Funding the Future

Could Trump lose in the Corn Belt?

Published: August 25, 2026, 3:55 pm

I noticed this little gem in an FT newsletter this morning:

Farmers in America's Corn Belt say they are facing their worst crisis in 40 years, as an explosion in diesel and fertiliser costs triggered by Donald Trump's Iran war pushes grain producers to the brink.

The growing strains are the latest sign of how the conflict in the Middle East is reverberating through the US heartland ahead of crucial midterm elections in November that will determine control of Congress.

At the same time as Trump is, in effect, **declaring war on Canada because he thinks he'll get an easy win that will help him secure the midterm elections, he is alienating his core base amongst the Midwest farmers who have always, traditionally, been Republican.**

So, who knows what might happen? The likelihood that he might achieve this improbable outcome of turning the Corn Belt against him as a result of his wars against Iran and now Canada looks to be very real.

Those wars do not amuse me. This prospect does.