IOWA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND LAND STEWARDSHIP

Bill Northey, Secretary of Agriculture

June 2015

Dear Friends:

Congratulations on becoming a recipient of the Century Farm Award. A statewide Century Farms Award Ceremony will be held at the Iowa State Fair on **Thursday, August 20, 2015,** in honor of your family's contribution to the growth and stability of Iowa agriculture. The ceremony will be held at the historic air-conditioned Pioneer Livestock Pavilion - #33 on the enclosed fairgrounds map. I have also included a diagram of the lay-out of the interior of the Pavilion. General information on the Iowa State Fair is also enclosed.

THIS IS THE ONLY NOTIFICATION your family will receive regarding your Century Farm. It is your responsibility to contact any other family member whose name was submitted as a present farm owner. Please return the enclosed Reply Card by **July 8, 2015,** notifying us of your intention to attend the ceremony. Family and friends are also welcome to attend. Please return the Reply Card by July 8th even if you are unsure of all those attending in your group.

Please Check All The Information On The Enclosed Reply Card Carefully. This information will be printed in the Century Farms Ceremony Program and needs to be returned **immediately** in order to meet our printing deadline. The enclosed Reply Card lists the names of the **farm owners and location of the farm**. Also listed are the names that will be printed on your certificate. **Please check the spelling carefully**. An instructional worksheet is included to aid you in completing the postcard. **Return this card by July 8, 2015.**

You must "check in" with our registration table when you arrive the day of the ceremony. It will be located at the south entrance of the Pavilion. Please go to the table that is designated with your Century Farm County name above it. Registration will be divided into four separate time slots, alphabetically by county.
Check the Enclosed Registration and Presentation Time Schedule That Applies to Your Century Farm County.

The **awards ceremony** will be divided into two groupings, alphabetically by counties. The groupings are based on **the county in which the Century Farm is located**. The awards presentation will start with counties beginning with the letter "A" and continue alphabetically by county.

During the ceremony, you will be asked to come forward to receive your award. **The stage is handicapped accessible.** Your photograph will be taken as you receive the award. You may designate someone to receive the award on your behalf if you are unable to attend the ceremony.

You will receive:

1. A complimentary 5 x 7 photo which will be sent to you following the ceremony. This picture is not copyrighted.
2. An award certificate. Please note that each couple and individual listed as a titleholder will receive a certificate.
3. Each farm will receive one metal marker.

Additional certificates and photographs may be ordered at the order table the **day of the ceremony only**. Cash or checks will be accepted (no credit cards, please). Additional markers will be available for purchase at the order desk the day of the ceremony.

Prices:

- Additional certificates are $7.00 each.
- Additional photos are $6.00 each.
- A postage and handling fee of $4.00 is added to each order of certificates & photos.
- Metal markers are $7.00 each if picked up at the State Fair. Metal markers are $17.00 each if mailed.

After September 10, 2015, you will be able to access your individual family photos on our web-site at www.iowaagriculture.gov. Click on the flickr icon in the upper right-hand corner. Click on "Albums" and then click on "Century Farms" or "Heritage Farms". Scroll to your photo and click on it. In the lower right-hand corner, you have the option to "share" or "download" and print your own photos. As these are not copyrighted photos, you may print as many as you would like. This will be an easy way to share your photo with family members.

For those unable to attend the ceremony. Your certificate(s) and metal marker will be mailed to you after the State Fair, along with a copy of the program from the ceremony. If you wish to purchase additional certificates or markers, you may do so at that time. An order form will be sent to you along with your certificate.

We recommend that you purchase at least one additional certificate in the event the original is destroyed or lost. Certificates cannot be replaced. Metal markers can be replaced if it becomes necessary due to theft, age or outdoor elements.

Newspaper Notification. Following the State Fair, a press release will be sent to all of the newspapers in the state with a list of all Century Farm recipients along with information on how to receive a copy of the photo taken at the State Fair. It is strictly up to your local newspapers if they decide to print the story. Contact your local newspapers directly if you want to be sure they print your story.

No Drop-Off Point. The Pioneer Livestock Pavilion is not accessible for you to drive to and drop off family members. The State Fair staff has advised those needing assistance to come in Gate 13, catch a ride up to Gate 11 on a Shriner golf cart, get on the tram and ride around to the Pavilion. The tram stops are highlighted on your fairgrounds map and you can get on or off the tram at these locations.

For ease of sharing with your family members, the information contained in this packet will also be available on our web site at http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/centuryFarmsProgram.asp.

Please contact me at the address or e-mail below or by telephone at 515/281-3645, if you have any questions regarding the registration or presentation.

Your participation in the Century Farms Award program will be a meaningful tribute of your contribution to Iowa's agricultural heritage. I look forward to meeting you on **Thursday, August 20, 2015.**

Sincerely,

Becky Lorenz

Becky Lorenz
Century Farms Coordinator
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Becky.Lorenz@iowaagriculture.gov

Enclosures: **Reply Card – Must be returned by July 8, 2015.**
Instruction sheet for completing reply card
Registration/Presentation Schedule
State Fair Map
Information on the Iowa State Fair

2015 CENTURY FARMS REGISTRATION & PRESENTATION SCHEDULE

Registration
Check in Times

Group 1
7:45 am – 8:45 am
Adair through Emmet Counties

Group 2
9:00 am – 10:00 am
Fayette through Jones Counties

Group 3
11:00 am – Noon
Keokuk through Poweshiek Counties

Group 4
12:30 – 1:30 pm
Ringgold through Wright Counties

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Presentations
Award Ceremony

9:00 am – 9:15 am	Celebration of Iowa – Art Agriculture Award
9:15 am – 12:00 pm	Adair through Jones Counties
12:00 pm - 12:30 pm	**Lunch Break**
12:30 pm – 3:30 pm	Keokuk through Wright Counties

Post Card Instructions

Below is an example of the enclosed yellow post card. **Please return even if you are not able to attend to confirm that the information shown is correct.**

List those who will be attending. I will be making name tags from this list. (There will be extra blank name tags available at the State Fair if you have people that are not listed on the postcard.)

Example: John & Mary Jones, John Jr., Alice and Joey Jones
Ed & Nancy Smith

Check the **left** bottom label on the card for your **CENTURY FARM** information.

Check the **right** bottom label on the card for the **name(s) you requested to be put on your certificate**.

If there are any errors in spelling, or if the information is incorrect, please correct it on the card before mailing it back.

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CENTURY FARMS AWARD PRESENTATION

_____ Yes, I/we will be attending the State Fair ceremony.

Our farm will be represented by:

_____

_____

_____ Sorry, we are unable to attend.

Please note any corrections in spelling or address below.

Century Farm County Century Farm Owners Century Farm Location City Year purchased	Name(s) on your certificate

Please mail your card back no later than July 8, 2015!

Iowa State Fair Information
(Go to Iowastatefair.org for complete Fair information)

Fair Hours
Grounds: 7 a.m. to 1 a.m.
Buildings: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Midway 10 a.m. to Midnight

Regular Gate Admission (Visa, MasterCard and Discover accepted at the gate)
Adults (ages 12+): $11
Children (ages 6-11): $5
Children (ages 5 and under): FREE every Fair day

Advance Admission
Adults (ages 12+): $8
Children (ages 6-11): $4
Children (ages 5 and under): FREE every Fair day

Three ways to purchase advance admission tickets:

- Purchase tickets online and print them at home. Go to the Iowa State Fair web site above for instructions.
- Purchase admission and activity tickets online and have them mailed to you (5% processing fee applies).
- Admission tickets will be available at participating Hy-Vee and Hy-Vee Drugstores, and Fareway Stores. The State Fair Ticket Office opens July 6 for walk-up orders.

Parking
North Lot Parking, Sims Parking Lot & Northeast Parking Lot: $10
Motorcycle Parking: $10
Bicycle Parking (inside Gate 10): $2
Buses and Drivers: FREE

For information on DART Park and Ride locations, go to http://www.iowastatefair.org/for-visitors/park-ride/

DIRECTIONS TO THE FAIRGROUNDS: The Iowa State Fairgrounds are located at East 30th Street and East University Avenue, 10 minutes east of downtown Des Moines. For GPS and online mapping services, use the address **3000 East Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50317.**

The Fair suggests the following routes:

Eastern Iowa: From I-80 take Exit 141 (Hwy. 65 Bypass), travel south on Hwy. 65 to Exit 79 and head west on Hwy. 163 (E University Avenue) approximately three miles to the Fairgrounds. It is suggested that visitors enter the Fair parking lot at E 36th as a left-hand turn may not be allowed into the grounds at E 33rd at certain times.

Northern Iowa: From I-35, take I-235 to Exit 10A then head east on E University Avenue approximately four miles to the Fairgrounds.

Western Iowa: From I-235, take Exit 10A then head east on E University Avenue approximately four miles to the Fairgrounds.

Southern Iowa: From I-35, take IA 5/US 65 to Exit 79 then head east on E University Avenue approximately four miles to the Fairgrounds.

ADA/DISABLED PARKING: The largest area of parking reserved for visitors with disabilities is located in the North Lot (highlighted in yellow on the map). Admission to this lot is through Gate #2 at East 33rd Street and East University Avenue. Vehicles with a DOT parking permit or a license plate designating a disabled driver or passenger will be directed to the reserved parking area north of the Grandstand racetrack. Vehicle parking fee is $10 on a space-available basis; some hard-packed surface parking is available.

Additional parking for people with disabilities is located on the inner Fairgrounds in Lot B. Vehicles must have DOT parking permits or license plates designating a disabled driver or passenger. Inner grounds parking is $10 on a space-available basis.

Some hard-packed surface parking is available; however, the age and the rolling nature of the terrain means most of the parking area is unpaved. Designated accessible parking spaces on main streets in the inner grounds will not be available during the Fair.

Parking personnel will do their best to direct disabled visitors' vehicles to the closest, most convenient parking available. As north parking lots fill on high attendance days, the Des Moines Police Department determines when outside gates to the Fairgrounds are opened and closed. When one gate closes, generally, another is opened to assist in keeping traffic congestion on city streets to a minimum.

SCOOTER and WHEELCHAIR RENTALS: HomeTown Mobility is now accepting reservations online at www.htmia.com and by phone at 877-928-5388 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and all 11 days during the Fair (Aug. 13-23). Save $5 by placing your reservation online versus calling in. Call-in reservations will be charged a $5 processing fee.

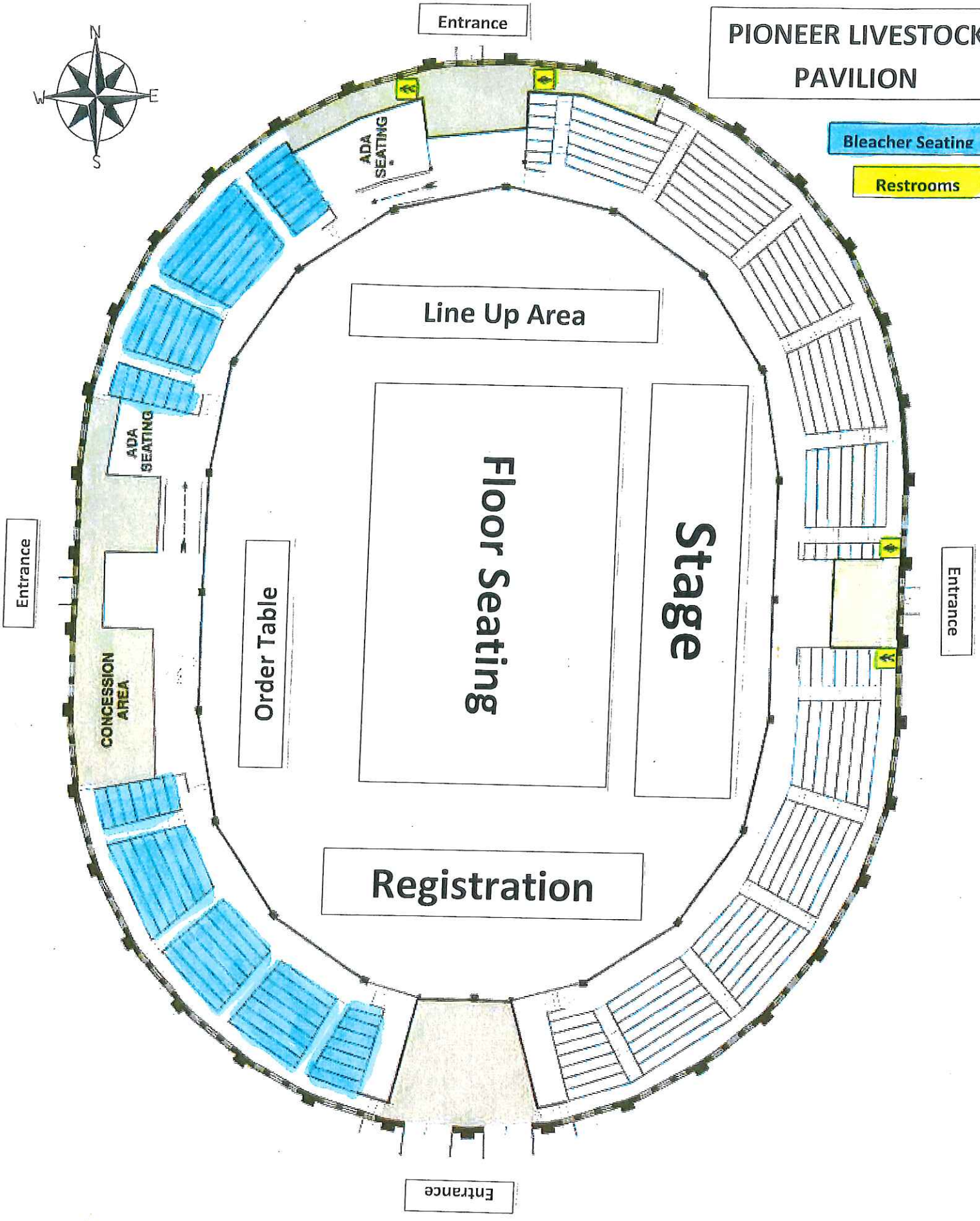
A limited number of wheelchairs and scooters will be available for walk-up customers during the Fair on a first come, first serve basis. Reservations will be accepted for full day scooter and wheelchair rentals only. Reservations must be made 24 hours in advance. A security deposit of a driver's license is required at the time of pick-up for all rentals. Cancellations must be made at least 48 hours in advance to receive a full refund (less a $5 cancellation fee per unit). Rental locations are at Gates 11 and 15 and on the southeast corner of the Swine Barn.

Wheelchairs - $20 per day

Scooters - $55 per full day (8 a.m. to 11 p.m.); $35 per half day (8 a.m. to 3 p.m. or 3 p.m. to 11 p.m.)

LODGING: The Des Moines Convention and Visitors Bureau provides up-to-date lodging information. You may contact them by calling 800-451-2625 or search their online accommodations listings at http://www.catchdesmoines.com/hotels/.

LEGEND

1 Taxi Stand
2 Strollers / Wheelchairs / Scooters
3 Hedrick's Petting Zoo sponsored by Cellular Advantage
4 Shoppers' Mart
5 Halls of Law and Flame
6 Fabric and Threads Exhibits
7 The Red Trouser Show
8 Robert G. Horner & Sheri Avis Horner Service Center / Lost Children / Adults sponsored by Register Media
9 Little Hands on the Farm
10 Chainsaw Carvers A.J. Lutter & Gary Keenan
11 Sky Glider East / West sponsored by Select Comfort
12 MidAmerican Energy Wind Turbine / Education Center
13 Walnut Center Crafts
14 Maytag Family Theaters
15 Principal Plaza at Legacy Terrace
16 William C. Knapp Varied Industries Building sponsored by Principal Financial Group
17 SwashChucklers Comedy Pirate Show
18 Anne & Bill Riley Stage sponsored by Pepsi
19 Ye Old Mill
20 Hy-Vee Health & First Aid Center
21 John Deere Agriculture Building sponsored by Alliant Energy
22 Hy-Vee Fun Forest sponsored by Community Choice Credit Union / Play Area
23 Paul R. Knapp Animal Learning Center sponsored by Christensen Farms
24 Susan Knapp Amphitheater sponsored by Coors Light with media sponsor KDSM Fox 17
25 Richard L. Easter Museum Complex
26 Ralph H. Deets Historical Museum
27 Richard O. Jacobson Hall & Kenyon Gallery
28 Farm Bureau Pioneer Hall
29 Vermeer Grandfather's Barn / Wine Experience / Art Fair
30 Patty & Jim Cownie Cultural Center
31 MidAmerican Energy Stage with Iowa Realty & media sponsor KCCI 8 News
32 Farm Bureau Picnic Shelter
33 Pioneer Livestock Pavilion sponsored by Prairie Meadows
34 Country School
35 John & Emily Putney Family Cattle Barn sponsored by Vermeer / Milking Parlor / Boulevard of Dairy Breeds / Penningroth Media Center
36 Swine Barn / Avenue of Breeds
37 Bruce L. Rastetter 4-H Exhibits Building sponsored by Touchstone Energy Cooperatives
38 Elwell Family Food Center sponsored by Blue Bunny
39 Bud Light Stage sponsored by ABC 5
40 Reichardt Family Giant Slide
41 Snakes Alive / CIRC Model Railroad
42 Blue Ribbon Kids Tent
43 Wheelchairs & Scooters
44 Kids Zone / Kangaroo Jumper / Krazy Maze
45 Bob & Deb Pulver Outdoor Arena
46 Richard O. Jacobson Exhibition Center
47 Discovery Garden

PIONEER LIVESTOCK PAVILION