

A new agriculture for all Brazilians

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There is a virtuous and happy coincidence among the celebrations of the 150 years of the extraordinary institutional history of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply (Mapa), and the characteristics and productive results of the agricultural sector of this decade. The conclusion of this period brings a series of noteworthy advances that add to promising initiatives, all of which seeking to base the economic activity on new pillars that can transform Brazilian agriculture into a paradigm of sustainable production.

In studying the prior period, we can observe that Brazilian agriculture has shown a robust performance repeatedly breaking production records, where productivity and investments are continuously growing. In effect, over this last decade, public resources for farming and animal husbandry production grew over

five-fold, where we supply both the Brazilian market and export to nearly two hundred countries. Hence, Brazil's economic importance is assured as it becomes the strongest supplier of agricultural products from tropical agriculture.

The future is also promising. The recently-launched ABC Program with its five action lines provides resources, institutional support and favorable funding conditions, not only with the purpose of additionally improving Brazil's agriculture competitiveness, but also backing the construction of a sustainable development standard that fosters the creation of a true low carbon agriculture in Brazil. Those are the robust and sound roots for a new agriculture that will give the world a more consistent road to align production needs with the crucial environmental requirements of the present days.

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