



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

*Farm Foundation's Trade Resource Center
adds new knowledge tools on WTO, SPS agreements*

OAK BROOK, IL April 2, 2019: Farm Foundation's *Food and Agricultural Trade Resource Center* has added four new papers, all of which focused on two topics that frequently are part of trade discussions—the World Trade Organization (WTO) and sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) challenges.

“To seasoned professionals who have been involved in trade issues for many years, the WTO, as well as sanitary and phytosanitary agreements, are engrained in their working vocabularies,” says Farm Foundation President Constance Cullman. “But there are some addressing trade issues today who are new to the arena, or many need a refresher on the basics of the WTO and SPS standards.”

Farm Foundation created the *Resource Center* to bring clarity to trade discussions and enable productive debate and dialogue on trade policy issues. “That means understanding the basic tools of trade, as well as the role of trade in the economic health and growth of every nation's economy,” Cullman continues.

The new papers added, all of which are available in the Trade Basics section of the [Trade Resource Center website](#), are:

- [An Overview of the World Trade Organization](#): Megan Provost, J.D., Vice President of Policy and Programs at Farm Foundation, examines the history of the WTO and its negotiating rounds, as well as some of the benefits and criticisms of the organization.
- [Members of the World Trade Organization](#): Provost explains the process by which countries can become members of the WTO.
- [The Sanitary and Phytosanitary and Technical Barriers to Trade Agreements: An Overview](#): Daniella Taveau, a former international policy analyst with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and trade negotiator with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, discusses the WTO's SPS and technical barriers to trade (TBT) agreements.
- [The Sanitary and Phytosanitary Agreement: Interpretation and Challenges](#): Bill Bryant, founder and chairman of Bryant Christie Inc., provides an in-depth look at the SPS Agreement and some of the dispute settlement cases that have further defined the agreement.

On April 30, Farm Foundation's Food and Agricultural Trade Resource Center will host the conference, *Agricultural Trade in a Time of Uncertainty*. WTO Director-General Roberto Azevêdo will open the conference, which will be at the DoubleTree Hotel Crystal City,

Arlington, VA. Details on the agenda, as well as registration information, is available on the [Farm Foundation website](#).

“We are working to continue to build the knowledge tools of the Resource Center,” Cullman says. “This is another way in which Farm Foundation is continuing its 86-year tradition of providing public and private decision-makers with objective information and analyses they can use in their day-to-day work. A solid foundation of basic trade education, as well as more detailed analyses of larger trade issues, will support quality dialogues on agricultural trade.”

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Farm Foundation is an agricultural policy institute cultivating dynamic non-partisan collaboration to meet society's needs for food, fiber, feed and energy. Since 1933, we have connected leaders in farming, business, academia, organizations and government through proactive, rigorous debate and objective issue analysis.