

---

---

# 2026 POLICY OF THE



**AS APPROVED BY THE DELEGATES  
ASSEMBLED FOR THE  
2025/26 ANNUAL GRASSROOTS SUMMIT**

**SEPTEMBER 3, 2025  
FFA ENRICHMENT CENTER  
ANKENY, IOWA**

**MARK MUELLER, ICGA PRESIDENT (*WAVERLY, IA*)  
STEVE KUIPER, ICGA FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT (*KNOXVILLE, IA*)  
STUART SWANSON, ICGA CHAIR (*GALT, IA*)**

---

---



**ICGA MISSION:  
CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LONG-TERM  
IOWA CORN GROWER PROFITABILITY**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>IOWA CORN DISTRICT FIELD MANAGERS .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>ICGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2025-2026) .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>ANIMAL AGRICULTURE &amp; THE ENVIRONMENT (AAE) .....</b>	<b>3</b>
Crop Inputs .....	3
Livestock and Environment.....	5
Water Quality .....	7
Wildlife.....	10
Land Use.....	10
Wetlands .....	12
Federal & State Conservation Programs ..	13
Carbon .....	15
General .....	17
<b>EXPORTS &amp; THE GRAIN TRADE (EGT).....</b>	<b>19</b>
Biotechnology.....	19
Grain Merchandising & Commodity Checkoff .....	20
Rail .....	21
Waterways .....	21
Road.....	23
Trade.....	25
General .....	28

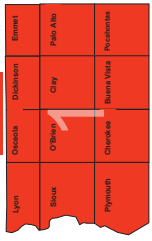
<b>INDUSTRIAL USAGE &amp; U.S. PRODUCTION (UP)...</b>	<b>29</b>
Ethanol.....	29
Crop Insurance.....	33
Farm Bill.....	34
Other Value-Added .....	35
Taxes.....	35
General .....	37
<b>RESEARCH &amp; BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT .....</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>INDEX .....</b>	<b>41</b>

## PREAMBLE

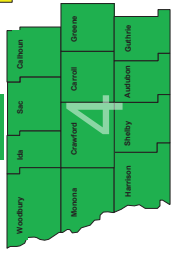
The Iowa Corn Growers Association views its annual resolutions as broad policy statements that the organization can work with effectively. Specific policy is the responsibility of its Board of Directors and implementation of that policy rests with its Executive Committee.

# Iowa Corn District Field Managers

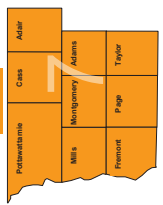
Shelton Hoofling  
515.901.6177



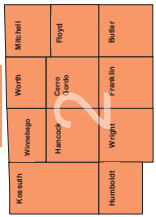
Janelle Kracht  
515.229.9860



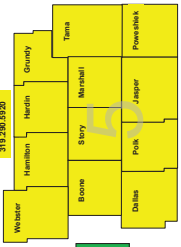
Kristen Alkers  
515.229.9861



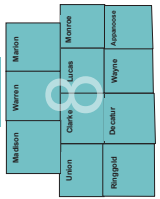
Vanessa Trampel  
515.229.7120



John Stoakes  
319.230.5920

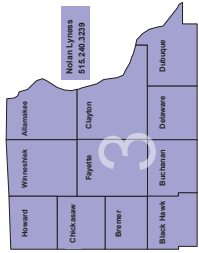


Alyssa Preston  
515.782.4215

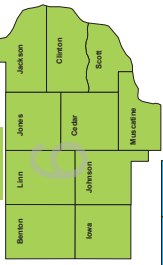


# Assigned territories FY 25/26

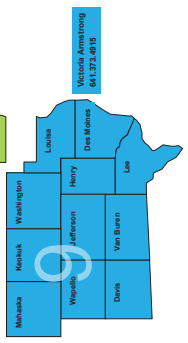
Nolan Lyness  
515.240.3239



Megan Cady  
515.802.9923



Victoria Armstrong  
641.373.4915



# **ICGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2025-2026)**

**PRESIDENT:** MARK MUELLER (WAVERLY, IA)

**VICE-PRESIDENT:** STEVE KUIPER (KNOXVILLE, IA)

**CHAIR:** STUART SWANSON (GALT, IA)

**DISTRICT 1:** MIKE VER STEEG (INWOOD, IA)

**DISTRICT 2:** RUSTY OLSON (GARNER, IA)

**DISTRICT 3:** ELLIOT HENDERSON (INDEPENDENCE, IA)

**DISTRICT 4:** LAURA FOELL (SCHALLER, IA)

**DISTRICT 5:** WILL CANNON (COLFAX, IA)

**DISTRICT 6:** LOUIE ZUMBACH (COGGON, IA)

**DISTRICT 7:** ADAM BIERBAUM (GRISWOLD, IA)

**DISTRICT 8:** KEVIN SMITH (BUSSEY, IA)

**DISTRICT 9:** DAN KEITZER (MEDIAPOLIS, IA)

## **CROP INPUTS**

1. We encourage suppliers and farmers to provide or apply fall NH<sub>3</sub> to farms only when the ground temperature has dropped to 50 degrees or below. (2023)
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. (2022)
3. ICGA supports continued efforts to bring more competitive fertilizer prices to farmers. (2025)
4. 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. (2022)
5. 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. (2022)
6. ICGA should continue to work on scientific-based retention of our farm inputs such as herbicides or pesticides; enhance and protect the existing rulemaking process for expeditious approval and protect the process from cancellation of products. (2024)

7. ICGA supports state and federal regulatory agencies following a science-based FIFRA Science Advisory Panel process for determining atrazine levels of concern. (2023)
8. Iowa Corn supports the Iowa Pesticide Resistance Management Strategy in cooperation with Iowa State University and the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS). (2022)
9. Iowa Corn recognizes that companies manufacturing pesticides provide valuable tools that are needed by farmers and support the scientific-based approval of such products for use by farmers, however, we do not support blanket immunity from ongoing or potential lawsuits that may emerge in the future should a product be found to be unsafe such as causing cancer or death. (2025)
10. Iowa Corn supports the availability of all crop protection tools labeled for agricultural uses. (2023)
11. We support regulating pesticide residues in consumer products in finished goods, not by restricting pesticide use as labeled during production. (2026)
12. Iowa Corn supports the use of EPA approved nitrification inhibitors for fertilizer and manure. (2026)
13. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) should maintain the current standards for anhydrous ammonia retail facilities. (2022)



14. We support more flexibility in cover crop management practices regarding conservation compliance. (2025)

## **LIVESTOCK AND ENVIRONMENT**

15. We support reasonable, consistent, and peer-reviewed science-based rules for all producers, including crops, livestock and biofuels. (2022)
16. 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. (2023)
17. 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. (2022)
18. We support right-to-farm in the state of Iowa. (2022)
19. We believe farmers should have protection from nuisance lawsuits. (2024)
20. We support legislation that would protect farmers from lawsuits related to agritourism and other visitors on the farm. (2023)
21. 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. (2021)
22. ICGA supports the livestock siting matrix in its current form. (2023)

23. We urge the State of Iowa to set reverse separation distances between Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs), homes, and businesses. (2024)
24. We support producer control over their own animal management decisions which are based on sound science. (2023)
25. We support the livestock industry on issues regarding animal activism by supporting modern production and harvesting practices. (2025)
26. We support using Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funds for odor control mechanisms for livestock operations. (2025)
27. We want the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to be prepared for a major animal and/or crop disease outbreak and how they handle it. Producers need to help provide guidance to the Government on faster response, disposal, and biosecurity protocol. (2021)
28. Iowa Corn supports policy that prevents states from influencing agricultural production practices or control the actions of other states through commerce and supports inclusion in the upcoming farm bill. (2024)
29. Lab grown or animal cell protein shouldn't be marketed or labeled as beef, lamb, pork, chicken or meat generally and must be USDA inspected. (2024)

## WATER QUALITY

30. We support science-based surface and groundwater monitoring and implementation of a voluntary, incentive-based subsurface and surface water protection plan. (2022)
31. 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. (2022)
32. We support 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). (2022)
33. We oppose nutrient budgeting without sound scientific evidence to justify regulation of non-point sources of nitrogen and phosphorous. (2024)
34. 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. (2025)

35. We support the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy as implemented 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 (NRS). (2024)
36. ICGA should facilitate the broadest possible producer participation in the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy and educate growers on the Strategy. (2024)
37. We support cost share and/or tax credits for conservation and/or environmental practices. (2022)
38. Edge-of-field practices should be funded with a minimum of 75% cost-share. (2024)
39. ICGA opposes mass dumping of silt back into a river by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. (2025)
40. We support data collection through the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) for the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy (NRS) to measure water quality improvements as long as the privacy and confidentiality of landowners and operators are protected. (2024)
41. We support a voluntary approach on a watershed basis to nutrient management rather than a regulatory approach. (2024)
42. We believe the goal of maintaining and achieving quality groundwater is the mutual responsibility of all private, public, and government users of water. (2024)

43. We support tile drainage for water management. (2023)
44. Drainage districts in Iowa should be free of annexation requirements and costs for improvements downstream once water leaves the drainage district into waters such as rivers or streams. (2025)
45. 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. (2025)
46. ICGA should work with Congress to continue to only regulate navigable waters of the United States. ICGA opposes tributaries, streams, storm water events and subsurface waters being part of WOTUS. (2022)
47. We support funding for research on water quality, usage, and management. (2023)
48. 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. (2024)
49. The design and delivery of cost-share for water quality projects should be streamlined and expedited to get more practices implemented. (2023)
50. If a sales tax increase is passed, at least 60% of the funds from the 3/8 cent increase should be appropriated for additional voluntary soil and water conservation practices. (2021)

## **WILDLIFE**

51. 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. (2025)
52. Landowners should have more input when it comes to determining levels of wildlife populations. (2023)
53. 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. (2022)
54. ICGA supports continuous open season for raccoon depopulation. (2023)
55. Iowa Corn recommends that if you use depredation tags then you have to shoot an antlerless deer first before you shoot a buck. (2023)

## **LAND USE**

56. We believe any land or easement taken and then abandoned, or not used for its intended purpose, should revert back to the private property owner. (2023)
57. As an alternative to federal and state agencies acquiring land, we support non-permanent easements or leases on the environmentally sensitive property for a period, with an option of renewal, so these lands continue in private ownership and on the tax rolls. (2025)
58. ICGA supports the entirety of the current permitting process outlined in the Iowa Code for utility projects regulated by the Iowa

Utilities Board and supports current rules for restoration of agricultural land during and after construction. We further support landowners negotiating requirements higher than state minimums on their individual property as they deem necessary. (2023)

59. Iowa corn supports coordinating with other agricultural organizations, financial institutions, and state legislators to pass legislation that enhances property rights but does not inhibit business development in the state of Iowa. (2026)
60. We support landowners' liability protections of existing utilities. Utility companies need to be held responsible for landowner requests for markings/diggings, etc. We feel the utilities board shall set up an arbitration panel consisting of 50% Landowner and 50% utility companies to settle disputes between landowners and utilities. (2026)
61. ICGA supports updated rules in company applications to allow more opportunities for companies to amend routing of infrastructure. (2026)
62. ICGA supports the implementation of carbon capture and sequestration pipelines and utilization purposes to lower the carbon intensity scores of ethanol plants. (2023)
63. We support individual landowner protections at the state level with regard to windmills, solar projects and other physical equipment placed on farmland not regulated by the Iowa Utilities Board. (2023)

64. Owners of energy utilities of all types should pay for damages for the full life of the infrastructure and end of life clean up. (2022)
65. Companies from industrial wind and solar projects have separate bonds for decommissioning and disasters, whether natural or man-made. Bonds must be in place before construction, through decommissioning. (2024)
66. 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. (2023)
67. 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. (2022)
68. ICGA supports maintaining a 17-foot clearance under utility lines for safety purposes. (2022)
69. 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. (2023)

## **WETLANDS**

70. 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. (2024)

71. 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. (2024)
72. We support streamlining the government process of determining wetland and wetland mitigation in cases of drainage district maintenance and upgrade requests. (2024)
73. 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. (2020)

## **FEDERAL & STATE CONSERVATION PROGRAMS**

74. We support greater availability for private and public technical expertise at NRCS Offices to keep current on conservation practices including timely developing and updating conservation plans. (2023)
75. 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. (2023)

76. We support the end of CRP for whole farms (2026)
77. Iowa Corn supports to have a cropping history of at least 15 years to qualify for CRP (2026)
78. We support a Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) that addresses the multiple environmental challenges of soil erosion and water quality and allows producers to continue to make environmentally compatible improvements to these acres under an approved plan. (2024)
79. 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. (2023)
80. Federal conservation programs including CRP should be reviewed and revised to limit and target to sensitive areas. (2023)
81. We encourage the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to focus on enrollment of highly erodible or environmentally sensitive lands in continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) signup and to allow other portions of that property to continue to be farmed. (2025)
82. 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 FSA county average cash rent for comparable farmland. (2024)

83. We support lowering the federal acre cap as well as lower the rental rates on CRP and reduce the county maximum percentage. (2024)
84. We support managed haying and grazing of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) land if there is an appropriate reduction in the rental rate. (2022)
85. Support rotational grazing of CRP as a mid-management practice. (2023)
86. ICGA supports eliminating the property tax benefit of the Timber and Forest Reserve. (2024)
87. We encourage strong enforcement of the noxious weed law on federal, state, county, and city lands. (2022)
88. We support allowing for 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. (2022)
89. We support funding for the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP). (2023)

## **CARBON**

90. ICGA should continue to prove that the corn industry is carbon neutral to carbon negative in production practices. (2021)
91. As carbon or cap and trade legislation or regulations are proposed, ICGA should review the scientific merit and economic impacts of such proposals. (2022)
92. We support voluntary standardized environmental stewardship incentive programs

that reward farmers for farming practices at market-based incentives. (2022)

93. Iowa Corn supports a carbon program that doesn't penalize early adopters of conservation. (2022)
94. Iowa Corn shall be active in any climate legislation to keep it voluntary with incentives for practices to cover any added expenses from the legislation. (2022)
95. ICGA supports an extension of the 45Z tax credit to match 45Q in terms of dates and timing, and also add transferability in the same time frame. (2025)
96. ICGA supports commodity organizations providing input to develop a standardized scoring system to measure CI scores regarding ethanol plants and feedstocks. (2024)
97. ICGA supports increased federal and state funding for research (or incentives) on the use of biochar and soil carbon amendments to improve soil health and sequestration of soil carbon as well as broader policies to support development of industries to produce biochar and bioenergy from biomass to create new markets and new opportunities for corn farmers. (2023)
98. 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. (2025)
99. We support a grain market chain of custody system that rewards climate smart practices and

gives all corn farmers the option to monetize these practices regardless of where they market their grain. (2025)

101. Iowa Corn supports a book and claim system with regards to the 45Z tax credit, and that we support a self-certification of practices with ability to be audited by USDA (2026)
102. Iowa Corn supports the GREET feed stock calculator for determining carbon intensity scores at the farm level. (2025)
103. ICGA supports the USDA with the help of agricultural industry experts and commodity organizations providing input to develop a standardized scoring system to measure CI scores. (2025)
104. Iowa Corn supports a carbon program that rewards early adopters and incentivizes new adopters of conservation. (2025)

## GENERAL

105. We support legislation requiring a “Good Neighbor” policy for Federal & State-owned land, including but not limited to existing property lines, management of noxious weeds, trees, and general care of the land. (2025)
106. 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. (2025)
107. 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 (CSR2). (2025)
108. We believe agricultural environmental standards should not be stricter than industry and municipal standards. (2024)
  109. We believe the EPA needs to be science-based and agronomically sound. (2023)
  110. 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. (2025)
  111. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) should be an agency of education first and enforcement second. (2025)
  112. 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. (2021)
  113. Bees must be present at a registered hive during pesticide application in order to file a complaint with IDALS. (2024)

**EXPORTS & THE GRAIN TRADE**  
**RYAN STEFFENSEN, COMMITTEE CHAIR**

**BIOTECHNOLOGY**

1. We support commercial research, development and marketing of biotechnology products. (2021)
2. We support continued compliance with the refuge requirement for raising corn. (2023)
3. We support a complete, yet expeditious, regulatory process in the U.S. for all biotechnology events. (2024)
4. We support the commercialization of science-based biotech corn traits in a timely manner. (2023)
5. Biotechnology events should await complete U.S. federal regulatory approval, prior to release for commercial sale in the market. (2023)
6. ICGA should work with IDALS to keep Dicamba available in Iowa. (2023)
7. 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. (2022)
8. 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. (2023)

9. ICGA supports a national law that allows voluntary GMO labeling which preempts states from passing more restrictive laws. (2025)

### **GRAIN MERCHANDISING & COMMODITY CHECKOFF**

10. 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. (2022)
11. ICGA supports the corn checkoff being used for its intended purpose of funding research, market development, and education. (2024)
12. We support the Iowa Grain Indemnity Fund and the Iowa Corn Checkoff remaining separate and used for their separate intended purposes. (2024)
13. We oppose diversion of checkoff funds from the Iowa Corn Checkoff. (2024)
14. 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. (2022)
15. The Iowa Grain Indemnity Fund should be protected in accordance with the purposes outlined in the Iowa Code, and not subject to federal regulation. (2023)
16. We oppose the use of central filing as a means of determining if a lien is filed on agricultural commodities and livestock. (2023)



17. ICGA supports reviewing the landlord lien law and supports documentation for cause in order for a lien to be filed. (2024)
18. We support the work of Iowa's commodity checkoffs. (2022)
19. 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. (2023)
20. We support adoption of universal international grain standards, tests and testing equipment that are not less than current U.S. standards. (2022)

## **RAIL**

21. 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. (2023)

## **WATERWAYS**

22. 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. (2023)
23. Navigation, flood control, and industrial economic activity should be the priorities for river management. Recreational uses should be allowed but not be prioritized. (2022)
24. We support placing high priority of maintaining navigation of the Missouri River downstream from Sioux City. (2022)

25. ICGA supports management of dams and reservoirs to prioritize flood control over other uses. (2025)
26. 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. (2025)
27. We support extension of the locks and improvement of the lock and dam system on the upper Mississippi River and tributaries to maintain our competitiveness in the world market. (2024)
28. 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. (2023)
29. We support funding of construction of river transportation infrastructure in partnership with private industry and government funding. (2023)
30. We support dredging of ports to allow fully loaded Super Panamax vessels. (2023)
31. The original purpose and intent of drainage ditches was for drainage, and it should take precedence over wildlife or fish issues. (2022)
32. We support considering higher levels of flood plain management than the 100-year flood due to repeated flooding events in Iowa that are greater than the 100-year. (2025)

33. We support accurate Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood mapping. (2021)

## ROAD

34. We support producers operating motor trucks to haul their own products to market within a 100-mile distance inside a neighboring state's borders and honor Iowa's laws regarding agricultural transportation such as licenses. (2022)
35. We support the inclusion of a farm use agricultural exemption for Class "A" commercial driver's license. (2024)
36. Midwestern states should reach an agreement on farm license reciprocity. (2023)
37. We support an increase in the weight-bearing standards to 100,000 pounds on all new or reconstructed roads, bridges, and rail crossings in Iowa. (2024)
38. We support the creation of a federal agriculture permit that farmers could apply for to haul greater weights of agricultural products on federal highways. (2024)
39. For electric vehicles, we support an equitable tax structure to maintain highway infrastructure funding. (2024)
40. Iowa Corn supports a tax on electric vehicles to fully offset the loss of state and federal gas tax. (2023)
41. 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. (2022)

42. 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. (2025)
43. We support the use of corn-based products for ice removal on roads by Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT). (2023)
44. If roads are closed, exclusive use should revert back to the adjacent landowner. (2024)
45. We support an annual proclamation of 90,000-pound harvest weight limit exemption from September 15 to December 15. (2021)
46. Six and seven axle trucks which can currently run on state highways should also be able to run on federal highways. (2023)
47. Iowa Corn supports a 90,000-pound weight limit for six and seven axle trucks on federal highways for agricultural products and implements of husbandry. (2023)
48. We oppose any new U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) regulations on any vehicle under 26,000 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. (2021)

49. 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. (2022)
50. As Iowa's roadways are modernized, we should retain current access to farm fields and farm retailers and ensure roadways accommodate modern farm equipment and implements of husbandry. (2024)
51. We support the DOT to update their construction standards for field access to sizes that fit today's sizes of agricultural equipment of 40 feet. (2024)
52. ICGA supports any secondary road upgrades, maintenance, or improvements to help with safety and farm to market access. (2021)
53. Counties and rural communities should not have to pay for new upgrades to federal interstates/overpasses. (2024)
54. ICGA supports the exemption of CDL, hazmat, and placards for farmers transporting 1,000 gallons or less of liquid fuel to agricultural equipment. (2026)

## TRADE

55. We support legislation and policy that would allow U.S. producers greater access to world markets. (2023)
56. We do not support management of the supply of corn in the U.S. that would result in an increase

of corn production by global competition.  
(2021)

57. 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, biofuels, DDGs, and other agriculturally related value-added products. (2024)
58. We support legislation, policy, and/or funding that would promote both blended biofuel and straight biofuel in the international market. (2024)
59. We support corn growers' involvement in the MAIZALL coalition. (2021)
60. Corn growers support the elimination of Brazil's import tariff on ethanol. (2025)
61. The US should have the ability to add a minimum of a reciprocal tariff on like goods. (2026)
62. We oppose non-tariff barriers for ag products. (2026)
63. We support increased funding for foreign market development, market access and research programs. (2022)
64. We support reauthorizing the President's Trade Promotion Authority (TPA). (2022)
65. The United States should continue to work on specific country or regional trade agreements. (2022)
66. We support maintaining duty free market

access for agricultural commodities and similar agriculture language from the CPTPP that could be adopted into any other agricultural trade agreements. (2022)

67. We support legislation that would promote free trade with Cuba. (2024)
68. We support reengagement in the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP and Transatlantic Trade Investment Partnership (TTIP), and United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) negotiations to build long-term global demand for corn and other agricultural products. (2022)
69. Support the expedited renewal of negotiations bilaterally or multilaterally with the Pacific rim countries based on the framework established in CPTPP. (2022)
70. If USDA is required to develop a Market Facilitation Payment, Iowa Corn supports corn in all forms be considered. (2025)
71. We believe the government should support trade and put efforts toward maintaining current export markets, and growing new corn markets, rather than government payments to make up for any lost markets. (2024)
72. We support the World Trade Organization (WTO) as a mechanism to support trade rules and settle trade disputes. (2024)
73. We encourage Congress to support the principles of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and follow the parameters outlined therein. (2024)

74. Iowa Corn supports legislation to support a change in how countervailing duties applied to input products, and farmers should have a voice with the International Trade Commission. (2026)

## GENERAL

75. Iowa Corn supports the enforcement of antitrust laws impacting agriculture. (2026)
76. We support efforts to improve and expand transportation for the movement of agricultural products. (2023)
77. Support the elimination of portions of the Jones Act which increase the cost of transportation of agricultural products between U.S. ports. (2023)
78. We support a guest worker program that supports Iowa's agricultural labor needs. (2023)
79. We support legal immigration. (2025)
80. ICGA supports efforts to streamline and increase the efficiency of permitting for infrastructure projects. (2023)
81. We favor broadening the mission and ability of the RECs and rural coops to bring additional utility services to rural Iowa. (2023)
82. We support an effort to align with other organizations to improve all transportation infrastructure. (2024)
83. We support efforts to assist fire departments doing grain entrapment training on actual grain bin facilities. (2022)
84. Iowa Corn opposes foreign ownership of Iowa farmland. (2022)



## INDUSTRIAL USAGE & U.S. PRODUCTION

ADAM BIERBAUM, COMMITTEE CHAIR

### ETHANOL

1. Defense of the federal Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) should be the highest priority for federal ethanol policy. (2022)
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. (2022)
3. We will work to ensure the best rules possible for implementation of the federal Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS). (2024)
4. Maintain integrity and transparency as intended by the original 2007 RFS. (2024)
5. We support consistent transparency of RIN Waivers from the EPA such as company name, volume of waivers requested, and an explanation of why it was granted. A period of public comment should be a part of this process. (2025)
6. The EPA should not grant retroactive “gap-year” small refinery exemptions to refiners claiming hardship for past years. (2021)
7. We support a Renewable Fuels Standard for Iowa (Iowa RFS) that incentivizes Iowa renewable fuel sales to reach 25% of total fuel sales. The goal will be advanced by using higher ethanol and biodiesel blends with incentives weighted more toward higher blends. (2021)

8. We support the use of tax incentives for consumers and manufacturers to purchase and produce E85 or higher to bolster flex fuel vehicle (FFV) sales and purchases. (2024)
9. ICGA supports EPA approval of flex fuel adaptors for existing vehicles to increase the use of biofuel and consumer choices. (2023)
10. We support any tax credit to convert, or production of, vehicles to run on up to E98. (2023)
11. Pursue legislation to require automakers to build flex-fuel, or low carbon-high compression engines that require at least E25. Tier 4 diesel emissions standards are an example of how companies can be forced to adopt technology. (2022)
12. We support legislation that would support the increase of flex-fuel vehicles in the marketplace. (2025)
13. We support all agriculture related businesses (seed companies, chemical companies, ag fuel companies, cooperatives, etc.) utilization of biofuels in their fleet vehicles. (2024)
14. We support E15 or higher available nationwide year round. (2025)
15. We support a uniform labeling of all blends of ethanol at the fuel pump nationwide. (2025)
16. We support infrastructure incentives for ethanol blends higher than E10. (2025)
17. We support consumer education and promotion at all levels to inform the general public and

beginning drivers of the benefits of biofuels.  
(2024)

18. We support requesting an increase in funding for the Renewable Fuels Infrastructure Board (RFIB). (2022)
19. We support EPA reinstating the CAFE credit for high efficiency, low carbon engines (E15+ and FFVs) for all vehicles in the future. (2024)
20. incentives for renewable fuels should be directed toward domestic production. (2021)
21. We support removing restrictions on the use of program crops such as corn-based ethanol for consideration as an advanced biofuel. (2025)
22. 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. (2021)
23. We believe government policies should promote value-added processing of corn and corn-based biomass into ethanol and other products. (2025)
24. We support a legislative, regulatory, and research move toward higher ethanol blends, including the use of blender pumps. (2024)
25. 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. (2024)
26. We support hybrid, flex-fuel vehicles. (2022)

27. We support simplification of the regulatory process related to renewable fuels under the Clean Air Act (CAA). (2024)
28. We support vehicles being warranted for E25 (RON 98) or higher. (2024)
29. We support the Low Carbon Octane Standard utilizing ethanol-based RON 98 (E25+) as the minimum U.S. octane level by 2026. (2025)
30. We support the Next Generation Fuels Act to build low carbon high octane engines. (2022)
31. Iowa Corn supports the adoption of a biofuel standard in Iowa. (2022)
32. We support all EPA approved blends being sold in all states. (2020)
33. ICGA supports EPA considering corn-based ethanol an advanced biofuel. (2023)
34. 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. (2025)
35. Congress should support equitable incentives for domestic renewable fuels production, domestic oil production, and electric vehicles and infrastructure. (2022)
36. ICGA supports the US Government advocating for equal treatment of MTBE and ethanol regarding tariffs and opposes the production of MTBE in the United States. (2021)
37. ICGA opposes EPA's rollback of regulations and promotion of fossil fuels as octane boosters over ethanol. (2021)

38. We support consistent treatment of E10 and higher ethanol blends with regards to summer blends, vapor pressure caps and waivers. (2023)
39. We support requiring all new fuel dispensers to be a minimum of E25 capable. (2021)
40. The Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) should remain in place. We do not support the unjustified granting of small refinery waivers by the EPA. Full reallocation of volumes displaced by the RIN hardship waivers must take place. (2025)
41. We support using Renewable Identification Numbers (RINs) as outlined in the 2007 Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) for only domestic blending requirements and not using them on ethanol exports. (2024)
42. Iowa Corn does not support e-RIN's to be associated with the RFS RIN's. (2024)
43. We support policies and practices that lower the carbon intensity score of USA grown corn based ethanol as a feedstock for Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF). (2025)
44. We believe that in order to qualify for tax credits and/or grants you must use feedstock grown in the USA for production of SAF. (2025)

## **CROP INSURANCE**

45. We believe ICGA should work with partners to develop or advocate for crop insurance products to meet the financial needs of corn producers. (2024)
46. Tying conservation compliance to crop insurance should occur only if the penalty is only

applicable to the farm with the violation on it, not a farmer's total acres. (2024)

47. The implementation of crop insurance programs should remain with crop insurance agents and not become a government-administered program. (2024)
48. We believe that crop insurance should be actuarially sound on a county-established basis. (2023)
49. We do not support a hard cap or adjusted gross income (AGI) limits tied to crop insurance premiums. (2023)
50. The federal government should continue to subsidize crop insurance premiums. (2024)
51. We support efforts to provide more clarity and more flexibility in the interpretation of cover crop rules/regulations by the Risk Management Agency (RMA). (2024)
52. For insurance purposes, we support additional flexibility for cover crop management in the termination of the cover crop. (2025)

## **FARM BILL**

53. Market Access Program (MAP) and Foreign Market Development (FMD) funding should be a high priority during Farm Bill development discussions. (2023)
54. We believe the primary method for providing a safety net should be federally subsidized crop insurance. (2025)

55. We support the use of federal crop insurance records as an acceptable form of proving yields for federal farm programs. (2023)
56. We believe farm policies should maintain planting flexibility for all crops. (2023)
57. We support the traditional rural/urban coalition approach to farm and nutrition legislation as related to the farm bill. (2024)
58. We support expanding the energy title that is within the Farm Bill. (2023)
59. We support producer data protection legislation included in the Farm Bill requiring that data can only be released as aggregate data. (2024)

#### **OTHER VALUE-ADDED**

60. We support the continuing-research, education, and promotion of corn-based products. (2024)
61. 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. (2022)
62. We support the concept of farmer-owned bio-fuel production and farmer investment in value-added companies. (2022)
63. Iowa Corn supports the use of corn and/or corn products to produce electricity. (2023)

#### **TAXES**

64. We believe the capital gains tax rate should be 15% or less. (2021)

- 65. ICGA supports lowering federal corporate tax rate from 21% back to a progressive tax starting with 15%. (2023)
- 66. The unlimited stepped-up basis should be maintained. (2023)
- 67. We support making permanent tax cuts relating to estate tax, capital gains tax, and depreciation. (2023)
- 68. 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. (2022)
- 69. We support beginning farmer loan programs and tax credits at the federal and state levels. (2024)
- 70. 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. (2023)
- 71. Iowa Corn supports legislation passed for farmers who are sole proprietors and now able to rent out farms as tax free income if legitimately retired to be extended to retired farmers with farm rent received through LLCs, partnerships, trusts, and farm corporations. (2025)
- 72. 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. (2022)



73. 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. (2022)
74. We support keeping current 1031 tax exchange policy as is. (2022)
75. We support federal deductibility on state income taxes. (2023)
76. We support local county determination of assessment of agricultural property taxes. (2023)
77. We support reducing the property tax burden for school infrastructure and utilize other alternatives for funding. (2023)
78. We support changing from six months to one year the time period to hold another special election for proposals that impact property taxes. (2025)
79. Promote permanent coupling of state 179 deduction. (2022)
80. ICGA supports current tax deductions for farm businesses. (2023)

## **GENERAL**

81. We support legislative oversight of regulatory agencies. (2023)
82. 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. (2023)

83. We support reciprocity across state lines for registration of agricultural aircraft. (2023)

84. We support working with others to explore affordable health care solutions for farmers. (2024)

85. We believe the USDA should establish an “Office of Ag and Rural Affairs” at the treasury department. (2025)

86. ICGA supports a federal agriculture exemption for FAA pilots license drone licensing when operating for agricultural use under 400 feet. (2026)

87. Iowa Corn supports the use of consistent yield data from RMA rather than speculative estimates from NASS. (2026)

## RESEARCH & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

WILL CANNON, COMMITTEE CHAIR

1. We urge Congress and state legislatures to appropriate significant additional funds to support agriculture research in crops of economic significance such as corn and soybeans. (2024)
2. We support increased funding of research at all levels to improve corn quality, lower input costs, and increase the use of corn. (2024)
3. Iowa Corn supports research to clarify the influence of microbes in the soil and manure interaction relative to crop production. (2023)
4. 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. (2021)
5. We support enhanced funding and incentives from the U.S. and Iowa government to promote the research, development, and/or use of bioproducts, bio-energy, and other new uses of maize. (2021)
6. If there are plant gene editing regulations, it should be overseen by USDA. (2025)

7. We support funding for collaborative research efforts between public and private researchers. (2024)
8. 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. (2023)
9. We encourage Government agencies to work toward collaborative reporting of production and supply information employing the latest information and technology available for improved accuracy. (2025)
10. Seed companies should be required to disclose the variety ID number of all hybrids offered prior to the point of sale. (2021)
11. Farmers should have access to the information and tools necessary to upkeep and repair their farm equipment. (2022)
12. Iowa corn supports the usage of corn and corn byproducts for the manufacture of consumer goods. (2025)

# Index

## 4

45Q.....	16
45Z.....	16

## A

advanced biofuel.....	31, 32
agricultural aircraft.....	38
agricultural lien.....	20
agritourism.....	5
anhydrous ammonia.....	4
animal health.....	6
antitrust.....	28
atrazine.....	4

## B

beginning farmer.....	36
biochar.....	16
biodiesel.....	29
biofuel infrastructure.....	30, 32
biofuels.....	26, 30, 31
biosecurity.....	6
biotechnology.....	19
bonds.....	12
buffer strips.....	14

## C

CAFE.....	31
cap and trade.....	15
capital gains tax.....	35
carbon.....	11, 15, 16, 30, 31, 33
central filing.....	20

checkoff.....	20, 21
Clean Air Act.....	32
Clean Water Act .....	18
climate.....	16
commerce.....	6, 21
conservation compliance.....	7, 13, 33
conservation compliance.....	5
Conservation Reserve Program.....	14, 15
Conservation Stewardship Program.....	15
corn suitability rating .....	18
cost share.....	8, 14
cover crop.....	34
crop insurance .....	33, 34
crop protection tools .....	4

## D

data.....	35, 38
deer.....	10
depreciation.....	36
Dicamba .....	19
drainage.....	9, 15, 22
dredging .....	22
dried distillers grains (DDGs).....	26
driver's license .....	23

## E

E15 .....	30
E25 .....	32
E85 .....	30
E98 .....	30
economic development .....	35
edge-of-field practices.....	8
education .....	3, 18, 20, 35, 37
Endangered Species Act (ESA) .....	18
Environmental Protection Commission (EPC) .....	5
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) .....	6
estate tax.....	36

ethanol.....	29, 30, 32
exports.....	19, 26, 27, 33

## F

Farm Bill .....	6, 34
Farm Service Agency (FSA).....	14
federal deductibility .....	37
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).....	23, 25
fertilizer.....	3, 4
Flex Fuel Vehicles (FFV).....	30, 31
flood management.....	21, 22
food labeling .....	19
Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA).....	18
Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) .....	26
Foreign Market Development (FMD).....	34
Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA).....	18

## G

gas tax .....	23
gene editing .....	39
genomics .....	40
GMO .....	20
grain dealer.....	20
grain entrapment training .....	28
grain standards .....	21

## H

health care .....	38
-------------------	----

## I

immigration.....	28
income tax .....	36
International Trade Commission (ITC).....	28
Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS).....	4,

7, 8

Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR).....	5, 7, 10, 17
Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT).....	24
Iowa Grain Indemnity Fund.....	20
Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy (NRS).....	8
Iowa State University Agricultural Research Experiment.....	39

## J

Jones Act .....	28
-----------------	----

## L

labor .....	28
landlord lien .....	21
landowner rights.....	11, 24
livestock .....	5, 7, 20
locks and dams .....	22

## M

MAIZALL.....	26
manure.....	3, 4, 39
Manure Management Plans (MMP).....	5
Market Access Program (MAP).....	34
Market Facilitation Payment (MFP) .....	27
Methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE) .....	32
microbes .....	39
Mississippi River .....	22
Missouri River .....	21
mitigation .....	12

## N

National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) .....	38
Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).....	13
Next Generation Fuels Act.....	32
nutrient budgeting .....	7

## O



Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) .....	4
octane .....	32

**P**

pipeline.....	11, 32
property rights.....	11
property tax .....	15, 18, 37

**R**

raccoon.....	10
refuge .....	19
regulatory agencies .....	12, 37
Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS).....	33
Renewable Fuels Infrastructure Board (RFIB) .....	31
Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) .....	29
Renewable Identification Numbers (RINs).....	29, 33
Research Octane Number (RON) .....	32
right to repair.....	40
Risk Management Agency (RMA) .....	34, 38
road use tax .....	23

**S**

sales tax.....	9
sales tax .....	37
small refinery exemptions (SREs) .....	29, 33
solar.....	11, 12
starch ethanol .....	31
stepped-up basis .....	36
Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF).....	33

**T**

tariffs .....	26, 32
tax credit.....	8, 16, 30, 33, 36
Tax Credit.....	36
Timber and Forest Reserve .....	15
trade.....	19

Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) .....	26
Trans-Pacific Partnership .....	27
transportation .....	22, 24, 28
trucks .....	23, 24

## U

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers .....	8, 13, 22
U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) .....	6, 17, 19, 27, 38
U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) .....	24
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) .....	4, 18, 29, 31, 32
U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) .....	38
U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) .....	19
U.S. Grains Council (USGC) .....	26
U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF) .....	26
United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) .....	27
utility projects .....	10

## V

value-added .....	26, 31, 35
-------------------	------------

## W

Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) .....	22
Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) .....	9
watershed .....	8, 12
windmills .....	11
World Trade Organization (WTO) .....	27

# **BLANK PAGE FOR NOTES**

# **BLANK PAGE FOR NOTES**

# **BLANK PAGE FOR NOTES**

# **BLANK PAGE FOR NOTES**





**Iowa Corn Growers Association**

5505 NW 88th St.

Johnston, IA 50131-2948

515-225-9242

515-225-0781 (fax)

[corninfo@iowacorn.org](mailto:corninfo@iowacorn.org)