

**701—71.3 (421,428,441) Valuation of agricultural real estate.** Agricultural real estate shall be assessed at its actual value as defined in Iowa Code section 441.21 by giving exclusive consideration to its productivity and net earning capacity. In determining the actual value of agricultural real estate, city and county assessors shall use the Iowa Real Property Appraisal Manual and any other guidelines issued by the department of revenue pursuant to Iowa Code section 421.17(18).

**71.3(1) Productivity.**

*a.* In determining the productivity and net earning capacity of agricultural real estate, the assessor shall also use available data from Iowa State University, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA), the Iowa department of revenue, or other reliable sources. The assessor shall also consider the results of a modern soil survey, if completed. The assessor shall determine the actual valuation of agricultural real estate within the assessing jurisdiction and distribute such valuation throughout the jurisdiction so that each parcel of real estate is assessed at its actual value as defined in Iowa Code section 441.21.

*b.* In distributing such valuation to each parcel under paragraph 71.3(1)“*a.*,” the assessor shall adjust non-cropland. The adjustment shall be applied to non-cropland with a corn suitability rating (CSR) that is greater than 50 percent of the average CSR for cropland for the county. The adjustment shall be determined for each county based upon the five-year average difference in cash rent between non-irrigated cropland and pasture land as published by NASS. The assessor may utilize the USDA FSA-published Common Land Unit digital data or other reliable sources in determining non-cropland. Counties shall implement the adjustments under this paragraph on or before the 2017 assessment year. The department of revenue may, in a case involving hardship, extend the implementation of the adjustments required under this paragraph to the 2019 assessment year. No extension of time shall be granted unless the county makes a written request to the department of revenue for such action.

*c.* A taxpayer may apply to the county for the adjustment to non-cropland under paragraph 71.3(1)“*b.*” beginning with the 2014 assessment and until the county’s full implementation of this subrule. Upon application, and subsequent approval by the assessor, the county assessor shall adjust non-cropland as provided in paragraph 71.3(1)“*b.*” Once a taxpayer applies for the adjustment, and upon approval, the assessor shall make the adjustment to the assessment year for which the application was submitted and until the county’s full implementation of this subrule, without the need to reapply for the adjustment.

*d.* **EXAMPLE.** The following is an example of the calculation used to compute adjustment on land determined to be non-cropland with a CSR that is greater than 50 percent of the average CSR for cropland for the county:

Average county CSR rating for cropland	80 CSR
50% of average cropland CSR	40 CSR
Example of non-cropland soil 11b CSR rating	58 CSR
Non-cropland CSR points to be adjusted	$58 - 40 = 18$ CSR points
5-year average rent for non-irrigated cropland	\$163.60
5-year average rent for pasture land	\$48.30
Percent difference (rounded)	$1 - (\$48.30/\$163.60) = 70\%$
Apply the percent difference to points to be adjusted	$18 \text{ CSR points} \times (1 - .70) = 5.40$ adjusted CSR points
Adjusted CSR non-cropland	$40 + 5.40 = 45.40$ adjusted CSR points

**71.3(2) Agricultural factor.** In order to determine a productivity value for agricultural buildings and structures, assessors must make an agricultural adjustment to the market value of these buildings and structures by developing an “agricultural factor” for the assessors’ jurisdictions. The agricultural factor for each jurisdiction is the product of the ratio of the productivity and net earning capacity

value per acre as determined under subrule 71.12(1) over the market value of agricultural land within the assessing jurisdiction. The resulting ratio is then applied to the actual value of the agricultural buildings and structures as determined under the Iowa Real Property Appraisal Manual prepared by the department. The agricultural factor must be applied uniformly to all agricultural buildings and structures in the assessing jurisdiction. As an example, if a building's actual value is \$500,000 and the agricultural factor is 30 percent, the productivity value of that building is \$150,000. See *H & R Partnership v. Davis County Board of Review*, 654 N.W.2d 521 (Iowa 2002). The 2007, 2008, and 2009 average of the market value of land will be used in determining the agricultural factor for assessment year 2011. A five-year market value average of land for years used to determine the productivity formula will be used to determine the agricultural factor for assessment year 2013 and subsequent assessment years.

**71.3(3) Classification.** Land classified as agricultural real estate includes the land beneath any dwelling and appurtenant structures located on that land and shall be valued by the assessor pursuant to rule 701—71.3(421,428,441). An assessor shall not value a part of the land as agricultural real estate and a part of the land as if it is residential real estate.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 421.17, 428.4 and 441.21.

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