New North American trade deal boosts US agriculture, fosters biotech innovation, farm group says

When NAFTA was signed more than 25 years ago, it was the best trade deal U.S. agriculture had ever seen. But now there's a new deal on offer—the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement or USMCA. We have a chance to trade in a great agreement for an even better one.

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The USMCA is also important in setting the stage for other modern trade agreements for U.S. agriculture. NAFTA needed to be modernized, and the USMCA has bells and whistles that we don't have under our existing trade agreements. Let's look under the hood. For the U.S., it's the first trade agreement to deal with approval of and trade in products of biotechnology.

This groundwork will be critical in agreements we pursue with other countries, especially in the EU, the UK and Japan....Right now, it's important for each of us to call on our lawmakers in Washington and tell them how important the USMCA is to agriculture. Farmers and ranchers are resilient, but our businesses—not to mention the jobs and rural communities that depend on us—cannot survive without our top markets.

Read full, original article: U.S. Ag Gets a Great Deal with USMCA