



Member Engagement Drives Farm Bureau Efforts



CCFB member volunteering for the FarmDocs program – a collaboration of CCFB and Carle's Illinois College of Medicine designed to introduce medical students to agriculture.



Well attended Burger Bash events took place this year throughout the county

Farm Bureau members represent the first line of action in our organization. Being a member of the Farm Bureau is about more than farming. Being engaged in the Farm Bureau is about the food on your plate, the fuel in your car, and the clothes on your back. Engaged members make a huge impact on the agriculture industry by giving their voices to issues that matter. Member engagement comes in many forms from participating in events, taking an active role on a committee, participating in an Action Request, or simply by paying membership dues and accessing over 302,000 member benefits.

Members made a huge impact on agriculture in 2022 by attending meetings, events, trips, and providing outreach to the community. Engaged members help spread the message about the importance of agriculture. Your thoughts and actions are valued by the farm bureau as we work together to spread our message. Over the past year, Champaign County Farm Bureau members took an active role in Action Requests impacting legislation on a state and national level, Champaign County's Agriculture in the Classroom

program was in local classrooms to educate youth about the importance of agriculture, the Women's Committee and Prime Timers provided quality programs and workshops to educate and impact member's lives. The list is quite extensive in regards to CCFB member activities and is successful because of member engagement.

Farm Bureau strives to grow its membership base from year to year and includes different types of membership. “M” members are people who are involved in production agriculture as an operator or landowner, owns land enrolled in conservation practices, has a financial interest in production agriculture or is part of a farming operation. “M” members

also have voting rights.

“Associate” members are Friends of the Farm Bureau, are not involved in agriculture, and do not have voting rights, although we

Continue Member Engagement, page 3

Champaign County Farm Bureau

Annual Meeting Notice

Notice is hereby given that the 111th Annual Meeting of the Champaign County Farm Bureau is called for Thursday, January 19th, 2023 at the Champaign County Farm Bureau, 801 N. Country Fair Dr, Champaign, IL.

The business meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of consideration of any business which may be properly presented.

Directors from the following townships will be elected:

- Crittenden
- East Bend
- Hensley
- Ogden
- Rantoul
- South Homer
- Tolono
- Urbana

Minutes of the 2022 CCFB Annual Meeting will be printed in the December edition of the CCFB newsletter.

Please fill out the information for the Proxy below and return by **Jan. 5th, 2023** to:

Champaign Co. Farm Bureau
801 N. Country Fair Dr.
Champaign, IL 61821

PROXY

KNOWN ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENT THAT

_____ (name of member) of _____ (address)

a voting member of the Champaign County Farm Bureau, a corporation organized under the law of Illinois, does hereby appoint and constitute Benjamin Rice of Sidney, Illinois, or failing him, Jason Watson of Villa Grove, Illinois, their true and lawful attorney to attend the annual meeting of the members of the Champaign County Farm Bureau to be held in the Champaign County Farm Bureau Building, Champaign, Illinois on the 19th day of January, 2023 and any and all adjustments thereof, and to vote for this member as its proxy and representative, the one vote which the member would be entitled to cast if actually present, upon any and all things competent to said member, as may in their judgement be necessary or advantageous for all interests of this corporation.

Member Name: _____

Member Address: _____

Email: _____

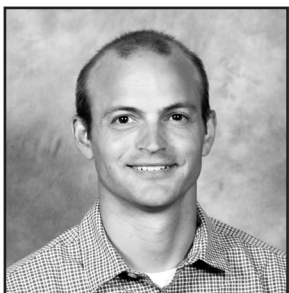
Phone: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

This proxy can also be filled out electronically at <https://form.jotform.com/champaignCFB/2023-ccfb-annual-meeting-proxy>

December Report



Paul Hunsinger, CCFB President

President, Paul Hunsinger

It seems winter is upon us and the holiday season is here. I hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving with their friends and family.

As I talked about last month, I am on the Resolutions Committee this year. The Resolutions Committee met in the middle of November to review and discuss the second round of policy resolution proposals. Policy proposals came from all across the state and touched on all the top issues that Farm Bureau Members are facing. There was a lot of good discussion about these new policy proposals and which ones should move onto the annual meeting to be voted on by the delegates at the Annual Meeting in December.

I hope everyone gets to spend some extra time with their family and friends over the holidays and has a Merry Christmas!.

Sincerely,
Paul Hunsinger

Prime Timers Meeting

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED by December 5
Call the CCFB Office 217-352-5235

Meeting Date: December 8, 2022
Program: Matt Hausman, Political Involvement
Entertainment: Mike & Kathy Brake
Meal cost: \$8 per person

Important Information

• FRIED CHICKEN BUFFET

- 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.

Calendar of Events

*General Meeting -
Monday, December 12th - 9:30am
January 2023 - No Meeting*

CCFB Calendar of Events December 2022

December 8	Prime Timers	10 a.m.
December 12	Women's Committee	9:30 a.m.
December 15	Full Board	6:30 p.m.
December 20	Governmental Affairs	7:30 a.m.

The office is closed from December 24th through January 2nd.



2023 Illinois Dairy Summit

FEBRUARY 1 / 10 A.M. - 3 P.M.

IS CUTTING COSTS ENOUGH? STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE PROFITABILITY

Visit IllinoisMilk.org for Summit details



Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA CHAMPAIGN

SAVE the DATE



Coming Soon

Scholarship Application Period
JANUARY 1- FEBRUARY 15



Agriculture students and Illinois Farm Bureau® (IFB) members, spouses and children are eligible to apply for 100 college scholarships offered by the IAA Foundation, Illinois Farm Bureau's charitable arm. The scholarships, ranging from \$1,000 to \$7,500, will be awarded in total of \$201,501 for the 2023-24 school year.

Students may apply for a variety of scholarships, including three IAA Foundation Distinguished Scholarships, where winners each receive \$5,000 awards. Another \$7,500 award goes to the Illinois Farm Bureau Legacy of Leadership scholarship winner. In addition to family scholarships often established to honor the memory of a loved one, the IAA Foundation offers scholarships on behalf of Prairie Farms Dairy. For 2023, the IAA Foundation is honored to administer the newly created Sandhu Minority in Agriculture Scholarship, and the Thomas E. and Mary Morgan Lykins Scholarship. Additionally, fellowships will once again support students pursuing advanced degrees in fields that directly relate to agriculture.

A full listing of available scholarships and eligibility guidelines is available on the Foundation website, www.iaafoundation.org. The application opens January 1 and must be completed online by February 15, 2023.



2023 GOVERNMENTAL Affairs LEADERSHIP Conference

SAVE the DATE

CHARTING the Course

FEB 14, 2023



ILLINOIS FARM BUREAU
Farm. Family. Food.™



YOUNG LEADER CONFERENCE '23

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

JANUARY 20-21 | EMBASSY SUITES
EAST PEORIA

FEATURING KEYNOTE
SPEAKER: TYNE MORGAN

Contact your County Farm Bureau to register.



2022 Annual Meeting Minutes

The 110th Annual Meeting of the Champaign County Farm Bureau was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Paul Hunsinger. The meeting was held in the auditorium of the Champaign County Farm Bureau.

Call of the Meeting by Benjamin Rice, Secretary

Benjamin read the official notice of the meeting: Notice is hereby given that the 110th Annual meeting of the Champaign County Farm Bureau is called for Thursday, January 21, 2021, at the Champaign County Farm Bureau, 801 N. Country Fair Dr. Champaign, Illinois. The business meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of consideration of any business that may be properly presented. Directors from the following townships will be elected: Ludlow, Newcomb, Philo, Raymond, Sadorus, St. Joseph, Scott, and Somer.

Credentials Committee Report by Benjamin Rice

Benjamin reported that the Credentials Committee consisting of himself, and Justin Leerkamp informed the President that a quorum was present. Therefore, the Secretary declared that the 110th Annual Meeting of the Champaign County Farm Bureau was legally convened.

Secretary's Report by Benjamin Rice

Benjamin stated that minutes of the 109th Annual Meeting of the Champaign

County Farm Bureau was published in the December 2021 edition of the Champaign County Farm Bureau News. It is the recommendation of the Board of Directors that the reading of the minutes be dispensed with.

A motion was made by Brennon Breymeyer, seconded by Gerald Henry, and carried to dispense with the reading of the minutes.

Benjamin asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the last annual meeting.

A motion was made by Benjamin Rice, seconded by Bob Barker to approve the minutes of the 109th Annual Meeting as written.

Treasurer's Report by Brennon Breymeyer, Treasurer

Brennon stated that the Treasurer's report for the Champaign County Farm Bureau was available on the table or on the screen.

A motion was made by Brennon Breymeyer, seconded by Trent Wolken and carried to approve the financial statement be approved as printed.

Introduction of Retiring Board Members by Paul Hunsinger, President

Paul recognized the retiring Board members and presented them with a gift of appreciation: Tanna Suits from Ludlow Township, Andy Hughes of Philo Township, Justin Leerkamp from

Raymond Township, Joann O'Connor from Scott Township, Virginia Busboom of Compromise, and Steve Hammel of Somer Township.

Introduction of Nominating Committee by Jason Watson, 1st Vice-President

Jason introduced the nominating committee which consisted of: Andy Hughes, Justin Leerkamp, Steve Hammel, Tanna Suits, Joann O'Connor, Virginia Busboom, Mark Pflugmacher, Eric Suits, Derek Harms, and himself.

Members Running for an additional term by Jason Watson

Jason shared with the board the members running for an additional term: Craig Anderson Newcomb Township, Ryan Musson Sadorus Township and Greg Knott St. Joseph Township.

Candidates nominated for the First Time by Jason Watson

Jason revealed candidates nominated for the first time: Matt Schluter Ludlow Township, Casey Hettinger Philo Township, Parker Smith Raymond Township, Byron Mackey Scott Township, and Adam Sharp Somer Township.

President Paul Hunsinger nominated Lucas McHarry, Tanna Suits and Craig Anderson to serve as tellers who will count the ballots in case of a contested election. He asked for nominations from the floor and there were none.

A motion was made by Dale Franzen,

seconded by Steve Hammel, and carried for the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for the nominated candidates.

Approval of IAA Delegates and Actions and Deeds by Paul Hunsinger

Paul asked for a motion to authorize the Board of Directors to select the delegates for the 2022 IAA Annual Meeting and to approve the actions and deeds of the Board of Directors of 2021.

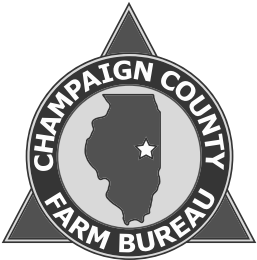
A motion was made by Greg Knott, seconded by Benjamin Rice, and carried to allow the Board of Directors to select delegates to the 2022 IAA Annual meeting and approve the actions and deeds of the Board of Directors of 2021.

Adjournment of Meeting by Paul Hunsinger

Paul asked for a motion to adjourn the 110th Annual Meeting of the Champaign County Farm Bureau.

A motion was made by Steve Hammel, seconded by Virginia Busboom, and carried to adjourn the meeting.

Paul Hunsinger declared the Annual Meeting of the Champaign County Farm Bureau adjourned at 7:08 p.m.



Member Engagement continued from Page 1

welcome their insights and involvement in our organization.

“Professional Membership” (PM), gives non-farmers working in ag-related fields voting rights. Professional members

include community members involved in some aspects of agriculture such as your seed salesmen, accountant, or ag lender. The addition of professional members to our organization is important to agribusiness and the entire agriculture industry. PM members bring with them new connections, different points of view, and valuable networking opportunities. We are continually working to

engage with and grow our PM membership through efforts where PM members get the chance to network and learn from their peers in agribusiness industry.

Recruiting new members is a challenge, but it is vital to the Farm Bureau's success in an ever-changing industry. New voices and different ideas keep members on their toes

when it comes to policies, bylaws, issues tackled at meetings, legislative issues, and the list goes on. CCFB needs YOUR help as the agriculture industry continues to evolve. Farmers deal with a wide variety of people daily and these people have the potential to impact the Farm Bureau. Bringing new members into the fold can help the Farm Bureau continue to grow from the roots up!



CCFB Members attending a Drainage Meeting.



Women's Committee members shown making an impact in the community by presenting a donation to the Eastern Illinois Foodbank.



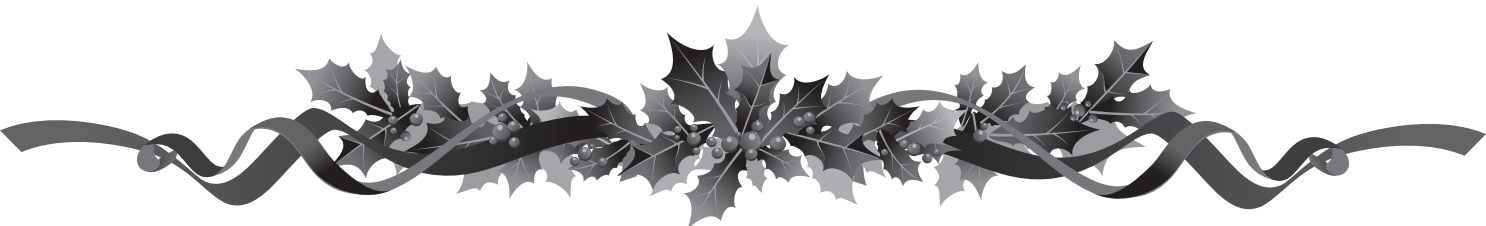
The Women's Committee hosted an outreach event at Curtis Orchard to educate the public about the importance of agriculture.



Champaign County Farm Bureau Board of Directors Officer Team.



Toolshed Meetings were held in August featuring guest speaker Mark Gebhards from the Illinois Farm Bureau.



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Fueling our Industry.

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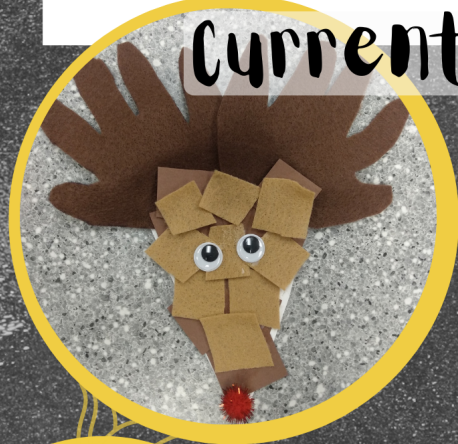


Ag in the Classroom 2022-23



December is a short month for our Ag in the Classroom teachers to reach all their classrooms. Therefore, we have developed Agriculture On Your Own (AOYO) kits for the schools to continue their lessons according to their schedules. This month's lesson is Reindeer Magic. The kit includes materials for a craft reindeer for K-1st and a STEM activity of reindeer races for 2nd-8th.
<https://www.agintheclassroom.org>

Current Lessons



Simple and Complex Machines

Sponsored by **BIRKEY'S**

Kindergarten and first grade students learned how even simple machines can make work easier, such as using a funnel.

Second grade and higher invented their own hay kicker using popsicle sticks, spoons, rubberbands and tape.



www.ccfbfoundation.com/aitc



Champaign County Ag in the Classroom



Flight Night for Agriculture

WE BELIEVE ALL STUDENTS SHOULD BE GROUNDED IN AG!

Thank You!

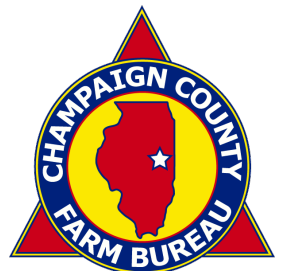
3 ways to donate

Online: www.ccfbfoundation.com/grounded
Mobile: QR Code | Mail In or Donate at the Door



Contact us about company sponsorship opportunities! Like us on Facebook or visit www.ccfbfoundation.com for more information

Thank you to our generous sponsors who helped make this year's Flight Night for Agriculture a huge success!



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217-352-1411
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Scholarship Applications are Open

Visit our website for more info or to apply!

www.ccfbfoundation.com/scholarship



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Consider a donation to the CCFB Foundation!



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Two Key Reasons Why Car Insurance Goes Up

by Kristin Smith @countryfinancial.com

When it seems that everything costs more these days, you may ask why car insurance costs go up. You drive the same way you have month after month and year after year, so why should the cost change? Here are two key factors impacting auto insurance rates.

Increased technology in cars

Basically, our cars got fancy. Back in the day, a fender bender resulted in a small repair and a small repair bill. Today, you're replacing more than a headlight. It's a special-ordered, LED headlight. Don't even get started with the sensors in that fender. The more bells and whistles, the more it costs to fix.

Healthcare costs

When health care prices rise, so do auto insurance rates because auto insurance covers the medical costs of those injured in accidents or collisions.

How you can help control auto insurance cost

While you can't control car repair or healthcare costs, you can help control the cost of car insurance by:

- Maintaining your vehicle: Keep up with oil changes, brake repair, tire replacement, and other necessary maintenance. A well-maintained car is a safer car.
- Carpooling: Ride to work with friends or colleagues. If you work at the same place or are close to each other, you can take turns driving. You'll save some gas money, reduce the number of cars on the road and have time to connect with your friends.
- Putting your phone away: Distracted driving accounts for a high number of car accidents. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the "estimated number of drivers using electronic devices during the day is 660,000." That includes people who text, snap photos, record videos, and more. The younger the driver, the higher the distraction rates. So, stow your phone before you start the car.
- Knowing your route: When you know where you're going and how you'll get there before you start driving, you'll be a more focused driver. This isn't an issue for daily driving in familiar areas, but if you're on a trip or in an unfamiliar part of your hometown, review your route and use hands-free GPS.
- Selecting your music before you hit the road: Who doesn't love a good soundtrack while driving? Just pick your playlist before you go, so you aren't changing music while you're driving.

Need help controlling the cost of car insurance? Your local COUNTRY Financial insurance agent can help.



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Administrative Assistant
Champaign Agency



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KORY KRAUS,
GENERAL MANAGER

From The Field

by Dr. Howard Brown

STATUS OF APPLIED NUTRIENTS

Nitrogen (N): Applications of anhydrous ammonia made to the cool November soils will extend the period-of-time ammonium-N remains in a form that resists movement. Nitrification inhibitors added to the applied anhydrous ammonia will delay the conversion process even longer. Can N still be lost? Yes. If winter soil temperatures favor microbial activity, applied N can be converted to nitrate-N making it vulnerable to loss prior to plant uptake next spring. Creating an N Management System is the best way to manage the risk of N loss. Visit with your local Illini FS Crop Specialist about creating or improving how N is managed.

Phosphorus and Potassium: The lack of excessive rain events in November allowed an application of dry fertilizer (P and K) to be temporarily fixed by the soil minimizing the chance of loss through surface runoff or preferential flow (water movement in large soil pores). Nutrients exposed to soil over a week or two react with soil and form less water soluble compounds or become attached to the soil surface. Nutrient loss can still occur with soil loss caused by wind and water erosion.

SOIL EROSION IS THE PRIMARY AVENUE OF PHOSPHORUS AND POTASSIUM LOSSES. Nutrient interactions with thawed surface soil do not eliminate the possible loss of nutrients with soil movement (soil erosion). The best answer to minimize surface soil movement is with conservation tillage practices, and the use of cover crops. Soil is a non-renewable natural resource within the term of our lifetime. We can take better care of it, but we will not see it recreated. Watch other farmers that use practices that minimize soil loss and determine whether they are worth a try in 2023.

MAKE TIME DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER TO CONSIDER TRYING SOMETHING NEW. Curiosity about carbon sequestration and carbon credit trading programs continues to grow. Agriculture is the World's largest warehouse for storing atmospheric carbon. Voluntary programs are front page discussions, but regulatory discussions are underway as well (governmental involvement). There are some risks associated with carbon sequestering programs, but now is the time to learn. Take one field and plan a program that includes cover crops and reduced tillage. Create Nutrient and Pest Management Plans that focus on M.O.M. Start small and limit risk of setbacks. Visit with your local Illini FS Crop Specialist about developing plans or changing a cropping system. Illini FS seeded over 2,700 acres of cereal rye post-harvest. We are learning as well. So far, early-seeded stands look uniform.

SOIL TESTING BEYOND 7 INCHES. Crop root systems remove nutrients from the upper soil profile beyond the standard 7-inch sampling depth. Exploring soil test levels deeper into the profile may uncover a stronger relationship between soil test level and crop yield. Illini FS is taking a close look at relationships between 0 – 24 inch soil test and tissue analyses over time. NuTRACKER Plus will continue to evaluate the concentration of nutrients found in the soil and plant at specific stages of growth. What was learned in 2022 helped modify nutrient management in 2023.

THE 2022 ILLINI FS ON-FARM DISCOVERY REPORT WILL BE RELEASED SOMETIME EARLY DECEMBER. Visit with your local Illini FS Crop Specialist for a report summary or to request a copy of the complete 2022 Trial Report. The report will feature aggregated reports from NuTRACKER Plus, Nutrients Removed by Grain, and an N-TRACKER Tile Water.

A NEW APPROACH. We need to revisit the depth of soil sampling. The plow layer (upper 6-7 inches) had significance over 50 years ago, but its relevance has diminished in an era of conservation tillage and sustainable high yields. The standard phosphorus and potassium nutrient applications need to reflect nutrient removal on a site-specific basis. Corn yielding 220+ bushel/acre and 80+ bushel/acre soybeans remove far more nutrients within areas of a field than are replaced with traditional fertilizer applications, whether straight rate or variable rate applications according to soil tests. What role with sulfur, zinc and boron have with sustainable higher yields? What is the best way to determine the amount of phosphorus and potassium to apply? How much nitrogen is needed to optimize yield within the field, when should it be applied and where it should be placed? These and many other questions drive Illini FS to discover new and better ways to manage crop inputs. Not an easy task, but we are trying. Visit with your local Illini FS crop specialist about technologies we have tested and have adopted to make input management decisions that improve farm profitability. Is it easy to find a way to consistently increase farm profitability? It is not about “easy”, but “needed”. Not purchasing crop inputs from Illini FS? Let us share with you our Business Aspiration. Give us a try. We won't disappoint you.

ILLINI FS CONTINUES TO LEARN MORE ABOUT GRAIN NUTRIENT REMOVAL WITHIN THE FIELD.

On-Farm Discovery work has uncovered that P and K removal rates vary significantly within fields. What if removal rates can be lowered with no overall effect on harvest yield? Such a discovery would improve farm profitability and maximize nutrient utilization. It would demonstrate agriculture's focus on M.O.M. What we have learned from our 2022 nutrient removal projects and other discovery trials will be shared at upcoming local farmer meetings. Lessons learned from tracking plant-available nutrients during the growing season over the past six years. Are you interested in discovering nutrient removal rates from your field? Visit your local Illini F.S. Crop Specialist to participate in nutrient removal projects for 2023. Make sure you attend one of the upcoming Innovative Agronomy meetings.

ACCURATE HARVEST YIELD MAPS ARE NEEDED FOR DECISION-MAKING. The importance of harvest yield data management continues to be emphasized as we enter an era of input management within a field. A wide range of variable rate technologies allows for changing the rate of input application, seeding rate, planter down pressure, and pesticide applications across the field. The primary metric (measure) used to determine a treatment's economic Return-On-Investment (R.O.I.) is harvest yield. Make time to maintain/replace yield monitoring systems on the combine before the next harvest season. It is essential to make management decisions on good harvest yield data. Make plans now.

SULFUR APPLICATIONS CONTINUE TO SUPPORT HIGHER CROP YIELDS. Over the past two years, many strip trials have resulted in an economic R.O.I. The form of sulfur applied will make a significant difference in crop response. Elemental sulfur is water-insoluble and is not plant-available. It is typically ground into a fine powder and pressed into pastilles to be blended with dry fertilizer. Elemental sulfur must be oxidized by soil microbes, which won't happen until sometime in June, making it a poor choice for early growth of the 2023 crop. Sulfate-sulfur is the form-of-choice here forward. Common sulfate-Sulfur containing fertilizers include Ammonium Thiosulfate (A.T.S.), Ammonium Sulfate (A.M.S.), Calcium Sulfate (Gypsum), and Micro-Essentials MES-10 (50% elemental S and 50% sulfate-sulfur). If you need help sourcing a sulfate-sulfur fertilizer for 2023 visit with your local Illini F.S. Crop Specialist.

IT IS TIME TO ADD BORON AND ZINC TO THE NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN.

NuTRACKER Plus continues to suggest the need for supplemental boron and zinc. On-Farm Discovery Trials confirm the same. The combination of nutrient concentration in the upper soil profile and tissue analysis at V4 and V.T. validate the need to investigate crop response possibilities. Does every farmer need to apply supplemental zinc and boron on every field? Should farmers be testing for crop response to these two micronutrients? Does the form of nutrient applied, and timing of application make a difference? Visit with your local Illini F.S. Crop Specialist and ask for help with the source, rate, timing, and placement of both boron and zinc in 2023. Please remember that the rate of boron applied matters. Boron has the smallest range between deficiency and toxicity of any essential nutrient. More IS NOT better. Let Illini F.S. help create your Nutrient Management Plan.

DESIGNATE A FIELD FOR ON-FARM DISCOVERY. Although the number of products that claim to improve harvest yield continues to grow, local data showing a consistent response is usually inconsistent or nonexistent. Many products are supported by data collected from across the Midwest. Unfortunately, a field local to Central Iowa may not reasonably estimate a field in East-Central Illinois. Take ownership of determining the value of new products by selecting one of your fields and designating it as a place to test new products or practices in 2023. Technology makes it relatively easy to apply treatments, and your local Illini F.S. Crop Specialist will make it easy to create a trial design and locate the product for treatments. Let them help you track crop response, whether it be scouting for treatment response on the ground or from the air (we have nine licensed pilots with drones). On-Farm Discovery focuses on addressing your questions in your fields, utilizing your data.



Homemade For The Holidays

For the family’s love of homemade cinnamon rolls, I quietly step through the silence of our predawn home and into the kitchen to get rolling.

Still dark outside, I work from the glow of Christmas tree and the light of the kitchen island, where I had staged the final roll-making supplies the night before. I softly stream holiday music and savor the early morning peace, interrupted only by the tick of a warming stove and gentle blow from the furnace vents. That moment continues a home-baked holiday tradition at least three generations old, taught by my mother and grandmother before me. Now, my daughter often joins me.

Two hours later, the fragrance of baked cinnamon rolls fills the house, something like the loving aroma of a Thanksgiving meal. The household stirs, ready for the sweet, warm richness we enjoy around the holidays. When age 4, our son provided the only objection that I can recall. Mind you, I had sacrificed sleep to make the family-recipe rolls when he awoke and asked for pancakes. I managed to laugh at his innocent, insulting request. Now 10 years later, the cinnamon rolls have won him over.

As a kid, I remember cinnamon roll dough rising in every warm spot of the house. I recall the rhythm of Mom rolling the dough at the counter and the way she uniformly sprinkled brown sugar and cinnamon across the dough, free from the over-applied globs I struggled with as a newbie. The timing at which to frost them seals the deal — slightly melted to a transparent sheen to reveal the cinnamon-brown sugar swirl, but thick enough to sit atop a warm roll.

Dozens upon dozens of foil pans full of fresh cinnamon rolls left the farmhouse in which I grew up. Mom topped them with a bow for neighbors, landlords and relatives. I preferred mine at the dining room table with a glass of store-bought chocolate milk, which she purchased only around the holidays. I would slowly unwind the roll, eating it from tail to core every morning when they were available. I’ve eaten far more cinnamon rolls than my age for this annual tradition.

Maggi’s Membership Corner

By Maggi Maxstadt, CCFB Membership & Outreach Coordinator

Happy December, Farm Bureau members!

Taking time to look back on the events of the year, I wanted to say thank you to those members that were able to attend any of our events this year, whether it was in-person or virtually. With time flying as fast as it has been, 2023 will be here in a jiffy.

As we look towards the new year, the Champaign County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting will be held in mid-January, with a proxy format similar to the past couple of years. The CCFB Board of Directors is going to review the events



CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FARM BUREAU NEWS

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OFFICERS

Paul Hunsinger, Mahomet Township President
Jason Watson, Crittenden Township 1st Vice-President
Greg Knott, St. Joseph Township 2nd Vice-President
Benjamin Rice, Sidney Township Secretary
Brennon Breyemyer, Ogden Township Treasurer

Craig Anderson, Newcomb; Bob Barker, Champaign; Maynard Birkey, East Bend; Mike Briggs, Past President; Marilyn Whalen, Women’s Committee Chair; Paulette Brock, Women’s Committee Vice-Chair; Chandler Bruns, Urbana; Joe Burke, Marketing Chair; Doug Downs, Ayers; Dale Franzen, Rantoul; Meg Hansens, Condit; Gerald Henry, Prime Timers Chair; Casey Hettinger, Philo; Mark Horton, Brown; Mark Jones, Hensley; Brian Krukewitt, South Homer; Byron Mackey, Scott; Lucas Meharry, Pesotum; Ryan Musson, Sadorus; Matt Schluter, Ludlow; Adam Sharp, Somer; Les Siuts, Stanton; Parker Smith, Raymond; Tom Swigart, Tolono; Kaitlin Tharp, Colfax; Trent Wolken, Harwood/Kerr

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FARM BUREAU
Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday
Manager -- Bradley Uken, FBCM
Assistant Manager -- Bailey Conrady
Communications Director -- Lesley Gooding
Administrative Assistant -- Brenda Wood
Membership & Outreach Coordinator -- Maggi Maxstadt
Ag In The Classroom Director -- Sarah Kaper
Foundation Director -- Kirk Bulta

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of the past year and elect township directors for eight townships. Due to the proxy format, we need our voting members to individually fill out the proxy form found on page 1.

When the end of January rolls around, it’s time to start talking about the NEW PLAT BOOKS. I had to capitalize that since it’s been a long wait and a LOT of you have been asking! The new plat books should be hitting our shelves in early February, and you’ll be hearing from the CCFB when they are available.

I mentioned last month that along with the books we offer plat maps, which are on a first-come, first-served basis. For those of you who live out of the Champaign-Urbana area, we can also ship your plat book for cost of the book plus shipping.

Around the same time as the plat books’ arrival, the 2023 Trips will be announced.

Please note that our office is closed from Christmas Eve through January 2nd. We will re-open at 8 am on January 3rd. Have a wonderful and safe holiday season, and happy New Year! Cheers to 2023!

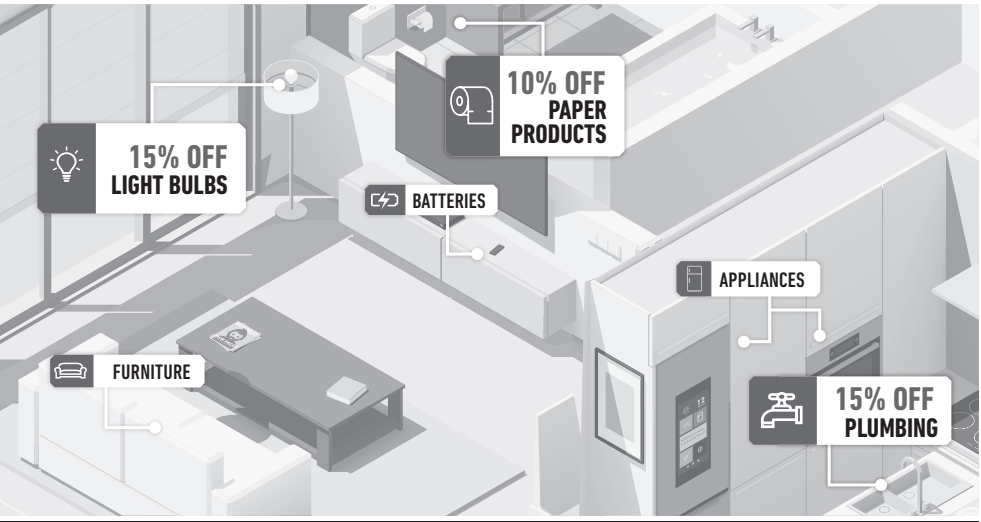


While much about the farm has changed with time and technology, we remain rooted in our favorite traditions. Nothing warms the soul quite like the homemade instructions that fill my recipe books. Even if it’s pancakes.

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.

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A Look Back...100 Volumes of CCFB History

Wrapping up our year of taking a look at CCFB history will highlight the years 1935, 1964, and 2006. Take a minute to reflect on the events, photos, and articles that made headlines in Champaign County.

December 1935 – The CCFB Newsletter highlighted the County Corn Husking Contest stating, “Approximately 1,000 people attended the contest and showed much interest in the progress of the boys in the field and in the loads as they came from the fields and were weighed.” The photo of the Three Top



Notchers Topped the Corn Field include from left to right: Tom Weller, Route No. 1, Urbana, Third; Wilbur Clark, Route No. 2, Sadorus, Second; and Kenneth Gould, Sadorus, First.

December 1964 – This newsletter featured a monthly column called Let’s Talk It Over....by J. Glyndon Stuff, Sec-

retary of the Organization. This column featured a poem along with Merry Christmas wishes from the Champaign County Farm Bureau staff.

“After the carols have faded
And the gifts have been tucked away,
And the candles are stubs of formless
wax.

And the snow has mouldered to gray-
After the holly withers,
And the berries are rusted brown,
And the carpets sparkle with tinselled
fir

Where needles came tumbling down-
After the dream has ended
And the embers are burning low,
May the Christ, the Heart of Christ-
mas,
Still brighten the afterglow.”

December 2006 – This newsletter put members on alert! A recent rash of burglaries in rural Champaign County was a big concern! The article stated, “There were two burglaries in one week and there have been about 20 burglaries from farm shed during the last several years.” Even today members should be keeping their eyes and ears open for unusual activity and vehicles in their area. The article encourages rural residents to lock sheds, leave outside lights on, and take keys from all equipment.

Agriculture In The Classroom

Agriculture in the Classroom has been making a significant impact on the Champaign County community. Staff and volunteers have been busy visiting schools, teaching kids about agriculture, and working with local organizations to spread the message about the importance of agriculture.



A big thank you to all of those who helped make these AITC donations possible including Joshua Dunn, MTD Illinois Terminal Director; Javaite Burton, United Way; and Dave Mies, CU Kiwanis



CCFB AITC Director Sarah Kaper (left) is pictured with Wendy Carmien (right), 2022 AITC Teacher of the Year 3rd grade teacher at St. Thomas, Philo.



AITC donated books and ag mags to Kiwanis. Several of the books and flyers were placed in the new bookcase at the MTD center.



Several books related to urban gardening and George Washington Carver were donated to the Urbana Neighborhood Connections Center. The Center has an excellent afterschool program primarily serving the African-American community in that area.



WOMEN'S COMMITTEE RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Submitted by Juanita Henry
Apple Crisp

“This recipe was given to me by my grandmother.”

Directions

- Grease large pan – 9 X 13
- Slice apples into the pan
- Peel apples – use any kind of apple you want
- Fill pan to top with the apples
- Sprinkle flour – 1 cup or more over the top of apples and shake the pan
- Pour one cup of sugar over the top of apples
- Melt 1-2 sticks of margarine
- Add 1 cup oatmeal, 1 cup brown sugar – mix
- Spread topping over the apples & flour
- Bake 350 degrees until done
- Can serve with ice cream on top

Illinois Farm Bureau Releasing Documentary

Illinois Farm Bureau is proud to highlight the work our members are doing to improve soil health and water quality through a documentary titled “Sustaining Our Future: A Farm Family Story,” which debuts Dec. 3 at the Illinois Farm Bureau Annual Meeting. IFB Annual Meeting attendees will view a 15-minute excerpt from the hour long documentary, which follows the Ganschow family of Bureau County to illustrate how three generations of farmers approach sustainability. Their efforts are representative of the farmer spirit and collaboration required to achieve the goals of the Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy, which involves the work of countless Illinois Farm Bureau members implementing solutions on their farms.

Illinois farmers have a proven track record when it comes to caring for our natural resources. Whether implementing new solutions to utilize fertilizer efficiently, install conservation practices, or engage in meaningful discussions with university researchers and industry partners, farmer efforts continue to drive innovative solutions that improve their farms while protecting the environment.



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UNLEADED 87	UNLEADED 88	E85 (FLEX FUEL)
E10 (UNLEADED 87) = 10% ethanol and 90% gasoline	E15 (UNLEADED 88 or UNLEADED 15) = 15% ethanol and 85% gasoline	E85 (Flex Fuel) = 85% ethanol and 15% gasoline
<ul style="list-style-type: none">A little more expensive than E15All vehicles can run on E10Nearly all U.S. gas today contains at least 10% ethanol, reducing GHG emissions that equates to taking 20M cars off the road annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Usually less expensive than E10Safe for all vehicles 2001 or newerBurns cleaner and is better for your engine – higher octane boosts engine efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Usually the cheapest fuel option; high-performance fuel with an octane rating ranging from 100-105Only used in Flex Fuel Vehicles – to see if you own a FFV look for a yellow gas cap or ring, or E85 listed on the inside of your fuel filler doorCorn-based ethanol used in E85 results in much less GHG emissions than the same amount of gasoline

“In Chicago and even in our rural areas, 40%-70% of our air pollution problems are from mobile transportation. We need to choose a fuel that’s a good clean-air choice.”

- Angela Tin, VP of Environmental Health, American Lung Association, Upper Midwest

Ethanol helps reduce our **GHG emissions**. And reduced emissions mean **fewer health issues**, like cases of respiratory illnesses, asthma, heart disease, lung disease, cancer and even fewer premature deaths. Plus, ethanol helps **lower gas prices** by expanding supplies and reducing the need for imports.

Reference: <https://ethanolrfa.org/consumers>

For more information, please visit WatchUsGrow.org/homegrown-corn

