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## 112th Annual Meeting & Seed Forum

The Iowa Seed Association's (ISA) 112<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the 2015 Agribusiness Showcase & Conference, on February 10 & 11, 2015 at the Varied Industries Building on the Iowa State Fairgrounds in Des Moines, Iowa.

Partnering with the Agribusiness Showcase & Conference will allow ISA to once again expand the education and networking opportunities available at our Annual Convention.

The Agribusiness Showcase & Conference is about giving agribusiness professionals the opportunity to explore the innovative tools they need to grow their business, now and into the

future. More than 1,000 ag professionals attended the 2014 Conference and its the nation's largest indoor field-day was held which filled the Varied Industries Building. Through ISA's partnership with the Agribusiness Showcase & Conference, ISA members will have the opportunity to attend a wider variety of workshops and network with all facets of the ag industry.

**The Iowa Seed Association Annual Meeting and Seed Forum will be held at the Varied Industries Building on Wednesday, February 11. The Seed Forum workshops are dedicated solely to information pertinent to the seed industry.**

## AgReliant Genetics Expands Seed Corn Production Capacity In Iowa

In response to rapid business growth, AgReliant Genetics anticipated expansion of its production capacity by adding a complete seed corn production facility in Iowa which will include receiving, husking, sorting, drying, shelling, bulk storage, conditioning and warehousing. Serving as a complement to the company's recently expanded research station in Boone, Iowa, the facility will be the company's first production location in the state. This project is scheduled to be finished in the summer of 2015.

"This production facility will greatly enhance our ability to meet the increasing grower demand for our quality seed products," said Craig Anderson, AgReliant Genetics' Vice President of Operations.

Located near Ogden, Iowa, the plant will be constructed by The Ken Bratney Company and

utilize the industry's latest technologies for efficient, high quality production of seed corn including the next generation color sorters plus the latest equipment needed to blend "Refuge in the Bag" seed products.

AgReliant chose Boone County due to the geographic fit for its sales footprint as well as the high productivity of the local soils for seed production. AgReliant was pleased with the support offered by the business leaders of Boone County and the State of Iowa. When completed, the facility is expected to add 25 full-time jobs to the local economy in.

### **Story Source:**

The above story is based on materials obtained from LG Seeds.Com. Written by: Kim Robenson  
*Note: Materials may be edited for content and length.*



## 2015 Dues Are In The Mail!

**O**ctober 1, 2014, a dues packet was mailed for the 2015 dues year to all ISA members. Each packet included an invoice and sponsorship form.

Be sure to look over your company contact information, indicate changes before returning your forms. Each company is allowed to have up to five additional contact, which will receive correspondence from ISA as well as be listed in the ISA directory.

Each year the ISA hosts a variety of events that are informational and beneficial to all members. As a benefit to each member, ISA

sends out a quarterly news publication to inform members of local and national events that might effect the seed industry.

If you have a referral or know of anyone who is interested in becoming an ISA member please call the office at 515-262-8323.

Any questions about your dues packet or sponsorship is welcome to call the office or email [joano@agribiz.org](mailto:joano@agribiz.org).

See information online [iowaseed.org](http://iowaseed.org).

## Call For Board of Directors

**T**he Iowa Seed Association is calling on all members in search of additional participants for the Board of Directors. Any member who wishes to serve on the Board may do so for a 1 year term. Duties of board members include: keeping up to date with industry seed information, important topics, and technologies to better assist members in knowledge expansion, attending board meetings and annual forums, as well as being available for questions by the members.

The ISA Board of Directors are held in high regard among peers and is a great way to expand your knowledge as well as network with persons from all facets of the Seed Industry.

Please visit [iowaseed.org](http://iowaseed.org) for events and meeting information. All interested in serving on the Board call the ISA office at 515-262-8323 or email ISA Board President Tom Severson, at [tseverson@agvantagefs.com](mailto:tseverson@agvantagefs.com).

## 2014 Global Food Security Consortium

**M**ore than 180 individuals attended the Global Food Security Consortium and the Leroy & Barbara Everson Seed & Biosafety Symposium held April 29-30, 2014, at the Gateway Hotel in Ames.

The symposium focused on innovation in science for global security. It consisted of three sessions examining seeds and crops, animals, and sustainable intensification. More event details on the ISU website.



### Story Source:

The above story is based on materials provided by **Iowa State University**. Note: Materials may be edited for content and length.



## Waters of the U.S. Rule Update

All Iowa Seed members received an email from the office of Agribusiness Association of Iowa (AAI) in regards to taking action against the “Waters of the U.S.” (WOTUS) rule. The email contained a link to visit AAI’s action page to submit comments to the EPA opposing the WOTUS rule. Included in the email was links to Iowa county maps and EPA rule website.

Ag professionals from across the state attended a stakeholder meeting with the Governor on September 29, 2014. Representatives from the Iowa Soybean Association, Iowa Home Builders Association, Iowa Corn Growers Association, and AAI were in attendance.

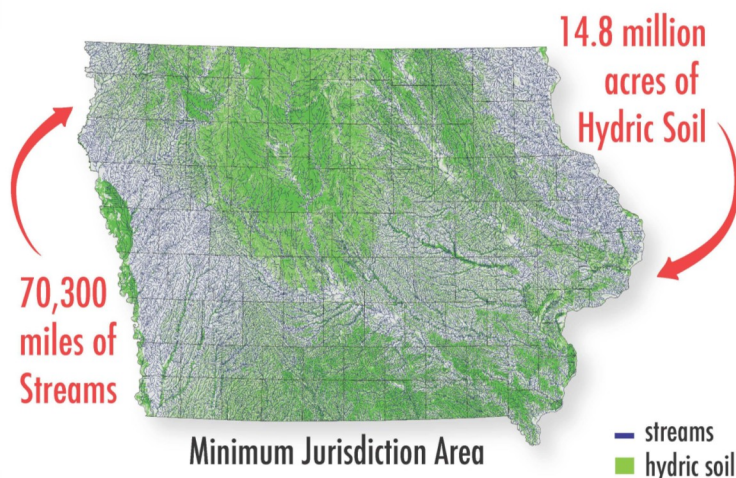
EPA is proposing new rules which would greatly expand federal jurisdiction by EPA and Corps of Engineers under the Clean Water Act over waters that currently are the responsibility of the states. These rules expand federal jurisdiction beyond the long-standing definition of “navigable waters”, to include small ditches, ponds, and even periodically wet soils, extending direct federal controls into cropped landscapes that are miles from any actual navigable waters.

### Impact on Ag Retailers, Certified Crop Advisors, and Other Agribusiness:

- This proposed expansion of direct federal jurisdiction coupled with a 2008 court ruling (National Cotton Council v. EPA) which requires federal wastewater discharge permits be issued for sprayers of pesticides to “Waters of the U.S.”, will potentially necessitate federal permits be issued for virtually all pesticide sprayers in Iowa. Achieving federal permits can be very difficult, expensive and time-consuming.
- Ag retailers, crop advisors and related agribusinesses are the primary sources of information and technologies to Iowa farmers, the proposed rule results in confusion over what areas and activities are jurisdictional and require complicated and time-consuming federal permits and resulting red tape.
- EPA has made verbal statements about the proposed rule which vary greatly from the written rule text. Ag retailers, crop advisors, and related agribusinesses need to clearly know what areas and activities are covered under the rule to assure compliance by our own activities in addition to carrying out our role to advise and inform farmers.
- This proposed rule demonstrates that neither the EPA nor the Corps of Engineers have adequate understanding of modern agricultural landscapes and food production, and therefore lack the credibility with farmers and agriculture necessary to effectively carry out a comprehensive rule of this nature affecting food production.

### Impact on Farm Customers:

In addition to complicating their ability to farm, the proposed rules will slow the installation of conservation structures and slow the



adoption of some environmental practices, through the needless federal bureaucracy and red-tape of the required federal permits. The proposed rules will slow actions by Iowa agriculture towards increased environmental stewardship, and demonstrating the success of the voluntary, technology-driven Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy.

### Local Understanding:

AAI has partnered in the development of county and state maps showing the Minimum Jurisdiction Areas of the proposed rule. While these maps show very substantial federal jurisdiction proposed across all counties of Iowa, they reflect just the “minimum coverage” based upon the rule definitions, which don’t include case by case federal determinations that will add to the minimum.

### Proposed Action by Members:

All ISA members received an email October 6, with action alert detailing the procedures for filing personalized comments to EPA by email. In addition, a poster and postcards are available for placement on sales or scale counters for farmers and others to use. We encourage employees/coworkers to use the email action alert to personalize their input. To request a sales counter poster and post cards mailed to a specific location, call 515-262-8323.

### Legislative Action:

The U.S. House of Representatives voted on and passed a bipartisan bill HR5078 September 10, 2014 by a margin of 262 in favor, 157 opposed, which would force EPA to withdraw the rule and instead consult with state and local officials in developing a new approach. The issue now moves to the Senate where getting a vote is expected to be difficult. President Obama has already indicated a veto of such a bill. DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE EPA HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO NOVEMBER 14, 2014. To receive a copy of this email please call 515-262-8323.

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### Iowa Seed Association Reminders & Events



- REMINDER: October 1st ISA dues have been mailed for 2015 memberships
- February 11, 2015: ISA Annual Meeting at the Agribusiness Showcase & Conference  
Varied Industries Building - Iowa State Fairgrounds, Des Moines, IA  
*Registrations opens January 2015*
- December 8 - 12, 2014: ASTA's CSS 2014 & Seed Expo

900 Des Moines Street Des Moines, Iowa 50309  
Phone: 515-262-8323 or 800-383-1682 Fax: 515-262-8960

**[www.iowaseed.org](http://www.iowaseed.org)**