



U.S. CHINA BUSINESS REVIEW



CHINA AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE

Christopher H. Phillips, President of the National Council for US-China Trade, announced on August 25 that a major conference will be held November 18, 1976 in St. Louis, focusing on China's Agriculture and the Prospects for US Sales.

In the past five years US companies have sold China a massive \$1.4 billion worth of agricultural commodities. The People's Republic of China has been one of the most important markets for US farm products.

The US has sold \$205 million worth of fertilizer ammonia plants to the PRC, and agricultural-related equipment such as pick-up hay balers and fertilizer bagging equipment. US-made insecticides, herbicides and fungicides, animal hormones, and hybrid plants have gone to China. American tobacco has been blended in Chinese cigarettes.

Chinese foreign trade officials have visited American farms, US agricultural equipment manufacturers, and agricultural research stations. Scientific missions between the US and the PRC have studied insect control, plant development, and agricultural mechanization.

The state of China's agricultural industry and prospects for continuing US sales will be the subject of the all-day meeting, to be sponsored by the National Council, and cosponsored by the St. Louis Regional Commerce and Growth Association, in cooperation with the United States Department of Commerce and the St. Louis Council on World Affairs of the World Trade Club of St. Louis.

The conference will be of interest to any firms involved in agricultural commodities, chemicals, machinery, research, processing and packaging, technology, livestock, irrigation and water control equipment.

The meeting will give details on the present state of China's agriculture, the prospects for agricultural sales to the PRC in the future, who has sold what agricultural goods to the PRC, and what companies have exhibited agricultural items in China. Leading experts on these subjects will give presentations and the problems of doing business relative to these topics will be discussed. The conference is expected to attract worldwide interest.

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US agricultural commodity sales to the People's Republic of China, 1972-1975, have included the following: wheat (\$544.7 million), cotton (\$365.8 million), corn (\$251.1 million), soybeans (\$183.9 million), soybean oil (\$20.1 million), tallow (\$7.5 million), and tobacco (\$4.1 million).