Richard Fordyce was sworn in as the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) Administrator on May 23, 2018. In this role, Fordyce will provide leadership for FSA and its mission to support agricultural production across America through a network of over 2,100 county and 50 state offices.

Fordyce, a fourth-generation farmer from Bethany, Missouri, previously served as the state executive director for FSA in Missouri since November 2017. He also served as director of the Missouri Department of Agriculture from 2013 to 2017.

As Missouri Department of Agriculture director, he served as chairman of the International Trade & Policy Committee for the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA). Fordyce chaired the state’s Soil & Water Commission and was named the 2012 Soil Conservationist of the Year. Other leadership roles include president of Harrison County Farm Bureau and chair of the Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee for Missouri Farm Bureau and American Farm Bureau. In 2015, Fordyce was awarded the Missouri Farm Bureau Distinguished Service Award and the Agricultural Leaders of Tomorrow Alumni of the Year.

Fordyce has served in roles for the National Biodiesel Board and the Missouri Soybean Merchandising Council. He was also appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture to serve as one of the Missouri directors on the United Soybean Board and served in that capacity for 11 years.

He and his wife, Renee, have two children and grow soybeans, corn and beef cattle on the family farm.