

Written by USDA Communications  
Friday, 10 February 2012 09:06

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WASHINGTON, Feb. 10, 2012—On THURSDAY, Feb. 16, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack will host American and Chinese officials and private sector representatives for the first U.S.-China Agricultural Symposium in Des Moines, Iowa. Vilsack traveled to China for the second time as Agriculture Secretary in November to continue to strengthen bilateral trade relations and support the American brand of agriculture throughout the Asia Pacific region. During the visit, Vilsack and Chinese officials developed the U.S.-China Agricultural Symposium as a key forum to expand their discussions into 2012 and beyond. The all-day forum will feature a morning program of remarks by U.S. and Chinese officials, followed by discussions on four main topics: sustainable agriculture; food security; food safety; and the role of the private sector in agriculture in the United States and China. USDA anticipates about 100 guests for the Symposium, including high-level U.S. and Chinese officials.

Thursday, Feb. 16, 2012

9-9:45 a.m. CST

**WHAT:** Remarks by Agriculture Secretary Vilsack, Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping, Chinese Agriculture Minister Han Changfu, and other officials.

**WHERE:** World Food Prize Hall of Laureates

# Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack to Host Chinese Officials at First U.S.-China Agricultural Symposium in

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100 Locust Street

Des Moines, IA 50309

RSVP: Credentialed members of the media may attend the 9-9:45 a.m. opening session. Media should RSVP by contacting Stephanie Chan at [\(202\) 720-4623](tel:(202)720-4623) or [stephanie.chan@oc.usda.gov](mailto:stephanie.chan@oc.usda.gov)

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