

# GMO Study Committee Hearing

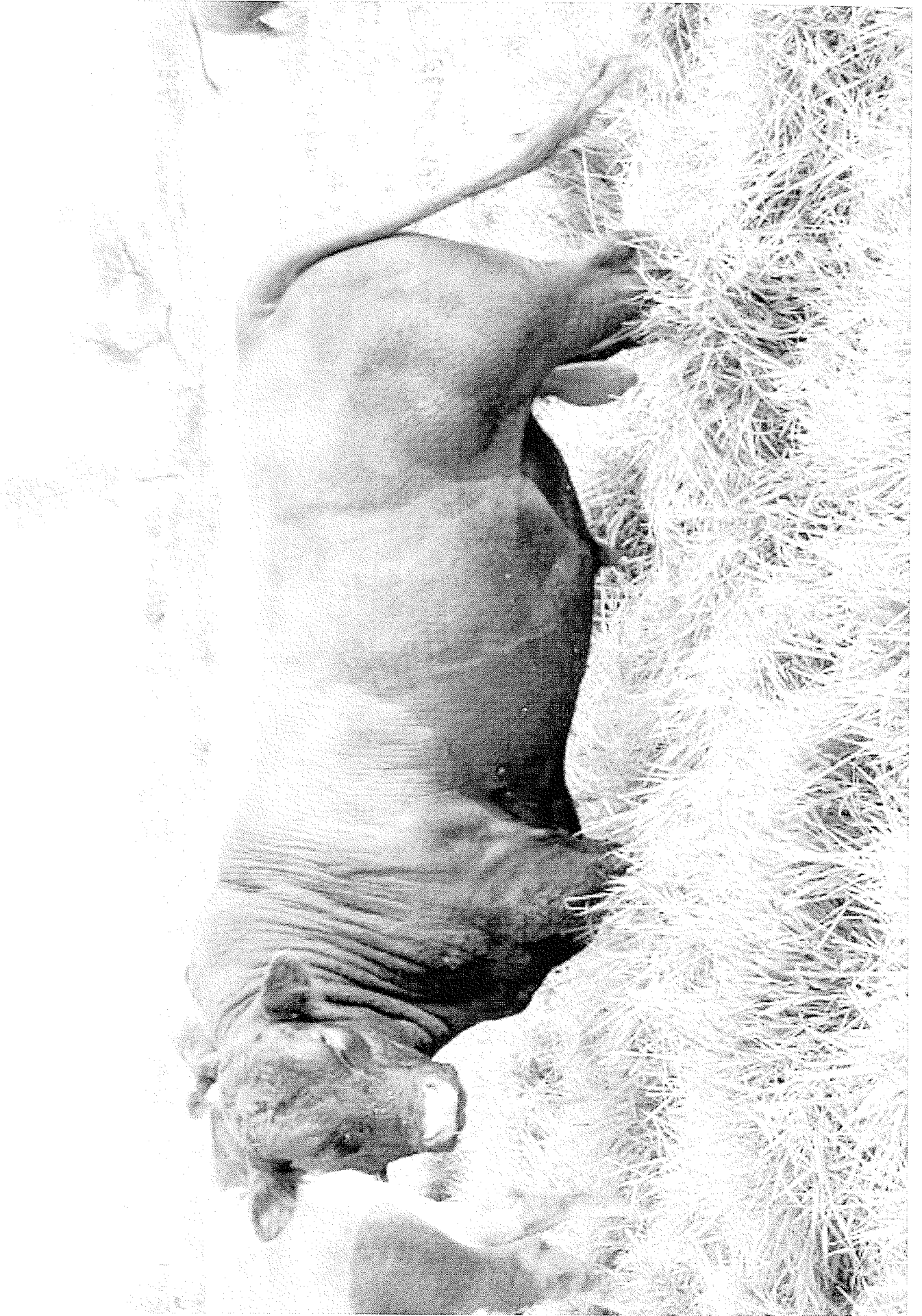
October 21, 2005

# Rosmann Family Farms



# What are the existing Agricultural Standards and Regulations?

- USDA National Organic Program Standards (NOP)
- Tolerance levels of 0.1%-5%
- Setting tolerances has been problematic
- No mechanism to compensate for losses
- Companies not testing for GMO, especially feed grains
- Liability issues

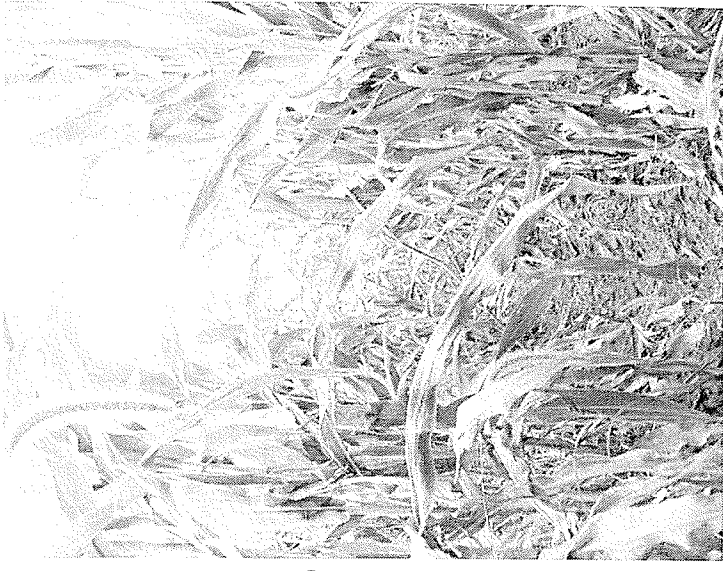


Is there a problem?



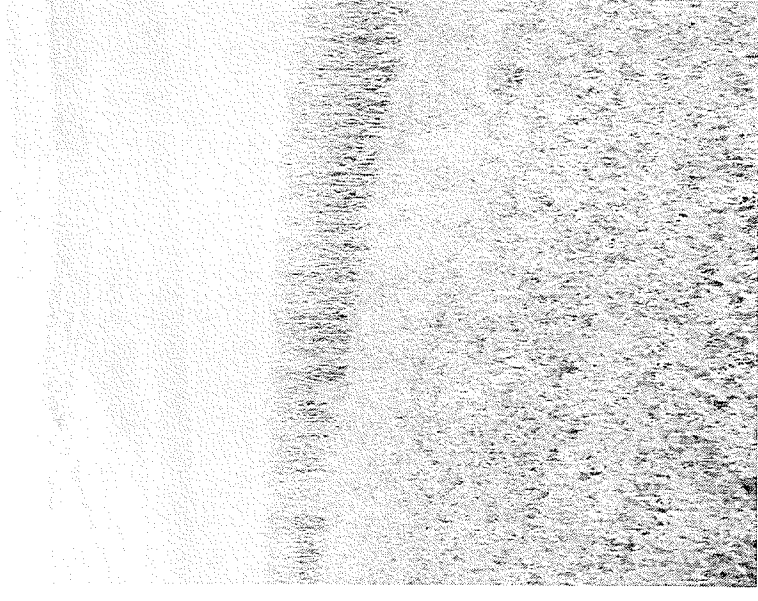
# Trends toward Value-Added and Identity Preserved in Iowa

- 50 CSA's
- 490 orchards
- 750 commercial vegetable growers
- 230 vineyards
- 175 farmer's markets
- 200,000 certified organic acres
- 450 organic growers



# What are some problems?

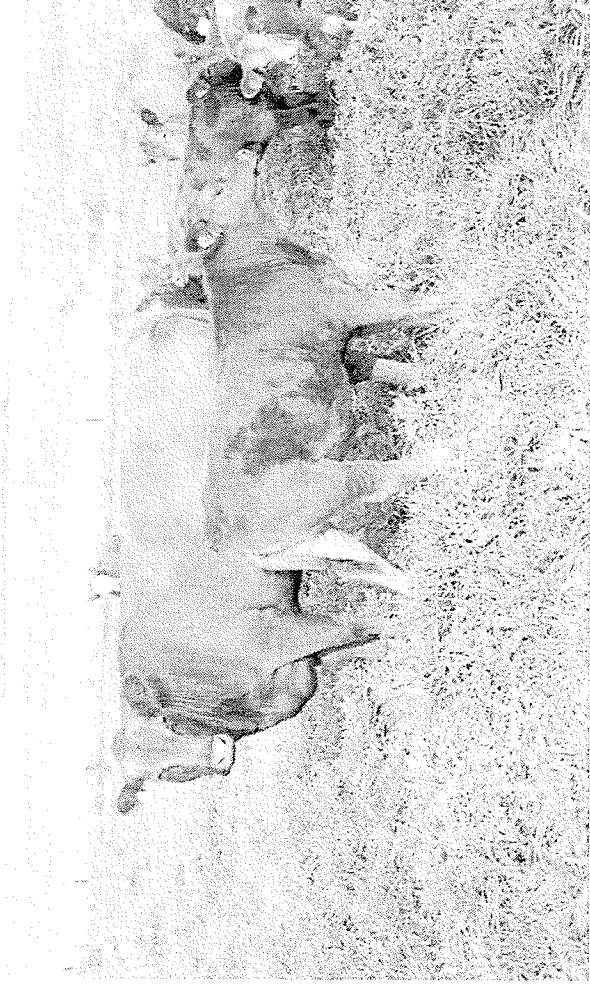
- Missed opportunities and loss of markets
- U.S. share of soybean exports declining
- Reality of the market
- Grain handling and transportation infrastructure
- Global patents, biological inheritance at risk
- Not promoting IP, non-GMO, and organic in Iowa





# Is Biotechnology as precise and benign as we think?

- 15 weeds identified as being resistant
- Bt corn hybrids having lower yields (Field Crops Research)





# What are some solutions?

Propose a state program

- Put the producers interests above those of multi-national corporations
- Put resources back into public plant breeding initiatives
- Need for new non-GMO varieties that perform well under local conditions, soils and climates
- Emphasis on molecular genetics vs. phenotype in the field



# A State Program

- Tools and the will to make Iowa a recognized leader around the world
- Low cost and reliable audit trail
- Assist in upgrading infrastructure
- USDA Process Verified Program (PVP)
- Other State programs
- Crop Improvement Associations
- Compensation for loss of revenue due to GMO contamination

# What kind of Agriculture do we want for Iowa in the future?

- Goals
- Definitions
- Education
- Diversity
- Quality of Life
- Vibrant Rural Communities

