









INDIANA
STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

2026 Annual Report

November 2026

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This report encompasses ISDA completed or planned projects from October 2025 to October 2026.

About ISDA

The Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) was established as a state agency by the Indiana General Assembly in 2005. Major responsibilities of ISDA include advocacy for Indiana agriculture at the local, state and federal level, managing soil conservation programs, promoting economic development and agricultural innovation, serving as a regulatory ombudsman for agricultural businesses, and licensing grain firms throughout the state.

Currently, ISDA operates within five divisions:

- Public Affairs & Policy,
- Indiana FFA Association,
- Indiana Grain Buyers and Warehouse Licensing Agency,
- Soil Conservation, and
- Economic Development.

Vision: Indiana agriculture will be a global leader in innovation and commercialization for food, fuel and fiber production.

Mission: ISDA will support growth in Indiana agriculture by serving as an advocate at the local, state and federal level; defining and nurturing economic opportunities in the food, fuel and fiber sectors; and enhancing the stewardship of natural resources on agricultural land. Strategies & Initiatives

Advocacy: Serve as an advocate for Indiana agriculture at the local, state and federal level.

Environmental Stewardship: Enhance the stewardship of natural resources on agricultural land in a manner that creates value-added opportunity for producers and assists agriculture stakeholders with current and future regulatory challenges.

Economic Opportunity: Define and nurture economic opportunity, including technology development, in the food, fuel and fiber sectors.







Policy & Public Affairs

Communications

As of October 2026, ISDA sent out 31 press releases averaging more than three a month. Across all social media platforms, ISDA accounts gained more than 1200 followers and had more than 1.1 million views on all posts.

Below are highlights of communication campaigns and releases:



Planting Safety campaign – April 2026

A partnership with the Indiana Department of Transportation and Indiana State Police. Sent out a press release and made social media posts.



Harvest Safety campaign – September 2026

A partnership with the Indiana Department of Transportation and Indiana State Police. Sent out a press release, social media posts and a road safety video with Director Lamb.



Growing Indiana Magazine

A partnership with Farm Flavor (Journal Communications) where they draft and review stories, print 10,000 magazines for distribution.

Events

Throughout the year, the public affairs and policy team coordinate events to highlight and celebrate Hoosier farmers. Below are a few of those events:

The Hoosier Homestead program honors the longevity of Hoosier farms, owned by the same family for over 100 years. Hosted at the Indiana State Fair in August, more than 110 families were honored for their significant milestones.





Celebration of Agriculture at the Indiana State Fair, highlighting the ISDA Photo Contest Winners, the Lt. Governor's AgriVision Award, Purdue Extension Women in Ag Award and the Indiana Landmark's Award for Rural Preservation with an estimated attendance of 200 or more.

Governor's Poultry Presentation in November at the Statehouse with an estimated attendance of 50 or more.

State & Federal Public Policy

ISDA furthered its efforts in connecting agricultural groups, businesses and individuals with decision makers in state regulatory agencies. ISDA will continue to work and collaborate with counterpart agencies in efforts to adopt regulations and policies that encourage the growth and development of Indiana agriculture.

On the federal side, below are the agricultural issues ISDA submitted comments on:

- NRCS 2026 0100 (Conservation Practice Standards Update): The rule reviews and updates NRCS conservation practice standards, and ISDA supports the updates while cautioning against singling out treated seeds in CPS 595 to avoid limiting producer flexibility.
- IRS 2026 0133 (Section 45Z Clean Fuel Production Credit): The rule establishes guidance for implementing the technology neutral clean fuel production tax credit, and ISDA supports it for strengthening market certainty, driving investment, and benefiting Indiana's biofuel and agricultural sectors.
- FSIS 2025 0009 (Swine Line Speed Increase Rule): The rule updates maximum line speeds for hog establishments under NSIS, and ISDA supports it because evidence shows increased speeds maintain process control, food safety, and humane handling while benefiting Indiana's pork industry.
- FSIS 2025 0012 (Poultry Line Speed Increase Rule): The rule updates maximum line speeds for young chicken and turkey establishments under NPIS, and ISDA supports it because scientific and operational data show higher speeds maintain food safety, process control, and worker safety while supporting Indiana's growing poultry sector.
- EPA HQ OW 2025 0322 (WOTUS Supplemental Notice of Proposed Rulemaking): The rule updates the definition of Waters of the United States in line with the Sackett decision, and IDEM/ISDA support the revisions for improving clarity, consistency, and state regulatory predictability while requesting removal of allowances for recurring dry periods and inclusion of a transition period for implementation. (Joint letter with IDEM)

Indiana FFA

During the 2025–26 year, Indiana FFA served 14,570 student members across 233 chapters statewide with two new/reactivated chapter, Fremont and DeMotte Christian.

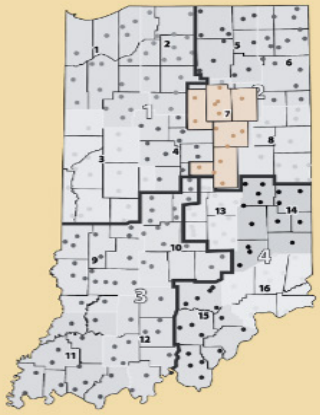
IFFA

233
chapters

Top 5 Traditional Membership Chapters:

1 - Tipton
2 - Rushville
3 - Caston
4 - Cascade
5 - Liberty

District 7
District with highest FFA membership increase



2025-2026 INDIANA FFA

Top 5 Affiliate Membership Chapters:

1 - Sullivan
2 - Whiteland
3 - Shelbyville Central
4 - Switzerland County
5 - Lewis Cass

41 Affiliate Chapters - All Agricultural students are FFA members in affiliate chapters

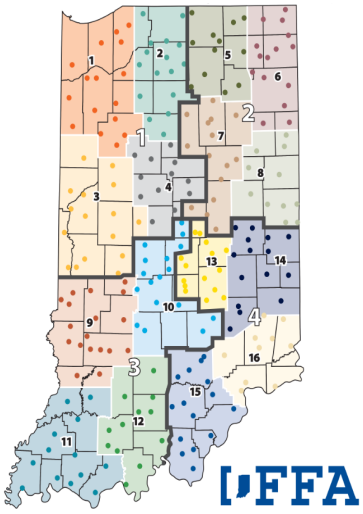
14,570
members

2 New/Reactivated Chapters:

Fremont
DeMotte Christian

121
chapters
increased membership

Completion of Redistricting



This year marked a milestone for Indiana FFA as a full redistricting of Indiana chapters was completed. Indiana FFA expanded from 12 to 16 districts and reorganized sections into regions, moving away from the traditional statewide "strip" model to a quadrant-based structure aligned with Indiana's major interstate corridors.

Originally proposed in 2016, this redesign aims to create a more balanced and accessible framework for member opportunities across the state.

Key resources developed through this work include:

- Chapter Locator Map: https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/79bfa9e5541241419a197e78b9ffed30/
- District Virtual Guidebook: https://online.fliphtml5.com/INFFA/odtz/
- District and Region Webpages: https://www.inffa.org/District-Regional-Officers

Program Highlights & Engagement Metrics

Throughout the past year, member involvement in Indiana FFA programs continued to rise. Participation increased across Career and Leadership Development Events (CDEs and LDEs), demonstrating students' enthusiasm for developing technical and leadership skills. Engagement also grew in Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) awards, reinforcing the importance of applied, work-based learning in agricultural education. Together, these trends reflect the ongoing strength and relevance of FFA programming in preparing young people for future career and community leadership roles. Additional program-level data is available in the accompanying graphic.

This year also saw the addition of two new competitive events, the Spanish Creed CDE and the Unified Animal, Dairy, and Meats CDE, broadening the opportunities for students to showcase specialized skills and engage in culturally responsive and industry-aligned learning experiences.



In addition to these participation gains, several significant achievements shaped Indiana FFA programming this year:

1. State FFA Convention Location and Attendance:
Indiana FFA hosted the State FFA Convention at Riverview Health Arena at Innovation Mile and Hamilton Southeastern High School for the first time. The change in venue resulted in one of the highest-rated conventions in recent years, according to post-event surveys. Based on the success of this transition, Indiana FFA has committed to holding conventions at this location through 2031. Total attendance reached 2,889 participants, including members, advisors, sponsors, and guests.

2. Leadership Development:
A total of 1,021 students participated in leadership training and camp programming. (Note: Students who attended multiple sessions may be counted more than once.)

3. Mentorship for Agricultural Educators:
The Mentoring Indiana's Beginning Agricultural Teachers initiative continues to experience strong growth. For the 2025–2026 program cycle, 35 new agricultural educators and 32 mentors were selected to participate.

These accomplishments emphasize Indiana FFA's ongoing dedication to developing leaders, strengthening professional skills, and supporting educators throughout Indiana's agricultural education community.

Indiana Grain Buyers

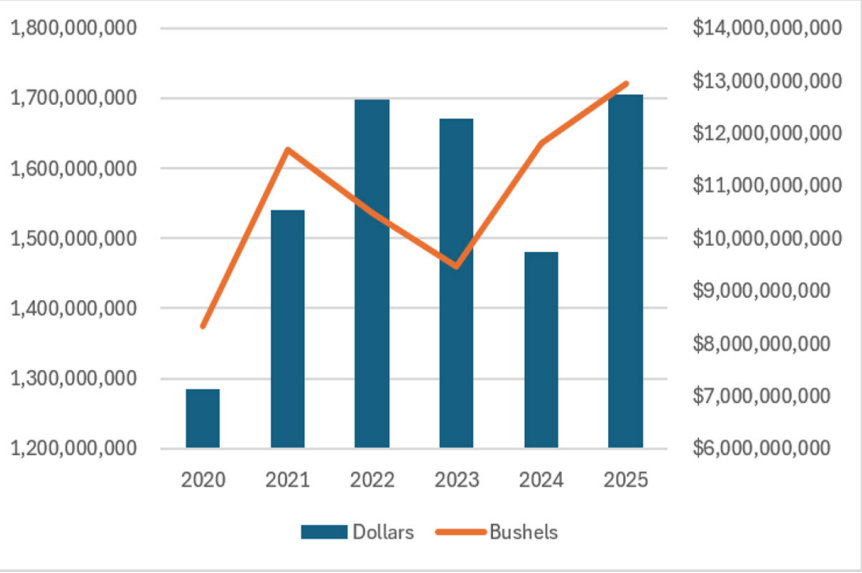
Created by the Indiana General Assembly in 1975, the Indiana Grain Buyers and Warehouse Licensing Agency administers the Indiana Grain Buyers and Warehouse Licensing and Bonding Law (Ind. Code § 26-3-7). The agency's responsibilities include the licensing and compliance of commercial operations that purchase grain from producers in Indiana. Today, the agency operates as a regulatory division within ISDA with approximately 185 licensees issued to grain elevators, warehouses, feed mills, ethanol plants, soybean processors, and food grade facilities. Collectively, these licensees operate 317 grain facilities across Indiana and can store more than 614 million bushels of grain.

Revenue

The agency received the following revenue through daily operations during the 2025-26 fiscal year:

Licensing Fees..... $363,570
Moisture Meter Inspection Fees $118,600
Contracted Services $50,725
Fines & Sanctions $24,500
Total $557,395

In 2025, licensees reported that they purchased more than 1.7 billion bushels of grain from producers and paid producers approximately $13 billion for those bushels. Additionally, the total amounts of bushels purchased from producers by licensed facilities and the total amounts paid to producers for those bushels 2020-2025 are depicted in the graph below:



Indiana Grain Idemnity Program

Created by the Indiana General Assembly in 1995, the Indiana Grain Indemnity Program is established under Ind. Code § 26-4 as a separate entity from the agency to provide certain coverage to grain producers for losses incurred due to the failure of a grain buyer or warehouse operator licensed under the Indiana Grain Buyers and Warehouse Licensing and Bonding Law (Ind. Code § 26-3-7). The program is managed by a thirteen-member board of directors consisting of ten voting members – made up of five grain producers, three grain merchandisers, and two agriculture lenders – and three non-voting members: the attorney general, the treasurer of state, and the director of the agency.



Division of Soil Conservation

Mission

Increase agricultural economic benefits by assisting Indiana's farmers in the application of advanced agronomic technologies while improving upon Indiana's soil health and water quality.

Capacity & Impacts

The Division of Soil Conservation currently employs:

- Six leadership and programmatic staff
- 22 resource specialists
- Five Soil and Water Conservation District support specialists

Conservation Accomplishments

The Division of Soil Conservation serves as a member of the Indiana Conservation Partnership. As a member, we are responsible for reporting conservation accomplishments across the state. The partnership was able to contribute significant conservation outcomes statewide:

- New conservation practices: Implemented over **44,800** new conservation practices.
- Sediment reduction: Prevented more than **2.1 million tons** of sediment from entering waterways.
- Nutrient reduction: Reduced nutrient runoff by over **4.5 million pounds** of nitrogen and **2.2 million pounds** of phosphorus.
- Cover crops & tillage: Supported planting of **242,000 acres** of cover crops and **217,000 acres** of conservation tillage.

These results demonstrate the division and conservation partners' commitment to enhancing soil retention, reducing erosion across the landscape, decreasing nutrient loads to improve water quality, and encouraging the adoption of proven conservation practices through technical and financial assistance. The accomplishments also reflect meaningful progress in support of Indiana's natural resources. Significant conservation outcomes are already being seen in 2026.

Reporting

January to October 2026.
Note: the majority of the practice reporting comes in at the end of the calendar year.

- Number of best management practices Installed: **283**
- Acres enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program: **3,474**
- Trees planted in floodplains through Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Bottomland Timber Establishment: **20,928**
- Sediment prevented from entering waters of Indiana: **5,747,030 lbs**
- Phosphorus reduced from entering waters of Indiana: **25,373 lbs**
- Nitrogen reduced from entering waters of Indiana: **30,296 lbs**
- Clean Water Indiana Grant applications: **36**

Clean Water Indiana

In 2026, Clean Water Indiana benefited from a continued appropriation in the state budget, which increased funding available by $5 million per fiscal year.

As of September 2026, the State Soil Conservation Board allocated over $1.8 million in matching funds for local conservation efforts in Indiana's 92 Soil and Water Conservation Districts. This was a direct result of the increase in funding in the state budget.

The State Soil Conservation Board voted in June 2026 to allocate $2 million to the Clean Water Indiana competitive grant program. This program received 36 applications, requesting over $3.5 million. Clean Water Indiana grants were awarded in October 2026.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

The State Soil Conservation Board voted in June 2026 to allocate over $1.5 million to this program, which provides financial incentives to private landowners for water quality and wildlife practices in Indiana. Typically, every state dollar is matched 1:7, bringing a substantial federal investment to Indiana.

Indiana's State Nutrient Reduction Strategy



ISDA released the updated State Nutrient Reduction Strategy in April 2026, strengthening the state's water-quality framework through expanded monitoring, improved identification of nutrient-reduction trends, and enhanced evaluation of conservation practice effectiveness.

Developed collaboratively by ISDA, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, and the Indiana Conservation Partnership, the update prioritizes HUC-8 watersheds for conservation implementation, aligns point and nonpoint source nutrient-reduction efforts, and renews statewide outreach to increase voluntary adoption of best management practices. The strategy also establishes clearer accountability and reporting mechanisms to document progress and ensures transparency in Indiana's nutrient-reduction efforts.

EPA Gulf Hypoxia Program

Since the program's launch, the Indiana Mississippi River Basin Soil Sampling Program has enrolled more than 1,000 landowners impacting more than 125,000 acres. This program aims to connect landowners who do not regularly soil sample with resources to obtain soil fertility information and nutrient recommendations consistent with Tri-State Fertility Recommendations. This program also provides an avenue for small farms, pasture and feed growers, and specialty crop growers to make informed nutrient decisions for their operations. This program is funded through EPA's Gulf Hypoxia Program.

Cover Crop Premium Discount Program

The Cover Crop Premium Discount Program provides a $5-per-acre crop insurance premium discount on verified cover crop acres, up to 750 acres per crop insurance ID, to encourage adoption among Indiana producers. Managed by ISDA in collaboration with USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) and The Nature Conservancy, the program targets first-time cover crop users and fields not enrolled in other cost-share initiatives. Eligible participants complete online enrollment and allow ISDA to verify acreage before discounting occurs through standard USDA RMA insurance billing processes. In April 2026, the program was able to provide the insurance premium discount to 70,000 aces totaling $350,000.

Indiana's Management of Agriculture Enhancements Cost-Share Program

The Indiana Management of Agriculture Enhancements (IMAGE) Program, funded through Clean Water Indiana and administered by ISDA in partnership with Soil and Water Conservation Districts, provides up to 75% cost-share assistance (with a $10,000 maximum per producer) to support implementation of approved conservation practices that improve livestock management, soil health, and water quality.

Piloted in July 2026 across 23 southwest Indiana counties, the program has received 64 applicants from 21 of the 23 eligible counties, demonstrating strong producer interest in adopting practices, such as heavy use area protection, pasture and hay planting, watering facilities, livestock pipelines, and soil amendments. Final IMAGE cost-share support to landowners are expected in November 2026.

Economic Development

ISDA's Economic Development Division (EDD) is responsible for implementing programs, services, and initiatives that support Indiana's agricultural economy and on-farm profitability by:

- Supporting farmers and agribusiness along the agriculture value chain;
- Increasing agricultural processing and value-added manufacturing;
- Developing markets and sales channels for agricultural products;
- Improving access to capital and financial assistance; and
- Enabling innovation in ag-tech and new uses for commodities.

EDD is also responsible for implementing ISDA's agribusiness attraction, retention, and expansion strategies, in partnership with the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC), AgriNovus, and local and regional economic development organizations.

Executive Order 25-58

In April 2025, Governor Mike Braun tasked ISDA to conduct a comprehensive study related to Hoosiers' access to local foods and direct-to-consumer food sales from Hoosier farmers. In July 2026, ISDA released EO 25-58 written report detailing the study's findings and recommendations to expand local foods.

Regionalization

EDD is investigating approaches to incorporate agricultural development strategies into existing regional economic development practices in Indiana. Incorporating agricultural development as a theme enables rural and agricultural counties to enhance regional economic activity by attracting synergistic businesses across the sector.

Jobs & Investment

IEDC is responsible for issuing business tax incentives, corporate tax credits, and economic development programs for companies creating new jobs and investment in Indiana. ISDA adds a layer of support for companies in the agribusiness sector or serving the agricultural industry. The following table is a summary of agribusiness projects that received incentives or credits from IEDC, and the estimated new jobs created, average wage of new jobs, and capital expenditure that the projects plan to invest.

Table 1: Agribusiness Projects receiving IEDC Incentives and/or Credits

Year	Quarter	Projects	Jobs	Investment	Avg. Wage
2024	1	7	419	$607,798,078	$26.00
2024	2	8	504	$298,312,105	$30.59
2024	3	4	345	$143,533,216	$31.60
2024	4	5	252	$153,112,815	$28.78
2025	1	3	110	$53,582,017	$27.85
2025	2	2	105	$523,385,618	$36.62
2025	3	0	0	-	-
2025	4	2	143	$70,683,749	$30.05
2026	1	2	117	$52,100,000	$44.31
2026	2	1	0	$2,000,000	-
2026	3	3	432	$255,491,551	$32.74
Total		**37**	**2,427**	**$2,159,999,149**	**$32.06**

Table 2: Comparison of IEDC Incentives from FY24-25 and FY25-26

Performance Metric	2024-2025	2025-2026	Trend
Projects	14	5	-64.3%
Jobs	812	260	-68%
Investment	$873,613,666	$124,783,749	-85.7%
Avg. Wage	$30.87	$36.47	18.1%

Not all projects that create jobs or result in capital expenditure qualify for or receive IEDC incentives and/or credits, meaning the tables above do not reflect the full universe of agribusiness investment in the state.

Indiana Grown

The Indiana Grown initiative was created to promote products that are grown or made by Hoosiers, for Hoosiers. The initiative brings substantial value to Indiana's agriculture and local food system by boosting consumer awareness and connection to local producers, facilitating direct-to-consumer market growth, and enhancing business-to-business sales channels for its members. Indiana Grown represents all 92 counties in Indiana with 1,700+ members.

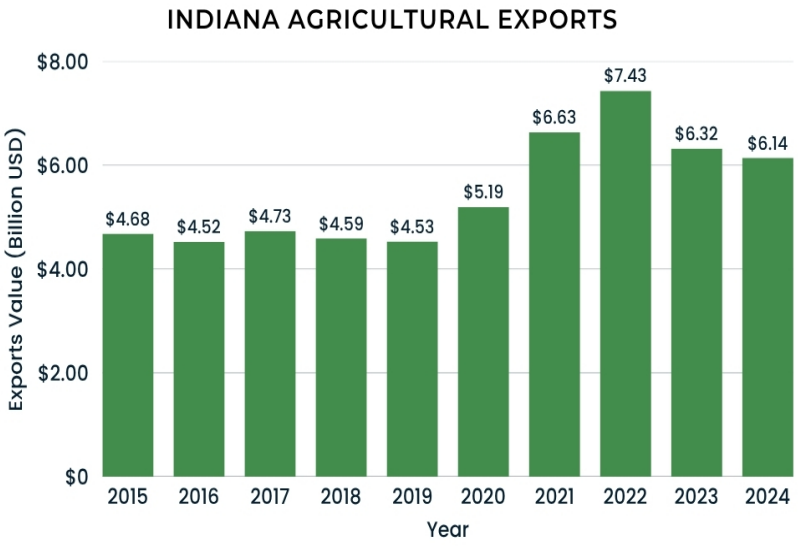
Table 3: High-Level Summary of Indiana Grown Events and Activities

Event	Description
Indiana Grown Monthly Educational Webinars	The program introduced monthly virtual educational webinars in 2026 which are designed to provide informative, targeted support to food and farming business throughout their business lifecycle. Webinars range from marketing and advertising, perfecting sales pitches to succession planning.
Indiana Grown Marketplace	Our yearly marketplace is located at the Indiana State Fair. Over 100 members participated with more than 500 unique products, and sales exceeded $100,000.
Ultimate Farmers Market Challenge	An awareness campaign to highlight direct-to-consumer events. The Franklin Farmers Market in Franklin, IN was the winner!
Holiday Gift Box	Curated the 3rd annual Holiday Gift Box highlighting Indiana Grown products that are shipped directly to consumers during the holiday season. Gift boxes were shipped to 44 states in 2025.
Indiana Grown Awareness Campaign	Indiana Grown showcased members across the state with more than 2.25 million impressions combined from social highlights and media opportunities. In addition to the campaign, Indiana Grown hosted two photo contests to promote and showcase Indiana agriculture.
Farm to Table Dinner	Using a curated menu of products to connect Indiana Grown Members to chefs, restauranteurs and retailers, highlighting the local food ecosystem in northwest Indiana.
Legislative Tours	Coordinated tours with state legislators and Gov. Mike Braun to highlight members and local agriculture in specific districts.
Networking Events	Indiana Grown staff participated in 48 tradeshows, networking and promotional events across Indiana.
Interagency Agricultural Tours	Coordinated tours with state agencies to highlight agriculture as part of the state's Making Indiana Healthy Again (MIHA) initiative.
Wholesale and Retail Partnerships	Coordinated strategic outreach to promote Indiana Grown products to wholesale and retail buyers – initiating connections for businesses across the state to grow market channels. The program connected with over 179 chefs, retailers, grocers and institutional buyers in 2025.

International Trade & Engagement

International trade is vital to the continued growth of Indiana's agricultural economy. Indiana's diverse agricultural products are exported all over the world, stimulating economic growth through income generation and job creation. Indiana is the 7th largest agricultural exporting state in the U.S., exporting $6.1 billion in agricultural products in 2024, the most recent year for which the USDA Economic Research Service publishes complete data.

Figure 1: Indiana agricultural exports from 2015-2024



The following table represents Indiana's top agricultural exports by commodity.

Table 4: Indiana's top agricultural exports by commodity

Rank	Commodity	Export Value (USD)
1	Soybeans	$2.1 Billion
2	Corn	$938 Million
3	Feeds and Other Grains	$658 Million
4	Soybean Meal	$536 Million
5	Pork	$479 Million
6	Grain Products	$252 Million
7	Other Poultry Products	$240 Million
8	Other Plant Products	$236 Million
9	Vegetable Oils	$229 Million
10	Dairy Products	$172 Million
Other	All Other Products	$260 Million
Total	**Total Indiana Ag Exports**	**$6.14 Billion**

The USDA Foreign Agricultural Service encourages the expansion of agricultural exports through several market development programs, including the Market Access Program and the America First Trade Promotion Program. These funds are allocated to State Regional Trade Groups and U.S. Cooperators to administer programs that invest in market entry and promotion activities to open and develop new and emerging export markets.

Food Export Midwest

Pursuant to IC 15-11-6-1, ISDA is required to work in partnership with Food Export-Midwest, a State Regional Trade Group serving 13 midwestern states by administering federal dollars for value-added agricultural product promotion. ISDA shares opportunities with Indiana companies to promote growth in international markets.

Indiana participation in Food Export programs has continued to grow:

- Unique Indiana companies participating in Food Export programs increased from 27 in 2023 to 61 in 2025 – growth of 126%.
- Program participation counts grew from 109 to 259 – growth of 138%.

In 2025, Indiana companies participating in Food Export programs reported:

137 New Distributorships

109 First-Time Export Sales into a Market

$20.5 Million Actual Export Sales

To maintain this momentum, ISDA partnered with Food Export-Midwest to host an educational seminar.

March 16, 2026 l Indiana Export Readiness Seminar

24 Indiana companies registered for the Export Readiness Seminar, co-hosted by ISDA and Food Export-Midwest. This in-person seminar educated Indiana companies on foundational exporting concepts and highlighted how Food Export-Midwest can help support them on their export journey. Among the registrants who completed the post-event survey, 100% reported increased interest in exporting and indicated that they were at least somewhat likely to take steps towards exporting within a year of the seminar.

American Hardwood Export Council

ISDA is also a member of the American Hardwood Export Council (AHEC). Through AHEC, ISDA partners with other State Departments of Agriculture to represent U.S. hardwood suppliers at international wood industry trade shows, gathering and distributing trade leads to sawmills and hardwood product exporters.

Inbound Activities

ISDA hosts inbound delegations of business, industry and government representatives to showcase agricultural assets in Indiana and connect international buyers with Hoosier exporters.

February 25, 2026 | Canada

Director Lamb met with the Consul General of Canada in Detroit to discuss potential areas of collaboration, particularly related to programs and activities such as FFA and the Sweets and Snacks Expo, which will return to Indianapolis in 2027.

April 2 - 3, 2026 | India

Hardwood lumber buyers from an Indian furniture and hardwood product distributor visited Indiana to source from Hoosier Exporters. ISDA coordinated site visits to three sawmills to meet with exporters and evaluate business opportunities.

April 7, 2026 | Moldova

The Ambassador of the Republic of Moldova to the United States visited Indiana and met with Director Lamb to explore opportunities for state-level agricultural collaboration. Discussion topics included smart agriculture, educational and university partnerships, and trade opportunities.

June 29, 2026 | Thailand

A delegation from the Royal Thai Embassy in Washington, D.C., led by the Ambassador of Thailand to the United States, visited Indiana to strengthen economic ties in support of the Agreement on Reciprocal Trade between Thailand and the United States. During meetings with Indiana agricultural leaders, the delegation discussed opportunities to expand agricultural exports to Thailand, particularly in corn and soybeans.

International Trade Show Presence: Indiana Pavillions

Trade Shows provide visibility for a company and generate both domestic and international sales leads. ISDA hosted Indiana Pavilions at three key industry trade shows to provide a competitive advantage on the trade show floor.

May 16 - 19, 2026 | National Restaurant Association Show

Located in Chicago, Illinois, the National Restaurant Association Show is the premier trade show for restaurant and foodservice professionals. The Indiana State Department of Agriculture hosted the Indiana Pavilion within NASDA's U.S. Pavilion, known as A Taste of the States. 10 Indiana companies exhibited in the Indiana Pavilion, where they received a complimentary furniture package, opportunities to feature their products in live chef demonstrations on the show floor, and comprehensive show support from ISDA staff.

May 19 - 21, 2026 | Sweets and Snacks Expo

The Sweets and Snacks Expo is the largest U.S. trade show devoted to the confectionery and snack industries. In 2026, the show was in Las Vegas, NV, and the Indiana Pavilion hosted seven Indiana companies. The 2026 pavilion offered these companies discounted booth rates with no corner fees.

June 28 - 30, 2026 | Summer Fancy Food Show

The Summer Fancy Food Show, which takes place each year in New York City, is the premier product discovery event for the specialty food and beverage industries. In 2026, the Indiana Pavilion made its debut at the show with three Indiana companies exhibiting in the inaugural pavilion. The pavilion offered a dedicated space on the show floor for Indiana companies to exhibit alongside each other.

Grant Administration

Specialty Crop Block Program (SCBGP)

The Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBGP) enhances the competitiveness of specialty crops in the state of Indiana. The $1,493,941.63 in SCBG funds support nine active SCBG projects. The continued support of producers of specialty crops and those who study agriculture innovations are a part of ISDA's mission and this ongoing support and collaboration is essential to Indiana's specialty crop and agriculture industry.

Food Bank Distributions

ISDA is a pass-through entity of a $2 million allocation from the state budget for fiscal years 2025-2026 and 2026-2027. Food banks received funding based on the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) calculation. ISDA distributed a total of $2 million to 11 foodbanks, which helps provide food and resources to Hoosiers in need.

Table 5: FY2025-2026 Food Bank Distribution

Food Bank Recipients - FY 2025 - 2026	Market	Allocation - %	Allocation - $
Gleaners Food Bank of Indiana	Indianapolis	31.75%	$635,000.00
Food Bank of Northern Indiana	South Bend	11.61%	$232,200.00
Community Harvest Food Bank of Northeast Indiana	Fort Wayne	10.12%	$202,400.00
Food Bank of Northwest Indiana	Merrillwille	9.97%	$199,400.00
Food Finders Food Bank	Lafayette	9.76%	$195,200.00
Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana	Muncie	7.68%	$153,600.00
Tri-State Food Bank	Evansville	5.92%	$118,400.00
Terre Haute Catholic Charities Foodbank	Terre Haute	4.46%	$89,200.00
Hoosier Hills Food Bank	Bloomington	4.00%	$80,000.00
Dare to Care Food Bank	Louisville, KY	3.84%	$76,800.00
Freestore Foodbank	Cinncinati, OH	0.89%	$17,800.00
Total		**100%**	**$2,000,000.00**

** Two food banks are located out-of-state, but their service regions cross state lines to include portions of Indiana.*

Resilient Food System Infrastructure (RFSI)

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) allocated $8,082,536 to Indiana through the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) grant program, a three-year grant program supporting efforts to address critical needs for middle of the food supply chain through increasing distribution, aggregation, storage capacity, market expansion and facility updates/expansions. Fifteen projects were selected for funding, five being infrastructure projects and ten special equipment projects.

In addition to the equipment-only and infrastructure grants awarded by ISDA, RFSI grant dollars support a federally funded food distribution manager position within ISDA whose primary role is to support and enhance the middle of the food chain infrastructure to support Indiana's local food system.

This year's accomplishments by the food distribution manager is as follows.

- Established relationships with more than 150 contacts in various roles within the Indiana food system.
- Connected 40 Indiana farms or food businesses to an Indiana food buyer, resulting in the buyer purchasing food from a new Indiana farmer or food business.
- Initiated and facilitated a new technical assistance network called the Indiana Food Business Consultants, which is supported by the Food Finance Institute. This cohort includes a partnership with the Indiana Small Business Development Center. At least one advisor is located in each region, with the cohort totaling 40 Indiana professionals providing individualized consultation to enhance and grow food and farming businesses in Indiana.
- Hosted over 20 Indiana middle-of-the-food-supply-chain businesses on a technical training day at the Kalamazoo Valley Community College. The visit provided hands-on experience with fresh fruit and vegetable processing equipment, a look into the books of an 8-year operating food hub and fostered strategic partnerships for food system businesses in Indiana and Michigan.

Hardwoods

The Indiana hardwood industry contributes more than $16.5B to the Indiana economy annually in primary and secondary hardwood markets, making it Indiana's most valuable agricultural commodity. The industry supports nearly 89,000 jobs – 47,000 in primary and secondary manufacturing and 42,000 in ancillary sectors. 4.1 of Indiana's 4.9 million forest acres are privately owned and statewide timber growth exceeds removals for harvest and natural tree mortality by 3.8 times.

The Indiana Wood Product Utilization Team (IWUT) has been established with the active participation of the Governor as a forest landowner representative, underscoring a high-level state commitment to expanding the hardwood sector and boosting rural economic growth. Driven by a small steering committee that includes the Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) as a core advisory leader, this unified group brings together key industry segments, including the ISDA Deputy Director acting as the Economic Development representative. Together, this comprehensive team is developing a strategic process to maximize timber market opportunities and strengthen the state's forest products economy.

Market Reporting Program

ISDA, in cooperation with USDA Agricultural Marketing Service, launched Indiana's Market Reporting Program in 2016. The program records weekly market prices of dairy, beef cattle, hay, and other species sold at various markets across the state. The information is compiled and published digitally on the USDA Market News website.

The following tables are summaries of the number and value of livestock that ISDA has reported to USDA since 2025.

Table 6: Livestock reports for 2025 and 2026 YTD (as of October 1, 2026).

Total Livestock		2025	2026
Cattle, Goats, & Sheep	Head Total Value	62,951 $83,060,329.67	38,670 $48,357,534.47

Category	Commodity	Price Unit		2025	2026 (YTD)
Cattle	Feeder Cattle	Per Cwt	Head % of total head Wtd Avg Wt Wtd Avg Price	7622 12.11% 560 $290.82	4259 11.01% 566 $362.59
		Per Unit	Head % of total head Wtd Avg Wt Wtd Avg Price	1649 2.62% 624 $1,757.56	831 2.15% 653 $2,121.88
	Feeder Dairy Calves	Per Cwt	Head % of total head Wtd Avg Wt Wtd Avg Price		1098 2.84% 91 $1,000.75
	Replacement Cattle	Per Cwt	Head % of total head Wtd Avg Wt Wtd Avg Price	26 0.04% 1192 $162.56	4 0.01% 1,264.00 $1,366.59
		Per Unit	Head % of total head Wtd Avg Wt Wtd Avg Price	126 0.20% 1316 $2,415.82	81 0.21% 1221 $3,100.34
	Replacement Dairy Cattle	Per Unit	Head % of total head Wtd Avg Wt Wtd Avg Price	4259 6.77% 100 $991.35	4608 11.92% 97 $1,354.88
	Slaughter Cattle	Per Cwt	Head % of total head Wtd Avg Wt Wtd Avg Price	23108 36.71% 1407 $178.06	9734 25.17% 1431 $185.14
Goats	Slaughter Goats	Per Unit	Head % of total head Wtd Avg Wt Wtd Avg Price	5041 8.01% 78 $222.92	3680 9.52% 81 $247.93
Sheep	Slaughter Sheep/ Lambs	Per Cwt	Head % of total head Wtd Avg Wt Wtd Avg Price	21120 33.55% 83 $237.07	14375 37.17% 84 $297.23


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