

# 2021 National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference

## Traveling Workshops

### TW1: Is this heaven?

Mark and Julie Kenney own and operate a fifth-generation corn and soybean farm north of Des Moines. Julie serves as the Deputy Secretary of the **Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship**. On their farm, they raise seed corn for **Coretva Agriscience**. See an Iowa farm in person raising corn and soybeans.

Fifth generation beef farmer Tanner Rowe has raised cattle since he was a young child and today is the owner of **Rowe Farm**, a diversified cattle and crop operation. The Rowe family runs a feedlot that feeds 1,200 head of cattle a year and they also farm more than 900 acres using conventional tillage methods.

### TW2: No, it's Iowa.

As a special tribute to Nobel Peace Prize winner and World Food Prize founder Dr. Norman Borlaug, the **World Food Prize Hall of Laureates** serves as a world-class museum to recognize great achievements in agriculture and fighting hunger.

**Kemin** is more than an ingredient supplier; they are a global company inspired to improve the quality of life. Kemin is an ingredient manufacturer committed to improving the quality, safety and efficacy of feed, food and health-related products. Through this commitment, Kemin touches more than 3.8 billion lives every day with our products and services.

### TW3: Shortstop

**Walnut Ridge Farm** has been growing Christmas trees as a specialty crop since 1977 and selling five species of trees for the holiday season since 1983. Learn about this unique specialty crop that brings the joy to the family that will be remembered and cherished for many years.

**Edge of the Woods Raspberry Farms** started growing red raspberries in 2005. They have expanded to other varieties including - black raspberries, blackberries, and blueberries.

**Annelise Winery** is a local, family-owned winery, vineyard, and event center located in central Iowa, just south of Des Moines and east of Indianola. We make numerous varieties of wine made from our grapes and those of other nearby vineyards. Our wines are quality tested on-site and at Iowa State.

### TW4: If you build it...

John Deere is a staple of Midwest agriculture. Tour the Van Wall Dealership Nevada, Iowa – a one of the largest **John Deere** dealership groups in the country with over 600 employees and 31 John Deere locations. Van Wall sells and services a wide range of John Deere equipment including products specialized for agriculture and have teams dedicated to precision agriculture and solar energy.

Iowa is #2 in wind energy production. Most of the turbines sit on farm ground. Tour the **Wind Turbine site on Iowa State Fairgrounds** owned by MidAmerican Energy, a company that has invested significantly in environmentally friendly wind energy. From turbine blade manufacturing to construction jobs to wind turbine technicians, wind energy helps Iowa's economy.

### TW5: ...they will come.

The Iowa State University **BioCentury Research Farm** is the first-in-the-nation integrated research and demonstration facility dedicated to biomass production and processing. This facility will accelerate innovation and production capacity associated with biobased fuels, chemicals, and products.

The **Iowa Arboretum** was founded in 1966 by the Iowa State Horticulture Society for the purpose of promoting and encouraging horticulture and its related interests. This unique showplace has continued to expand and contains over 6,000 accessioned woody and herbaceous plants.

### TW6: Go the distance.

Farmers and landowners deal with a lot of problems like noxious weeds, brush, and invasive plant species. Herbicides are one way of dealing with those issues, but **Goats on the Go** is a unique way that will solve those problems! Chad and Wendy Steenhoek manage a herd in central Iowa to help people with their landscaping challenges. They use GPS and other technology to map and plan their work.

Agrotourism is an important part of telling the story of agriculture. Established in 2015, **The Cellar at White Oak** manages a variety of vineyards and wine production. In addition to tours of the cold climate grape vines and tastings of the wine, they regularly host events like weddings and concert series.

### TW7: Infield

**Hillis Elementary School** is integrating food production into their classrooms in multiple ways. A school garden, outdoor learning space, and designated kitchen space help connect the dots of food production to healthy eating habits. The elementary school, in the middle of Iowa's largest city, has a partnership with FoodCorps AmeriCorps to integrate these longstanding and rich programs into the classroom.

At the **Agriculture Science Academy** (part of the Des Moines Public Schools) students learn about animals and plants through hands-on activities and exciting projects. The nation's largest secondary school student-run greenhouse and livestock facility allow them to gain practical experience in fields including agricultural business, environmental science, horticulture, landscaping, and veterinary careers.

### TW8: Outfield

The Iowa State University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences **Dairy Farm** has 400 lactating animals and an additional 400 animals from birth to the first lactation (800 animals total). The veterinary students are on an ambulatory rotation that offers them hands-on experience where they evaluate, diagnose and prescribe treatment.

The Allen Christen **Swine Teaching farm** is a 90-sow farrow-to-finish operation. The primary mission of this farm is to provide for our teaching opportunities needs and showcasing all stages of modern swine production.

## TW9: Living History

**Living History Farms** is an interactive, 500-acre outdoor museum that tells the amazing 300+ year story of how Iowans transformed the fertile prairies of the Midwest into the most productive farmland in the world. Walking trails and tractor-drawn carts connect the 1875 Town of Walnut Hill to each of the historical farms. Each site is authentically farmed or worked by historic interpreters.

Inspired by the Wallace family legacy, **The Wallace Centers of Iowa** provides a variety of programs and services to build awareness of local food, sustainable agriculture, and civility. WCI serves both urban and rural communities with locations at the Henry A. Wallace Country Life Center in rural Orient and the Wallace House in Des Moines.

## TW10: Urban and World Agriculture – Walking Tour

As a special tribute to Nobel Peace Prize winner and World Food Prize founder Dr. Norman Borlaug, the **World Food Prize Hall of Laureates** serves as a world-class museum to recognize great achievements in agriculture and fighting hunger.

The **Des Moines Botanical Garden** explores, explains, and celebrates the world of plants. The garden cultivates diverse plants and connects people to the environment surrounding them including a diverse array of plants. They offer summer camps for kids and a variety of educational resources for families and other classrooms alike.

*NOTE: This is a walking tour. The total distance will be two (2) miles broken into three smaller legs. The pace will be leisurely. Participants should be comfortable with that distance and wear appropriate footwear. The walk will be out-of-doors, and participants should be prepared for inclement weather - hot or cold, rain or shine.*