



AFAN IN ACTION

April 2024 Update

April included the FFA annual convention, County Official tours, and a “new” opportunity in raising livestock. It is fun to interact with the next generation of young adults during the FFA annual convention; it always reminds me that “kids today” are pretty darn good kids. The future looks bright!

This past month we had the opportunity to work with the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) to do livestock facility tours after their district meetings. We also had the opportunity to take a group of planning and zoning commission members to the Lincoln Premium Poultry processing facility. We have been doing livestock tours for a while now and the goal is always the same; get decision-makers out on the farms to talk to the farmers and see and *smell* the livestock operations. The Custer County group got to tour a farm that was in the process of windrowing the litter which is the smelliest time because everything is being turned over. And yet, we had a nice visit right by the barn with very little odor. Having that firsthand knowledge and experience helps tremendously if the county board ever has to vote on a livestock project.

We also released the agenda for the 2024 Nebraska Pork Expo. The session we are really excited about is on the use of CRISPR technology to find a way to reduce the impact of PRRS. We have some excellent speakers for the session and will include plenty of time for Q&A. Other sessions will include research reports, veterinarian health updates, financial planning, and preparations, plus Chef Nador from Billy’s restaurant will be doing a cooking demo and giving out samples in the afternoon. The whole day is free to attend, break, snacks, and lunch are provided. It is a great opportunity to learn more about the swine industry. The Expo is held on July 17th in York. All the details are on our website, and we do ask that you register so we have an accurate meal count.

At this point, most farmers understand the true value of manure for soil health and for improving water quality. Yet, if you are not a livestock producer how can you access that benefit? We have a couple of opportunities that we are excited about. The latest one is in poultry production. Smart Chicken is growing and is looking for producers to build barns for them in the southeast part of Nebraska. Raising broilers is a way to bring the next generation back to the farm as the contract provides cash for labor, depreciation, and manure that can offset fertilizer costs. Plus the barns help to build equity.

However, if you are not set up to do the labor, there is still an option. There are folks

that are looking to build these barns and manage them. They just need the land to do it on. In this case, a landowner would sell between 5-20 acres and negotiate the sales price plus the manure rights. The landowner could get access to manure without doing any chores. Some other options include buy-out clauses where at some point down the road, the landowner could re-buy the land and buildings. There are a lot of options that can be negotiated in this scenario with both parties gaining benefits. If you are interested in this option, contact us and we can talk you through how it all works. It might not be right for everyone but it could be right for you.

Spring might finally be here and I hope you all can get out and enjoy it!

AFAN & NSDA GOLF -Tournament-

**INDIAN TRAILS COUNTRY CLUB
BEEMER, NEBRASKA**



JUNE 13, 2024

9:00 AM- REGISTRATION

10:00 AM- SHOTGUN START

4-Person Best Ball, Food Provided
Must Provide a Full Team



Tournament Sponsor, \$1,000

Sign or banner displayed in the clubhouse & hole of your choosing choice of hole game (You provide the prize, min \$25 value), complimentary team (4 golf registrations),

Hole Sponsor, \$600

Hole of your choosing & choice of hole game (You provide the prize, min \$25 value), complimentary team (4 golf registrations)

Play in Tournament, \$400

Enjoy a day with your friends, colleagues, or business partners on the links. Good for one 4-person team

[Register Here](#)

Save the Date

April

28-30: ADPI Annual Conference

June

[13: AFAN/ NSDA Golf Tournament](#)

July

[17: 2024 Nebraska Pork Expo](#)

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