

IOWA SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION (ISA)

Policy Resolutions

Approved by ISA Voting Delegates

December 17, 2025

BIOTECHNOLOGY

ISA Statement of Principles

The Iowa Soybean Association believes that biotechnology based on sound science, full disclosure, and with the approval of regulatory agencies, has helped and will continue to help farmers meet growing world food, health, and energy needs while benefiting producers, consumers, and the environment.

2024 Biotechnology Food Labeling

We oppose any additional state or federal initiative to mandate labels on bioengineered agricultural products.

2025 Biotechnology Acceptance Process

We support a science-based, expedited process for approval and acceptance of biotechnology products across all domestic and export markets.

2021 Biotechnology Education

We support producer and industry involvement in programs that illustrate scientific facts and the public and environmental benefits of biotechnology crops, products, and technologies.

2022 Biotechnology Enhanced Products

We support the open trade access of biotechnology-enhanced agricultural products approved by a science-based regulatory system. We support the federal government maximizing education and understanding in countries that biotechnology can help address environmental challenges, augment nutrition, and improve food security. We support uniform international intellectual property laws and the enforcement of those laws that protect the technological and financial interests of the developers of new biotech traits. We support the development and release of new varieties only in countries that protect intellectual property rights. We oppose the practice of U.S. farmers paying technology or royalty fees for products that are available to our competitors for sharply reduced fees.

2022 Product Use Liability

We oppose producers being held liable for damages resulting from biotechnology-enhanced product use when recommended practices and procedures are followed. We support addressing liability at the federal level.

2023 Biotechnology Product Synchronization and Transparency

We support biotechnology companies:

1. Aligning product releases with domestic regulatory approvals for all traits, technologies, and system components.
2. Securing required trade clearances and implementing effective control measures.
3. Establishing robust documentation systems for approval, acceptance, and product tracking.
4. Fostering collaboration among industry stakeholders to establish criteria and timelines for introducing new technologies without market disruptions, including those going off patent.

ENERGY

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IOWA SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION (ISA)

Policy Resolutions

Approved by ISA Voting Delegates

December 17, 2025

The Iowa Soybean Association encourages state and federal governments to incorporate incentives for renewable fuels, products, and infrastructure to facilitate greater renewable fuel production and consumption.

2024 Biodiesel Quality Standards and Testing

We support government recognition of the unique fuel quality attributes of biodiesel and the enforcement of ASTM 6751 and other ASTM biodiesel blend standards. We support the adoption and utilization of the BQ 9000 quality program. We offer continued support of a state funded and certified testing laboratory and quality enforcement program to evaluate biodiesel quality.

2024 Small Refinery Exemptions (SRE)

We oppose the granting of small refinery exemptions under the RFS.

2025 Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS)

We support a Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS2) that reflects the expansion of the renewable fuels industry for soy-based biofuel and opposes any changes that would reduce Renewable Volume Obligations (RVO).

2025 State Funding of Biodiesel Projects

We support funding infrastructure projects designed to increase soybean usage and profitability through the Renewable Fuels Infrastructure Board (RFIB).

2021 Bioenergy Programs

We support the continuation and expansion of bioenergy programs in any future farm bills.

2021 Biodiesel Sustainability

We support the continued work of the Clean Fuels Alliance America (CFAA) to promote the use of sustainable feedstocks in biodiesel production methods. ISA supports the industry's demand that any policy involving direct and indirect land use metrics be based on sound science and transparent, verifiable data so that biodiesel's impact on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and soybean sustainability is accurately assessed.

2021 Energy and Food Security

We recognize and support the role agriculture can and should play in US energy and food security. We support federal, state, and local education and promotion of biofuels as an economically important and environmentally friendly solution to utilizing grain production, decreasing carbon intensity, and increasing U.S. energy, food independence, and security.

2021 Renewable Energy Support

We support a comprehensive energy policy that utilizes all current sources, and the study and development of additional renewable energy sources.

2022 Ethanol

We support all EPA approved ethanol blends E15 and above.

2022 Energy Utility Damages

We support owners of energy utilities (i.e., pipelines, transmission lines, and wind generators) paying damages for the full life of the infrastructure.

2022 Net Metering

We support net metering for agricultural producers who generate their own electricity cleanly and efficiently.

2023 Biomass-Based Fuels

We support renewable fuels derived from soybean oil, including biodiesel, renewable diesel (RD), and sustainable aviation fuel (SAF). We support tax incentives, cost-share programs,

IOWA SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION (ISA)

Policy Resolutions

Approved by ISA Voting Delegates

December 17, 2025

and educational initiatives that enhance the production and consumption of these fuels. We support policies promoting higher blends of domestically produced biomass-based diesel (BBD) in compliance with WTO standards.

2023 Electronic Renewable Identification Numbers (eRINs)

We oppose the expansion of the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) to encompass non-biomass-based fuels.

2024 Indirect Land Use Change

We support the development of alternative approaches to quantifying indirect land use change in the U.S. Renewable Fuel Standard and state Low Carbon Fuel Standards programs.

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

ISA Statement of Principles

The Iowa Soybean Association believes that agricultural leaders should collaborate with diverse stakeholders to develop and implement effective environmental policies and programs. Policies and programs should be based on sound science using accessible and credible data as a foundation for decision making. We believe programs incorporating adaptive management and providing farmers with long-term benefits directed at productivity, profitability and sustainability are the best routes to improving and maintaining environmental quality. Incentives should be effective and efficiently used to initiate longer-term efforts to improve environmental quality and natural resource management.

2024 Agricultural Dust

We support an exemption for agricultural dust from regulation.

2024 DNR Enforcement

We support Iowa DNR as the enforcement agency for environmental and Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) regulations rather than the EPA.

2024 Soil and Water Conservation Districts and Watershed Management

We support State Soil and Water Conservation Districts as the primary jurisdictional organization providing leadership and coordination for local watershed initiatives. We support farmer consultation in the development, implementation, and review of watershed management plans. We support state alignment on technical and financial assistance in watershed planning and implementation. We support state-wide common definitions and standards for watershed management plans.

2025 Changing Weather Adaptation Recommendations

We support the research, assessment and implementation of agricultural management adaptations addressing impacts of variable weather events and changing climatic conditions. We support voluntary initiatives assisting farmers with implementing strategies to address weather and climate issues.

2025 Farmers adopting Ecosystem Services

We support the development of voluntary markets such as the Soil and Water Outcomes Fund. Additionally, we support farmer compensation for voluntarily providing ecosystem services, including water quality improvement, carbon sequestration, habitat creation and more.

2025 Iowa Water Quality Initiative

IOWA SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION (ISA)

Policy Resolutions

Approved by ISA Voting Delegates

December 17, 2025

We support Iowa's Water Quality Initiative funded by the legislature as a voluntary, cooperative, science and technology-based approach to reduce nutrient loss for water quality improvements.

2025 Soil and Water Quality Tax Credit

We support a soil and water quality improvement state tax credit program.

2021 Clean Water Act

We oppose expansion of EPA regulatory authority beyond navigable waters.

2021 Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund

We support sustainably funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund.

2021 Nutrient Reduction Strategy

We support the stated principles of Iowa's Nutrient Reduction Strategy along with information dissemination to the public regarding farmers' efforts to achieve continuous improvement. We support enhancing the current INRS through increased education and incentives.

2021 Regulations and Response

We oppose allowing regulatory agencies to adopt new regulations that do not start as legislation.

2021 Soil Health

We support healthy soil and the benefits provided to our ecosystem, the environment, and the productive capacity of our land. We support the adoption of those practices and policies that help build, sustain, and promote soil health.

2021 Sustainable Funding for Iowa's Natural Resources

We support securing sustainable, long-term funding for the conservation of Iowa's Natural Resources, aligning with farmers' priority resource concerns and at funding levels that address the scope of concerns.

2022 Agricultural Drainage

We support subsurface drainage such as tiling to increase crop productivity and farmer profitability. We support additional funding for technical assistance and implementation of optimized drainage systems. We support research to minimize subsurface nutrient loss and to maximize the adoption of practices that improve soil health, sequester carbon, and reduce soil erosion from surface water movement.

2022 Climate Change Legislation

We support climate legislation and carbon policies that (1) allow farmers to use the most effective and appropriate production practices, and that (2) recognize farmers as a solution to climate change through the contributions of biofuels, conservation practices, and production efficiencies.

2022 Constructed Wetlands

We support the inclusion of constructed wetlands in any voluntary conservation plan where the landowner has the flexibility to find the best solutions for their farming operation. We support expansion of the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) across the state.

2022 Cover Crop Incentive Programs

We support the expansion of cover crop incentive programs and additional research for the optimization of cover crops in Iowa.

2022 Data Accessibility

We support a requirement that research data cited or used as the basis for rules and regulations impacting production agriculture be made available and open for independent review.

2022 Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP)

IOWA SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION (ISA)

Policy Resolutions

Approved by ISA Voting Delegates

December 17, 2025

We support commodity group representation on local and state REAP committees. We support prioritizing REAP funds for soil and water conservation projects.

2022 Urban and Rural Collaboration and One Water

We support strengthening and promoting collaborative partnerships and holistic water management through a One Water Approach. We support efforts to better align programs and research to enhance communication and information exchange, and to establish new opportunities that support the expansion of implementation projects. We support collaboration across cities and industries in partnership with agricultural producers to develop and implement accredited nutrient reduction practices that may offset the cost of implementing technology at permitted facilities. Farmers and sponsors financing the implementation of qualified practices should retain performance credits for future projects.

2023 Crop Protection Product Safety

We support reasonable efforts and data-driven decisions to improve crop-protection product safety, handling, and education, including training to help farmers understand and follow label requirements.

2023 Habitat and Cover Crop Seed Mixes

We support establishing and enforcing a seed inspection and certification policy to ensure that seed used for cost-share habitat and cover crop programs is free from noxious weed seeds.

2023 Worldwide Agriculture and Environment

We oppose initiatives or investments by U.S. institutions, multinational corporations, and the World Bank that exclude the voluntary use of proven, science-based conservation and environmental practices.

2023 Soil Carbon Amendments

We support increased state and federal funding for research on the use of biochar and soil carbon amendments to improve soil health and carbon sequestration, as well as broader state and federal policies that support the development of industries to produce biochar and bioenergy from biomass to create new markets and opportunities for soybean farmers.

2023 Cover Crop Harvestability

We support the creation of a new, more inclusive definition of cover crop across government agencies, allowing for the cover crop to be harvested while not compromising insurability or value of the primary crop.

2023 Farm-Level Environmental Metrics

We support the farmer-led development of voluntary environmental metrics that would allow farmers to financially benefit from their conservation practices.

2023 Conservation Technical Assistance

We support enhancing conservation planning by increasing [public] technical assistance personnel and equipping private-sector planners with the same tools and resources as the public sector. We support the use of private Technical Service Providers, funded by producers, whose work should be fairly and promptly evaluated by NRCS to expedite conservation practices. We support flexible funding for approved practices.

2023 Crop Protection Product Permitting

We oppose new permitting processes for crop protection products and insist that EPA's regulations do not burden farmers. We also reject the need for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits for pesticide applications in crop production.

2023 Soybean Sustainability and Traceability

IOWA SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION (ISA)

Policy Resolutions

Approved by ISA Voting Delegates

December 17, 2025

We support a comprehensive approach to validating the sustainability of U.S. soybean production. We endorse adherence to state and federal conservation, environmental, and labor laws, affirming the sustainable practices of U.S. soybean farmers. We support the opportunity for farmers to participate in premium pricing structures that compensate for sustainability initiatives.

FEDERAL FARM POLICY

ISA Statement of Principles

We support a federal farm soybean program that enables soybeans to compete effectively with other major crops, provides income protection to U.S. soybean farmers, provides planting flexibility necessary for U.S. soybean farmers to base their planting decisions on market signals and respond to environmental and conservation concerns, and protects farmers from buyer and broker bankruptcies.

2024 Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

We support continuation of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). We support a Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) which prioritizes environmentally sensitive lands. We support the development of CRP programs and payment mechanisms that promote active management and productive use of the biomass

2024 Cover Crop Conservation Practices

We support alignment between agencies such as USDA, EPA, and Treasury in delivery of information and benefits as it relates to programs supporting the adoption of cover crops.

2025 Federal Crop Insurance

We support a subsidized Federal Crop Insurance Program providing realistic levels of protection at the election of the producer. We support continuation of the Federal Crop Insurance Program including these tenants:

- Review of crop insurance policies to reflect new practices and technologies
- Keep trend adjusted yield or insurable yield levels
- Actuarially sound premiums based on risk
- Maintain access through local agents not federal administration
- Pilot programs to test conservation practices that reduce risk and lower premiums.

2021 Carbon Credit Certification

We support the establishment of a standardized process through which the U.S. Department of Agriculture can determine third-party verifiers of on-farm ecosystem services and markets.

2021 On-Farm Carbon Capture Tax Credit

We support a federal tax credit program that invests in natural climate solutions at the individual farm level.

2021 Oversight of Climate Programs and Strategies

We support USDA assuming the lead role on federal policies and programs involving agriculture and climate related efforts and solutions.

2022 Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

We support fully funding the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) to enhance conservation efforts on working lands.

2022 Farm Storage Pack Factor Measurement

IOWA SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION (ISA)

Policy Resolutions

Approved by ISA Voting Delegates

December 17, 2025

We support evaluating and updating stored grain pack factors that allow agricultural producers, warehouse officials, and stored grain managers to accurately assess and track stored-grain inventories.

2022 Pollinator Habitat Enhancement Programs

We support affordable seed mixes, including milkweed species, which are evaluated and approved for pollinator habitat seeding.

2022 Soybean Reference Price

We support increasing the Title 1 soybean reference price.

2022 USDA Risk Management Agency (RMA) and Farm Service Agency (FSA)

Coordination

We support increased cooperation and communication between RMA and FSA to compute more realistic and statistically defensible yields.

2023 Federal Inspections and Biosecurity

We support a requirement that state and federal inspectors follow biosecurity measures and provide at least one-day prior notice when responding to farm and livestock issues.

2023 Pollinator Conservation

We support cooperative efforts by USDA, IDALS, and ISU to lead a science-based conservation strategy to improve honeybee, monarch butterfly, and other pollinator habitat on private and public lands.

2023 Endangered Species & Habitat Protection

We support the use of sound science, realistic assumptions, and real-world data for Endangered Species Act (ESA) evaluations and consultations that protect producers and landowners from penalty if species for which they develop habitat are listed under the ESA.

We support the involvement of farmers in discussions with regulators to identify practical and flexible mitigation strategies that are viable for crop production while protecting endangered species and their habitats. We oppose the implementation of broad, disruptive measures, including county-wide prohibitions, in enforcing ESA stipulations in pesticide registrations.

2023 Conservation Programs

We support a farm bill conservation title focused on enhancing air and water quality, and fostering resilient, productive soils. We support USDA initiatives enhancing farmer-level data analysis and integration of conservation practices and the provision of incentives and research to help farmers achieve these goals.

2023 Foreign Market Development

We support robust funding by the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), the United Soybean Board (USB), American Soybean Association (ASA), the United States Soybean Export Council (USSEC), and qualified state soybean boards (QSSBs) to develop international markets for soy and soy-based products.

2023 Farm Bill

We support an on-time, meaningful, comprehensive, sufficiently funded farm bill that addresses soy priorities.

STATE OF IOWA FARM AND RURAL POLICY

ISA Statement of Principles

We support a balanced state budget with expenditures on agricultural priorities commensurate with its economic importance to the state. We encourage state officials to recognize and act on

IOWA SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION (ISA)

Policy Resolutions

Approved by ISA Voting Delegates

December 17, 2025

the opportunities for economic growth represented by Iowa's crop, livestock, and biofuels industries.

2024 Central Filing

We oppose moving from Iowa's direct notice system to a central filing system for buyer notification.

2021 Buyer, Supplier and Broker Bankruptcy

We support provisions that protect farmers from buyer, supplier, and broker bankruptcies.

2022 Rulemaking Authority and Oversight

We support legislative oversight of any rule written by state agencies and appointed commissions impacting farmers and other agricultural businesses.

2022 Rural Emergency Requests

We support efforts and incentives to enhance emergency response infrastructure and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) compensation in rural areas.

2022 Soy Buying Preference

We support a soy or bio-based buying preference for federal, state, and local government entities.

2022 State Regulations

We support the concept of sunseting state regulations after five years of enactment.

2023 Broadband Access and Rural Connectivity

We support the development and widespread implementation of high-speed internet infrastructure across rural Iowa.

LIVESTOCK

ISA Statement of Principles

We encourage the responsible expansion of livestock, poultry, and aquatic production in Iowa for greater use of soybean products.

2024 Protein Origin, Labeling and Oversight

We support labeling only protein derived from livestock and poultry for human consumption as "meat." We support USDA oversight of cellular or alternatively produced proteins.

2025 Odor

We support efforts to mitigate odor from livestock operations using economically efficient techniques, including funding odor research.

2022 Animal Care

We support the best animal care practices and oppose any abuse or mistreatment of livestock.

2022 Anti-Livestock Organizations and Actions

We support responsible livestock producers who face unwarranted challenges by individuals or organizations attempting to restrict livestock production in Iowa. We support efforts to educate and inform the public of the value of homegrown food products.

2022 Iowa Livestock Industry

We support the maintenance and growth of Iowa's livestock industry.

2022 Local Control

We oppose county authority preempting state authority on agricultural and environmental regulations.

IOWA SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION (ISA)

Policy Resolutions

Approved by ISA Voting Delegates

December 17, 2025

2023 Animal Disease Prevention and Management

We support the continuation and maintenance of farm bill programs that support animal disease prevention, surveillance, and management. This initiative is vital for protecting U.S. food security and should include the National Animal Vaccine and Veterinary Countermeasures Bank (NAVVCB), the National Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Program (NADPRP), and the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN).

PROPERTY RIGHTS AND LAND USE

ISA Statement of Principles

We believe state and federal governments should concentrate more on the management of currently owned government land and reduce the effort to acquire more public land. We oppose the use of eminent domain to condemn or transfer property from one private entity to another private entity and to acquire private land for economic, conservation, landfill, road building, utilities, or recreational interests without just compensation.

2024 Deer Tags

We support an increase in the number of doe and buck tags to in-and out-of-state hunters. Non-resident landowners should be eligible for landowner tags.

2024 Federal Executive Orders

We oppose federal executive orders that deprive citizens of rights and property.

2025 Infrastructure on Private Land

We support upgrading our nation's infrastructure grid. We support fair landowner compensation for residual impacts on cropland production and value, as well as restrictions on land improvements. We support efforts to protect farmers' property rights within the easement and land acquisition process, as well as efforts to hold companies securing those easements and building infrastructure accountable for ongoing environmental and private property damage.

2021 Aerial Imagery and Remote Sensing within Agriculture

We support the use of aerial imagery and remote sensing technologies that benefit production agriculture. The use of these technologies and data collected must be under the control of corresponding landowners and farmers.

2022 Energy Infrastructure

We support the establishment of a minimum threshold for voluntary easements obtained by a nongovernmental entity when multiple properties engage in an energy infrastructure project. This minimum threshold should be met before an entity is granted eminent domain authority.

2022 Underground Infrastructure

We support the restoration of agricultural land and related infrastructure to the original or improved condition after the installation of underground infrastructure. This shall include compensation for crop damage or affected crop yields.

2022 Urban Development Boundary Plans and Annexation

We oppose involuntary annexations that restrict the property rights of landowners without just compensation. We support the State of Iowa requiring all cities and counties to develop urban development boundary plans. In the event of an involuntary annexation petition by a city, we support approval of the annexation if approved separately by a majority of the residents from the city and a majority of the landowners from the territory.

2023 Right to Repair

IOWA SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION (ISA)

Policy Resolutions

Approved by ISA Voting Delegates

December 17, 2025

We support the agricultural producer's right to repair equipment and machinery.

2023 Agritourism Protection

We support legislation promoting agritourism activities and businesses that protects farmers and visitors from lawsuits and liability claims.

2023 Foreign Agricultural Land Ownership

We support increased oversight and reporting of foreign agricultural land and business transactions in the U.S., ensuring protection for farmers, consumers, national security, and economic interests, while also maintaining unrestricted research and market access for the soybean industry.

2023 Wind Infrastructure Separation Distances

We support a minimum distance requirement for the construction of wind turbines. Specifically, wind turbines should be built no closer than one-half mile from any existing residence and one-quarter mile from any property boundary. However, if landowners involved mutually agree on a different distance, this requirement can be adjusted.

2023 State Land Tax Equivalency

We support the state paying property taxes equivalent to those of privately-owned properties on all state-owned and managed lands, directed to the county where these properties are located.

2025 Underground Natural Resources

We support legislation merging abandoned underground mineral interests with surface ownership. The unification should occur when the interest holder fails to pay property taxes or the interest is legally determined to be abandoned. We also support requiring developers of underground natural resources to secure a surface use agreement with the surface owner prior to any property entry, exploration,

RESEARCH

ISA Statement of Principles

We believe existing and future research should be used to increase the competitiveness of Iowa and U.S. soybean producers, develop higher yielding and higher quality soybeans, develop new markets and new uses for soybeans and soy products, expand consumer use of soybean products, reduce production costs, improve the profitability and sustainability of soybean production, and position Iowa and U.S. soybeans and soy products as the preferred source for domestic and foreign customers. We support increased federal and state funding for Iowa State University and other qualified research institutions for soybean production research.

2025 Iowa Soybean Research Center

We support the Iowa Soybean Research Center at Iowa State University as an avenue to enhance coordination between ISA, ISU, and the private sector.

2025 Production Research Projects

We support state, regional, and federal research projects that address the highest priority issues and opportunities impacting, profitability, soybean quality, yield improvement and production efficiencies.

2022 Research Funding and Coordination

We support an increased, coordinated effort for public and private soybean research funding by state and federal governments, commodity organizations, land grant universities, and private industries. We support state and national checkoff investments in research projects that result

IOWA SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION (ISA)

Policy Resolutions

Approved by ISA Voting Delegates

December 17, 2025

in short and long-term benefits to American soybean producers. We support prioritized and coordinated research programs to leverage checkoff dollars with agency and industry funding for maximum return on investment.

2023 National Plant Germplasm System

We support increased funding for the USDA ARS's National Plant Germplasm System, including full disclosure of all information concerning germination, vigor, and quality.

2023 Carbon Intensity Research

We support the alignment of tools and methods that enable farmers to voluntarily reduce the carbon intensity (CO₂e per unit of soybeans) of soybean rotations.

SOYBEAN PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ISSUES

ISA Statement of Principles

We support full disclosure of grain and livestock pricing, and we believe agricultural policy should allow the market to set prices.

2025 Grain Quality

We support public and commercial soybean breeder and producer representation on committees formed to develop grain quality standards for soybeans and to set international standards for specialty soybeans. We support standardized testing of grains in the production system.

2025 High Oleic Oil

We support efforts to drive the adaptation and production of soybeans that carry the high oleic oil trait.

2025-Interstate Commerce Clause

We oppose states adopting more stringent regulations than federal requirements for livestock operations, livestock products, crop farming operations and crop products.

2025 Precision Agriculture Data and Information Ownership

We support farm operator ownership of any information gathered by GPS, precision agriculture systems, unmanned aerial vehicles and other data acquisition platforms.

2021 Crop Protection Product Regulations

We support restrictions, regulations, and registrations on crop protection that are based on factual scientific data and information to optimize product efficacy, to extend product life, and to promote safe product use. We support maintaining approvals and registrations for all approved chemical and integrated pest management strategies when used according to label directions. We promote the consideration of new methods, technologies, data, and information when scientifically-sound research shows that change would be functional, and economically and socially beneficial. We support the collaborative efforts led by Iowa State University and the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship to apply a community approach to integrated pest management and technology stewardship through the Iowa Pest Resistance Management Plan (IPRMP).

2021 Soybean Cyst Nematode (SCN) Management

We support the SCN Coalition and integrated approaches to managing SCN. Management solutions should be publicly available.

2022 Identity Preserved and Specialty Markets

We support efforts to develop, maintain, expand, and promote markets for identity preserved and specialty soybeans or soybean products from Iowa. We support premium price

IOWA SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION (ISA)

Policy Resolutions

Approved by ISA Voting Delegates

December 17, 2025

structures that reflect the additional costs of identity preservation. We support farmers' rights to produce soybeans and soy products to meet those diverse markets.

2022 Grain Analyzing Technology

We support the adoption of universal calibration standards for all grain analyzing technologies.

2022 Soybean Marketing Value

We support payments based on a dry matter basis rather than "wet" basis. We support this structure as a first step in valuing soybeans for quality.

2023 Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) Transparency

We support the CFTC releasing daily trading reports to provide transparency for producers.

2023 Grain Indemnity Fund

We support maintaining a secure state grain indemnity fund as outlined by the Iowa Code, as well as steps to ensure protection commensurate with the value of Iowa's grain production.

2023 Global Positioning Satellite (GPS)

We support a dependable and free public Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) differential real-time kinematic (RTK) correction signal available across agricultural production land.

2023 Soybean Disease Prevention and Management

We support the USDA's ongoing efforts to shield the U.S. soy industry from international diseases and pests.

2023 Soybean Seed Selection and Disclosure

We support soybean seed selection based on quality, yield, protein, and oil content, and urge seed companies to include these estimates in sales literature. We support the mandatory disclosure of soybean cultivar and variety numbers at the point of purchase, enabling farmers to make informed selection decisions.

TAXES

ISA Statement of Principles

The Iowa Soybean Association believes tax policies should allow Iowa producers to compete in world markets and should encourage all Iowans to keep our most productive land available for growing agricultural operations.

2024 Net Investment Income Tax

We oppose the Net Investment Income Tax (NIIT).

2024 Shift of Tax Values from Non-crop to Cropland

We oppose efforts to shift property taxes to cropland in order to provide relief to owners of non-crop land.

2024 Timber Land Reserve

We oppose the property tax exemption for the forest reserve program.

2025 1031 Exchanges

We support the 1031 provision for like-kind exchanges of real property and real estate.

2025 Estate Taxes

We support the elimination of state and federal estate/inheritance taxes while retaining the opportunity to step up basis at the time property is inherited.

2021 Capital Gains Tax

We support reduction or elimination of taxation on capital gains related to agriculture.

2021 Income Tax Investment Credit

We support the permanent coupling of the state and federal 179 deduction.

IOWA SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION (ISA)

Policy Resolutions

Approved by ISA Voting Delegates

December 17, 2025

2021 Support for a Balanced Federal Budget

We support a balanced federal budget achieved through reduced spending.

2022 Conservation Practice Incentives

We support changes in the U.S. and Iowa tax codes to allow for tax incentives for conservation practices. We support full deductibility of conservation project costs by the party who incurred the expense regardless of lease type.

2022 Federal Deductibility

We support maintaining federal deductibility for Iowa's individual and corporate income tax. We support full deductibility of health insurance premiums for self-employed individuals on a permanent basis.

2023 Treatment of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Income

We support the classification of CRP payments as rental income.

TRADE AND MARKET ACCESS

ISA Statement of Principles

We believe soybeans and soybean products must have fair access to world markets and be able to compete in price, quality, and availability for markets. We encourage the federal government to maximize funding for market development efforts and to respond quickly to opportunities in international trade, especially in growth markets.

2024 Cargo Preference

We oppose the Jones Act and support a waiver for agricultural commodities.

2022 International Trade Sanction Reform

We support the removal of foreign barriers to international trade in soybeans and soybean products, as well as livestock, poultry, and aquaculture products. We oppose the establishment of barriers by other nations to the importation and consumption of U.S. soybeans, soybean products, as well as livestock, poultry, and aquaculture products. We support equitable international oilseed trade negotiations and legislation that addresses international trade sanction reform. We oppose policies and actions by U.S. institutions, multinational companies, and the World Bank, that negatively impact the U.S. soybean industry.

2022 Meat Exports

We support U.S. meat and aquaculture export programs.

2022 Free Trade Agreements

We support bilateral and regional Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations that are focused on countries that represent significant commercial markets for U.S. soybeans and products, livestock products, and agricultural exports in general.

2023 Food Aid

We support continued funding of international food aid programs in partnership with the World Initiative for Soy in Human Health (WISHH) that prioritize and expand the use of soybeans and soybean products. We support food aid as a humanitarian, economic and market development tool.

2023 State Trade Promotion and Enhancement

We support producer-led, private, and government initiatives that promote Iowa soybeans and soybean products internationally.

2023 Trade Negotiation Priorities

IOWA SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION (ISA)

Policy Resolutions

Approved by ISA Voting Delegates

December 17, 2025

We support continued efforts to improve market access for soybeans and soybean products, including livestock and livestock products, as the top priority of trade negotiations.

2023 World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreements to Enhance Market Access

We support new, comprehensive WTO agreements that lower trade-distorting domestic support and enhance market access through tariff reductions in both developed and developing countries. We support retaining the 'de-minimus' exemption for minor, non-product specific support from trade-distorting program cuts. We oppose any reductions or limits on 'green box' domestic supports that have minimal or no impact on production or trade.

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

ISA Statement of Principles

We support initiatives to improve the cost-competitiveness of the U.S. transportation system for agriculture and agricultural products. We support the present road use tax formula which we believe ensures a viable agriculture and rural economy.

2024 Harbor Maintenance Tax

We support that the funding generated by the Harbor Maintenance Tax be spent on harbor maintenance and dredging.

2025 Commercial Barge Traffic

We support the maintenance and improvement of river locks and dams. We support prioritizing funds for the maintenance and preservation of the existing system. We support the construction of new 1,200-foot lock chambers at Lock and Dam 25, 24, 22, 21, and 20 on the Upper Mississippi River and LaGrange and Peoria on the Illinois River, along with the modification and expansion of other structures and facilities that increase transportation efficiency.

2021 Soy Transportation Coalition (STC)

The ISA supports the Soy Transportation Coalition as well as the utilization of its studies and recommendations.

2022 Bridge Evaluation Technology

We support the utilization of load testing technology when evaluating the load-carrying capacity and structural integrity of bridges.

2022 Federal Infrastructure Spending

We support directing federal infrastructure funding toward improving commercial transportation, including locks and dams, navigation projects, and rural roads and bridges.

2022 Weight Limit Exemption

We support weight overages for the transportation of agricultural commodities during planting and harvest seasons. We support the current exemptions, except for bridge embargoes for agricultural implements of husbandry.

2022 Inland Waterway Navigation and Flood Control

We oppose changes in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Master Water Control Manual that have a negative impact on agriculture due to reduced navigation channel length or depth, reduced flood control measures, or potential spring rises.

2022 Railroads

We support the development and maintenance of financially healthy and viable railroads, as well as public awareness on the importance of the rail industry to Iowa agriculture.

2022 Rural Infrastructure

IOWA SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION (ISA)

Policy Resolutions

Approved by ISA Voting Delegates

December 17, 2025

We support a more efficient use of fuel tax revenues to promote better management and maintenance of rural infrastructure.

2022 Special Trucks for Farm Use

We support increasing the mileage eligibility ceiling for a special truck for farm use to at least 25,000 miles per year and up to three hundred miles from a farmer's farm.

2023 Field Access Restoration

We support the restoration of field access driveways to at least their original width during roadway improvement projects.

2023 Federal Weight Limits

We support increasing the weight limit for trucks with a sixth axle to 91,000 pounds on federal interstate highways, as recommended by the Soy Transportation Coalition (STC) study.

VALUE-ADDED AND BIO-BASED PRODUCTS AND SOY PROMOTION

ISA Statement of Principles

We support state and federal funding and other incentives to promote value-added and bio-based agricultural opportunities. We support the National Soybean Checkoff as a vehicle for producers to promote the soybean industry.

2024 Bio-Based Products

We support incentives for the domestic production or consumption of bio-based products made from soybean oil.

2024 Producer Promotion Programs

We support and endorse the concept of a producer-controlled checkoff program with regular and third-party evaluation to ensure the efficient and effective use of checkoff dollars.

2022 Soy Ingredients and Food Products

We support the increased use of soy protein in foods and beverages, including those used in federal nutrition programs. We oppose protein restrictions and removal of soy ingredients from school lunch and military feeding programs.

2023 New Uses

We support enhanced research, development, and promotion of new uses of soybeans and soybean products and recognize the national soybean checkoff as a valuable tool in developing such new uses, conducting production research, and expanding domestic and foreign markets.

2025 Ultra-Processed Foods (UPFs)

ISA supports qualitative definitions of food based on food's nutrient composition without regard to how it's grown, crop type, or processing method.

ORGANIZATIONAL EFFORTS AND SUPPORT

ISA Statement of Principles

We embrace the current long-term strategic plans of the American Soybean Association (ASA), United Soybean Board (USB), and the U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC), recognizing their importance in guiding our actions and objectives. As part of our commitment, ISA will communicate openly with all stakeholders, sharing information to enhance competitiveness and promote engagement among farmer members and advocates. As a state affiliate of the ASA, we are dedicated to supporting collaborative efforts by state and federally recognized farm organizations toward common goals, and to reaching out to non-agricultural groups for the advancement of Iowa agriculture and the interests of soybean farmers.

IOWA SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION (ISA)

Policy Resolutions

Approved by ISA Voting Delegates

December 17, 2025

680

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2024 Agricultural Issues

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We encourage ISA to continue to explore expanded partnerships in promoting and pursuing agricultural issues in common.

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2022 Policy Advocacy

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We support ISA taking a lead role in strengthening relationships between farmers and policymakers to enhance understanding of agriculture's importance to Iowa's economy and environmental future.

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2022 State of Iowa Trade

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We support efforts by the State of Iowa to increase and enhance international trade opportunities for Iowa soybean producers.

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