



AFAN IN ACTION

May 2024 Update

The synergy between excellent feed resources, excellent water availability, open space, and great people keeps things lively around AFAN headquarters!

This past month we worked more in the dairy space with a trip to Chicago to recruit processing companies and several in-state meetings with dairy ties. Not only are producers looking to move to Nebraska to build dairies, but they are also looking for places to raise calves and heifers. These “side” businesses to dairy farms can create opportunities for Nebraska producers who want to get into some part of the dairy business.

Calf raising is one area that is challenging as you are taking a day-old calf that still needs to be bottle-fed and raising it up to 300-400 pounds. At that point, if it is a beef-dairy cross or a steer calf, it can move to a backgrounding operation. If it is a heifer calf, it will move to a facility that will raise her, AI her, and then ship her back to the dairy farm to become part of the milking herd. Every stop along the way can be an opportunity for an enterprising individual.

As we work with dairy farmers who want to build in the state, they need partners. They need to find land they can buy, usually 160 acres. Then they need local farmers they can work with to purchase silage, corn, and alfalfa. Then they need land to apply manure (which is great for fertility and soil health). One small study that was conducted in Nebraska, showed that working with a dairy farm was a big boost to the row-crop farmer's profitability.

Besides dairy, we are seeing expansion in the Smart Chicken operation in Southeast Nebraska. The opportunity there is to contract with Smart Chicken to raise broilers. The farmer invests in the buildings, provides the labor, and in return gets cash and the litter. The litter is a great fertilizer and can offset some farming expenses while improving soil health. Additionally, the farmer can write off the depreciation and build equity in their overall operation.

If someone is interested in the benefits of using manure on their farm but doesn't have the capacity to do the chores. The other option is to partner up with someone who will do the chores. Several groups would buy around 20 acres of land, and then negotiate access to manure. This can be a viable option to gain a valuable resource without having to do chores.

The water and feed availability continues to lead people to Nebraska and we get calls from folks looking to anything from aquaculture to egg-laying operations and everything in between. Some of these projects will see the light of day and be viable, others, may not. But we will work with all of them to find a path to success. It is the support of our board and our many partners that allows us to do this at no cost to anyone.

Thank you to our partners and their support. To see a full list of trusted AFAN partners, check out our website.

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),

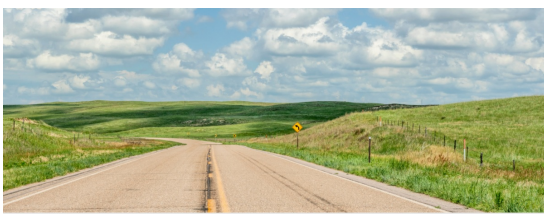
Hole Sponsor, \$600

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](#)



WE'RE HITTING THE ROAD FOR OUR MIDYEAR UPDATE!



RSVP INFO Due June 20th

Call
402.421.4472

Email
mindyr@a-fan.org

WHERE TO FIND US



GRAND ISLAND

June 25th
Kinkaiders Brewing Company (316 N Pine)
3:00- 5:00 PM
Happy Hour & Hors d'oeuvres



COLUMBUS

June 26th
Dusters (2804 13th St)
3:00-5:00 PM
Happy Hour & Hors d'oeuvres

WWW.BECOMEAFAN.ORG



CONFINED CATTLE LUNCH & LEARN

Innovation Center, 2311 14th St
Columbus, Nebraska
August 15, 2024 11:00AM-1:00PM

THE DAY INCLUDES:

- LEGACY BEEF COOP OPPORTUNITY
- MANURE BENEFITS IN A DEEP PIT SYSTEM
- DEEP PIT FACILITY TOUR
- & FREE LUNCH

QUESTIONS?
OR TO RSVP PLEASE CONTACT US AT:
402.421.4472
MINDYR@A-FAN.ORG
RSVPS are requested by August 8



Save the Date

June

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

25: Midyear Update, Grand Island

26: Midyear Update, Columbus

July

[17: 2024 Nebraska Pork Expo](#)

August

[15: Confined Cattle Lunch and Learn, Columbus](#)

**Special THANK YOU to our Premier Sponsor,
[Farm Credit Services of America!](#)**



**Farm Credit Services
of America**

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