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Profits Bringing Young People Back to Farms

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa (AP) - Agriculture officials say an increase in corn and soybean profit is bringing young Iowans and Nebraskans back to the farm.

Charles Wiiest, market president of the Nebraska-based Arbor Bank, says young people are now more likely to start their own farm or join their family's farming business. Wiiest credits this influx to improved profitability in the agriculture industry in recent years.

Corn currently can bring in up to \$4 per bushel and soybeans \$10 per bushel. Wiiest says these numbers show significant profit growth from when he graduated college in the late 1990s.

Wiiest says expanding career opportunities in the agriculture industry has also attracted the younger generation. He says chemists and veterinarians are among new careers in high demand.

Associated Press