



MO-AG Wrap-Up

In This Issue

[FROM STEVE'S DESK](#)

[MEMBER NEWS](#)

[NEWS YOU CAN USE](#)

[UPCOMING EVENTS](#)

MO-AG Board of Directors

Chairman

Seth Ricketts

Ricketts Farm Service
Salisbury

First Vice Chairman

Rex Martin

Syngenta Crop Protection
Springfield

Second Vice Chairman

Don Houston

MFA, Inc.
Mexico

Immediate Past Chairman

Gary Vandiver

Orrick Farm Service
Orrick

Board Members

Jonathan Cooper

T&R Soil Service
Chillicothe

Charlie Cott

MFA Incorporated
Columbia

Jerry Foster

Cargill
Jefferson City

January 14, 2009

FROM STEVE'S DESK

by Steve

Taylor



New Year Kicks Off

2009 is starting with a flurry of activity for MO-AG and the Missouri state government. For MO-AG, I'd like to announce that the 2009 MO-AG Winter Conference and Legislative Convention was a huge success! That's not my opinion, it is yours. The feedback we received is that the Conference met or exceeded expectations. Many thanks go

out to the MO-AG Board, Jeff, Jim, Robert, and most importantly, to all of you who attended and made the Conference a success.

The turnout was outstanding. A good time was had by all (maybe too good of a time at the hospitality room karaoke). We had over 193 people attend the Banquet. The Exhibit Hall was filled with those networking and interested in great products and services. Ford West, President of The Fertilizer Institute, was our luncheon speaker. Ford was met by a "standing-room-only" crowd as he delivered his presentation on the status of the fertilizer industry. I was very pleased we had several legislators attend this year, especially given the fact that it was the opening day of the legislative session. The Banquet was a lot of fun with the reverse raffle raising over \$4,900 for the MO-AG building fund. The pictures below capture some of the happenings.

Chris Hoffman
Hoffman and Reed
Trenton

Rex Meyr
Shawntee Feed and Seed
Jackson

Mike Nordwald
Ray-Carroll Co. Grain
Growers
Richmond

Wayne Orey
Riggins R-Co, LLC
Marshall

Brian Parman
Fertilizer Dealer Supply
Boonville

Aaron Wade
Crop Production Services
Sikeston

Jerry Young
Agriservices of Brunswick
Brunswick

MO-AG Staff

Executive Director
Steve Taylor

Program Director
Jeff Leonard

Legislative Consultant
Jim Russell

Legal Counsel
Robert Brundage

Communications Consultant
Deborah Dickens

Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)



Pictured above from left are Bill Jackson, AGRIservices Brunswick; Steve Taylor, MO-AG Executive Director; Seth Ricketts, MO-AG Chairman; Ford West, President, The Fertilizer Institute; and Rex Martin, MO-AG 1st Vice-Chairman



Above: The Exhibit Hall was chock full of opportunities to network and learn more about the latest industry products and services.



Above: Ford West, President of The Fertilizer Institute, gives MO-AG members a global and Washington DC-based perspective of the status of the fertilizer industry.

Here in our state Capitol, our Missouri state government is in a state of change. Mr. Jay Nixon has been sworn in as our new Missouri Governor. Governor Nixon has announced several Department Directors appointments, pending the advice and consent of the State Senate.

Dr. Jon Hagler, of St. James, Mo., has been selected as Director of the Missouri Department of Agriculture. Dr. Hagler has a PhD in political science. From 1996 to 2001, he held several staff positions in the Missouri General Assembly, including chief of staff to the Speaker and Speaker Pro Tem. Mr. Hagler is a horseman and operates a small farm near St. James.

Mark Templeton has been selected as Director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. Mr. Templeton is from

Olivette, Mo. He currently is the associate dean and chief operating officer of Yale Law School. Prior to that, Mr. Templeton worked as a consultant developing environmental and sustainability strategies and exploring new, "green" markets for products and services.

Finally, the General Assembly is in session. Several bills are filed and are awaiting hearings. We will be following some of these bills very closely. I'll have more information about the activities of the General Assembly next time. If you have any questions, please give us a call at the MO-AG offices.

MEMBER NEWS

MO-AG Welcomes New Member

Please welcome MO-AG's newest member: Farrell Growth Group LLC. We appreciate your membership and look forward to working with you in the future.

Missouri Emissions Inventory System Update

Missouri Emissions Inventory System (MoEIS) will not be available for 2008 emissions reporting until the middle of January 2009. At that time, MoEIS will have a new Fast Path screen with a more intuitive interface that will ease navigation through the system and allow input of throughput data for automatic emissions calculations. Along with populating current data fields with last year's values, the MoEIS Fast Path screen will reduce the time required to report air emissions. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Wendy Vit with the Emissions Inventory Unit at (573)526-0320 or wendy.vit@dnr.mo.gov.

MU Agriculture and Life Sciences Career Fair February 25th

You can register online to exhibit at the MU Agriculture and Life Sciences Career Fair at www.HireMizzouTigers.com. If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Chipman, Director of Career Services for the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, at 573-882-0088 or ChipmanS@missouri.edu.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Markets React to Bearish USDA Reports

The corn and soybean markets opened sharply lower following the release of USDA reports that were considered very bearish, according to the CME group. Traders said that bearish numbers on the USDA report were the catalyst for the sharp break, but sharply lower crude was also thought to contribute to the losses. One trader said that this was particularly true on a day that the USDA shaved another 100 million bushels off projected 2008/09

corn usage for ethanol. The USDA pegged 2008/09 corn ending stocks at 1.79 billion bushels, up sharply compared to 1.474 last month and 1.624 billion bushels last year. This was well above expectations. Exports and feed usage were both revised lower by 50 million bushels. On top of the poor demand news, final US corn production was revised higher by 81 million bushels to 12.101 billion bushels.

The USDA raised 2008/09 soybean ending stocks to 225 million bushels compared to 205 million bushels last month. Traders were actually looking for lower ending stocks. Exports were revised higher by 50 million bushels due to strong demand from China as expected. Crush was revised lower by 30 million bushels due to weak domestic feed demand. 2008/09 production was revised higher by 38 million bushels to 2.959 billion and that contributed to a higher Quarterly Grain stocks number at 2.276 billion bushels. Trade expectations were near 2.18 billion. [*Source: AgProfessional*]

Not All Pesticide Applications Require NPDES Permits

In response to a petition filed by CropLife America, industry interest groups and environmental activists, a Sixth Circuit U.S. Federal Court panel has vacated EPA's NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) Final Rule. In discharging the Final Rule, the panel held that the Rule was an unreasonable interpretation of the Clean Water Act but agreed with EPA's assertion that not all pesticides should be classified as pollutants. [*Source: Asmark Institute*]

Economist Sees Lower Crop Prices in 2009

Farm income hit a record high in 2008 due in part to record prices for corn, soybeans and wheat, but an economist speaking at a crop outlook seminar at the American Farm Bureau's 90th Annual Meeting said farmers can expect lower prices this year. Jim Sullivan, an agricultural economist and senior vice president of Informa Economics in Washington, D.C., said the global recession will mean weakening demand for corn, soybeans and wheat this year.

For corn, the only strong driver for demand will be ethanol, while biodiesel will be the top demand driver for soybeans. "Last year was a good year for U.S. farms, but declining prices cloud the 2009 horizon. Volatility is still there and we will see declining prices from last summer's highs," Sullivan said. "The only demand increase we can expect to see for corn this year and next year will be corn used for ethanol," he explained. In 2008, 30 percent of total U.S. corn production went to ethanol while it represented 35 percent of total domestic use. In 2009, ethanol is expected to climb to 34 percent of U.S. production and 38 percent of domestic use.

Sullivan sees a "decent" supply of soybeans in the United States and worldwide this year. The economist expects soybean prices, like corn prices, to be down in 2009. For wheat, there is an excess supply both in the United States and worldwide. "We will see stocks build for wheat, which should mean lower U.S. winter wheat plantings," Sullivan said. One bright spot in the weak global economy for farmers is that fertilizer prices are coming down from last summer's record highs. Continued price softening is expected, and Sullivan encouraged farmers to delay their fertilizer purchases. [Source: Doane]

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY, 2009

- 16-17 Missouri Agritourism Conference; Lake Ozark, MO
23-24 Heartland Agriculture and Natural Resources Expo;
Poplar Bluff, MO
30-31 Missouri Dairy Forum; Lake Ozark, MO

FEBRUARY, 2009

- 4-6 Missouri Natural Resources Conference;
Lake Ozark, MO
6 CCA Exam; MFA Inc.; Columbia, MO
11-12 Missouri Pork Expo; Columbia, MO
13-15 Missouri Farm Bureau Young Farmers and
Ranchers Conference; Lake Ozark, MO
20-22 Western Farm Show at the American Royal;
Kansas City, MO
23-24 Missouri Farm Bureau Commodity Conference &
Legislative Briefing; Jefferson City, MO
**25 MU Agriculture and Life Sciences Career Fair;
Columbia, MO**

JUNE, 2009

- 20 Missouri Department of Agriculture Golf Classic,
Holts Summit, MO

JULY, 2009

- 22-24 MO-AG Summer Meeting; Country Club Hotel;
Lake Ozark, MO**

Note: Items in **red** are new postings since the last Wrap-Up issue.

Letters to the Editor

Do you have a response to the Missouri Agribusiness Wrap Up? Let us know! The Missouri Agribusiness Wrap Up is a bi-weekly publication of the Missouri Agribusiness Association (MO-AG). MO-AG is a member-owned association based in Jefferson City, Mo. which protects members' interests in state legislation and provides educational opportunities.

Missouri Agribusiness Association
PO Box 1728, 410 Madison Street
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 636-6130
Fax: (573) 636-3299
www.mo-ag.com

Forward email

✉ **SafeUnsubscribe®**

This email was sent to jleonard@mo-ag.com by mo-ag@mo-ag.com.

[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Missouri Agribusiness Association | P.O. Box 1728 | 410 Madison Street | Jefferson City | MO | 65102

Email Marketing by

