



Iowa Farm & Land Chapter #2
REALTORS® Land Institute
www.rlifarmandranch.com



“Under all is the Land”

PRESS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE: September 22, 2010

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Troy R. Louwagie, ALC - 319-895-8858

The Iowa Farm and Land Chapter #2 REALTORS® Land Institute is pleased to announce the results of our September 2010 Land Trends and Values Survey. Our REALTORS® Land Institute Chapter is an arm of the National Association of REALTORS® and is organized for REALTORS® who specialize in farm and land sales, management and appraisal. Participants in the survey are specialists in farmland and are asked for their opinions about the current status of the Iowa farmland market.

Participants were asked to estimate the average value of farmland as of September 1, 2010. These estimates are for bare, unimproved land with a sale price on a cash basis. Pasture and timberland values were also requested as supplemental information.

The results of these surveys show a statewide average increase of cropland values of 5.7% for the March 2010 to September 2010 period. Combining this 5.7% increase with the 2.8% increase reported in March 2010 indicates a statewide average increase of 8.5% for the year from September 2009 to September 2010.

All nine Iowa crop reporting districts showed an increase. The districts varied from a 9.8% increase in Northwest Iowa to a 2.4% increase in South Central Iowa for the March 2010 to September 2010 period.

Factors contributing to the increase in farmland values include: limited amount of land offered for sale, higher commodity prices, lack of alternative investments, strong cash rents, and favorable long term interest rates. Concerns that could affect farmland value in the future include: an increase in interest rates and attractive alternative investments.

The Iowa Farm & Land REALTORS® farmland value survey has been conducted as of March and September since 1978. This survey plus the Central States Farm Multiple Listing Exchange are activities of REALTORS® specializing in agricultural land brokerage on a daily basis.