



2024 Iowa Master Pork Producer Awards

The Extension Service of Iowa State University and the Iowa Pork Producers Association are cooperating again in 2024 to recognize Iowa's outstanding pork producers with the Master Pork Awards program. These awards promote diversity, efficiency, and excellence in pork production in Iowa.

Nominations:

Nomination may be made by county extension personnel, extension swine field specialists, county pork associations, production companies, or other pork producers. **All nominations are due Aug. 1, 2024.**

Nomination Criteria:

- 1) Nominees must be:
 - a. A member of the Iowa Pork Producers Association, whether at the state and/or county level.
 - b. Iowa residents.
- 2) Nominees must be engaged in pork production at the farm level, this includes sow farm, feeder pig production, wean or feeder pig finishing, contract production, or a farrow-to-finish system.
- 3) Nominees should have at least five years of experience in pork production.
- 4) Nominees and nominated spouses must have an active role in on-farm day-to-day management decisions but need not be the owner.
- 5) Producer must be able to demonstrate current certification in Pork Quality Assurance Plus (PQA Plus) and have completed a PQA Plus site assessment (prior to nomination) on all production sites.
- 6) Nominees should have demonstrated community involvement (i.e., church, school, commodity associations, extension, other volunteer opportunities, etc.)
- 7) Nominees should demonstrate excellence within their production system. Consider the following for examples:
 - a. Willingness to share new ideas and practices
 - b. Proactively working on issues facing the swine industry.
 - c. Clear knowledge of and involvement in activities that support the We Care responsible pork initiative.
 - d. Herd Health - Knowledgeable about herd health programs and preventive medicine techniques.
 - e. Facilities - Facilities adequate for pork production; knowledgeable on facility maintenance and repair.
 - f. Nutrition and Feeding - Knowledgeable of feed program and medications used on the farm.
 - g. Sanitation – Knowledgeable on the manure management plan for the site(s).
 - h. Records - Have production records and a firm grasp of production costs. Demonstration of compliance with PQA Plus records such as medication and treatment records, daily observation records, and mortality records.

- i. Production statistics - Nominees should be able to communicate pounds of feed per pound of gain, pigs weaned/litter (if producer has sows), pigs/sow year (if producer has sows).

Award Rules:

- 1) All nominations must be postmarked by **Aug. 1, 2024**.
- 2) No more than four nominees per IPPA district
- 3) Nominators should work with nominees to complete the nomination form.
- 4) Nominators are highly encouraged to include a letter of recommendation from the nominator detailing why the nominee should be recognized for the award. (i.e., production performance, management skills and capabilities, industry/community involvement, issues and industry knowledge, and other special achievements.)
- 5) Previously honored Master Pork Producer Award program awardees are not eligible to receive the award.

Selection Process:

Date	Activity
Aug. 1 thru Aug. 12, 2024	Applications will be reviewed by Iowa State Extension and IPPA staff for eligibility.
By Aug. 26, 2024	Nominees will be notified of selection and scheduling of visits will begin.
Aug. 24 thru Dec. 1, 2024	Selection committee will complete on-site visits with nominees. This will include photos and video interviews. Questions will be provided prior to the visit. Visits are scheduled to best fit nominee’s schedule.
By December 1, 2024	Final award winners will be notified by the selection committee.
Jan. 22, 2025	Individuals will be honored at the Master Pork Producer Banquet held during the Iowa Pork Congress.

Nomination Submission:

Applications with letter of recommendation from nominator are due Aug. 1, 2023. They may be:

Mailed: _____ **Emailed:** bsmeby@iowapork.org **Faxed:** (515) 225-0563

Iowa Pork Producers Association
 Attn. Brielle Smeby
 PO Box 71009
 Clive, IA 50325

Questions:

Cory Van Gilst – bsmeby@iowapork.org or 515-225-7675



2024 Master Pork Producer Award Application

(Please type or print on this form)

NAME(S) _____

(Please include spouse name **if nominated**)

FARM NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (____) _____ CELL PHONE (____) _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

COUNTY _____ DISTRICT _____

SITE ADDRESS (if different than above)

DATE OF BIRTH _____ NUMBER OF YEARS RAISING SWINE _____

SPOUSE'S NAME (if **not** nominated for award) _____

CHILDREN'S NAMES AND AGES _____

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF A COUNTY PORK PRODUCERS GROUP? YES NO

If yes, list county: _____

Please list any local newspapers or radio stations with which we can share press information should you be selected for the award.

NOMINATED BY (Name, Phone, Email): _____

Nominators: Please include letter of recommendation detailing why this individual stands out. (i.e. production performance, management skills and capabilities, industry/community involvement, issues and industry knowledge and other special achievements.)

<The next pages are for farm and production information>

Production Information

For last year (2023):

Farrowing Operations:

No. of Litters farrowed _____ No. of pigs weaned/litter _____

No. of Feeder pigs sold _____ No. of breeding stock sold _____

Finishing Operations:

No. of pigs finished _____ No. of market hogs sold _____

Other Production Information:

Are you involved in a quality/value added production? (i.e. antibiotic free, natural, etc.) YES NO

If yes, please specify.

How do you market your hogs? _____

What is your role(s) in pork production? (Select all that apply)

Owner ___ Manager ___ Contract producer ___

Number of employees supervised _____

PQA Plus certification number _____

Premises Identification Number (for PQA Plus Site Assessment verification) _____

Are you also TQA certified? ___ Yes ___ No

Do you have a manure management plan with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources?

_____ Yes _____ No

Do you have any row crops? _____ acres corn _____ acres soybeans

Do you have any other livestock or other agriculture-related business? (i.e. beef, dairy or poultry, seed sales, etc.) _____



Please provide additional details of your swine production operation, including your role in the operation, that you believe reflects the excellence shown by Iowa Master Pork Producers. (You may attach additional pages as needed.)

Advancement of the We Care principles beyond community involvement is also central to this award. Please outline your activities and how they align with this initiative below. (ex. producing safe food, protecting and promoting animal well-being, ensuring practices to protect public health, safeguarding natural resources, providing a safe working environment, and contributing to a better quality of life in your community). (You may attach additional pages as needed.)

Community involvement is an important aspect of the We Care principles and is critical for Master Pork Producer award selection. Please list any off-farm activities in which you are involved. Please list any off-farm activities in which you are involved (i.e. church, school, commodity associations, extension, community functions/groups, other volunteer opportunities, etc.)

This application, including letter of nomination must be completed and submitted to IPPA by Aug. 1, 2024.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____