

China's Agricultural Plans in 2019

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The Overview

2019 is a critical year for China's agricultural sector to realise the goals outlined in the 13th Five-Year-Plan (2016-2020) and the targets set out in the Rural Vitalization Strategy¹. In response, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) has formulated an overarching guideline and framework of sectoral annual plans for this year.

This issue of Information Sheet summarises the priorities of selected areas in China's agricultural sector in 2019².

Guideline for Agriculture and Rural Work in 2019

- Focusing on the major issues, fulfilling the tough tasks of overriding importance
- Advancing high quality agricultural development, lifting the capability, quality and efficiency of agricultural supply system
- Developing and consolidating rural industry, expanding farmers' income channels
- Strengthening the weak links in rural development, improving the governance in rural development
- Deepening rural reform, stimulating rural and agricultural development momentum
- Prioritizing rural and agricultural development, providing institutional guarantee to the rural vitalization

Priorities for Planning & Development

- Promoting rural vitalization strategy
- Advancing agricultural green development
- Strengthening agricultural resource zoning and planning
- Launching the preparation for the 14th FYP
- Monitoring and evaluation on agricultural and rural modernization
- Establishing the think tanks

Priorities for Crop Production

- Ensuring food security and effective supply of major agricultural products
- Continuing the adjusting of crop planting structure, optimising the supply
- Accelerating the green-driven development
- Boosting the quality and efficiency of crop production
- Pushing forward the legal system construction

Priorities for Livestock

- Making vigorous effort in ASF prevention and control
- Intensifying the prevention and control of other animal epidemics
- Ensuring effective supply of the livestock products
- Advancing livestock waste recycling and reducing ammonia emission
- Upgrading safety and quality

Priorities for Fishery

- Promoting high quality green development
- Enhancing the aquatic bio-resource restoration and conservation
- Deepening the reform on vessel and harbor administration
- Enhancing international cooperation & trading
- Strengthening law enforcement & safety supervision

Priorities S&T, Environment

- Enhancing the level of S&T support in the key areas
- Deepening the integration between industry, education and research sectors
- Enhancing the efficiency of technology extension
- Stepping up professional farmers training
- Prevention and control of pollution

Priorities for Safety and Quality

- Promoting standardized production, enhancing the supply of green and quality farm products
- Strengthening monitoring and evaluation
- Reinforcing regulation and supervision, establishing long-term regulatory mechanism

Priorities for Green Development

- Promoting agricultural green production
- Intensifying agricultural pollution control
- Protecting and efficient use of agricultural resources
- Strengthening biodiversity protection and conservation; fishery resource restoration and conservation
- Improving rural living environment.

¹ See SAIN Information Sheet No 6 (<http://www.sainonline.org/pages/zhishiku/信息通报/Inforsheet%20No%206.pdf>)

² The information were extracted from the website of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs.

Guideline for Agriculture and Rural Work in 2019

The rural and agricultural work in 2019 will focus on the implementation of the objectives of rural vitalization, proposed by the CPC National Congress and the CPC's 2019 rural work conference (the No 1 Central Document), deepening supply side reform, improving agricultural quality, maintaining the grain production, securing the supply of major agricultural products, strengthening rural industries, improving rural environment. The overall work priorities in 2019 include the following.

Focusing on the priorities and major issues, to fulfil the tough tasks of overriding importance

- Completely fulfil the tasks of poverty alleviation
- Persistently stabilise grain production
- Pushing on the action of rural residential environment improvement
- Continue the removal of unauthorised residential buildings on farm land
- Effectively carrying out the prevention and control of ASF and other major diseases

Advancing high quality agricultural development, lifting the capability, quality and efficiency of agricultural supply system

- Adjusting and optimising agricultural structure
- Implementing the dairy industry vitalisation action
- Pushing on the construction of high quality arable land
- Continue the action of agricultural green development
- Raising the level of safety and quality of farm products
- Strengthening the innovation and dissemination of agricultural technologies
- Pushing on the transformation and upgrading of agricultural mechanisation
- Speeding up the development of modern seed industry
- Implementing the rural digital strategy
- Pushing on agricultural "go out", establishing the overseas agricultural cooperation demonstration zones and international cooperation experiment zones³

Developing and consolidating rural industry, expanding farmers' income channels

- Speeding up the development of agricultural products processing industry
- Speeding up the development of rural characteristic industry and new type of service industry
- Speeding up the development of services for agricultural production
- Strengthening agriculture through branding building

³ "Demonstration zones" in overseas include various types of technology and industry parks and free trade zones with an emphasis on multiple Chinese businesses working together to form industry clusters and/or chains of industry: seeds, machinery, farming, marketing, processing and sales. "Experimental zones" are zones in China that will experiment with various policies to provide support to overseas investors in agriculture, including information databases, subsidized loans, insurance, training of companies and personnel.

- Advancing rural innovation and entrepreneurship

Strengthening the weak links in rural development, improving the governance in rural development

- Carrying out rural village planning
- Upgrading rural basic infrastructure and public services
- Strengthening the grass-root organisations
- Promoting rural civilization
- Advancing rural governance

Deepening rural reform, stimulating rural and agricultural development momentum

- Deepening rural contracted land reform by separating the ownership right, contract right and management right
- Strengthening rural collective property administration
- Cautiously carrying out the reform on rural resident land
- Nurturing various new type of operation entities, with emphases on family farms and farmers cooperatives
- Making effort to train new type of professional farmers
- Deepening the reform on land reclamation system
- Optimizing agricultural investment management
- Improving the policy systems to protect and support agriculture
- Upgrading the construction of modern agricultural industry park and various experiment demonstration zones

Prioritizing rural and agricultural development, providing institutional guarantee to the rural vitalization

- Ensuring the Party chiefs at all level focus on rural vitalization
- Opening multiple channels to increase investment in rural vitalization
- Strengthening the legislation on rural vitalization

Priorities for Crop Sector

The priorities in crop production in 2019 include ensuring food security, boosting agriculture through quality improvement, green development, innovation driven, industry upgrading, and infrastructure development.

Ensuring food security and effective supply of major agricultural products

- Stabilise grain production, maintain the planting area of rice, wheat and staple grain at 800 million mu (53.3 million ha)
- Increasing the supply capability of soybean and oil crops, make effort to increase the planting area of soybean and oil crops by over 5 million mu (0.33 million ha)

- Maintaining the level of self-sufficiency for sugar and cotton, make effort to maintain the cotton planting area at 50 million mu (3.33 million ha), sugar crop planting area at 23 million mu (1.53 million ha)
- Maintaining and increase the production capability
- Removing and preventing the non-production houses constructing on farm land
- Accelerating technology integration, innovation and dissemination
- Advancing disaster prevention and reduction
- Intensive the prevention and control of major pests and diseases

Continuing the adjusting of crop planting structure, optimising the supply

- Optimising crop planting structure, develop the high quality fodder such as silage maize and alfalfa.
- Increasing the capability of supplying green and high quality farm products
- Advancing the initiative to make potatoes as staple food
- Promoting the integrated industry development, encouraging the coupling and mutual beneficial between arable and livestock to realise the circular resource utilization

Accelerating the green-driven development model

- Continuing the initiative to reduce fertilize application and increase the efficiency, ensure fertilizer use efficiency increased to 40% by 2020
- Further advancing the action to replace manufactured fertilizer with organic fertilizes
- Continuing the initiative to reduce pesticides application and increase the use efficiency
- Accelerating the development of water-saving agriculture
- Upscale the pilot of rotation and fallow

Boosting the quality and efficiency of crop production

- Advancing the standardised production
- Optimizing the production environment. In the major vegetable grown areas, piloting soil rehabilitation, reducing soil-borne diseases and preventing pesticides package pollution
- Increasing the quality and efficiency of horticultural production. Promoting and disseminating the high quality, high efficiency green technologies, maintain the quality pass rate of fruits, vegetables and tea products over 98%
- Advancing brand-building
- Intensifying the safety and quality supervision
- Pushing forward poverty alleviation

Pushing forward the legal system construction for crops planting

- Strengthening the capacity building on pesticides supervision
- Standardize the administrative examination and approval on pesticides, fertilizers, and species introduced from abroad
- Carrying out strict administrative law enforcement

- Speeding up the legislation on crops pests and diseases prevention and control, as well as fertilizers administration.

Priorities for Livestock Sector

The priorities for livestock sector in 2019, released by MARA in February, include:

Making vigorous effort in ASF prevention and control

- Strengthening the epidemic reporting and treatment
- Consolidating epidemic prevention and control measures
- Emphasizing on upgrading the capability of epidemic prevention and control

Comprehensively intensifying the prevention and control of other animal epidemics

- Coordinating the efforts on the prevention and control of the major animal epidemics. Publishing and implementing the national mandatory animal immunization programme.
- Making great effort on the control and prevention of Brucellosis and other zoonosis

Ensuring the effective supply of the livestock products

- Making all efforts to stabilize hog production
- Pushing the dairy industry vitalization initiative
- Upgrading the livestock and poultry breeding

Adjusting and optimizing the industry structure

- Pushing forward the grain to fodder shifting, expanding the planting areas of silage maize, alfalfa, oats, perennial ryegrass, and sweet sorghum
- Developing modern forage-based livestock industry
- Developing specialised livestock. Formulating the National Equestrian Industry Development Plan, continuing the action to improve the quality of bee industry, carry out the research on the development of local specialised industries such as dairy goats, donkey, rabbits and waterfowl

Advancing livestock waste recycling

- Ensure 100% of large livestock farms equipped with waste treatment facilities
- Subsidies the waste treatment machinery purchase
- Improving advising on reducing ammonia emission

Upgrading safety and quality

- Enhancing regulating and control the risks of feed and veterinary drugs
- Securing the safety and quality of meats and fresh dairy products
- Enhancing regulation and supervision on veterinary medicine

Priorities for Fishery Sector

The priorities for fishery sector in 2019, released by MARA in January, include:

Promoting high quality fishery green development

- Emphasizing on aquaculture green development, implementing the “Guideline for Speeding Aquaculture Green Development”
- Advancing the integration of primary, secondary and tertiary industry in fishery sector

- Continuing upgrading the quality of distant water fishery development
- Carrying out poverty alleviation through fishery development

Enhancing aquatic bio-resource restoration and conservation

- Fully implementing aquatic bio-resource protection in Yangtze River
- Emphasizing on strengthening fishery resource restoration and conservation
- Continually enhancing aquatic wild life protection

Furthering reform on fishing vessel and harbor

- Regulating and supervision on fishing vessels and facilities
- Deepening the reform on fishing harbor administration

Advancing fishery industry “go out”

- Intensifying the international cooperation in fishery sector
- Promoting international trade in aquatic products

Strengthening law enforcement and supervision

- Enforcing fishing ban in Yangtze, Yellow River and cross boundary water
- Paying attention to safety supervision, maintain safety pass rate over 98% for aquatic products

Priorities for Science, Technology, Environment and Energy

The priorities for science, technology, environment, and energy work in 2019, include:

Enhancing the level of science and technology support to tackle the tough tasks

- Supporting to win the fight against poverty
- Making full effort to support grain production
- Stepping up the technology research and development against African Swine Fever
- Consolidating technical support to rural living environment improvement

Boosting the capability of rural and agricultural technology innovation

- Strengthening basic and innovative research
- Intensifying the research and integration on key core technologies
- Reinforcing biosecurity management on agricultural GMO

Advancing the deep integration between industry, education and research organisations

- Strengthening the development of the modern agricultural industrial technology system
- Consolidating the development of national agricultural technology innovation alliances
- Advancing the development of modern agricultural technology innovation centres
- Deepening the reform on agricultural science and technology system
- Speeding up the pace of informatization of science, technology, environment and energy work

Enhancing the efficiency of technology extension

- Strengthening the development and reform of the agricultural technology extension system
- Upgrading the capacity building for the extension personnel
- Establishing the demonstration models on science-driven industry development

Stepping up professional farmers training

- Pushing on the development of professional farmers' system
- Carrying out the new types professional farmers' training initiatives
- Strengthening vocational education for farmers
- Constructing diversified training systems

Winning the battle for prevention and control of pollution, help rural ecological vitalization

- Enhancing the prevention and remediation of soil pollution
- Initiating the full action on comprehensive utilization of crop residues
- Making vigorous efforts on mulching plastic film recycling
- Vigorously developing ecological circular agriculture
- Developing rural renewable energy
- Strengthening agricultural biodiversity protection

Priorities for Agricultural Products Quality and Safety

Promoting standardized production, enhancing the supply of green and quality farm products

- Intensifying the formulation of standard
- Strengthening the development of standard system platform think tanks
- Promoting agricultural green production

Strengthening monitoring and evaluation

- Strengthening the risk monitoring and assessment, with emphases on environmental pollutant in the livestock and aquatic products, biotoxins in the grain and oil products.
- Establishing and improving the emergency response system

Carrying out targeted regulation and supervision

- Tackling the illegal use of banned additives in veterinary drugs, pesticides and fishery drugs
- Promoting the nation-wide use of tracing management information platform for agricultural products quality

Reinforcing regulation and supervision, establishing long-term regulatory mechanism

- Speeding up the revision of the “Law on Agricultural Product Quality Safety”⁴

⁴ The latest revision on the Law was in 2018

- Promoting the certification system for agricultural products
- Enhancing the establishment of credit system

Priorities for Agricultural and Rural Green Development

In April, MARA released the work priorities in 2019 on agricultural and rural green development.

The overall objective is to upgrade the level of agricultural and rural green development, fulfil the leading role of green development in rural vitalization.

The priorities in 2019 in agricultural and rural green development include the following tasks:

Promoting agricultural green production

- Optimizing arable and livestock structure
- Promoting standardized production
- Promoting ecological healthy breeding
- Enhancing the supply of green and high quality farm products

Intensifying agricultural pollution control

- Continuing to advance fertilizer use reduction and improve use efficiency
- Continuing to advance pesticides use reduction and increase use efficiency
- Advancing livestock waste recycling
- Enhancing straw recycling
- Implementing the action on agricultural plastic film recycling
- Enhancing the remediation and control of farmland soil pollution

Protecting and efficient use of agricultural resources

- Expanding the fallow and rotation pilot areas
- Speeding up the development of water saving agriculture
- Strengthening biodiversity protection and conservation
- Emphasizes on fishery resource restoration and conservation

Improving rural living environment

- Enhancing typical demonstration
- Implementing the rural living environment improvement action
- Actively developing the rural tourism industry

Enhancing the coordination and demonstration

- Co-ordinately advancing the green development in Yangtze River Economic Zone
- Evaluation and designation of second batch of national agricultural green development pioneer zones
- Consolidating the foundational work for agricultural green development

Annex - SAIN Information Sheet List

- No. 1
China's Agriculture and Food Policies
- No. 2
Policies on Agricultural Production System and Food Safety Supervision System Reform
- No. 3
英国农业技术战略简介 UK Strategy for Agricultural Technologies – Summary
- No. 4
China's 13th Five Year Plan on Science and Innovation
- No. 5
China's Innovation Driven Development Strategy
- No. 6
China's Agricultural Modernization - Policy Framework
- No. 7
China's Agricultural Production and Trade in 2016
- No. 8
China's Agricultural Production and Trade in 2017
- No. 9
China's Agricultural Transition in 2017 - Policies, Actions and Progress
- No. 10
绿色未来: 环境改善 25 年规划 (A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment)
- No. 11
China's Agricultural Plans in 2018
- No. 12
健康与和谐: 绿色脱欧的未来食品、农业和环境 (Health and Harmony: the future for food, farming and the environment in a Green Brexit)
- No. 13
英国部署清洁空气战略, 严格控制农业氨排放 (Clean Air Strategy)
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