

Facts, Emotions & Myths Surrounding the Iowa Swine Industry

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Changes in Rural Communities

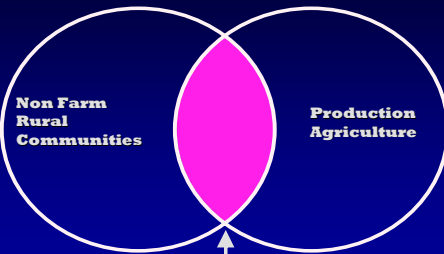
Communities
in
Transition

- Population mix
- Industrial base
- Occupational shifts
- Lifestyle choices
- Linkage to urban places

Changes in Production Agriculture

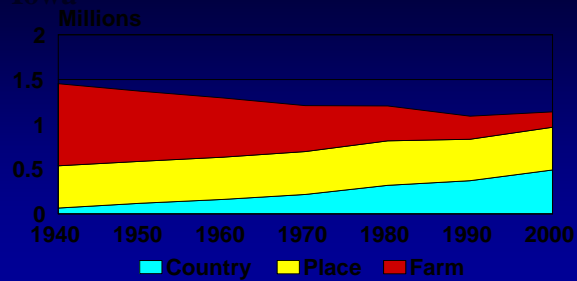
- Decline in farm numbers
- Increased farm size
- Vertical integration
- Value added processing
- Dual agriculture

Agriculture
in
Transition



Rural Community/Production Agriculture Interface

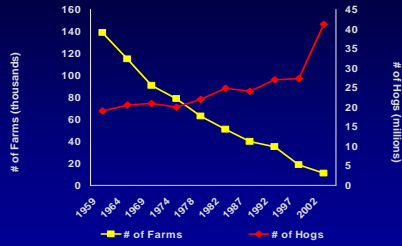
Rural Population Iowa



Myth or Fact #1

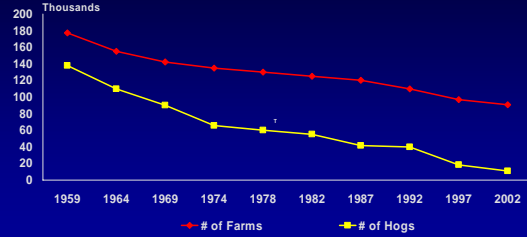
The hog industry is leaving the state.

Hogs and pigs sold



Source: 1992 Iowa Census of Agriculture, U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Vol. 1, Part 15, pg. 8
2002 Iowa Census of Agriculture, U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Vol. 1, Part 15, pg. 6

Total number of Iowa farms and number of farms with swine sales



Source: 1992 Iowa Census of Agriculture, U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Vol. 1, Part 15, pg. 8
2003 Iowa Census of Agriculture, U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Vol. 1, Part 14, pg. 6

1998 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll
Statewide random sample of 3,802 farmers
2,312 responses (61%)
Pm 1764 July 1988

1995 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll
Statewide random sample of 3,496 farmers
2,190 responses (63%)
Pm 1624 August 195

1992 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll
Statewide random sample of 3,564 farmers
2,370 responses (66%)
Pm 1491 July 1992

Myth or Fact #2

Environmental rules are too strict.

Only 12 of 1,342 (0.8%) of livestock producers that participated in the 1998 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll indicated they had problems meeting government regulations or guidelines concerning manure storage or application.

This compares with 11 of 1,380 of livestock producers in 1995, and 11 of 1,576 in the 1992 surveys.

Source: 1998 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.
1995 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.
1992 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.

Concerns about livestock expansion.

Some producers feel that manure handling problems, such as groundwater protection, present barriers to expanding the livestock industry in the state. Others fear that nuisance suits and complaints from neighbors are barriers to expanding their livestock operation. Please provide your opinion on the following statements.

	Agree			Not Sure			Disagree		
	1998	1995	1992	1998	1995	1992	1998	1995	1992
	Percentage								
Increasingly, manure management is a major issue in the livestock industry.....	85	84	61	11	13	26	4	3	13
Personal concerns about state and federal regulations prevent me from expanding my livestock operation.....	14	14	8	30	27	29	56	58	63
If I expand my livestock operation, I would likely receive complaints from my neighbors.....	12	11	4	44	44	26	44	45	70

Source: 1998 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll, 1995 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll, 1992 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.

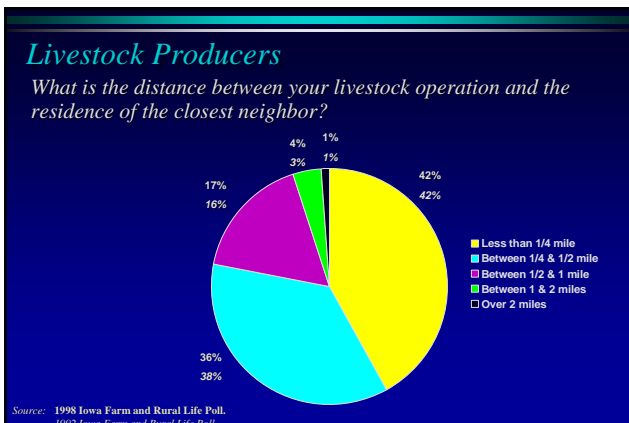
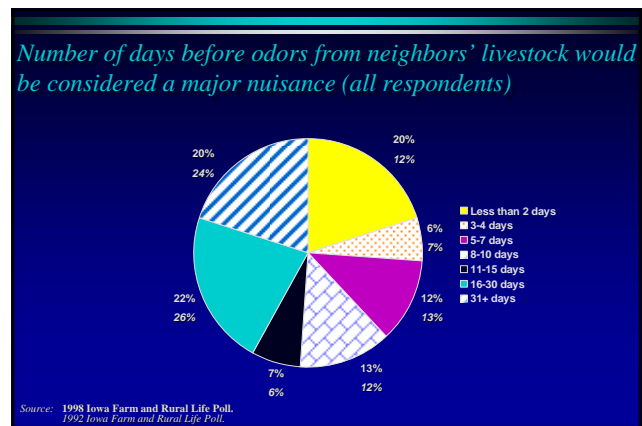
Myth or Fact #3

People are hypersensitive to hog odors.

Only 64 of the 1,340 (5%) of livestock producers reported they had ever received complaints about odors, noise or flies from their neighbors; this compares with 57 of 1,380 (4%) in 1995, and 66 of 1,576 (4%) in 1992.

Only 8 producers received complaints in the past 12 months.

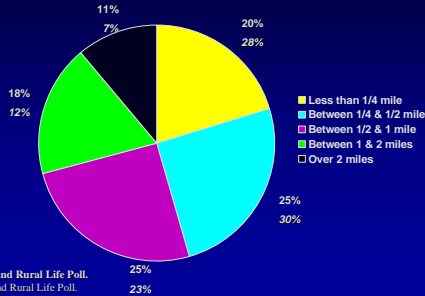
Source: 1998 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll, 1995 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll, 1992 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.



Myth or Fact #4

Hogs and neighbors don't mix.

Distance from respondent's residence to closest neighbor's livestock facility



Source: 1998 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.
1995 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.
1992 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.

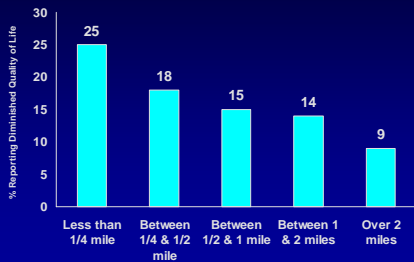
Does neighbor's livestock facility detract from your quality of life?

4% Yes, a great deal
19% Yes, some
78% NO

Of those responding "Yes" what are the problems:

- 84% odors from manure application
- 73% odors from manure storage
- 36% flies
- 32% Manure run-off
- 16% Dust
- 15% Noise

Relationship between distance to closest neighbors' livestock facility and diminished quality of life



Source: 1992 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.

Myth or Fact #5

Expansion of the swine industry will bring economic development to communities.

Will expanding livestock production in your community create more jobs for local people?

	<u>1998</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1992</u>
Yes	27%	28%	29%
Maybe	29%	28%	22%
No.....	44%	35%	48%

Source: 1998 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.
1995 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.
1992 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.

Impact of livestock industry jobs

Will the new jobs that are created by expanding the livestock industry:

	Yes		Maybe		No	
	<u>1995</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1992</u>
help local communities retain their population base	54	53	32	31	14	16
provide economic diversification for the local economies.....	35	47	36	34	29	18
provide quality jobs for local people.....	46	39	35	35	18	26

Source: 1995 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.
1992 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.

Myth or Fact #6

Farmers are supportive of the expansionary trend.

Expansion of livestock industry

		Agree	Uncertain	Disagree
		Percentage		
Farmers in my neighborhood should be encouraged to raise more:				
hogs	1998	37	32	31
	1995	40	29	31
	1992	34	36	30
cattle	1998	49	31	20
	1995	48	27	25
	1992	41	35	24
poultry	1998	30	41	29
	1995	33	37	31
	1992	24	42	34

Source: 1998 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.
1995 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.
1992 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.

Expansion of livestock industry (continued)

		Agree	Uncertain	Disagree
		Percentage		
Non-farm investors should be encouraged to invest money in my neighborhood to raise:				
hogs	1998	8	16	76
	1995	11	14	75
	1992	9	18	73
cattle	1998	10	16	73
	1995	11	14	75
	1992	11	17	72
poultry	1998	8	18	74
	1995	10	15	78
	1992	8	19	73

Source: 1998 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.
1995 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.
1992 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.

Myth or Fact #7

Most of the controversy has been generated by non-farmers (environmentalists).

Locating Livestock Facilities

There are some concerns about locating large scale livestock operations close to towns or to public use areas such as parks. What is your opinion about the following statements:

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Uncertain	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
	Percentage				
There is too much negative attention focused on the costs of livestock production and not enough about its contribution to the entire state.....	27	53	15	4	1
All livestock producers should develop waste management plans to protect themselves from nuisance suits.....	13	63	16	7	1
The livestock industry is too important to the state's economy to allow a few concerned groups to over-regulate it.....	21	52	14	11	2
It would be much better for the environment to have a large number of small livestock producers than to have a few very large producers.....	30	42	19	8	1

Source: 1992 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.

Locating Livestock Facilities (continued)

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Uncertain	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
	Percentage				
Large-scale livestock operations should be located in regions of the state where they will not interfere with the public's enjoyment of the outdoors.....	17	49	19	12	3
The noise, odors, and associated environmental problems from confinement livestock operations are minimal when compared to industrial pollution from factories in Iowa's towns and cities.....	16	46	27	10	1
The state should adopt statewide zoning to protect farms from urban encroachment and suits brought about by non-farm residents....	17	44	28	8	3
Much of the controversy surrounding livestock facilities and protection of the environment is because environmentalists don't understand modern farming.....	14	47	25	13	1

Source: 1992 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.

Locating Livestock Facilities (continued)

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Uncertain Percentage	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
After all, Iowa is a farm state and non-farm people need to get accustomed to the noise and odors associated with livestock.....	10	31	16	32	11
Livestock management laws have gotten so strict that many operations have moved to other states that have fewer regulations.....	6	25	50	16	3
The environmental costs of large scale livestock operations has been greatly exaggerated.....	4	24	35	29	8
Environmental regulations and pollution laws on confinement livestock facilities have gotten too strict.....	5	21	45	26	3

Source: 1992 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.

Myth or Fact #8

The number of hog farms has declined because farmers don't enjoy raising livestock.

Tasks that farmers enjoy

	Dislike Greatly (1)	(2)	Indifferent (3)	(4)	Enjoy Greatly (5)	Average Score
	Percentage					
Crop/field work.....	0	2	11	36	51	4.3
Working with livestock.....	5	5	19	32	37	3.9
Exploring new ideas.....	2	6	25	42	25	3.8
Working on machinery.....	4	11	26	39	19	3.6
Marketing/purchasing crops.....	4	11	31	39	14	3.5
Marketing/purchasing livestock.....	9	10	27	33	21	3.5
Purchasing equipment.....	7	13	35	31	14	3.3
Going to farm meetings.....	14	21	36	22	7	2.9
Record keeping/paperwork.....	15	22	34	22	7	2.8

Source: 1992 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.

Myth or Fact #9

We will be able to find technological solutions to the problems.

Myth or Fact #10

Large firms are good neighbors and buy inputs locally that contributes to community viability.

Myth or Fact #11

Larger operations are more efficient.

Myth or Fact #12

Uniformity in pork cuts is being driven by consumer preferences.

Some people believe that odors and noise from livestock are just part of living in the country, while others are very sensitive to the presence of livestock. How do you feel about the following statements:

	Agree		Uncertain		Disagree	
	1998	1995	1998	1995	1998	1995
	Percentage					
If people choose to live in the country then they should be willing to accept the presence of livestock	85	88	3	3	11	10
Most livestock producers do a good job of controlling odors and noises from their livestock operations	71	76	10	8	19	16
I don't care whether my neighbor raises livestock, as long as this doesn't affect my quality of life	64	83	17	7	19	11
Increasingly, livestock odors and noise are major problems throughout the state	64	NA	17	NA	21	NA

Source: 1998 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.
1995 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.

Should all new livestock operations applying for permits be required to submit a manure management plan?

Yes.....	58%
No.....	20%
Not sure.....	22%

Separation distances between livestock production units and neighbors' residences should be established base on the:

Number of animals (distances would increase as numbers increase).....	37%
Species of animals.....	6%
Type of production unit.....	20%
Type of manure storage & application system....	38%

Source: 1995 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.

Large livestock operations, if closely regulated and managed properly to prevent environmental problems, should be able to be built in the state.

Yes.....	52%
No.....	22%
Not sure.....	26%

All regulations regarding the siting of livestock operations should be made at the county level (N=2,151)

Yes.....	51%
No.....	23%
Not sure.....	26%

Source: 1995 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.

It would be alright if a large livestock operation wanted to locate near my residence if:

	Agree	Uncertain	Disagree
	Percentage		
It guaranteed that property values would not decline	54	15	30
It would compensate me for any damages resulting from such things as creating an odor nuisance, lower ground water, etc.	52	17	31

Source: 1995 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll.

Change vs. Progress

- Why do people desire progress, but often reject change?
- Change often is interpreted as LOSS
- What some people view as progress others view as a loss...
 - For example, tractors replaced horses, chisel plows replaced mold board plows, cell phones and i-pods are restructuring telephone and entertainment industries

Common Responses to Change

- Denial
- Anger
- Blaming
- Negotiation
- Acceptance

What are the consequences of these changes on the culture of communities

- Values—"an enduring belief that a specific mode of conduct or end-state of existence is personally or socially preferable" .
- Attitudes—a manner of acting or thinking, feeling or mood that shows one's disposition, opinion, etc
- Beliefs—conviction or acceptance that certain things are true or real
- Behaviors—Actions

Social and economic changes are never neutral in their impact. These changes produce gains for some and losses for others.

THANK YOU