



KEEPING FARM FAMILIES IN THE EDUCATIONAL LOOP

The BFC supports family farming with Ag Link, a four-day seminar for college juniors, seniors and their families. As a group, they learn about conflict resolution, goal setting, identifying priorities, business analysis, and a host of other timely farm family business related subjects. Ag Link's success is widely recognized and serves as a model for other states who want to replicate its content and results.

CONDUCTING RESEARCH ON FARM ISSUES

The BFC conducts research on issues including farm business succession planning, retirement and estate planning, farm leasing alternatives, rural businesses and other timely topics. The research results are used to develop educational material and information to further our mission. Additionally, the Center provides references and referrals to a wide variety of beginning farmer and farm business succession research.

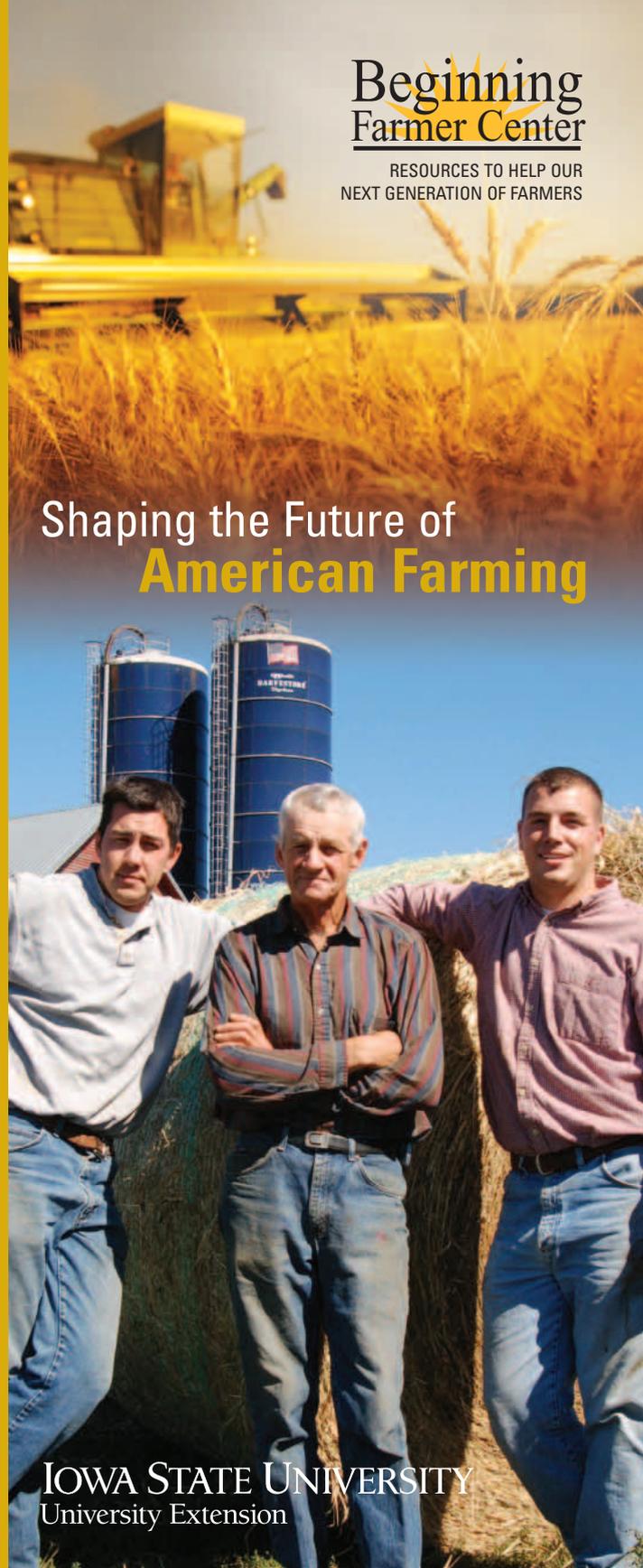
For more information about the Beginning Farmer Center, our services and programs please contact:

**Beginning
Farmer Center**

1-877-BFC-1999
bfc@iastate.edu
www.extension.iastate.edu/bfc

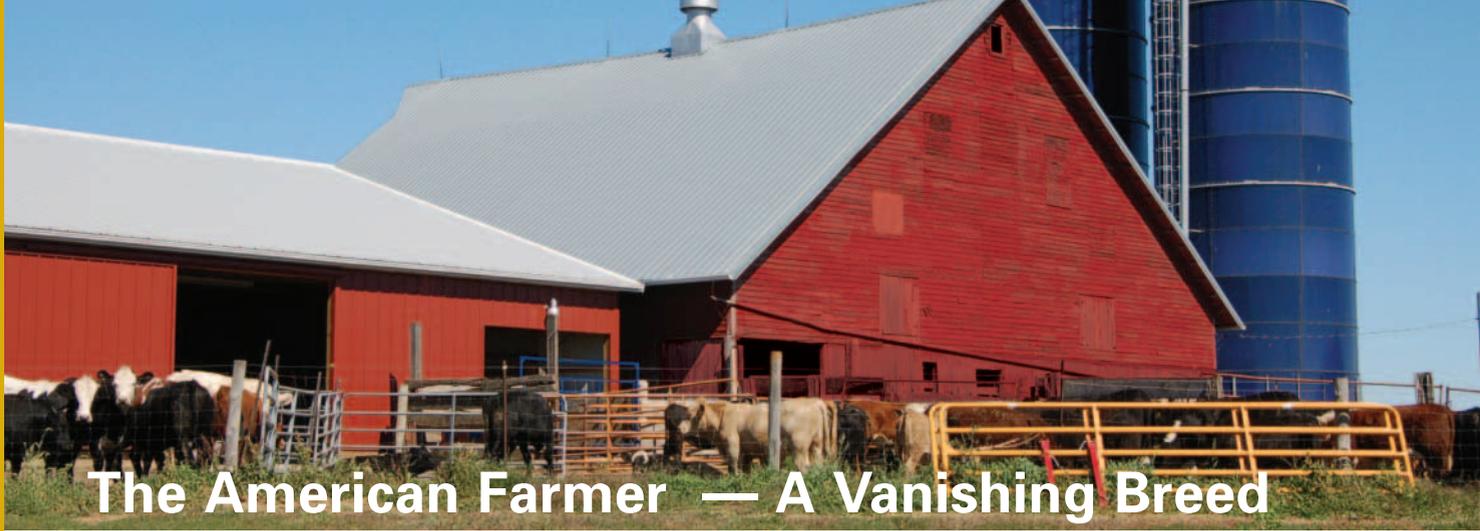
**Beginning
Farmer Center**

RESOURCES TO HELP OUR
NEXT GENERATION OF FARMERS



Shaping the Future of American Farming

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
University Extension



The American Farmer — A Vanishing Breed

Agriculture and farmers face big challenges. We can accept things as they are and say they can't be changed, or we can help shape Iowa's agricultural future.

We are losing a precious natural resource at an alarming speed. The farmer replacement rate has fallen below 50 percent, and there are now twice as many farmers over age 65 as there are under age 35.

SAFEGUARDING THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN AGRICULTURE

The 1994 Iowa General Assembly took steps to assure the continuation of our farming tradition by establishing the Beginning Farmer Center at Iowa State University. The Center coordinates educational programs and services, assesses needs to identify opportunities, and develops statewide educational programs for beginning and retiring farmers.

Among the various services available through the Center are the FarmOn program, Ag Link seminars, consultation on critical issues, and a wealth of educational materials.

HELPING FARMERS MAKE A CONNECTION

The Beginning Farmer Center (BFC) provides funding for the FarmOn program. FarmOn facilitates the introduction of individuals who want to farm to existing farmers. The BFC provides one-on-one consultation to applicants and participants to assist them in analyzing the available opportunities. More information about FarmOn, including beginning and existing farmer questionnaires, is available on our web site.

The Center provides referrals to financial analysts and other specialists. The BFC works with ISU Extension personnel to identify needs and opportunities to develop educational material. The Center also provides instructors for seminars.

