



# The Farm Bill

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# What is the Farm Bill?

The 2018 Farm Bill has twelve titles:

- Title 1: Commodities
- Title 2: Conservation
- Title 3: Trade
- Title 4: Nutrition
- Title 5: Credit
- Title 6: Rural Development
- Title 7: Research, Extension & Related Matters
- Title 8: Forestry
- Title 9: Energy
- Title 10: Horticulture
- Title 11: Crop Insurance
- Title 12: Miscellaneous

The farm bill's titles can change over time, both in number and subject matter.



# What's not included in the farm bill?

- Farm and food worker rights and protections
- Public land grazing rights
- Irrigation water rights
- Food and Drug Administration (FDA) food safety
- Renewable fuels standards
- Tax issues
- School meals
- The Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program
- Some pesticide Laws
- Clean Water Act
- Clean Air Act



# FARM BILL PROJECTED FUNDING, IN BILLIONS 2019-2023

**TOTAL: \$428 BILLION**

## CONSERVATION, 7%

Example: Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

## COMMODITIES, 7%

Example: Whole Farm Revenue Protection Program (Whole Farm)

## CROP INSURANCE, 9%

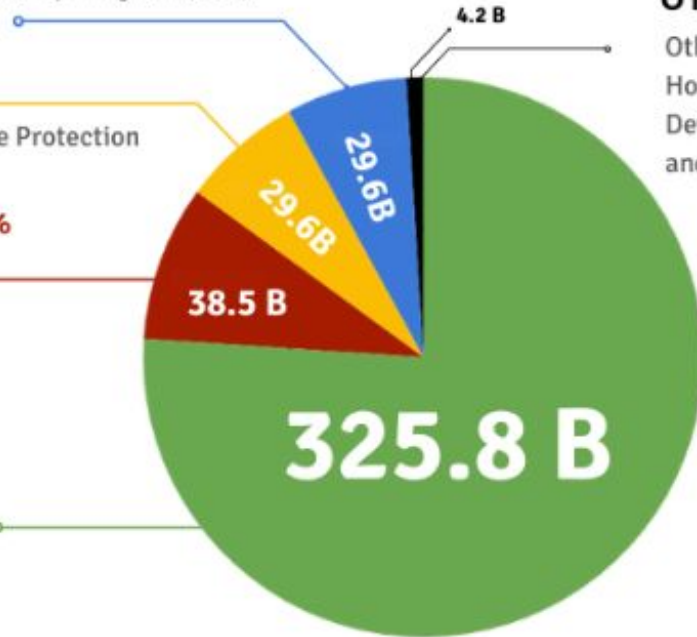
Example: Price Loss Coverage Program

## NUTRITION, 76%

Example: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

## OTHER, 1%

Other includes Miscellaneous, Horticulture, Forestry, Rural Development, Credit, Research, and everything else



# NOFA-VT wants a Farm Bill that...



Invests in and protects the integrity of organic and agroecological practices as a solution to our climate and biological crises.



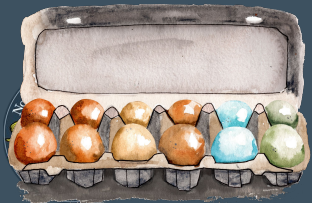
Centers racial justice across all programs and repairs past and ongoing racialized harm.



Ensures fair treatment and just livelihoods for farmers and workers throughout the food and farming system.



Promotes food sovereignty for disadvantaged communities and ensures nutrition security for all.



Invests in rural communities, increases fairness and resilience of local and regional supply chains, and breaks up consolidation in agriculture.



Eliminates the use of toxic substances on farmland and in our food system while supporting a just transition for farmers.

# Farm Bill Policy Priorities

- EXPAND OPPORTUNITIES IN ORGANIC
- DEMAND CLIMATE ACTION
- SUPPORT ORGANIC DAIRY
- SECURE EQUITABLE ACCESS TO LAND AND CREDIT

- PROTECT FARMS FROM PFAS
- REJECT FALSE SOLUTIONS
- STRENGTHEN NUTRITION PROGRAMS



# Farm Bill: Impacts on Vermont Agriculture

- ❖ On-farm conservation
  - Increased funding through IRA
- ❖ Organic certification cost share
  - Additional support for organic through USDA TOPP program
- ❖ Support for beginning farmers



# The Farm Bill: Impacts on Vermont Agriculture (cont'd)

- ❖ Commodity price and income supports
- ❖ Dairy margin coverage
- ❖ Crop insurance
  - Few Vermont farmers carry crop insurance. Options are generally not well suited nor well understood.
- ❖ Nutrition programs
  - Important support for Vermont farmers!





# The Farm Bill: Impacts on Vermont Agriculture (cont'd)

Who is not currently well served by the farm bill?

- ❖ Smaller scale, more diversified farmers
- ❖ Farmers of color
- ❖ Beginning farmers
- ❖ LGBTQ+ farmers
- ❖ Farm workers
- ❖ Farms using alternative ownership and business structures (including cooperatively owned farms)



# Opportunities

The Vermont legislature can create policies that compliment what's in the farm bill.

- Fill gaps
- Supplement where needed
- Innovating to inform future farm bills





It's a big splashy photo! Put a caption here if you need one.



# Thank You!

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