

Iowa Bankers Association

# AG BANKERS CONFERENCE



March 17-18, 2025 • Gateway Hotel, Ames

The Iowa Bankers Association presents the annual Ag Bankers Conference including two days of educational sessions led by experts in the business of banking and farming. The conference includes sessions on the ag economy, managing crop risks, succession planning, and more! Prepare yourself for the future with the best advice and most up-to-date knowledge available.

## Featured Speakers



Dr. Steve Johnson



Dr. Jason Henderson



Ed Elfman



Bob Hodges



Dr. Dave Muth



Mike Pearson

### Location

**Gateway Hotel & Conference Center**  
2100 Green Hills Drive, Ames, IA 50014  
Ph. 515-292-8600

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Gateway Hotel & Conference Center in Ames at a rate of \$144. Reserve rooms directly with the hotel no later than February 25, 2024. After March 1, reservations will be based on availability.

### Confirmation

You will receive a confirmation by email within one week of the conference.

### Attire

Please feel free to dress comfortably in business casual attire.

### Questions

Please contact IBA's Darcy Burnett at [dburnett@iowabankers.com](mailto:dburnett@iowabankers.com) or call 515-286-4300.

## 2025 IBA Ag Bankers Conference

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### Registration Information

IBA Member \$345  
Nonmember \$690  
Cancellations by 3/11/2024 will receive a full refund. No refunds after 3/11. Substitutions allowed at any time.

Mail form and payment  
Attention: Registrar  
Iowa Bankers Association  
8901 Northpark Dr., Johnston, IA 50131-6200

Online registration available at  
[www.iowabankers.com](http://www.iowabankers.com)

Bank/Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

# AG BANKERS CONFERENCE

## Monday, March 17

8:30 am **Welcome & Introductions**

8:40 am **Economic Update**

*Dr. Jason Henderson, ISU Extension, Ames*

With rates rising, elections, and the question of recession or soft landing as prevalent issues in the last year, Dr. Henderson will share perspectives on the economy going forward in 2025. With an emphasis on the ag sector, this session will focus on global markets, trade, and other important issues for the Iowa ag economy.

10:00 am **Break with exhibitors**

10:30 am **Hot Topics in Ag  
Sustainable Aviation Fuel**

*Nathan Hohnstein, Iowa Renewable Fuels Association*

Sustainable aviation fuel could become the largest new market in the history of agriculture. The new SAF market is potentially massive according to a study from by Decision Innovation Solutions (DIS), an Iowa agricultural economic firm. The study found fully maximizing the potential of the SAF production in Iowa will have a generation impact. Learn more about what this means for Iowa agriculture.

**AI in Ag – Bioinformatics, Genetics, & Genomics**

*Dr. James Koltes, Iowa State University*

Hear from animal science professor James Koltes about AI in agriculture. Dr. Koltes is a part of ISE's TrAC, Translational AI Center, that serves as a scientific hub for translational artificial intelligence.

12 pm **Lunch**

1:15 pm **Ag Policy Update**

*Ed Elfman, American Bankers Association, Washington, D.C.*

Learn how the current agricultural economy and political leadership is shaping agricultural policy and the upcoming farm bill including an overview of USDA, Congressional leadership, and other important players in agricultural policy. Also, find valuable resources in the agricultural finance space that can help you and your customers. This is a can't miss for all ag lenders!

2:15 pm **Break with Exhibitors**

2:45 p.m. **Crop Marketing Outlook**

*Dr. Steve Johnson, ISU Extension Outreach (retired)*

Steve Johnson will discuss 2025 crop cost estimates, including corn prices and soybeans. He will also discuss crop margins.

4:00 pm **Reception**

## Tuesday, March 18

7:30 am **Full Breakfast**

8:15 am **A Look at What's Happening with Land Values**

*Dr. Dave Muth, Peoples Company*

Want to know what's happening with land values around Iowa? Dr. Dave Muth of Peoples Company shares data on the current state of land values, the circumstances that have led to those values, and an outlook on variables that could impact future land prices

9:15 am **Break with exhibitors**

9:30 am **Succession Planning – Mitigating Risk and Making Successful Transitions**

*Robert Hodges, BrownWinick, Des Moines*

A good estate plan for a farm family needs to recognize and take advantage of the various tools available for protecting the farm operation and aiding farm family succession. Transition and estate planning is essential, but often comes with challenges. This session will talk about some ways ag lenders can assist in that process, proven strategies for succession, and some of the potential pitfalls.

10:30 am **Break with exhibitors**

10:45 am **What's Driving Agriculture Now**

*Mike Pearson*

Join Mike Pearson, host of "This Week in Agribusiness" Mike interviews over 1000 professionals in the ag industry each year. These folks range from experts on the volatile commodity markets to Washington DC politicians, and trade experts worldwide. In this talk, Mike will synthesize what he's learned from these professionals and help the audience understand what might be ahead in the markets, in policy, and trade.

11:45 am **Adjourn**