CALL FOR SPEAKERS
Call for Proposals Now Open for 2020 Summit
November 18 - 19, 2020 | Virtual

The Sustainable Agriculture Summit convenes leaders from across the food and ag chain—commodity crop, beef, dairy, pork, poultry and specialty crop—for the premier sustainability event for U.S. agriculture. During the two-day event, farmers, suppliers, processors, manufacturers, retailers, academics, conservation groups and public sector representatives will gather together with leading experts to learn and discuss opportunities to advance a coordinated and comprehensive approach to drive continuous improvement in agricultural sustainability.

Expert speakers and leaders in sustainable agriculture are invited to share their expertise with 600+ Summit attendees. Organizers are currently accepting proposals for engaging breakout sessions at the virtual 2020 Sustainable Agriculture Summit. Selected sessions will have the opportunity to pre-record content, with their speakers joining the Summit live for an interactive, virtual Q&A with participants.

Please note that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 Sustainable Agriculture Summit will be an entirely virtual experience. With questions on the virtual platform capability, please contact:

Kathy Norton, Coordinator, Sustainable Agriculture Summit — info@sustainableagsummit.org, Phone: 303-524-5281

HOST PARTNERS

Field to Market

INNOVATION CENTER FOR U.S. DAIRY

CONVENING PARTNERS
Considerations for Selection

Each submission will be evaluated based on alignment with the Summit theme and selection criteria. Emphasis will be placed on their appeal to our diverse audience of food companies, government agencies, academics, conservation groups, and farmers. Additionally, the ability to drive the sustainability conversation forward for the food, farming, and agriculture industries’ value chains will be strongly considered. Preference will be given to unique proposals that conform to session topics and target audiences as outlined and/or proposals that bring forth compelling speakers or panelists. Only presentations offering vendor-neutral content will be considered. Selection and scheduling for breakouts sessions will be at the discretion of the Summit organizers.

In order to ensure that Summit participants have clear expectations around the content of each breakout session, proposals will need to specify how they align with key topics and audiences represented at this year’s Summit. Submitters will be asked to indicate the general level of expertise the attendee should have to fully engage with the session.

Summit Theme

Beyond 2020: The Next Generation of Sustainability in Action

From extreme weather, volatile economic conditions, increased consumer scrutiny, and even a global pandemic, the last decade has been both disruptive and transformative for the food and agriculture sector. As we enter a new decade, stakeholders across the value chain must embrace innovation and collective action to build a more sustainable and equitable agricultural system. The 2020 Sustainable Agriculture Summit, Beyond 2020: The Next Generation of Sustainability in Action, will look to the next generation of sustainability leadership, technologies and collaborations to discover how U.S. agriculture can deliver lasting impact through improved productivity, profitability, resiliency and environmental outcomes.
SESSION TOPICS & TARGET AUDIENCE

In order to ensure that Summit participants have clear expectations around the content of each breakout session, proposals will need to specify how they align with key topics and audiences represented at this year’s Summit. Proposals also need to indicate a general level of expertise which will be needed to engage with the session.

**Indicate up to three key topics and three target audiences covered by your session:**

**KEY TOPICS**
- Agriculture Finance
- Agricultural Policy
- Climate Change
- Consumer Insights
- Diversity & Inclusion
- Economics
- Farmer Resiliency
- GHG & Air Quality
- Innovation/Technology
- Next Generation
- Soil Health
- Sustainable Nutrition
- Transformational Change
- Trade
- Workforce Development/Labor
- Water
- Other

**TARGET AUDIENCES**
- Academia
- Agribusiness
- Animal Agriculture
- Brand and Retailer
- Civil Society
- Commodity Crops
- Grower Organization
- Government
- NGO
- Processor/Packer/Co-op
- Rancher/Farmer
- Specialty Crops
- Other

**LEVEL OF EXPERTISE**

Indicate what level of expertise an attendee should have to best engage with your session:

**Introductory**
This session will engage with the basics of the topic and is accessible to all audiences with diverse perspectives and backgrounds.

**Intermediate**
This session may go beyond the basics of the topic and is most valuable for those who have existing familiarity with the subject matter.

**Advanced**
This session includes advanced or technical material and is most valuable for those who are practitioners or have deep familiarity with the subject matter.

**Session Formats**

Those selected must be able to present through a virtual session. Breakout sessions will be limited to a 20 minute pre-recorded presentation, followed by 5 minutes of live Q & A.

Submitters should indicate which of the following session formats best describes the presentation:

**Story Sessions** - speakers will be asked to share authentic experiences from their sustainability stories, including challenges, successes, and aspirations

**Technology Sessions** - discussing current technology that is redefining the industry, with an eye towards what is on the horizon

**Creative Sessions** - discussing a theme or research question from an out-of-the-box perspective
All proposals must provide the following information:
- Contact information, including name of your organization, title, and email
- Contact information, including name of organization, title, and email for all proposed speakers for your session
- Session title
- Short session description (100 words or less)
- A detailed description (500 words or less), including methods for engaging the audience
- 3-5 learning objectives and audience takeaways

Proposals must be submitted via the Abstract Scorecard website by September 17, 2020. Please DO NOT email your submission, as they will NOT be accepted.

Accepted or declined proposals will be notified by October 8, 2020.

Finalized presentations, with permission to post, are due by November 4, 2020, to ensure material can be reviewed and approved.

By submitting a proposal for consideration, you agree that, if selected, you will be available for a Q&A session following your pre-recorded session at any time on November 18 or November 19, 2020.

All speakers will be required to pay for registration. It is the responsibility of the submission contact to communicate this to their speakers.

Each presentation should have no more than five presenters, including a moderator.

QUESTIONS?

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