

Dear Property owner:

The Iowa Administrative Code 701-102.1 (3) states as follows: Agricultural real estate shall include all tracts of land and the improvements and structures located on them which are *in good faith used primarily for agricultural purposes*, except buildings which are primarily used or intended for human habitation as defined in sub rule 102.1 (4). Land and nonresidential improvements and structures located upon it shall be considered to be used primarily for agricultural purposes if its principal use is devoted to the raising and harvesting of crops or forest or fruit trees, the rearing, feeding and management of livestock, or horticulture, all *for intended profit*.

There are three key phrases in the above rule to use as a guide to determine if a property qualifies for an agricultural classification:

- Principal or Primary Use
- Used in good faith for agricultural purposes
- For intended profit

A directive from the Iowa Department of Revenue was sent to all assessors in 2017, stating that we must no longer use the 10-acre minimum to classify property.

A parcel with forty acres that has a dwelling, and no significant agricultural activity would have a primary use of residential. If this parcel has enough trees, prairie, etc. it may qualify for an exemption on those acres. More information regarding these exemptions can be found at <http://www.co.black-hawk.ia.us/556/Credits-and-Exemptions>.

Your responses may be sent to us by mail, email or delivered in person to our office. Our contact information is at the top of the questionnaire and at the bottom of this letter.

Thank you for your time and prompt response.

Black Hawk County Assessor's Office