

# U.S. Pesticide Supply Chains and Tariffs: Protecting Farmers' Access to Critical Tools



## Our Position CLA supports:

- A resilient pesticide supply chain that reinforces food security, the U.S. farm economy, and safeguards our national security.
- The Administration's goal to open markets to U.S. agriculture and leveling the playing field in trade.
- The recognition of agrochemicals as critical inputs in the agricultural food system.

## Our Ask

To safeguard America's food supply, protect farmer competitiveness, and strengthen pesticide supply chains, CLA recommends:

### → Categorizing the Active Ingredients used in Agrochemicals as Essential:

The federal government should recognize the active ingredients that are part of the pesticide supply chain as essential and these products should not be subjected to any ad valorem rates of duty imposed in existing or future executive orders, including, but not limited to, the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), the National Emergencies Act, section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, section 122 and section 604 of the Trade Act of 1974, and section 301 of title 3, United States Code.

### Fast Facts



The U.S. food and agriculture sector directly supports 49 million, or 1 in 5, U.S. jobs.<sup>1</sup>



U.S. agriculture is a \$176 billion export engine, but that success depends on keeping American farmers competitive.<sup>2</sup>



Tariffs on pesticide active ingredients are estimated to cost \$1.23 billion.

## Background

The tariffs imposed on pesticide products and their chemical inputs result in significant economic costs to the U.S. agricultural supply chain. These tariffs disrupt a complex, heavily regulated supply chain that has been developed over decades.

<sup>1</sup> Feeding the Economy, 2026: Home | [Feeding the Economy](#)

<sup>2</sup> USDA/ERS, 2026: [U.S. Agricultural Trade - U.S. Agricultural Trade at a Glance](#) | Economic Research Service

## Barriers That Prevent Moving Entire Supply Chain to the U.S.

- **Lack of Domestic Production** – Unable to readily switch to domestic sources for many active ingredients due to lack of U.S.-based production.
- **High Import Dependence** – Even after shifting supply chains starting in 2018, many active ingredients are not made or available in the U.S.
- **Regulatory and Capital Hurdles** – Building new chemical manufacturing plants in the U.S. is a multi-year, capital-intensive endeavor requiring numerous permits and lengthy EPA and state and local approval processes.

## Unintended Consequences of Tariffs

Reduced R&D for next generation products	→	Strengthens global competitors' access to cutting-edge technology not available in the U.S. and negatively impacts domestic crop yields over time.
Tariff-driven export losses	→	Formulated pesticide sales shift to other countries, like China.
Formulated pesticide sales shift to other countries, like China	→	Negatively impacting the U.S. rural economy.
Increase in trade of illicit and counterfeit pesticides	→	Poses significant risks to human health, the environment, and economic stability.
Increased costs to U.S. farmers	→	Harms rural economies and leads to higher food prices in the U.S.

### About CLA

CropLife America (CLA) members manufacture and distribute agricultural pesticides in the United States, using many ingredients sourced globally, which are then processed into final formulated products domestically, creating jobs and opportunity across America. These U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-approved pesticides are indispensable for American farmers to protect crops from pests, weeds, and diseases — helping ensure abundant harvests, a stable food supply and reliable fiber production.

### Dig Deeper



Learn more from our White Paper on Tariffs and U.S. Pesticide Supply Chains

Reference: [DataWeb: U.S. Trade & Tariff Data](#)