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**LINCOLN SAVINGS BANK BECOMES GOLDEN GRADE SPONSOR TO AG  
STARTUP ENGINE**

**AMES, Iowa, December 3, 2020** – [Ag Startup Engine](#) (ASE), at the [Iowa State University \(ISU\) Research Park](#), announced that it is welcoming their Golden Grade Sponsor, [Lincoln Savings Bank](#), a full service bank serving the needs of Iowans since 1902.

The Ag Startup Engine effort was launched four years ago to help address two fundamental gaps that prevent agricultural startups and entrepreneurs from being more successful in Iowa: early, seed-stage investment and organized mentorship from renowned Iowan and Midwestern entrepreneurs.

“At Lincoln Savings Bank, our motto is to build small businesses and community dreams by making financial capital more accessible,” says LSB’s Government Guarantee Lending Manager Jason Walters. “And we do that by living out our core purpose of being an engaged life-long partner, helping our clients achieve their financial goals.”

“The Golden Grade Sponsorship supports the operational efforts of ASE while exclusively connecting our portfolio company founders to the sponsor,” said Joel Harris, co-director of ASE. “A struggle for any founder is finding sources of capital for strategic expansion or keeping up with purchase orders. I’m excited LSB has joined our network to help our portfolio companies find creative ways to acquire capital.”

Other sponsor levels are available including Silver Planter and Platinum Harvester. Ag Startup Engine is actively looking for agricultural startups to finance and accept into their program.

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