



Common ground. One voice.

Monday, March 9, 2026

**MEMBERS**

A. Duda & Sons, Inc.  
ALICO  
Ben Hill Griffin, Inc.  
Cypress Point Oysters  
Florida Agritourism Association  
Florida Aquaculture Association  
Florida Cattlemen Association  
Florida Citrus Mutual  
Florida Crystals Corporation  
Florida Farm Bureau Federation  
Florida Farm Credit Associations  
Florida Feed Association  
Florida Fertilizer & Agrichemical Association  
Florida Forestry Association  
Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association  
Florida Land Council  
Florida Nursery Growers & Landscapers Association  
Florida Poultry Federation  
Helena  
Hilliard Brothers, Inc.  
Lykes Brothers, Inc.  
Nutrien  
Rayonier  
Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative  
The Mosaic Company  
United Dairy Farmers of Florida  
U.S. Sugar Corporation

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump,

The Florida Ag Coalition, representing agricultural producers and organizations that support farmers, ranchers and growers across the Sunshine State, respectfully requests your support to secure supplemental disaster funding that will assist producers impacted by prolonged cold and freezing temperatures throughout January and early February 2026.

Florida agriculture plays a crucial role in the nation's food supply, producing greater than 300 commodities and supplying fresh vegetables to more than 179 million Americans east of the Mississippi River for seven and a half months each year, particularly during the winter months when much of the nation is covered in snow and ice.

Florida's agriculture community is deeply grateful to Commissioner Wilton Simpson and Governor Ron DeSantis for their swift action and steadfast support during this challenging time, sending a strong message to producers across our state that Florida firmly stands behind its farmers. We also commend Secretary Rollins for promptly signing a disaster declaration for the impacted Florida counties.

Florida farmers are hurting now. Florida Agriculture Commissioner Wilton Simpson announced on February 20, 2026, that preliminary estimates from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services indicate losses exceeding \$3 billion across our state's agricultural sectors due to historic cold weather. Commodities with the most significant losses include, but are not limited to tomatoes (\$164,273,849), strawberries (\$306,965,897), watermelons (\$65,437,343), sweet corn (\$255,363,251), sugarcane (\$1,152,122,146), bell peppers (\$108,380,389), potatoes (\$79,065,000), cabbage (\$21,800,280), squash (\$24,522,275), blueberries (\$78,512,400), greenhouse and nursery crops (\$240,000,000) and citrus (\$674,660,336). Damage assessments are ongoing and total losses may continue to rise as additional data is collected and harvests are completed.

The impacts of these events extend well beyond Florida. Without timely disaster assistance, production disruptions could have broader implications for Florida's economy and the nation's food supply and security. Furthermore, these losses come during a time when many growers are



facing high input costs, labor challenges and prior weather impacts. In many cases, this freeze was more damaging than recent hurricanes and will affect crops for the remainder of their growing cycles — and in some cases, for years. Without meaningful federal support, many operations, including multigenerational family farms, may struggle to recover and continue producing food, fiber and foliage for our nation.

To ensure relief reaches producers quickly and effectively, our coalition respectfully urges the Administration and Congress to provide supplemental disaster assistance in the form of a block grant administered through the state of Florida. This approach would allow state leaders and agricultural agencies to tailor assistance to the unique needs of affected producers and commodities, ensuring that relief reaches farmers in a timely and efficient manner.

We respectfully ask for your leadership in working with Congress and the Florida delegation to ensure that supplemental disaster funding is included in the next federal budget to support producers affected by disasters in 2026.

Thank you for your continued support of American agriculture and the hardworking men and women who feed, supply and clothe our nation.

Sincerely,

Jim Spratt  
Chairman, Florida Ag Coalition

Cc:

The Honorable Rick Scott, United States Senate  
The Honorable Ashley Moody, United States Senate  
The Honorable Jimmy Patronis, United States House of Representatives  
The Honorable Neal Dunn, United States House of Representatives  
The Honorable Aaron Bean, United States House of Representatives  
The Honorable John Rutherford, United States House of Representatives  
The Honorable Randy Fine, United States House of Representatives  
The Honorable Cory Mills, United States House of Representatives  
The Honorable Mike Haridopolos, United States House of Representatives  
The Honorable Darren Soto, United States House of Representatives  
The Honorable Maxwell Frost, United States House of Representatives  
The Honorable Daniel Webster, United States House of Representatives  
The Honorable Gus Bilirakis, United States House of Representatives



The Honorable Anna Paulina Luna, United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Kathy Castor, United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Laurel Lee, United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Vern Buchanan, United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Greg Steube, United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Scott Franklin, United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Byron Donalds, United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick, United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Brian Mast, United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Lois Frankel, United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Jared Moskowitz, United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Frederica Wilson, United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Debbie Wasserman Schultz, United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart, United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Maria Elvira Salazar, United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Carlos A. Giménez, United States House of Representatives

Enclosures:

- [FDACS Damage Assessment Report](#)
- [Commissioner's Request for Disaster Declaration](#)
- [Governor Ron DeSantis' Request for a Disaster Declaration](#)
- [USDA Disaster Declaration](#)