



Questions for Candidates for Texas Agriculture Commissioner Conservative Coalition of Harris County

Our questionnaire is for candidates to indicate their reasons and opinions concerning issues surrounding their races. This questionnaire will be posted onto the Conservative Coalition of Harris County website for public voter viewing.

Candidate Name	Position for which Candidate is Running
Commissioner Sid Miller	Texas Agriculture Commissioner

Please give your answer to each of the following questions and please include your rationale with each answer. Please be concise and clear.

- Please describe the qualifications and experience that make you the best candidate in your political race.

Answer: I'm an eighth-generation Texas farmer and rancher—and I've served as your Agriculture Commissioner since 2015 because I've lived the challenges our producers face long before I held this office.

I'm proud to be known as "Trump's man in Texas"—a title President Trump gave me because he knows I stand with him for American sovereignty, energy independence, and conservative values. When Washington overreaches, I push back—whether it's fighting federal school meal mandates, suing to stop pandemic-era mask orders, or defending property rights.

My record delivers real results:

Spearheaded the Great Texas Water Plan, leading directly to a historic \$20 billion state investment in water infrastructure—the largest in Texas history.

Worked hand-in-hand with President Trump to hold Mexico accountable under the 1944 Water Treaty, securing over 200,000 acre-feet of water for South Texas farms.

Launched and expanded the Go Texan program, promoting Texas-grown food, fiber, and products in schools, stores, and communities statewide—boosting local economies and pride.

Championed biofuels, rural broadband, and mental health support through initiatives like Rural Strong.

Led Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) to restore parental rights in nutrition, reject federal health mandates, and promote real food—not bureaucracy—as the foundation of wellness.

I don't just talk about rural Texas—I fight for it every day. My roots are here. My record is proven. And my commitment to farmers, ranchers, and families is unwavering.

That's why I'm the best candidate to lead Texas agriculture forward.

2. Please explain what you believe are the most significant issues in this race, why you are running for this position and what differentiates you from the other candidate(s).

Answer: This race isn't just about who holds the title of Agriculture Commissioner—it's about who will defend Texas agriculture, rural communities, and conservative values when Washington and radical activists are pushing harder than ever to control our food, water, land, and way of life.

I'm running for re-election because the job isn't done—and Texas needs a proven leader who's already delivering results, not promises.

The most significant issues in this race are clear:

1. **Water Security** – Texas is growing fast, but our water supply isn't keeping up. I sounded the alarm years ago, authored the Great Texas Water Plan, and my advocacy directly led to the historic \$20 billion investment in conservation, storage, reuse, and desalination—the largest water infrastructure package in state history. My opponent has no plan, no record, and no experience turning vision into law.

2. **Defending Against Government Overreach** – During the pandemic, I stood alone among statewide officials in suing the federal government to stop mask mandates and protect personal freedom. I rejected Biden's school meal mandates that ignored parents and pushed processed food. Through my Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) initiative, I'm restoring common-sense nutrition rooted in Texas-grown food—not federal control.

3. **Promoting Texas Agriculture** – I've supercharged the Go Texan program, putting Texas beef, cotton, citrus, and produce in schools, stores, and export markets. I've fought for biofuels, rural broadband, and mental health support for farmers through Rural Strong. And I worked directly with President Trump to enforce the 1944 Water Treaty, securing critical water for South Texas farms when others stayed silent.

That's what sets me apart: I'm not just a candidate—I'm an eighth-generation farmer who's lived this life, and a battle-tested leader who gets results. President Trump calls me "his man in Texas" because he knows I deliver—and I never back down.

My opponent may talk a good game, but he has never managed a multi-billion-dollar agency, never negotiated with foreign governments, never revived an industry, and never stood toe-to-toe with Washington to protect Texas families.

On March 3, 2026, you'll have a choice:

A proven conservative leader with a decade of wins for rural Texas—

Or a newcomer with no record, no relationships, and no plan.

I'm asking for your vote—not because I need the job, but because Texas agriculture needs a fighter who's already winning the fight.

3. What will be your top 3 priorities during your upcoming term?

Answer:

1. Secure Texas Water for Generations to Come

Water is the lifeblood of our \$200 billion agricultural economy—and we’re running out of time. While my advocacy already delivered a historic \$20 billion investment in water infrastructure, the work is far from over. In my next term, I will accelerate the build-out of reservoirs, brackish groundwater desalination, wastewater reuse, and rainwater capture systems across the state. I’ll also continue holding Mexico accountable under the 1944 Water Treaty and push for interstate water compacts to protect Texas’ senior rights. No more delays. No more drought-driven crises. We will make Texas water-secure.

2. Expand Go Texan & Strengthen Agricultural Markets

Texas grows the best food, fiber, and fuel in the world—but too often, it’s overlooked in our own backyard. I will aggressively expand the Go Texan program to get more Texas beef, citrus, cotton, grains, and dairy into schools, hospitals, military bases, and grocery stores. I’ll also fight ESG-driven financial discrimination that targets ranchers and energy partners, promote biofuels made from Texas crops, and open new export markets so our producers can thrive—not just survive.

3. Defend Freedom Through Make America Healthy Again (MAHA)

The federal government has no business dictating what our kids eat, how our farms operate, or what medical choices families make. Through Make America Healthy Again (MAHA), I will double down on parental rights in school nutrition, reject federal mandates disguised as “guidance,” and promote real food—grown right here in Texas—as the foundation of health. I’ll also continue standing against vaccine passports, medical mandates, and bureaucratic overreach that erodes personal liberty.

I’m not running for a title—I’m running to finish the job. With a proven record, President Trump’s trust (“He’s my man in Texas”), and deep roots as an eighth fourth-generation farmer, I’m the only candidate with the experience, relationships, and resolve to deliver for Texas agriculture in an increasingly volatile world.

The stakes have never been higher. But with faith, grit, and your support, we’ll keep Texas strong, free, and fed.

4. What strategies do you have to improve the programs protecting crops and livestock from pests and diseases, as well as improving financial aid (loans, grants) and research funding for farmers?

Answer:

As Texas Agriculture Commissioner, protecting our crops and livestock from pests and diseases isn't just part of the job—it's a matter of economic survival for our \$200 billion agricultural industry. And ensuring farmers have access to capital and cutting-edge research is how we keep Texas agriculture competitive, resilient, and independent. Here's my strategy:

- 1. Modernize and Expand Pest & Disease Defense - Combat the New World Screwworm Threat:** The recent detection of New World Screwworm in Mexico is a five-alarm fire for our livestock industry. This parasite can kill animals within days if untreated. I've already activated TDA's emergency response protocols, working with USDA and Mexico to contain outbreaks through sterile insect release programs and enhanced border inspections. In my next term, I'll establish a permanent Texas Screwworm Surveillance and Eradication Task Force—with rapid-deployment teams, mobile treatment units, and mandatory reporting protocols for veterinarians and producers.
Strengthen TDA's Rapid Response Teams: I've deployed mobile inspection units and drone surveillance along high-risk corridors (like the Rio Grande Valley) to detect invasive species like citrus greening, cattle fever ticks, African swine fever, and now screwworm. I'll expand this network statewide with real-time data sharing between state, federal, and county partners.
Boost Biosecurity Partnerships: We're working directly with USDA, Texas A&M AgriLife, and local producers to implement on-farm biosecurity protocols—especially for cattle, sheep, goats, and poultry operations. I'll push for state-funded incentives for farms that adopt certified disease- and pest-prevention practices.
- 2. Expand Access to Capital Through Smart, Low-Bureaucracy Aid**
Streamline the Texas Agricultural Finance Authority (TAFA): I've cut red tape so farmers can get low-interest loans faster for equipment, irrigation, and recovery after disasters—including pest outbreaks. In my next term, I'll create a dedicated "Rural Resilience Loan" for small and mid-sized operations facing pest or disease emergencies—with approval in under 14 days.
Grow the "Go Texan" Grant Program: I'll expand it to include direct grants for pest-resistant seed adoption, herd vaccination programs, screwworm prevention kits, and on-farm diagnostic tools—especially for beginning and minority farmers.
- Fight for Federal Flexibility: I'll continue pressuring Washington to let Texas manage its own disaster relief and pest control funds without one-size-fits-all mandates that ignore our unique needs.

3. **Supercharge Research with Texas-Led Innovation** - Double Down on Texas A&M AgriLife Collaboration: I've prioritized funding for AgriLife research on drought-tolerant crops, tick-resistant cattle breeds, sustainable pest control, and screwworm detection and eradication methods. In my next term, I'll launch a Texas Crop & Livestock Protection Innovation Fund—a public-private partnership to fast-track solutions developed right here in Texas.

Support On-Farm Trials: I'll expand pilot programs where farmers test new pest controls or disease-resistant varieties in real-world conditions—with TDA covering a portion of the risk.

Promote Homegrown Biocontrols: I'm pushing for state investment in Texas-based biological pest control production (like beneficial insects, microbial treatments, and sterile fly release technology) to reduce reliance on foreign-sourced chemicals and build a homegrown ag-tech sector.

I didn't come to Austin to manage decline—I came to defend and advance Texas agriculture. My approach is simple: empower producers with tools, not bureaucracy; fund innovation, not ideology; and always put Texas farmers and ranchers first.

The return of the New World Screwworm is a stark reminder: our vigilance can never waver. With strong leadership, smart investment, and Texas grit, we'll stop this threat—and every other one—before it spreads.

That's how we keep our fields growing, our herds healthy, and our rural communities strong.

5. Does Texas need to improve its oversight in regulating pesticides and ensuring their appropriate use, given the federal HHS push for MAHA?

Answer:

Absolutely—and I'm already doing it.

Texas doesn't need more federal overreach disguised as "safety." What we need is smart, science-based, state-led oversight that protects our farmers, our food supply, and our environment—without surrendering control to Washington bureaucrats who've never set foot on a Texas ranch or walked a cotton field.

The federal HHS push under the so-called "MAHA" (Make America Healthy Again) framework is being twisted by some in Washington to justify top-down pesticide restrictions that ignore real-world farming needs. But here in Texas, we regulate pesticides based on facts—not fear.

As your Agriculture Commissioner, I've strengthened TDA's Pesticide Programs Division to ensure:

Strict licensing and training for all commercial applicators—because responsible use starts with knowledge.

Rapid response to misuse complaints, with on-the-ground investigators who work directly with producers to correct issues before they become crises.

Partnerships with Texas A&M AgriLife to promote integrated pest management (IPM), reducing chemical reliance through precision agriculture, crop rotation, and biological controls.

We don't ban effective tools—we make sure they're used safely, legally, and responsibly. That's why Texas has one of the strongest, most balanced pesticide regulatory programs in the nation.

And let me be clear: I will not allow federal agencies to hijack MAHA—a movement rooted in health freedom and local control—to impose blanket pesticide bans that hurt Texas farmers while doing nothing to improve public health.

True "health" means safe, abundant, affordable food grown right here in Texas. That requires protecting our producers' ability to defend their crops from pests like bollworms, citrus greening, and now the New World Screwworm—using the best tools available, under Texas standards, not Biden-era mandates.

I believe in oversight that works with farmers—not against them. And as long as I'm Commissioner, Texas will lead its own way—grounded in science, accountability, and common sense.

BY RETURNING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE, THE CANDIDATE ASSUMES FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL ANSWERS TO THIS QUESTIONNAIRE. THE ANSWERS ON THE FOREGOING REFLECT THE CANDIDATE'S BEST EFFORTS TO ANSWER THIS QUESTIONNAIRE HONESTLY AND DIRECTLY.

PLEASE SAVE YOUR COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE TO YOUR LOCAL MACHINE IN THE EVENT THAT THERE ARE ANY TECHNICAL PROBLEMS WHEN YOU ATTEMPT TO EMAIL IT BACK.

Once this questionnaire has been completed, please email it to:

alex@cchc-pac.org

* **Please note:** You **must** return your questionnaire from the email address to which it was sent. Questionnaires returned from any other email address will be considered fraudulent and will **not** be recorded and no answers will be published in the voter's guide. CCHC-PAC deems a return from the proper email address as authentication of the correct respondent.

TEN YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

A RECORD OF LEADERSHIP
DEFENDING AGRICULTURE
AND CONSUMERS



SID MILLER

TEXAS AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER

STREAMLINING TEXAS AGRICULTURE

Since taking office as Agriculture Commissioner, Sid Miller has brought real common-sense reform to the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA), leading to significant changes from day one that have made TDA the best-run state agency.

- ▶ Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller transformed the Department of Agriculture, from an upside-down agency with a deficit of \$18 million, by balancing the books and focusing on making Texas Agriculture great.
- ▶ Within six months of his first term, Miller eliminated a two-and-a-half-year backlog in organic certifications.
- ▶ Miller restructured the agency to reduce TDA inspectors' annual mileage by 1.5 million, resulting in significant taxpayer savings.
- ▶ Miller reduced the previous administration's executive staff from 14 to 9 positions and cut several unnecessary roles within the agency, streamlining operations and enhancing efficiency.
- ▶ Commissioner Miller also launched Operation Maverick, a consumer protection initiative to round up businesses that failed to register their commercial scales with TDA. Registrations have increased by 35 percent, and TDA now monitors more than 2,000 previously unregistered businesses to ensure consumer protection.
- ▶ TDA eliminated subsidy payments for taxpayers on all regulatory services by 50%, shifting TDA fully to a cost recovery agency.
- ▶ Miller increased inspections of fuel pumps from 12 years to 12 months to ensure accuracy and fuel quality and to combat rampant use of illegal credit card skimmers.
- ▶ TDA canceled a costly logistics contract and streamlined state inspections to increase consumer and industry protection while lowering costs.
- ▶ Under Miller, TDA moved to paperless saving significant agency paper usage and taxpayer cost.



Commissioner Miller's first meeting with staff in 2015

- ▶ Under Miller, TDA increased the number of consumer protection inspections by 183 percent to better protect consumers across Texas from invasive species and pests.
- ▶ TDA's sunset bill passed unanimously in the 2021 Texas Legislative session. When the Texas Sunset Commission concluded its agency evaluation, it stated that the Texas Department of Agriculture was one of the best-run agencies it had ever reviewed.



TDA's scale complaint sticker as part of Project Maverick

PROMOTING AND DEFENDING AGRICULTURE

Under Miller's leadership, TDA is at the forefront of providing critical aid to farmers and ranchers and all Texans facing natural disasters and fighting for rural America's rights from federal overreach.

- ▶ Commissioner Miller revitalized the State of Texas Agricultural Relief (STAR) Fund by successfully seeking fresh donations. The fund was replenished with \$1.3 million without using taxpayer dollars in time to assist Texas farmers and ranchers in crisis.
- ▶ Commissioner Miller successfully sued the Biden administration over the USDA's proposed woke agenda of forcing school meal programs to adhere to LGBTQ+ sexual orientation and gender identity rules or risk losing funding.
- ▶ Miller led the Texas opposition on 30x30 and the Texas Muleshoe Refuge expansion, aiding in spreading awareness and battle against Biden's land grab that threatens rural America.
- ▶ Miller led forces with other state agriculture leaders to challenge harmful Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) policies that threatened to impose devastating climate mandates on farmers. This fight forced major banks like J.P. Morgan Chase to back down.

“ Newly released research by the Buckeye Institute confirms our greatest fears about environmental, social, governance or ESG investing. Last week, I joined 11 other state agriculture leaders to co-sign a letter that addressed this very issue. Imposing costly ESG requirements on America's farmers and ranchers will have a devastating impact on U.S. agriculture and world food security. ”

SID MILLER ON FOX BUSINESS

- ▶ In 2024, Commissioner Miller approved using STAR funding to expand finance opportunities for volunteer firefighter services, assisting rural communities in bolstering their emergency resources.



Commissioner Miller inspecting hay donations after 2024 wildfires

- ▶ Because of fuel shortage, Commissioner Miller waived the red-dye diesel requirement for farm equipment during the February 2021 winter storm in Texas, allowing farmers and ranchers to use their red-dye diesel in otherwise restricted vehicles.
- ▶ Shortly before Hurricane Harvey, TDA began coordination efforts with USDA and other first responder organizations to increase access to USDA Commodities and meals for disaster survivors.
- ▶ TDA partnered with 1,545 schools and 329 child or adult care centers during Hurricane Harvey to streamline operations and feed Texans impacted by the storm.



Commissioner Miller assisting with the Hurricane Harvey recovery response

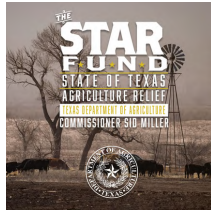
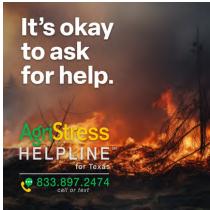
- ▶ During Hurricane Harvey, TDA launched an interactive online map that people could use to find relief distribution sites. The webpage had almost 5,000 views, and more than 8,000 cases of food were distributed.
- ▶ Met with the Mexican governor of Tamaulipas on the Texas/Mexico border to voice concerns of farmers and ranchers and communicate strong Texas support for a border wall to the national media and the Trump administration.

Texas was the only state that increased agricultural exports during the China trade war.

- Commissioner Miller successfully challenged changes to the Waters of the United States (WOTUS) federal rules, achieving an injunction that halted rule alterations in most states and protected against further overreach by the national government.
- Commissioner Miller successfully sued President Biden and the USDA, challenging the Department of Agriculture's "racial exclusions" of pandemic relief aid as unconstitutional and violating Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This lawsuit compelled a revision of how relief funds were distributed.
- In 2020, Commissioner Miller launched Texas's inaugural industrial hemp program following federal and state legalization. Since then, the program licensed 1,500 hemp producers, 350 handlers, and 115 processors and has registered 22 hemp product testing laboratories.



Commissioner Miller on FOX News raising wildfire relief awareness



Commissioner Miller visiting residents of Uvalde, Texas



- The "Texas Agriculture Matters" television show, hosted by Commissioner Miller, is in its 12th season on RFD-TV, reaching 60 million television households. The non-taxpayer-funded show utilizes Miller's trademark wit and wisdom to explore a new Texas agriculture-related topic weekly. The show operates as a public service, educating North America on the importance of agriculture and agribusiness through feature segments, one-on-one interviews, and important agricultural information.
- Commissioner Miller narrates a sixty-second radio program called Daily Market Roundup, which reports daily on commodity and livestock market tallies and the Dow Jones industrial average closes. The program reaches thousands of Texans in a multitude of cities and radio markets. The TDA provides this for free as a public service.
- NASCAR driver Austin Self promoted the GO TEXAN brand nationwide to thousands of NASCAR enthusiasts. Every sponsor on the #22 GO TEXAN truck is a Texas company.
- Under Commissioner Miller's leadership, egg fees have been slashed twice, totaling a 36% reduction and saving egg producers hundreds of thousands of dollars.
- Under Miller's leadership, TDA also established the AgriStress Helpline, which has intervened in over 216 incidents for those struggling with mental health. The helpline is available 24/7 for those who need it and is operated by American professionals trained in rural mental health crisis management.

COVID - 19 RESPONSE



Commissioner Miller on 60 minutes in 2020

- ▶ As lockdowns closed down business operations, Commissioner Miller declared Texas agriculture, agriculture-supported, and agriculture-related businesses as essential under the Agriculture Code. This allowed agribusinesses to stay operational and avoid further disastrous damage.
- ▶ During the pandemic, TDA worked with the Texas Department of Emergency Management to open warehouses and use agriculture inspectors to deliver much-needed personal protective equipment, including gloves, hand sanitizer, and gowns, to hospitals, first responders, and nursing homes across rural Texas. TDA's success was highlighted by "60 Minutes," which acknowledged the decisive action and quick response of both Commissioner Miller and the TDA.
- ▶ During the pandemic, TDA operated all 12 state feeding programs concurrently. This exceptional work ensured that our state's children and other vulnerable citizens remained fed during exceptionally challenging times.
- ▶ TDA created a task force of food service distributors and commercial processors to assess supply chain challenges and strategize how to aid their work with entities contracting with TDA during COVID-19.
- ▶ TDA created easy-to-understand materials with graphics and guidance to help meal-providing contractors and program participants visualize program changes in response to COVID-19.
- ▶ TDA collaborated with GO TEXAN Partners, including spirit distilleries and Farouk Shami's Chi Hair Care, to assist in the nationwide shortage of hand sanitizer
- ▶ TDA helped facilitate the opening of the powdered milk export market. Almost 100 dairies were facing a complete shutdown because obtaining a "Certificate of Free Sale" could take up to six weeks. TDA cooperated with another state agency to resolve the problem in 24 hours.
- ▶ TDA launched Disaster Household Distribution (DHD) to 41 targeted Texas counties with food chains severely impacted by COVID-19. The program provides food to Texans through food banks.
- ▶ TDA Partnered with the Baylor Collaborative on Hunger and Poverty to support meal delivery of nearly 1 million meals to students. The meals were targeted at rural schools closed due to COVID-19.

“With patience and prayer, we will make it through this crisis because we are Texans. We've had our share of dust storms, tornados, hurricanes, drought, and famine, and we've withstood the test. We will again. When we get back to business, it will be with the Texas swagger and pride that comes with living in the Lone Star State.”

SID MILLER ON COVID - 19

- ▶ TDA worked to eliminate or suspend regulations that got in the way of ensuring consumer access to goods and services, including packaging regulations that delayed access to products like eggs and toilet paper. This allowed eggs meant for commercial or restaurant distribution to be sold directly to consumers, and toilet paper bound for Mexico – with Spanish-only labeling – to be sold here in the U.S.
- ▶ TDA facilitated Texas families' access to food during the pandemic by implementing almost 70 nationwide waivers for nutrition program requirements.
- ▶ TDA created easy-to-understand materials with graphics and guidance to help meal-providing contractors and program participants visualize program changes in response to COVID-19.

WATER CONSERVATION



Commissioner Miller talks Water Crisis on Inside Texas Politics

- ▶ Commissioner Miller, a dedicated advocate for water conservation across Texas, established the TDA Office of Water Policy to guarantee that agriculture has a strong voice in shaping state water policy, ensuring Texas agriculture is well-represented.
- ▶ Miller urged Governor Greg Abbott to appoint a candidate with a solid agricultural background to the state water board, recognizing that agriculture is one of Texas's top water consumers.
- ▶ Commissioner Miller drafted "The Great Texas Water Plan" which started a renewed statewide conversation on water.
- ▶ Commissioner Miller promoted the idea of efficient water usage through rainwater harvest systems to various Texas cities and businesses.
- ▶ In 2024, authored an Op-Ed that garnered national attention and led to renewed focus on water conservation and self-reliance across Texas.
- ▶ In response desperate need for water in the Rio Grande Valley, Miller issued an executive order giving Texas farmers and ranchers the green light to tap into the Rio Grande for irrigation, providing a timely solution for utilizing excess water.

- ▶ Orchestrated negotiations that secured amendments to the international water agreement between Mexico and the United States. The new amendment will allow Mexico to meet its delivery obligations by giving up water that was allotted to the country under the treaty. It also allows Mexico to transfer water it has stored at the Falcon and Amistad international reservoirs to the U.S.



Agreement Reached With Mexico to Help Ensure Water Reliability
The agreement would help ensure that Mexico will honor its part of a 1944 agreement to deliver water to the South Rio Grande Valley.



“Texans have the know-how, the technology, the grit, and the financing to secure our water future. But we must quit complaining, get off our tails, and act. Let’s not leave the future of Texas agriculture—and our state’s economy—to the chance that someday Mexico might uphold its end of the bargain. We’ve waited long enough. The time for action is now, and it’s up to us, as Texans, to determine our own destiny.”

SID MILLER ON WATER

IMPROVING FOOD NUTRITION

Determined to overcome the absence of local produce in school meals, Commissioner Miller continues to promote his Farm Fresh Initiative, connecting schools directly with Texas farmers. This year's Farm Fresh Challenge increased 36% over 2022, with 192 school districts, charter organizations, and child and adult care centers participating. The Farm Fresh Initiative generated \$300 million of locally sourced, healthy, and fresh student meals.

- ▶ Commissioner Miller provided school gardening kits so that school kids could gain first-hand experience growing food for themselves at no cost to the taxpayer. Miller has visited several Texas elementary schools to promote the program.
- ▶ TDA diverted select staff from all Food and Nutrition sections to assist the program eligibility team with the surge in the number of applications for the Summer Meal Programs in 2020.
- ▶ TDA organized weekly webinars for Education Service Centers, schools, community partners, and other collaborating organizations to get feedback and guidance to school districts.



- ▶ TDA increased the Farm Fresh Network to more than 150 members to boost agricultural economies by helping agricultural producers sell foods directly to schools and child-care centers.
- ▶ TDA empowered 51 organizations with grants to develop farm-to-school initiatives or expand existing ones.
- ▶ Miller eliminated Michelle Obama's leftist feel-good nutrition program that made for healthy trash cans, NOT healthy kids.



- ▶ TDA implemented the United States Department of Agriculture's Local Food for Schools program, bringing in \$22.3 million in locally grown produce to our school cafeterias.
- ▶ Miller partnered with celebrities like Trisha Yearwood, Miranda Lambert, Pat Green, Josh Abbott, and Whitney Mercilus through infomercials promoting locally grown food and encouraging Texas schools to partner with local Texas producers.

Miller eliminated overbearing agency mandates allowing Texas school boards and parents more control over their local nutrition.



MARKETING TEXAS TO THE WORLD

Commissioner Miller's administration has brought Texas beef around the world, citrus to Vietnam, and more through the expansion of agriculture trade across the globe visiting every continent except Antarctica.

- ▶ Commissioner Miller traveled worldwide to personally open markets to US beef producers, citrus growers, grains, and agribusinesses exports, resulting in millions of dollars of international sales for U.S. producers.
- ▶ Miller has worked with the U.S. Livestock Genetics Export groups to help ranchers send genetics worldwide.
- ▶ Under Commissioner Miller's leadership, TDA built new export facilities in Del Rio and at the Houston Bush Intercontinental Airport to facilitate the increase in livestock exports.
- ▶ TDA also hosted a virtual agricultural roundtable with USDA FAS for the Foreign Agricultural International Representatives stationed in Washington, DC. This event expanded relationships with trade counselors in 10 countries, opening the door to the beef industry.
- ▶ Through Commissioner Miller's engagement with heads of state, foreign dignitaries, and officials from Mexico to Central and South America, Texas beef cattle producers have sold cattle genetics, which will result in millions of dollars of sales internationally.
- ▶ Sid Miller's historic trip to Israel reignited the Texas-Israel relationship, and Miller was the first statewide elected official from Texas recognized by the Israeli Knesset (parliament).



GO TEXAN product on display in Germany

This is a list of countries that TDA has traveled to for the purpose of establishing or improving trade relations in agriculture:

- Argentina
- Australia
- Brazil
- Canada
- China
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Cuba
- Denmark
- Dominican Republic
- Dubai, UAE
- France
- Germany
- Ghana
- Greece
- India
- Ireland
- Israel
- Italy
- Japan
- Kenya
- Mexico
- Morocco
- Netherlands
- Nicaragua
- Nigeria
- Portugal
- Romania
- South Korea
- Spain
- Thailand
- United Kingdom
- Uzbekistan
- Vietnam



Sid Miller trade mission to India in 2019

- ▶ Through partnerships with organizations such as the U.S. Livestock and Genetics Export, Inc. and the Southern U.S. Trade Association, TDA supported more than 64 small—to mid-size agriculture businesses as they explored opportunities to export their products to 16 countries worldwide in 2023 alone.
- ▶ Successful trade missions to Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi, Vietnam, paved the way for reintroducing sweet red grapefruit after years of an export ban to Vietnam.

▶ TDA's GO TEXAN Pavilion at the State Fair of Texas has undergone many changes and improvements under Miller's leadership. In 2021, the size of the GO TEXAN General Store increased by 50%, and in 2023, exhibitors and General Store sales of Texas products reached nearly \$1 million for this three-week event.

▶ Commissioner Miller created the first *GO TEXAN AMBASSADOR PROGRAM* to involve former Dallas Cowboys and well-known sports celebrities to advocate for the GO TEXAN program and its partners.

▶ During the COVID-19 pandemic, TDA created an e-commerce site for GO TEXAN partners to sell their products online for free.

▶ Through the *Uncork Texas Wines* marketing campaign, Commissioner Miller has guided the rapidly growing Texas wine industry into the center of the world wine stage, leading to continued sales growth in Europe, Asia, and South America.



Sid Miller trade mission to London in 2020

▶ With over 500 wineries dotting the Texan landscape, *Uncork Texas Wines* facilitates wine exploration, provides pairings and events to help Texans discover their favorite winery, and connects wineries with distributors and other businesses.

▶ Under Miller's *Uncork Texas Wine's* marketing program, the Texas wine industry has grown from an annual economic impact of \$3 billion to \$20 billion.

▶ Commissioner Miller procured over \$2.2 million in federal funding to promote Texas Gulf Shrimp. With those funds, Miller has spearheaded an award-winning advertising campaign to put more Gulf shrimp on America's plates.



TDA's GO TEXAN program has grown to more than 2,000 partners, the highest number since budget cuts were enacted in 2011.

▶ Under Miller, the Japanese market is opening for Texas spirits, including one Texas-distilled product that earned a permanent presence in the market and another that negotiated a container load for distribution.

▶ Because of the great marketing efforts in Central and South America, Commissioner Miller opened a full-time office in Argentina to facilitate livestock sales from Texas.

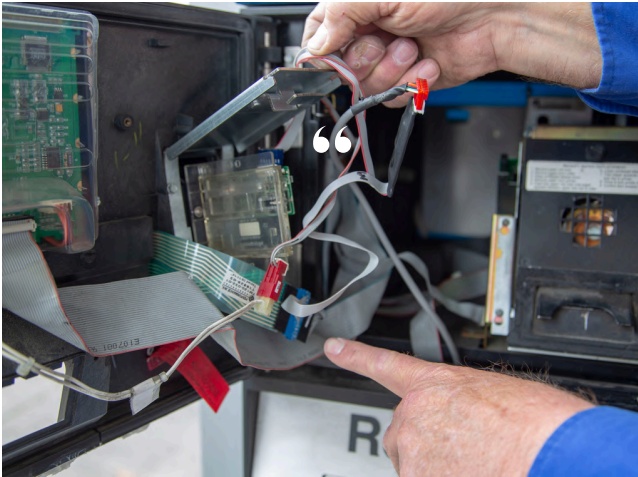
▶ TDA aims to continue its marketing efforts with planned inbound/outbound marketing trips to Colombia, Brazil, China, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, the United Arab Emirates, and Kazakhstan to promote Texas and the United States agriculture trade.

▶ Successful TDA trade missions to Vietnam paved the way for the reintroduction of the Texas Ruby Red Grapefruit after years of an export ban to Vietnam.



Sid Miller trade mission to India in 2019

PROTECTING CONSUMERS



TDA Fuel Pump Inspection 2017

- ▶ Commissioner Miller successfully petitioned Attorney General Barr and The US Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue to investigate the beef packing industry in collusion in price fixing the U.S. beef industry to ensure that all parties are fairly treated financially.
- ▶ TDA assisted the state health department with mosquito control efforts by ensuring the contract aerial applicators were appropriately licensed.
- ▶ TDA Inspectors performed use observations at the mixing and loading sites of the federally certified aerial applicators.
- ▶ TDA also worked with the USDA National Organic Program to establish an exemption for certified organic producers in the counties where aerial mosquito spraying occurred.
- ▶ Miller also created the Texas Office of Produce Safety to ensure producers are using science-based minimum standards for the safe growing, harvesting, packing, and holding of fruits and vegetables grown for human consumption.



Commissioner Miller talks food inflation on FOX Business

“ Exposure to unused, misused, or expired pesticides can pose significant health risks to farmworkers, residents, and consumers if not disposed of correctly. Proper disposal practices support sustainable agriculture by minimizing environmental impact. Here at TDA, we aim to provide responsible disposal of pesticides for future generations. I don't want anyone's children or pets poisoned under my watch. ”

- SID MILLER



Opening of TDA's Del Rio Livestock Export Facility

- ▶ Under Miller, TDA pesticide audits have increased by 334%, ensuring the safety and quality of pesticides used by agricultural and structural pesticide applicators.
- ▶ Miller instructed the Seed Quality program to add hemp and hybrid canola certification standards to the Texas Seed and Plant Certification Act and Standards.
- ▶ TDA's Ag Surplus Grant assists Texas food banks, distributing more than 187.9 million pounds of produce to those in need that would otherwise go to waste.
- ▶ TDA redesigned the fever tick spray box for cattle to meet ventilation requirements for pesticide application to prevent loss of livestock and industry damages.
- ▶ TDA fought back on unscrupulous credit card skimmers on gas pumps in Texas, forcing them out of Texas.

PROVIDING BIOSECURITY

TDA's Biosecurity and Agriculture Resource Management Programs provide the first order of defense in safeguarding our state's agriculture against pests and diseases, conducting thorough inspections and monitoring for numerous pests and diseases, both native and foreign.

- ▶ Since 2016, TDA has identified and destroyed 7,796 citrus canker trees. Citrus canker is a disease that devastated the Florida citrus industry, and TDA has worked to prevent it here in the Lone Star State.
- ▶ TDA broke ground on a new facility in Mission, Texas, dedicated to assisting with the ongoing battle against the spread of the Mexican Fruit Fly.
- ▶ Over the past four years, 244,299 vehicles have been inspected annually at critical entry points for biosecurity and quarantine concerns.
- ▶ Miller led the Structural Pest Program to update the agency applicator and technician training curriculum. Since 2017, structural pesticide applicators have been more compliant with regulations.
- ▶ TDA's Boll Weevil Eradication Program has supported the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation to help protect nearly 7 million acres of cotton.
- ▶ Commissioner Miller spearheaded the formation of a pesticide waste collection program, which has collected 1,292,067 pounds of harmful pesticides, chemicals, and poisons for safe disposal since 2018.
- ▶ TDA's Metrology Lab, the only metrology laboratory in Texas, was awarded a two-year recognition certificate. This certificate is only given to labs that consistently comply with standards of excellence.



TDA Seed quality lab testing



Commissioner Miller at a 2024 TDA waste disposal event

The 88th Texas legislative session resulted in 72 new positions that support the TDA Biosecurity Enforcement, Citrus Canker, Structural Pest, and Mexican Fruit Fly programs. Due to increased resources, inspections hours increased 365% which allowed TDA to catch 830% more quarantine violations in 2024.

- ▶ Commissioner Miller also established a rule after careful consideration that puts a powerful weapon into the hands of farmers and ranchers embroiled in a long and continuous fight against feral hogs, issuing a limited-use product designation for Warfarin-based feral hog bait.
- ▶ Over the last three years, onsite accreditation assessments for TDA's Pesticide Lab have shown zero deficiencies. The Pesticide Lab received top ratings from the USDA Pesticide Data Program Customer Satisfaction Survey.



TDA citrus canker tree destruction

SUPPORTING RURAL AMERICA

TDA distributed 42 million pounds of surplus agricultural products to 21 Texas Food Banks. Millions of pounds of food that would have otherwise gone to waste.



- ▶ Under Miller's leadership, State Office of Rural Health (SORH) staff worked with Texas state partners to give hospitals access to various data. Access to this data strategically improves hospitals' and clinics' financial and operational strategies. Over 300 facilities across Texas have been given access to the hub, and all 88 critical access hospitals have been given individual data hub sites to work with.
- ▶ TDA helped keep the doors of many rural hospitals open during the COVID-19 pandemic, which struggled financially during lockdowns.
- ▶ In partnership with the USDA, TDA hosted hands-on culinary classes for Child and Adult Care Food Program sponsors in Texas.
- ▶ During the pandemic's beginning, when supplies were scarce, TDA Emergency Management coordinated with field staff to deliver personal protective equipment to rural hospitals facing immense challenges in purchasing health safety products. They also worked to ensure essential products remained on grocery store shelves and found infrastructure exemptions for farmers to get perishable commodities to consumers and limit waste.
- ▶ TDA was awarded the Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Program (MBQIP) "Spirit Award" (through SORH) for its outstanding Texas Flex Program, which provides support for strategic planning, training, development, quality improvement, and data reporting at Critical Access Hospitals in rural areas.
- ▶ Commissioner Miller created innovative programs such as the 'FAST Fund' to assist rural fire and ambulance services, 'Utility U' to train utility operators, and 'Emergency Services Help' for Colonias to respond to specific needs.
- ▶ Miller recorded a first for the TDA Organics Program, which recently certified All Hale Meats of Wolfforth, Texas, as the state's first organic beef slaughter operation.
- ▶ Commissioner Miller directed TDA to implement a rural community paramedicine pilot program and a Farm and Ranch Mental Health and Suicide Prevention program.
- ▶ Commissioner Miller supported over 139 organizations that provide home-delivered meals in 161 Texas counties to rural Texans with a disability to ensure they don't go hungry.
- ▶ Under Commissioner Miller, more than 200 student leaders were recruited as TDA's Health Ambassadors for "Ready Texas" to champion healthy lifestyles and Texas agriculture on school campuses and in their communities.
- ▶ Commissioner Miller empowered 51 organizations to expand existing farm-to-school operations to more schools in Texas, resulting in more healthy kids and fewer healthy trash cans.
- ▶ Facilitated and helped secure over a million eggs donated by CAL-MAINE FOODS to Texas food banks.

SID MILLER NATIONAL CHAMPION FOR AGRICULTURE AND PRESIDENT TRUMP



Commissioner Miller at the 2024 RNC

Commissioner Miller advocates for Texas agriculture, a vital industry worth over **180 billion** dollars to Texas.

Sid Miller is the 12th Commissioner of the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA), a farmer, a 26-time rodeo champion, a Christian, and a lifelong Texan. Born in De Leon in 1955, Sid graduated with honors from Tarleton State University with a B.S. in Vocational Ag Education.

Sid was first elected to the House of Representatives in 2000, and he quickly earned a reputation as a staunch defender of Texas agriculture, constitutional freedoms, and individual liberties for all Texans.

He was elected Texas Agriculture Commissioner in 2014 and re-elected in 2018 and 2022. Since taking office as Agriculture Commissioner, Commissioner Miller has brought real common sense reform to TDA.

Sid Miller was elected statewide as the 12th Texas Agriculture Commissioner in 2014 and re-elected to his second term in 2018, followed by a third term in 2022. In 2022, he received more votes than any candidate for Texas Agricultural Commissioner has ever received and more than Governor Abbot, Lt. Governor Dan Patrick, and Attorney General Ken Paxton.



TEN YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

- ▶ Commissioner Miller was a founding member of President Trump's agricultural advisory team and advised Trump on border security.
- ▶ Promoted Donald J. Trump for president and Texas conservative and agricultural issues on most major news outlets, including Fox News, Fox & Friends, and FOX Business.
- ▶ Miller called Donald Trump's landslide victory on national news and stood firm in supporting his election successes.
- ▶ Miller was finalist for United States Department of Agriculture's Secretary of Agriculture during the Donald Trump administration.
- ▶ Miller was endorsed twice in 2018 and 2022 by President Trump for Texas Agriculture Commissioner.



Commissioner Miller on FOX News 2016

- ▶ Elected President of the Southern Association of State Departments of Agriculture (SASDA) and the Southern United States Trade Association (SUSTA).



Sid Miller Texas Agriculture Commissioner Inauguration 2015

Rick Perry on Commissioner Miller

"For almost twenty years Sid Miller and I have been working together to keep Texas the last best place. Whether working to keep taxes low and state spending down, fighting to protect innocent unborn lives as the author of historic landmark pro-life legislation, defending the second amendment and our right to keep and bear arms, or leading the effort to secure our borders and keep Texans safe, Sid Miller has stood alongside me in making Texas strong and the greatest state in the nation.

Now, as our Commissioner of Agriculture, Sid Miller is continuing the fight by streamlining the Texas Department of Agriculture and doing more with less, protecting consumers from those trying to rip them off, helping strengthen our agriculture economy, and promoting Texas products across the globe by creating new markets for Texas producers here at home and around the world.

Sid Miller doesn't just look like an Ag Commissioner, agriculture is in his DNA. Sid's spent his entire life preparing for the job he now holds and nobody has done a better job representing the people of the Lone Star State as Commissioner of Agriculture than my friend and I ought to know because Texas Ag is in my DNA as well."

Rick Perry,

Texas' longest serving Governor, Texas' 9th Commissioner of Agriculture, and U.S. Secretary of Energy for President Trump.

SID

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AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER

For more information on the Sid Miller visit

<https://sidmiller.com/>



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