

American Corn Growers Foundation

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For Immediate Release

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Lush Family Honored with Aksarben Pioneer Farm Award. ACGF Chairman Gale Lush Given Leadership Award for 35 Years of Renewable Energy and Rural Economic Development Service.

WILCOX, NE, July 9, 2025: Kearney-area farm leader Gale Lush and the Lush family were honored at the Franklin County Fair with the Aksarben Foundation's Pioneer Award, given to families whose land has been in their family for at least 100 years. The Lush family has had the farm for 119 years. "The entire Lush family is honored to receive this important award from the Aksarben Foundation", said family spokesman Gale Lush. "This award acknowledges generations of the Lush family's investment in our farming business, overcoming the inherent risk and financial challenges that go with a successful farming enterprise. We have always seen our farming business and its growth as an investment in rural economic development success for our community".

Gale Lush Receives ACGF Leadership Award for 35 Years of Service



Gale Lush receives ACGF Leadership Award in May 2025 from ACGF Vice- Chairman Mark Lounsbery of Revillo, South Dakota



Laurie and Gale Lush, Mark Lounsbery & Sarah Lush Wanek with her daughter Audrey, Gale and Laurie's granddaughter

In May 2025 Gale Lush was honored by the American Corn Growers Foundation (ACGF) board with their **Officer Leadership Award** recognizing 35 years of dedicated state and national service to the ACGF and Rural America for his leadership including:

- Economic Development Policy Leadership with State Legislatures and the U.S. Congress
- Renewable Energy Advocacy of Biofuels, Wind Energy, Solar and Hybrid Storage
- Ethanol Policy Development and Ethanol Plant Investment
- National Farm and Trade Policy Research and Analysis
- Public/Political Outreach and Politician Education
- Media Relations at State and National Levels

"I'm very appreciative to the ACGF board for giving me this leadership award, especially as it relates to ethanol development and my investment in the Kearney-area KAPPA ethanol plant which is now a leader in the carbon capture pipeline and carbon storage industry," said Lush. "Ethanol is the most positive, impactful growth industry that the ACGF and I have played a leadership role in facilitating. The ethanol Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) is a key example of federal public policy that generates stronger domestic local corn prices for farmers and rural economic development in our communities while providing consumers with cheaper motor fuel and cleaner air. An E15 (15% ethanol blend) is logically now accepted. It's expanding around the country, even with previous ethanol skeptics. The next logical policy step forward at both the federal and state levels will be authorizing E30, a 30% ethanol blend in gasoline year-round and nationwide. E30 can double the economic benefits of E15 and triple those of E10, a very positive strategy which means economic growth for America."