## Farmers' Markets and Farm Stands — 2019

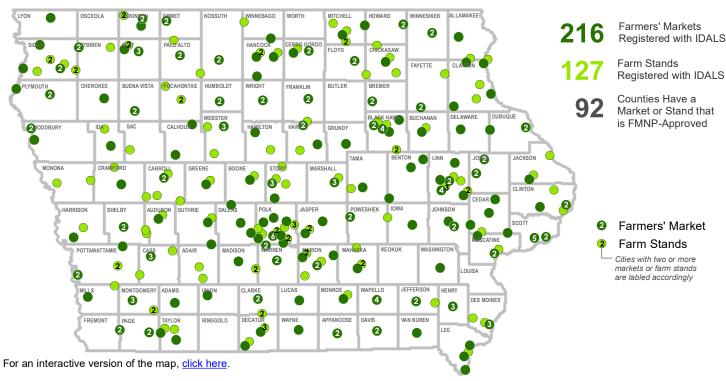
and the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

lowa farmers markets and farm stands are licensed by the Department of Inspections and Appeals.

- License fees are required for farmers' market vendors selling prepared foods that require temperature control for food safety.

  All ingredients (including eggs) used in food preparation must come from a licensed and approved source, with the exception of honey and whole uncut fruits and vegetables.
- The current license fee is \$150 annually, and a separate license must be obtained for each county the vendor operates in.

## Iowa Farmers' Markets and Farm Stands — 2019



The **lowa Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP)** was established in lowa Code chapter <u>175B</u> and is administered by the lowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS). The FMNP is associated with the Federal <u>Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, known as WIC; FMNP also assists <u>eligible seniors</u>. The FMNP was established by Congress in July 1992 to provide fresh, nutritious, unprepared, locally grown fruits, vegetables, and herbs through famers' markets and roadside stands. Federal funding for FMNP comes through the Farm Bill.</u>

- Women, infants over 4 months old, and children who are certified to receive WIC Program benefits or who are on a waiting list for WIC certification are eligible to participate in the FMNP.
- Eligible seniors must be 60 years of age or older and have a yearly household income at or below 185% of the poverty level.
- WIC participants are issued FMNP coupons in addition to their regular WIC benefits, which can be used to buy eligible
  foods from approved farmers' markets or roadside stands. FMNP checks and WIC cash value vouchers can only be
  accepted at authorized farmers' markets, during authorized days and times.
- The federal FMNP benefit level, whether for a household or individual, is \$10 to \$30 per year. Federal benefits paid to lowa have been stable since FY 2015 at \$468,191 for WIC participants and \$530,686 for Seniors.

