

# 2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: Agricultural Technical Advisory Committee for Trade in Fruits and Vegetables

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<b>1. Department or Agency</b>	<b>2. Fiscal Year</b>
Department of Agriculture	2024
<b>3. Committee or Subcommittee</b>	<b>3b. GSA Committee No.</b>
Agricultural Technical Advisory Committee for Trade in Fruits and Vegetables	1267

<b>4. Is this New Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>5. Current Charter</b>	<b>6. Expected Renewal Date</b>	<b>7. Expected Term Date</b>
No	06/13/2023	06/13/2027	

<b>8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>8b. Specific Termination Authority</b>	<b>8c. Actual Term Date</b>
No		

<b>9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year</b>	<b>10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?</b>	<b>10b. Legislation Pending?</b>
Continue	No	Not Applicable

**11. Establishment Authority** Authorized by Law

<b>12. Specific Establishment Authority</b>	<b>13. Effective Date</b>	<b>14. Committee Type</b>	<b>14c. Presidential?</b>
Section 135(c)(2) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended.	03/27/1975	Continuing	No

**15. Description of Committee** Other Committee

**16a. Total Number of Reports** No Reports for this Fiscal Year

**17a. Open** 0 **17b. Closed** 0 **17c. Partially Closed** 0 **Other Activities** 0 **17d. Total** 0

**Meetings and Dates**

No Meetings

	<b>Current Next</b>	
	<b>FY</b>	<b>FY</b>
<b>18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.00	0.00

**20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

The purpose of the Committee is to provide advice to the U.S. Trade Representative and the Secretary of Agriculture on trade and other economic issues that affect U.S. agriculture. In recent years, the Administration has consulted the Committee frequently on trade issues such as WTO negotiations, as well as the evaluation of benefits from existing FTAs with Canada, Mexico and Korea. The Administration relied heavily on the Committee's guidance on many aspects of the formulation of trade strategies, proposals, and

agreements. The Committee accomplishes its purpose by reviewing sensitive materials provided by USTR/USDA and providing feedback to the principal parties either through written or electronic communications. Members also attend face-to-face meetings with the Secretary of Agriculture and USTR in attendance. Advisors are required to hold a Secret Clearance. The minutes from the meetings are not available due to an exemption granted within the Trade Act of 1974.

**20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?**

Members are selected from producers, processors, traders, manufacturers, and consumer representatives that are self-nominated or recommended for membership. Also, special emphasis has been placed on soliciting nominations from traditionally underrepresented groups.

**20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?**

The Committee meets as needed to provide advice and counsel to the Administration on significant and timely agricultural trade matters. This Committee meets in person approximately twice a year. Virtual meetings and conference calls are also methods used to hold ad hoc meetings. For 2023, the committee met a total of four times, three times virtually and once in person.

**20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?**

Meetings are conducted so that U.S. trade negotiators can use the meetings to discuss and seek private sector advice regarding sensitive trade policy matters, the disclosure of which could

seriously compromise the U.S. Government's development of policy priorities, negotiating objectives, and bargaining positions. Members must obtain a confidential security clearance so that government-classified documents can be discussed. Thus, meetings are closed to the public. Given the nature of these discussions, no other setting can be used to seek such advice without compromising U.S. trade policy.

#### **20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?**

Section 135(g) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2155(g)) protects certain communications between and among committee members and appropriate Federal government officials in connection with trade matters, more specifically, trade negotiations, the operation of an existing trade agreement, and other matters arising in connection with the administration of U.S. trade policy.

#### **21. Remarks**

The meetings for this committee are typically closed to the public in accordance with the Trade Act of 1974, 19 U.S.C. 2155(f)(2), and the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(4) and (6).

#### **Designated Federal Officer**

Mark Rasmussen DFO

<b>Committee Members</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Member Designation</b>
Adams, Julie	08/10/2023	08/10/2027	Almond Board of California	Representative Member
Callis, William	07/17/2020	07/17/2024	U.S. Apple Export Council	Representative Member
Cranney, James	08/10/2023	08/10/2027	California Citrus Quality Council	Representative Member
Creamer, Casey	07/17/2020	07/17/2024	California Citrus Mutual	Representative Member

Devaurs, Jodi	07/17/2020	07/17/2024	California Table Grape Commission	Representative Member
Frank-Poole, Melissa	08/10/2023	08/10/2027	The Wonderful Company	Representative Member
Geleazzi, Dante	08/10/2023	08/10/2027	Texas International Produce Association	Representative Member
Guenther, Robert	08/10/2023	08/10/2027	United Fresh Produce Association	Representative Member
Haney, Mark	01/17/2021	01/17/2025	Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation	Representative Member
Harris, Matthew	08/10/2023	08/10/2027	Washington State Potato Commission	Representative Member
Lee, Brittany	08/10/2023	08/10/2027	Florida Blueberry Growers Association	Representative Member
Leitz, Fred	08/10/2023	08/10/2027	Leitz Farms LLC	Representative Member
Ma, Xuefang	08/10/2023	08/10/2027	North Carolina Department of Agriculture	Representative Member
Maberry, Jonathan	07/17/2020	07/17/2024	WA Red Raspberries	Representative Member
Melban, Ken	08/10/2023	08/10/2027	California Avocado Commission	Representative Member
Montna, Mike	08/10/2023	08/10/2027	California Tomato Growers Association	Representative Member
Murden, Dale	08/10/2023	08/10/2027	Texas Citrus Mutual	Representative Member
Nuxoll, Dennis	08/10/2023	08/10/2027	Western Growers Association	Representative Member
O'Connor, Molly	01/17/2021	01/17/2025	CropLife America	Representative Member
Parker, Kenneth	08/10/2023	08/10/2027	Florida Strawberry Growers Association	Representative Member
Powers (Chair), Mark	08/10/2023	08/10/2027	Northwest Horticultural Council	Representative Member
Quarles, Kam	01/17/2021	01/17/2025	National Potato Council	Representative Member
Reed, Harvey	01/17/2021	01/17/2025	Louisiana Association of Cooperatives	Representative Member

Richey, Dan	08/10/2023	08/10/2027	Riverfront Packing Company	Representative Member
Schadler, Michael	08/10/2023	08/10/2027	Florida Tomato Exchange	Representative Member
Stringer, Caroline	07/17/2020	07/17/2024	California Fresh Fruit Association	Representative Member
Tiu de Mino, Carmen	08/10/2023	08/10/2027	Corteva	Representative Member
Zion, Jim	08/10/2023	08/10/2027	Meridian Growers, LLC	Representative Member

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 28**

### **Narrative Description**

The Technical Advisory Committee for Trade in Fruits and Vegetables (Fruits and Vegetables ATAC) supports USDA's international trade functions by providing technical advice to the U.S. Trade Representative and the Secretary of Agriculture on trade issues that affect U.S. agriculture.

### **What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?**

Checked if  
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### **Outcome Comments**

NA

### **What are the cost savings associated with this committee?**

Checked if Applies

- |                            |                                     |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| None                       | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Unable to Determine        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Under \$100,000            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$100,000 - \$500,000      | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$500,001 - \$1,000,000    | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Over \$10,000,000          | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Cost Savings Other         | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

### **Cost Savings Comments**

NA

**What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?**

85

### **Number of Recommendations Comments**

The number of recommendations varies from year-to-year. Historically, the Agency has misunderstood the use of this field and therefore, the total number of recommendations noted above for the life of this Committee is underreported. For FY 23, The Fruit & Vegetables ATAC proposed no resolution however put forth 3 recommendations and letters.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?**

100%

### **% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments**

Implementation does not necessarily apply to a number of the recommendations. The committee provides formal recommendations in the form of resolutions, but the committee provides numerous recommendations orally at meetings. The recommendations in all cases are fully considered by USTR and USDA negotiators in the course of pursuing free trade agreements and resolving trade disputes.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?**

0%

## **% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

See above.

## **Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?**

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

## **Agency Feedback Comments**

Through frequent conference calls jointly held with USTR, and during committee meetings.

## **What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?**

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

## **Action Comments**

NA

## **Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?**

No

## **Grant Review Comments**

NA

## **How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?**

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>



**Access Comments**

N/A