

In This Issue

[MEMBER NEWS](#)

[REGULATORY NEWS](#)

[NEWS YOU CAN USE](#)

[UPCOMING EVENTS](#)

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September 22, 2010

MEMBER NEWS

2010 MO-AG Regional Meeting to Be Held October 5th

Don't miss this opportunity to golf on one of the best golf courses in Mid-Missouri and meet with some fellow MO-AG members on Tuesday, October 5th. The registrations for the 2010 MO-AG Regional Meeting at the Country Club of Missouri in Columbia, MO are due by October 1st. The registration brochure has been mailed and is now available online by [clicking here](#).

Last Chance ... Minibulk Collection ... Sign-Up by Friday, September 24th

The registration form can be found on our website by [clicking here](#) and going to the article titled "MO-AG Mini Bulk Recycling Program." Please complete the form by Friday, September 24th. Only those who respond to this registration form will be able to participate in the recycling program. For questions on this program, contact Jeff at 573-636-6130 or jleonard@mo-ag.com. For more information on the 2011 Mini-bulk Recycling Regulations [click here](#).

Custom Applicator Recertification Nov. 17th-18th at Kansas Agri Business Expo

The Kansas Ag Retailers Association is holding a custom applicator re-certification training session on Nov. 17th-18th at the Kansas Agri Business Expo in Wichita, KS. KARA has been approved by the Missouri Department of Agriculture to provide re-certification training for Missouri pesticide applicators. To register please go to the KARA Expo website by [clicking here](#).

Shawnteetown Feed & Seed
Jackson

Wayne Orey
Riggins R-Co, LLC
Marshall

Jason Paris
MFA Inc.
Columbia

Duane Simpson
Monsanto
St. Louis

Hank Thomas
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REGULATORY NEWS

US DOT Enforcing Size of Anhydrous Ammonia Nursetank Placards

Members have been reporting that US DOT is enforcing the size of Anhydrous Ammonia nursetank placards. 1005 green diamond decals by US DOT regulation must be 10¾" x 10¾", with the green going all the way to the outside edges. Some placard manufacturers have created decals with a white border on all four edges. The white border does not count towards the 10¾" x 10¾".

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Money Flows from Outside Missouri in Support of Measure to Restrict Dog Breeders

Most of the money behind a ballot measure to add new restrictions on Missouri dog breeders is coming from people and organizations outside Missouri. State campaign finance records show that more than 90 percent of donations supporting the Missouri measure have come from organizations based elsewhere and people living in other states. For example, on Monday, supporters reported received a \$50,000 contribution from a Washington, D.C.-based animal organization. And earlier this month, six people from California, Connecticut, New Jersey, New York and Ohio donated a total of \$100,000 to back the Missouri ballot measure.

Plus, several animal organizations including The Humane Society of the United States in Maryland and the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in New York have each donated. Both are part of the coalition behind the measure. In all, more than \$1.7 million has been raised to support the dog-breeding ballot measure. [Source: Associated Press]

Animal Protection Attorneys are Pushing the Law to Treat Animals More Like Humans

Several organizations, including the Animal Legal

Defense Fund headquartered in Cotati, Calif., recently sued under the U.S. Endangered Species Act on behalf of sea turtles being burned alive in Gulf spill cleanup efforts. The groups asked a federal court to halt BP's controlled burn operations until protective mechanisms were implemented to prevent sea turtle deaths. In early July, BP and the U.S. Coast Guard agreed to have qualified scientists act as observers for every burn to ensure that turtles will be identified and removed beforehand.

Efforts to protect wildlife endangered by the BP oil spill are only the most dramatic recent example of a growing movement to change the law to protect animals in a wide range of circumstances - whether as endangered species, as wildlife, as farmed animals raised to be food for humans, or as those trusted companions we refer to as pets. Some animal protection activists are pushing for laws that would extend rights and protections to animals that have been, up to now, reserved for humans.

"Animals are closer to us than an inanimate object that we use as a tool for everyday living," says Adam P. Karp, an attorney in Bellingham, Wash., who devotes his practice to cases involving animals. "The law should recognize animals as legal persons with the same access to justice."
[Source: *American Bar Association Journal*]

MACA Honors Ron Utterback in West Des Moines, Iowa

MACA's Industry Vision Award was presented to Ron Utterback, V.P. Crop Protection, Seed and Farm Supply for MFA Incorporated located in Columbia, Missouri. The award is presented annually to an industry leader who provides exemplary vision on the issues affecting Midwestern agriculture. During his term as 2002-2003 MACA President, the "Survey Form for Public Warehousing of Crop Protection Products" was updated and distributed. Under his leadership, the "Homeland Security Seminar" was held November 6, 2003. It featured 13 speakers from government agencies and industry representatives, with 89 people from 26 states attending the seminar. Utterback is also known for encouraging his employees and others in the industry to get involved with MACA or other

agricultural associations by serving on a committee or as a member of the board of directors.

The MACA Educator of the Year Award went to Dr. Jay Akridge, Purdue University's Dean of Agriculture. The Ruth White Media Award was presented Karen McMahon, editor-in-chief for Farm industry News. Rob Dittmer, key account manager for Dupont, received the Dean Roy Achievement Award - named in honor of one of the organization's founders for "Exceptional Service to MACA and the CropLife Industry" for contributing the most by their selfless service.

MO-AG Executive Director, Steve Taylor, serves on the MACA Board of Directors. [Source: MACA]

4.3 Million Acres Enrolled in CRP

The USDA will accept 4.3 million acres offered by landowners under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) general sign-up. The selections preserve and enhance environmentally sensitive lands, including wetlands, while providing payments to property owners. "Interest in this open enrollment period was high, and I'm pleased that producers and landowners across the nation continue to realize the environmental benefits of enrolling land in the CRP," said Secretary Vilsack.

For this 39th general sign-up, more than 50,000 offers were received on more than 4.8 million acres, nationwide. Enrollment of the 4.3 million acres will keep the program enrollment close to the 32 million acre statutory cap, which will maintain and enhance the significant environmental benefits the program has already achieved. CRP's 39th signup will bring the total enrollment in the program to 31.2 million acres, leaving sufficient room under the 32 million acre cap to continue enrollment in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CEAP), continuous signup and other CRP initiatives through FY 2011. [Source: USDA]

Whitehouse Release Hypoxia Report

A report issued by key environmental and scientific federal agencies assesses the

increasing prevalence of low-oxygen "dead zones" in U.S. coastal waters and outlines a series of research and policy steps that could help reverse the decades-long trend. Unnatural levels of hypoxia, which occur mostly in the summer, are primarily the result of human activities that deliver nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorous into waterways. Fertilizer runoff from agricultural, urban and suburban landscapes, sewage discharges, and air pollution are major contributors.

Recommendations of the Interagency Working Group (IWG) report includes:

CEAP and other scientific assessments should be continued. It is important to continue to develop nutrient management technologies (e.g., cover cropping, siting of BMPs, stormwater controls) to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus inputs to the coasts arising from both agriculture and urban/suburban sources. Achieving higher sequestration of applied nutrients by crops and reducing losses from soils without compromising agricultural yield should be one of the central goals of this research. In general, the science and management practices related to control of nonpoint nutrient sources is far behind that for point sources, such as wastewater treatment plants.

Research on biofuel life cycles is needed to assess the environmental effects, economics, and resource availability of biofuel feedstocks. Research has already shown fewer environmental impacts if cellulosic feedstocks are used instead of corn. [Source: *EPA & Interagency Working Group on Harmful Algal Blooms, Hypoxia, and Human Health*]

Phosphorus Production Peaked?

Modern farming methods depend increasingly on fossil fuels and major plant nutrients: nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium. We know that peak oil is fast approaching, if it has not already arrived. This isn't the only shortage that should concern us. We are seeing the same coming shortages in nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium. Peak phosphorus is occurring along with peak oil. The earth's supply of these critical resources is dwindling rapidly.

A New York Times writer recently said that phosphorus availability is "the gravest natural resource shortage you've never heard of." The fact is, corporate and political control of essential plant nutrients may be the gravest long run competition issue you've never heard of. And control of these resources may also be the greatest strategic issue facing the United States that you never heard of. The country has an ambitious plan to replace imported oil with biofuels produced from plant matter. But dwindling U.S. reserves of the nutrients needed to produce biofuel feedstocks and political instability in countries where most phosphate rock reserves are held suggest that this plan may be replacing energy dependence with phosphorus dependence. [Source: C. Robert Taylor, Professor of Agricultural Economics, Auburn University]

MO-AG Comments to Corps Regarding Missouri River

Of all the purposes, management of the Missouri River for flood control and navigation are extremely important to our industry. There is no doubt that the past two decades of uncertainty in river management and the lack of public investments have driven private enterprise off the river. If public investment and certainty concerning river management returns to the river, navigation will return to the river. The Mo DOT Freight Corridor project is an important project and the MRAPS should coordinate its work with the MoDOT project.

Go the MO-AG website ([click here](#)) to see all MO-AG comments to the Corp.

Residents, Officials React to Plan H, Sign Petitions

A large crowd of concerned citizens filled the seats of the new Knights of Columbus Hall in Old Monroe on Sept. 2. Some came to learn more about Plan H and the possible effects it could have on their property and communities and others came to learn how to stop it. Plan H is a proposed project that calls for higher levees throughout certain regions in Missouri, Illinois and

Iowa that supporters say will improve and protect infrastructure and investments of those who live and work along the river. But county officials in Lincoln, Pike and St. Charles counties say Plan H labels areas in these counties as "new floodwater storage districts" and could have devastating affects on their communities. Officials also say not only were their counties not selected to receive these levee improvements, but they were also not notified of the five-year river studies or given the opportunity to participate in public hearings on the issue.

So now they are taking action in an effort to stop the plan that the Upper Mississippi Illinois and Missouri River Association (UNIMRA) worked successfully to get accepted by the Corp of Engineers. At the meeting in Old Monroe, Citizens Against Plan H (CAP-H) talked about Plan H and encouraged residents in all three counties to take a stand.

"The purpose of the meeting was to answer questions that hundreds of people are asking like: What is Plan H? Or why should I be concerned?" said Pike County Clerk Bob Kirkpatrick, who opened the meeting by answering some of these questions. He said community involvement in protesting Plan H is key to making sure it is never approved. CAP-H members argue that Plan H does not offer their counties the same protection as it does their northern neighbors, it has not been thoroughly discussed and more research needs to be done before anything is approved. Kirkpatrick told the crowd that Illinois has already approved the plan and UNIMRA is pushing for Iowa to jump on board.

Missouri, Illinois and Iowa state legislatures must all agree on the plan before it can be taken to Congress. State Rep. Ed Schieffer also addressed the crowd and encouraged them to urge their friends and neighbors in every city along the river to sign petitions in opposition to Plan H. Schieffer hopes to gain 20,000 signatures in the next two months to take to Washington, D.C. [Source: *Lincoln County Journal*]

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER, 2010

30-10/1 Grazing School - Wurdack Farm; Cook Station, MO

OCTOBER, 2010

2 South Farm Showcase; Columbia, MO

5 MU CAFNR Career Fair; Columbia, MO

5 MO-AG Regional Meeting; Country Club of Missouri; Columbia, MO

6-8 Missouri Seedmen's Association Annual Meeting; Resort at Port Arrowhead, Lake Ozark, MO

7 Ag Education Day; Wurdack Farm; Cook Station, MO

8 Field Day - Wurdack Farm; Cook Station, MO

NOVEMBER, 2010

18 ALOT Annual Meeting Seminar, Dinner and Auction; Columbia, MO

JANUARY, 2011

5-7 MO-AG Convention; Lodge of Four Seasons; Lake Ozark, MO

7-8 Missouri Land Improvement Contractors Winter Convention; Ramada Inn; St. Joseph, MO

FEBRUARY, 2011

9-10 2011 Missouri Pork Expo; Columbia, 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.

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