

**IOWA SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION  
2018 Final**

**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 us meet growing world food, health and energy needs while benefiting producers, consumers and the environment.**

**2015 Biotechnology-Enhanced Products**

We believe that every effort should be made to allow open trade access of biotechnology-enhanced agricultural products proven safe by scientific and peer reviewed studies and regulatory processes. We believe the federal government should maximize the understanding in other 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 the new technology and the durability of the traits themselves. We support the development of 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.

**2015 Product Use Liability**

We recommend that farmer liability from biotechnology-enhanced product use be addressed at the federal level.

**2017 Product Documentation and Tracking**

We expect biotechnology companies to synchronize the release of new products, technologies and integrated systems with full domestic regulatory approvals of all traits, technologies and system components. Further, we expect biotechnology companies to seek necessary trade clearances, utilize proper control mechanisms, and develop adequate documentation systems for approval and acceptance, as well as the tracking of biotechnology products prior to widespread distribution of new technologies and products. We urge collaboration among Associations, tech providers, seed industry, processors and exporters that sets the criteria and time lines for introduction of new technologies in ways that do not disrupt markets. This also includes any existing products or technologies that go off patent.

**2013 Biotechnology Acceptance Process**

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

**2012 Biotechnology Food Labeling**

We oppose any state or federal initiative to mandate labels on food because it contains genetically modified ingredients, but support voluntary labeling as passed by Congress in 2016. We encourage farmer involvement in writing of rules for the voluntary labeling program.

**2014 Education Support for Biotechnology Products**

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

**ENERGY**

**ISA Statement of Principles**

48 **The Iowa Soybean Association encourages federal and state governments to**  
49 **incorporate incentives for renewable fuels, products and infrastructure to facilitate**  
50 **greater renewable fuel use.**

51 **2014 Energy and Food Security**

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

56 **2014 – Biodiesel Sustainability**

57 We recognize work that the National Biodiesel Board has done to support practices and promote  
58 the use of sustainable feedstocks and biodiesel production methods. ISA supports the industry’s  
59 demand that any policy involving direct and indirect land use metrics be based on sound science  
60 and verifiable, transparent data so that biodiesel’s impact on GHG emissions and soybean  
61 sustainability is accurately assessed.

62 **2017 25 X 25 Initiative**

63 We support the 25 x 25 Initiative to attain 25% renewable energy usage by 2025.

64 **2015 Biodiesel Use Enhancement**

65 We recognize the strong environmental, economic and energy security benefits of biodiesel to this  
66 country as well as the economic benefits to Iowa’s economy and soybean producers. We recognize  
67 the millions of dollars invested in infrastructure to produce this clean, American-made fuel. Therefore,  
68 we support education, promotion and legislation that encourages the use of higher blends of biodiesel  
69 in all diesel fuel in Iowa.

70 **2013 Biodiesel Legislation**

71 We encourage legislation that supports and promotes biodiesel and biodiesel blends in any existing  
72 or potential alternative fuels policy program or initiative. We support efforts to provide incentives for  
73 biodiesel blends within any fuel tax increase structure.

74 **2017 Biodiesel Incentive Programs**

75 We support tax incentives and cost-share infrastructure support programs for biodiesel, extending  
76 state and federal biodiesel legislation long-term. We believe incentives for biodiesel should apply  
77 only to domestically-produced biodiesel in a manner that is WTO compliant.

78 **2012 Biodiesel Quality Standards and Testing**

79 We support government recognition and support of the unique fuel quality attributes of biodiesel  
80 and enforcing ASTM 6751 and other ASTM biodiesel blend standards. We applaud the efforts  
81 of the biodiesel industry to adopt and utilize the BQ 9000 quality program. We offer continued  
82 support of a state funded and certified testing laboratory and quality enforcement program to test  
83 biodiesel quality.

84 **2013 National Renewable Fuels Standard**

85 We support 4.75 billion gallons for Advanced Biofuels in 2017 and 2.5 billion gallons of biomass-  
86 based biodiesel in the Renewable Volume Obligation (RVO) of the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS)  
87 for 2018.

88 **2014 Bioenergy Programs**

89 We support continuation of bioenergy programs in any future Farm Bills

90 **2013 State Funding of Biodiesel Projects**

91 We strongly support projects designed to increase soybean usage/profitability to be funded by the  
92 state infrastructure funding through the Renewable Fuels Infrastructure Board. We support the  
93 equitable distribution of infrastructure funding between biodiesel and ethanol.

94

95 **2015 Support for Ethanol**

96 We support increasing the ethanol content threshold to 15% from the current E-10.

97 **2014 Renewable Energy Support**

98 We support the study and development of additional renewable energy sources, provided all  
99 producers are treated fairly in their production and distribution.

100

101 **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

102 **ISA Statement of Principles:**

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

112 **2014 – Sustainable Funding for Iowa’s Natural Resources**

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

115 **2015 – Cover Crops Incentive Program**

116 We support consistent and expanding cover crop incentive programs. We also support additional  
117 research for the optimization of cover crops in Iowa.

118 **2016 Habitat and Cover Crop Seed Mixes**

119 We support NRCS and the Iowa Department of Agriculture establishing and enforcing a seed  
120 inspection and certification policy to make sure that seed used for cost share habitat and cover  
121 crop programs is free from noxious weeds.

122 **2014 – Clean Water Act**

123 We oppose expansion of EPA regulatory authority beyond navigable waters.

124 **2017 – Pesticide Permitting**

125 We oppose efforts by EPA to require a permit for pesticide applications that may contact water.

126 **2014 Regulations and Response**

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

128 **2012 DNR Enforcement**

129 We support Iowa DNR as the enforcement agency for environmental and CAFO regulations  
130 rather than EPA.

131 **2012 Agricultural Dust**

132 We support an exemption for agricultural dust from regulation.

133 **2015 Constructed Wetlands**

134 We believe that constructed wetlands should be a part of any voluntary conservation plan where the  
135 landowner has the flexibility to find the best solutions for his or her farm. We believe the  
136 Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) should be expanded to all areas of the state.

137 **2012 Soil and Water Conservation Districts and Watershed Management**

138 We believe soil and water conservation programs will need to be more efficient and effective to meet  
139 21st century concerns with regard to soil and water management. Specifically, we believe the State  
140 Soil and Water Conservation Districts should be a lead partner in local watershed management. We

141 encourage their participation in the formation of any new Watershed Management Authorities  
142 (WMAs). We further believe WMAs should not be financed through local taxing authorities.

143 **2015 Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP)**  
144 We believe that commodity groups should be represented on local and state REAP committees.  
145 Furthermore, we feel that REAP funding should be re-prioritized to be used for soil conservation  
146 projects, taxes and maintenance on properties previously acquired with REAP funds.

147 **2015 Accessible Data**  
148 We believe all rules and regulations impacting production agriculture should be based on current  
149 scientific and peer-reviewed research including cost-benefit analyses

150 **2015 Crop-Protection Product Disposal**  
151 We support the concept of permanent drop-off facilities which allows individuals to turn in unwanted  
152 crop-protection products at minimal or no cost.

153 **2016 Crop Protection Product Safety**  
154 We support and encourage reasonable efforts and data-driven decisions to improve crop-protection  
155 product safety, handling and education, including training and requiring farmers to follow label  
156 requirements.

157 **2016 Worldwide Agriculture and Environment**  
158 All solutions to world food and biofuels demands should include the voluntary use of acceptable  
159 conservation and environmental practices. We oppose investments by U.S. institutions,  
160 multinational corporations, and the World Bank that do not include the use of acceptable  
161 conservation and environmental practices.

162 **2015 Climate Change Legislation**  
163 Any carbon regulatory system should recognize the contributions of agriculture through biofuels,  
164 conservation practices and production efficiencies.

165 **2013 Changing Weather Adaptation Recommendations**  
166 We support the recommendations of the 25X25 Adaptation Initiative, including engaging in public  
167 and private research on best adaptations for crops and livestock, implementation of conservation  
168 practices designed to maintain the productivity of land, and assisting farmers in risk management  
169 to minimize potential losses. We support adaptation pathways that strengthen production systems,  
170 improve profitability and reduce environmental impacts. We support farmer input and engagement  
171 on all state and federal regulatory agency discussions, decisions, listings, policies and regulations  
172 related to nutrient management, water quality and endangered species.

173 **2017 Sustainability**  
174 We support an aggregate approach to documenting the sustainability of U.S. soybean  
175 production. We believe U.S. federal and state conservation, environmental, and labor laws --  
176 and existing U.S. farmer compliance with them -- provide assurance that U.S. soybeans are  
177 sustainably produced. We support premium structures that reflect the additional costs of industry  
178 driven sustainability initiatives.

179 **2017 Conservation Technical Assistance**  
180 We support expanding Iowa's conservation and environmental planning work force and providing  
181 private-sector conservation planners access to the same tools and resources the public sector uses,  
182 by accelerating development and evaluation of new planning tools and technologies through  
183 private sector engagement efforts. ISA supports the use of private Technical Service Providers at  
184 producer expense. These determinations are to be treated equally by NRCS and reviewed in a  
185 timely and fair manner to expedite conservation practices. We believe that the spending for  
186 approved practices should be flexible and tied to acreage serviced by the practice.

187

188 **2013 Iowa’s Water Quality Initiative**

189 We fully support Iowa’s Water Quality Initiative as funded by the legislature as a voluntary  
190 cooperative, science and technology-based approach to reduce nutrient loss for water quality  
191 improvements, and we continue efforts to engage farmers with water quality, nitrogen and phosphorus  
192 management programs.

193 **2013 Soil and Water Quality Tax Credit**

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

195 **2014 Nutrient Reduction Strategy**

196 We support the stated principles of Iowa’s Nutrient Reduction Strategy along with information  
197 dissemination to the public regarding farmers’ efforts to achieve continuous improvement.

198 **2015 Urban and Rural Collaboration and One Water**

199 We support strengthening and promoting collaborative partnerships and holistic water  
200 management through a One Water Approach. We further support efforts to better align programs  
201 and research, enhance communication and exchange of information and to establish new  
202 opportunities that support expansion of implementation projects. We support collaboration with  
203 cities and industries to partner with agriculture producers to develop and implement accredited  
204 nutrient reduction practices that may offset some of the cost for implementing technology at  
205 permitted facilities. Farmers and sponsors financing the implementation of qualified practices  
206 should be able to retain performance credits to be used in future projects.

207 **2015 Agricultural Drainage**

208 We recognize the importance of tile drainage to crop production in Iowa and that effective  
209 drainage is necessary for profitable production of crops in many areas. We support additional  
210 research into practices that maintain the production benefits of drainage while minimizing water  
211 quality impacts. We support securing additional funding to demonstrate and evaluate these  
212 practices to educate agricultural producers and stakeholders on their use and benefits to nutrient  
213 management, water conservation, soil health and water quality. We support funding for technical  
214 assistance and implementation to encourage adoption of these practices by agricultural  
215 producers.

216

217 **FEDERAL FARM POLICY**

218 **ISA Statement of Principles**

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

224 **2015 Cooperation between RMA and FSA**

225 We support more cooperation and communication between RMA and FSA as they determine yield  
226 measurements in order to provide more effective service to farmers.

227 **2017 Farm Bill Conservation Programs**

228 We support a strong conservation title in the next farm bill. We recognize the needs to improve water  
229 and air quality, while at the same time building resilient, healthy, productive soils. We support  
230 USDA’s engagement in data integration and analysis practices of farmer-level data to assess costs,  
231 benefits and risk profiles from conservation practice adoption. We support incentive and research  
232 programs that help farmers reach these goals.

233

234

235 **2012 Conservation Reserve Program**

236 We support continuation of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). We believe that future CRP  
237 contracts should focus only on environmentally sensitive and historically unprofitable lands. As CRP  
238 contracts expire, we believe that CRP participants with highly erodible land (HEL) should be treated  
239 equitably with the HEL of non-CRP participants. We believe rental rates for new contracts should  
240 be set to more closely reflect current rent values. We also favor the current practice of allowing  
241 haying and grazing of CRP in exchange for a reduced rental payment. We encourage working with  
242 other farm organizations to develop programs that encourage grazing livestock or alternative  
243 production on CRP land as contracts expire.

244 **2017 International Market Development**

245 We favor aggressive funding for market development purposes by the Foreign Agricultural Service  
246 (FAS), host countries, the United Soybean Board (USB), the American Soybean Association (ASA)  
247 and qualified state soybean boards (QSSB's).

248 **2013 Federal Crop Insurance**

249 We support a subsidized Federal Crop Insurance Program which provides realistic levels of protection  
250 at the election of the producer. This program is an excellent risk management tool for the producer.  
251 We support continuing to include the Federal Crop Insurance Program as a vital part of any farm bill  
252 legislation. We believe crop insurance policies (premium levels and adjustment guidelines) should be  
253 continually evaluated to address developing cultural practices and technologies. We support pilot  
254 programs that gather the data necessary to determine those developing conservation practices that  
255 reduce risk and can lower farmers crop insurance premiums. We support the continued use of trend  
256 adjusted yield in determining insurable levels of yield loss. Premiums should be actuarially sound  
257 based on production risk. This protection should continue to be available from local insurance  
258 agencies and not a part of federal farm programs administered by federal agencies.

259 **2016 Federal Inspections and Biosecurity**

260 We support a requirement that all inspectors for state and federal farm and livestock issues be required  
261 to give at least one-day prior notice and follow all farm biosecurity procedures.

262 **2015 Farm Storage**

263 We encourage the Farm Service Agency to re-evaluate the pack-factor coefficient used when  
264 measuring on farm storage.

265 **2012 Federal policy and Cover Crop Conservation Practices**

266 The Iowa Soybean Association calls on USDA to continue communication between RMA, crop  
267 insurance agents, FSA and farmers to ensure consistent delivery of information pertaining to  
268 crop insurance and the use of cover crops.

269 **2015 Conservation Security Program – CSP**

270 We support the CSP program that was created to encourage environmentally sound practices that  
271 are sustainable and beneficial to our environment. However, we oppose large reductions in  
272 payments for renewed contracts because it discourages farmers from continuing the practices  
273 they have initiated and diminishes the sustainability of the program and its long-term benefits.

274 **2015 Pollinator Programs**

275 We support the use of milkweed and like plants in Pollinator programs.

276 **2016 Monarch Conservation**

277 We support the efforts of IDALS and ISU in leading the development of a sound Monarch butterfly  
278 conservation strategy.

279 **2017 Endangered Species Habitat Protection**

280 We want producers and-landowners held harmless from possible federal regulations if any  
281 species for which farmers develop habitat is placed on the Endangered Species List.

282

283 **STATE OF IOWA FARM/RURAL POLICY**

284 **ISA Statement of Principles**

285 **We support a balanced state budget with expenditures on agricultural priorities**  
286 **commensurate with its economic importance to the state. We encourage state**  
287 **officials to recognize and act on the opportunities for economic growth represented**  
288 **by Iowa's crop, livestock and biofuels industries**

289 **2014 – Buyer, Supplier and Broker Bankruptcy**

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

291 **2015 Contract Production**

292 We will continue to monitor emerging issues related to contract production in Iowa and work to ensure  
293 Iowa soybean producers have the opportunity to engage in and receive fair and equitable contracts.

294 **2015 Soy-Based Buying Preference**

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

296 **2015 Electrical Inspections**

297 We support exempting farms from being defined as commercial operations for the purpose of  
298 determining regulations and inspections.

299 **2015 Accountability of Appointed Boards/Legislative Oversight of Rule Making**

300 We believe that non-elected state agencies and commissions should be held accountable to their  
301 constituents and should not be able to write and promote rules that impact farmers and other  
302 businesses without legislative oversight.

303 **2015 Sunset of State Regulations**

304 We support the concept that all state regulations should have a sunset date of five years.

305 **2012 Central Filing**

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

307 **2015 Rural Emergency Requests**

308 We believe efforts should be made to enhance infrastructure for emergency requests to rural areas.

309 **2017 High Speed Internet**

310 We support the expansion of high speed internet to all rural communities in the state.

311

312 **LIVESTOCK**

313 **ISA Statement of Principles**

314 **We encourage the responsible expansion of livestock, poultry and aquatic feeding in**  
315 **Iowa for greater use of soybean products.**

316 **2013 Support for Interstate Commerce Clause in Livestock Regulations**

317 We believe that neither Iowa nor any other state should adopt more stringent regulations than federal  
318 requirements for livestock operations and livestock products.

319 **2015 Support for Iowa Domestic Livestock Industry**

320 We acknowledge the value of this industry as our major customer and support the maintenance  
321 and increase of Iowa's domestic livestock industry.

322 **2012 Support for CSIF**

323 We support the Coalition to Support Iowa's Farmers.

324 **2015 Local Control**

325 We believe that counties should not be able to preempt state authority on agricultural and  
326 environmental regulations.

327 **2013 Odor**

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

330 **2015 Animal Rights Organizations**

331 We do not support animal rights organizations or any other groups proposing restrictions on livestock  
332 production in Iowa. ISA does not support or condone any abuse or mistreatment of livestock and is  
333 always a supporter of best husbandry practices.

334 **2015 Combating Anti-Livestock Actions**

335 We believe agriculture and industry groups need to work pro-actively together to generate educational  
336 opportunities to inform the public of the value of U.S. grown food products.

337 **2017 Foot and Mouth Disease Vaccine Bank**

338 We support a program within the present and future farm bills to create and maintain an adequate  
339 Foot and Mouth Disease vaccine bank as well as foreign animal disease surveillance to protect US  
340 food security.

341

342 **PROPERTY RIGHTS AND LAND USE**

343 **ISA Statement of Principles**

344 **We believe government should concentrate more on the management of currently**  
345 **owned government land and reduce the effort to acquire more public land. We**  
346 **oppose the use of eminent domain to acquire private land for economic,**  
347 **conservation, landfill, road building, utilities or recreational interests without just**  
348 **compensation.**

349 **2015 Urban Development Boundary Plans and Annexation**

350 We encourage the state to require all cities and counties to develop urban development boundary  
351 plans. Such actions will provide information on what areas are subject to annexation in the next 15  
352 years. We believe that in the event of an involuntary annexation petition by a city, a majority of the  
353 residents from the city and a majority of the residents from the territory proposed to be annexed must  
354 approve the annexation separately.

355 **2017 Taxes on State Owned Lands**

356 We encourage the state to pay comparable property tax on all state-owned and managed property  
357 to the county in which it resides.

358 **2012 Deer Tags**

359 We support allowing non-resident Iowa landowners to purchase Iowa landowner doe and buck  
360 deer tags in the interest of lowering the deer population and reducing damage to farm crops.

361 **2012 Federal Executive Orders**

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

363 **2013 Energy Infrastructure on Private Land**

364 We support the upgrading of our nation's energy infrastructure grid. However, we are concerned  
365 that farmers are not fairly compensated for residual impacts on crop land production and value as  
366 well as restrictions on land improvements. We support efforts to protect farmers' property rights  
367 within the easement and land acquisition process as well as efforts to hold companies securing  
368 those easements and building infrastructure accountable for ongoing environmental and private  
369 property damage.

370 **2017 Separation Distances for Wind Turbines**

371 We support a minimum distance of ½ mile from an established residence and ¼ mile from a  
372 property line for construction of wind turbines unless a mutually accepted distance is negotiated  
373 between landowners.



374 **2014 Aerial Imagery and Remote Sensing Use Within Agriculture**

375 We support aerial imagery and remote sensing technologies, including unmanned aerial vehicle  
376 (UAV), use to benefit production agriculture. Use of these technologies must be under the control of,  
377 corresponding landowners and farmers.

378 **2016 Right to Repair**

379 Diagnostic information, repair tools and service information from auto and farm machinery  
380 manufacturers should be available to independent repair facilities, service tool manufacturers and  
381 consumers.

382

383 **RESEARCH**

384 **ISA Statement of Principles**

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

393 **2013 Production Research Goals**

394 Recognizing that soybean production requires unique cultural practices, efforts should be made to  
395 provide soybean farmers with innovative and leading-edge genetics, biotechnology traits, crop  
396 protection solutions, agronomics and cropping systems, products and practices and data for  
397 optimum productivity and profitability under environmentally sustainable strategies. We believe  
398 state, regional and federal research projects should address the highest priority issues and opportunities  
399 impacting soybean quality, yield improvement and yield preservation. We encourage dialogue among  
400 soybean farmers, academics, agencies and technology and service provider companies for  
401 public/private partnerships and research alignment that will advance the entire soybean industry.

402 **2015 Increased Research Funding and Coordination**

403 We support increased public and private soybean research funding by government, commodity  
404 organizations, universities and private industry. We believe state and national checkoff funds should  
405 be invested in research projects, which result in short and long-term benefits to U.S. soybean  
406 producers. We favor prioritized and coordinated research programs in order to leverage checkoff  
407 dollars with agency and industry funding for maximum return on investment.

408 **2016 National Plant Germplasm System**

409 We support continued funding of the National Plant Germplasm System of the Agriculture Research  
410 Service of USDA to safeguard and promote genetic diversity.

411 **2013 Iowa Soybean Research Center**

412 We support the Iowa Soybean Research Center at Iowa State University as a way to enhance  
413 coordination between ISA, ISU and the private sector.

414

415 **SOYBEAN PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ISSUES**

416 **ISA Statement of Principles**

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

419 **2014 – Grain Indemnity Fund**

420 We support maintaining a dedicated and secure state grain indemnity fund that provides farmers  
421 protection commensurate with grain price levels.

422 **2013 Grain Quality**

423 We believe that public and commercial soybean breeders and producers should be represented on any  
424 committees formed to develop grain quality standards for soybeans and to cooperate with other farm  
425 groups to set international standards for specialty grains. We encourage producers to select high  
426 protein and oil varieties and support purchasers who pay a premium for the high protein and oil  
427 varieties. We support standardized testing which allow for the reasonable quality assurance of grains  
428 in the production system.

429 **2015 Soybean Marketing Value**

430 We believe that farmers should be paid on dry matter delivered basis rather than “wet” basis.  
431 This should be the first step in valuing soybeans for quality.

432 **2013 High Oleic Oil**

433 We recognize the need to regain our food grade oil market and support the efforts of USB and  
434 their investments to help drive the adaptation and production of soybeans that carry the high  
435 oleic oil trait with the eventual goal of becoming the next commodity soybean.

436 **2017 Protection from Foreign Soybean Disease**

437 We support continuing efforts by the USDA to protect the U.S. soy industry from diseases and  
438 pests from other countries

439 **2017 Seed Genetics**

440 We believe soybean producers should select seed genetics based on high quality, high yielding protein  
441 and oil content. We believe soybean seed companies should include estimated protein and oil content  
442 in their sales literature thus allowing producers to select seed genetics based this broad set of criteria.  
443 We support requirements that seed companies make soybean cultivar and variety number available  
444 to farmers during purchase decisions to ensure that farmers can select complementary and non-  
445 redundant varieties.

446 **2014 SCN Test Information**

447 We support the second SCN Coalition, and we believe all soybean cultivars sold in Iowa should be  
448 required to be tested by (ISU Protocol) for soybean cyst nematode reproduction, and this information  
449 be made available to growers in sales literature and profile sheets. Seed tags and profile sheets should  
450 show whether it is listed as cyst resistant or not.

451 **2015 Calibration Standardization**

452 We favor the establishment of national standards for calibrating all grain analyzing technologies.

453 **2017 GPS Signals**

454 The public differential correction for GPS signals should be available to all producers at no cost. We  
455 oppose the acquisition of adjacent band width by any company that would compromise the  
456 effectiveness of GPS and new digital agriculture technologies for farmers.

457 **2013 Precision Agriculture Data and Information Ownership**

458 We believe the information gathered by GPS, precision agriculture systems, unmanned aerial vehicles  
459 and other data acquisition platforms should remain the sole property of the farm operator and/or  
460 his/her assigns.

461 **2015 Identity Preserved/Specialty Markets**

462 We believe Iowa needs to continue efforts on expanding and promoting markets and research for  
463 identity preserved and specialty soybeans or soybean products from Iowa. We also support premium  
464 structures that reflect the additional costs of identity preservation.

465 **2015 Diversified Production**

466 We recognize that there are a vast array of markets representing a wide range of customers of  
467 soybeans and soy products. We support farmers’ rights to produce soybeans and soy products to meet  
468 those diverse markets.

469 **2013 Support for Interstate Commerce Clause**  
470 We believe that neither Iowa nor any other state should adopt more stringent regulations than federal  
471 requirements for crop farming operations and crop products.

472 **2014 Crop Protection Product Regulations**

473 We believe that restrictions and regulations on crop protection products must be based on factual  
474 scientific findings. We support maintaining approvals and registrations for all approved chemical  
475 and integrated pest management strategies when used according to label directions. We promote  
476 the consideration of new methods, technologies and information when scientifically-sound  
477 research shows that change would be economically and socially beneficial. We support the  
478 collaborative efforts led by Iowa State University and the Iowa Department of Agriculture and  
479 Land Stewardship to apply a community approach to integrated pest management and technology  
480 stewardship through the Iowa Pest Resistance Management Plan (IPRMP).

481 **2016 CFTC Commodity Futures Trading Commission Transparency**

482 We recommend the CFTC release daily trading reports to provide transparency so producers are  
483 better able to see changes in market trends.

484

485 **TAXES**

486 **ISA Statement of Principles**

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

490 **2015 Conservation Practice Incentives**

491 We support and encourage changes in the U.S. and Iowa tax codes which allow for tax incentives for  
492 conservation practices. Conservation project expense should be fully deductible by the party who  
493 incurred it regardless of type of lease.

494 **2014 Income tax investment credit**

495 We support maintaining or increasing the 2013 expanded level of Section 179 deductions and 50%  
496 bonus depreciation allowance. We encourage Congress and the Iowa legislature to couple and extend  
497 these credits permanently to allow farmers consistency in tax planning.

498 **2017 CRP Payments:**

499 Conservation Reserve Program payments should be treated as rental income, thus unearned income.

500 **2013 1031 Exchange Policy**

501 We support a 2011 study by USDA's Economic Research Service on 1031 Exchanges which  
502 concluded that 1031 exchanges are not driving price pressure on farmland. We support the  
503 continuation of 1031 exchanges as a valuable tool for farmers, providing flexibility and increased  
504 economic efficiency in asset management.

505 **2015 Federal Deductibility**

506 We support keeping federal deductibility for Iowa's individual and corporate income tax. We also  
507 support the establishment of taxable deductions for self-employed individuals for health insurance  
508 premiums on a permanent basis.

509 **2013 Federal Estate Taxes**

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

512 **2012 Shift of Tax Values from Non-crop to Crop land**

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

515

516 **2012 Passive Income Tax**

517 We oppose the 3.8% tax on passive income recently instated by the federal government to help  
518 fund national health care.

519 **2012 Timber Land Reserve**

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

521 **2014 Support for a Balanced Federal Budget**

522 The Iowa Soybean Association supports a balanced federal budget to be achieved by reducing  
523 spending.

524

525 **TRADE**

526 **ISA Statement of Principles**

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

531 **2015 WTO and Free Trade Agreements**

532 We support comprehensive WTO negotiations as the best means to increase worldwide incomes and  
533 reduce trade barriers to soy and livestock products. We believe that bilateral or regional Free Trade  
534 Agreement (FTA) negotiations should be focused toward those countries that represent significant  
535 commercial markets for U.S. soybeans and products, livestock products and agricultural exports in  
536 general.

537 **2015 Support for Pacific Rim Trade Agreements**

538 We support both bilateral and multi-lateral agreements with Pacific Rim countries.

539 **2016 Trade Negotiation Priorities**

540 We support continuing improvements in market access for soybeans and soybean products, including  
541 livestock products, as the top priority of trade negotiations.

542 **2017 Domestic Support vs. Market Access**

543 We believe that the extent to which a new WTO agreement reduces trade-distorting (i.e. “amber box”)  
544 domestic support must reflect the extent to which market access is increased in developing and  
545 developed countries through reduction in tariffs and other measures. We support maintaining the “de-  
546 minimus” exemption for minimal and non-product specific support from reductions required in trade-  
547 distorting programs. We oppose any reduction commitments or caps on “green box” domestic support  
548 policies that do not, or only minimally, distort production or trade.

549 **2016 Food Aid**

550 We support food aid as a humanitarian, economic and market development tool. We encourage the  
551 Secretary of Agriculture to utilize authorities granted to USDA through the use of the CCC Charter  
552 Act and Section 416 (WISHH: World Initiative for Soy and Human Health) to utilize a soy-product,  
553 food relief package rather than cash.

554 **2015 Meat Exports**

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

556 **2012 Cargo Preference**

557 We oppose cargo preference requirements which jeopardize U.S. agricultural exports and its funding  
558 by USDA. We support a waiver of the Jones Act requirements with regard to agricultural  
559 commodities for domestic shipments. Furthermore, we would like to exempt soy products as part of  
560 the WISHH program and public law 480-type programs from the Jones Act.

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563 **2015 International Trade Sanction Reform**

564 We support the removal of foreign barriers to international trade in soybeans and soybean products  
565 and the prevention of the establishment by other nations of barriers to the importation and  
566 consumption of U.S. soybeans and soybean products. We strongly encourage efforts to continually  
567 strive to improve relationships with our customers. We understand the need for border control. We  
568 also understand the necessity of free movement of ag products between the US, Mexico and Canada,  
569 and we encourage procedures be implemented to that end. We believe in equitable international  
570 oilseed trade negotiations and encourage legislation which addresses international trade sanction  
571 reform. We oppose policies and actions by U.S. institutions, multinational companies, and the World  
572 Bank, which negatively impact the U.S. soybean industry.

573 **2016 State Trade Promotion and Enhancement**

574 We encourage and support Iowa producer-led, private, and government initiatives to promote Iowa  
575 soybeans and soybean products internationally.

576

577 **TRANSPORTATION**

578 **ISA Statement of Principles**

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

582 **2015 – Federal Infrastructure Spending**

583 We support directing any federal infrastructure funding toward improving commercial  
584 transportation, including the Mississippi locks and dams and Iowa roads and bridges.

585 **2015 Support for Railroads**

586 We believe railroads are an integral part of any transportation system. We encourage Iowa and its  
587 counties to increase their support and emphasis on the development of financially healthy and viable  
588 railroads. There is also a need to increase the awareness of the public to the importance of railroads  
589 in Iowa's economy.

590 **2013 Commercial Barge Traffic**

591 We support the maintenance and improvement of river locks and dams which maintain water-  
592 shipping levels in a manner that sustains barge traffic and does not inhibit agricultural production.  
593 We believe available funding should first be directed toward maintaining and preserving the  
594 existing system. If additional funding becomes available, we support the construction of new 1,200-  
595 foot lock chambers at Lock and Dam 25, 24, 22, 21, and 20 on the Upper Mississippi River and  
596 LaGrange and Peoria on the Illinois River along with the modification and expansion of other  
597 structures and facilities that increase transportation efficiency.

598 **2015 Spring Rise on the Missouri River**

599 We oppose policy in the Master Water Control Manual that would cause seasonal flooding or  
600 restrict barge traffic on the Missouri and the Upper Mississippi Rivers.

601 **2012 Harbor Maintenance Tax**

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

604 **2014 Soy Transportation Coalition**

605 The Iowa Soybean Association supports the Soy Transportation Coalition as well as utilization of  
606 their studies and recommendations.

607 **2015 Weight Tolerances**

608 We support the establishment of reasonable weight tolerances for vehicles used in the production  
609 process. Even though the Iowa Governor has traditionally made allowances on weight limits

610 from October 1 through November 30 by proclamation, we support weight overages for  
611 transportation of agriculture commodities from September 15 to November 30 to reflect a  
612 traditionally earlier harvest season for soybeans. We also believe the current exemptions, with  
613 the exception of bridge embargoes, for agricultural implements of husbandry should be  
614 maintained.

615 **2017 Federal Weight Limits**

616 We support expanding the truck weight limits on federal interstate highways to 91,000 pounds,  
617 for trucks that have a 6<sup>th</sup> axle as prescribed by the Soy Transportation Coalition Study.

618 **2015 Special Trucks:**

619 We support an increase in the mileage eligibility ceiling for a farm vehicle that operates as a special  
620 truck to at least 25,000 miles per year and up to 300 miles from the home base.

621 **2017 Special Tonnage Eligibility**

622 We support the ability of producers to buy year-round Farm Special tonnage tags to allow them to  
623 utilize semis with 6 or 7 axles.

624 **2015 Rural Infrastructure Needs**

625 We recognize the deterioration of our roads and bridges that are critical to our ability to move our  
626 products from farm to market. In this economic climate, we support a more efficient use of fuel tax  
627 revenues for these needed repairs particularly in rural areas.

628 **2015 Bridge Evaluation Technology**

629 We support the increased utilization of load testing and any other technology for purposes of  
630 evaluating and rating the condition of state and local bridges to ensure more accurate assessment and  
631 better stewardship of transportation funding.

632 **2017 Driveways on State Roads**

633 We support the state paying for the cost resulting from enhanced design requirements for safety  
634 purposes in the construction of driveways on state roads.

635

636 **VALUE ADDED AND BIOBASED PRODUCTS AND SOY PROMOTION**

637 **ISA Statement of Principles**

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

641 **2016 New Uses for Soy**

642 We support the expanded promotion and encourage research for new uses for soybeans and soybean  
643 products.

644 **2012 Bio-based Products**

645 We support incentives for companies who use environmentally friendly bio-based products in their  
646 operations.

647 **2015 Soy Food Products**

648 We recognize soy as a healthy food source and support the increased use of soy products in the school  
649 lunch programs.

650 **2012 Producer Promotion Programs**

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

653 **2012 Reduction of Trans Fats**

654 We support the development of a variety of soybean oil alternatives to partially hydrogenated oil to  
655 help food manufacturers reduce or eliminate trans-fats from their products, while maintaining the  
656 taste, texture and flavor of those foods.

657 **ORGANIZATIONAL EFFORTS AND SUPPORT**

658 **ISA Statement of Principles**

659 **We support efforts by farm organizations to work toward common goals and to reach**  
660 **out to non-ag groups to build positive relationships and improve communication.**

661 **2015 Legislative Relationships**

662 We believe ISA should take a lead role in strengthening relationships between farmers and state  
663 legislators, enhancing legislators' understanding of the importance of agriculture to Iowa's citizens,  
664 economy and environmental future.

665 **2016 Producer Relations**

666 We believe ISA should serve as a conduit of information from ASA and should continue to emphasize  
667 information concerning association activities to all producers, encouraging member engagement and  
668 the development of advocates.

669 **2012 Agricultural Issues**

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

672 **2017 National Organizational Efforts**

673 We applaud and fully support efforts of the American Soybean Association (ASA), United Soybean  
674 Board (USB), and United State Soybean Export Council (USSEC) to enhance international trade  
675 opportunities for Iowa and U.S. soybean producers. We embrace the current ASA, USB and USSEC  
676 long term strategic plans.

677 **2015 State of Iowa Trade Efforts**

678 We applaud and fully support efforts of the State of Iowa to increase and enhance international trade  
679 opportunities for Iowa soybean producers.

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