



2025 ICA LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

REPRESENTING NEARLY **8,000 MEMBERS** ACROSS THE STATE OF IOWA

HERD HEALTH

Foreign Animal Disease Preparedness

We support the development of a traceability system that works for producers, mitigates risk for farm businesses, and safeguards the beef supply chain during a disease outbreak.

Additionally, we support funding for Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) vaccine development and FAD outbreak preparedness.

Animal Health and Well-Being

Farmers and ranchers are concerned with the welfare of livestock and recognize that good animal health, care, production, and handling practices are essential to efficient and profitable production. We oppose efforts by other states to impose standards or conditions related to animal husbandry or welfare.

We support the use of any approved and regulated vaccine technology that protects and/or improves the health and well-being of beef cattle. Additionally, we support protecting the use of animal health tools to combat disease in Iowa's cattle herd.

CONSERVATION & SUSTAINABILITY

As the original stewards of the land, cattle producers have proven their dedication to protecting and preserving our natural resources. We affirm this longstanding commitment, and will continue to:

- Encourage use of voluntary, evidence-based conservation practices to enhance soil health, reduce nutrient escape, and improve water quality;
- Promote the value of incorporating managed livestock grazing on more acres throughout the state;
- Combat burdensome overreach at the local, state, and federal levels with regard to regulating livestock barns, changes to the Master Matrix, and county-specific ordinances; and
- Oppose the regulation of greenhouse gases in the cattle industry.

RESEARCH & PROGRAMMING

We support the designation of funds for Iowa State University and the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship for the advancement of Iowa's agriculture industry and the next generation of farmers.

PROTECT PROPERTY RIGHTS

The livelihoods of cattle producers in Iowa depend on the land. We will fight to protect private property rights, and oppose the use of eminent domain.

- Discouraging the purchase or acquisition of agricultural land by the government;
- Prioritizing the preservation of agricultural land for grazing and livestock production; and
- Upholding Iowa's fence law.



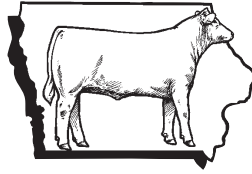
CATTLE MARKETING

We're committed to improving price discovery and increasing market transparency for all producers across the beef belt. To advance these priorities, we will continue to:

- Lead minimum cash trade legislative efforts at the federal level;
- Encourage more timely reports of average carcass weights;
- Encourage use of the Cattle Contracts Library Pilot Program; and
- Support opportunities to grow negotiated trade in all major cattle feeding regions.



IOWA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION



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FARM BILL

We will continue to represent the interests of our members throughout the development of the farm bill. Our efforts will focus on:

- Improving voluntary conservation programs to meet the needs of cattle producers;
- Supporting funding for disaster assistance programs;
- Strengthening price risk management tools;
- Protecting animal health through programs that guard against the spread of foreign animal diseases; and
- Supporting an increase in funding for export assistance programs like the Market Access Program (MAP).

TAX & FINANCE

- We will counter detrimental tax policy proposals that limit the ability of Iowa cattlemen to stay in business or pass on their legacies to the next generation of producers.
- We oppose the use of greenhouse gas emissions targets (regulating Scope 3 emissions) to determine bank lending rates for farmers and ranchers.
- We support reducing or eliminating the property tax exemption on Fruit Tree/Forest Reserve, Wetlands Reserve, Native Prairie and Iowa Slough Bill lands, such that Iowa's cattle industry does not unfairly and disproportionately carry the tax burden.



PROCESSING & LABELING

- Advocating for increased competition and processing capacity in the beef meatpacking sector, particularly in Iowa;
- Promoting fair and accurate labeling, which includes eliminating the use of the Product of the USA label on imported beef products;

TRANSPORTATION

- Supporting an increased weight limit on the interstate road system to help truckers safely and efficiently haul cattle.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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