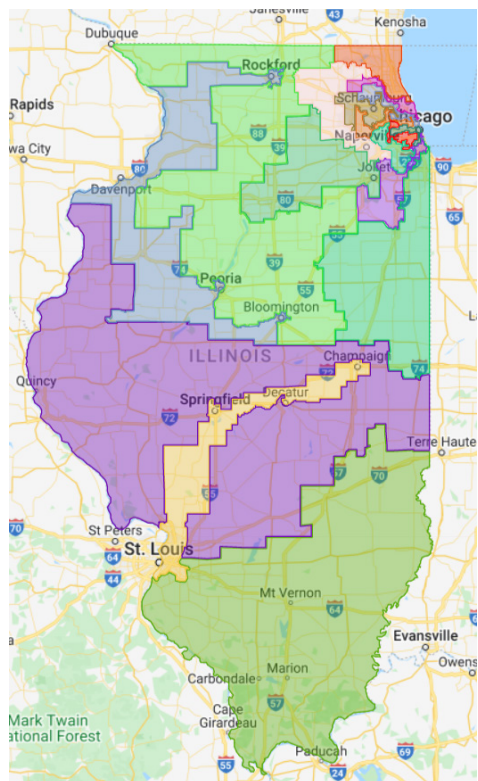
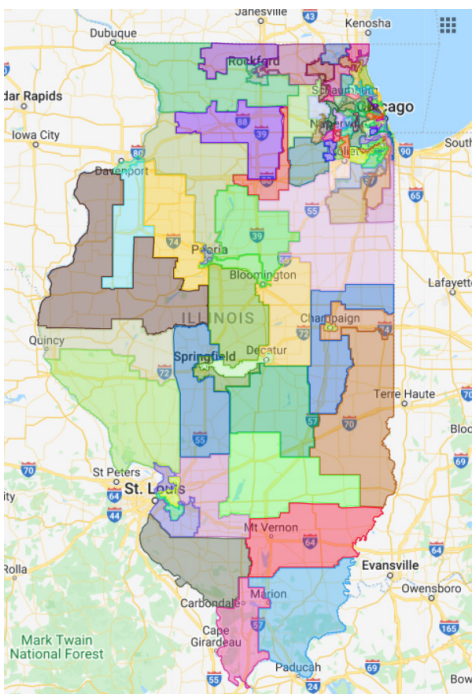


Redistricting Changes Affect Voters



2023 Illinois Congressional Redistricting Map

Late last year, the Illinois State Legislature approved new congressional and state legislative district boundaries. District lines are redrawn every 10 years following the completion of census data. New district boundaries will affect the 2022 elections with new districts beginning in January 2023. Adam Nielsen, IFB’s Director of National Legislation and Policy Development, tackles the issue of redistricting on the federal level saying, “Redistricting creates some confusion every decade, but it also creates opportunities for Farm Bureau leaders to get to know or become better acquainted



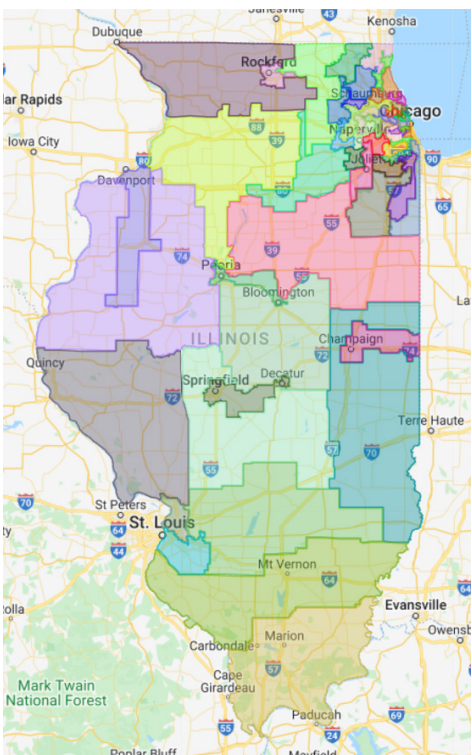
2023 Illinois State House Districts

with the people running to represent them. In Farm Bureau, we focus on helping our friends running in new districts by creating opportunities for them to meet and establish relationships with Farm Bureau members and leaders they hope to represent. Those meetings are effective in getting our members acquainted with candidates and elected officials and move us closer to building relationships needed to help advance our agenda in Washington.”

Illinois will be represented by 17 U.S. Representatives, 177 state legislators, and 5 Supreme Court districts. This is the first time Illinois judicial districts have changed since they were created in 1964. Importantly, the changes to the voting districts will affect candidate names and issues voters see on the ballot this year. With these changes in mind, as we move closer to the June primary voters may need to take some extra time to study how the new districts will affect their vote. Who is on the ballot? What issues will be on the ballot? What districts do I live in?

Bradley Uken, Champaign County Farm Bureau Manager, says “The new districts will affect all of us. District boundaries have changed and thus, many of the names we’ll be voting for on the ballot may indeed be changing as well. Voters need to make sure we are educated about these changes before we head to the polls. Elections have consequences, all of us need to take advantage of the opportunity to vote and perform our civic duty we have as citizens of the United States.”

A direct result of Senate Bill 825,



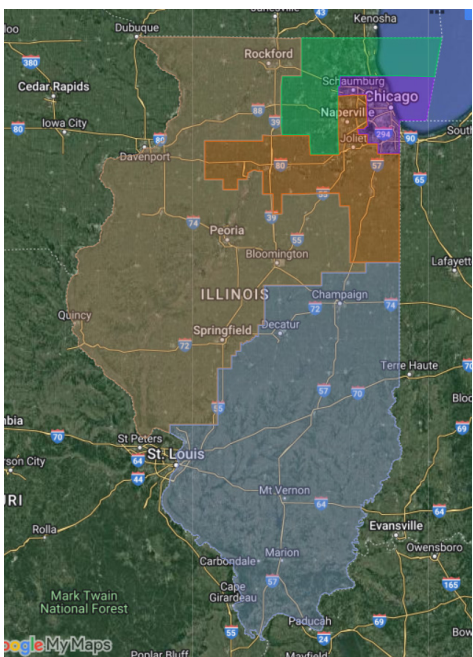
2023 Illinois State Senate Districts

which created the redistricting, is also a shift in the Illinois Primary Election date from March to June changing many dates crucial to voters...

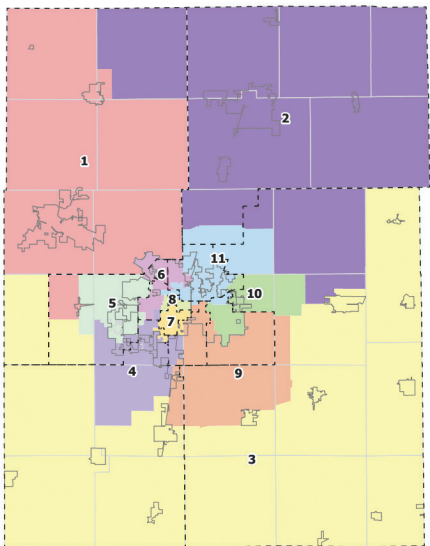
- **May 13, 2022:** Last day to register to receive a mail-in ballot
- **May 19, 2022:** Early in-person voting begins at county clerk’s office
- **June 12, 2022:** Last day to register online to vote in Illinois. You can still register to vote in-person, up until and on election day (June 28).
- **June 23, 2022:** Last day for election officials to receive your mail-in ballot (so make sure your mail-in ballot is post-marked before this date)
- **June 28, 2022:** Illinois statewide primary election. Polls open at 6 a.m. and close at 7 p.m.

Primary ballots will include many local issues and races, nominees for Governor, and U.S. Senate. Primary winners will appear on the ballot at the November 8 general election.

Along with changes at the federal



2023 Illinois State Supreme Court Districts



2023 Champaign County Board Districts

and state level come changes at the local level too. The Champaign County Executive and appointed members of the Redistricting Advisory Group have utilized census information to create new districts for the Champaign County Board. Champaign County Board District Maps can be found at <https://maps.ccgisc.org/public/Disclaimer.aspx> If you visit this map site, you can select “district layers” and the Board districts for 2021 will be displayed.

Viewing maps in greater detail can be done by visiting <https://ballotpedia.org>





Download the App Today!
Need Assistance? Email SKnittel@ifb.org


May Report

President, Paul Hunsinger



Paul Hunsinger, CCFB President

Well it's been an interesting spring with all the cold and wet weather we have had so far. Hopefully we will be able to get in the fields soon and get the crop planted. Thankfully we have still been seeing some great pricing for commodities to help offset the high input pricing we have seen this spring. Illinois Farm Bureau has been continuing to meet with the big fertilizer companies on what needs to be done to get pricing down as ag inputs have still been going wild this year.

Hope everyone has a safe and fun planting season.

Sincerely,
Paul Hunsinger

CCFB Calendar of Events May 2022

May 9	Women's Committee	9:30 a.m.
May 12	Prime Timers	10 a.m.

**** Most Committee Meetings are not held in May due to planting ****

Prime Timers Meeting

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

by May 9

Call the CCFB Office 217-352-5235

Meeting Date: May 12, 2022

Program: Dave Gentry, WDWS

Entertainment: Wayne Acton & Friend

Meal cost: \$8 per person

Important changes

• FRIED CHICKEN BUFFET IS BACK

- No walk-ins.
- Call to reserve your spot.

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

The Champaign County Farm Bureau Women's Committee is open to all women interested in agriculture.

****SCHEDULE OF EVENTS****

May 9th – General Meeting – 9:30 a.m.

Champaign County

Farm Bureau Auditorium

Featured speaker

Larry Kanfer - Local photographer and owner of Kanfer photo gallery

From Resistant to Resilient: Helping Someone You're Concerned About

By Adrienne DeSutter, April 2022

You've heard about the "resilient" farmer. The one who faces adversity head on, who knows times will sometimes be tough, who bounces back when they've been beaten down. But what about the "resistant" farmer? You know the one! They're always "fine," they never need any help (despite the choice words they're shouting), and they tend to be a little (or a lot) stubborn. One of my most frequently asked questions related to mental health is "how can I help someone who doesn't want to be helped?" It's certainly a challenge, but there are skills that can sometimes make tough conversations easier.

Here are some top tips to try when you're concerned about a resistant farmer:

Practice effective communication. Think about the last time someone gave you unsolicited advice, like sharing their thoughts on your eating or exercise habits. How did you respond? Did it make you want to eat better or exercise more? Or are you like me, and you'd rather continue your habits mostly out of spite for the unsolicited advice? No one wants to be told what to do, or hear about their imperfections. In fact, when someone is in the midst of heavy stress, sometimes they don't even want to hear logical solutions. Instead, try listening! You can try using I-statements to help start a less threatening conversation (i.e. "I am worried about you" rather than "You should..."), and then let them lead the direction of the conversation.

Practice patience. It can be extremely hard to watch someone you love struggle, especially when you know there are resources available to help them, if they were only willing to reach out. Remember, the only person you can control is yourself, and just because you are ready for them to change doesn't mean they are ready. And when they are ready, change takes time. Coping with stress and mental health conditions is a process, and it's unrealistic to expect perfection overnight. Learning more about the symptoms of stress and other mental health conditions can help you better understand why your loved one acts the way they do, and can help you find patience in those sad, frustrating, and confusing moments.

Practice what you preach. Supporting someone through stressful times can be heavy. Supporting someone with a mental health condition can be exceptionally heavy. Just as you wish your loved one would take the initiative to care for themselves, the same expectation goes for you. Vent to a friend, call a therapist, or pull out your favorite stress management tools at the first sign that your weight seems too heavy. Not only will you get the relief you need, but you'll also be setting an example for your loved one that it's ok to need help, and it's ok to take time to care for yourself. Sometimes doing hard things becomes a little easier when you're doing them together. And bonus: a

therapist can also help you set important personal boundaries and strengthen the communication skills you need to get through to your resistant farmer!

It takes a lot of hard work to help a farmer go from resistant to resilient. Practicing these skills with intention and diligence can help you become the best support system for your farmer, and the one they know they can turn to for help when they're finally ready to accept it

May is *Mental Health* Awareness Month



FIVE STEPS TO HELP SOMEONE AT RISK

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Ask | 4. Help them connect |
| 2. Keep them safe | 5. Follow up |
| 3. Be there | |

Source: National Institute of Mental Health

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE
1-800-273-TALK (8255)



Members And Guests Enjoy 2022 Spring Fling Hosted By The Women's Committee On April 7th.



Ryan Pankau, Horticulture Educator for Illinois Extension, Champaign, IL. Shared where Spring ephemeral wildflowers can be found at various Forest Preserves within just a few miles of Champaign. They are the first plants to emerge in central Illinois woodlands, and their colorful flowers occupy the otherwise-bare forest understory to mark the start of spring each year and provide a much need resource to wild-life.



Tina Marie Owens-Anderson, a research administrator at the University of Illinois and a Master Naturalist through the U of I Extension shared her knowledge of birdwatching and bird feeding with the audience. Beautiful photos of many species were provided by her and her mother, Eileen Owens.

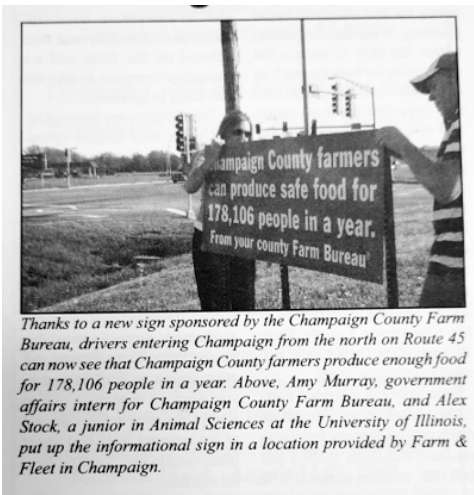


Local magician, Andy Dallas, invited guest Cindy Cain to help him perform a magic trick, as the audience looked on and enjoyed. His experiences with magic and how he found himself longing to be a magician was shared as well.

A Look Back...100 Volumes of CCFB History

2022 and the 100th volume of the Champaign County Farm Bureau Newsletter brings us back to the past! This month we will be visiting 2006, 1982, and 1966 to reflect on the events, photos, and articles that made headlines in Champaign County

May 2006 – This issue of the CCFB Newsletter featured an article titled *CCFB Addresses Ag Awareness* which had members focusing on “trying to help fill the knowledge void that exists between the average person and agriculture through a communication campaign that will include television, radio, and printed information. The ambitious undertaking will involve Farm Bureau staff as well as many local experts on various aspects of agriculture.” (See photo)



Thanks to a new sign sponsored by the Champaign County Farm Bureau, drivers entering Champaign from the north on Route 45 can now see that Champaign County farmers produce enough food for 178,106 people in a year. Above, Amy Murray, government affairs intern for Champaign County Farm Bureau, and Alex Stock, a junior in Animal Sciences at the University of Illinois, put up the informational sign in a location provided by Farm & Fleet in Champaign.

May 1982 – *Interest Increases for Rural House Numbering* was the article featured on the front page of this month's newsletter. The article points out this is “A project undertaken by the Young Farmer's Committee to make available Rural House Numbers for every rural resident of Champaign County has been receiving increased interest by local governments in the county. The project is designed to aid local emergency agencies in locating accident locations in rural areas. The system uses existing rural sign posts at intersections and then numbers the houses on rural roads much the same way street numbers are assigned to residences in town. Champaign County is among the first in Illinois to use this system.”



Kent Krukewitt, Rural Homer, was among four farmers who held a news conference to bring public attention to their efforts to convince Illinois Power Company to consider farmers wishes and preserve prime farmland in a proposed power line construction project. The thirty-three mile line running from Kansas, IL to Sidney, is slated to use “H structures” which consists of two poles placed 26 ft. apart. The farmers and landowners are asking Illinois Power to use single pole structures placed on property lines instead. Additional information about this situation may be obtained by calling the Farm Bureau.



May 1966 – The headline making news this month in this issue is the announcement *Voters Approve Consolidation...Champaign Co. F.S. Will Be new Company on June 1* – “Voters over-whelmingly approved the consolidation of Champaign County Service Company, The Champaign County Livestock-marketing Association, and the Champaign County Feed Company. More than 2/3 of the shareholders of stock in all categories voted nearly unanimously on May 16 to form the new Champaign County FS Inc. The new companies will officially consolidate on June 1.”

Maggi's Membership Corner

By Maggi Maxstadt, CCFB Membership & Outreach Coordinator

Hey Farm Bureau members! We sure had enough April showers to bring May flowers. I'm excited to see all of the flowers blooming this month!

Last month, we had some great events, starting with CCFB Foundation's newest event, “Over the Edge,” on April 1st. It was a chilly and breezy day to be outside, much less rappelling down a building! Details from the event can be found on page 8.

The following week, our Women's Committee held their annual Spring Fling. The ladies learned about backyard birding and the first flowers of spring. Details from the event can be found on page 3.

In the office, we are busy scheduling and preparing for events this summer, including the membership picnic, trips and tours, and outreach events within the townships. We are also continuing with our communication campaign for all CCFB members. If you need to update your phone number or email, call the office or do it online at myIFB.org.

I want to shine a light on two problems that have been coming up a lot in the past few months:

1. If your payments, records, or other mail show a PO box for us, please remove that from your records. We've been at 801 N Country Fair Drive Suite A for over a decade. Your mail may not be delivered to us otherwise!
2. As a reminder, be respectful to those working in customer service or customer-facing positions. There is no reason to verbally harass those standing in between you and a solution to your problem. Being kind will always get you more places!

Please be careful if you are out working in the field this month. I'll talk to you in June!



Feeding our Future.
Fueling our Industry.

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2022-2023 CCFB Foundation Scholars

We are proud to announce our Foundation Scholars and our generous donors!

Gracy Allen
Heritage High School
The Anderson's Inc Scholarship
University of Illinois - Ag and Consumer Economics

Josie Amerio
Rantoul Township High School
Champaign County Farm Bureau Scholarship
Clema Parker Memorial Scholarship
University of Illinois - Ag and Consumer Economics

Mallory Ames
St. Joseph-Ogden High School
Chester & Margaret Hiser Memorial Scholarship
Louis Schwing Scholarship
University of Illinois - Ag and Consumer Economics

Heidi Brya
Champaign Central High School
Marguerite Winston Memorial Scholarship
University of Illinois - Animal Sciences

Jackson Craig
Mahomet-Seymour High School
Duane Strunk Memorial Scholarship
Parkland College - Ag Business/Precision Technology

Anna Crites
Rantoul Township High School
Gifford Lions Club Scholarship
Parkland College - Agribusiness

Campbell Cruse
Mahomet-Seymour High School
Clarence & Alma Rayburn Memorial Scholarship
Parkland College - Agriculture

Jada Davis
Heritage High School
The Atkins Group Scholarship
Bayer Crop Sciences & DeKalb Seed Scholarship
University of Illinois - Crop Sciences

William Delaney
Fisher High School
Leslie Mitchell Memorial Scholarship
Jack & Marjorie Richmond Memorial Scholarship
Illinois State University - Agribusiness

Karson Ewerks
Unity High School
Thomas Hausman Memorial Scholarship
College of ACES Scholarship
University of Illinois - Ag & Consumer Economics

Shannon Flavin
Unity High School
United Prairie Scholarship
Murray Seeds Scholarship
University of Illinois - Undecided ACES

Kia Freese
Unity High School
Nutrien Scholarship
Roger Gish Memorial Scholarship
Illinois State University - Agribusiness

Avian Gerdes
St. Joseph-Ogden High School
Longview Bank Scholarship
Kansas State University - Wildlife Outdoor Management

Alyssa Hamilton
St. Joseph-Ogden High School
Jennifer & Jackie Esworthy Memorial Scholarship
Parkland College Scholarship
Parkland Pathways to Illinois - Agribusiness Management

George (Henry) Hornbrook
Champaign Centennial High School
CIT Trucks Scholarship
University of Illinois - Technical Systems Management

Cale Horsch
Fisher High School
Richard & Gloria Rayburn Scholarship
Heidelberg University - PreVet/Biology

Sophia Hortin
Fisher High School
Birmingham Family Farm Scholarship
Mildred Luther Memorial Scholarship
University of Illinois - Ag and Consumer Economics

Ainsley Jessup
Mahomet-Seymour High School
Marie Sitts Mitchell Memorial Scholarship
Mississippi State University - Food Science

Erica Johnson
Mahomet-Seymour High School
Gary Grace Memorial Scholarship
Leslie Arps Memorial Scholarship
University of Illinois - Ag Communications

Delaney Kamradt
Unity High School
Murray Family Scholarship
Parkland College - Food Science

Anna Lagacy
Mahomet-Seymour High School
Mahomet Lions Club Scholarship
Illinois State University - Agricultural Education

Katherine Landers
Fisher High School
Vincent O Greene Memorial Scholarship
Sun Prairie Seeds Scholarship
University of Illinois - Ag Communications

Makayla Learned
Armstrong Township High School
Gifford State Bank Scholarship
Ehler Brothers/AgriGold Scholarship
Southern Illinois University - Livestock Bioinformatics

Ryan Miller
St. Joseph-Ogden High School
Christian Brothers Scholarship
University of Illinois - Technical Systems Management

Amelia Nelson
Judah Christian School
Captain Hank Warfel Memorial Scholarship
University of Illinois - Computer Science & Crop Science

Grant Odle
Mahomet-Seymour High School
Dale Cochran Illinois Foundation Seeds Scholarship
CCFB President's Scholarship
University of Illinois - Crop Sciences

Jackson Place
St. Joseph-Ogden High School
Farm Credit Illinois Scholarship
CCFB Women's Committee Scholarship
Parkland College - Ag Leadership Education & Communication

Kyley Rothermel
Heritage High School
Champaign Women's Club Scholarship
University of Illinois - Ag Leadership Education & Communications

Felicity Schaffer
Fisher High School
Wm T Henderson Memorial Scholarship for Horticulture
CCFB 100th Anniversary Scholarship
Purdue - Horticulture

Randy William Shook
Fisher High School
Duane Ehler Memorial Scholarship
Parkland College Pathways to Illinois - Ag and Consumer Economics

Tessa Smith
St. Joseph-Ogden High School
Illini FS Scholarship
Parkland College - Agribusiness Management

Claire Smith
St. Joseph-Ogden High School
William & Kathryn Henderson Grad Student Schol.

Mae Thomas
Judah Christian School
Ben Louis Memorial Scholarship
University of Illinois - Animal Sciences

Destiny Williamson
Unity High School
Joe & Sue Summerville Scholarship
University of Illinois - Undeclared Agriculture

Feeding Our Future...Fueling Our Industry!

Feeding Our Future...Fueling Our Industry!

you're invited

15TH ANNUAL CCFB FOUNDATION GALA

Thursday - June 16th - 5:30pm
Pear Tree Estate - Champaign, IL

Purchase Your Tickets / Sponsorship Online!
www.CCFBFoundation.com

Champaign & Vermilion County

"BEEF" UP YOUR CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION

SUMMER AG INSTITUTE 2022

June 6-8, 8:00-4:00 each day

Who: Educators K-12
Where: Champaign County Farm Bureau Auditorium & Vermilion County Auditorium
Cost to Attend: Early Bird Registration thru April 15th \$100
Registration thru May 13th \$130
What is Included: FREE Resources, Lunch and Snacks, Ag Industry Professionals, Hands-on Activities, Engaging Field Trips
Earn: 22.5 CPDUs



**KORY KRAUS,
GENERAL MANAGER**

FROM THE FIELD

by Dr. Howard Brown

POST-GERMINATION CHALLENGES

Missing the primary root (radicle)?

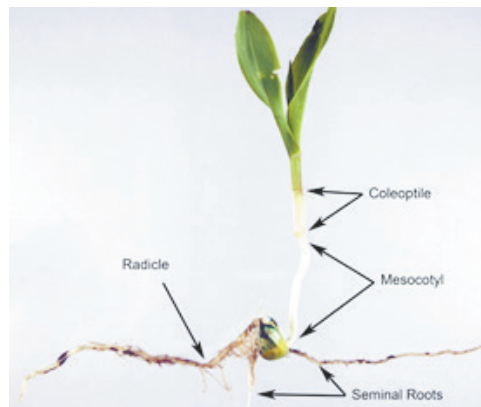
The radicle is the first thing to emerge from the germinated seed. It may be 0.5 to 1.0 inches long before the shoot is noticed just above where the radicle originates. Plant growth will be impacted with little chance of recovery to normal development if the shoot is identified, but the radicle is absent. The reason for missing radicle includes a soil-borne disease or fertilizer burn (free ammonia or salt burn from starter fertilizer). If the radicle is commonly missing from germinated seeds, a decision to replant may be warranted.



Radicle is first to emerge followed by the shoot (coleoptile). Source: Dr. Robert Nielson, Purdue University

Missing endosperm? Below ground

insects can have a significant impact on seedling establishment. Damage to the pericarp (outer seed shell) allows various soil pathogens entry into the seed. Loss of endosperm (stored food within seed) due to insect feeding may significantly affect early growth or seedling establishment. Common insects that feed on endosperm include Seed Corn Maggots, Seed Corn Beetles, and Wireworms.



The mesocotyl connects the seedling plant to the seed and primary root system. Any injury to the mesocotyl prior to development of the permanent root system will slow seedling development.

Damaged mesocotyl?

The young corn seedling relies on the seed for water and food until the permanent root system is functional (usually after three fully emerged leaves). Any injury to the plant's mesocotyl (white fleshy tissue connecting seed to seedling) before permanent root development will likely significantly impact early growth. Look for plants that appear to have a delayed emergence. Dig up the smaller plants, wash off the seedling, and look for injury to the mesocotyl. All it takes to slow growth is a small feeding site or infection to disrupt nutrient and water flow to the young seedling. Plants expressing a delay in growth are commonly misdiagnosed as seeds planted into dry soil or seeds planted at a different depth.

Dig up smaller-than-desired plants and determine the cause.

Uneven emergence is commonly caused by injury to the seed, the mesocotyl, or the primary root system. Making time to dig up and wash off the roots for a close examination may help avoid misdiagnosis of the problem. Many unfounded explanations start with "poor quality seed" or "uneven germination" and end up with Wireworm, Seedcorn Beetle, residual herbicide injury, Pythium, or other issues that robbed seed endosperm or disrupt the seedling development.



Use a spade to uncover the total environment around the young seedling. Place the spade at an angle to lift the seedling and soil environment together.

Spring-applied anhydrous ammonia applied into wet areas of a field may result in ammonia burn regardless of when it was applied (even Fall of 2021). Applicator knives tend to cut through moist soils, leaving smeared sidewalls to the knife trench. The free space left by the knife is filled with ammonia gas. If the planter places the seed immediately above the knife trench, free ammonia may escape into the seed zone, exposing the seed or young seedling roots to burn from free ammonia. Above-ground symptoms usually appear in low, wet areas as uneven emergence. The affected plants' primary or seminal root tips will exhibit a brown discoloration, which essentially stops root development, slowing early growth.



Smeared sidewall and root injury caused by planting on top of the point of anhydrous ammonia application (less-than-ideal conditions at time of anhydrous ammonia application).

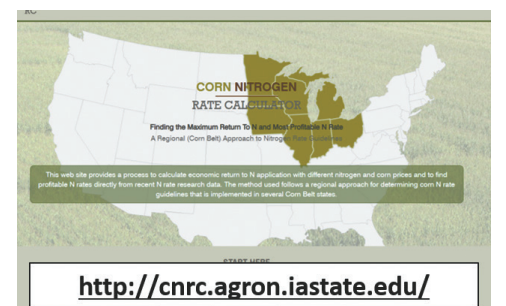
Although plants may survive injury, the plant's contribution to harvest yield may be compromised. Spring-applied anhydrous ammonia should be offset from the planted row (guidance) or applied at an angle to the planting direction to minimize the number of plants exposed to free ammonia from sidewall compaction. Tilling to a depth greater than the planting depth provides a buffer of loose soil between the seed and ammonia trench, possibly minimizing or avoiding seeding injury from free ammonia.

Urea-Ammonium Nitrate Solutions (UAN, 28%, 32%) can be applied pre-emerge up to flowering (tassel emergence) with the appropriate application equipment and N stabilizers. It can be broadcast (pre-emerge), injected between rows, or banded (Y-Drop) but should not be applied broadcast post-emerge (significant crop injury/stand reduction may result). Any significant application of UAN applied broadcast to the soil surface without incorporation should contain NBPT (Agrotain or Anvol) to minimize volatilization (N loss). Both products are urease inhibitors, slowing the conversion of urea to ammonium-N for approximately 10 to 14 days, allowing time for incorporation (3/4" rain event or mechanically). A limitation to surface-applied N is placement if soil conditions are dry after application. Water is needed to move N into the plant. An N deficiency may occur if an extended dry period follows the application, even though an adequate amount of N was applied and a urease inhibitor was used.

Broadcast Urea with NBPT. Many producers overlook broadcast urea as an option for supplemental N applications. Broadcast urea effectively delivers N to the soil surface, allowing easy access to roots close to the surface following a rain event. Agrotain or Anvol (NBPT) must be used to inhibit volatilization (loss of N as free ammonia from the surface). NBPT inhibits the conversion of urea to ammonium-N for approximately 10 to 14 days, allowing time for incorporation (3/4" rain event or mechanically) before potential loss by volatilization.

Post-emerge urea can sometimes cause leaf burn. The intensity of the burn will depend upon temperature, sunlight, and humidity following the application. The burn is related to moisture loss from the leaves, not fertilizer dust on the leaves. If hot and sunny conditions follow an application, the appearance of burn will be more noticeable. If it is cloudy and cool following an application, the burn may not occur. Leaf burn should not have an impact on harvest yield. Soil moisture is required to move the N to and into the plant. After a post-emerge application, the plant will eventually suffer from an N deficiency if it does not rain.

Should the 2022 N Rate be Reduced? Use the online N Rate Calculator to evaluate the cost of a pound of N relative to a projected corn price per bushel. More nitrogen does not always equate to a profitable Return-On-Investment and may have a negative impact on our natural resources. Nitrogen rate and harvest yield have a curvilinear relationship. To achieve the final few bushels on the yield curve requires significantly more N per bushel.



If corn is marketed for \$6.00/bushel and N is \$1.00 per pound, any application of N beyond 6 pounds/bushel will reduce farm profitability. Let the online calculator show you this relationship. Let the calculator help remove some emotion tied to the N application rate.

Soybeans respond to soil residual N even though they are a legume. Nitrogen-fixing nodules will start providing the soybean plant N approximately two weeks following emergence. Until then, the plant relies on residual soil N. High 2021 yields and a cold, wet Spring have left soils with a minimal amount of N for crop utilization. Expect to see light green colored soybean fields the first two weeks following emergence. This would be the season to test soybean response to supplemental N. Try 100 pounds of ammonium sulfate/acre. Will be impossible to determine whether the response was caused by nitrogen or sulfur, that would be something to determine in 2022. Visit with your local Illini FS Crop Specialist about setting-up an On-Farm Discovery Trial.

There is still time to register a NuTRACKER Plus site. The only way to learn about the behavior of Plant-Available N in the soil profile is to inventory what is there and track how it changes relative to environmental conditions. Illini FS has been tracking plant-available nutrients for several years and has learned how to interpret what the tests measure. Visit with your local Illini FS Crop Specialist to register a site or visit www.n-tracker.com and register a site. Click on "NuTRACKER Plus in the command bar at the top of the home page. Click on "Register a Site" and "Illini FS".



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When Spring Is In The Air ... So Is Severe Weather

by Will Koch, www.countryfinancial.com

No matter where you live, it's near certain that springtime is going to bring a change to the weather. Sometimes that weather can be severe. Whether it's thunderstorms and tornadoes or drought and wildfires, being prepared is the best first step to keep you and yours safe. A fall 2021 COUNTRY Financial survey showed one in five Americans has dealt with storm-related damage to their home and another two in five believe it will eventually happen to them, too.

So let's get you ready.

Look at the stats

Even if you haven't experienced one of these weather events, you may down the road. Here are the most common weather events people experience, broken down geographically:

- Northeast – Severe thunderstorms (46%) and flooding (31%)
- South – Severe thunderstorms (54%) and hurricanes (33%)
- West – Extreme drought (54%) and wildfires (48%)
- Midwest – Severe thunderstorms (60%) and extreme cold (40%)

Interestingly, people across all four regions list extreme heat in the three most common weather issues they face.

Build your emergency kit and show your family where it is

This is one of those things we all say we should do, but too few of us spend the time to put it together. But it's easy when you know what to include. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends:

- Battery-operated flashlight and NOAA Weather Radio (and extra batteries for each)
- An emergency evacuation and shelter plan, including a map of your home
- A list of important personal information, like:
 - Telephone numbers of neighbors, family and friends
 - Insurance and property information (we make that info available on the COUNTRY Financial mobile app)
 - Telephone numbers of utility companies
 - Medical information
 - A first-aid kit
 - A three-to-five-day supply of bottled water and nonperishable food
 - Personal hygiene items
 - Blankets or sleeping bags
 - A separate emergency kit for your car

Meet with your insurance rep at least once a year

Many overlook this one, but you need to confirm you have the right insurance coverage in the event your home is damaged in a weather event, especially in a complex inflationary market where you will likely notice a higher price for home renovations/repair. Your rep will explain it all and get you the coverage you need. Check out our Home Insurance 101 explainer to learn more.

Create a video inventory of your home

No professional video experience is needed, and you can do one in 10 minutes or less.

Regular home maintenance

Keep your trees trimmed, don't forget to clean out those gutters and always keep an eye on the age and condition of your roof.



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Administrative Assistant
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Chris Greenwold
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Dan Duitsman
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Steve Derry
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Aaron Wheeler
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217-359-9335



Dawn Babb
217-892-4479



Andrew Deedrich
217-359-3941

2022 CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FARM BUREAU TRIPS AND TOURS ARE BACK!

Join CCFB in 2022 as we travel to shows across the Midwest!
Trips fill up fast so call 217-352-5235 today.

July 21, 2022 (Thursday Matinee)

**The Honky Tonk Angels,
– Beef & Boards –
Indianapolis, IN**

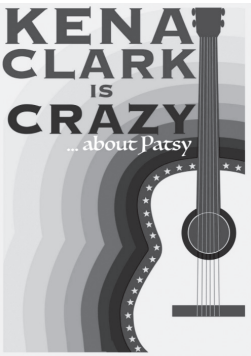
Price per person: \$101.00 – Gratuity included in price
Deadline to register or cancel reservations is: June 13, 2022



September 15, 2022 (Thursday Evening)

**Kena Clark is Crazy...about Patsy
– Beef House Dinner Theatre –
Covington, IN**

Price per person: \$102.00 – Gratuity included in price
Deadline to register or cancel reservations is: August 8, 2022



October 6, 2022 (Thursday Evening)

**Run for Your Wife, The Barn
III - Goodfield, IL**

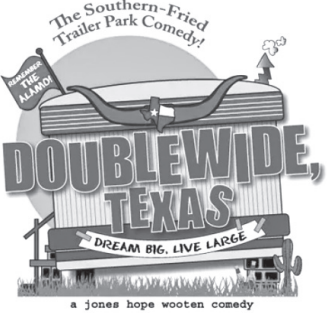
Price per person: \$92.00 – Gratuity included in price
Deadline to register or cancel reservations is: August 29, 2022



November 2, 2022 (Wednesday Matinee)

**Doublewide Texas,
Myers Dinner Theatre –
Hillsboro, IN**

Price per person: \$89.00 – Gratuity included in price
Deadline to register or cancel reservations is: October 3, 2022



December 14, 2022 (Wednesday Matinee)

**White Christmas – Myers
Dinner Theatre – Hillsboro, IN**

Price per person: \$95.00 – Gratuity included in price
Deadline to register or cancel reservations is: November 7, 2022



Planting The Unofficial Start To The New Year

Spring upstages January in delivering a fresh start, a contagious feeling when flowers bloom, morel mushrooms pop and calves frolic through greening pastures. Warming temperatures recharge motivations to grill out, eat healthier and take walks. We again experience the satisfying exhaustion of days spent in fresh air and sunshine.

I welcome this season when my family acts on our resolution

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FARM BUREAU NEWS

(USPS 099-840)
801 N. Country Fair Drive, Ste. A, Champaign, IL 61821
Published Monthly by the
Champaign County Farm Bureau
801 N. Country Fair Drive, Ste. A,
Champaign, IL 61821

SUBSCRIPTION RATE -- \$3 PER YEAR

Periodicals Postage Paid at Champaign
(ISSN 1078-2966)

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to "Farm
Bureau News" 801 N. Country Fair Drive,
Ste. A, Champaign IL 61821-2492

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CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday
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Communications Director -- Lesley Gooding
Administrative Assistant -- Brenda Wood
Membership & Outreach Coordinator -- Maggi Maxstadt
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Foundation Director -- Kirk Bulta

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

to grow better crops in better ways, making this month a more ideal start to the New Year than January 1. In fact, I'll stay up past midnight more in this single spring planting season than the last several New Year's Eves combined.

Since harvest, our farm has serviced the planters and tractors, stocked seed, prepared the planter maps and loaded seeding prescriptions in the monitors. We studied last year's harvest data, planned new test plots, researched soil-improving microbials and prepped the planters to give millions of seeds equal opportunity to produce a better crop than the last.

Thousands of farm families like ours across Illinois will work in windows of favorable



weather and ground conditions to plant corn, soybeans and other crops that cover about 75% of the state's land mass. Planting season re-energizes the state's quiet landscape, painting this blank canvas with seeds to grow golden tassels and bushy soybean plants. In our gardens, seeds promise feathery carrot tops and scratchy squash vines. Our daughter aims for sky-reaching sunflower blossoms for an FFA and 4-H project.

Technology has introduced the art of satellite-guided rows and picket-fence stands. The tractor drives itself hands-free, allowing corn to sprout in straight rows at precise spacing like posts on a yard fence. Ideally, the plants emerge at the same time, courtesy of ground pressure sensors that help sow seed at consistent depths. The planter operates via satellite guidance in the absence of a row marker, the steel "arm" that once reached out to etch a line in the soil for the tractor to follow the next pass.

In many ways, the process of planting represents an act of faith and a belief in tomorrow. When the weather threatens or field conditions seem too ideal to stop, we may experience today and tomorrow in the same work session.

About the author: Joanie Stiers farms with her family in West-Central Illinois, where they grow corn, soybeans, wheat, hay and cover crops and raise beef cattle, backyard chickens and farm kids.

Agriculture Taking Off At UHS

In January 2022, CCFB featured Urbana High School’s revival of its FFA program in the monthly newsletter. Daniel Doeing, Urbana’s FFA Advisor, has shared an update on the FFA program and the school’s agriculture program providing us with pictures showing students engaged and learning about the importance of agriculture.



Mr. Doeing explains different types of fertilizer and when to use them in the plant’s life cycle to the Introduction to Agriculture class, currently covering plant nutrient needs in class. This class has also helped start vegetables for the elementary school gardens. They are tracking requests from the schools and monitoring distribution.



Urbana FFA also sent first-year members to the Ground Zero Leadership conference at U of I, where they planned their personal goals during their time in FFA and honed in on their leadership skills.

Over The Edge CU



CCFB Foundation Board Member Chris Murray begins his rappel of Hendrick House on Friday, April 1st. In addition to raising funds to rappel, Murray volunteered on the ropes crew and assisted others as they rappelled 13 stories



Farm Bureau Board Members Ryan Musson (left) and Megan Hansens (right) went Over the Edge for the CCFB Foundation. Both raised funds to support the Foundation for the opportunity to rappel the 13 story building at the corner of the University of Illinois campus.



Foundation Scholarship recipient Amelia Nelson (right) high fives her mother, and fellow rappeler, Raquel Nelson, as they prepare to rappel Hendrick House. The Nelsons took part in the 1st ever Over the Edge CU event raising funds for the CCFB Foundation.



When detected early, the 5-year survival rate for melanoma is 99%.

WOMEN’S COMMITTEE RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Submitted by Carol Froeschl

Reuben Casserole

Ingredients

- 1/2 to 1 pound corned beef, cooked, diced or sliced
- 1/4 cup Thousand Island salad dressing
- 1 can or bag sauerkraut (16 oz), drained and rinsed
- 1/2 pound shredded Swiss cheese
- 6 slices rye bread, crumbled
- 1/4 cup butter, melted

Instructions

Place corn beef in a lightly greased 9x13 baking dish. Dot with the dressing. Spread sauerkraut over top; sprinkle with cheese. Toss crumbled rye bread with butter then sprinkle over top. Bake at 350 degrees for about 30 minutes or until hot and bubbly.



NATIONAL SkinCancer & MELANOMA AWARENESS MONTH

