



# MO-AG Wrap-Up

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## MO-AG Board of Directors

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**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

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Orrick Farm Service  
Orrick

### Board Members

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T&R Soil Service  
Chillicothe

**Charlie Cott**

MFA Incorporated  
Columbia

**Jerry Foster**

Cargill  
Jefferson City

June 7, 2009

## MEMBER NEWS

### MO-AG Summer Meeting - July 22-24

Prepare to head to the Lake with your MO-AG friends and your family for the fabulous MO-AG Summer Meeting July 22-24. The chance to see old friends, make new ones, swim, golf, shoot trap and relax make this meeting feel more like a mini-vacation. You can download the brochure at [www.mo-ag.com](http://www.mo-ag.com). We hope to see all of you at the Summer Meeting!

### Anhydrous Ammonia Tank Inspections

USDOT inspectors have been making their rounds in Kansas and Illinois inspecting Anhydrous Ammonia tanks, so now would be a great time to make sure that your tanks are in compliance. If you have tanks that have illegible or missing data plates, you can use the US DOT Special Permit 13554 in order to get them back into service by going to [www.nursetank.org](http://www.nursetank.org) and enrolling in the program. Please contact the MO-AG office if you have questions on how to get started.

## NEWS YOU CAN USE

### EPA Reminds Pesticide Consumers and Retailers about Partial Containers

EPA is reminding pesticide consumers and retailers that it's a violation of federal and state pesticide laws for anyone to sell or give away pesticides in partial containers. Pesticides are considered "misbranded" under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) if distributed in anything other than the

**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  
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**Jerry Young**

Agriservices of Brunswick  
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original container or in amounts less than specified in the net contents statement on the original container.

Until the 1980s, pesticides were commonly applied at rates of gallons or pounds per acre. Today, with advancements in pesticide chemistry and formulation, many products are effective at just a few fluid ounces or grams per acre. In an effort to economize, retailers may be tempted to sell, and growers may be tempted to buy, pesticides in partial containers.

Lawn and garden pesticides are sold in small containers making it easy for homeowners to buy just enough product to take care of a pest problem. Users of agricultural pesticides should also buy just enough pesticide for the job, but avoid the purchase partial containers. For more information about pesticides and partial containers, contact Royan Teter at (913) 551-7609 or visit the following website:

[www.epa.gov/region07/pesticides/index.htm](http://www.epa.gov/region07/pesticides/index.htm)

[Source: EPA]

**Fluid Fertilizer Foundation Moves the Fluid Journal Online**

The Fluid Fertilizer Foundation (FFF) announced that the *Fluid Journal* has completed the move to being an online publication only. The *Fluid Journal* is published quarterly and has a long history of disseminating cutting edge fluid fertilizer research findings and other pertinent review articles to the fertilizer industry, crop input suppliers, universities, government agencies and crop producers. This move to an electronic journal should make access to this information easier and timelier than the previous printed versions of the *Fluid Journal*.

The *Fluid Journal* highlights research projects sponsored by the Foundation and articles pertinent to the fertilizer industry and crop producers. While the *Fluid Journal* is provided as a service to members of the Fluid Fertilizer Foundation, those interested in subscribing to the *Fluid Journal* can sign up at the Fluid Fertilizer Foundation website ([www.fluidfertilizer.com](http://www.fluidfertilizer.com)). Cost for the Fluid Journal is \$25 per year.

The Fluid Fertilizer Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to providing research and education for the fluid fertilizer industry. Since its formation, the Fluid Fertilizer Foundation has provided over \$3 million for research at Land Grant Universities and government agencies. The Foundation is funded and overseen by contributing members of the Fluid Fertilizer Foundation. For more information or to become a member of the Fluid Fertilizer Foundation, contact the Foundation office at 785-776-0273 or visit the website at [www.fluidfertilizer.com](http://www.fluidfertilizer.com). [Source: Fluid Fertilizer Foundation]

### **Census of Agriculture Data Now Available at Watershed Level**

For the first time, results from the Census of Agriculture have been published at the watershed level by the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). "Our data users in the agricultural and environmental communities have expressed the need for watershed data and NASS is proud to meet their needs," said Carol House, NASS deputy administrator for programs and products. "The new watershed publication presents agricultural data that conforms to geographic boundaries, rather than state and county boundaries."

In the new publication, NASS reports selected data from the 2007 Census of Agriculture according to watershed boundaries set by the U.S. Geological Survey. The information is available for all 20 major water sources in the United States, as well as for each of the 376 water basins. Information from the 2002 Census of Agriculture is published alongside the 2007 Census results to demonstrate changes in land use, production practices and livestock distribution over the past five years.

The Census of Agriculture is a complete count of the nation's farms and ranches and the people who operate them. It provides the only source of uniform, comprehensive agricultural data for every state, county, and now water basin in the nation. [Source: USDA]

## **Obama Voices Support for Biofuels Development; Asks Governors to Help**

In his effort to develop a national biofuels strategy to reduce America's dependence on imported oil, President Barack Obama invited the Governors' Biofuels Coalition to partner with key members of his administration to achieve his vision for energy independence.

In a May 27, 2009 letter to Coalition Chair Gov. John Hoeven of North Dakota and Vice Chair Gov. Chet Culver of Iowa, President Obama praised the organization for its leadership in biofuels policy and public education. The President asked the Coalition to join him in implementing his Presidential Biofuels Directive, which was issued earlier last month. The directive outlined the President's vision for biofuels development and his expectations for key cabinet and administration officials to lead the Administration's biofuels initiatives.

The President noted that the Coalition's February 2009 recommendations helped form key points of the Directive and led to the President's request for the Coalition to work with "members of my cabinet to implement the Directive." In the letter, President Obama notes that his Administration is committed to the rapid development of cellulosic ethanol. "But this transition will be successful only if the first-generation biofuels industry remains viable in the near-term, and if we remove long-standing artificial barriers to market expansion ...," the letter states. "We cannot achieve the promise of cellulosic biofuels if we do not continue to support and develop the first-generation corn ethanol industry and the infrastructure needed to distribute and deliver biofuels today and in the future," said Governor Hoeven. "This is an endorsement for our continued commitment to the ethanol industry we have today, while moving forward with the development of emerging cellulosic biofuels technologies."

The President also noted the important economic development role that biofuels can play. "It is my hope that the Presidential Biofuels Directive will lead to new jobs, new businesses and reduce dependence on foreign oil," he wrote. "The governors in the Coalition have

seen the profound and positive impact that first-generation biofuels are having on our state and local economies," Governor Hoeven added. "They are the foundation for an even more robust and sustainable domestic energy industry that will enhance our nation's economy and energy security."

For 15 years, the Governors' Biofuels Coalition has provided national leadership on biofuels issues. The Coalition's policy activities address all biofuels, including ethanol, biodiesel, advanced biofuels, co-products, and technologies yet to come. [*Source: Doane*]

### **Missouri Growers Progressing, But Still Behind**

There's been a week of good fieldwork progress with growers working between rain showers. And while fieldwork for corn, soybeans, sorghum and hay is ahead of last year, it's still behind normal. The state's Agriculture Statistics Service says cotton and rice are behind last year's and the normal pace. Topsoil moisture and subsoil moisture are both 100 percent adequate to surplus. Corn planting is 90 percent complete with the northwest corner and southern third of the state nearly done. That's eight days behind. Corn is rated 83 percent fair to good. Corn emergence is at 73 percent, but that's still 11 days behind normal. Soybean planting is 43 percent complete, 10 days behind the normal. Emergence is 22 percent, which is 9 days behind normal. Cotton planting is 8 days behind the normal at 92 percent complete. Rice planting is 93 percent complete, about 13 days behind normal. [*Source: Brownfield*]

### **Ag Leaders Worry About Struggling Beef Industry**

Agriculture is Missouri's number one industry, but many in the industry worry about the state's number one agricultural segment. Missouri ranks second in cow-calf production, for now. Jeff Windett with the Missouri Cattlemen's Association says beef producers are struggling. "I think it's fair to say that Missouri is undergoing a restructuring of the livestock industry in the state," Windett told a legislative hearing held

this year. "It should come as no surprise to anyone in production agriculture and more specifically beef production that the last year and a half has been very challenging."

The high cost of feed, fuel and fertilizer, combined with a weakened dollar, has hit ranchers hard, according to Windett, especially those with 30-cow herds or less. Cattle numbers in Missouri have fallen 300,000 to 400,000 head, as producers get out of the business. The loss of 200,000 feeder cattle has cost the state \$120 million. Missouri legislators talked a lot about agriculture this session. Yet, little was done to address the problems agriculture is facing.

The present for the beef industry might seem bleak, but the future, according to Windett, can be bright. "When we look at the beef industry in Missouri, we're in a very great position, geographically to the rest of the country. Our cattle can go anywhere, can adapt and are genetically superior," Windett said. "We have the number-one seed stock industry in the country." Windett sees a bright future, if the state's political leaders wake up and address the problems which are undermining Missouri's beef producers. [*Source: Missourinet*]

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### JUNE, 2009

- 8-12 Missouri Agribusiness Academy; St. Louis, MO
- 25 Central Missouri Golf Tournament; MCGA; Marshall, MO
- 27 Missouri Department of Agriculture Golf Classic; Holts Summit, MO

### JULY, 2009

- 1 Southeast MO Golf Tournament; MCGA; Sikeston, MO
- 7 Missouri Pork Classic Golf Tournament; Columbia, MO
- 8 Missouri Soybean Association Golf

Tournament;  
Richmond, MO  
9 Northwest MO Gofit Tournament;  
MCGA;  
Maryville, MO  
14 St. Charles County Golf Tournament,  
MCGA;  
Warrenton, MO  
22 Southwest MO Golf Tournament,  
MCGA; Lamar, MO  
**22-24 MO-AG Summer Meeting; Country  
Club Hotel;  
Lake Ozark, MO**  
28 Chillicothe Golf Tournament; MCGA;  
Chillicothe, MO  
28-31 Crop Injury and Diagnostic Clinic,  
Columbia, MO

### **AUGUST, 2009**

2-4 Missouri Young Farmers Summer  
Tour, Alma, MO  
5-7 MCGA Annual and Board of Directors  
Meetings;  
Lake Ozark, MO  
7-8 Missouri LICA Family Weekend  
and Membership  
Meeting; Bennett Spring State Park;  
Lebanon, MO  
13-23 2009 Missouri State Fair; Sedalia, MO

### **SEPTEMBER, 2009**

30- Oct 2 Missouri Seedmens Association  
Annual  
Meeting; Lake Ozark, MO

### **DECEMBER, 2009**

11-12 Missouri Cattlemen's Association  
Annual Meeting  
and Convention; Springfield, MO

### **JANUARY, 2010**

6-7 **MO-AG Winter Convention; Lodge  
of Four Seasons;**

## Lake Ozark, MO

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

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### **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.*

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