

U.S. SENATOR DEB FISCHER'S *PRECISE ACT*

OVERVIEW:

Precision agriculture can increase productivity, optimize water usage, decrease inputs, and lower greenhouse gas emissions all while providing an economic return for farmers. The expansion of affordable precision agriculture technologies and applications can substantially increase adoption by small to midsize farmers.

The *Producing Responsible Energy and Conservation Incentives and Solutions for the Environment (PRECISE) Act* would encourage greater adoption of precision agriculture technologies by increasing cost share, practice payments, and loan opportunities under existing USDA programs.

ISSUE:

Precision agriculture helps producers become more efficient with inputs and time, while reducing cost and environmental impact. It allows producers to use less resources to grow higher quality products. These technologies are essential for implementing climate-friendly production practices.

According to an industry analysis, the current adoption of precision agriculture technologies has prevented the application of 30 million pounds of herbicide, 100 million gallons of fossil fuels, and 500,000 million gallons of water through the use of variable rate technologies, auto-steer, and sensor driven pivots.

Small farms make up more than 90 percent of farms in the U.S. However, many of these farmers are unable to make the investments needed to implement precision agriculture.

SOLUTION:

The *PRECISE Act* will provide funding through existing USDA loan programs to help producers purchase precision agriculture equipment.