

Pre Conference Edition

Welcome to Colorado!

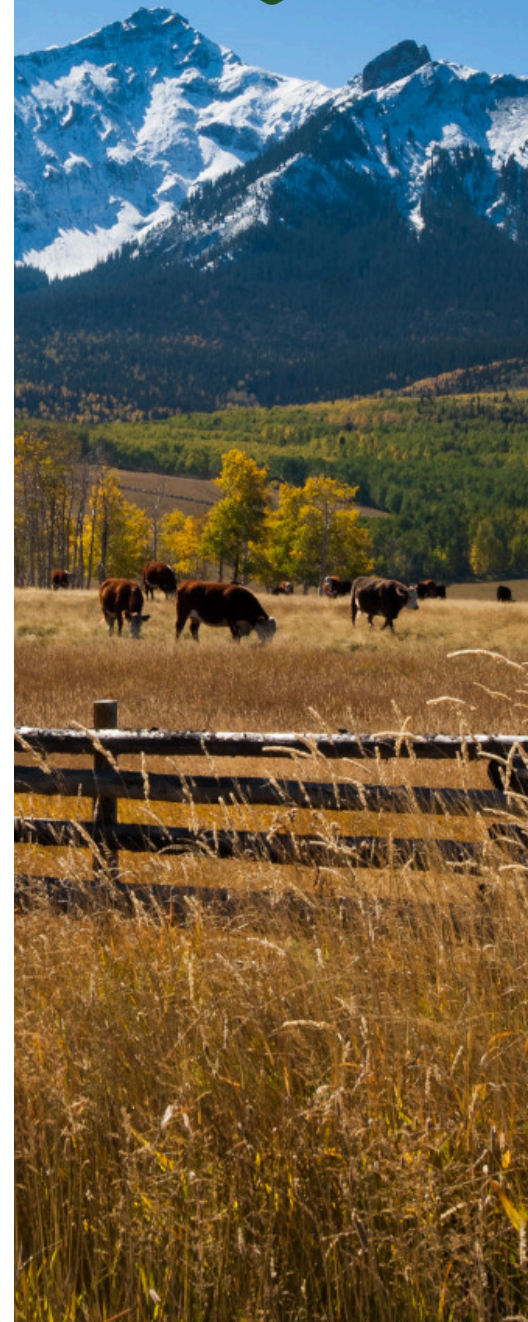
The Colorado County Agents Association is pleased to host the 111th NACAA Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference. Welcome to the Centennial State, with Colorado becoming a state on August 1, 1876, our moniker fits as our nation celebrated its 250th birthday this past weekend. We have chosen to host our colleagues here in the Mile-High City, Denver, Colorado, which lends itself to the next section...

Agriculture at Altitude

Elevations in Colorado range from 3,315 feet along the Arikaree River in Eastern Colorado to its highest point atop Mount Elbert at 14,439 feet in Central Colorado. Denver sits at 5,280 feet above sea level. Visitors to our state often will notice the effects of the elevation and dry weather until they become acclimatized. It is important to stay well-hydrated before traveling to Colorado, and throughout your stay. There are several trips into the foothills for our visiting spouses/life members, sons & daughters, and members, and we don't want your memory of these excursions to be of altitude sickness. Other tips for high altitude adaption are available at visitdenver.com/about-denver/resources/high-altitude-tips.

Wildfire in the West

This past week Colorado has joined many of our Western State neighbors with wildfires. At this writing, Colorado has five major wildfires (and a couple of smaller ones). All of these current wildfires have evacuated residents, and many of our Colorado colleagues are actively assisting with emergency management. We are monitoring these and may make adjustments as needed to insure safety of everyone attending the AMPIC.



Colorado Weather

“Wait ten minutes or move ten miles” is a commonly heard phrase amongst Coloradoans when they wish to complain about the current weather conditions. Our weather patterns can behave like this, with isolated severe storms that don’t affect neighboring areas. The thirty-year average high in Denver in July is 89.9 degrees with average lows 60.2 degrees. July is Denver’s second-highest month for precipitation, so afternoon thunderstorms are not uncommon. With the current drought we have been experiencing in 2026, many of us will welcome a wetter July with glee! For more information on current conditions and forecasts, visit the National Weather Service at [weather.gov/bou](https://www.weather.gov/bou).

Colorado Agriculture

Our altitude, geography and drier climate combine to make Colorado agriculture a highly diverse and resource-efficient industry. The unique geography produces variable growing conditions which favor various crops. The Eastern Plains tend to support large-scale mechanized farming utilizing both irrigated and dryland crops. The Mountain Valleys and Western Slope favor specialty crops and livestock, and the high elevations with their shorter growing seasons support livestock grazing and hay production. Major commodities include corn (grain and silage), wheat, hay and alfalfa, sunflowers, potatoes, and a wide variety of specialty crops (peaches, apples, grapes, sweet corn, melons and others). Livestock production is dominated by cattle feeding and cow/calf production, sheep and lambs, swine production, poultry production, and specialty livestock. Horticulture, nursery and turf production are also important industries. Colorado has a vibrant craft beverage industry, and an established and growing agritourism industry.

Visit us on our chapter website

Navigate to coloagagents.org/denverampic2026 for lots of information to help you prepare to travel to Denver and enjoy your stay here with us! We look forward to seeing you soon!

Yapp App for real-time updates

In addition to a printed program booklet, NACAA will be using the mobile event app – YAPP while in Denver.

[Install the app >](#)

Once you have the app installed – you can click on the 3 little dots in the bottom right hand corner – ...and you will see the various schedules (Active, Life/Spouse, Sons & Daughters).

As modifications to the printed program are made – updates will be uploaded into the Yapp app to notify you as soon as possible.

If you want to see a full printed program – it can be found on the NACAA website on the [Denver AM/PIC page](#).



Take the NACAA Scholarship Auction to New Heights in Denver

Get ready to elevate professional development and the bidding during the 2026 NACAA Scholarship Auction at the NACAA AM/PIC in Denver!

Auction items may be dropped off at the Plaza Registration while NACAA members are available to receive donated items. All auction items must be delivered to the designated location at the Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel by noon on Thursday, July 9.

State scholarship committee chairs are invited to join the National Scholarship Committee on Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon in Plaza Court 6. During the meeting, the committee will review scholarship applications and discuss committee business.

Bidding at a Higher Elevation

After state's night out we'll all come back together for the NACAA Scholarship Auction which will take place in the Plaza Ballroom. The silent auction begins at 7 p.m., followed by the live auction at 8 p.m. Thursday evening.

Silent Auction Pro will once again be used to manage the 2026 auction. Before arriving in Denver, participants should log in to their Silent Auction Pro accounts, confirm that their contact information is current, and update the credit card on file. Completing these steps in advance will make auction check-in faster and leave more time to browse the items and enjoy the evening.

Returning bidders should have received an email with information about accessing and updating their accounts. Anyone who previously registered but did not receive an email from NACAA Scholarship Committee Chair Jennifer Lutes should contact her at LutesJL@missouri.edu.

First-time bidders are strongly encouraged to register before arriving in Denver. [Visit the Silent Auction Pro website to confirm an existing account or create a new bidder account.](#)

The Scholarship Auction is more than an enjoyable night of friendly competition. Every donated item and winning bid helps NACAA members pursue advanced education, specialized training, professional tours, conferences, research, and other opportunities that strengthen their Extension work.

Join us in Denver as we take professional development to new heights. Watch the AM/PIC newsletter for auction updates and additional information.

See you soon!
Jennifer Lutes, Scholarship Committee National Chair



Tentative Program

111th Annual Meeting/Professional Improvement Conference

Monday, July 6	
8 a.m.	Horticulture/Turfgrass Pre-Tour
Tuesday, July 7	
8 a.m.	Pre-Conference Tours (Horticulture/ Turfgrass, Sustainable Ag/ Natural Resources)
8 a.m.–5 p.m.	NACAA Board Meeting
3–6 p.m.	Registration/Scholarship auction item drop off
Wednesday, July 8	
8 a.m.–noon	NACAA Board Meeting (if needed)
8 a.m.–7 p.m.	Registration
8 a.m.–7 p.m.	Scholarship auction item drop-off
8 a.m.–4 p.m.	Life Member/Spouses Hospitality
9 a.m.–1 p.m.	NACAA Educational Exhibits Set Up
9 a.m.–noon	Scholarship Selection Committee
10 a.m.–noon	Regional Directors/Vice Directors Meeting
Noon–2 p.m.	Past National Board Luncheon
1–5 p.m.	NACAA Poster Set-up
1–6:30 p.m.	Commercial Exhibit Trade Show
1:30–3 p.m.	Leadership Academy
2–3 p.m.	Life and Spouse Member Welcome and Orientation
2–4 p.m.	First Lady's Reception (by invitation)
2–5 p.m.	NACAA Educational Foundation Annual Meeting and Board of Directors Meeting
2:30–4 p.m.	First Timer Orientation and Reception
4:30–6:30 p.m.	Welcome to Colorado Dinner (Tickets Required)
5:30–6 p.m.	State President Rehearsal for Flag Ceremony
5:30–6 p.m.	Parents Orientation for Sons and Daughters Program (Meet & Greet)



Wednesday, July 8 cont.

7–9 p.m.	Opening Session
9–9:30 p.m.	Ice Cream Social
9:30–11:30 p.m.	Hospitality Rooms
10 p.m.	Colorado Meeting

Thursday, July 9

6:45–8 a.m.	Voting Delegates Breakfast (invite only)
6:45–8 a.m.	Bayer CropScience Breakfast (Tickets Required)
7–7:30 a.m.	Sons and Daughters Meet the bus
8 a.m.–Noon	Scholarship auction item drop off
8 a.m.–4 p.m.	Life Member/Spouse Hospitality
8 a.m.–7 p.m.	Registration
8 a.m.–10 a.m.	NACAA Poster Judging
8:15 a.m.–10:30 a.m.	General Session
9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.	Commercial and NACAA Educational Exhibits Open
10–11:30 a.m.	Life Members Business Meeting
10:30–11:30 a.m.	Break
10:30–11:30 a.m.	Meet the Authors Poster Session
11:45 a.m.–1:15 p.m.	First Time Attendee Luncheon (Tickets Required)
11:45 a.m.–1:15 p.m.	Professional Improvement and Search for Excellence Luncheons: 4-H, Crop Production, Ag Awareness (Tickets Required)
11:45 a.m.–1:15 p.m.	Life/Spouse Luncheon (Tickets Required)
11:45 a.m.–2:45 p.m.	Administrative Leaders Luncheon and meeting (Tickets Required)
1:30–2:45 p.m.	Trade Talk Sponsor Sessions
1:30–4 p.m.	States Night Out
3–5 p.m.	Regional Meetings and Candidate Presentations
5–7 p.m.	States Night Out
6:30–7:30 p.m.	Silent Auction and Live Auction Preview
7:30–9:30 p.m.	Live Auction
10 p.m.	Colorado Meeting



Friday, July 10

7–8:30 a.m.	Achievement Award Recognition Breakfast (invite only)
8 a.m.	Life/Spouse Tours leave
8 a.m.–2 p.m.	Registration
8:30–11:30 a.m.	Delegate Session
8:30–11:30 a.m.	Committee Oral Presentations: Commercial and NACAA
9 a.m.–3:30 p.m.	Educational Exhibits Open
9 a.m.–3:30 p.m.	NACAA Poster Session Open
Open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.	Life/Spouse Activities (Workshops/Tours)
10–10:30 a.m.	Break
11:45 a.m.–1:15 p.m.	Communication/Poster Awards Luncheon (invite only)
11:45 a.m.–1:15 p.m.	Search for Excellence Luncheons: Young, Beginning or Small Farms/ Rancher, Consumer or Commercial Horticulture, Farm and Ranch Business Management, Livestock Production (Tickets Required)
1:30–4 p.m.	Committee Oral Presentations
3:30–5 p.m.	Commercial Exhibits close
4–8 p.m.	CSU SPUR Showcase / CCAA Dinner / Block Party
4–5:30 p.m.	VIP/Donor Reception (invite only)
10 p.m.	Colorado Meeting

Saturday, July 11

7–8:15 a.m.	National Committee Members: Breakfast Recognition of Retiring Chairs, Vice Chairs and Special Assignment
7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.	Life/Spouse Activities (Offsite)
8 a.m.–2 p.m.	Registration
8:30–10:15 a.m.	General Session
10:15–10:30	Break
10:30–11:30 a.m.	NACAA Policy Meeting
10:30–11:30 a.m.	Committee Oral Presentations
11:45 a.m.–1:15 p.m.	Search For Excellence Luncheons: Sustainable Agriculture Environmental Quality, Forestry and Natural Resources (Tickets Required)
11:45 a.m.–1:15 p.m.	Ag Pipeline Alliance Luncheon –(Tickets Required)



Saturday, July 11 cont.

1:30–4:30 p.m.	<p>Super Seminars</p> <p>#1 Using Drones in Crop Production and Pest Management</p> <p>#2 From Farm Bill to Front Porch: Turning Policy into Practical Guidance for Every Clientele Group</p> <p>#3 Native Plant Master - How Colorado Works with Native Plants</p> <p>#4 Introduction to Beekeeping for the Cooperative Extension Agent</p> <p>#5 Sound Advice: How to Start and Grow an Extension Podcast</p>
4–5:30 p.m.	NACAA Board Reception
4:30–6 p.m.	Formal Picture Opportunity
5:30–6:30 p.m.	DSA & AA Recipients, Hall of Fame Recipients, NACAA Board Members, Region Directors, Past Officers, Special Assignments, Special Guests, Council Chairs, Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs Assemble for Banquet
6:30–9 p.m.	Annual Banquet (Tickets Required)
9:15–11 p.m.	President’s Reception
10 p.m.	Colorado Meeting

Sunday, July 12

Tour Day (on-site registration closed)

6:30–8:05 a.m.	Breakfast (Tickets Required)
6:30–9 a.m.	Assemble for Professional Improvement Tours
6:30 a.m.–5 p.m.	Professional Improvement Tours (Tickets Required)
4:45 p.m.	Shuttle buses leave hotel for Colorado Farewell Dinner for non- tour participants.
5–7 p.m.	Farewell Dinner
10 p.m.	Colorado Meeting

Monday, July 13

8 a.m.–5 p.m.	NACAA Board Meeting
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