

## **Iowa Soybean Association Research Program leverages Integrated Farm & Livestock Management (IFLM) support to benefit farmers and all Iowa residents**

- Since 2002: Nutrient management, soil health, conservation, water quality and production research projects and programs conducted in every Iowa county and involving thousands of farmers.
- Annual average: approximately 200 farmers engaged in ISA Research projects and programs.
- Projects and Programs:
  - Reduced tillage
  - Variable rate nitrogen fertilization
  - Manure management
  - Best management practices and fertilizer zone establishment in-field
  - Cover crops for soil health, nutrient management, pest management, water quality and crop production
  - Nutrient benchmarking through soil and stalk sampling
  - Watershed planning
  - Water monitoring
  - Technical assistance for cropping systems and conservation practices
  - Pest surveys (CRW and SCN)
  - Bioreactors
  - Saturated buffers
  - Oxbow restoration
  - Soil health tests
  - Replicated strip trials evaluate products and practices
  - Continued outreach and dialogue with and among farmers, urban residents and industry on cropping systems and conservation practices for soil conservation, nutrient management and water quality
- 2017 Examples
  - IFLM represented:
    - 5% of the total ISA Research budget
    - 19% of total leveraged funds
    - 13% of the investment in nutrient reduction strategy projects

- IFLM helped to support:
  - Over 400 project participants
  - 38 conservation projects
  - 243 replicated strip trials in farmer fields
  - 250 pest surveys
  - 153 nutrient benchmarking projects
  - 56 field days
  - 149 media pieces focused on nutrient reduction strategy efforts
  - 2 watershed plans (7 more scheduled for completion)
  - 4,121 water samples analyzed
  - 39 edge-of-field (bioreactors/saturated buffers) assessments and designs
  - Methods to optimize nitrogen use in corn
  - Economic analyses to increase profitability while reducing nutrient losses
- Impacts of losing IFLM support:
  - Ability to complement and extend many ISA projects and programs, especially those involving nutrients, soil and water quality, and the ability to attract and leverage non-checkoff funding for meaningful work that positively impacts Iowa farmers and all rural and urban residents
  - A significantly reduced ability to generate real data that is constantly used to benefit farmers and others for continuous improvement of in-field and edge-of-field practices
  - Slowed progress in investigating, developing and communicating economically-sound and science-based decisions for productivity, profitability and sustainability