



DISCUSSION MEET

The Discussion Meet helps young farmers build discussion skills, develop a keen understanding of important ag issues and explore how groups can pool knowledge to reach a consensus and solve problems.

PRELIMINARY ROUNDS: January 28

The 2023 Discussion Meet will begin with preliminary rounds at the 2023 Young Farmers Conference on January 27-28 in Des Moines. After two rounds, the top eight finalists will be determined. Final rounds are held during the Iowa Farm Bureau Annual Meeting in December 2023.

ELIGIBILITY

Must be 35 years of age or younger as of Jan. 31, 2024, and a regular member in good standing with your county Farm Bureau. Previous state winners and current young farmer advisory committee members are ineligible. Participants may not have received a public speaking fee or honorarium.

DISCUSSION MEET TOPICS

1. Iowa farmers lead the nation in the use of numerous soil and water conservation practices and have made tremendous progress on reducing nutrient losses through voluntary, market-driven approaches. Despite this progress, critics of the Iowa Nutrient Strategy want to see mandates and regulatory requirements. What role can Farm Bureau and/or farmers play in building trust in voluntary, market-driven approaches?
2. Animal agriculture is an important part of Iowa's economy and a vital protein source. The pandemic amplified the complexity and challenges of our current food supply chain and raised new questions and concerns with consumers. What role can farmers play to help restore consumers' confidence in the food supply system, provide more choices to consumers and protect farmers' livelihoods?
3. There is a disconnect between local governments and the farmers who live and work in them. How can Farm Bureau and local farmers foster understanding among local elected officials, planning commissioners and others about impact of land use, taxes, and other local regulations on agriculture and the potential consequences to the community?

REGISTRATION

Register for the Discussion Meet (preliminary rounds) taking place at the Young Farmer Conference, January 27-28 in Des Moines. Contact your county Farm Bureau to register for the conference.



PRIZES

First Place

- \$2,500 Cat® Dealer gift certificate
- \$1,500 cash from GROWMARK
- Expense paid trip to 2024 AFBF Convention in Salt Lake City, UT to compete in the AFBF Discussion Meet
- Expense paid trip to 2024 IFBF Young Farmer Conference

Second Place

- \$500 Cat® Dealer gift certificate
- \$500 gift card to FAST STOP or local FS Cooperative from GROWMARK
- \$500 gift certificate from Grainger

Third Place

- \$500 Cat® Dealer gift certificate
- YETI cooler from FBFS (\$300 value)
- Adventureland package: 6 park passes and cabana rental (\$400 value)

Fourth Place

- \$250 gift card to FAST STOP or local FS Cooperative from GROWMARK
- Adventureland package: 6 park passes and cabana rental (\$400 value)
- \$100 from the Young Farmer program



For more information contact:

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