

SWEETENER USERS ASSOCIATION

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Media Contact:

Jennifer Cummings

(202) 822-9491

[jcummings@fratelli.com](mailto:jcumings@fratelli.com)

Sweetener Users Association Welcomes USDA Under Secretary's Remarks on Need for Balanced U.S. Sugar Policy

SUA Says Congress Has Critical Opportunity to Reform Sugar Program This Year

Washington, DC (February 11, 2013) – The [Sweetener Users Association](#) (SUA) issued the following statement after remarks by Under Secretary of Agriculture Michael Scuse at the International Sweetener Colloquium in Bonita Springs, FL, today:

“The Sweetener Users Association applauds Under Secretary Scuse for his leadership and commitment to ensuring that U.S. sugar policy balances the needs of both sugar producers and sugar users.

“We also commend the Under Secretary for calling on Congress to enact a five-year farm bill and acknowledging the proposals SUA has put forth to modify the sugar program.

“The current program has created unnecessary instability and uncertainty in the sugar market. Within a little more than a year, the United States has experienced record-high refined sugar prices that contributed to extra consumer and business costs of \$3.5 billion a year, and now depressed raw sugar prices.

“Congress has a critical opportunity this year to reform the outdated sugar program to achieve greater balance, provide USDA with more flexibility to administer the program based on market needs and ensure that the program works for all stakeholders.”

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