



U.S. GRAINS COUNCIL
65th Annual Board of Delegates Meeting

Grand Rapids, Michigan
July 29 – August 1, 2025

Agenda

*All times are listed in Eastern Standard Time

Tuesday, July 29

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Registration
1:00 – 3:30 p.m.	Optional Tour: Downtown Grand Rapids Museum Walking Tour
2:00 - 3:30 p.m.	Board of Directors Meeting
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.	A-Team and Board Liaison Meeting

Wednesday, July 30

7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Registration
7:30 – 8:45 a.m.	Invitation Only: Introducing the Council Breakfast
7:30 – 8:45 a.m.	Invitation Only: Checkoff/USGC Staff Breakfast
8:30 – 10:00 a.m.	Spouse/Guest Breakfast
8:30 – 11:30 a.m.	Continuous Coffee
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	General Session

Welcome to Grand Rapids

Jamie Zmitko-Somers, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Past USGC Chair Panel

Moderated by: Cary Sifferath, USGC Vice President

Glen Buckley, 1997 USGC Chairman

Chip Councell, 2017 USGC Chairman

Donald Fast, 2013 USGC Chairman

Josh Miller, 2023 USGC Chairman

Victor Miller, 2007 USGC Chairman



Celebrating Success with USGC Program Highlights

Cary Sifferath, USGC Vice President

Alicia Koch, USGC Director of Global Ethanol Export Development

Kurt Shultz, USGC Senior Director of Global Strategies

CEO Comments

Ryan LeGrand, USGC President and CEO

12:00 – 1:15 p.m.	Lunch
1:30 – 4:30 p.m.	Continuous Coffee
1:30 – 5:00 p.m.	Advisory Team Meetings: Asia Ethanol Innovation and Sustainability Middle East/Africa/South Asia Trade Policy Value-Added Western Hemisphere
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.	Welcome Reception

Thursday, July 31

7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Registration
7:00 – 8:15 a.m.	Breakfast
7:30 – 10:00 a.m.	Barley Sector Meeting
8:30 – 10:00 a.m.	Sector Meetings: Agribusiness/Ethanol Corn General Farm Organizations Sorghum
8:30 – 11:30 a.m.	Continuous Coffee
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Optional Event: Lavendar Life Farm Tour
10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	General Session

Farm Bill Update

Former U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow



China 301 Transportation Outlook

Jay O'Neil, HJ O'Neil Commodity Consulting

12:30 – 1:45 p.m.

Lunch

2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Continuous Coffee

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

Mexico Trade Policy

Kenneth Smith Ramos, AGON

India Trade Policy

Mark Linscott, US-India Strategic Partnership Forum

SEA Trade Policy

Chris Markey, USGC Deputy Regional Director SEA & Oceania

5:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Social Event at Wildwood Family Farms

Friday, August 1

7:00 – 8:15 a.m.

Breakfast

7:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Registration

7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Continuous Coffee

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Board of Delegates Meeting

1:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Board of Directors & A-Team Leaders Meeting

1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Optional Tour: Taste of GR Foodie Tour