



August, 2017

Annual Farm Bureau Membership Drive

How Farm Bureau works for YOU

Women’s Committee Invites you on August 14th!

The Champaign County Farm Bureau Women’s Committee is open to ALL Farm Bureau members who are women. The Women’s Committee meets once a month on the second Monday at 9:30 AM, typically at the Champaign County Farm Bureau Auditorium, unless noted otherwise. The ladies on this committee have focused on health and safety the last few years, encouraging members to ask questions to gain a better understanding. The Women’s Committee is also a social group that meets for lunch after every meeting. Aside

from monthly meetings, the Women’s Committee is dedicated to education and volunteering in the community to promote the agriculture industry. On August 14th, the program for the day will be on compounded medicine. This program is being provided by St. Joseph Apothecary and will cover specialized medicines, particular to any individual case. Compounded medications are made based on a practitioner’s prescription in which individual ingredients are mixed together in the exact strength and dosage form required by the patient. To learn more, join us on the 14th!

Toolshed Meetings

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

The Champaign County Farm Bureau is hosting a series of Summer Toolshed Meetings on **Tuesday, August 8, 2017.**

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

- **8:30 a.m.**– Derek Harm’s Farm
Breakfast will be provided.
address: **2223 CR 2200 N**
St. Joseph, IL 61873
- **11:30 a.m.**– Paul Berbaum’s Farm
Lunch will be served.
address: **467 CR 1600 N**
Bondville, IL 61815
- **3:00 p.m.**– Darrel Rice’s, Sidney Dairy Barn ice cream will be available.
address: **768 CR 1800 E**
Philo, IL 61864

- Issues to be covered:
- State budget impacts and reform options
 - 2018 Farm Bill
 - Regulatory issues present, future & reform opportunities
 - FBACT
 - **YOUR CONCERNS**



Phone: 217-352-5235
E-mail: ccfb@ccfarmbureau.com



July Recap

President, Chris Murray

As we began to see drier conditions throughout the county in the early part of the month, it was a blessing to receive the moisture we did. With these much-needed rains, we also received strong winds, but we were able to see our crops bounce back some. During the month of July, we also witnessed fungicide application throughout Champaign. This past month was Champaign County’s turn to represent our district (District 12) for the state resolutions committee. We held our first meeting reviewing proposed resolutions submitted by county Farm Bureau members. This provided a great opportunity to see how our state works together to improve our represented policy. Locally, over the next couple weeks people in the county will have a great chance to hear from Mark Gebhardt on state and federal issues affecting our industry. Toolshed meetings are held annually to provide the Champaign County Farm Bureau membership an opportunity to come listen from Mark and ask questions pertaining to legislative issues, topics provided or related information affecting agriculture. These toolshed meetings will be spread throughout the county to accommodate people who wish to participate.

Sincerely,
Chris Murray



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

Agriculture Leaders of
Yesterday, Today and
Tomorrow: ALOYTT
Invites YOU to:
Dinner at The Ribeye
(Dutch treat!)

Sunday, August 20th
6:00 PM

Reservations Required by: *Monday, August 14*
Call 352-5235 to RSVP and plan to JOIN US for a
GREAT MEAL and an evening of FUN!

RSVP is Necessary

“Check Your Calendar!”
August 2017

7	Marketing Club	6:30 PM
8	Toolshed Meetings	8:30, 11:30 AM & 3 PM
8	Premier Ladies Marketing	9:30 AM
9	Drainage Meeting	8 AM
10	Prime Timers	10 AM
10	Land Use	6:30 PM
14	Women’s Committee	9:30 AM
14	Foundation Golf Outing	
15	Legislative Committee	7:30 AM
17	Full Board	6:30 PM
30	Equine Committee	9 AM

September 2017

4	Labor Day - Office Closed	
7	Young Ag Leaders	6:30 PM
11	Women’s Committee	9:30 AM
12	WILL FALL OUTLOOK	7 PM
13	Prime Timers	10 AM
16	Women’s Committee at Curtis Orchard	

Trying to Figure Out the Markets?
What Percentage of New Crop
Should I be Selling?

Champaign County Farm Bureau
Marketing Club
Invites you to:

WILL Radio - AM 580
Fall Outlook Meeting
Tuesday, September 12th
(one week later than normal due to the Labor Day holiday)

7:00PM
Champaign County Farm Bureau Auditorium

Heritage High School Welcomes New Ag Instructor



Brooke Mohr

I was blessed to have grown up on a grain farm in the southern part of Champaign County. I am a 2010 Heritage High School graduate and then in 2013 graduated from Illinois State University with a Bachelor's degree in Agronomy Management. After graduation I spent 3 years working for Crop Production Services doing various different things from managing seed accounts to precision agriculture tasks as well. I then began my teaching career at Armstrong Township

High School this past year (2016-2017). I enjoyed the opportunity to find my interest for agriculture education at ATHS although I have now moved on from Armstrong to Heritage High School where I will begin this August. I am so grateful for the chance to come back and contribute to grow a program that helped build me to who I am today. I am looking forward to getting started with the students and expanding involvement in the community where I was born into a love for agriculture. The Champaign County Farm Bureau has had a major role in my journey to this point. I was a gracious recipient of the CCFB Scholarship for 4 years, I am a current CCFB member and am involved in Young Ag Leaders also. I am so excited to share my passion of agriculture and FFA with the students at Heritage High School.



Upcoming Trip



Fair Oaks Farm located in Fair Oaks, IN, is a day trip you don't want to miss! This trip is short on travel time and big on agriculture adventure. Join the Champaign County Farm Bureau on August 22 for a 1 day trip which includes transportation, Dairy & Pig Adventure and Crop Adventure, lunch at Farmhouse Restaurant and ice cream at the Cowfe' (cost \$75 per person). Each Fair Oaks Farm visitor is guaranteed to learn something new about agriculture. Your day will begin with the *Dairy Adventure* which includes an up close look at sustainable dairy farming. Visitors have the opportunity to visit the birthing barn, participate in a bus adventure with a first-hand view of the Fair Oaks Farm milking operation and a 4D Theatre.

Moving on to the *Pig Adventure* you will journey into the world of modern pig farming. Exhibits include the farrowing barn, interactive ESF, and Ultrasound Experience. Lastly, you will explore the *WinField Crop Adventure*. According to Fair Oaks Farm this tour "takes you underneath a farmer's fields. You'll learn how farmers, agronomists, processors and many others will help feed 9 billion people." Lunch at the Farmhouse Restaurant followed by ice cream will leave you full for the short trip home. Register by August 7th to secure your spot for this fun, educational trip! A fun fact to think about while on your visit...according to Fair Oaks Farm website "Fair Oaks Farms brings Reduce, Reuse, Recycle to a whole new light. Our entire facility runs on cow & pig manure."

Visit Negangards Pumpkin Patch This Fall!

By: Lesley Gooding



Farmers strive to diversify their operations, looking for new revenue streams, and opportunities to get more generations involved in the family farm operation. Negangard Pumpkin Patch in Champaign County is a great example of thinking outside the box. They have added a successful pumpkin growing operation to their farm and have included the entire family in the process. According to the Negangard Family, they started growing pumpkins in the early 1970's. "It all started as a competition to see who could grow the biggest pumpkin! The oldest brother, Larry, started the business idea as college fund for his son, and it all stemmed from there. Currently Kyle, Roger, and Mitch are running the operations with the profits going towards their college funds." The Negangards, a fifth-generation farm family, raise corn, soybeans, livestock, hay, oats, wheat, sunflowers,

intensive manual labor hours; everything is done by hand from planting to picking. Kyle points out, "Planting is done by using a hand planter, all of the weeds in the pumpkins are chopped out by hand, and when picking the pumpkins, we load them onto rack wagons and then bring them up to the yard and place them in rows according to size, shape, and variety. During the picking and selling process is when we are fortunate enough to get help from family and friends that put in countless hours of strenuous effort that we are extremely grateful for." Negangard Pumpkin Patch is a true family operation; several generations of this family are working together including grandma and grandpa, brothers and sister in laws, nieces and nephews. Everyone in the family, who is able, is willing to pitch in a helping hand however and whenever they can.



and pumpkins! Negangard pumpkins are grown on 35 acres of land just outside of Sidney, IL. According to Kyle Negangard "Central Illinois has an excellent climate for growing pumpkins, being unique to this particular area, there seemed to be a big interest in this community. This has continued to fuel our interest in growing the highest quality pumpkins, gourds, and squash, while also possessing an immense variety of shapes, sizes, and colors." Pumpkin planting occurs in late spring when it is warm enough and wet enough for the seeds to germinate. Kyle says after planting "we hope for no extremes in the weather as far as heat or cold as well as rain or drought. Planting usually takes 1-2 weeks depending on how many we have to replant." Throughout the growing season the family will be monitoring the pumpkin crop for weeds, insects, and disease. As the growing season comes to an end, the entire family pitches in for pumpkin harvest. Pumpkin harvest typically lasts 5 to 6 weeks from mid-September to late October. Growing pumpkins takes a lot of time, effort, and great weather. Growing ornamental pumpkins requires

Over the years, demand for Negangard pumpkins has increased. As a result, the family has increased the number of pumpkin acres and varieties planted. Visitors to Negangards will see pumpkins, squash, corn stalks, Indian corn and straw bales covering the farmstead's front lawn arranged according to price. Customers stroll through the pumpkins, often stopping for photo ops with the scenic Champaign County farmland as a backdrop. Kyle says, "It's amazing how the word about the pumpkin patch has spread so much through the years with word of mouth by far being our number one source of endorsement. We are extremely lucky to have such amazing customers that promote the patch from year to year. Did you know Illinois is the largest pumpkin producing state in America? Pumpkin patches dot the Champaign County landscape. Be sure to check one out near you this fall! You can visit Negangard Pumpkin Patch located at 1883 County Road 700 N, Sidney, Illinois. They are open from late September through October 31 and maintain a Facebook page to keep customers updated!



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KIRK BULTA
Executive Director



MYLA MUNRO
Earth Partners Coordinator



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2017 Summer Ag Camp - Thank You!

By: Myla Munro

The Champaign County Farm Bureau Foundation partnered with the Champaign Park District and the Champaign County Farm Bureau to host Ag Camp in June at Parkland College. As part of the Champaign Park District's summer camp schedule, our volunteers taught more than 150 campers over the course of two weeks. Each week, campers and in some cases counselors, learned more about agriculture through hands-on activities, interactive lessons and field trips!

Throughout the week, campers rotated from station to station learning about different aspects of agriculture. On the first day of camp, campers learned about water and natural resource conservation thanks to Jonathon Manual of the Champaign County Soil and Water Conservation District. Campers also had an opportunity to visit with Fisher FFA member, Sophia Hortin's piglet and learn more about soybean byproducts that are common in our households. The final session of the first day focused around drones and technol-



Fisher FFA member and Section 17 President, Sophia Hortin shared her love of piglets and raising hogs with campers during Ag Camp.

ogy. Campers learned how farmers use drones on their farms and built a foam glider which they were able to test pilot!

The second day of camp focused on nutrition, plants and the diversity of Illinois agriculture. Colleen Hattan, co-owner of Dish Passionate Cuisine, led a hands-on cooking session that everyone enjoyed. Campers worked as a group to create tacos, all while learning about food science and food safety. In the session titled The Plant Parts You Eat, which campers got to literally play with their food to determine what parts of the plant they eat. Pizza and Agriculture was a popular session and always gets the campers thinking about how everything on a pizza starts on a farm. Ag Camp session leaders concluded by engaging campers in a mapping activity where they learned about the many different agricultural commodities that are grown in Illinois.

Our third and final day was a buzz of activity and lessons all about honeybees and pollinators! Campers created 'beebots' from toothbrush heads and watch batteries with the Champaign County 4-H interns. Using the 'beebots' campers worked together to create foraging routes for their bees to navigate. The campers also had an opportunity to observe different types

of honey and learn why there are differences in taste and appearance. The third rotation focused around learning about pollination. Camper learned and then demonstrated the Waggle Dance.



After learning about drones and their benefits to farmers and agriculture, campers constructed and flew foam gliders with the help of volunteers Jennifer Boberg and Chandler Bruns.



Recent Unity HS graduate and Teen Teacher, Jada Burr leads a lesson during Ag Camp about the different plant parts we eat.

The Waggle Dance is how a honeybee alerts the other bees in their hive where a particularly tasty flower is located. At the conclusion of each week campers leave Parkland College, our gracious host, knowing more about farming and agriculture than they did before camp. The impact made on these campers wouldn't be possible without the help of our amazing volunteers! On behalf of the Foundation, Champaign County Farm Bureau and Champaign Park District, thank you for all you did during Ag Camp. We couldn't have done it without you!



During the Pizza and Agriculture rotation, CCFB Foundation Intern Caseelynn Johnston and a camper from the Douglass Center work together to create a "pizza". Campers learned how everything from the crust to the marinara to the toppings all start on family farms.

Foundation Welcomes Intern

Congratulations to the 2017 CCFB Foundation Intern, Caseelynn Johnston. Caseelynn grew up on a Shorthorn and Angus cattle farm in Virginia, Illinois. In the fall, Caseelynn will be a senior at the University of Illinois studying Agricultural Leadership and Science Education. Upon graduation in the Spring of 2018 Caseelynn hopes to pursue a career as a high school agriculture teacher and FFA advisor.

This semester Caseelynn will take the lead on pilot program called Ag Discovery, which is being funded through a grant from the Monsanto Fund. Ag Discovery aims for youth to explore agricultural science. Local youth from Champaign Unit 4 Schools and Unity Junior High School will develop skills and knowledge in agriculture science career exploration through hands-on activities led by college students, field trips to University of Illinois - College of Aces, and the 4-H Build Your Future curriculum. The participating junior high students will also explore how education and training affect employment.





**Dinner & Awards
Banquet to Follow**

Presented By



Champaign County Farm Bureau Foundation

Golf Outing

Monday, August 14, 2017
Lake of The Woods Golf Club - Mahomet, IL
1 p.m. shotgun start - 4 person scramble

Formerly the Ben Louis Open

Shave a few strokes off your game!

PAR-TEE PASS

\$30

TEE SPONSOR

\$250

TEAM

\$100/Golfer

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FINANCIAL

AUTO | HOME | LIFE | BUSINESS | RETIREMENT

SPOTLIGHT

COUNTRY Financial Representative

Travis Heath



Travis Heath is a COUNTRY Financial Representative serving Champaign County for the past nine years. His office is located at 1803 Woodfield Dr. STE A, Savoy, IL. Travis is a Champaign County native. He was born and raised in the Homer/Broadlands area, Travis attended Heritage High School and graduated from Illinois State University with degrees in Finance and Insurance. Prior to taking on his role as a COUNTRY Financial Representative Travis worked for Horizon Hobby and IBM. His interest in COUNTRY stemmed from wanting the freedom and flexibility of being self-employed.

Travis says, "Being a COUNTRY Financial Representative is an important job. Often times when I meet with clients they don't know what questions to ask. My job is to guide them and help them make good insurance and financial decisions."

A day for Travis begins around 7:30 a.m. and is always different from working with new clients to reviewing current client policies. Travis stresses the importance of periodically meeting with clients to review insurance coverage, "Life changes! It is important to update policies. Having a local representative comes in handy for clients to talk to and make the proper changes."

Before a client leaves Travis' office he wants clients to have the proper amount insurance coverage. "Insuring your family and your life is about a lot more than price. I want clients to find value and be covered properly when they need it the most." COUNTRY Financial provides clients with unique and superior service. Travis touts COUNTRY's great claims service saying "we are one of the best companies out there when it comes to protecting our clients. We will be there for you! We are headquartered in Bloomington, IL, and have been ranked so well for so long!"

While at COUNTRY Financial Travis has earned several accolades including All American and Championship Club. Travis and his wife Amanda reside north of Mahomet, IL. Their two children, 6 year old Brooker and 19 month old Deakin keep them very busy. In their spare time, Travis and his family enjoy visiting Florida and working on home projects.



Marcia Woolcott
COUNTRY Financial
Agency Assistant
352-0012



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217-352-2655



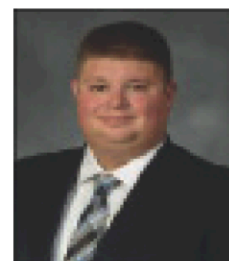
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Soil pH and Liming

SOIL ACIDITY

Soil acidity is comprised of two components; hydrogen in the soil water (active acidity) and hydrogen held by the soil’s Cation Exchange Capacity (CEC) (reserve acidity). Soil pH is determined by extracting a soil with water and determining the amount of hydrogen found in the extractant. The number generated by the test represents the concentration of hydrogen found in soil solution, a very small component of total soil acidity. To determine the soil’s total acidity, the amount of hydrogen attached to negative charges on the soil’s surface (Cation Exchange Capacity) must be estimated. In Illinois the soil’s Cation Exchange Capacity (CEC is estimated by using lab analysis or soil texture and color. An estimated CEC is used to determine the soil’s total acidity. It is total acidity that determines the amount of limestone needed to increase soil pH.

MEASURING SOIL ACIDITY

Soil pH is a measure the concentration of active acidity in a soil. The number represents the negative logarithm of the hydrogen ion concentration in solution (water). It was first described by a Danish biochemist, Soren Peter Lauritz Sorensen in 1909. The “p” comes from *potenz*, a German word for “Power” and the capital “H” is the elemental symbol for hydrogen. Putting the two parts together generates “the power of hydrogen”. The abbreviation also works in French, since *pouvoir* hydrogen translates into “the power of hydrogen”. There is a significant amount of chemistry involved with fully understanding this measure. Fortunately, only a general knowledge of pH is needed to understand what it is and how to change it if needed. Because the number is a “negative log”, the concentration of acidity increases as the pH number decreases. A logarithmic scale means for each 1 unit change in pH number there is a change in hydrogen ion concentration of 10x. A soil with a pH of 5.0 has 10x more active acidity than a soil with a pH of 6.0. A soil with a pH of 5.0 has 100 times more acidity than a pH of 7.0. As a result of being based upon a factor of 10x, pH is represented to the nearest tenth of a unit (eg. 4.3).

RELIABILITY OF THE SOIL pH TEST

According to the Illinois Agronomy Handbook, soil test procedure used by Midwest soil testing laboratories has a rating of 100, which means the value of the number generated by a testing laboratory is quite reliable and is considered a cost-effective test.

WHY SOIL pH IS IMPORTANT

Soil pH has a significant impact on several biological and chemical reactions in the soil. *Soil microbial activity.* Striving to have a soil pH close to neutrality (7.0) provides an ideal environment for microbial activity, specifically soil bacteria. Soil bacteria are responsible for several processes within the Nitrogen (N) Cycle, conversion of atmospheric N to plant-available N (legumes), and the breakdown of several applied pesticides into harmless metabolites.

Nutrient availability. Maintaining soil pH at or close to neutrality (7.0) optimizes plant-availability of several essential nutrients, such as phosphorus, and many micronutrients (iron, manganese, zinc, and iron). High soil pH causes a precipitation of phosphorus and some micronutrients, rendering them unavailable for plant uptake. Low soil pH may increase nutrient availability to a point of toxicity (manganese).

Activity of herbicides. High soil pH can enhance the activity and/or extend the life of several residual-type herbicides, while low soil pH may slow microbial activity that is responsible for herbicide breakdown.

PRIMARY SOURCES OF SOIL ACIDITY

Parent material. The materials from which the soil was created will determine the pH of the soil. Soils developed from granite-type parent material will become acid much sooner than soils formed from calcareous shale or limestone.

Soil Organic Matter. Soil organic matter is a source of weak organic acids. The contribution to soil acidity from soil organic matter is considered significant.

High-Yielding Crops. Plants take-up a significant amount of calcium and magnesium. Once these ions are removed from the soil, the partnering carbonate ions, responsible for neutralizing

soil acidity, finds another ionic partner to bind with, making it easier to leach from the soil profile or be lost as a gas.

Nitrogen Fertilizers. All traditional sources of N fertilizer are significant contributors to soil acidity. Each pound of N applied as Anhydrous ammonia, Urea, Urea-Ammonium Nitrate Solutions (UAN -28% or 32%) requires about 3.6 pounds of pure limestone to neutralize, while ammonium sulfate requires about 7.2 pounds for each pound of N applied. Since these numbers are just estimates, many round them to the nearest decimal place (3.6 = 4, and 7.2 = 7).

HIGH SOIL pH CAN BE A PROBLEM

Soil pH in excess of 7.0-7.2 can cause issues with crop growth. *Nutrient Availability.* Free carbonates associated with high soil pH can precipitate several essential micronutrients rendering them unavailable for plant uptake. With the return of aggressive plant (and root) growth in moisture-challenged areas the past few weeks will likely see an expression of micronutrient tie-up in areas of soybean fields that turn yellow. Many of these spots have snail shale fragments as part of the soil. Shells are made of calcium carbonate. The high pH of these areas causes precipitation of manganese or iron, resulting in the yellow spots. The yellowing will likely be temporary but may return when the plants are stressed, such as the stress caused by seed formation or pod-fill. Note: The size and intensity of the yellow spots can be amplified by the presence of Soybean Cyst Nematode... a topic for another day. *Residual Herbicide Activity.* High soil pH can enhance the activity of some residual herbicides. An increase in activity may result in injury to the non-target crop. High soil pH can also extend the length of time needed to break down herbicides. Increasing the time a herbicide takes to break down increases the chance of a herbicide carrying-over to the next cropping year and possibly affecting growth of the next crop if vulnerable to the herbicide.

IS TILLAGE REQUIRED TO CORRECT SOIL pH?

It is nearly impossible to correct the soil pH of a no-till field to a 7-inch depth (depth of soil sample) without some type of incorporation, especially when N has been soil-injected over time. Without incorporation, surface applications of limestone over time may cause excessive soil pH in the upper 3 inches. Even if no-till is the adopted tillage practice, an infrequent primary tillage pass after limestone applications may be worthwhile if erosion will not be an issue. It is worth noting that research has not clearly demonstrated that no-till fields suffer yield loss without incorporation of limestone. However, crop injury due to changes in residual herbicide activity has been documented.



MARK THORNSBROUGH,
GENERAL MANAGER

HOW TO DETERMINE LIMESTONE QUALITY

The quality of limestone is determined by the source’s purity and fineness of grind. *Purity* defines how much of the source is actually calcium carbonate (limestone). Some sources may have lower purity than others. Quarries across the central part of Illinois differ in their purity. Visit <https://www.agr.state.il.us/limestone-booklet> to see how quarries differ. Visit with your local Illini FS Crop Specialist to learn what quarries are being used.

Fineness of grind. Dry limestone is a mix of various particle sizes. Fineness Efficiency is what determines how fast a limestone source will react with the soil to correct soil pH. Three different screen sizes are used to determine how fast the lime will react, 8 mesh, 30 mesh, and 60 mesh. Mesh is a measure of screen openings per linear inch. An 8-mesh screen has 8 equally-sized openings per linear inch. A 60-mesh screen has 60 openings per linear inch. The following table can be found in the *Illinois Agronomy Handbook (24th Edition)* on page 97. Based upon research, approximately 85% of the particles remaining on the 8-mesh screen and 55% of the particles captured on the 30-mesh screen will not react with soil acidity within 4 years after application. Reaction will soil acidity will someday occur but when is not predictable.

UNIFORMITY OF DRY LIMESTONE APPLICATIONS

Although every effort is made to improve the distribution of typical ag limestone, there is a separation of particle size when spreading. Larger particles are heavier and travel further after hitting the application spinner while fine particles are found in white plumes of dust several feet into the air identifying where limestone is being spread. If there is little dust during a limestone application it may be the result of spreading a lower quality limestone source (larger particle size).

OTHER OPTIONS TO TYPICAL DRY LIMESTONE

Illini FS Soft Lime comes from a high purity dry limestone source, specifically processed (finely ground) to be first used to soften water (remove hardness) before being delivered to urban consumers. Once the limestone has been used to soften water, it is pumped into settling ponds where the solids are allowed to fall out of suspension. Illini FS periodically removes the settled limestone to make room for additional product. The product harvested by Illini FS has an Effective Neutralizing Value greater than that of typical ag lime acquired from a local limestone quarry. It has a Calcium Carbonate Equivalence that approaches 100% (purity) and a fineness efficiency factor of 100% (fineness of grind).

Lbs. of N Applied	Lbs. of Pure Limestone Needed to Neutralize Acidity in N Applied
50	200
100	400
150	600
200	800

Table 1. Estimated pounds of pure limestone needed to neutralize acidity generated by N applications using Anhydrous ammonia, 28%, 32%, and Urea. Ammonium sulfate requires more limestone per pound of N applied.

August 10 starting at 10 a.m.

Speaker: Dave Leake from the Staerkel Planetarium - **Speaking about eclipse**

Entertainment: Keen Agers Band



Ken Roellig, Prime Timers Chairman

- Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month

- Cost is \$8 to attend

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

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

Prime Timers 2017:

September 14

October 12

November 9

.....Continued Soft Lime from Page 6

HOW IS APPLIED

Illini FS SOFT LIME is sold on the basis of solids applied per acre. Although it is harvested, transported and applied as a slurry (water and suspended finely ground limestone), percent solids of the slurry are monitored and the rate of slurry applied to the field is adjusted to deliver the desired tons of dry limestone per acre. The Effective Neutralizing Value (ENV) of Illini FS SOFT LIME is 100% and has a Correction Factor of .5, based on the tons of dry limestone applied. If 2 tons of typical ag limestone are recommended, only 1 ton of Illini FS SOFT LIME is needed per acre (dry basis).

UNIFORMITY OF APPLICATIONS



The limestone source used to make Illini FS SOFT LIME is finely pulverized to take advantage of having the most reactive surface when used to soften

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY FARM BUREAU NEWS

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water (greatest surface area). The uniformity of particle size makes it relatively easy to apply evenly across the boom of specially designed applicators. Watching an application from above appears to be someone painting a field white. Visit google maps and take a look at the area between Mahomet and Champaign, IL. It is not difficult to spot white fields where Illini FS SOFT LIME has been applied (Image 1).



Image 1. Champaign County field receiving Illini FS Softlime.



IDEAL FOR VARIABLE RATE APPLICATIONS (VRT)

There is no better way to place limestone where it is needed than Illini FS SOFT LIME. The application allows for a uniform application of limestone across the width of the boom. Controller technology allows for the site-specific placement of changing rates (Image 2).

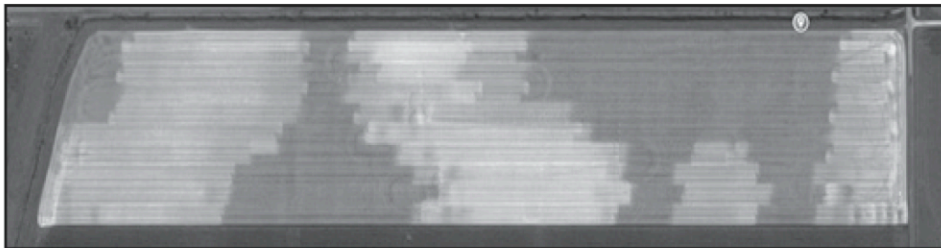


Image 2. Image of a variable rate application of FS SOFT LIME.

LIMITATIONS OR ISSUES WITH USING

Transportation. Distance from the Champaign/Urbana area is included in the pricing of an application. Longer hauling distances will result in a higher cost of application. Regardless of distance (within reason), Illini FS SOFT LIME should be the product-of-choice.

Supply. Illini FS is constantly evaluating ways to improve the way Illini FS SOFT LIME is harvested and delivered to field applicators. However, even with continuous improvement of product handling procedures, the length of application season (weather based) will limit the application season. A way to make sure the product is applied this fall is to book application early (now) and allow Illini FS to apply the product upon harvest. Allowing for an application immediately following harvest assures the best possible chance of getting the product applied before any early winter weather halts the application season.

Rapid change in soil pH. Illini FS SOFT LIME is pulverized to pass through a 100+ mesh screen, making it more likely to react sooner and more completely than typical ag limestone,

since it is all finely pulverized. If the limestone is surface-applied without incorporation there is a chance that the surface pH will exceed 7.2, a soil pH that may lead to unwanted activity of some families of residual herbicides. Surface soil pH needs to be checked before applying residual herbicides sensitive to high soil pH. Visit with your local Illini FS Crop Specialists about what herbicides families are pH sensitive and how to manage high surface pH if it is discovered. Work with your local crop specialist to spot check fields for surface pH after Illini FS SOFT LIME applications.

Did You Order Peaches?

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

Fall Fun Trip Eckert's Orchard & Weingarten Winery

October 18 - 1-day trip to Eckert's Orchard & Weingarten Winery

You will start your visit at Eckert's Orchard with lunch in their Country Restaurant which will be served family style and include fried chicken, sides and pie for dessert You then can spend the afternoon picking apples if you like and visit the gift shop. After an afternoon at the orchard you will continue down the road a couple of miles to Weingarten Winery where you can sample wine and walk around the grounds or just set back and relax and enjoy the fall foliage. On the way home we will stop in Effingham at Niemerg's

Cost per person: \$105 per person Deadline: September 27, 2017

Trip includes: transportation, lunch, dinner and wine tasting (5-samples)

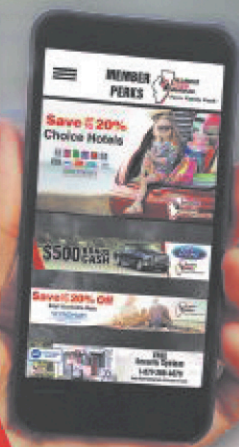
The CCFB Membership Benefit List!

**All you have to do is
SHOW YOUR
FARM BUREAU
MEMBER CARD
at time of purchase
to get the discounts!**

BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- AG ELECTRIC
- AGRIBLE
- A & R ELECTRIC
- ALL ABOUT EYES
- ARROW AUTO GLASS
- BARBECK COMMUNICATIONS
- BARD OPTICAL
- BLOSSOM BASKET FLORIST
- C.A.R.'S AUTO DETAILING
- CHAMPAIGN CHRYSLER/DODGE/JEEP/RAM
- COCKY COLLECTION VIRGIN EXTENSIONS
- COLLETTE TRAVEL
- CONNECT HEARING
- COUNTRY SQUIRE CLEANERS
- CULVER'S
- DRIVEWAY CHIMES, OGDEN
- INTERSTATE BATTERIES
- GREEN PURPOSE
- HUEY'S HOME MEDICAL
- FASTENAL, CHAMPAIGN
- THE FITNESS CENTER -FURNITURE WORLD OF RANTOUL
- GARBER'S CLEANERS
- GOOSE CREEK FIREARMS TRAINING
- HOUCHENS HEATING & A/C GROUP
- ILLINI CONTRACTOR'S SUPPLY
- ILLINI FS FARMTOWN/URBANA
- ILLINI HEARING
- NANCY'S CREATIONS
- NAPA AUTO PARTS
- NICK'S PORTERHOUSE OF PAINTS
- O'REILLY AUTO PARTS
- PARD'S WESTERN SHOP
- RAHN EQUIPMENT COMPANY
- RAINBOW INTERNATIONAL
- RANTOUL GOODYEAR TIRE CENTER
- RANTOUL PIZZA PUB
- REFINERY HEALTH CLUB
- ROSATI'S PIZZA & CATERING
- SAFELY FILED
- SERVICE MASTER
- SHOOTER'S BAR AND GRILL - RANTOUL
- RED WING SHOES
- SIDNEY DAIRY BARN
- SUNSINGER WINERY
- SULLIVAN-PARKHILL AUTOMOTIVE
- TICKETSATWORK.COM
- WYLDEWOOD CELLARS
- ZA'S RESTAURANT
- *BENEFITS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE*

▶ New Member Benefit Platform



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Log in regularly to view the latest discounts available.



Champaign County Farm Bureau &
Champaign County Soil & Water
Conservation District



Drainage & Water Related Issues Update & Discussion

When: **August 9th** starting at 8:00 a.m.

At: **The Champaign County Farm Bureau.**

The meeting is open to all drainage district commissioners and individuals who have an interest in water related topics.

featured topics:

- Working with the Media
- District owned infrastructure: sizing and type
- Cleaning up landowner rolls
- Legislative update

The event is free and no RSVP is required.

Champaign County Farm
Bureau

801 N. Country Fair Dr. Ste. A
Champaign, IL 61821
217-352-5235

Not a Member of FB ACT?

Joining is Easy!

TEXT: FARM to 52886

Champaign County Farm Bureau wants YOU to become an advocate for agriculture. Join FB ACT let you voice be heard by influencing legislators on a local and national level. The program is open to all Farm Bureau members for example, Champaign County Farm Bureau member, Brad Zwilling, was introduced to FB ACT a few years ago at a Young Leader meeting. He enrolled in FB and has continued to stay involved in the program saying "To me the program was a great way for me to communicate with legislators about issue that were important to me. As I became more involved in farm bureau, I learned more about FB ACT. Action requests are only sent out when there is an important issue facing agriculture."

Now is the time to make a difference and speak out for agriculture issues. Brad Zwilling has a great track record with very few missed FB ACT requests and says "Yes, there have been some issues that didn't directly affect me, but I felt that I needed to respond to those FB ACT requests to send a strong, unified voice from agriculture regarding those issues. With as small as voice that agriculture has, every contact we can make is important."

Don't have much time? Don't worry! According to www.ifb.org, FB ACT members are "expected to do two things: vote and respond to action requests by emailing or calling your elected officials on key agricultural issues. Your involvement in additional activities will help to build your relationship with your elected officials and make these tasks easier, but most find these two tasks to be pretty simple ways to protect their farms." Brad Zwilling, CCFB Member, stresses "FB ACT is very easy and a good way to keep involved in what issues are being addressed at the state and national level. The action requests can come via text or email and it tells you exactly what the issue is, who to contact and the deadline. Then you can go to the Illinois Farm Bureau Legislative Action Center, find your elected officials and how to contact them."

Champaign County Farm Bureau Equine Committee
Invites YOU to Join us on September 23rd!

University of Illinois

Equine Vet Med Tour

September 23rd at 1:00 PM

Address: 2001 S Lincoln Ave, Urbana, IL 61802

**Join the Champaign County Farm
Bureau Equine Committee for a tour of
the University of Illinois Equine Division
of the Veterinarian Medicine Building.**

Anyone with a horse interest is welcome to explore!

What Can the University Offer You As A Horse Owner??

How to check resting pulse and breathing

Check gut sounds to determine colic

Learn more about their farrier division

Learn more about their ambulatory service

Gain a better understanding about research and services

Please RSVP by September 9th

CALL the Champaign County Farm Bureau Office: (217) 352-5235