

AALA PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

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The American Agricultural Law Association (AALA) appreciates the *Drake Journal of Agricultural Law* for, once again, publishing an edition of the *Journal* that features several topics discussed during AALA's 2024 Annual Educational Symposium.¹ The two-day event, which was held in Memphis, Tennessee, marked the 45th time AALA's members have gathered to talk about important issues in agricultural law and to enhance their legal knowledge in the hopes of better serving their farmer and agribusiness clients.²

AALA continues to grow as an organization. Today more than 400 agricultural lawyers and public policy professionals hold AALA memberships. AALA's members hail from varying legal backgrounds, serving in academia, government, and private practice. Over half of AALA's members have been with the organization for more than six years, a testimony to AALA's value and the excellent character of its members. AALA's membership also includes a large number of law student members, who enjoy opportunities to attend the annual symposium and network with established agricultural lawyers. Sixty-five students attended the symposium this year.

Each year, Drake University Law School publishes several articles from the symposium, and that tradition continues in this edition of the *Journal*. Federal and state regulations were some of the most highly discussed topics at the symposium. Two articles featured in the *Journal* examine government regulations in *PFAs in Biosolids and the Impacts on Agriculture* and *In the Wake of Sackett: Unpacking the Supreme Court's Latest Definition of "Waters of the United States"*.³ The edition also includes *Mitigating Legal Risks from Using Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Precision Agriculture*, which discusses how Congress and industry groups collaborated to ease the concerns of farmers regarding the use of AI in agriculture.⁴

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1. See 2024 Annual Educational Symposium, AM. AGRIC. L. ASS'N (Sep. 23, 2025, at 11:47 CT), <https://www.aglaw-assn.org/events/aala24/> [<https://perma.cc/SCS6-DVEP>].

2. *Id.*

3. Michael Chambers, Jackson Schroeder & Brad Sugarman, *PFAS in Biosolids and the Impacts on Agriculture*, 30 DRAKE J. AGRIC. L. 215 (2025); Jake Hill, *In the Wake of Sackett: Unpacking the Supreme Court's Latest Definition of "Waters of the United States"*, 30 DRAKE J. AGRIC. L. 281 (2025).

4. Siegmair Pohl, *Mitigating Legal Risks from Using Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Precision Agriculture*, 30 DRAKE J. AGRIC. L. 263 (2025).

Outstanding scholarship is a hallmark of AALA and the *Journal*. I hope you enjoy this edition's contribution to our shared legacy of excellence.