



Agritourism

KFB Issue Engagement

June 2017

In an effort to enhance engagement on issues that face the farmers and ranchers of Kansas Farm Bureau, the KFB board of directors has implemented an issue engagement project. Approximately once a month, a new topic will be covered by a board member, and our goal is to receive feedback from you, our members.

After reviewing the information, members will have an opportunity to provide input, ask questions and further engage on these issues. Your input will go directly to KFB's board of directors.

Kansas Farm Bureau is engaging in the topic of agritourism and would like input from you, our members. KFB supports agritourism as a tool for local and regional economic development, as well as advocating for agriculture and how our food is grown.

Some of the issues we're hearing from our members include building codes, zoning regulations and the difference between Agritourism and Agritainment (agriculture education events versus entertainment events).

Building codes and zoning regulations vary by county, and therefore impact agritourism venues differently depending on which county they reside. KFB's policy states that "planning and zoning activities are best addressed at the local level" (GOV-14). County regulators must balance public health, safety and welfare, as well as the agritourism operator's interest in utilizing their agricultural property in the manner they see fit.

Where is the line, if there is one, between Agritourism and Agritainment? In other words, is there a difference between agricultural education events and entertainment events held in a rural setting?

Please [click on this link](#) to provide your input to the Kansas Farm Bureau Board of Directors.

Current Farm Bureau Policy:

KFB

Agritourism AG-8

We support agritourism as a tool for local and regional economic development. We encourage agritourism businesses to register with Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism. We support regulations that enhance agritourism.

We support the provisions of the Agritourism Promotion Act including limits on the liability of landowners who invite the public onto their land to experience by observation and participation, rural agricultural culture and natural attractions.

Tax credits should continue to offset the high cost of liability insurance premiums and encourage others who may desire to augment their farm income through agritourism activities.

AFBF

149 / Definition of Agriculture

1. We support:

1.1. A uniform definition of agriculture which includes use of natural resources in the production of all plants (agronomic and horticultural), aquatic species (aquaculture), forestry (silviculture), animal (including equine), fungi, beekeeping (apiculture) and all related production activities; and

1.2. Agritourism defined as a "working farm, ranch or agriculture plant conducted for the enjoyment of visitors that generates income for the owner" be considered as a viable agricultural enterprise by all federal agencies.