

Confirmation Questions

Background

- A robust commitment to science, research and agricultural innovation is important so that plant breeders, farmers and ranchers maintain access to the best tools and our customers continue to have access to a wide variety of safe and affordable food.
- Coordination among the USDA, FDA and EPA is essential for US agriculture to remain at the forefront of innovation and maintain its leadership role globally. If regulations are overly burdensome or agencies take different regulatory approaches, farmers will not be able realize the full benefit of cutting edge tools, such as gene editing.
- It is critical that the U.S. Government actively engage with our trading partners around the world, and secure as much alignment in regulatory policies as possible so that trade in U.S. commodities and global seed movement are not hindered nor disrupted.

Questions

Will you commit to being a champion of agricultural innovation like the innovative breeding tool of gene editing and specifically will you commit to coordinating with other agencies and with global partners?

Will you commit to publicly explaining the scientific basis and rationale for USDA's regulatory approach to new tools, such as gene editing, to further consumer understanding and acceptance?