



2026

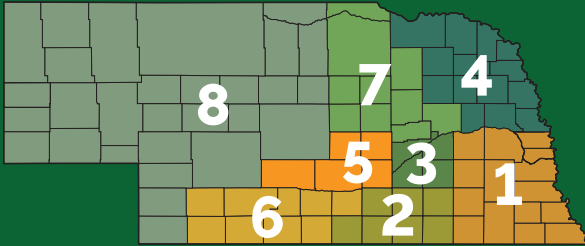
# ANNUAL REVIEW

A PUBLICATION OF THE NEBRASKA CORN GROWERS ASSOCIATION AND THE NEBRASKA CORN BOARD



## NEBRASKA CORN BOARD:

# 2025 - 2026 Board Members



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# A Welcome to the 2025 Annual Review

Hello fellow corn farmers,

2025 was a year that reminded me why the work of the Nebraska Corn Board matters. Margins were tight, markets were uncertain and yet Nebraska corn farmers kept showing up - planting, managing and delivering high-quality crops. The Nebraska Corn Board showed up too, and I'm proud of what we accomplished together on your behalf.



One thing I want every farmer to know: your checkoff dollars are in good hands. Every one of these programs was selected by farmer directors who take our responsibility seriously. Your checkoff dollars don't invest without farmer oversight, and that matters to me. That farmer-first oversight isn't just how we operate, it's what makes this organization worth believing in, and I'm proud to be part of it.

As you flip through this annual report, you'll see what that looks like in practice. New ethanol market opportunities here in Nebraska and in key states like California. International trade relationships represent billions of dollars in demand for our corn. On-farm research is tackling real yield threats and unlocking potential new markets that could be transformational for farmers. Classrooms full of the next generation learning where their food and fuel come from. Farm women across the state are having authentic conversations with consumers who want to understand modern agriculture.

What stands out most to me isn't any single number or headline, it's the compounding effect of years of consistent investment. Nebraska has tremendous potential, and we're blessed with productive soils, innovative irrigation and a community of farmers who lead the way in technology and sustainability. The markets we've built, the research we've funded and the relationships we've grown are all working together. That's what your checkoff dollars are doing, and I don't take that responsibility lightly.

I encourage you to read through the pages that follow. I'm honored to have served as your chair, grateful for the trust you place in the Board and excited about our efforts for the future of Nebraska corn. The work we do together is building demand, protecting profitability and securing the future of Nebraska corn.

Thank you for all that you do.



Brandon Hunnicutt, Past Chairman  
Nebraska Corn Board

Hello fellow Nebraska corn growers! Summer is here and mother nature has reminded us that she is in charge. I hope and pray that most of you are fortunate enough to have



caught rain and are looking at a healthy crop, but we know every year brings a different challenge for our farms to overcome. To those who have received too much rain, too little rain, or some in the solid form, we understand your situation and the importance of sharing your story of those struggles to Lincoln and Washington, reminding policy-makers of why we need a strong safety net when not only economic downturns occur, but also when nature wreaks havoc on our crops.

Shifting to a more positive note, I want to highlight a key moment where your membership investment went to work for you. The recent House passage of year-round E15 began multiple years ago with simple meetings with our congressional delegation leading to the introduction of a bill in the House from Congressman Adrian Smith. Fast forward to this spring, that House bill finally made it to a vote through our persistent advocacy that included your emails and phone calls to Congress, farmers traveling to Washington on short notice to peacefully "protest" for its attention, and our champions in Congress pressing leadership on its importance to rural America. This culminated into a bi-partisan passed bill that many doubted would ever happen in today's political environment.

This win could not have been achieved without our collective support through membership in this great association. Whether you participate as a general member or serve on a local or state board, you truly make a difference. I encourage you to stay engaged and renew your membership if it expires this year.

Above all, thank you and continue to stay safe throughout the remainder of the growing season. I look forward to seeing you at a local chapter event this fall.



Michael Dibbern, President  
Nebraska Corn Growers Association



## A Message from the Executive Director

Kelly Brunkhorst



Challenging. Rewarding. As a farmer, you all know firsthand how challenging our industry is, and with over 10 years of leadership, I have witnessed its rewarding aspects. This year's Annual Review is an opportunity for us to look back and provide you, our grassroots partners, with summaries across our core areas.

For the Nebraska Corn Board, it is our cornerstones of market development, research, promotion and education. Within

the Nebraska Corn Growers Association, we will focus on policy, advocacy and leadership. And these are grounded in our strategic plan priorities of:

- ▶ Increasing producer engagement
- ▶ Collaborate to grow (demand)
- ▶ Strengthen corn reputation
- ▶ Talent development

I also need to take the opportunity to thank you. You invest in us through your checkoff and place your trust in us through your

membership. This partnership we value immensely and strive to provide a return on those investments. As you review this annual publication, we welcome your engagement – reach out anytime to relay to us the challenges, and also the rewards as each of you has a story.

Enjoy and our hope is that you have a rewarding growing season, knowing that several of you have already witnessed challenges.

# Corn by the Numbers

## Nebraska Corn Production 2025



|                  |                     |         |
|------------------|---------------------|---------|
| Acres Planted    | 10.75 million acres | + 6.98% |
| Acres Harvested  | 10.45 million       | + 8.96% |
| Yield            | 194 bushels/acre    | +3.1%   |
| Total Production | 2.0 billion bushels | +12.4%  |

## National Corn Production 2025



|                  |                      |         |
|------------------|----------------------|---------|
| Acres planted    | 98.7 million         | + 8.66% |
| Acres harvested  | 91.2 million         | + 9.9%  |
| Yield            | 186.5 bushels/acre   | + 4.0%  |
| Total Production | 17.0 billion bushels | + 8.66% |



## Nebraska's Top 3 Markets

### Ethanol



- ▶ 24 ethanol plants in Nebraska
- ▶ 2.3 billion gallons of ethanol
- ▶ Blender Pump Grant Program: *22 stations awarded grant money in Nebraska*
- ▶ California Ethanol Infrastructure: *35 stations funded to add E85 in California*



**33 million**  
bushels sent  
to California  
in the form  
of E85

- ▶ 4,975 jobs contributing to economic growth
- ▶ \$6 billion dollars in economic impact in the state of Nebraska

### Livestock



- ▶ Over 284 million bushels are used directly to feed livestock
- ▶ Partnering with AFAN created 24.6 million bushels of more corn demand
- ▶ #1 National Processing State for Red Meat
- ▶ #2 in Beef Exports
- ▶ #2 in Cattle on Feed
- ▶ #6 in Swine Production

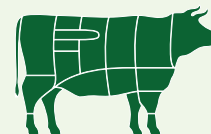
- ▶ DARI LLC investment will process 1.8 million lbs. of milk per day, requiring 22,000 dairy cows
- ▶ Sustainable Beef will increase processing capacity from 1,250 to 1,500
- ▶ Adam's Land & Cattle looks to increase capacity by 65,400 head using Roller Compacted Concrete
- ▶ Smart Chicken looks to add 100 new barns in southeast Nebraska

### Trade/Exports



- ▶ Top 5 Export Countries for U.S. Corn: Mexico, Japan, South Korea, Colombia, & European Union
- ▶ Top 5 Export Countries for Nebraska Corn: Mexico, Japan, South Korea, Colombia, & Canada
- ▶ Beef & Pork exports account for \$259.78 million of Nebraska Corn use

- ▶ California - top domestic export destination for Nebraska corn



Red meat  
Exports add  
**\$.58**  
to the value  
of a bushel  
of corn

# Policy and Advocacy

## State



Renewable Fuels Month Proclamation signing event.



2026 Corn at the Capitol event.



Ag Data Bill signing.

## 2025 Legislative Session

- ▶ NeCGA hosted its first “Corn at the Capitol” event where growers had the opportunity to visit the Nebraska State Capitol and meet with state senators and other state agriculture leaders.
- ▶ Governor Pillen proclaimed May as Renewable Fuels Month.

### Ag Data:

- ▶ NeCGA helped pass LB 525, an ag data privacy bill that grants farmers ownership of their farm data. Michael Dibbern, president of NeCGA, testified in support of the bill in front of the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee.
- ▶ The Ag Data Bill was signed by Governor Pillen at Scott McPheeters’ property.



- ▶ Tracked over 100 bills.
- ▶ Took position on over 40 bills.
- ▶ LB 525, the ag data privacy bill, passed unanimously.
- ▶ LB 663, the livestock siting bill, passed and was signed by the governor. This bill streamlines the county permitting process for agricultural producers and livestock facilities.
- ▶ Passed a balanced budget.





# Federal

- ▶ E15 passed the House of Representatives. NeCGA board members and staff traveled to D.C. to lobby House Members in the final moments leading up to the vote.
- ▶ The Farm Bill passed the House of Representatives.
- ▶ The FTC hosted a listening session in Dallas, Texas where FTC Chairman Andrew Ferguson announced a formal investigation into the U.S. Fertilizer Industry. Michael Dibbern attended the event.
- ▶ At the invitation of Senator Ricketts, Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman John Bozeman hosted a roundtable in West Point, Nebraska to hear from local farmers to about agriculture issues facing Nebraska. Several Nebraska corn growers attended and participated in the event.
- ▶ NeCGA sent a letter alongside other Nebraska agricultural organizations to President Trump urging the renewal of the United States Mexico Canada Trade Agreement (USMCA).
- ▶ NeCGA members participated in a roundtable hosted by Senator Pete Ricketts and Congressman Adrian Smith to discuss the value of ethanol.



NeCGA board member, Jan tenBensel, and NeCGA Director of Public Policy, Kaitlin Taylor, in D.C. advocating for year-round E15.



Ricketts-Smith roundtable event in Norfolk.



NeCGA President, Michael Dibbern participating in the FTC listening session in Texas.



# Membership Spotlight

Thank you for your membership with the Nebraska Corn Growers Association!

Whether you're carrying on generations of family tradition or you're the first generation to farm it, there's a pride that only comes from working your own ground. Because of members like you, your association can protect the conditions that make that possible. The work is happening — and you're part of it.

18

members participated in NeCGA leadership programs



8

members participated in NCGA leadership programs



1

new local association established

1,000



memberships processed in 2025



## Membership Form

Use this form to apply for NCGA membership, or to renew an existing membership.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Farm/Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership County: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ NeCGA may contact me via cell phone

Membership Type: ☐ Grower ☐ Student ☐ Associate

Payment Information:

☐ MC ☐ VISA ☐ AMEX ☐ Check

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ CVC Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Options

☐ 1 Year ..... \$80.00 \_\_\_\_\_

☐ 3 Years ..... \$190.00 \_\_\_\_\_

*A 20% Savings!*

Amount Due \_\_\_\_\_

Recruiter Name \_\_\_\_\_

Complete form and return with payment to:

**Nebraska Corn Growers Association**

245 Fallbrook Blvd, Suite 204

Lincoln, NE 68521

402-438-6459 • [necga.org](http://necga.org)

# 2026 FLAGship Scholarship Winners

The Nebraska Corn Growers Association annually awards five students with a \$2,000 scholarship from the FLAGship program. The 2026 recipients distinguished themselves through outstanding academic achievement, community involvement and ambitious future plans. Congratulations to this year's scholarship winners – NeCGA is proud to invest in the next generation's education.

**Katrina Moyer**



UNL – Fisheries and Wildlife on the pre-vet track  
*Beemer, Nebraska*

**Mason Janda**



Murray State College – majoring in Animal Science with a minor in Agribusiness  
*Ravenna, Nebraska*

**MaKenna Karr**



UNL – Nursing major  
*Bladen, Nebraska*

**Madden Brabec**



UNL – Animal Science on the pre-vet track  
*Wood River, Nebraska*

**Rachel Martensen**



UNL – majoring in Agribusiness with a minor in the Krutsinger Beef Scholars Program  
*Humphrey, Nebraska*

**Levi Othmer**



**2026 National Corn Growers Association Technical School Scholarship Winner:**  
Southeast Community College – Agriculture Management and Production  
*Tecumseh, Nebraska*

**\$12,000+**



awarded  
in local  
scholarships

**\$17,000+**



awarded  
in NeCGA  
scholarships



# Growing Agricultural Literacy Through Nebraska Classrooms

## Nebraska Agriculture in the Classroom

Nebraska corn farmers are helping students make real-world connections between what they learn in the classroom and the agriculture that drives Nebraska's economy.

Through the Nebraska Corn Board's support of the Nebraska Agriculture in the Classroom Champions program, 40 educators from across the state were recognized in 2026 for their commitment to integrating agriculture into everyday learning. In just its second year, the program continues to grow as teachers use Agriculture in the Classroom resources and experiences to connect state standards in science, math, social studies, and language arts to food, fiber, fuel and agriculture.

The impact extends far beyond those 40 classrooms. During the 2025-26 school year, Agriculture in the Classroom delivered a record 1,102 classroom lessons and reached 19,717 student interactions across Nebraska.

Students are learning not only where their food comes from, but also how Nebraska-grown corn contributes to renewable energy. Through lessons such as "Farm to Fuel," fourth-grade students explore how corn is converted into ethanol through hands-on activities that model the fermentation process and demonstrate ethanol's journey from Nebraska fields to fuel tanks.



NE AITC Champion teacher Arlys Cupp from Chase County Schools.

These experiences help students better understand Nebraska's role as one of the nation's leading ethanol-producing states and the innovation taking place within modern agriculture.



A student at Leigh Elementary School putting her planted seed on the Corn Castle poster.



Students from Leigh Elementary School working on a timeline of corn going from farm to fuel.



# CommonGround Nebraska: Building Trust with Consumers

CommonGround Nebraska expanded its reach and strengthened consumer trust in modern agriculture throughout the past year. CommonGround is a group of women in agriculture with a mission to educate consumers and be an authentic resource on food and agriculture.

This year, the program connected directly with more than 3,000 Nebraskans through events across the state, including TOAST Nebraska, Taste of Columbus, Women in Ag, AgCeptional and key urban touchpoints at the Douglas County Fair, Nebraska Huskers basketball game and Farmer Appreciation Night with the Omaha Supernovas, along with additional community engagements.

Media and digital outreach grew significantly. CommonGround Nebraska delivered weekly Pure Nebraska segments and continued

to build its online presence through social media and a bi-monthly newsletter, publishing nearly 30 educational blogs and six recipes reaching over 2,700 subscribers.

The program completed its first formal volunteer recruitment effort, resulting in 12 new volunteers and a strengthened network of 53 volunteers statewide, spanning corner to corner from Hemingford to Nebraska City.

The Nebraska Corn Board's partnership remains essential to this impact. The Nebraska Corn Board's support, in partnership with the Nebraska Soybean Board, allows CommonGround Nebraska to meet consumers where they are, creating meaningful conversations about food, farming, and the people behind both. Together, we are elevating women's voices in agriculture and building long-term trust with Nebraska families.



CommonGround volunteers were on site for various events throughout the year, including the Nebraska AgCeptional Conference.



Volunteers engaged with consumers at a Nebraska Cornhuskers men's basketball game.



CommonGround was statewide educating consumers about agriculture.



**53**  
total  
volunteers



**25**  
attendees  
at the 2026  
CommonGround  
Nebraska State  
Conference



**3,000+**  
total  
direct  
contacts



**12**  
new  
volunteers  
joined in  
2026



Represented at  
**12** large-scale  
events

# Research and Stewardship

To ensure the Nebraska Corn Board (NCB) is addressing the most critical needs of the industry, NCB's comprehensive research portfolio is intentionally structured around six core categories:

- ▶ Biotechnology & Industrial Uses
- ▶ Production Efficiency
- ▶ Livestock
- ▶ Pest Management
- ▶ Nutrient Management
- ▶ Supporting Ag & STEM Education



# 45

Local high school students directly leading on-farm AI and drone research

## Notable Research Projects:

### Corn-to-VAM: Advancing a Corn-based Vinyl Acetate Monomer Pathway

NCB and other state corn checkoff have partnered to develop a process that makes vinyl acetate monomer (VAM), a key ingredient used in shoes, packaging and adhesives, from corn instead of petroleum. A new lab-scale system is already performing strong early results. Global VAM demand equals roughly 500 million bushels of corn per year, a major potential market. If proven at scale, this could create steady, long-term demand for corn and new opportunities for Nebraska growers and ethanol producers. The next step is moving toward a pilot demonstration facility near existing corn and ethanol infrastructure.



# \$15

Per acre value producers attribute to their experience

### Nebraska On-Farm Research Network

NCB continues to be a proud sponsor of the Nebraska On-Farm Research Network (NOFRN). The 2025 season supported 115 studies across 37 counties. New in 2025, NOFRN is bridging the gap between the classroom and the field by putting advanced agricultural technology directly into the hands of Nebraska high school students. Two high school groups, totaling 45 students, conducted real-world, on-farm trials that are included in the 2025 results book. Students took the lead in flying agricultural drones, benchmarking new AI software against manual crop data and analyzing the results. Students are building critical STEM skills and are preparing to become the next generation of leaders in digital agriculture.

# >3B



bushels increased demand potential from new use programs

### Mitigating Tar Spot Disease in Nebraska Irrigated Corn

With the support of the NCB, University of Nebraska-Lincoln researchers are tackling the rapid spread of Tar Spot (*Phyllachora maydis*), a yield-robbing corn disease that thrives under center-pivot irrigation. By tracking movement across the state and determining how irrigated environments fuel the fungus, researchers including Dr. Tamra Jackson-Ziems are equipping farmers with targeted scouting and management strategies to protect their crops and keep Nebraska agriculture thriving.

To learn more about every research program and initiative, please visit [nebraskacorn.gov/research](https://nebraskacorn.gov/research)

# >1,700



growers and professionals reached with NCB research



# Market Development

## Expanding the Reach of Nebraska-Grown Corn

The Nebraska Corn Board (NCB) has been engaged in many opportunities to establish markets for Nebraska corn including livestock expansion, ethanol and trade.

### Livestock

Livestock expansion in Nebraska continues across all sectors of the agricultural industry.

Nebraska corn farmers in partnership with the Nebraska State Dairy Association, traveled to Idaho to recruit dairymen to either expand or move their operations to Nebraska. NCB believes in growing the dairy industry here in Nebraska, as dairy cattle consistently consume corn and distillers grains. Nebraska's central location and abundance of natural resources provides growth opportunities for larger dairy operations in the western U.S. to expand here.



### Ethanol

Ethanol continues to be a strong market for corn with 24 ethanol plants in Nebraska. In 2025, NCB conducted a grant program for incentivizing Nebraska fuel retailers to add higher blends of ethanol to their choices at the pump. In 2025, 22 locations were awarded grants to update infrastructure and offer higher blend fuels at their stations, saving Nebraska consumers money at the pump.

NCB continues the investment of E85 infrastructure in California. In 2025, California sold 120 million gallons of E85, with around 73% of those gallons imported from Nebraska, representing 38 million bushels of corn. NCB assisted in funding infrastructure upgrades for 35 stations across California. NCB



Nebraska Corn trade mission to California.

continues to ensure that California remains a key market for Nebraska corn, helping flex-fuel drivers save money at the pump.

### Trade



Japanese trade team visiting NCGA board member, Jason Lewis' farm.



Mexican trade team visiting Nebraska

Beyond Nebraska, California continues to be a top destination for Nebraska corn. California's livestock industry, along with Nebraska's grain elevators having access to two major railroads, leads to consistent demand for Nebraska corn farmers.

Internationally, Nebraska corn flows into Mexico and the Asia market including countries such as Japan, South Korea and Vietnam. Through cooperation with the U.S. Grains & BioProducts Council, Nebraska Corn hosted four trade teams in 2025, whose combined markets are worth over one billion dollars to corn farmers. These trade teams covered topics including corn, ethanol, distillers grains and sustainability. Hosting these trade delegations helps build relationships and educate customers overseas.

Red meat consumption overseas continues to drive value-added demand here in Nebraska. The U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF) works to promote red meat exports in other countries. Their work helps increase exports of U.S. beef and pork, driving demand for more cattle and hogs that are fed Nebraska-grown corn.

# Our Cooperators

## National Corn Growers Association (NCGA)

The men and women who farm the Nebraska countryside are vital to the success of National Corn Growers Association. The 11 Nebraska farmers in NCGA leadership bring a commitment to service and stewardship that is indispensable to our work.

NCGA is proud to work for Nebraska Corn. In the past year:

- ▶ Mexico rescinded its 2023 decree against GMO corn.
- ▶ The September Make America Healthy Again Commission report excluded attacks against pesticides.
- ▶ Helped the EPA update an endangered species core map, reducing affected corn acres by 99.9%.
- ▶ New trade deals created reliable corn demand.
- ▶ The FY26 Appropriations bill earmarked \$250,000 in funding for aflatoxin and vomitoxin mitigation research.
- ▶ The One Big Beautiful Bill Act included tax policy to prevent a 271% increase in taxable income without bonus depreciation, plus other key policy priorities.

In a historic win, the House passed a standalone bill to maintain year-round consumer access to E15 this May. Your Grassroots advocacy and years of work made this win a reality. The focus shifts to the Senate.

NCGA recognizes Mike Bergen, Michael Dibbern, Amy Harsch, Morgan Wrich, Andy Jobman, David Warner, Ethan Zoerb, Jason Lewis, Dan Nerud, Jan tenBensel, and Andy Groskopf for their volunteer service. Thank you for taking time away from your farms and families to serve American corn producers.

To learn more, visit [ncga.com](https://ncga.com).



## U.S. Grains and BioProducts Council (USGBC)

2025 was another successful year for the Council's partnership with its state checkoff members, including Nebraska Corn. Notably, Nebraska farmer Jay Reiners was elected as the organization's vice chairman in preparation for his role as USGBC chairman in 2026-2027.

On the program side, Nebraska Corn invited the Council and National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) staff to visit local farms in May as they planted the 2025 corn crop and toured key cogs in the state's agricultural value chain.

The group visited the greenhouse at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Innovation Campus to observe the latest research and development in the academic agricultural community. Later, they stopped at the Nebraska Corn Board to learn about modern irrigation techniques that reduce the water consumption of U.S. corn.

The next day, USGBC member POET hosted a tour at its Fairmont ethanol plant for staff to see how biofuels and their co-products, like distiller's dried grains with solubles (DDGS), are produced.

For further insight into corn production and uses, the team visited the farms of Nebraska Corn Growers Association

President Michael Dibbern and Nebraska Corn Board Director Dan Nerud to check in on their planting progress and study their production methods. Additionally, staff visited a local feedlot to further their understanding of feed grains' role throughout the value chain.

In September, the Council participated in the 2025 U.S. Bioethanol Supply Conference in Tokyo, Japan, joined by representatives from USGBC members Cargill, Eco-Energy, Illinois Corn, the Iowa Corn Promotion Board, Marquis Energy, Nebraska Corn and Zeeland Farm Services to connect with policymakers and potential customers for U.S. bioproducts.

After a welcome from U.S. Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission Aaron Snipe, Nebraska Governor Jim Pillen addressed attendees about the role of bioproducts in the agricultural economy and the quality of U.S. ethanol.

Other U.S. participants had devoted time slots to present about their services and the U.S. industry's ability to supply Japan's need for biofuels in the present and future. Then, a



selection of agribusiness representatives took the stage for a panel discussion relaying the decarbonization efforts of U.S. growers and bioproduct producers.

Lastly, the Council welcomed Logan Walsh to its Washington, D.C. headquarters last summer as an intern with the Council's industry relations department thanks to the generous support of the Nebraska Corn Board.

Walsh gained hands-on understanding of business relationship management and engagement by liaising with Council membership and helped plan the organization's 65th Annual Board of Delegates Meeting in Grand Rapids, MI.

To learn more about the Council's collaboration with Nebraska growers, visit the organization's website at [grains.org/news-events/newsroom/](https://grains.org/news-events/newsroom/).

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## U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF)

The global trade landscape for U.S. red meat went through major changes in the past year. The introduction of new U.S. tariffs created a great deal of uncertainty and contributed to shifting trade patterns. Market access gains were achieved, however, highlighted by U.S. beef regaining duty-free access to the United Kingdom.

Through its support of USMEF, Nebraska Corn helps build demand for Nebraska beef and pork. Nebraska corn growers and cattle feeders, such as Dave Bruntz (past president of the Nebraska Corn Board and USMEF's current chair-elect) and Adam Grabenstein (Nebraska Corn Board director and USMEF Executive Committee member) help direct how checkoff dollars are spent in market development efforts for U.S. red meat.

### USMEF Recognizes Corn and Soybean Producer Support at Commodity Classic

USMEF Chair-elect Dave Bruntz represented USMEF at numerous events and in March, Bruntz participated in

the Commodity Classic in San Antonio. Bruntz staffed USMEF's booth, thanking producers for their support of USMEF programs in international markets and addressing questions about global meat trade.



### U.S. Producers Participate at the U.S. Red Meat Symposium in Mexico City

USMEF held its second U.S. Red Meat Symposium in Mexico City, enabling U.S. exporters to meet face-to-face with prospective buyers from Mexico. The symposium included an examination of Mexico's economic and political climate and provided opportunities for buyers to connect with U.S. farmers and ranchers. A delegation of 18 producers and other industry leaders participated in the symposium and in market tours.

To learn more, visit [usmef.org](https://usmef.org).

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## Alliance for the Future of Agriculture in Nebraska (AFAN)

Agriculture sits at the core of Nebraska's identity, and this past year has been a strong one for livestock growth and the corn producers who help fuel it. At the Alliance for the Future of Agriculture in Nebraska (AFAN), our work centers on supporting livestock expansion and strengthening the partnerships that keep rural communities thriving.

In 2025, AFAN supported numerous livestock-related projects representing \$273 million in new capital investment across the state of Nebraska. These projects brought construction activity, long-term jobs, and renewed opportunity to the communities that welcomed them.

One of the biggest wins has been the deepening connection between livestock development and Nebraska's corn sector. Livestock projects supported through AFAN created demand for an additional 24.6 million bushels of corn and 1.4 million bushels of soybeans in 2025.

That increased utilization strengthens markets, supports land values, and reinforces the long-standing relationship between rowcrop farmers and livestock producers.

From dairy expansion to innovative beef processing models, Nebraska continues to attract interest from producers looking for a place where agriculture is valued and supported. None of this progress happens without strong partnerships and a shared commitment to growing the agricultural industry.

Learn more at [becomeafan.org](https://becomeafan.org).







Nebraska Corn Growers Association  
245 Fallbrook Blvd, Suite 204  
Lincoln, NE 68521

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