



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – August 4, 2021**

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**Organic Site Visit & Luncheon  
Dakota City Organic Elevator  
Wednesday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**Des Moines, Iowa** -- The Iowa Organic Association, J.E. Meuret Grain Company and Pitman Family Farms are co-hosting a site visit and luncheon on Wednesday, August 18<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Dakota City Organic Elevator located at 1633 E Ave in Dakota City, Nebraska. The event is open to farmers, businesses and others interested in learning more about organic grain opportunities in the upper Midwest. The event will showcase this new organic grain facility and includes time for networking, an organic lunch at noon and brief introductions from each of the event co-hosts.

As the \$62B organic market continues to grow, so do options for participating in the organic market. Farmers are increasingly turning to organic production for market-driven premiums, economic stability and a range of ecosystem benefits. IOA is excited to share that the Dakota City Organic Elevator is stepping in to meet the growing demand for organic grain from the Midwest; they are now accepting organic corn and soybean crops from producers in the Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota and Minnesota region. If you would like more information about contracts with this elevator, please contact Jeff Struve at 402-833-6999 or [dakotacityorganic@jemeuretgrain.com](mailto:dakotacityorganic@jemeuretgrain.com).

Whole Grains, LLC and the Dakota City Organic Elevator is a partnership between J.E. Meuret Grain Company, a fourth-generation family-owned and operated business since 1923; and Pitman Family Farms, a third-generation family-owned and operated business producing Mary's Organic, Free-Range, and nonGMO Chickens since 1954. "This partnership provides Midwest organic producers additional market options and year-round rail access for their organic crops", said John Meuret, co-founder of Whole Grains, LLC, "we look forward to expanding our partnerships and market opportunities with growers in this region."

The IOA is committed to building a diverse organic community to provide the support, resources and tools needed to succeed in the organic industry. "Whole Grains, LLC is a great example of how the organic community is collaborating to meet the needs of the organic industry, farmers and consumers", said Rosalyn Lehman, IOA executive director.

To attend, please RSVP by Friday, August 13<sup>th</sup> at [www.IowaOrganic.org](http://www.IowaOrganic.org) or by calling 515-412-4802.

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**About the Iowa Organic Association**

The Iowa Organic Association (IOA) is a statewide, 501(c)3 non-profit organization committed to advancing organic agriculture and food systems in Iowa through education, advocacy and community

cooperation. Our membership is a diverse group of organic farmers, gardeners, food and farm businesses, advocates and consumers who are champions for organic practices and products. For more information, visit [www.iowaorganic.org](http://www.iowaorganic.org).