free time on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday to explore this charming Alpine Village and to meet with your industry colleagues. See page 14 for a listing of optional tours, both guided and self-guided.

Friday, July 31

ALL DAY

Optional Tours

Register with Tour Operators

3:00PM–5:00PM

LOBBY CONCIERGE DESK

Registration

Saturday, August 1

ALL DAY

Optional Tours

Register with Tour Operators

11:00AM–6:30PM

LOBBY CONCIERGE DESK

Registration

*Note: Registration Desk will be closed from 1–3PM.

5:30PM–6:30PM

APRÈS DECK

Meet & Greet Reception

Business casual attire. See page 16 for details.



Sunday, August 2

ALL DAY

Optional Tours

Register with Tour Operators

8:00AM-2:00PM

EAGLEVAIL GOLF COURSE

ASA Golf Tournament–Optional

Register with ASA. Motorcoach will depart The Hythe's main entrance at 6:30AM. Please check in at the Golf Course by 7:30AM. See page 16 for details.

11:00AM-7:30PM

LOBBY CONCIERGE DESK

Registration

*Note: Registration Desk will be closed from 1-3PM.

6:30PM-9:00PM

GRAND BALLROOM

Welcome Reception Gala

Business casual attire. See page 17 for details.

Monday, August 3

7:30AM-8:45AM

GRAND BALLROOM

Breakfast Session

Outlook for the 2026 Congressional Elections ... and Beyond!

With the Republicans holding the White House and a thin majority in both the Senate and House, all eyes will be turned to the 2026 midterm elections. What are the hot button issues and what is the American public's sentiment? Which key races might determine leadership on the Hill? As the go-to political analyst for several major TV networks and a chief handicapper and analyst for The Cook Political Report, David Wasserman is uniquely qualified to provide his nonpartisan, timely insight into the upcoming mid-term elections.

WELCOME & MODERATOR:

Luther Markwart, ASA Chair; Executive Vice President & CEO, American Sugarbeet Growers Association – Washington, DC

SPEAKER:

David Wasserman, Senior Editor and Elections Analyst, the Cook Political Report; Political Analyst for NBC News – Washington, DC

9:00AM-10:00AM

GRAND BALLROOM

General Session

What Consumers Want: Trends, Policy, and Food Demand

Food demand is increasingly influenced by a mix of consumer preferences, nutrition narratives, and government policy. As conversations around ingredients, dietary guidance and food programs continue to evolve, Dr. Gaine and Brandon Lipps will discuss the trends shaping purchasing decisions and explore what they may mean for the products Americans buy—and the agricultural sectors that supply them.

MODERATOR & SPEAKER:

Courtney Gaine, PhD & RD, President & CEO, The Sugar Association – Washington, DC

SPEAKER:

Brandon Lipps, J.D., Co-founder and Principal, Caprock Strategies – Washington, DC

9:30AM-2:30PM

Spouse Tour–Exploring the Best of Vail Valley

Spouses will spend the day exploring the best of Vail Valley. Local experts will share exactly what put this quaint alpine village on the international map during two VIP guided tours. The day will culminate with a special luncheon at Russell's Restaurant, followed by time for shopping and exploring Vail Village. Comfortable shoes are a must to fully enjoy today's walking tours. Buses depart hotel's lobby entrance at 9:30AM. See page 17 for more detail. Since admission tickets are required, you must register in advance to attend.

10:00AM-10:40AM

GRAND BALLROOM

General Session

Food and Agriculture Policy: Perspectives from the House Agriculture Committee

A conversation with Representative Shontel Brown, member of the House Agriculture Committee, on the forces shaping food and farm policy in Washington. From commodity programs to consumer access, she offers her outlook on the issues Congress is grappling with and what they mean for producers and communities across the country.

MODERATOR:

Zack Clark, Vice President of Government Affairs, American Sugarbeet Growers Association – Washington, DC

SPEAKER:

Rep. Shontel Brown (D-OH-11), Vice Ranking Member, House Agriculture Committee; Member, House Committee on Oversight and Reform; Member, Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party

10:40AM-10:55AM GRAND FOYER
Refreshment Break

10:55AM-12:10PM GRAND BALLROOM
General Session

***U.S. & World Sweetener Market
Outlook: A Look at Current Market
Fundamentals for Sugar***

World supply and demand fundamentals continue to change in sugar markets. World prices have weakened due to large production levels in major sugar producing countries (including the U.S.). Have they finally bottomed out, raising the prospects of improving conditions for world producers in 2027? We look to these experts to explain why price and production levels changed, and what the implications might be under different policies.

MODERATOR:

Rob Johansson, PhD, Director of Economics and Policy Analysis, American Sugar Alliance – Arlington, VA

SPEAKERS:

Jeff Dobrydney, Sr. Vice President, Head of Futures Options, JSG Commodities, Inc. – Norwalk, CT

Christopher Bergin, Trader, CSC Sugar LLC – Westport, CT

COMMENTS:

Patrick Chatenay, Founder, ProSunergy Ltd. – Canterbury, UK

12:20PM-2:15PM COLORADO BALLROOM
Luncheon Session

***The U.S. Department of
Agriculture's Perspectives***

There is a lot going on with farm policy administration, including with respect to sugar policy and trade. USDA is working to improve the reliability of information, the relevance of policies, and the efficiency of program administration. All those components can benefit farmers including sugarbeet and sugarcane farmers. Deputy Secretary Vaden is uniquely positioned to address these topics.

MODERATORS:

Paul Schlagel, Director, Colorado Sugarbeet Growers Association and American Sugarbeet Growers Association – Longmont, CO

Ryan Weston, President & CEO, Florida Sugar Cane League; Washington Representative, Rio Grande Valley Sugar Growers – Washington, DC

SPEAKER:

The Honorable Stephen Vaden, Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture

ASA Annual Meeting

PRESIDING:

Luther Markwart, ASA Chair; Executive Vice President & CEO, American Sugarbeet Growers Association – Washington, DC

Special Tribute

***Honoring ASA Executive Committee
Member Luther Markwart***

Luther Markwart has served the sugar industry for 47 years, serving as an ASA Executive Committee Member for most of that time. With Luther's retirement announced for the end of 2026, we will take a moment to recognize his many contributions to the industry.

2:15 PM AFTERNOON & EVENING

On Your Own

The afternoon and evening is on your own to connect with your colleagues and/or explore Vail. With August being a busy month in Vail, advance dinner reservations are recommended. See page 17 for details.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4

7:30AM - 8:30AM GRAND BALLROOM

Breakfast Session

***Reflections on a Record of Success:
A 31-Year History of ASA Achievements
from the Vantage Point of Key
Congressional Staffer, Advocate,
and Congressional Candidate***

Combest Sell & Associates' Tom Sell recounts his long-standing friendship and work together with the American Sugar Alliance in racking up a long line of policy victories together over more than three decades. Through the constant shifts of six Farm Bills, countless Appropriations Bill battles, combatting unfair foreign trade, championing relief when Global Dump Markets and Mother Nature conspire, and everything in between, Tom Sell has saddled up as part of the ASA team to support U.S. farm and ranch families and all rural America.

MODERATOR:

Luther Markwart, ASA Chair, Executive President & CEO, American Sugarbeet Growers Association – Washington, DC

SPEAKER:

Tom Sell, Founder and Manager, Combest, Sell & Associates – Lubbock, TX

General Session

U.S. Sugar Policy: New Program Parameters

Farmers, including sugarbeet and sugarcane farmers, lobbied Congress for a new Farm Bill to help with elevated input costs. We got one, yet it has proven inadequate to deal with the hike in input costs. At the same time, bumper world crops and bargain basement world sugar prices have led to historic levels of over-quota imports. Those have squeezed margins and pushed them negative in many cases as well as taken sales away from domestic producers. What has the damage been and what can we do to get sugar policy back on track?

MODERATOR:

Rob Johansson, PhD, Director of Economics and Policy Analysis, American Sugar Alliance – Arlington, VA

SPEAKERS:

Randy Green, Principal, Watson Green LLC; Consultant to the Sweetener Users Association – Washington, DC

Carlann Unger, Agricultural Economist, Dairy and Sweetener Analysis Group, FPAC, US Department of Agriculture – Chicago, IL

COMMENTS:

Shawn Arita, PhD, Associate Research Professor and Associate Director, Agricultural Risk Policy Center, North Dakota State University – Washington, DC

General Session

Navigating Evolving Policies and Programs Administered by the Department of Labor

The sugar industry employs a diverse workforce, comprised of domestic and foreign workers, for jobs where there is a shortage of domestic applicants. Critically important to the industry is our relationship with the Department of Labor and the immigration related policies and programs it administers. Join us for a discussion on issues important to the administration of foreign labor certification programs, including recent trends in employer demand for temporary foreign labor, programmatic challenges and best practices, and what policy changes may be coming on the horizon.

MODERATOR:

Jennifer Cervantes, Vice President, Florida Sugar Cane League; Washington Representative, Rio Grande Valley Sugar Growers – Washington, DC

SPEAKER:

Srdzan Lazarevski, Supervisory Immigration Program Analyst, U.S. Department of Labor – Washington, DC

General Session

Agricultural Labor Reform: A Capitol Hill Perspective

Farmers across the country who rely on agricultural labor programs to produce our nation's food agree that Congressional reforms to these programs are long overdue. An ever-shrinking domestic workforce for agricultural labor, coupled with outdated programs that no longer meet today's needs, is creating an unsustainable workforce crisis. For decades, Congress, through various legislative vehicles, has attempted to pass bipartisan solutions, yet none have been successful. Hear from a senior Capitol Hill professional on Congressional efforts to reform the vital H-2A program and the Congressional appetite for finally passing meaningful legislation.

MODERATOR:

Carrie Vicenta Meadows, Vice President of Government Affairs, U.S. Beet Sugar Association – Washington, DC

SPEAKER:

Trevor White, Republican Policy Director, House Agriculture Committee – Washington, DC

Refreshment Break

General Session

Congressional Staff Panel: What are the Next Steps in Farm Policy Legislation?

Now that many farm safety net enhancements are law (including loan rates for sugar), what will the next developments be in farm policy? Will Farm Bill 2.0 make it to the President's desk before the end of this Congress? With a still suffering farm economy and adverse weather events, will Congress act on ad hoc aid? How will the upcoming elections shift the narrative on farm policy?

MODERATOR:

Jamison Cruce, Vice President of Government Relations, American Sugar Cane League – Washington, DC

SPEAKERS:

Coleman Garrison, Republican Senior Professional Staff, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry

Kyle Varner, Democratic Senior Professional Staff, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry

Harlea Hoelscher, Republican Professional Staff, House Agriculture Committee

Clark Ogilvie, Democratic Deputy Staff Director, House Agriculture Committee

12:15PM-12:30PM

GRAND BALLROOM

General Session

Chairman of Senate Agriculture Appropriations, Senior Member on Senate Agriculture Covers the Waterfront on Issues Impacting U.S. Sugar

Few lawmakers in recent times have had such a favorable impact on U.S. agriculture than the three-term Governor and Senator from North Dakota. From WHIP, WHIP Plus, ERP, and SDRP to MFP, ECAP, FBA, Farm Bills, and OBBBA Improvements to the Farm Bill and Crop Insurance Safety Net, Senator John Hoeven (R-ND) has always been in the scrum fighting for farmers and ranchers. Tyler Hardy, Deputy Chief of Staff for Senator Hoeven, provides a status report on the key federal issues impacting the U.S. sugar industry.

MODERATOR:

Cassie Bladow, President & CEO, U.S. Beet Sugar Association – Washington, DC

SPEAKER:

Tyler Hardy, Deputy Chief of Staff/Senior Advisor, Office of Senator John Hoeven (R-ND)

12:45PM-2:00PM

COLORADO BALLROOM

Luncheon Session

Outlook for US Agriculture: A Horizon of Policy Challenges and Opportunities

Looking forward to the 2026/27 crop harvest, there remain plenty of challenges for US producers, from high costs of production to growing weather disasters. Macroeconomic repercussions of geopolitical shifts continue to reverberate through markets. While the livestock and animal products sector has been a bright spot in the ag landscape, there remain uncertainties about how USDA can best help producers navigate the current planning environment. Our speaker has unique insight into these issues and can offer some of his observations (including thoughts on data and reporting for the sugar program).

MODERATOR:

Rob Johansson, PhD, Director of Economics & Policy Analysis, American Sugar Alliance – Arlington, VA

SPEAKER:

Justin Benavidez, PhD, Chief Economist, U.S. Department of Agriculture – Washington, DC

2:00PM

AFTERNOON

On Your Own



5:30PM-10:30PM

FOUR EAGLE RANCH

Dinner Event

Western Dinner Shindig @ 4 Eagle Ranch

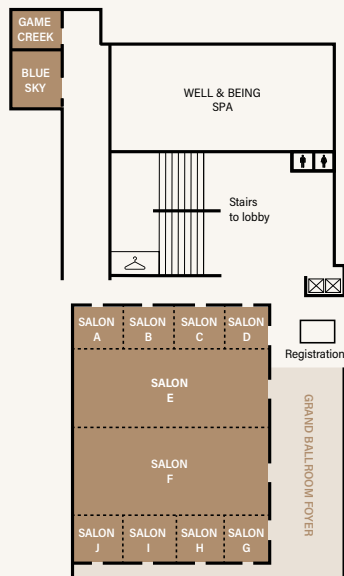
Motorcoaches will depart the main entrance at 5:30PM. To facilitate easier loading, we will be staging our departure from the hotel's Colorado Ballroom. Please join us in the Colorado Ballroom starting at 5:15PM. This special evening at the historic 4 Eagle Ranch in Wolcott will feature cowboy games, live entertainment, BBQ, and more. See page 17 for details.

Wednesday, August 5

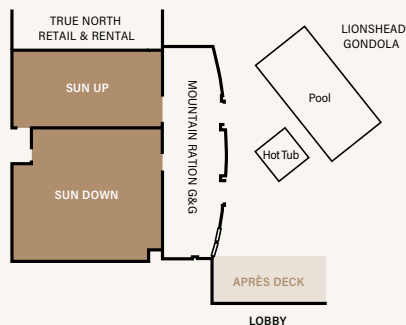
ALL DAY

DEPARTURES

CONFERENCE LEVEL



LOBBY LEVEL



2ND LEVEL



Details, Details, Details...

Admission

All registered participants and spouses are invited to attend the business sessions and social functions. *Due to limited space, the luncheons are limited to participants.* Registered children may attend the evening events (Saturday reception, Sunday reception, and Tuesday dinner event). Events cannot be sold separately and tickets are not transferable.

Location of Events

The Symposium events will be held as follows:

- **The Saturday reception** will be held on the Après Deck (weather permitting) and the **Sunday reception** will be held in the Grand Ballroom.
- **The Monday and Tuesday breakfasts and general sessions** will be held in the Grand Ballroom, located on the Conference level of the hotel. **The Monday and Tuesday luncheons** will be held in the Colorado Ballroom, located on the 2nd floor of the hotel.
- **The Tuesday evening dinner event** will be held off-site at 4 Eagle Ranch, and **riding on the ASA provided transportation is required.**

Attire

The dress code for all business sessions will be resort casual, which includes long pants and golf shirts for men, and skirts, dress shorts or slacks and blouses for women. Vail's Rocky Mountain location translates to varying temperatures ranging from an average August high of 75 degrees and an average August low of 40 degrees. Throughout your stay, you will need a jacket for the cool mountain air in the mornings and evenings. A layering of clothing is recommended.

High Altitude Tips

The base of Vail Valley sits at 8,150 ft above sea level. While Vail's Rocky Mountain location is what makes this area so lovely, it can also lead to altitude sickness. Please consider the following high altitude tips to promote an enjoyable Colorado experience. Drink lots of water to stay well-hydrated; moderate alcohol intake; and take it easy on the front end of your trip. And because you're closer to the sun, be sure to wear sunscreen, hat, and glasses. For more information, visit: <https://www.vailhealth.org/news/how-to-stay-healthy-at-altitude>.

Optional Tours

GUIDED TOURS

Jeep Tour—Daily, 9:00AM and 2:00PM

Experience a sense of wilderness and the magnificent Rocky Mountains while traveling the countryside. Bring the Vail Valley up close and personal during your guided jeep tour as you enjoy spectacular vistas spanning miles of the Colorado high country. With more than 30 years of experience, Timberline Tours is the leading Vail jeep tour guide service. This tour begins with a pick-up at The Hythe Vail at either 9:00AM or 2:00PM. Your trained guide will help you pick the best tour available based on season and trail conditions, weather and group dynamics. These four-hour tours can accommodate 6 people per jeep, and two jeeps can be reserved together for larger groups. Prices are \$159 for adults (ages 13+), \$149 for youth (ages 7-12), and \$89 for children (ages 6 & under), plus a 12% land use fee. Prices include door-to-door transportation and a snack. Since you will be traveling in an open-air vehicle and traveling to higher altitudes, a warm jacket, a layering of clothes, sunscreen, and sunglasses are recommended. Be sure to bring a camera to capture the incredible views. To make reservations, please call 970-476-1414. More information is available at <https://timberlinetours.com/>

Zip Adventures—Daily, Times Vary

Zip Adventures offers the ultimate adrenaline rush while taking in the rugged beauty of Colorado. Located 20 miles northwest of Vail at the authentic 4 Eagle Ranch, Zip Adventures offers a thrilling course consisting of "six unique zip lines that offer a graduating progression of excitement and adventure, as well as a stunning view of the Colorado landscape." During your tour, you will experience pristine mountains, beautiful trees, raging rivers, jagged rock cliffs and the dramatic beauty of the Alkali Canyon's floor while zipping over the rugged canyon. A safety briefing will be provided. Two trained guides accompany each trip to ensure maximum safety, as well as educate about the flora, fauna, and wildlife. Tours are offered at various times throughout the day, lasting approximately 2+ hours, and can accommodate large groups. Make sure to bring a hat, sunscreen, closed toe shoes or hiking boots, hair tie for shoulder length or longer hair, pants or shorts and jackets. Cameras with straps are welcome. Weight requirements: no minimum and a max of 250lbs. Not recommended for people with heart, back, hip or knee problems, or pregnant women. Must be able to hike ¾ mile on trails. Cost is \$207 per person (exclusive of gratuity) and includes all safety gear, water and snacks. Transportation to Zip Adventures is on your own. Reservations may be made at <https://zipadventures.com/>. Cancellation must be made 72 hours in advanced.

Whitewater Rafting—Saturday & Sunday, AM and PM Trips

Experience the beauty and the exhilaration of the Colorado Rockies while rafting the Shoshone River. Timberline Tours has offers morning and afternoon trips. The Shoshone Morning Trip starts with pick-up at The Hythe Vail at 9:00AM for transport to Timberline's location, to be fitted with gear and receive an orientation. This trip typically offers white water, followed by a relaxing float through the scenic Glenwood Canyon, for a total time on the river of 1.5-2 hours, followed by a luncheon. Return to the hotel is expected by

3:00PM. The Shoshone Afternoon Double Thriller Trip starts with pick up from The Hythe Vail at 2:00PM for transport to Timberline's HQ to be fitted with gear and receive an orientation. The Double Thriller Trip is ideally suited for those wanting white water only (no float) as it offers several laps on the same set of rapids, for a total time on the river of 1-1.5 hours. Return to the hotel is expected by 5:00PM. The trip includes door-to-door transportation, necessary equipment and snacks or lunch (varies by trip). Recommended attire includes bathing suits and sunscreen. Additionally, bring dry clothes if you would like to change at the take-out point. For reservations, visit <https://timberlinetours.com/whitewater-rafting/>. Prices vary by tour and age. Age restrictions may apply for children. Book now as these tours fill up. Booking window closes 24 hours prior to departure.

Fly Fishing, Daily—Times Vary

Outdoor enthusiasts will relish the opportunity to fish on more than 500 miles of pristine river through Colorado's Vail Valley. With access to the Eagle River, Gore Creek, Roaring Fork River, and the Colorado River, you can experience fly-fishing with the help and expertise of some of Vail's best anglers. Both beginners and experts are welcome. Trips can be tailored to your preference including wade trips, float trips, ½-day, ¾-day and full-day with varying prices. Note: Float trip availability is limited. For more information, visit <https://www.minturnanglers.com/vail-fly-fishing-trips-in-colorado/>

SELF-GUIDED TOURS

Vail Farmers' Market and Art Show— Sunday, 9:30AM-3:00PM

Sundays in the heart of Vail Village, this event includes over 155 vendors, showcasing many made-in-Colorado artisan items and foods, as well as produce, food vendors, music and more. Spend your Sunday enjoying the market, eating breakfast and/or lunch from the food vendors, and exploring Vail Village. The market is primarily held on Vail Village's East Meadow Drive, but also spreads to side streets throughout. Parking can be challenging so consider catching the free Vail Village in-town shuttle from the stop in front of The Hythe Vail to the Vail Transportation Center, for a quick 5-minute ride. Alternatively, you can walk from The Hythe Vail through Lionshead Village to Vail Village (20-minute walk). For more information, visit <http://www.vailfarmersmarket.com/>.

Bike the Pass—Daily, 10:00AM, 12:00PM and 2:00PM

This self-guided bike trip of the Vail Pass is a wonderful way to enjoy the Vail Valley, all at your own leisure. This adventure begins at Wheel Base, located in Lionshead Village just a short walk from The Hythe Vail, where you will be fitted with a mountain bike and provided a helmet. You will then be driven to the "top" of Vail Pass and provided with an orientation of the area. From there, you will start your scenic 17-mile downhill trek on a paved bike path. The first ten miles of your trip are primarily downhill on the bike path with no motorized traffic encountered until you drop into East Vail. At various points, you'll want to stop and enjoy the breathtaking views of the Gore Range and Vail Valley. As you continue into East Vail, you'll ride by the Vail Golf Course, the Nature Center, the Ford Amphitheater, and the Betty Ford Alpine Gardens. For a true Vail experience, stop in Vail Village for an ice cream or lunch at an outdoor café. Return

the bike to Wheel Base in Lionshead. Recommended attire includes shorts, tennis shoes, a light jacket/layering of clothes, sunglasses, and sunscreen. For more information or to book your bike visit Wheel Base at <https://vailwheelbase.com/>.

Gondolas, Hiking & the Epic Discovery Activity Center—Daily

The Hythe Vail's ideal location gives you quick access to a plethora of summer recreation. Take Vail's Scenic Gondola (<https://tinyurl.com/3jhcevky>), either the Eagle Bahn Gondola (located in Lionshead Village) or Gondola One (located in Vail Village) to the top of the peak (elevations 10,000+ft) to experience panoramic views, explore 18 different hiking trails (<https://tinyurl.com/msyzs7b3>) or visit the Epic Discovery activity center (<https://tinyurl.com/5n6zahtw>). Perched on the mountaintop, Epic Discovery offers a football-stadium sized activity center featuring ziplines, high ropes course, mountain coasters, tubing, a climbing wall, bungee trampoline, restaurants, and more.

The Well & Being Spa—Daily, 10AM–6PM

The Hythe Vail's Well & Being Spa offers a luxurious Alpine-inspired experience. The spa's innovative wellness approach incorporates many local and on-property botanicals, infusing treatments with indigenous plants. The spa offers a Himalayan Salt Inhalation Lounge, as well as massage therapies, body scrubs and wraps, facials and skincare services, and enhanced recovery therapies. ASA has secured a 20% discount rate off all 50- and 80- minute treatments. To make a reservation and secure ASA's 20% discount, call 970-479-5004 and reference "American Sugar Alliance" group. For general information on the Well & Being Spa, visit <https://www.thehythevail.com/wellness/spa/>

Symposium Social Events

Meet & Greet Reception—Saturday, August 1, 5:30PM - 6:30PM, Après Deck

This one-hour reception will provide the perfect opportunity to meet your colleagues before venturing on to your dinner plans. Light hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be served. Recommended attire is business casual. Summertime is a busy time for dining in Vail; therefore, dinner reservations are highly recommended.

Golf Tournament—Optional—Sunday, August 2, 8:00AM, EagleVail Golf Club

The ASA Golf Tournament will be held at the EagleVail Golf Club. Shuttle service will depart The Hythe Vail's main entrance starting at 6:30AM and running at intervals (approximately 30 minutes) thereafter. Players should check-in at the golf course by 7:30AM for the 8:00AM shotgun start. A continental breakfast will be available at 6:30AM. Known as Vail Valley's favorite golf course, this pristine course offers expansive views of the Colorado Rocky Mountains. Sitting at an elevation of 7,650 feet above sea level, EagleVail Golf Club offers play through varying microclimates ranging alongside creeks, rivers, ponds, and forest. Tournament play will again be the popular scramble format where all members of the foursome play the "best ball." Prizes including low net score foursome, low gross score foursome, closest to the pin, and longest drive, will

be announced during the awards ceremony at the Clubhouse immediately following the tournament. **Please register for this optional event with ASA.**

Welcome Reception Gala—Sunday, August 2, 6:30PM–9:00PM, Grand Ballroom & Foyer

During this elegant reception, refreshments and a dinner hors d'oeuvres buffet will be served. The menu will include a range of international cuisine. Recommended attire is business casual.

Spouse Tour—Monday, August 3, 9:30AM–2:30PM

Spouses will spend the day Exploring the Best of Vail Valley. Buses depart at 9:30AM from the hotel's lobby entrance for a short ride to the Betty Ford Alpine Gardens. Located in the shadow of Colorado's Gore Range, this picturesque setting holds the title of the world's highest botanical gardens and features stunning perennial beds, rock gardens, and waterfalls. This guided tour will provide the perfect opportunity to learn about the varying flowers and plants that grow well in Colorado's high altitude and rocky soil. Be sure to visit the garden's gift shop at the end of the tour. The next activity will be a docent-led walking tour of Vail Village. Local experts will share the rich history of this European alpine Village, including its Bavarian-inspired architecture, the visionaries who developed the Valley, and more. You'll then be treated to a special luncheon at one of Vail's classic restaurants, Russell's Steakhouse. Following lunch, explore the Village's high-end shops, galleries and boutiques. Since there will be a good bit of walking on this tour, wearing comfortable walking shoes is a must. Also, to ensure we plan appropriately, **you must be registered for the spouse tour in advance.**

Dinner On Your Own—Monday, August 3

Symposium attendees have a free evening to dine with family, friends and colleagues. No official Symposium function is planned. The Vail area offers a range of casual to fine dining within walking distance in Lionshead Village, as well as in Vail Village which you can access by catching the free shuttle in front of The Hythe Vail. Since August is peak season for Vail tourism, advance dining reservations are highly recommended. For dining suggestions, contact The Hythe concierge at 970-477-5660 or concierge@thehythevail.com.

Western Dinner Shindig @ 4 Eagle Ranch —Tuesday, August 4, 5:30PM–10:30PM

Buses depart from The Hythe Vail's Colorado Ballroom at 5:30PM for a Western Dinner Shindig. The Symposium's final evening will provide a true Rocky Mountain experience at the historic 4 Eagle Ranch. Located in Wolcott, just 24 miles from Vail, this 1885 homestead ranch is rich in history and tradition. In addition to the dramatic mountain views, the Ranch includes the original Carriage House, the 1890's Nelson Cabin, and the campsite at 4 Eagle, as well as modern additions. This special evening will include a cocktail reception, barbecue dinner, and several cowboy activities that will be fun for the whole family. Plan to kick up your heels under the Colorado stars with Vail's popular Walker Williams Band. This magical evening will conclude by 10:00PM, with return to hotel by 10:30PM; however, shuttle service will start at 8:30PM for anyone wanting to return to the hotel earlier. Casual or Western attire recommended. *Note: Anyone attending this event must ride the ASA provided transportation to/from The Hythe Vail and 4 Eagle Ranch.*

Sponsor Tribute

ASA wishes to honor the great support demonstrated by the sponsoring organizations and their contributions to a successful 41st International Sweetener Symposium.

Welcome Reception Gala | Sunday, August 2

AgFirst Farm Credit Bank
Ash Grove Cement Company
Farm Credit Services of America, FLCA
First South Farm Credit
JSG Commodities
Louisiana Land Bank, ACA
The Sugar Association (desserts)

Breakfast Session | Monday, August 3

CoBank

Luncheon Session | Monday, August 3

Quality Liquid Feeds, LLC

Breakfast Session | Tuesday, August 4

KWS Seeds, LLC

Luncheon Session | Tuesday, August 4

PGIM

Golf Tournament | Sunday, August 2

American Crystal Sugar Company
American Sugar Cane League
American Sugar Refining, Inc.
Beet Sugar Development Foundation
C&H Sugar Company
Domino Sugar
Florida Crystals Corporation
Michigan Sugar Company
Minn-Dak Farmers Cooperative
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The Sugar Producer Magazine
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Western Sugar Cooperative
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Mark your Calendar!

July 30–August 4, 2027
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

The 42nd International Sweetener Symposium will be held July 30 – August 4, 2027, at the Coeur d'Alene Golf & Spa Resort in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Attendance at next year's Symposium is a must for everyone in the industry to see where the industry is with (hopefully) a completed Farm Bill. Additional program topics will include the U.S. and world market supply-demand outlook and the effect of multilateral, regional, and bilateral trade agreements on world sugar policies and U.S. commodity programs. This is one sweetener industry meeting you won't want to miss—mark your calendar for this important must-attend event!

The Coeur d'Alene Golf & Spa Resort is located on the northern shores of spectacular Coeur d'Alene Lake. This special resort offers waterfront rooms, marina, spa, dining, and full service amenities and recreational activities. However, it is most well known for its golf course which ranks in the "Top 75 Resort Courses in America" by *Golf Digest* and is home to the world's only floating movable green on the shores of beautiful Lake Coeur d'Alene.



The charming town of Coeur d'Alene is located in northern Idaho just 30 minutes east of Spokane, Washington. Getting to Coeur d'Alene is easy with most major airlines servicing the Spokane International Airport with daily, nonstop, national and international flights.

Carved by the glaciers of the ice age, this unique area is surrounded by more than 55 lakes located within easy driving distance of Coeur d'Alene. With breathtaking landscape, ample recreational activities, and its spectacular setting at the shore of one of America's most beautiful lakes, the Coeur d'Alene has earned the title of "Playground of the Northwest." For more information on the Coeur d'Alene Resort, visit www.cdaresort.com.

Additional details on the 42nd International Sweetener Symposium will be available in February on ASA's web site at sugaralliance.org/symposium.

This is one industry meeting you won't want to miss.

**Plan to attend the 2027 Symposium
 and experience Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.**



Statement of Purpose

The American Sugar Alliance is a national coalition of sugarbeet and sugarcane producers, including sugar farmers, sugar processors, sugar refiners, sugar suppliers, sugar workers and others dedicated to preserving a strong U.S. sugar industry. The ASA annually sponsors the International Sweetener Symposium to provide a timely and provocative forum on issues affecting the sweetener industry.

ASA Executive Committee

Luther Markwart, ASA Chair
Executive Vice President & CEO, American Sugarbeet Growers Association

Ryan Weston, ASA Vice Chair
Chief Executive Officer, Florida Sugar Cane League;
Washington Representative, Rio Grande Valley Sugar Growers

Cassie Bladow, ASA Secretary/Treasurer
President & CEO, U.S. Beet Sugar Association

Jamison Cruce, Vice President of Government Relations, American Sugar Cane League

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Notes

Mark Your Calendar

for future symposium dates

2027
**INTERNATIONAL
SWEETENER
SYMPOSIUM**
**JULY 30 -
AUGUST 4, 2027**

The Coeur d'Alene
Resort | Coeur
d'Alene, Idaho
CDARESORT.COM



2028
**INTERNATIONAL
SWEETENER
SYMPOSIUM**
**JULY 28 -
AUGUST 2, 2028**

Grand Hyatt Deer
Valley | Park City, UT
[HYATT.COM/
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EN-US/SLCGP-GRAND-
HYATT-DEER-VALLEY](http://HYATT.COM/GRAND-HYATT/EN-US/SLCGP-GRAND-HYATT-DEER-VALLEY)



2029
**INTERNATIONAL
SWEETENER
SYMPOSIUM**
AUGUST 3-8, 2029

Omni Nashville |
Nashville, TN
[OMNIHOTELS.COM/
HOTELS/NASHVILLE](http://OMNIHOTELS.COM/HOTELS/NASHVILLE)



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