



Champaign County Farm Bureau News

Vol. 96, No. 7

801 N. Country Fair Drive, Suite A, Champaign, IL 61821

July, 2018

"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."

Getting to Know Champaign County Government

By: Lesley Gooding



Gordy Hulten

Meet Gordy Hulten, Champaign County Clerk

Gordy Hulten, a Troy, IL native, found a passion for political involvement at a young age and has made a career out of it. Gordy moved to Champaign County in 1997 to attend the University of Illinois. One of Gordy's first political jobs after graduation, working with Representative Rick Winkel on legislative and political issues, set him on the path to political involvement in Champaign County. Gordy served on the Champaign City Council for 10 months

before being appointed County Clerk in 2011. After being appointed, Gordy ran for reelection twice and has served in this position for 8 years.

The County Clerk's office employs 15 people and has an annual budget of approximately \$1 million per year. The County Clerk's office serves Champaign County in several ways including

1. Clerking for the county board - Record keeper for the county board meetings.
2. Property Tax Extension - Working with taxing districts to calculate property tax rates.
3. Vital Records - Birth certificates, death certificates, marriage certificates
4. Election Administration - Handles anything and everything to do with the election.

Gordy says his favorite part of the job is "working with a great team. We have fun coming up with new ideas that we implement in Champaign County. There is always something new in every election." Working with a great group of people

makes tackling the challenges that come with the office a little easier. "Elections are extremely high profile. Citizens have an enormous amount of paranoia around election administration. The County Clerk's office strives to educate folks as much as can. We are transparent and open with information. The County Clerk's office and elections are run by people who live and work here," says Gordy.

Over his eight years in office Gordy has seen big changes in election administration saying, "The biggest change I have seen is election day registration. Someone can now show up the day of the election and register to vote. This is enormously challenging to our volunteers and office. We have to ensure we have all the processes in place to verify the person's credentials. More big changes are starting July 1, 2018, with automatic voter registration. When a person interacts with a governmental agency, such as the DMV, they will automatically be registered to vote unless they request otherwise. This reduces the burden on the individual."

Gordy lives in Champaign with his wife Pam and their two children, Will and Cate. The family recently added their first dog, Denali, to the mix and all of them are looking forward to a fun summer vacation.

Fun Facts About Your County Clerk, Gordy Hulten...

Cubs or Cardinals?

San Francisco Giants! My dad grew up in the Bay Area and I inherited his love for Giants.

Favorite Dessert?

My wife makes an awesome pumpkin cheesecake. I get to eat this every year on my birthday!

Name one item on your bucket list...

Before I turn 50 I want to hike the John Muir Trail in the Sierra Nevada, 221 miles should take about 2 weeks.

Favorite childhood memory of agriculture?

As a child I spent my summer vacations hanging out with my mom's family on their corn, soybean, and dairy farm in central Wisconsin!

Congratulations, Sophia Hortin - IL State FFA President!

Congratulations to CCFB Foundation Scholarship recipient and Earth Partners volunteer Sophia Hortin who was elected to serve the 18,000 Illinois FFA Members as the 2018-2019 State FFA President!

Sophia Hortin, a 2018 graduate of Fisher High School, was recently elected 2018-2019 State FFA President at the state convention held in mid June. Hortin and the 2018-2019 team of officers is making history as the first all female State Officer Team in Illinois FFA history. Hortin says "We are dedicating our hearts to serving the FFA organization this year. We want to make a positive impact on as many students as possible!"

Sophia's journey toward running for state office began this past year while on chapter visits with some of the 2017-2018 state officers. "Chapter visits sparked my enthusiasm and helped me realize

I want to help agriculture students succeed in the future," says Hortin. Sophia was active with the Fisher FFA Chapter throughout her high school years, and held several offices with her local chapter and also served as Section 17 President and Reporter.

Sophia says she "loves attending the State FFA convention! It is amazing seeing all the FFA Chapters across Illinois being recognized for all they accomplished throughout the year." This year brought a new experience for Hortin who was running for state office. Being elected and installed as president on the same day meant Sophia hit the ground running. She immediately tackled her first state officer meeting and attended a conference in Decatur. The team of FFA officers will be on the road every week for their 2018-2019 terms with a couple of weeks off in December. Sophia says she is "embracing being



Sophia Hortin

bold to become a better leader!"

Sophia's parents, Mark and Shanna, are corn and soybean farmers in the Fisher area. After serving as State FFA President, Sophia plans to attend the University of Illinois.

July Report

President, Mike Briggs



As we near the end of June the majority of crops in the county are looking pretty good. We have had a very warm month but have also received some beneficial rains. The growing season is progressing quickly and hopefully Mother Nature will cooperate throughout pollination. There has been a fair amount of change at the farm bureau this summer. Bailey Edenburn started as Assistant Manager the beginning of the month and Myla Munro will be moving to the extension office. I would like to thank Myla for her work with Earth Partners and the Foundation and wish her well in new position. I will be meeting with the other county presidents in Bloomington at the end of July and look forward to that opportunity. I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable 4th of July holiday.

Sincerely,
Mike Briggs

Women's Committee

The Champaign County Farm Bureau Women's Committee is open to all women members of the Champaign County Farm Bureau. The women's committee meets every second Monday of the month (except May and October) at 9:30 a.m. with lunch to follow.

Next Meeting:
July 9th. 9:30 Meeting at CCFB Auditorium.
Lunch at Houlihan's following the meeting.

Save The Date – August 8 TOOLSHED MEETINGS

Featuring Special Guest

Mark Gebhards

**Illinois Farm Bureau Executive Director
of Governmental Affairs and Commodities**

Topics will include the latest agriculture issues related
to you and the organization.

Stay tuned for times and locations!

Register Now CDL Prep Course

July 14

There will be a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) prep course on Saturday, July 14, 2018 at 7:30 a.m. in the CCFB Auditorium. The class will cover general knowledge of CDLs: air brakes, combination vehicles, tankers, doubles and triples, passenger vehicles and hazardous materials.

A CDL is required to drive any of the following: any combination vehicle with a Gross Combination Weight Rating of 26,001 pounds or more, providing the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of the vehicle being towed is more than 10,000 pounds; any single vehicle with a GVWR of 26,001 pounds or more or any such vehicle towing another not in excess of 10,000 pounds; any vehicle designed to transport 15 or more people and any vehicle required by federal law to be placarded while transporting hazardous materials.

Farmers and farm employees are exempt if they do not drive a semi-trailer and are within 150 air miles of their homes..

Cost: \$50 for Farm Bureau members
\$55 for non-members.

Registration Form – CDL PREP COURSE

Send with payment to CCFB, 801 N Country Fair Dr., Champaign IL 61821
Registration Deadline – Monday, July 9, 2018

Name _____

Address _____

Drivers License # _____ Phone/Cell/Work _____

Check the test(s) which needs to be taken:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Knowledge | <input type="checkbox"/> Passenger Vehicles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Air Brakes | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous Materials |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Combination Vehicles | <input type="checkbox"/> Tankers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles/Triples | |

"Check Your Calendar!" July 2018

July 4	Holiday – Office Closed	
July 9	Women's Committee	9:30 a.m.
July 10	Premier Ladies Marketing	9:30 a.m.
July 12	Prime Timers	10 a.m.
July 12	Land Use	6:30 p.m.
July 14	CDL Training	
July 17	Legislative Committee	7:30 a.m.
July 19	CCFB Board Meeting	6:30 p.m.
July 26	YAL Kiddie Pedal Tractor Pull @ County Fair	3:00 p.m.
July 26	YAL Meeting @ El Toro, Urbana, IL	6:30 p.m.

August 2018

August 6	Marketing	
August 8	Toolshed Meetings	
August 9	Prime Timers	10 a.m.
August 9	Land Use	6:30 p.m.
August 13	Women's Committee	9:30 a.m.
August 14	Legislative Committee	7:30 a.m.
August 16	CCFB Full Board	6:30 p.m.
August 22	Women's Committee Compounding Pharmacy	6:30 p.m.
August 23	YAL Meeting @ Riggs Beer Company	6 p.m.
August 23	YAL New Member Recruitment @ Riggs Beer Company	6:30 p.m.

Young Ag Leader

New Member Recruitment Event

August 23rd, 6:30 - 8:30 pm, Riggs Beer Company

Pizza provided. Beer, yard games will be available. Come meet the current Young Ag Leaders, learn about our events, and get involved. Board members are encouraged to attend, mingle, and bring potential Young Ag Leader members. Event is open to potential members, new members, and current members.

Join the Prime Timers!
July 12 starting at 10 a.m.

Speaker: Paul Young

Topic: Finland

Entertainment: Chrissy Sparks



Gerald Henry, 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 for future meetings!**

Prime Timers 2018:
August 9
September 13
October 11



COMPOUNDING PHARMACY

FEATURING:

KATHY MUNDAY

AUGUST 22 @ 6:30

IN THE CCFB AUDITORIUM

RSVP TO THE CCFB OFFICE

Summer Market Outlook

Most of the U.S. corn and bean crop is off to a great start, with weekly crop ratings for most states at the highest levels ever for this time of year. As a result, corn prices have dropped 45 cents, going from the highest price of the year (\$4.29 December futures on May 24th) to the lowest price of the year (\$3.78 on June 15th) in just 3 weeks. Bean prices have dropped \$1.30 in that same time frame, going

BEGINNING STOCKS	2.1 bil. bushels
CORN PRODUCTION	+ 14.1 bil. bus.
(88 mil. acres x 91.7% harvested x 174 bpa)	
IMPORTS	+ 0.05 bil. bushels
TOTAL SUPPLY	14.615 bil. bushels

WHAT COULD CHANGE?

ACRES - On June 29th we will get the updated planting intentions report and the quarterly stocks report. Back in March, many traders were surprised that the acreage numbers were as low as they were (88 million acres for corn; 89 million acres for beans), and are thinking that USDA could increase bean acres in this report.

FEED USAGE - While the acreage report gets most of the attention, keep an eye on the quarterly stocks report. Feed usage could be increased in the July 12th S&D report, as a result of this June 29th stocks report.

ETHANOL USAGE - Ethanol usage is the biggest use for corn (5.675 billion bushels). Because of the political nature of the Renewable Fuels Standard, it is difficult to predict how this number will change.

EXPORTS - Weather problems in Brazil and Argentina - Brazil farmers plant 2 corn crops each year. The first crop (roughly 1/3 of their total) is planted in October and

has already been harvested. The second crop of corn (or the safrinha crop) is planted in February after the soybean harvest. Due to dry weather this year, the Brazilian corn crop could be as low as 3.3 billion bushels this year, compared to 3.8 billion bushels last year. As a result, U.S. corn exports could increase by 250 million bushels.

YIELD - USDA is using a 174 bpa national yield, which looks a little low today, based on today's excellent conditions. If the crop still looks good in July, USDA could add another 240 million bushels (3 bpa) to the supply side of the equation.

ETHANOL USE	5.675 bil. bushels
FEED USE	5.350 bil. bushels

FOOD & SEED USE	1.490 bil. bushels
EXPORTS	2.100 bil. bushels
16.2 bil. bushels	TOTAL DEMAND

BOTTOM LINE – The angst over the trade issues with China has caused prices to drop dramatically in June. If (and that is a big if) these issues can get resolved quickly, a 1.6 billion bushel carryout would seem to indicate that corn prices could regain some of their recent losses. Stay tuned.

Heritage FFA

By: Jada Davis, Heritage FFA Chapter Secretary

The end of the 2017-2018 school year was a busy one for the Heritage FFA Chapter. The last month saw many events take place, starting with the chapter's first annual Ag Day on May 11. Leading up to this event, the newly installed 2018-2019 officer team worked together planning for Ag Day. The day featured a petting zoo, tractors and other farm equipment, flower pot painting and potting, and the annual greenhouse plant sale. The petting zoo highlighted many animals including a mini pony, a calf, a lamb, chickens, ducks, pigs, pygmy goats, and a rabbit, all of which belonged to some of our chapter members. The elementary classes made their way down to the high school to check out the animals and plant flowers to take home for Mother's Day. All in all the event was a success.

On June 5, Nicole Cheatham, Ryan Cheatham, Jacob Dohme, Jack Benschneider, Gracyn Allen, Kyley Rothermel, Morgan Rothermel, and Autumn Walker helped out local farmer Jim Downs. Mr. Downs is retiring and the chapter members helped him clean up his farm equipment to get it ready for the auction. We really appreciated Mr. Downs providing us with the opportunity to help.

On June 12, the officer team and advisor, Mrs. Mohr, headed to Springfield for the 90th annual Illinois State Convention. They attended general sessions, went to the state dance, had dinner with other chapters in our section, and began planning for next year. During the opening session on June 12, they heard from National FFA Southern Region Vice President Ian Bennet. Later that evening, they had dinner with the Gibson City Melvin Sibley Chapter, and went to the state dance at the state fairgrounds. The next day the officer team split up and went to different workshops including, Teach Ag and Be the



Change. That afternoon they attended the fourth general session. At this session they heard from retiring Illinois State Secretary Dalton Painter, and the chapter received the Illinois Foundation FFA award. That evening the officer team worked together planning chapter events for the 2018-2019 school year. On June 14, the officers went to the fifth general session to see and participate in the election of the 2018-2019 State Officers. Nicole Cheatham and Caroline Dohme served as delegates during the session. Following the end of this session they packed their things and headed back to the high school.

The Heritage FFA Chapter had an eventful and successful year. We are hoping for an even better year to come. We enjoy our continued support from the community and look forward to more opportunities to be involved in in the future.

DONATE!!

The CCFB Women's Committee is taking donations of gently used backpacks at the CCFB Office

Backpacks are donated to the Eastern IL Foodbank



Kiddie Pedal Tractor Pulls

Bring the kids out to the Champaign County Fair and join us for an afternoon of tractors, laughs, and a little healthy competition.

Date: Thursday, July 26, 2018

Time: 3:00 PM

Location: Behind the Grandstands

Registration: 2:00 PM

(Early registration available in the fair office)

We will have 3 classes:

- 6 years old and younger
- 7-8 years old
- 9-10 years old



*Co-Sponsored by Champaign County Young Ag Leaders
& Champaign County Fair Association.*

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

FARM BUREAU SALUTES OUR VETERAN MEMBERS



Monday | Nov. 12 | 8 AM

801 N. COUNTRY FAIR DR.

CHAMPAIGN, IL

RSVP REQUIRED: (217) 352-5235

Veterans: The Champaign County Farm Bureau Women's Committee will be hosting a breakfast in your honor for your service and protection of our country and freedom. 50 Veterans will receive a specially designed Farm Bureau veteran hat as a token of our appreciation.





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KIRK BULTA
Executive Director



MYLA MUNRO
Earth Partners Coordinator

Local Teachers Discover Advances in Animal Agriculture

The 2018 Earth Partners' Summer Ag Institute was held from June 11-14 at Parkland College. Ten local teachers from six schools participated in this year's event, Advances in Animal Science. Over the course of the four day workshop they learned how farmers are raising animals with improved science and technology through hands-on activities, field trips and guest speakers.

The week began with Earth Partners Coordinator Myla Munro sharing some of her favorite animal science themed Illinois Ag in the Classroom (IAITC) lessons with the teachers. Workshop attendees ranged from Pre-School to High School teachers, so the group was introduced to the large cross-section of resources available to them through Illinois AITC and Earth Partners. Additionally, Illinois Ag in the Classroom Education Director, Kevin Daugherty, got the group thinking about how they might utilize IAITC lessons to celebrate the Illinois Bicentennial. Kevin brings lots of great ideas, literature and fun to the workshop and teachers are always inspired by the information he shares. Many of the AITC lessons are science based and through the use of technology like Smart Boards, QR Codes and online polling the teachers can create fun and exciting agriculture lessons that meet new Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards. The day concluded with a presentation by Champaign County 4-H staff, Kasey Sanders and Lauren Hadden. Kasey and Lauren created a lesson that got the group thinking about how animals, humans and our environment are intertwined and dependent on one another.

Tuesday morning the teachers had the opportunity to learn more about the educational resources from our Illinois commodity organizations. Representatives from Illinois Corn Growers, Illinois Soybean Association and the Midwest Dairy Association shared about each of their organizations, as well as informed teachers about the many resources they have to use in classrooms. The afternoon was spent on the University of Illinois campus. The first stop was to the Meat Science Laboratory. Graduate Advisor, Brandon Klehm, shared information about Meat Science program, the lab and how it is utilized by students and finally walked the group through the process of harvesting beef, pork and lamb. To conclude the day, Katie Gott, manager of the Poultry Research Fa-

cility gave a great tour of the chicken houses that are located at South Farms.

The group of teachers spent all of Wednesday learning firsthand from farmers about how they care for their cows and pigs. Fairbury dairy farmer, Jenna Kilgus of Kilgus Farmstead, showed the group around their family's operation. Jenna shared how they care for their Jersey cattle, as well as how the products in their farm store are created, marketed and sold to consumers. Kent Blunier or "Mr. Farm Hats", the originator of the Facebook group "Farm Hats", later met the group at one of his commercial hog houses. During the tour Kent explained why many farmers choose to raise their pigs inside and how technology and innovation has changed hog farming in the 21st century. Wednesday wrapped up after a stop at Jordan Acres. The Jordan family of Sibley, Illinois, welcomed the group on to their registered Shorthorn beef cattle farm. Amanda Jorden explained how their Cow-Calf operation differs from a commercial setting, which some of the past participants were familiar with after touring the feedlot of Wood and Wood in year's past. Amanda also explained why the family utilizes technology like artificial insemination and how it allows them to diversify the genetics within their herd of cattle.

On the fourth day of Summer Ag Institute, the group toured the Pollinarium at the University of Illinois. The Pollinarium is a science center that is devoted to pollinators and the flowering plants that they depend on. Director Lesley Deem shared that about one-third of the diet consumed by humans is a result of the pollinator-plant interaction. Additionally, Lesley and the teachers brainstormed about how they might continue to build on the connection of honey bees and agriculture in a classroom setting. The next stop was to visit CCFB Foundation board member, Dr. Alaina Kanfer, at the Institute for Genomic Biology (IGB). Dr. Kanfer introduced the group to the collaborative work being done by different colleges on campus. IGB is an interdisciplinary institute that uses team-based strategies to study life science challenges using emerging technology, innovation and research. To conclude our workshop, Haley Siergiej from Nutrients for Life shared lesson plans and activities with the teachers that will aid them in teaching about soil science, nutrients needed for plant growth and how American farmers are



Summer Ag Institute teachers visit the UIUC Pollinarium to learn how they might incorporate more lessons and activities about pollinators into their curriculum. Pictured from L-R: Tara Stegall (Gifford GS), Mary Sue Rothermel (Heritage GS), Jennifer Videka (Cissna Park Pre-K), Lori Archer (Heritage GS), Nick Ponder (Champaign -Bottenfield GS), Carly Shonkwiler (Heritage GS), Mandy Henricks (Milford HS), Allison Lowe (Heritage GS), Evin Bennett (Heritage GS) and Jennifer Kinsella (Bement GS)

helping to feed a growing population.

This year's Summer Ag Institute provided the participants with a wealth of knowledge about local and state-wide agriculture in a relatively short amount of time! In addition

to the new information gained, the teachers will also be liaisons between the Earth Partners program and their schools by bringing awareness to agriculture through events and activities during the school year.

Foundation Honors Scholarship Recipients

The CCFB Foundation recently announced an investment of \$61,000 in scholarship funds presented to Champaign County students. Since 1986, the Foundation has provided financial support to students pursuing a college degree in agriculture or a food-related field of study.

Jacob Felsman, 2018 recipient of the Thomas Hausman Memorial Scholarship enjoys lunch with Nancy Hausman at our recent scholarship banquet. Jacob is a recent graduate



of Unity High School and will attend the University of Illinois this fall.

Champaign County Farm Bureau Foundation Golf Outing



Monday, August 13
Lake of the Woods Golf Course
Lunch & Dinner provided by Farm Credit Illinois



SAVE THE DATE!

Register at www.ccfbfoundation.com



MARK THORNSBROUGH,
GENERAL MANAGER

We Are (Or Will Soon Be) Entering The Reproductive Stage Of Corn Growth

Tassel emergence ends the period of vegetative growth while silk emergence ushers in the reproductive phase. Tassel emergence is driven primarily by heat units, commonly referred to as Growing Degree Units (GDUs). Like vegetative growth, heat is the driving force. Regardless of soil moisture conditions or water stress, the tassel will emerge and pollen shed will commence. However, silk growth is quite different, controlled primarily by moisture rather than heat. It is possible for pollen shed to occur during hot, dry weather while silk emergence is delayed due to the same environment, resulting in poor pollination of the last embryos (last silks to emerge – Image 1). Any stress during pollen shed and pollination may have a significant impact on the amount of grain produced and harvest yield.



Ear shoot bags were placed on the developing ears during pollination preventing pollination of the ear tips. The ears were deprived of pollen to demonstrate what happens when pollen is shed before ear silks have completely emerged.

Silks attached to the embryos at the end (butt) of the ear emerge first with the silks attached to the tip embryos emerging last. If pollination is impaired due to delayed silk emergence (hot, dry weather), poor tip fill of the ear will often be the result.

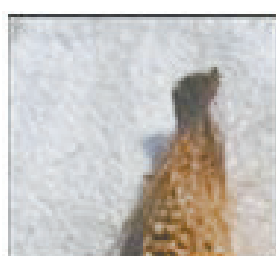
Corn is an annual plant (lives for one growing season) with the sole mission of producing viable seeds to reproduce during the next growing season. As long as the corn plant produces at least one viable seed it has satisfied its purpose to reproduce for the next growing season (Image 2).



Ear shoot bag was placed over this ear shoot prior to pollination. Appears some pollen found a way to reach a few silks.

submerged. Keep water in the bucket and the shank submerged for 2 weeks and the other ear out of the bucket (no water) for the same period of time. At the end of two weeks pull back the husks from the ear out of the water as well as the ear that has been in the bucket. Have everyone guess what will be observed. The drive to reproduce will be obvious and the outcome will likely be surprising. What will you see? You will have to try this to find out. This makes a great science learning experience for young and old alike.

Once the tassel emerges and pollen shed begins, all plant parts are fully expanded and internodes (distance between where leaves are attached on the stalk) are fully extended. If corn is lodged (blown down) after tassel emergence there is little chance of the corn elbowing back into an upright position. Once the internodes are elongated there is little the plant can do to upright itself. Silks found on the underside of a lodged ear shoot may not receive pollen, leaving a zipper appearance on the ear from poorly fertilized or filled seed embryos (Image 3).



Poor ear fill as a result of wind lodging during or soon after pollination.

Gray Leaf Spot has an early start in many corn fields (Image 4). This is a fungal disease that requires a period of leaf wetness for infection to occur. Consecutive days of rain or heavy, prolong morning dews provide an ideal environment for infection, once the spores are on the leaf surface. The use of a corn fungicide to protect leaf area without any obvious leaf disease present can be considered speculative and relatively expensive, however, if Gray Leaf Spot has an early start and if the growing environment allows for periods of leaf wetness (infection) followed by periods of dry weather (spread spores), a fungicide would make a good investment. The loss of leaf area prior to completing leaf fill may result in significant yield loss, premature plant death and increased risk of stalk lodging prior to harvest.



Source - @Timlaatsch. Early Gray Leaf Spot lesions on corn leaf.

The first infections have likely occurred on lower leaves. Watch for the appearance of additional lesions on leaves further up the plant. Visit with your local FS Crop Specialist to learn more about fungicides available.

Nitrogen should be in soil water and ready to move into the corn plant with soil water. The amount of plant-available N in the upper 2 feet will continue to decline, even with soil mineralization of organic N. It is common to find less than 80 lbs. of plant-available N in the upper soil profile soon after pollination, a concentration similar to what was detected following the 2017 soybean harvest (N-TRACKER). This is not an issue. Much of the needed N has likely entered the plant (or will soon enter). The rate of N uptake is likely exceeding the rate of mineralization, keeping the concentration of N in the upper profile low.

Microbial release of organically-bound soil N (mineralization) benefits more than the corn crop. Soybean plants will also utilize plant-available N. Although soybeans are a legume and benefit from a symbiotic relationship with a soil bacteria that fixes atmospheric N, the plant is still a net consumer of N rather than a generator (uses more than it receives from N-fixing bacteria). Some research suggests that N management for soybeans may be the next frontier to explore to stabilize soybean yield. Strip trials make learning less of an economic and environmental burden. Visit with your local FS Crop Specialist about receiving a copy of the local Illini FS soybean N management trials after harvest and see what we learn. Adding cost to soybean production needs to follow the M.O.M. approach (Maximize utilization, Optimize yield, Minimize environmental impact) to be sustainable. A focus on M.O.M. benefits everyone.

Patches of yellow soybeans suggest areas of high soil pH (Image 5). Whether manganese or iron (most likely manganese in our area), the two essential micronutrients are immobile in the plant, resulting in the youngest leaves to express deficiency symptoms. Deficiency symptoms start as a yellowing of the upper leaves. Distinguishing between iron and manganese deficiency can be difficult if not impossible. Plant tissue tests, coupled with soil tests could be an option to help determine the primary deficiency. Keep in mind that soil is loaded with iron. Any dust left on leaf tissue submitted for analysis will likely result in high iron and aluminum readings (soils primarily made-up of iron and aluminum). Visit with your local Illini FS Crop Specialist about what supplemental applications can be used in an attempt to correct deficiency symptoms.



Source: Michigan State University. Image of Iron/Manganese deficiency in soybeans. Deficiency caused by high soil pH and a lack of micronutrient availability.



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892-4479



Aaron Wheeler
586-6170



Scott Jackson
359-9335



Dawn Babb
892-4479



Andrew Deedrich
359-3941



Steve Derry
352-2655

Meet Ted Olson

Illini FS Crop Insurance Specialist



Ted is at Illini FS for all your crop insurance needs. Ted has several years of work with Illini FS under his belt saying, "I started my career with Illini FS in 2013 as a Sales Associate and treated seed while I built a book of business. From there I stayed with sales but then took on the role of plant manager as well at our Potomac Location. In September of 2017 I had the opportunity to move into my current position of Crop Insurance Specialist, and started my new challenge from there."

Farmers expect to face challenges with their crops every year. Ted points out, "The biggest challenge with Crop Insurance at the moment is the uncertainty and scrutiny of the farm bill. The premium subsidy is a large portion of the farm bill, and losing this would be devastating to the industry. In some isolated situations we have seen hail and wind, but I expect the crop to make an almost full recovery."

Ted's summer outlook is looking positive too, "With the wide spread heavy rain on 6/10 the drought concerns are not near as prevalent as they were a month or even a few weeks ago. We have seen some isolated hail and wind, but the crops seem to be bouncing back for the most part. The moisture and heat are sending this crop along nicely. I haven't seen many weed escapes that have taken over the field, which is a large step forward from the past. Our biggest question is what will our fall price be?"

Ted has served in different roles at Illini FS and he has enjoyed them all saying, "My favorite part of the job is

meeting with my customers from the farmer to the landlord, you get to meet people from all sides of the operation. I love meeting and learning from people from all walks of life."

Ted is a Rossville, IL native, currently living in Danville, IL with his wife Sarah. Ted and Sarah are excited to be a family of three by the end of the month. Ted attended Danville Area Community College and transferred to Illinois State University where he graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Agronomy Management in 2013.



Dan Duitsman
469-2033



John May
352-3341



Austin Beaty
217-352-0012

AGRIBLE Weather Outlook

with Eric Snodgrass

Spring 2018

The start of the 2018 growing season began with near record cold temperatures in April. Persistent troughs in the jet stream dominated the flow pattern across the central and eastern U.S. giving Illinois its 2nd coldest April on the 124-year U.S. record. Then, like a switch, the pattern broke and summer-like warmth spread across the cornbelt during the month of May allowing for rapid planting progress in Illinois. This helped return the U.S. corn planting progress back to average alleviating concerns of a widespread delay in planting. June has carried May's torch, especially in the central U.S. where temperature anomalies through the first 17 days of June have been 5-15°F warmer than average (Figure 1). These warm days have led to a rapid accumulation of growing degree units (GDDs) and most of the state of Illinois is 200-350 GDDs ahead of average.

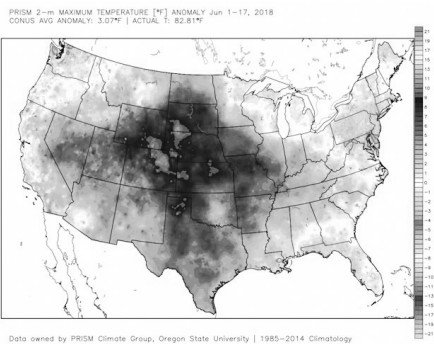


Figure 1. June 1-17, 2018 Maximum temperature anomalies. Data: PRISM, Source: <http://www.weatherbell.com>

The precipitation pattern has been dominated by an open Gulf of Mexico and the remnants of Tropical Storm Alberto. High dew point temperature air has streamed north into Illinois nearly every day for the last 45 days providing ample moisture for thunderstorm activity. Predicting the timing and location of these storms is challenging, but looking at Figure 2 we can see how June 1-17 has been very wet for much of the state. Some of this rainfall was from an early tropical storm named Alberto that brought much needed rains to the eastern counties in IL at a time when they had been quite dry. The driest regions in Illinois are primarily confined to western and southern IL

along the Mississippi River where less than half of normal precipitation has fallen this June. For most of the state, the excessive rains and warm conditions have led to outstanding crop conditions and as of June 18, 81% of the Illinois corn crop is rated as good to excellent. The soybean crop has done well in these conditions too with 77% of the crop rated as good to excellent in the June 18, 2018 report.

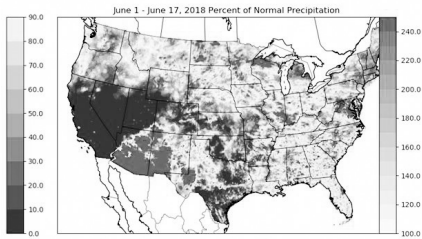


Figure 2. Percent of normal precipitation June 1-17, 2018. Data: PRISM, Source: Snodgrass

Finishing June

As we head into the 3rd week of June, heat during the Father's Day weekend still lingers. But change is coming in the form of a multi-day thunderstorm event. On June 17, the jet stream over the western U.S. formed a "Rex Block" where a large ridge flows over the top of a cut off trough. This flow pattern is slow moving due to northerly flow between the ridge and trough, which means it will be the main play for our weather during the 3rd week of June. Out ahead of this Rex Block, Gulf moisture will flow unimpeded into a stationary boundary that is draped west to east across the corn belt. This pattern favors a lot of thunderstorms and rainfall estimates over the next 10 days will exceed 5-6 inches in some locations in the corn belt (Figure 3). These rains, although potentially causing localized flooding, are exactly what this young crop needs

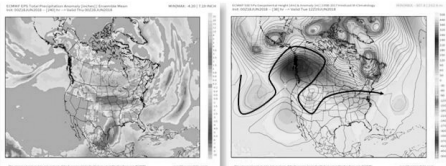


Figure 3. (Left) 10-day ECMWF precipitation anomaly forecast. (Right) Tuesday June 19 500 mb height anomaly. The black arrow shows the flow around the Rex block in the jet stream. Data: ECMWF Source: <http://www.weathermodels.com>

to reach its full potential just before we head into pollination. As June ends, most long range forecast models project the return of a ridge centered over the Great Lakes suggesting the month will finish with a warm bias.

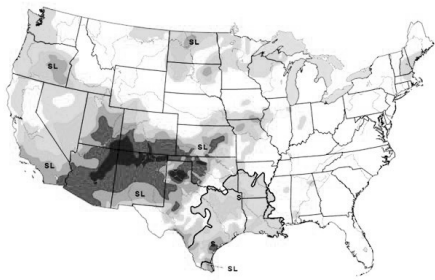


Figure 5. Global Sea-Surface Temperature Anomalies. Source: <https://www.esrl.noaa.gov/psd/map/images/sst/sst.daily.anom.gif>

July and August 2018

The long-range forecast carries with it many competing factors. Nearly all long range global weather forecast models (i.e., the ECMWF, NMME, JMA, CANSIPS, JAMSTEC, etc) project warmer than average conditions with the greatest threat for drought in the Central Plains and western corn belt. These models have been consistent in forecasting this pattern for the last 3 months, which gives their forecast credibility. However, using persistence as a guide, we have seen that a wide open Gulf of Mexico has provided a lot of shower and thunderstorm activity which has prevented the spreading of drought into the corn belt through mid-June (Figure 4). Historically, this has led to near and above average yields. Plus, the drier regions in Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, and Illinois are forecast to see beneficial rains over the next 7-10 days (see Figure 3).

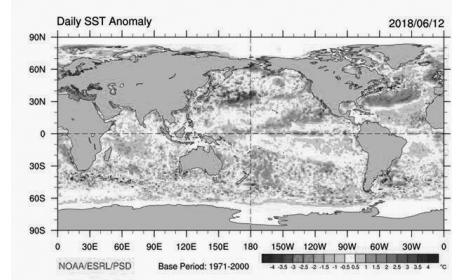


Figure 5. Global Sea-Surface Temperature Anomalies. Source: <https://www.esrl.noaa.gov/psd/map/images/sst/sst.daily.anom.gif>

Another competing factor is the sea surface temperature patterns in both the Atlantic and Pacific. Currently a weak "Modoki" El Niño is forming which has historically correlated well with hotter condi-

tions in the southern, southwestern, and northwestern states. Adding to this, the hottest years we have had in Illinois show a strong, negative correlation with sea surface temperatures off the west coast and Baja of California that extend deep into the central Pacific Ocean. As of mid-June, the waters in this region were nearer to average (Figure 5). But if they cool rapidly in the coming weeks, that would be supportive of a warm finish to the summer during rainfall.

Summer Outlook:

Using a blend of analog years and dynamical model output, the June-August temperature pattern will likely favor above average temperatures for the whole country with the largest anomalies in the central and western U.S. (Figure 6.) Given how volatile the trough/ridge pattern has been so far this summer, we will have to monitor the weekly set up in the jet stream to know if high temperatures (both maximum and minimum) will impact pollination. Remember, being warmer than average is not going to knock back yields unless it is sustained heat above the mid-90s with overnight lows that stay in the mid-70s. What is much harder to predict is July/August rainfall. There are too many wildcards (i.e., ridge riding storms, tropical systems, blocked patterns, etc) that set up on a daily basis that are not predictable more than 10-15 days in advance. Long range models suggest the central U.S. and western corn belt turn drier in July and August. But, with ample rain forecast in the next 10-days and the forecast of an open Gulf of Mexico moving into the beginning of July, it is very difficult to predict drought spreading across the corn belt anytime soon. We will have to be diligent watching this pattern every day!

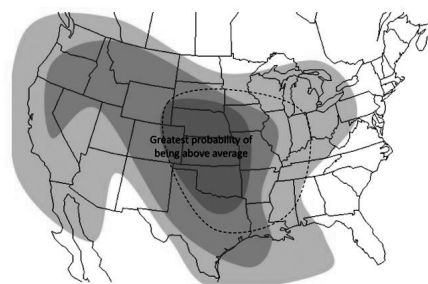


Figure 6. June-August temperature anomaly forecast. The dashed represent a region that could have the risk for drier conditions should the ridge establish itself in the central Plains. Source: Snodgrass

New Member Benefit Platform

Sign up to access over 302,000 discounts

<https://ilfb.abenity.com>

August 8, Theatre at the Center "The Lady with All the Answers"

The Bus will be departing the Farm Bureau parking lot at 9:30 a.m. and going to Munster, IN, Theater at the Center to see The Lady with all the Answers. The show is about Popular advice columnist Ann Landers who had a life which seemed letter-perfect. With more than 90 million readers each day, she had a quick wit which could be comical and creative, as well as sharp and shocking, all in the same sentence. The play unfolds in Landers Lakeshore Drive apartment in Chicago in 1975 where she shares some of her most fascinating stories as she prepares to write the most difficult column of her career.

Cost per person: \$105.00 per person
Trip includes: transportation, lunch and show
Deadline: July 13, 2018



Southern Illinois Peaches

Orders and payment must be received by the CCFB office by August 3!
Peaches are from Rendleman Orchard in southern Illinois.

	QTY	Price
Rendleman LOCAL peaches		
Cling Free @ \$31.00	25 lbs.	\$
Non-Members @ \$34.00	25 lbs.	\$
	TOTAL	\$
Please pay in full at time of order.		
NAME _____		
ADDRESS _____		
PHONE _____ Email _____		

Orders will arrive
August 15,
Pick up after
after 10:30 a.m.
Please mark your
calendar

ORDERS DUE

BY AUGUST 3!!





Over 40 Champaign Co. Farm Bureau Members took part in an Estate and Succession Planning Workshop. Vanessa Bechtal of CliftonLarsonAllen discussed the tax implications of estate planning and the group was joined by State Sen. Scott Bennett for supper.



CCFB Prime Timers enjoyed a discussion by Paul Berbaum on his trip to Brazil & Argentina as part of the Illinois Farm Bureau Market Outlook Tour.



Over 40 people enjoyed the Cooking Tips & Tricks program presented by the CCFB Women's committee. Lisa Lewey-Shields of CI Living presented her best kitchen hacks to help folks be more efficient and creative in the kitchen.



Champaign County 4H members took part in the 4H lead program sponsored in part by the Champaign County Farm Bureau Young Ag Leaders. The 4H'ers discovered ways they could become better leaders by increasing their safety and first aid knowledge. Deputy Fire Marshal Randy Smith discussed fire safety and the use of fire extinguishers. Amy Rademaker of Carle's Center for Rural Health & Farm Safety talked about basic first aid procedures and gave the 4H'ers an introduction to CPR.



The Champaign CFB Young Ag Leaders hosted Dairy Day at Riggs Beer Company on June 18. Attendees were able to interact with dairy goats, milk a cow, and eat some fantastic ice cream from the Sidney Dairy Barn.



Greg Johnson from The Anderson's discussed the corn and bean markets and his outlook for fall.