MISSION STATEMENT:
EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES AND DELIVERING RESULTS FOR IOWA SOYBEAN FARMERS.
ISA 2018-2019
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China is an important and growing market for Iowa farmers. Whole soybeans arrive by boat or in the form of red meat in China, helping feed the nation of more than 1.4 billion people.
SOYBEANS ARE BIG IN IOWA

IOWA RANKS 2ND NATIONALLY IN SOYBEAN PRODUCTION, ACCOUNTING FOR AROUND 14% OF ALL SOYBEANS GROWN.

THE VALUE OF IOWA’S SOYBEAN CROP EXCEEDS $5 BILLION.

IOWA FARMERS ACCOUNT FOR 12% OF THE NATION’S ANNUAL SOYBEAN PRODUCTION.

NEARLY 97% OF U.S. FARMS ARE OWNED AND MANAGED BY FAMILIES.

NEARLY 42,000 IOWA FARMERS GROW SOYBEANS.
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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.

2018 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
The Iowa Soybean Association encourages federal and state governments to incorporate incentives for renewable fuels, products and infrastructure to facilitate greater renewable fuel use.

2014 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 emissions and increasing US energy and food independence and security.

2014 BIODIESEL SUSTAINABILITY
We recognize work that the National Biodiesel Board has done to support practices and promote the use of sustainable feedstocks and 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 verifiable, transparent data so that biodiesel’s impact on GHG emissions and soybean sustainability is accurately assessed.

2017 25 X 25 INITIATIVE
We support the 25 x 25 Initiative to attain 25% renewable energy usage by 2025.

2015 BIODIESEL USE ENHANCEMENT
We support education, promotion, and legislation that encourages the use of higher blends of biodiesel in all diesel fuel in Iowa.

2013 BIODIESEL LEGISLATION
We encourage legislation that supports and promotes biodiesel and biodiesel blends in any existing or potential alternative fuels policy program or initiative. We support efforts to provide incentives for biodiesel blends within any fuel tax increase structure.

2017 BIODIESEL INCENTIVE PROGRAMS
We support tax incentives and cost-share infrastructure support programs for biodiesel, extending state and federal biodiesel legislation long-term. We believe incentives for biodiesel should apply only to domestically-produced biodiesel in a manner that is WTO compliant.

2018 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 test biodiesel quality.

2013 NATIONAL RENEWABLE FUEL STANDARD
We support 4.92 billion gallons for Advanced Biofuels in 2019 and 2.88 billion gallons of biomass-based biodiesel in the Renewable Volume Obligation (RVO) of the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) for 2020.

2018 SMALL REFINERY EXEMPTIONS
We oppose the granting of small refinery exemptions (SRE) under the RFS to a refinery or entity that is operating profitably.

2014 BIOENERGY PROGRAMS
We support continuation of bioenergy programs in any future Farm Bills.

2013 State Funding of Biodiesel Projects
We strongly support projects designed to increase soybean usage/profitability to be funded by the state infrastructure funding through the Renewable Fuels Infrastructure Board. We support the equitable distribution of infrastructure funding between biodiesel and ethanol.

2015 SUPPORT FOR ETHANOL
We support increasing the ethanol content threshold to 15% from the current E-10.

2014 RENEWABLE ENERGY SUPPORT
We support the study and development of additional renewable energy sources, provided all producers are treated fairly in their production and distribution.

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

ISA STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES:
The Iowa Soybean Association believes agricultural leaders should work together 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 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.
2014 SUSTAINABLE FUNDING FOR IOWA’S NATURAL RESOURCE
We support securing sustainable, long term funding for Iowa’s Natural Resources, aligning with farmers’ priority resource concerns and at funding levels that address the scope of concerns.

2015 COVER CROPS INCENTIVE PROGRAM
We support consistent and expanding cover crop incentive programs. We also support additional research for the optimization of cover crops in Iowa.

2016 HABITAT AND COVER CROP SEED MIXES
We support NRCS and the Iowa Department of Agriculture establishing and enforcing a seed inspection and certification policy to make sure that seed used for cost share habitat and cover crop programs are free from noxious weeds.

2014 CLEAN WATER ACT
We oppose expansion of EPA regulatory authority beyond navigable waters.

2017 PESTICIDE PERMITTING
We oppose efforts by EPA to require a permit for pesticide applications that may contact water.

2014 REGULATIONS AND RESPONSE
We oppose allowing regulatory agencies to adopt new regulations that do not start as legislation.

2018 DNR ENFORCEMENT
We support Iowa DNR as the enforcement agency for environmental and Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) regulations rather than the EPA.

2018 AGRICULTURAL DUST
We support an exemption for agricultural dust from regulation.

2015 Constructed Wetlands
We believe that constructed wetlands should be a part of any voluntary conservation plan where the landowner has the flexibility to find the best solutions for his or her farm. We believe the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) should be expanded to all areas of the state.

2018 SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS AND WATERSHED MANAGEMENT
We believe State Soil and Water Conservation Districts should be the primary jurisdictional organization providing leadership and coordination for local watershed initiatives. Districts should be an active participant in Watershed Management Authorities (WMAs). WMAs should utilize and rely on existing authorizations provided by Iowa law for the Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Districts and WMAs should utilize Watershed Management Plans to guide efficient and effective implementation strategies to meet water management objectives. Farmers within watersheds should be consulted with and engaged in the development, implementation and review of watershed management plans. Districts and WMAs should work to coordinate urban and rural stakeholders to support comprehensive watershed management planning and implementation. The state should align technical and financial assistance to support watershed planning and implementation. The state should consider developing common definitions and standards for watershed management plans.

2015 RESOURCE ENHANCEMENT AND PROTECTION PROGRAM (REAP)
We believe that commodity groups should be represented on local and state REAP committees. Furthermore, we feel that REAP funding should be re-prioritized to be used for soil conservation projects, taxes and maintenance on properties previously acquired with REAP funds.

2015 ACCESSIBLE DATA
We believe all rules and regulations impacting production agriculture should be based on current scientific and peer-reviewed research including cost-benefit analyses.

2015 CROP-PROTECTION PRODUCT DISPOSAL
We support the concept of permanent drop-off facilities which allows individuals to turn in unwanted crop-protection products at minimal or no cost.
2016 CROP PROTECTION PRODUCT SAFETY
We support and encourage reasonable efforts and data-driven decisions to improve crop-protection product safety, handling and education, including training and requiring farmers to follow label requirements.

2016 WORLDWIDE AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
All solutions to world food and biofuels demands should include the voluntary use of acceptable conservation and environmental practices. We oppose investments by U.S. institutions, multinational corporations, and the World Bank that do not include the use of acceptable conservation and environmental practices.

2015 CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION
Any carbon regulatory system should recognize the contributions of agriculture through biofuels, conservation practices and production efficiencies.

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

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

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

2013 IOWA’S WATER QUALITY INITIATIVE
We fully support Iowa’s Water Quality Initiative as funded by the legislature as a voluntary cooperative, science and technology-based approach to reduce nutrient loss for water quality improvements, and we continue efforts to engage farmers with water quality, nitrogen and phosphorus management programs.

2013 SOIL AND WATER QUALITY TAX CREDIT
We support implementing a soil and water quality improvement state tax credit program.

2014 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.

2015 URBAN AND RURAL COLLABORATION AND ONE WATER
We support strengthening and promoting collaborative partnerships and holistic water management through a One Water Approach. We further support efforts to better align programs and research, enhance communication and exchange of information and to establish new opportunities that support expansion of implementation projects. We support collaboration with cities and industries to partner with agriculture producers to develop and implement accredited nutrient reduction practices that may offset some of the cost for implementing technology at permitted facilities. Farmers and sponsors financing the implementation of qualified practices should be able to retain performance credits to be used in future projects.
2015 AGRICULTURAL DRAINAGE
We recognize the importance of tile drainage to crop production in Iowa and that effective drainage is necessary for profitable production of crops in many areas. We support additional research into practices that maintain the production benefits of drainage while minimizing water quality impacts. We support securing additional funding to demonstrate and evaluate these practices to educate agricultural producers and stakeholders on their use and benefits to nutrient management, water conservation, soil health and water quality. We support funding for technical assistance and implementation to encourage adoption of these practices by agricultural producers.

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.

2015 COOPERATION BETWEEN RMA AND FSA
We support more cooperation and communication between RMA and FSA as they determine yield measurements in order to provide more effective service to farmers.

2017 FARM BILL CONSERVATION PROGRAMS
We support a strong conservation title in the next farm bill. We recognize the needs to improve water and air quality, while at the same time building resilient, healthy, productive soils. We support USDA’s engagement in data integration and analysis practices of farmer-level data to assess costs, benefits and risk profiles from conservation practice adoption. We support incentive and research programs that help farmers reach these goals.

2018 CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM
We support continuation of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). We believe that future CRP contracts should enable differential payments, enhancements, and re-enrollment sign-up offerings. We support focusing enrollment on environmentally sensitive lands and/or those supporting broader conservation and water quality objectives. We support inclusion of practice enhancements at re-enrollment, mid-contract management, and at the interest of the landowner capturing additional environmental benefits such critical habitat or reducing nutrient flow with edge of field practices like bioreactors and saturated buffers retrofitted to existing sub-surface drainage systems. As CRP contracts expire, we believe that CRP participants with highly erodible land (HEL) should be treated equitably with the HEL of non-CRP participants. We believe rental rates for new contracts should be set to more closely reflect current rent values. We favor the current practice of allowing haying and grazing of CRP in exchange for a reduced rental payment. We encourage working with other farm organizations to develop programs that encourage grazing livestock or alternative production on CRP land as contracts expire.

2017 INTERNATIONAL MARKET DEVELOPMENT
We favor aggressive funding for market development purposes by the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), host countries, the United Soybean Board (USB), the United States Soybean Export Council (USSEC), the American Soybean Association (ASA), and qualified state soybean boards (QSSBs).

2013 FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE
We support a subsidized Federal Crop Insurance Program which provides realistic levels of protection at the election of the producer. This program is an excellent risk management tool for the producer. We support continuing to include the Federal Crop Insurance Program as a vital part of any farm bill legislation. We believe crop insurance policies (premium levels and adjustment guidelines) should be continually evaluated to address developing cultural practices and technologies. We support pilot programs that gather the data necessary to
determine those developing conservation practices that reduce risk and can lower farmers crop insurance premiums. We support the continued use of trend adjusted yield in determining insurable levels of yield loss. Premiums should be actuarially sound based on production risk. This protection should continue to be available from local insurance agencies and not a part of federal farm programs administered by federal agencies.

**2016 FEDERAL INSPECTIONS AND BIOSECURITY**
We support a requirement that all inspectors for state and federal farm and livestock issues be required to give at least one-day prior notice and follow all farm biosecurity procedures.

**2015 FARM STORAGE**
We encourage the Farm Service Agency to re-evaluate the pack-factor coefficient used when measuring on farm storage.

**2018 FEDERAL POLICY AND COVER CROP CONSERVATION PRACTICES**
The Iowa Soybean Association calls on USDA to continue communication between RMA, crop insurance agents, FSA and farmers to ensure consistent delivery of information pertaining to crop insurance and the use of cover crops.

**2015 CONSERVATION SECURITY PROGRAM – CSP**
We support the CSP program that was created to encourage environmentally sound practices that are sustainable and beneficial to our environment. However, we oppose large reductions in payments for renewed contracts because it discourages farmers from continuing the practices they have initiated and diminishes the sustainability of the program and its long-term benefits.

**2015 POLLINATOR PROGRAMS**
We support the use of milkweed and like plants in Pollinator programs.

**2016 MONARCH CONSERVATION**
We support the efforts of IDALS and ISU in leading the development of a sound Monarch butterfly conservation strategy.

**2017 ENDANGERED SPECIES HABITAT PROTECTION**
We want producers and landowners held harmless from possible federal regulations if any species for which farmers develop habitat is placed on the Endangered Species List.

**STATE OF IOWA FARM/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 the opportunities for economic growth represented by Iowa’s crop, livestock and biofuels industries.*

**2014 BUYER, SUPPLIER AND BROKER BANKRUPTCY**
We support provisions to protect farmers from buyer, supplier and broker bankruptcies.

**2015 CONTRACT PRODUCTION**
We will continue to monitor emerging issues related to contract production in Iowa and work to ensure Iowa soybean producers have the opportunity to engage in and receive fair and equitable contracts.

**2015 SOY-BASED BUYING PREFERENCE**
We support a soy-based buying preference for federal, state and local government entities.

**2015 ELECTRICAL INSPECTIONS**
We support exempting farms from being defined as commercial operations for the purpose of determining regulations and inspections.

**2015 ACCOUNTABILITY OF APPOINTED BOARDS/LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT OF RULE MAKING**
We believe that non-elected state agencies and commissions should be held accountable to their constituents and should not be able to write and promote rules that impact farmers and other businesses without legislative oversight.
2015 SUNSET OF STATE REGULATIONS
We support the concept that all state regulations should have a sunset date of five years.

2018 CENTRAL FILING
We oppose moving from Iowa’s direct notice system to a central filing system for buyer notification.

2015 RURAL EMERGENCY REQUESTS
We believe efforts should be made to enhance infrastructure for emergency requests to rural areas.

2017 HIGH SPEED INTERNET
We support the expansion of high speed internet to all rural communities in the state.

LIVESTOCK

ISA STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES
We encourage the responsible expansion of livestock, poultry and aquatic feeding in Iowa for greater use of soybean products.

2013 SUPPORT FOR INTERSTATE COMMERCE CLAUSE IN LIVESTOCK REGULATIONS
We believe that neither Iowa nor any other state should adopt more stringent regulations than federal requirements for livestock operations and livestock products.

2015 SUPPORT FOR IOWA DOMESTIC LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY
We acknowledge the value of this industry as our major customer and support the maintenance and increase of Iowa’s domestic livestock industry.

2018 SUPPORT FOR CSIF
We support the Coalition to Support Iowa’s Farmers.

2015 LOCAL CONTROL
We believe that counties should not be able to preempt state authority on agricultural and environmental regulations.

2013 ODOR
We support efforts to mitigate odor from livestock operations using economically efficient techniques, including funding odor research.

2015 ANIMAL RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS
We do not support animal rights organizations or any other groups proposing restrictions on livestock production in Iowa. ISA does not support or condone any abuse or mistreatment of livestock and is always a supporter of best husbandry practices.

2015 COMBATING ANTI-LIVESTOCK ACTIONS
We believe agriculture and industry groups need to work pro-actively together to generate educational opportunities to inform the public of the value of U.S. grown food products.

2017 FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE VACCINE BANK
We support a program within the present and future farm bills to create and maintain an adequate Foot and Mouth Disease vaccine bank as well as foreign animal disease surveillance to protect US food security.

2018 PROTEIN ORIGIN, LABELING AND OVERSIGHT
ISA supports only protein derived from livestock raised by farmers and ranchers and harvested for human consumption be labeled as “meat.” ISA also supports USDA oversight of cellular laboratory or alternatively produced proteins.

PROPERTY RIGHTS AND LAND USE

ISA STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES
We believe government 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 acquire private land for economic, conservation, landfill, road building, utilities or recreational interests without just compensation.

2015 URBAN DEVELOPMENT BOUNDARY PLANS AND ANNEXATION
We encourage the state to require all cities and counties to develop urban development boundary
plans. Such actions will provide information on what areas are subject to annexation in the next 15 years. We believe that in the event of an involuntary annexation petition by a city, a majority of the residents from the city and a majority of the residents from the territory proposed to be annexed must approve the annexation separately.

**2017 TAXES ON STATE OWNED LANDS**
We encourage the state to pay comparable property tax on all state-owned and managed property to the county in which it resides.

**2018 DEER TAGS**
We encourage the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to increase the number of available does and buck tags in the interest of lowering the deer population and reducing damage to farm crops.

**2018 FEDERAL EXECUTIVE ORDERS**
We oppose federal executive orders that deprive citizens of rights and property.

**2013 ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE ON PRIVATE LAND**
We support the upgrading of our nation’s energy infrastructure grid. However, we are concerned that farmers are not fairly compensated for residual impacts on crop land 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.

**2017 SEPARATION DISTANCES FOR WIND TURBINES**
We support a minimum distance of $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from an established residence and $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from a property line for construction of wind turbines unless a mutually accepted distance is negotiated between landowners.

**2014 AERIAL IMAGERY AND REMOTE SENSING USE WITHIN AGRICULTURE**
We support aerial imagery and remote sensing technologies, including unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), to benefit production agriculture. Use of these technologies must be under the control of, corresponding landowners and farmers.

**2016 RIGHT TO REPAIR**
Diagnostic information, repair tools and service information from auto and farm machinery manufacturers should be available to independent repair facilities, service tool manufacturers and consumers.

**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.

**2013 PRODUCTION RESEARCH GOALS**
Recognizing that soybean production requires unique cultural practices, efforts should be made to provide soybean farmers with innovative and leading-edge genetics, biotechnology traits, crop protection solutions, agronomics and cropping systems, products and practices and data for optimum productivity and profitability under environmentally sustainable strategies. We believe state, regional and federal research projects should address the highest priority issues and opportunities impacting soybean quality, yield improvement and yield preservation. We encourage dialogue among soybean farmers, academics, agencies and technology and service provider companies for public/private partnerships and research alignment that will advance the entire soybean industry.

**2015 INCREASED RESEARCH FUNDING AND COORDINATION**
We support increased public and private soybean research funding by government, commodity
organizations, universities and private industry. We believe state and national checkoff funds should be invested in research projects, which result in short and long-term benefits to U.S. soybean producers. We favor prioritized and coordinated research programs in order to leverage checkoff dollars with agency and industry funding for maximum return on investment.

2016 NATIONAL PLANT GERMPLASM SYSTEM
We support continued funding of the National Plant Germplasm System of the Agriculture Research Service of USDA to safeguard and promote genetic diversity.

2013 IOWA SOYBEAN RESEARCH CENTER
We support the Iowa Soybean Research Center at Iowa State University as a way to enhance coordination between ISA, ISU and the private sector.

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.

2014 GRAIN INDEMNITY FUND
We support maintaining a dedicated and secure state grain indemnity fund that provides farmers protection commensurate with grain price levels.

2013 GRAIN QUALITY
We believe that public and commercial soybean breeders and producers should be represented on any committees formed to develop grain quality standards for soybeans and to cooperate with other farm groups to set international standards for specialty grains. We encourage producers to select high protein and oil varieties and support purchasers who pay a premium for the high protein and oil varieties. We support standardized testing which allow for the reasonable quality assurance of grains in the production system.

2015 SOYBEAN MARKETING VALUE
We believe that farmers should be paid on dry matter delivered basis rather than “wet” basis. This should be the first step in valuing soybeans for quality.

2013 HIGH OLEIC OIL
We recognize the need to regain our food grade oil market and support the efforts of USB and their investments to help drive the adaptation and production of soybeans that carry the high oleic oil trait with the eventual goal of becoming the next commodity soybean.

2017 PROTECTION FROM FOREIGN SOYBEAN DISEASE
We support continuing efforts by the USDA to protect the U.S. soy industry from diseases and pests from other countries.

2017 SEED GENETICS
We believe soybean producers should select seed genetics based on high quality, high yielding protein and oil content. We believe soybean seed companies should include estimated protein and oil content in their sales literature thus allowing producers to select seed genetics based this broad set of criteria. We support requirements that seed companies make soybean cultivar and variety number available to farmers during purchase decisions to ensure that farmers can select complementary and non-redundant varieties.

2014 SCN TEST INFORMATION
We support the second SCN Coalition, and we believe all soybean cultivars sold in Iowa should be required to be tested by (ISU Protocol) for soybean cyst nematode reproduction, and this information be made available to growers in sales literature and profile sheets. Seed tags and profile sheets should show whether it is listed as cyst resistant or not.

2015 CALIBRATION STANDARDIZATION
We favor the establishment of national standards for calibrating all grain analyzing technologies.
2017 GPS SIGNALS
The public differential correction for GPS signals should be available to all producers at no cost. We oppose the acquisition of adjacent band width by any company that would compromise the effectiveness of GPS and new digital agriculture technologies for farmers.

2013 PRECISION AGRICULTURE DATA AND INFORMATION OWNERSHIP
We believe the information gathered by GPS, precision agriculture systems, unmanned aerial vehicles and other data acquisition platforms should remain the sole property of the farm operator and/or his/her assigns.

2015 IDENTITY PRESERVED/SPECIALTY MARKETS
We believe Iowa needs to continue efforts on expanding and promoting markets and research for identity preserved and specialty soybeans or soybean products from Iowa. We also support premium structures that reflect the additional costs of identity preservation.

2015 DIVERSIFIED PRODUCTION
We recognize that there are a vast array of markets representing a wide range of customers of soybeans and soy products. We support farmers’ rights to produce soybeans and soy products to meet those diverse markets.

2013 SUPPORT FOR INTERSTATE COMMERCE CLAUSE
We believe that neither Iowa nor any other state should adopt more stringent regulations than federal requirements for crop farming operations and crop products.

2014 CROP PROTECTION PRODUCT REGULATIONS
We believe that restrictions and regulations on crop protection products must be based on factual scientific findings. 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 and information when scientifically-sound research shows that change would be 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).

2016 CFTC COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION TRANSPARENCY
We recommend the CFTC release daily trading reports to provide transparency, so producers are better able to see changes in market trends.

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.

2015 CONSERVATION PRACTICE INCENTIVES
We support and encourage changes in the U.S. and Iowa tax codes which allow for tax incentives for conservation practices. Conservation project expense should be fully deductible by the party who incurred it regardless of type of lease.

2014 INCOME TAX INVESTMENT CREDIT
We support maintaining or increasing the 2013 expanded level of Section 179 deductions and 50% bonus depreciation allowance. We encourage Congress and the Iowa legislature to couple and extend these credits permanently to allow farmers consistency in tax planning.

2017 CRP PAYMENTS
Conservation Reserve Program payments should be treated as rental income, thus unearned income.

2013 1031 EXCHANGE POLICY
We support a 2011 study by USDA’s Economic Research Service on 1031 Exchanges which concluded that 1031 exchanges are not driving price pressure on farmland. We support the continuation of 1031 exchanges as a valuable tool for farmers, providing flexibility and increased economic efficiency in asset management.
2015 FEDERAL DEDUCTIBILITY
We support keeping federal deductibility for Iowa’s individual and corporate income tax. We also support the establishment of taxable deductions for self-employed individuals for health insurance premiums on a permanent basis.

2013 FEDERAL ESTATE TAXES
We favor the elimination of federal and state estate/inheritance taxes while retaining the opportunity to step up basis at the time property is inherited.

2018 SHIFT OF TAX VALUES FROM NON-CROP TO CROP LAND
We oppose efforts to shift property taxes to crop land in order to provide relief to owners of non-crop land.

2018 PASSIVE INCOME TAX
We oppose the 3.8% tax on passive income recently instated by the federal government to help fund national health care.

2018 TIMBER LAND RESERVE
We oppose the property tax exemption for the forest reserve program.

2014 SUPPORT FOR A BALANCED FEDERAL BUDGET
The Iowa Soybean Association supports a balanced federal budget to be achieved by reducing spending.

TRADE

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.

2015 WTO AND FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS
We support comprehensive WTO negotiations as the best means to increase worldwide incomes and reduce trade barriers to soy and livestock products. We believe that bilateral or regional Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations should be focused toward those countries that represent significant commercial markets for U.S. soybeans and products, livestock products and agricultural exports in general.

2015 SUPPORT FOR PACIFIC RIM TRADE AGREEMENTS
We support both bilateral and multi-lateral agreements with Pacific Rim countries.

2016 TRADE NEGOTIATION PRIORITIES
We support continuing improvements in market access for soybeans and soybean products, including livestock products, as the top priority of trade negotiations.

2017 DOMESTIC SUPPORT VS. MARKET ACCESS
We believe that the extent to which a new WTO agreement reduces trade-distorting (i.e. “amber box”) domestic support must reflect the extent to which market access is increased in developing and developed countries through reduction in tariffs and other measures. We support maintaining the “de-minimus” exemption for minimal and non-product specific support from reductions required in trade-distorting programs. We oppose any reduction commitments or caps on “green box” domestic support policies that do not, or only minimally, distort production or trade.

2016 FOOD AID
We support food aid as a humanitarian, economic and market development tool. We encourage the Secretary of Agriculture to utilize authorities granted to USDA through the use of the CCC Charter Act and Section 416 (WISHH: World Initiative for Soy and Human Health) to utilize a soy-product, food relief package rather than cash.

2015 MEAT EXPORTS
We support U.S. meat and aquaculture export programs.

2018 CARGO PREFERENCE
We oppose cargo preference requirements which jeopardize U.S. agricultural exports and its funding by USDA. We support a waiver of the Jones Act requirements with regard to agricultural
commodities for domestic shipments. Furthermore, we would like to exempt soy products as part of the WISHH program and public law 480-type programs from the Jones Act.

2015 INTERNATIONAL TRADE SANCTION REFORM
We support the removal of foreign barriers to international trade in soybeans and soybean products and the prevention of the establishment by other nations of barriers to the importation and consumption of U.S. soybeans and soybean products. We strongly encourage efforts to continually strive to improve relationships with our customers. We understand the need for border control. We also understand the necessity of free movement of ag products between the US, Mexico and Canada, and we encourage procedures be implemented to that end. We believe in equitable international oilseed trade negotiations and encourage legislation which addresses international trade sanction reform. We oppose policies and actions by U.S. institutions, multinational companies, and the World Bank, which negatively impact the U.S. soybean industry.

2016 STATE TRADE PROMOTION AND ENHANCEMENT
We encourage and support Iowa producer-led, private, and government initiatives to promote Iowa soybeans and soybean products internationally.

TRANSPORTATION

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.

2015 FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE SPENDING
We support directing any federal infrastructure funding toward improving commercial transportation, including the Mississippi locks and dams and Iowa roads and bridges.

2015 SUPPORT FOR RAILROADS
We believe railroads are an integral part of any transportation system. We encourage Iowa and its counties to increase their support and emphasis on the development of financially healthy and viable railroads. There is also a need to increase the awareness of the public to the importance of railroads in Iowa’s economy.

2013 COMMERCIAL BARGE TRAFFIC
We support the maintenance and improvement of river locks and dams which maintain water-shipping levels in a manner that sustains barge traffic and does not inhibit agricultural production. We believe available funding should first be directed toward maintaining and preserving the existing system. If additional funding becomes available, 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.

2015 SPRING RISE ON THE MISSOURI RIVER
We oppose policy in the Master Water Control Manual that would cause seasonal flooding or restrict barge traffic on the Missouri and the Upper Mississippi Rivers.

2018 HARBOR MAINTENANCE TAX
We support that the funding generated by the Harbor Maintenance Tax should be spent on harbor maintenance and dredging.

2014 SOY TRANSPORTATION COALITION
The Iowa Soybean Association supports the Soy Transportation Coalition as well as utilization of their studies and recommendations.

2015 WEIGHT TOLERANCES
We support the establishment of reasonable weight tolerances for vehicles used in the production process. Even though the Iowa Governor has traditionally made allowances on weight limits from October 1 through November 30 by proclamation, we support weight overages for transportation of agriculture commodities from September 15 to November 30 to reflect a traditionally earlier harvest season for soybeans. We also believe the current
exemptions, with the exception of bridge embargoes, for agricultural implements of husbandry should be maintained.

2017 FEDERAL WEIGHT LIMITS
We support expanding the truck weight limits on federal interstate highways to 91,000 pounds, for trucks that have a 6th axle as prescribed by the Soy Transportation Coalition Study.

2015 SPECIAL TRUCKS
We support an increase in the mileage eligibility ceiling for a farm vehicle that operates as a special truck to at least 25,000 miles per year and up to 300 miles from the home base.

2017 SPECIAL TONNAGE ELIGIBILITY
We support the ability of producers to buy year-round Farm Special tonnage tags to allow them to utilize semis with 6 or 7 axles.

2015RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS
We recognize the deterioration of our roads and bridges that are critical to our ability to move our products from farm to market. In this economic climate, we support a more efficient use of fuel tax revenues for these needed repairs particularly in rural areas.

2015 BRIDGE EVALUATION TECHNOLOGY
We support the increased utilization of load testing and any other technology for purposes of evaluating and rating the condition of state and local bridges to ensure more accurate assessment and better stewardship of transportation funding.

2017 DRIVEWAYS ON STATE ROADS
We support the state paying for the cost resulting from enhanced design requirements for safety purposes in the construction of driveways on state roads.

VALUE ADDED AND BIOBASED 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.

2016 NEW USES FOR SOY
We support the expanded promotion and encourage research for new uses for soybeans and soybean products.

2018 BIO-BASED PRODUCTS
We support incentives for companies who use environmentally friendly bio-based products in their operations.

2015 FOOD PRODUCTS
We recognize soy as a healthy food source and support the increased use of soy products in the school lunch programs.

2018 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.

2018 REDUCTION OF TRANS FATS
We support the development of a variety of soybean oil alternatives to partially hydrogenated oil to help food manufacturers reduce or eliminate trans-fats from their products, while maintaining the taste, texture and flavor of those foods.
ISA STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES
We support efforts by farm organizations to work toward common goals and to reach out to non-ag groups to build positive relationships and improve communication.

2015 LEGISLATIVE RELATIONSHIPS
ISA should take a lead role in strengthening relationships between farmers and state legislators, enhancing legislators’ understanding of the importance of agriculture to Iowa's, economy and environmental future.

2015 PRODUCER RELATIONS
ISA should serve as a conduit of information from ASA and should continue to emphasize information concerning association activities to all producers, encouraging member engagement and the development of advocates.

2018 AGRICULTURAL ISSUES
We encourage ISA to continue to explore expanded partnerships in promoting and pursuing agricultural issues in common.

2017 NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONAL EFFORTS
We applaud and fully support efforts of the American Soybean Association (ASA), United Soybean Board (USB), and United State Soybean Export Council (USSEC) to enhance international trade opportunities for Iowa and U.S. soybean producers. We embrace the current ASA, USB and USSEC long term strategic plans.

2015 STATE OF IOWA TRADE EFFORTS
We applaud and fully support efforts of the State of Iowa to increase and enhance international trade opportunities for Iowa soybean producers.
VISION STATEMENT:
ISA IS RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE IN ENHANCING LONG TERM SUSTAINABILITY OF IOWA SOYBEAN FARMERS.