
2018 POLICY OF THE



**AS ADOPTED BY THE DELEGATES
ASSEMBLED FOR THE 2017/18 ANNUAL
GRASSROOTS SUMMIT**

**AUGUST 26, 2017
PRAIRIE MEADOWS
ALTOONA, IOWA**

**MARK RECKER, PRESIDENT (*ARLINGTON, IA*)
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**ICGA MISSION:
“CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LONG-TERM
IOWA CORN GROWER PROFITABILITY”**

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ANIMAL AGRICULTURE & THE ENVIRONMENT
DENNIS FRIEST, COMMITTEE CHAIR

CROP INPUTS

1. We encourage suppliers and farmers to provide or apply fall anhydrous ammonia to farms only when the ground temperature has dropped to 50 degrees or below. (2018)
2. We believe fall is an important time of the year for manure and commercial fertilizer application, and we oppose any attempt to ban this practice. (2017)
3. We believe there are agronomic factors that would support the application of manure on ground going into soybean production. We believe this practice is supported by sound scientific research. We oppose a ban on the practice of applying manure to ground going into soybean production. (2017)
4. We support education for producers, urban consumers, and regulators about safe and efficient use of agriculture chemicals, fertilizers, and pesticides based on adequate, peer-reviewed, and impartial scientific evidence maintaining the current level of tolerances. (2017)
5. ICGA should continue to work on scientific-based retention of our farm inputs such as herbicides or pesticides, and protect the existing rulemaking process for approval or cancellation of products, such

as carbofuran, atrazine, neonicotinoids and pyrethroids. (2018)

6. Iowa Corn should support an Iowa Pesticide Resistance Management Strategy in cooperation with Iowa State University and the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS). (2017)
7. ICGA supports the recognition of nitrapyrin as an approved nitrogen stabilization product for fall manure application, subsequently making it eligible for subsidization. (2016)
8. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) should maintain the current standards for anhydrous ammonia retail facilities. (2017)

LIVESTOCK

9. We support reasonable, consistent and peer-reviewed science-based rules for all producers, including crops, livestock and biofuels. (2017)
10. We support efforts to establish and maintain programs and policies that lead to the strengthening of the Iowa livestock industry as Iowa's number one corn market. (2018)
11. The fund for Manure Management Plans should continue to be capped (by law \$6 million), enforce the cap, and not allow

- the fund to be robbed for other purposes. (2017)
12. We support right-to-farm in the state of Iowa. (2017)
 13. We believe farmers should have protection from nuisance lawsuits. (2014)
 14. We support legislation that would protect farmers from lawsuits related to agritourism and other visitors on the farm. (2018)
 15. We oppose any effort to curtail expansion of the livestock industry by allowing the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) or the Environmental Protection Commission (EPC) open-ended discretion to deny permits if all state regulations are followed. (2016)
 16. ICGA supports the livestock siting matrix in its current form. (2018)
 17. We urge the State of Iowa to set reverse separation distances between Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs), homes, and businesses. (2014)
 18. We support producer control over their own animal management decisions which are based on sound science. (2018)
 19. We support the livestock industry on issues regarding animal activism by supporting modern production and harvesting practices. (2015)

20. We support using Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funds for odor control mechanisms for livestock operations. (2015)
21. We want the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to be prepared for a major animal health outbreak and how they handle it. Producers need to help provide guidance to the Government on faster response, disposal, and biosecurity protocol. (2016)

WATER QUALITY

22. We support science-based surface and groundwater monitoring and implementation of a voluntary, incentive-based subsurface and surface water protection plan. (2017)
23. We believe conservation compliance plans should have flexibility for extreme weather, updates should be considered, more flexibility should be given to county or regional offices and committees to acknowledge whether a farmer has made best efforts at conservation, and allow counties to use the one-year grace period where appropriate. (2017)
24. Portions of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) related to voluntary water quality programs should be within

the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS). (2017)

25. We oppose nutrient budgeting without sound scientific evidence to justify regulation of non-point sources of nitrogen and phosphorous. (2014)
26. ICGA supports adding an exemption to the Iowa Code that a person shall not be construed to be engaged in the practice of engineering if the person engages in earthmoving and related work associated with soil and water conservation practices performed on farmland, or any land owned by a political subdivision, that is not subject to a permit from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR), or for work related to livestock waste facilities that are not subject to a permit by the DNR. (2015)
27. We support the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy as proposed by the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) and funded by the legislature in 2013. ICGA shall support and advocate for continued funding of the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy. (2014)
28. ICGA should facilitate the broadest possible producer participation in the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy and educate growers on the Strategy. (2014)

29. We support cost share and/or tax credits for conservation and/or environmental practices. (2017)
30. ICGA and IDALS need to be working on enhancements to the Nutrient Reduction Strategy, investigating incentives, including tax incentives, to speed adoption of practices. (2016)
31. ICGA should continue to support the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy and oppose mass dumping of silt back into the Missouri River by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. (2015)
32. We support data collection through the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) for the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy to measure water quality improvements as long as the privacy and confidentiality of landowners and operators are protected. (2014)
33. We support a voluntary watershed approach to nutrient management rather than a regulatory approach. (2014)
34. We believe the goal of maintaining and achieving quality groundwater is the mutual responsibility of all private, public, and government users of water. (2014)
35. We support tile drainage for water management. (2018)

36. We support reasonable regulations for water bodies and oppose efforts to arbitrarily designate waters as fishable, swimmable, or navigable if they are not normally used for that purpose. (2015)
37. We oppose the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) 2015 rule on waters of the U.S., and support efforts to prevent it from being implemented. (2016)
38. ICGA should work with Congress to maintain the word "navigable" when regulating waters of the United States. (2015)
39. We support funding for research on water quality, usage, and management. (2018)
40. Nutrient reduction in Iowa's rivers and lakes will take a massive amount of Iowa agriculture producer, industry, and taxpayer money. ICGA shall pursue additional sources of funding for water quality efforts. (2014)
41. The design and delivery of cost-share for water quality projects should be streamlined and expedited to get more practices implemented. (2018)
42. If a sales tax increase is passed, at least 60% of the funds from the 3/8 cent increase should be appropriated for additional soil and water conservation practices. (2016)

43. ICGA supports a sales tax increase for the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund if there are funds made available to implement practices on a voluntary basis on agricultural land to improve water quality. (2016)
44. We support fully funding the closure of open drainage wells to help support the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy. (2016)

WILDLIFE

45. We support legislation or regulatory action that would require the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to increase the deer harvest, in order to decrease the deer population. (2015)
46. Landowners should have more input when it comes to determining levels of wildlife populations. (2018)
47. We believe landowners and/or lessees should be allowed to harvest an increased number of wildlife known to cause damage on the land they own or rent at no charge. (2017)

LAND USE

48. We believe any land or easement taken by condemnation and abandoned, or not used for its intended purpose, should revert back to the private property owner. (2018)

49. We support the use of eminent domain by government for public benefit but not for private for-profit entities. (2017)
50. We support individual landowner process protections with regard to liquid fuel pipelines and electrical transmission lines. (2015)
51. Owners of energy utilities, such as pipelines, transmission lines, and wind generators, should pay for damages for the full life of the infrastructure. (2016)
52. We support legislation that allows land and easements purchased for mitigation projects in specific areas or regions (i.e. watersheds, Loess Hills) be allowed to cross comply for other state and federal mitigation projects in that same area or region to help minimize impacts to private land ownership and counties and states tax revenue. (2018)
53. We support state legislation that requires that when the mitigated land is rented for farming, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) must first pay equivalent county taxes. (2017)
54. ICGA should promote more urban renewal and protection of farmland as a highest and best use. (2017)
55. ICGA supports maintaining a 17-foot clearance under utility lines for safety purposes. (2017)

- AAE
56. We support a mechanism that would allow compensation for land and/or back taxes that have been accrued that has been taken due to the 10-year fence rule. (2018)

WETLANDS

57. We support requiring all federal regulatory agencies claiming jurisdiction over wetlands to identify and coordinate their areas of jurisdiction to prevent overlapping regulations at any specific site. In addition, agencies should submit proposed rules for public comment to avoid abuse of authority. (2014)
58. We support local Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) offices being able to refer landowners to the proper federal agency for approval to modify or mitigate a specific agricultural wetland. In addition, there should be no double jeopardy. Landowners who receive proper approval from a federal agency (which implies authority over that wetland) should be exempt from charges of violating any other agency's regulations at that site. (2014)
59. We support streamlining the government process of determining wetland and wetland mitigation in cases of drainage district maintenance and upgrade requests. (2014)

60. We support federal legislation that would require the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to place a value on wetlands of at least what was paid for the land when calculating cost-benefit ratios for levee repairs. Values of public services should also be included in the calculation. (2015)

FEDERAL & STATE CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

61. We support the efforts of farmers and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to control erosion through conservation compliance planning, and we recommend a minimum 50% cost share for soil conservation requirements. (2018)
62. We support a Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) that addresses the multiple environmental challenges of soil erosion, water quality, and wildlife habitat and allows producers to continue to make environmentally compatible improvements to these acres under an approved plan. (2015)
63. We believe waterways and turn rows that have been established over past years and that meet the soil loss requirements should be allowed to enter the Conservation Reserve Program's (CRP) buffer strip program. (2018)

64. Federal conservation programs including CRP should be reviewed and revised to limit and target to sensitive areas. (2018)
65. We encourage the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to focus on enrollment of highly erodible slopes in continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) signup and to allow other portions of that property to continue to be farmed. (2015)
66. CRP payment rates should be set not only by productivity potential of the ground – rates should prioritize the environmental benefit, water quality benefit or conservation benefit (HEL), so as to focus more on fragile ground, not to exceed the county average cash rent for comparable farmland. (2018)
67. Support maintaining the national 24 million acre limit for the CRP program. (2018)
68. Encourage NRCS to review and modify their policy on mid-contract management. (2018)
69. We support managed haying and grazing of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) land if there is an appropriate reduction in the rental rate. (2017)
70. Support rotational grazing of CRP) as a mid-management practice. (2018)

71. We encourage strong enforcement of the noxious weed law on federal and state lands. (2017)
72. We support allowing for mowing, noxious weed removal, or drainage ditch maintenance within Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) land or continuous CRP land without having to ask prior permission from the government. (2017)
73. We support funding for the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP). (2018)

CARBON & CLIMATE CHANGE

74. As carbon or cap and trade legislation or regulations are proposed, ICGA should review the scientific merit and economic impacts of such proposals. (2017)
75. We oppose international indirect land use in calculation of a carbon footprint for renewable fuels so that renewable fuels are on an equal footing with petroleum and other industries. (2015)

GENERAL

76. We believe the public should pay for any public environmental demands or regulations placed on private land when the regulations create a loss of income or require a cost for capital improvements to make those changes. (2015)

77. If the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) or federal government purchases Iowa farmland, then the local governments should be compensated for the lost property tax value on an annual basis, preferably based on corn suitability rating (CSR). (2015)
78. We believe agricultural environmental standards should not be stricter than industry and municipal standards. (2014)
79. Support the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to ensure they do not become an arm of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the Clean Water Act (CWA) Rule. (2015)
80. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) should be an agency of education first and enforcement second. (2015)
81. Support NCGA's creation of a plan of action to modify existing federal rules within the Endangered Species Act (ESA), Clean Water Act (CWA), Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) and others that severely increase costs to growers or provide a regulatory environment that negatively impacts production agriculture and especially corn production. Implement the plan as soon as practical. (2016)

EXPORTS & THE GRAIN TRADE
GREG ALBER, COMMITTEE CHAIR

BIOTECHNOLOGY

1. We support commercial research, development and marketing of biotechnology products. (2016)
2. We support continued compliance with the refuge requirement for raising corn. (2018)
3. We support a complete, yet expeditious, regulatory process in the U.S. for all biotechnology events. (2014)
4. Support the commercialization of biotech corn traits 30 months after the U.S. approval (assuming the Japanese approval has been granted) should delays in the completion of the risk assessment or issuance of safety certificates occur due to a non-functioning regulatory system. NCGA defines a functioning system as science based, meets WTO SPS Annex C 1 (b)'s (ca 2017) terms, accepts submissions without preconditions, and is free of political influence. (2018)
5. Biotechnology events should await complete U.S. federal regulatory approval, prior to release for commercial sale in the market. (2018)
6. ICGA should work with IDALS to keep Dicamba available in Iowa. (2018)

7. We support the continued compliance with channeling requirements for growing biotech crops. (2015)
8. We believe stakeholders throughout the value chain should work together to resolve potentially disruptive issues, including asynchronous approvals to export countries, science-based regulatory scrutiny, and low level presence (LLP) policies. (2017)
9. We oppose discriminatory labeling requirements of agricultural and food products other than directed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) at this time. (2018)
10. ICGA supports a national law that allows voluntary GMO labeling which preempts states from passing more restrictive laws. (2015)
11. We support the continuation of the Farmer Assurance Provision. (2014)

GRAIN MERCHANDISING & COMMODITY CHECKOFF

12. We believe, pursuant to Iowa Code, any entity that is a first purchaser of more than 50,000 bushels of grain annually in Iowa must have a grain dealer's license, be covered by the Iowa Grain Indemnity Fund and pay into the checkoff. (2017)

13. We support requiring contractors of specialty grains to hold a grain dealer's license and support producer contracts for specialty grains being covered by the Iowa Grain Indemnity Fund. (2017)
14. The Iowa Grain Indemnity Fund should be protected in accordance with the purposes outlined in the Iowa Code, and not subject to federal regulation. (2018)
15. We oppose the use of central filing as a means of determining if a lien is filed on agricultural commodities and livestock. (2018)
16. We support the work of Iowa's commodity checkoffs. (2017)
17. Timing of any corn checkoff rate decision should be decided by farmers, through farmer referendum, and as recommended by the farmer-elected representatives of the Iowa Corn Promotion Board. (2018)
18. We support adoption of universal international grain standards, tests and testing equipment that are not less than current U.S. standards. (2017)

RAIL

19. We support rail service within the state of Iowa that results in economic benefit to all citizens. The preservation and maintenance

of the current rail system is important.
(2018)

WATERWAYS

20. Federal, state and county governments should repair, maintain, and upgrade the levee system in the flood control district to guarantee the continuation of commerce on navigable waters and the continued protection of agricultural land. (2018)
21. Navigation, flood control, and industrial economic activity should be the priorities for river management. Recreational uses should be allowed but not be prioritized. (2017)
22. We oppose changes in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Missouri River Master Manual that have a negative impact on agriculture because of reduced navigation channel length or depth, reduced flood control constraints, or potential for spring rises. (2015)
23. We support extension of the locks and improvement of the lock and dam system on the upper Mississippi River to maintain our competitiveness in the world market. (2014)
24. ICGA should continue to work with renewed emphasis and prioritize full funding for the lock and dam projects in the Water Resources Development Act

(WRDA), including the Mississippi River. (2018)

25. We should continue to explore other innovative alternatives for river infrastructure funding methods, in addition to supporting user fee increases and increased federal funding on the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA). (2014)
26. We support funding of construction of river transportation infrastructure in partnership with private industry and government funding. (2018)
27. We support dredging of ports to allow fully loaded Super Panamax vessels. (2018)
28. We advocate changing the river discussion to refer to the rivers as the Missouri-Mississippi River System. (2014)
29. The original purpose and intent of drainage ditches was for drainage, and it should take precedence over wildlife or fish issues. (2017)
30. We oppose regulating 500-year flood plains to current 100-year flood plain standards. (2016)
31. Landowners should be able to build on a 100-year flood plain if appropriately planned and built up to protect for flooding. (2017)

32. We support accurate Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood mapping. (2016)
33. ICGA supports management of lakes to prioritize flood control over other uses. (2017)

ROAD

34. We support procedures to exempt producers from commercial license requirements for operating motor trucks to haul their own products to market within a 50-mile distance inside a neighboring state's borders and honor Iowa's laws regarding agricultural transportation, such as licenses and weights. (2017)
35. We support the inclusion of a farm use agricultural exemption for Class "A" commercial driver's license. (2014)
36. Midwestern states should reach an agreement on farm license reciprocity. (2018)
37. We support an increase in the weight-bearing standards to 100,000 pounds on all new or reconstructed roads and bridges in Iowa. (2014)
38. We support continuing the present formula for road use tax fund for cities and counties in the state of Iowa. Road use tax should only be used for roads and bridges. (2017)

39. ICGA supports innovative methods (such as the combination fuel tax approach) to increase transportation infrastructure funding, so long as the result increases funds by \$200 million or more, maintains the current distribution of funds to rural Iowa, and does not shift a tax burden to agriculture. (2015)
40. We support the use of corn-based products for ice removal on roads by Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT). (2018)
41. If roads are closed, exclusive use should revert back to the adjacent landowner. (2014)
42. We support an annual proclamation of 90,000 pound harvest weight limit exemption from September 15 to December 15. (2016)
43. Six and seven axle trucks which can currently run on state highways should also be able to run on federal highways. (2018)
44. We oppose the new U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) regulations on pickups hauling more than 10,001 pounds, requiring a farmer's name on the doors, requiring a U.S. DOT number to be assigned to you, a commercial driver's license, health cards, or log books. (2016)

45. We support the use of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other federal funding to pay for the repair and replacement of Iowa highways, interstate highways, and other forms of infrastructure caused by flooding. (2017)

TRADE

46. We support legislation and policy that would allow U.S. producers greater access to world markets. (2018)
47. We support and encourage the efforts of the U.S. Grains Council (USGC), the Foreign Agricultural Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA-FAS), the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF), and others to increase exports of corn, meats, ethanol, DDGs, and other agriculturally related value-added products. (2015)
48. We support exploring a direct trade office between Iowa and China in partnership with Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) and U.S. Grains Council (USGC). (2014)
49. We support corn growers' involvement in the MAIZALL coalition. (2016)
50. We do not want an ag products embargo used as a tool in international trade. (2018)

51. We support increased funding for foreign market development, market access and research programs. (2017)
52. We support reauthorizing the President's Trade Promotion Authority (TPA). (2017)
53. The United States should continue to work on specific country or regional trade agreements. (2017)
54. We support maintaining duty free market access for agricultural commodities and similar agriculture language from the TPP that could be adopted into any other agricultural trade agreements. (2018)
55. We support legislation that would promote free trade with Cuba. (2014)
56. We support implementation of the South Korea, Panama and Colombia Free Trade Agreements. (2018)
57. We support the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) negotiations. (2016)
58. Support the expedited renewal of negotiations bilaterally or multilaterally with the Pacific rim countries based on the framework established in TPP. (2018)

GENERAL

59. We support efforts to improve and expand transportation for the movement of agricultural products. (2018)
60. Support the elimination of portions of the Jones Act which increase the cost of transportation of agricultural products between U.S. ports. (2018)
61. We support a guest worker program that supports Iowa's agricultural labor needs. (2018)
62. ICGA supports efforts to streamline and increase the efficiency of permitting for infrastructure projects. (2018)
63. We favor broadening the mission and ability of the RECs and rural coops to bring additional utility services to rural Iowa. (2018)

INDUSTRIAL USAGE & U.S. PRODUCTION
JIM GREIF, COMMITTEE CHAIR

ETHANOL

1. Defense of the federal Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) should be the highest priority for federal ethanol policy. (2017)
2. We believe federal energy policy should be stepped up to a higher blend level. We support the national Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) to promote a more aggressive renewable energy policy that would move the United States closer to energy independence. (2017)
3. We will work to ensure the best rules possible for implementation of the federal Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS). (2014)
4. We support a Renewable Fuels Standard for Iowa (Iowa RFS) that would require Iowa renewable fuel sales to reach 25% of total fuel sales by the year 2020. The goal will be advanced by using higher ethanol and biodiesel blends with incentives weighted more toward higher blends. Benchmarks on success of the Iowa RFS, including the use of all ethanol and biodiesel blends, and compliance by marketers will be measured and evaluated each year. (2016)
5. We support use of tax incentives for the consumer to purchase E85 and to bolster

flex fuel vehicle (FFV) sales and purchases. (2018)

6. Pursue legislation to require automakers to build all flex-fuel vehicles or higher compression engines that require at least E25. Tier 4 diesel emissions standards are example of how companies can be forced to adopt technology. (2017)
7. We support E15 or higher as an option for ethanol blends in conventional cars. (2015)
8. We support infrastructure incentives for ethanol blends higher than E10. (2015)
9. We support promoting the expanded use of ethanol and the development and use of renewable alternative fuels. (2016)
10. We support funding for the Renewable Fuels Infrastructure Board (RFIB) at the levels equal to the last 5 years. (2017)
11. We support EPA continuing the CAFE credit for E85 vehicles past 2017. (2016)
12. Tax incentives for renewable fuels should be directed toward domestic production. (2016)
13. We believe that ethanol derived from materials other than corn, such as switchgrass, wood chips, corn stalks, etc., can be complementary to ethanol derived from corn. (2017)

14. We support removing restrictions on the use of program crops such as corn-based ethanol for consideration as an advanced biofuel. (2015)
15. We support the classification of starch ethanol as an advanced biofuel and the equitable allocation of the carbon footprint assessment for all energy sources. There should also be a fair allocation for the corn plant, so that stalks, cobs and kernels all get an equitable share of the carbon footprint. (2016)
16. We believe government policies should promote value-added processing of corn and corn-based biomass into ethanol and other products. (2015)
17. We support a legislative, regulatory and research move toward higher ethanol blends, including the use of blender pumps. (2014)
18. We support making more cars flex fuel compatible, including the conversion of non-flex fuel vehicles if possible. We encourage U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) testing and certification of conversion kits. (2014)
19. We support simplification of the regulatory process related to renewable fuels under the Clean Air Act (CAA). (2014)

20. We support a change in federal law regarding an ethanol pipeline to allow ethanol to receive guaranteed loans and tax treatment similar to those that petroleum-based fuels receive. (2015)
21. We support utilizing Underground Storage Tank (UST) funds to upgrade underground infrastructure that is capable of “E100.” (2015)
22. We support consistent ethanol branding with the ‘American Ethanol’ label. (2017)
23. Support labels on the pump in Iowa, following the nationwide American Ethanol label. (2017)
24. Congress should support equitable incentives for both domestic renewable fuels production and domestic oil production. (2017)
25. We believe if federal ethanol incentives or the RFS are removed, then oil incentives should also be removed. There should be equitable treatment for these two energy sources. (2018)
26. We support consistent treatment of E10 and higher ethanol blends with regards to summer blends, vapor pressure caps and waivers. (2018)

27. We support requiring all new fuel dispensers to be a minimum of E25 capable. (2016)

CROP INSURANCE

28. We believe ICGA should work with partners to develop or advocate for crop insurance products to meet the financial needs of central Corn Belt states. (2014)
29. We support effective conservation compliance. Conservation compliance should be tied to a Title 1 farm program. (2014)
30. Tying conservation compliance to crop insurance should occur only if the following protections are included:
 - a. a violation only affects the premium subsidy from the government, not eligibility for crop insurance;
 - b. if enforcement only occurs after all rights to appeal are finalized;
 - c. if a grace period is given to come back into compliance, and when back into compliance, the farmer is eligible for full crop insurance policy;
 - d. if enforcement is not applied retroactively to prior crop years (example: claw back provision proposed by Congress to require repaying government premiums for prior crop years);

- e. if the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) or Farm Service Agency (FSA) continues to handle both spot checks and appeals, not the Risk Management Agency (RMA) or other government agency;
 - f. if the penalty is only applicable to the farm with the violation on it, not a farmer's total acres. (2014)
31. The highest priority should be maintaining all crop insurance cost share above all other programs. The implementation should remain with crop insurance agents, not becoming a government program. (2014)
 32. We believe that crop insurance should be actuarially sound on a county-established basis. (2018)
 33. For production units that receive prevent plant benefits under the federal crop insurance program, the assigned yield for that year should be in the range of 60-75% of the farm's current APH for the crop involved. (2015)
 34. We do not support a hard cap or adjusted gross income (AGI) limits tied to crop insurance premiums. (2018)
 35. The federal government should continue to subsidize crop insurance premiums. (2014)
 36. We support efforts to provide more clarity and more flexibility in the interpretation

of cover crop rules/regulations by the Risk Management Agency (RMA). (2014)

37. ICGA supports making the cover crop seeding deadline later than October 15. (2016)
38. The Risk Management Agency (RMA) should examine the premium rates for area crop insurance products and make adjustments using similar methodology as with individual farm products. The correlation of premiums between corresponding individual and area products should be relatively consistent from county to county. (2015)
39. Crop insurance coverage should not be impaired by use of double cropping with cover crops. (2016)

FARM BILL

40. Market Access Program (MAP) and Foreign Market Development (FMD) funding should be a high priority during Farm Bill development discussions. (2018)
41. We believe the federal government should not guarantee a profit, but it should help manage risk. (2015)
42. We believe the primary method for providing a safety net should be federally-subsidized revenue insurance. (2015)

43. We support the use of federal crop insurance records as an acceptable form of proving yields for federal farm programs. (2018)
44. We believe farm policies should maintain planting flexibility for all crops. (2018)
45. We support the traditional rural/urban coalition approach to farm and nutrition legislation as related to the farm bill. (2014)

OTHER VALUE-ADDED

46. We support the continuing research, education and promotion of corn-based products. (2014)
47. We encourage the continued expansion of Iowa's value-added corn industry to enhance rural economic development and diversify Iowa's corn market. Furthermore, we support the production of identity-preserved corn with specific traits to meet end-user requirements and further strengthen economic activity. (2017)
48. We support the concept of farmer-owned bio-fuel production and farmer investment in value-added companies. (2017)

TAXES

49. We support lowering the capital gains tax rate on assets currently eligible for stepped-up basis and if studies indicate

- that it would be beneficial in helping new entrants start farming, we favor adjustments in the federal estate tax rate and stepped-up basis to offset the cost. (2017)
50. We believe the capital gains tax rate should remain at 15% or less. (2016)
 51. The unlimited stepped-up basis should be maintained. (2018)
 52. We support the elimination or reduction of the estate tax. (2018)
 53. We support making permanent tax cuts relating to estate tax, capital gains tax, and depreciation. (2018)
 54. We support incentives including a capital gains discount for farmers and other business owners to transfer ownership to future generations during their lifetimes rather than allow the business to pass through their estates, and retaining the stepped-up basis. (2017)
 55. We support beginning farmer loan programs and tax credits at the federal and state levels. (2014)
 56. Support an income tax credit to the owner who rents or sells land and/or machinery to beginning and young farmer start-ups, with no relationship restrictions. (2018)
 57. We support the State of Iowa fully funding the Agricultural Land Tax Credit Program

as it was originally intended and any other efforts that decrease dependence on property taxes to fund state or federally mandated programs. (2017)

58. We believe any increases in tax revenues should come from sales tax instead of income, property or estate taxes. People pay sales taxes in all phases of the economy and our laws have already addressed many of the necessary exclusions. (2017)
59. We support federal deductibility on state income taxes to maintain the existing law. (2015)
60. We support local county determination of assessment of agricultural property taxes. (2018)
61. We support reducing the property tax burden for school infrastructure, and utilize other alternatives for funding. (2018)
62. We support the renewal of wind energy production tax credits. (2018)
63. Work to make permanent a minimum \$500,000 deduction limit, indexed for inflation, for qualified equipment under IRS Sec. 179, small business expensing. (2016)
64. Promote permanent coupling of state 179 deduction. (2017)

65. We believe state and federal agencies should pay property tax to local counties similar to private property owners. (2014)

66. ICGA supports current tax deductions for farm businesses. (2018)

GENERAL

67. We support legislative oversight of regulatory agencies. (2018)

68. We support construction of new liquid fuel or gas pipelines. (2014)

69. ICGA should prioritize (a) Support for the coordination of education programs with Extension, agricultural education/FFA and 4-H; (b) Support the modern agricultural education of consumers; (c) Encourage cooperation of agricultural groups for the development of academic standard based agricultural classroom materials and review of educational materials for agricultural accuracy; (d) Support the continued education of farmers on current and emerging issues. (2018)

70. We believe the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) should maintain the integrity of the MSS L-BAND for GPS use. (2017)

71. Landowners should have more control over what is planted on adjacent roadsides – establishing and maintaining wildflowers is

expensive and makes it difficult to control noxious weeds. (2017)

72. We support efforts to classify Palmer Amaranth as a noxious weed. (2017)
73. We support reciprocity across state lines for registration of agricultural aircraft. (2018)

RESEARCH & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

PETE BRECHT, COMMITTEE CHAIR

1. We urge Congress and state legislatures to appropriate significant additional funds to support agriculture research in crops of economical significance such as corn and soybeans. (2014)
2. We support increased funding of research at all levels to improve corn quality, lower input costs and increase the use of corn. (2014)
3. We support continuing the state's long-term commitment to increase funding to the Iowa State University Agricultural Research Experiment Station and our land grant institutions for agronomic and plant research generally, and strongly recommend that state officials increase appropriations for the Experiment Station annually to restore Iowa's research competitiveness with similar agricultural research institutions and provide Iowa producers with the latest technology. (2016)
4. We support efforts to increase the input and involvement of Iowa producers in the strategic decision-making process regarding agricultural research, education, extension, regulatory issues, and policy study programs at Iowa's public institutions, industry and government agencies in an

effort to foster greater partnership and understanding. (2014)

5. We support enhanced funding for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and State of Iowa research budgets focused on new bioproducts, bio-energy, and other new uses of maize. (2016)
6. We support funding for collaborative research efforts between public and private researchers. (2014)
7. We support development and the implementation of an aggressive strategic plan for public research in functional genomics of corn and will focus policy and research dollars to that end. (2018)
8. We support research by the federal government for increased use of corn cobs, corn stover, and corn kernel fiber. (2015)
9. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) should not discriminate against corn in their project funding matrix. (2016)
10. We support efforts to increase coordination between U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) agencies to improve the accuracy of crop reports. (2014)
11. We support developing a strategy that ensures farmers maintain control of their own data. (2015)

12. FAA regulations should allow farmers the business use of UAVs (drones) above their land. (2015)
13. ICGA should help to allow crop scouts or other commercial businesses to utilize drones and charge for the service, but only with permission of the landowners and/or farm tenants. (2015)
14. Seed companies should be required to disclose the variety ID number of all hybrids offered prior to the point of sale. (2016)
15. Farmers should have access to the information and tools necessary to upkeep and repair their farm equipment. (2017)

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