



Champaign County Farm Bureau News

Vol. 94, No. 8 801 N. Country Fair Drive, Suite A, Champaign, IL 61821 August, 2016

“Champaign County Farm Bureau will strive to assist families in agriculture by recognizing and responding to issues of concern while strengthening partnerships and improving farm family life for this and future generations.”

CCFB Director Demonstrates 4R’s of Nutrient Management on Farm

Commentary Submitted by Adam Watson



Adam Watson currently serves on the Champaign County Farm Bureau Board of Directors as the 1st Vice President and holds the seat for Crittenden Township. Watson has been experimenting with different management practices on their farms, specifically concentrating on the fundamentals of the 4R’s, which have been set by the Best Management Practices. Watson has also participated in the 4R’s video series, currently ongoing with the Land Use Committee and Champaign County Soil and Water Conservation District.

4R’s, Nutrient Stewardship, BMP, all 3 terms that we have learned about in meetings, or read about in FarmWeek magazine. All of us interpret them a little differently, but they all have one core mission; informing us to become more efficient with the fertilizer we use for the benefit of the environment and the bottom line of the producer. How does this affect your farm and what can we do to implement these strategies?

As the growing season approaches grain and pod fill, we are nearing the end of nutrient management for this crop. As we all know, the next growing season starts after the crop is harvested in the fall. Making decisions for next year’s fertilizer needs, and practices, are upon us. Do I use anhydrous this fall? Do I VRT my dry fertilizer? I wonder if that computer Nitrogen model I am using

is correct? Am I going to grid sample this year? Maybe I will just go back to all spring applied Nitrogen? All of these are questions we discuss on our own farm, and I think they are great ways to help implement many of the 4R’s.

Some of the practices we have started using to be better nutrient stewards starts with 4 year rotational soil tests. We like to soil test in the spring so that we can view the results in the summer to have a plan in place when the fall comes around. Staying consistent with spring testing has helped with the consistency of our plans.

Fall applied anhydrous is not a major part of our nitrogen program, yet we do use it. Last year we applied about ½ of the total Nitrogen in the fall on about 1/3 of our acres. Why only 1/3? For one, we selected fields that were system tiled, and it was a way to not put

all our eggs in one basket. The rest of the nitrogen on those fields had 2 more applications. Liquid 32% was applied at pre-plant with the residual herbicide and the other application was side-dress 32% at a V4-V8 growth stage. Yes, the extra application adds cost to the bottom line, but we are trying to spread out our nitrogen to be more efficient with it.

Dry fertilizer is one area we have changed within the last year. Some of our buildups were getting so high, we did not feel that applying all of the products in one year for a two year rotation was a good decision, so we started applying every acre every year. I feel it is a better way to build the fertilizer up and be more available to the crop. It cuts down applying higher rates and allows us to spread it over a couple years.

Side-dressing is another way that we have helped improve nitrogen efficiency. In 2009 we did some work with trials and saw results that year and have slowly implemented it across more acres every year. Weather is such a factor with nitrogen and

we feel side-dressing gives us another way to spread out the nitrogen.

Climate, Encirca, Data on Touch, N-Rec, your gut instinct, are all ways that we are using to determine the correct nitrogen amount on the farm. Is there a perfect one? I am not sure. But I am confident that they are all ways to help us understand nitrogen just a little more. There are so many companies out there trying to help the farmer apply less and get more out of nutrients and I think that is what we all want out of our nutrients.

This industry is fast moving and I feel like farmers are adapting at a rapid pace. Trying new things, learning from mistakes, utilizing professional resources and consciously making an effort to be stewards of this land is a great way to move forward in agriculture. 4 of the best ways to do this are to apply the Right Source, Right Rate, Right Time, Right Place. Those practices will help ensure success in nutrient stewardship.

It’s That Time Again

By: David Fulton



Above: The Karr Family is getting ready for “That Time Again” as Chris Karr approaches the hog calling contest at the Illinois State Fair

“Producing our Future”, this year’s Illinois State Fair theme, presents Chris Karr with a new challenge to incorporate into his hog calling routine.

At the end of the summer fair season, Illinois residents will be able to wrap their summer up with the Illinois State Fair. For Karr the tradition of hog calling will once again take place this year on the Lincoln Stage. “It’s a dying art”, said Karr reflecting on his past

memories of calling hogs in the pasture with his dad; they did come though, he noted. Karr grew up near Seymour showing pigs in 4-H at the Champaign County Fair starting in 1960.

Karr believes that animals are naturally responding when called. “Animals respond to voice command”, said Karr. He explained that calling hogs is similar when talking to pets; they need someone to feed and care for them, so when they hear their caretaker’s voice, they come. Karr said the competition really falls to the crowd, “I have to get the crowd into the call, they make it successful”. Karr mentioned that this a calling contest, not a skit, but Karr has utilized a skit to complete his hog calls.

“This is a form of entertainment for people to come see at the State Fair, I enjoy competing and meeting neat people through the event.” Karr has participated in this competition for 24 years and has won 10 times.

The contest (husband and hog calling) this year will be at the Lincoln Stage Sunday, August 14, 2016 3:30 PM.

AG Summer Camp Thank you

Champaign County Farm Bureau Staff thanks all volunteers who worked with the Douglas Center and the Leonhard Center. Consumer outreach is a part of our mission with the Farm Bureau and we would not achieve our goals without volunteers like you, thank you.



July Recap

President, Chris Murray

As we finish the month of July, time has flown by as I try to stop and think about all the things going on around the county; the livestock farmers and 4-H kids making the circuit around to the local fairs battling the heat. On the grain side, there was a fear that the rains would stop coming as we got into that stretch of upper 90's and how that would affect our crop. We did get through that period along with a lot of areas as they have received some very timely rains. I have seen a lot of the area, from some aerial pictures, and I'm not seeing the holes out there even wet holes that you usually see out there nine out of ten years. I think we have a lot to be thankful for in our area as we turn the page and look towards fall.

Farm Bureau doesn't stop either. We had lots of meetings trying to figure out how we can serve our membership and community to the best of our abilities. We fed 800 people in a meal at Mahomet IGA for \$.25 each representing the amount a farmers gets for \$1 of product. It was amazing to see their faces as they lined up for pork chops. We did sneak in some ag facts for them to take home and learn how local farmers make a big difference in their communities.

At the end of the month I went over to Illinois Farm Bureau and sat down with the new presidents and we learned about all of the pieces that go together to make our state organization not only one of the strongest in the Midwest, but in the whole country. There was a lot of discussion about the similarities like production agriculture, Farm Bureau has changed rapidly over the last ten years. Farm Bureau is trying to move with the changes and move the direction with the farm and grow within it's evolving world. It is amazing the amount of quality people we have working behind the scenes that make everything run smoothly.

In closing, it is important for us to not take these resources for granted. We are a small portion of people in the population. I am making it a point of emphasis for us to work together with the state organization when they have a call-to-action. We can't make the assumption our neighbor will call and ask ourselves, "why do I need to make the call?" We need to pick up the phone and make the call ourselves. Other organizations are blowing our numbers out of the water - it's a two minute call that makes a big difference. I look forward to seeing a lot of you coming up this month as we travel around the county for our toolshed meetings. It's a great opportunity to hear from Mark Gebhardt and other experts on local, state and national points of interest that could be affecting your operations in the future.

Best Wishes,
Chris Murray

“Check Your Calendar!” August

10	Deadline for ALOYTT	4:30AM
11	Prime Timers	10:00AM
11	Land Use	6:30PM
16	Legislative	7:30AM
18	Full Board	7:00PM
21	ALOYTT - THE RIBEYE	6:00PM
22	Toolshed Meetings	ALL DAY
25	Legislative Reception	4:30PM
26	Land Use Discussion	8:00AM
27	Tractor Drive	10:00AM
29 & 31	Women's Committee Tech Class/RSVP Required	6:30PM
There will be a night for android and idevices - stay tuned with Friday Leader		
30	Sewing at Pat Smith's	9:00AM

September

1	Young Ag Leaders	6:30PM
5	Office Closed - Labor Day	
8	Prime Timers	10:00AM
12	Women's Committee- Hyvee Trip	9:30AM
13	Legislative Meeting	7:30AM
13	Marketing FALL OUTLOOK	7:00PM
15	Full Board	7:00PM
Different Scheduling has been made due to Labor Day		

Have you been responding the FB Act requests regarding the Roberts/Stabenow GMO Food Labeling Bill, S.764? If so, CCFB thanks you and would like to educate everyone on the facts and importance of calling your legislator.

Roberts/Stabenow GMO Food Labeling Bill...what is it?

According to the Illinois Farm Bureau, this bill is “far from perfect, the bill protects interstate commerce by setting national definitions and standards that will prevent a nightmarish and costly state-by-state patchwork of mandatory GMO food labeling laws. Just as important, this bill will protect American families from needlessly spending hundreds more of their hard earned dollars each year on groceries. The bill directs USDA to set up a mandatory on-package disclosure process that will allow any consumer to know exactly what’s in his or her food, if they so choose. The bill also contains a strong, narrow definition of bioengineering for labelling purposes that will protect future new breeding techniques from being stigmatized as “GMO.”

With Vermont’s mandatory labeling law looming, Farm Bureau joins with many other Illinois agricultural groups and companies to strongly encourage you to help move this long overdue bill through the U.S. Senate.”

Here are the FACTS:

- It's settled science. GMO's are safe to eat.
- The bipartisan Senate labeling bill blocks Vermont's law and stops any other state from passing its own mandatory labeling law.
- The bill keeps labels off of meat or dairy products produced from GMO-fed animals.
- The Senate bill gives USDA – not FDA – the authority to determine what on-package disclosure will look like.
- The Senate bill protects future plant breeding techniques from being stigmatized as GMO.
- The Senate bill saves the average consumer hundreds of dollars per year at the grocery store.

MYTH VS. FACT brought to you by Coalition for Safe Affordable Food

Myth: The proposal proffered by Senators Pat Roberts and Debbie Stabenow is full of loopholes for disclosure, the definition of bioengineering leaves some products out and the legislation would exclude virtually all the GMO products on the market now.

Fact: The bill closes the giant loophole the Vermont law created. It requires disclosure on 24,000 more products than the Vermont law. All GMO food crops on the market are captured by the definition. According to the USDA, the only agency implementing and enforcing the GMO labeling rules, this authority would include all traditional gene modification products, which have come through the USDA approval process, such as GMO corn, soybeans, sugar and canola products on the market today, as well as products developed using gene editing techniques.

Myth: The use of preemption in the legislation is broader than that GMO labeling of food and seed.

Fact: The bill provides immediate preemption over state GMO labeling laws, preventing a patchwork of state/local GMO labeling standards that threaten farmers’ access to agriculture technology, consumer access to safe and affordable foods, and the nation’s ability to meet growing global food demand. Preemption is expressly limited by the plain language in the bill to “any requirement related to the labeling of whether a food or seed is genetically engineered.”

States would have the ability to establish state disclosure requirements that are identical to the federal standard established by USDA. No other state laws are preempted. State and local consumer protection laws, seed standard laws, biotechnology crop cultivation laws and other similar issues are not impacted.

Myth: There is no authority for the USDA to recall products improperly labeled and there are no fines or other punishments for violators.

Fact: While USDA would be prohibited from recalling products, the agency maintains other enforcement options. First, USDA has authority to audit any company that mislabels a food product or does not otherwise comply with the GMO disclosure requirements and subsequently hold them publicly accountable. Second, USDA would have the ability to disclose in a public manner any company that fails to comply with the disclosure requirements. Third, state and federal consumer protection laws are preserved. In addition, FDA and the FTC would retain existing authority to regulate “truthful and misleading” claims on the labels, websites and advertising. Finally, states have the ability to enact an identical state GMO labeling law, which can provide additional enforcement authority if desired.

WILL Radio - AM 580 Fall Outlook Meeting Tuesday, September 13th

(one week later than normal due to the Labor Day holiday)

7:00PM

Champaign County Farm Bureau Auditorium

What's New in Agriculture at Parkland?

As our students return for the fall semester, we have some internal changes taking place in the agriculture department at Parkland. Bruce Henrikson and Don Bergfield have retired after faithfully serving over a combined 50 years with the agriculture department. We are thankful for those years of service and dedication to our students and to the community of agriculture. John Kennedy once quoted "Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future." As we embark on these changes we want to remind you the future is bright at Parkland in agriculture. We have dedicated faculty and staff that want to continue to build and carry on the traditions of the program. Some faces have changed as well as our department name but our dedication continues.

Agriculture/Engineering Science & Technology Department
Jim Mansfield, Department Chair – jmansfield@parkland.edu
Jenni Fridgen, Agriculture Program Director and Instructor of Precision Ag – jfridgen@parkland.edu
Ryan Robb, Professor of Agriculture – rrobb@parkland.edu
Kaizad Irani, Horticulture Program Director and Professor of Landscape Design – kirani@parkland.edu
Theresa Meers, Associate Professor of Horticulture and Greenhouse Manager – tmeers@parkland.edu

News to Share:

Parkland has received \$200,000 NSF grant for the PACE (Precision Ag Curriculum Enhancement) Project. The

3-year project consists of 1) expanding Parkland's precision ag curriculum to align with industry needs; 2) expanding precision ag education opportunities at high schools; and 3) updating agreements between Parkland and 4-year universities for precision ag. Parkland offers the only Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S) degree in Precision Agriculture in the state.

- Parkland will be offering this fall its first precision agriculture course (AGB 110) for high school seniors.
- o Helena Chemical Company has provided \$2500 and Monsanto

Company has provided \$2000 in student awards for AGB 110 this fall.

- o Each student will receive \$100 award toward tuition upon enrollment in AGB 110 and completion of award application.

GROWMARK provided the opportunity for 10 Parkland agriculture students to take the CCA (Certified Crop Advisor) exam this past spring. GROWMARK provides community college funding to support student development opportunities and Parkland was a proud recipient of \$1000 to help cover the cost of the students' exam fees. As part of our commitment of preparing students for agriculture careers, Parkland will continue to provide the opportunity for the agriculture students to take the CCA exam each year.

Parkland Horticulture has a new program name: Horticulture: Landscape and Urban Horticulture

Our name has changed to reflect the growth of our program which includes the introduction of our first Sustainable Urban Horticulture course to be offered in Spring of 2017. The new course will focus on food crops as well as sustainable practices in turf and landscape. A new sustainable garden plot has been started to serve as a teaching laboratory.

As the semester begins, we will have more things to share on what's new in agriculture at Parkland. Our students/department is active in PAS (Postsecondary Agriculture Student Organization), Ag Club, assisting with local high school FFA plots, internships, and the list goes on. We appreciate your continued support and please feel free to reach out to our new department chair or faculty at any time.

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ILLINOIS FARM BUREAU
Farm. Family. Food.™

TO LEARN MORE: VISIT WWW.ILFB.ORG/MEMBER

Toolshed Meetings

Put the Farm Bureau to work on issues important to you!

The Champaign County Farm Bureau is hosting a series of Summer Toolshed Meetings on **Monday, August 22, 2016.**

The special guest at each meeting is
Mark Gebhards— Illinois Farm Bureau
Executive Director of Governmental Affairs and Commodities

- **8:30 a.m.**— Derek Harm's Farm
Donuts, juice & coffee will be provided.
address: **2223 CR 2200 N
St. Joseph, IL 618**
- **11:30 a.m.**— Ken Dalenberg's Farm
Lunch will be served.
address: **3014 N 1500 East Rd
Mansfield, IL 61854**
- **3:00 p.m.**— Steve Hettinger's, Sidney Dairy Barn ice cream will be available.
address: **440 CR 1700 E
Philo, IL 61864**

Issues to be covered:

- State and National legislative post-election outlook
- 2018 Farm Bill
- Regulatory issues present, future & reform opportunities
- Election implications for agriculture
- **YOUR CONCERNS**

Champaign County Farm Bureau Tractor Drive & Family Picnic

Saturday, August 27, 2016

Parkland Community College, Champaign IL

Schedule of Events

10 a.m. Tractor Drive leaves The Andersons,
3525 CR 800 E, Champaign (Staley Road)

11 a.m. Tractors arrive at Parkland College

11 a.m.—1 p.m. Family Picnic at Tony Noel Center-
Parkland College

1 p.m. Tractor Drive leaves picnic and travels to The Andersons

FUN for the entire family! Tractors of all makes and models will travel to Parkland College and stop for a family picnic. Tractors will be on display, lunch will be served, and there will be events for everyone to enjoy!

Tractors will travel Staley Road to Bradley Avenue to Parkland College.

Tractor Drive Registration
\$20 by August 17/\$25 after Deadline

Includes CCFB Commemorative Microfiber Towel/1 Lunch Ticket

Family Picnic Lunch Tickets

Adults \$8
Children 12 & under \$5


Advance purchase required by August 17, 2016

More info contact CCFB 217-352-5235

Champaign County Farm Bureau
801 N. Country Fair Dr
Champaign IL 61821
217-352-5235

www.ccfarmbureau.com





The Ribeye

The Great One Steak Place
1701 S. Neil Street
Champaign, IL 61820

Agriculture Leaders of Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow: ALOYTT invites YOU to:

Dinner at The Ribeye
(dutch treat!)

Sunday, August 21st
6 p.m.

Reservations Required by: Wednesday, August 10
Call 352-5235 to RSVP and plan to JOIN US for a GREAT MEAL and an evening of FUN!

RSVP is Necessary



KIRK BULTA
Executive Director



MYLA MUNRO
Earth Partners Coordinator

CCFBBFOUNDATION.COM



/CCFBBFOUNDATION



/CCFB_FOUNDATION

CCFB Foundation Golf Outing

Brought to you by



Champaign Agency

Tuesday, August 23, 2016

Four Person Scramble

8:00 AM Shotgun Start

Stone Creek Golf Club



FAST PASS

\$30

- 3 putts in Putting Contest
- 3 chipping contest attempts
- 2 free mulligans (*used on greens only*)
- Double your money in \$10 Contest bets



FORMERLY

THE BEN LOUIS OPEN

AWARDS LUNCHEON

PROVIDED BY:



Sponsorships Still Available

Tee Sponsorship

\$250

Register A Foursome

\$400
\$100/Golfer

Register for our 2016 Golf Outing at: www.CCFBBFOUNDATION.com

2016-2017 Classroom Grants Open for Application

Each year the Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom program and the IAA Foundation, along with the Illinois Farm Bureau offer several classroom grants to Illinois teachers. Champaign County pre-school through high school teachers are urged to apply for these classroom grants to fund projects that will incorporate new and exciting agriculture related topics into their existing classrooms. Additionally, six other special book grants are available for teachers to easily incorporate lessons tied to the Common Core Learning Standards, into their existing Language Arts and Social Studies curriculum. These book grants offer a wide variety of resources from pollinators to soil and water stewardship and much more. “Our teacher grants are an added bonus for teachers looking to incorporate new and creative ideas into their classrooms during these financially challenging, school funding times,” said Kevin Daugherty, Education Director Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom. These grants have provided

teachers with a wonderful opportunity for their students to learn more about agriculture and where their food comes from. The 2016 Earth Partners’ Educator of the Year, Mary Coash, a Westview Elementary kindergarten teacher is a past grant recipient and knows the value of the resources provided by Earth Partners and Illinois Ag in the Classroom. In the spring of 2015, Mrs. Coash obtained an Earth Box container garden box from the Illinois Ag in the Classroom grant. Her class planted lettuce, spinach, radishes and onions and all 24 students enjoyed it as an afternoon snack before school concluded for the summer. Last fall, Mrs. Coash again used her Earth Box and the class planted cherry tomato plants. The students planted, watered, harvested and prepared their crops. “They loved watching the plants grow and especially seeing the tomatoes turn red. We also learned about the cold temperatures and watched the weather forecast for frost. The boys and girls took pride in their crops and would

show them off to family members.” The 2016-17 Teacher Grant Applications can be found at www.agintheclasseom.org, under Teacher Resources. Local teachers may contact Myla Munro at the Champaign County Farm Bureau Foundation for ideas and

assistance in applying for these grants. Additionally, the Earth Partners Ag Literacy program also offers a variety of lessons and activities that teachers can incorporate into their current curriculum. To learn more about the Earth Partners program and agricultural education resources available visit: <http://www.earthpartners.org>

Henry American Farmer Tribute Gun Raffle



.22 caliber Farmer Tribute Edition Rifle
Tickets \$20 each - ONLY 100 SOLD!
Sponsored by Freedom Firearms, Rantoul.
Visit the CCFB or Freedom Firearms to buy your tickets.



Vann Parkin
COUNTRY Financial
Agency Manager



FINANCIAL
AUTO | HOME | LIFE | BUSINESS | RETIREMENT



Marcia Woolcott
COUNTRY Financial
Agency Assistant
352-0012

Welcome New COUNTRY Financial Representative - Dan Punkay.

Dan Punkay has recently joined COUNTRY after 14 years of owning DWP Golf World in Champaign, IL. Dan says “In that time, I built a foundation of trust and the ability to advise others based on their needs. It is important to me that you and your family are protected for all of life’s expected and unexpected events.” Dan is a native of Champaign, moving to California after high school. Dan earned his degree from The College of the Desert in Palm Desert, CA in golf and business management. Dan and his wife, Timmie, have been married since May of 1994 and have 3 children. Addison and Pryce are 14 year old twins and Bailey is 9 years old. Dan and Timmie are very active with their children and Timmie is the owner of a home based business, Tees for Doll and Me. Dan’s office is currently located at 1717 S. Philo Rd, Suite 15A, Urbana, IL. He is also available by calling his office at 217- 328-0023.



Scott Jackson
217-359-9335



Terry Hill
217-469-9800



Bret Kroencke
217-359-9391



Steve Derry
217-352-2655



Jessie DeHaan
217-352-3466

HIT THE ROAD FOR A WORRY-FREE VACATION
Tips for keeping your home safe while you’re away

Your bags are packed and you’re ready to go, but before you head out, make sure your house is ready too. COUNTRY Financial® wants you to be aware of what you can do in advance to guard your home so you won’t have to worry when your family is away traveling. “July is a peak travel time for vacationers and burglars know it,” said Eric Vanasdale, senior loss control representative of COUNTRY Financial. “In fact, some reports say the highest percentage of burglaries happen in summer months. That’s why when planning your next vacation, you may consider doing your best to protect your home before you head out.”

Here’s how:

The United States Department of State (USDS) recommends not hiding your spare house keys under a rock, but instead, giving them to a trusted friend, neighbor, or family member who can also pick up your mail in your absence.

Other ways to ensure your home’s safety:

- Ensure all entrances and windows are securely locked and dead bolted
- Set lights on a timer so they light up in the evening
- Make sure neighbors know your schedule so they can watch for suspicious activity
- If it is a long vacation, hire someone or a company to mow your lawn
- Consider getting a home security system

Another way you can throw off potential burglars is waiting to post vacation pictures to social media after returning home from vacation rather than throughout your trip. “It’s best not to publicize that your family is away. Wait until you return home to post photos and messages about your trip on social media,” said Vanasdale. “This could help minimize the number of people who know you’re not home and it could keep it from becoming a target.”

The USDS also suggests to ask a neighbor to park their car in your driveway, lock up all valuables and ensure all personal and home insurance policies are up-to-date.

For more safety tips, check out our COUNTRY Financial Security Blog and follow us on Twitter @helloCOUNTRY.



Chuck Rippy
217-586-5030



Austin Beaty
217-352-0012



Dan Duitsman
217-469-2033



Jim Nelson
217-892-4479



John May
217-352-3341



Stan Ochs
217-352-3296



Travis Heath
217-688-2900



Chris Greenwold
217-355-8675



Keith Garrett
217-485-3010



Nathan Hubbard
217-892-4479



a division of GROWMARK, Inc.



MARK THORNSBROUGH,
GENERAL MANAGER

Equity Redemption Policy Returns \$4.25 Million

[Letter Sent to Stock Holder’s on behalf of Mark Thornsborough]

The founding fathers of Illini FS and its predecessor companies had a vision of a cooperative business that would provide ample supply of products to the farmers in our trade territory. They also wanted to ensure that the cooperative would be successful and provide a return to the owner/ patrons of the cooperative. Agriculture has and will continue to see many changes from generation to generation but the longevity of this cooperative and the ability of this company to share back the earnings through patronage continues’ to be a core foundation. At the April board meeting, the Illini FS Operating Board approved a revised Equity Redemption Policy. This policy will retire all outstanding patronage stock through 2006. This redemption program will return over \$4.25 million dollars of cash to the owner members of Illini FS. It will also meet the objective of keeping all future outstanding stock in the possession of patrons to ten years or less. On behalf of the operating board and employees of Illini FS I want to thank you for your support and our goal is to continue to earn your business in the future.

Regards,

Mark J Thornsborough
General Manager

Illini FS Energy – Here for You!

By: Lesley Gooding

Meet Chris Olson, Illini FS Energy Marketing Manager! Chris is ready to help you meet all your Energy needs for your operation. Illini FS has a full line of refined and renewable fuels, quality lubricants, accessible retail fueling sites, and a very dependable staff focused on its customers.

CCFB: How are current Illini FS customers preparing for fall fuel usage? Are they contracting most of their fuel, a little bit? What trends are you seeing?

Chris Olson: “With the current fuel market holding steady, we have really seen a shift of our customers not contracting for full usage, but rather layering in 15-20% of their usage. Fuel prices may drop more, but the market usually finds resistance and fights back.”

CCFB: Tell us a little bit about the Energy Department

Chris Olson: “There are 23 employees in our department covering the 5 Illini FS counties. We have 14 full-time sales people. If you are out in the Illini FS territory you will see 16 fuel trucks on the road plus we have 4 spare trucks, but 2 of the 4 spares are being used every day.”

Special pricing/ incentives for Illini FS customers?

- Illini FS has an OIL SALE going on now through the end of August...All FS Oils 50% off.
- Illini FS will now contract fuel through Illini FS fuel stations/Fast Stops. This is ONLY at the six stations owned by Illini FS!
- Fall Fill Deferred – Fill your tanks NOW and don’t pay until November 25th. Take advantage of current prices!



Apply now for the FUEL 24 Card!

Today, nothing affects your bottom line more than rising fuel costs. Whether you track fuel purchases of your employees or your household, take charge with the FUEL 24 Card!

The FUEL 24 Card eliminates the need for cash or additional credit cards. You’ll receive one easy-to-read statement, detailing every purchase. We want to make it easier to concentrate on your business and your household, not your fuel budget. Contact Illini FS today to get started.

Endure Pollinator Habitat Program

FS Farmtown is taking part in Growmark’s ENDURE program aimed at supporting pollinator populations, including honeybees. GROWMARK donated and distributed 10 lbs of GreenYard™ Honey Bee Wildflower Mix to FS Farmtown. Check out the FS Farmtown Pollinator Habitat located on High Cross Road in Urbana.



Why does FS Farmtown believe in helping save our pollinators and building places pollinators can thrive?

- Pollinator populations in the U.S. have fallen for decades.
- Pollinators contribute significantly to the sustainability of food production systems, the health of our environment, and economic vitality of agriculture.
- No single factor is causing the decline.
- The Illini FS plot will provide another healthy habitat from which local bee colonies and other pollinators can forage.
- To raise awareness to the importance of protecting pollinators.



**Enjoy the end of summer with Prime Timers
on August 11 starting at 10 a.m.**

Program:

Luke Allen - Cranberry Bogs

Music by:

Chrissy Sparks



Ken Roellig, Prime Timers Chairman

- Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month

- Cost is \$8 to attend

- Call 352-5235 ahead of each meeting to reserve your spot

Mark your calendar - Don't miss a single Prime Timer date!

Prime Timers 2016:

September 8 - Speaker -Cassandra Wilcoxon

Research on Wildlife / Music - Marvin Lee

October 13

November 10

New Benefit:

Illini Contractor's Supply offering members a FREE Milwaukee Bit Kit with any purchase of \$100 or more. Store Location is 706 W Bradley Ave, Champaign.

Did You Order Peaches?

Look for a post card in the next couple of weeks to give you details and information on pick up! The Peaches will once again be delivered to the Champaign County Farm Bureau. We appreciate your support of the peach sale.

**RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP ONLINE!**

CCFB members can now go to www.ccfarmbureau.com and click on MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL to pay their dues 24-hours-a-day! Please note that this is ONLY for "renewals." If the membership is new, delinquent or a reinstating member, you'll need to contact the office to pay by credit or debit card.

**The CCFB Membership
Benefit List!**

All you have to do is

SHOW YOUR

FARM BUREAU

MEMBER CARD

at time of purchase

to get the discounts!

Need more information?

Call Deidra Ochs at

217-352-5235 or go to:

www.ccfarmbureau.com

**Champaign County Farm Bureau Christmas in Branson
November 17 - 20**

Kick off your Holiday season in Branson with a 4/day, 3/night Holiday trip.

Day #1 - Thursday, November 17:

You will depart Champaign at 7:30 a.m. We will make a stop for lunch * and then stop at Russel Stover's Outlet and St. James Winery on the way to Branson. You will arrive at the Grand Country Inn around 4:00 p.m. where you will check in and have a dinner buffet* at the hotel before going to the Grand Country Jubilee show.*

Day #2 - Friday, November 18:

You will start the day with breakfast* at the hotel and followed by a morning show with Doug Gavriel.* After lunch* you will see the Texas Tenors.* You will enjoy Dinner at Pasghetti's Italian Restaurant* before going to see Moses at Sight and Sound.*

Day #3 - Saturday, November 19:

Breakfast* at the hotel and then you will have the morning and lunch (on your own) to yourself to do some shopping or go down to Old Town Branson or Branson Landing, visit another winery or just spend time visiting before the Daniel O'Donnell show* and Dinner at Jackie B Good's* and then the Duttons show.*

Day #4 - Sunday, November 20:

Before traveling home you will have breakfast* at the hotel and Church ; with a couple of rest stops and lunch stop.

Cost per person: Dbl-\$625 Deadline: September 15, 2016

Tour includes: Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation, Professional Driver, Hotel Accommodations, Luggage Handling, 8 meals and 6 shows. All attractions and meals in bold print and marked with an asterisk*

**CHAMPAIGN COUNTY
FARM BUREAU NEWS**

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Contact us at (217) 352-5235
www.ccfarmbureau.com

Land Use Discussion

**Friday, August 26th
8:00 AM – 11:00 AM**

**Join us for a morning of updated
information on current issues
related to land use topics:**

- An overview of Illinois Farm Bureau's policy pertaining to hot-button land use issues.
- A report on the economic benefit of Agriculture to Champaign County
- The Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy, what's being done and what needs to be done to meet our goals.
- Different practices to efficiently reuse grey water and it's practicality in East-Central Illinois.

CCFARMBUREAU.COM



**Land Use
issues that
impact you!**



**Champaign
County Farm
Bureau
Auditorium**

• Four Presenters

- Kevin Rund, Illinois Farm Bureau
- Mike Doherty, Illinois Farm Bureau
- Howard Brown, Illini FS
- Rick Manner, Urbana & Champaign Sanitary District

**A Light
Breakfast Will
Be Provided!**

**This meeting
is open to all.**

BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- AG ELECTRIC
- AGRIBLE
- A & R ELECTRIC
- ALL ABOUT EYES
- ARROW AUTO GLASS
- BARBECK COMMUNICATIONS
- BARD OPTICAL
- BLOSSOM BASKET FLORIST
- C.A.R.'S AUTO DETAILING
- CHAMPAIGN CHRYSLER/DODGE/JEEP/RAM
- COLLETTE TRAVEL
- CONNECT HEARING
- COUNTRY SQUIRE CLEANERS
- CULVER'S
- DRIVEWAY CHIMES, OGDEN
- INTERSTATE BATTERIES
- GREEN PURPOSE
- FASTENAL, CHAMPAIGN
- THE FITNESS CENTER -FURNITURE WORLD OF RANTOUL
- GARBER'S CLEANERS
- GOOSE CREEK FIREARMS TRAINING
- HOUCHENS HEATING & A/C GROUP
- ILLINI CONTRACTOR'S SUPPLY
- ILLINI FS FARMTOWN/URBANA
- ILLINI HEARING
- NANCY'S CREATIONS
- NAPA AUTO PARTS
- NICK'S PORTERHOUSE OF PAINTS
- O'REILLY AUTO PARTS
- PARD'S WESTERN SHOP
- RAHN EQUIPMENT COMPANY
- RAINBOW INTERNATIONAL
- RANTOUL GOODYEAR TIRE CENTER
- RANTOUL PIZZA PUB
- REFINERY HEALTH CLUB
- ROSATI'S PIZZA & CATERING
- SAFELY FILED
- SERVICE MASTER
- SHOOTER'S BAR AND GRILL - RANTOUL
- RED WING SHOES
- SIDNEY DAIRY BARN
- SUNSINGER WINERY
- SULLIVAN-PARKHILL AUTOMOTIVE
- TICKETSATWORK.COM
- WYLDEWOOD CELLARS
- ZA'S RESTAURANT

***BENEFITS SUBJECT TO CHANGE
WITHOUT NOTICE***

Marketing Outlook

with Clayton Pope, Clayton Pope Commodities, LLC

As markets enter the critical month of August, the trade continues to be forced to consider the very real and increasingly likely specter of much higher than previously expected national yields. Virtually all spring and summer the ag media has focused on almost universal calls for damaging heat and possibly lower than normal rainfall. Now that July has passed and was in fact one of the wettest July's of the last century, and pretty much middle of the road in terms of average temperatures, most of the trade has had to recalibrate its thinking, and the effect on prices has been dramatic to say the least. With a later weekly crop condition ratings showing continued extremely favorable levels (76% good/excellent for corn and 72% for soybeans), coupled with still very large net fund longs in soybeans and a farmer population with increasing quantities of unsold bushels, it would appear the path of least resistance continues to be toward lower prices. While it's certainly not too late for a growing problem to appear, the window of opportunity for a problem of significance to appear is closing fast. Without such a problem surfacing, the downside price risk remains high. If national corn yields end up in the 172+ area, as many analysts are now suggesting is a possibility, we could be facing a stocks to usage ratio (looking at U.S. only) exceeding 17%. The USDA has not printed a year-end Supply/Demand table implying a stocks to usage ratio over 17.5% since 2005, and when one looks at the price levels in the pre-2006 era in the chart below, the corn market could be facing some challenging times.



2016 Weather Update:

Submitted by Eric Snodgrass, Agribile, INC.

Never before have I seen weather forecasts and changes in the weather drive the corn and bean markets as they have for this year. Here is a quick recap of where we are in the season.

- June 2016 was warmer than average for most of the Corn Belt. The first half of the month was very dry for many regions in IL, especially west of I57 and south of I80.
- A ridge developed over the Great Plains in mid-June bringing northwest flow over Illinois and Indiana, and with that pattern came a lot of thunderstorms.
- In early July, temperatures dropped into the low-70s for a few days and places that had gone nearly all of June without rain received several inches.
- Temperatures through the first 3 weeks of July stayed near average and at times cooler than average. By the time the heat wave developed in late July, most of the corn crop was well through pollination and the 100+F heat stayed in the western cornbelt.
- Overall, corn and soybean yields across the state and across the country look good. Some regions are stressed, but parts of central Illinois should have near record yields for both corn and soybeans.

August and Harvest Forecast:

July was the 3rd wettest July on record for Illinois and our records date back into the 1880s. August is climatologically is a drier month than July, but the weather patterns are shaping up to potentially deliver wetter than average conditions. As the Southwestern Monsoon season ramps up, the jet stream will have a tendency to form a ridge over the intermountain west. This pattern typically puts the Midwest into an upper-airflow pattern dominated by northwest flow. Here are the impacts.

- Higher than average probability of above average precipitation from repeated rounds of storms.
- Any heat that builds will likely only last for a few days as the upper-airflow pattern over the Midwest will be more transient. This means that any brief ridging events that do migrate east over Illinois will likely be followed by a trough that cools temperatures back down and prevents any crop stress.
- Most of the really hot temperatures will be kept in the southern Plains.

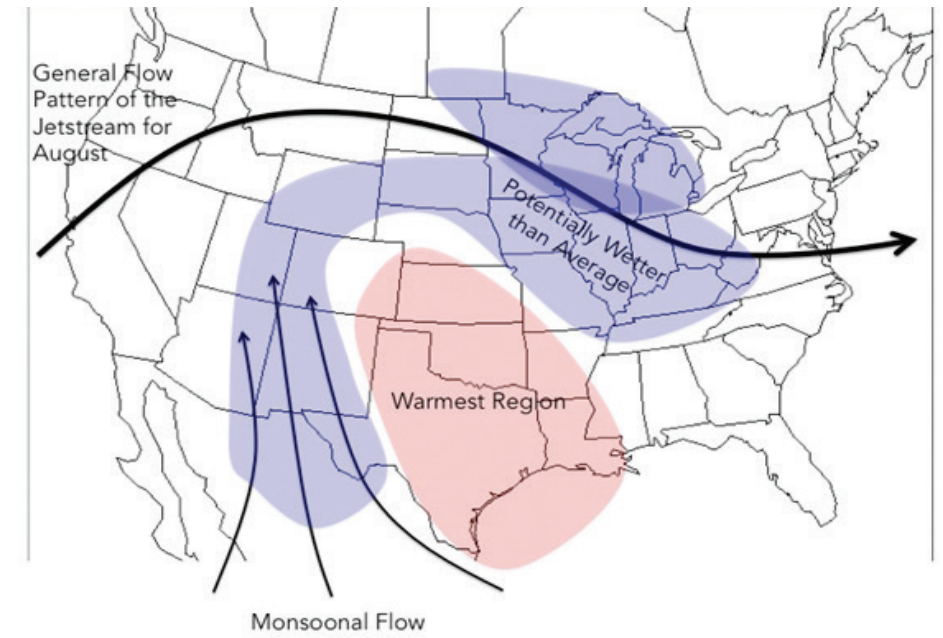


Figure 1. Weather outlook for August.

Beyond August, temperature forecasts for the Midwest remain near or slightly above average. Given that there is no large scale drought in the central Great Plains and that precipitation has been very regular for the last 45 days, there are no major indicators that September will be drier than average. One wildcard is the forecast for a return to average or potentially above average hurricane season. Gulf of Mexico sea surface temperatures are anomalously warm and wind shear is low. This creates the perfect environment for strengthening a tropical cyclone should one form there or enter from the east. If we get a surge of tropical moisture from a land falling hurricane or tropical storm, it could interfere with the dry down of the crop and prevent many from getting into their fields due to wet soils. Keep an eye on the tropics this Fall!

Farmer's Share Lunch

In July, there were approximately 800 meals served outside of the Mahomet IGA for .25 cents per meal.

Above Left: Shoppers line up outside of the Mahomet IGA on July 23rd to receive their meals, learn ag facts and take a recipe booklet home with them.

Bottom Left: Chris Karr talks to Brooks Marsh behind his Ford 8N A HUGE Thank You to Mahomet IGA and WIXY 99.1 for their support.