



# Missouri Agribusiness Association

## Wrap-Up

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### MO-AG Board of Directors

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 Columbia

**First Vice Chairman**  
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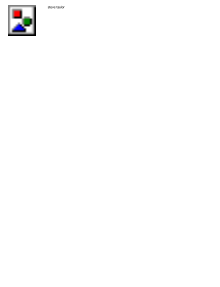
**Immediate Past Chairman**  
**Rex Martin**  
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### Board Members

February 8, 2011

FROM STEVE'S DESK

by Steve Taylor



### Limiting Nuisance Lawsuits

Here in mid-Missouri, last week's snow storm was one for the record books with snow accumulations topping 20 inches. Just before the Capitol effectively shut down and the wind began creating blizzard conditions outside, I attended a hearing held by the House Agri-Business Committee. The Agri-Business Committee considered House Bill 209 which is sponsored by Representative Casey Guernsey (R-3).

MO-AG supports HB 209 and I was happy to testify in favor of the bill. HB 209 will address the real problem we have in Missouri with excessive nuisance lawsuits. Today, lawyers are targeting agriculture and are actively seeking clients willing to sue neighbors whose only crime is engaging in traditional, modern farming practices. Some law firms openly oppose modern animal agriculture and some use arguments seemly right from HSUS (The Humane Society of the United States). These firms clearly state their intention to shut down this vital component of Missouri's economy. They are enticing clients with visions of multi-million dollar judgments for those willing to sue their neighbor. They brag to the media that there are hundreds of cases being developed across the state, again hoping to entice more clients to the gravy train.

HB 209 will not prevent lawsuits. It will not impede every citizen's right to bring their complaint to the court and have access to our legal system. However, HB 209 will limit the number of lawsuits, limit multiple lawsuits against the same defendant, and limit the amount of compensatory damages. HB 209 will deter the spread of these lawsuits to other segments of agriculture, including crop production. HB 209 will help keep agriculture in Missouri and keep agriculture Missouri's number one economy.

**Jonathan Cooper**  
T and R Soil Service  
Chillicothe

**Jerry Foster**  
Cargill  
Jefferson City

**Jeff Geisendorfer**  
Lincoln County  
Farmers Coop  
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**Rex Meyr**  
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Riggins R-Co.  
Marshall

**Jason Paris**  
MFA Inc.  
Columbia

**Duane Simpson**  
Monsanto  
St. Louis

**Hank Thomas**  
Van Diest Supply

The Senate has a similar bill, SB 187, which was introduced by Senator Brad Lager (R-2). SB 187 has yet to have a hearing in the Senate. We will continue to provide our support for both HB 209 and SB 187 as they make their way through the legislative process.

Until \_\_\_\_\_ next \_\_\_\_\_ time,  
*Steve*

## NEWS YOU CAN USE

### MO-AG Applauds Deregulation of Roundup Ready Alfalfa

MO-AG applauds the decision of USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack to fully deregulated Roundup Ready alfalfa. MO-AG had voiced strong support for this decision. ([Click here](#) to see MO-AG letter to USDA.)

MO-AG President & Executive Director, Steve Taylor, states "I was very pleased to see USDA not break from the tradition of relying on our system of science to make unbiased decisions. I also want to acknowledge the efforts of other Missouri agriculture organizations and the support of Missouri State Senator Brian Munzlinger in urging USDA to continue to rely on science in its decision-making. I also believe the focus put on this issue by the U.S. House Agriculture Committee was very important. We appreciate Congresswoman Vicky Hartzler's efforts on this important Committee". [*Source: MO-AG*]

### BIO Applauds USDA Decision to Deregulate Biotech Alfalfa

USDA has announced that it will fully deregulate Roundup Ready alfalfa without conditions. Ag Secretary Tom Vilsack said the decision is based on the importance of preserving farmer choice and enhancing trust and coexistence between growers. The decision comes after a comprehensive environmental impact statement (EIS) analyzed the potential environmental impact of RR alfalfa and concluded that it is safe and does not represent a plant pest risk.

BIO President and CEO Jim Greenwood applauded the decision for being based on sound science and two decades of regulatory precedent. Most importantly, this announcement restores the principle of farmer choice and allows growers to move forward with decisions about spring planting. "This action also supports President Obama's pledge to support science-based decision-making and to steer away from policies that create barriers to economic growth. In order to increase jobs, grow the industry and bring new products to market, the

Marshall

**Aaron Wade**  
**Crop Production**  
**Services**  
Sikeston

**Jerry Young**  
**Agriservices of**  
**Brunswick**  
Brunswick

### **MO-AG Staff**

**Executive Director**  
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**Legal Counsel**  
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U.S. government's regulatory review of biotech products needs to be more efficient. "We welcome the Secretary's commitment to expand U.S. agriculture, to keep pace with the latest scientific developments, and to take into account the needs of all producers and all types of production. We hope this will help pave the way for new technologies in the pipeline." [Source: *BIO (Biotechnology Industry Organization)*]

### **NCGA & NGFA Promote Grain Bin Safety**

The National Corn Growers Association and the National Grain and Feed Foundation - the research and education arm of the National Grain and Feed Association - has produced a joint video project to promote awareness about grain bin safety on the farm. The two organizations teamed up in November to develop the video in response to an increase in U.S. fatalities and injuries associated with entry into grain bins. "In 2010, we saw a record number of farmers becoming engulfed in grain bins and we decided it was time to have a proactive role in creating awareness about the serious nature of this issue," NCGA President Bart Schott, a grower from Kulm, N.D., said. "We hope that this video makes farmers stop and think twice before the next time they put themselves in danger. Flowing grain can pose a life-threatening hazard, and statistics show that 92 percent of victims who become fully engulfed, which can happen in a matter of seconds, do not survive," said NGFA President Kendell W. Keith. "People need to become more aware of the hazards, and our Foundation was very pleased to be part of this proactive, prevention-based approach by NCGA to save lives."

The video is available at by [clicking here](#) and on NCGA's YouTube channel. It also is being distributed by NCGA to affiliated farm organizations. The NGFA also has made the video available on its website by [clicking here](#) and will be encouraging its grain elevator members to distribute it to farmer-customers. [Source: *National Grain and Feed Association*]

### **Special Permit Update on SP-13554**

Facilities with nurse tanks used for anhydrous ammonia and who have operated under The Fertilizer Institute's (TFI) Special Permit SP-13554, should be closely monitoring the impending change by DOT. Facilities covered under TFI's SP-13554 originally received confirmation they may continue to operate under the permit that expired on October 31, 2010 until DOT takes final action to incorporate the special permit into the regulations. DOT published the final rule in the Federal Register outlining the transition from a Special Permit to a performance-oriented regulation.

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DOT's Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) issued the proposal last year to incorporate six special permits into federal DOT regulation. Among the special permits recommended for incorporation were two special permits held by TFI on behalf of its members. SP-13554 has been in effect since 2005 and authorizes nurse tanks with missing or illegible ASME data plates to continue to operate, pending the successful completion of certain tests and inspections. SP-10950 has been in effect since 1993 and authorizes nurse tanks to be securely mounted on field trucks in the Pacific Northwest.

As a result of the final rule, nurse tanks with missing or illegible data plates enrolled in the NTIP program and operating under SP-13554 will no longer need to be marked with the special permit number. Nurse tanks with missing or illegible data plates will, however, still need to undergo the hydrostatic, visual, thickness testing and pass all inspections in order to remain in service and must be marked with the month and year the test was completed, along with the corresponding tests passed such as V,T,P. The effective date of the rule is March 3, 2011, but voluntary compliance can begin at any time. We encourage you to review the final rule, specially the sections pertaining to SP-13554 and SP-10950.

**NTIP Status Report:** Watch your mail for the NTIP annual report of registered tanks which was recently sent to each facility with tanks enrolled in TFI's SP-13554 program. Now that the requirements of SP-13554 have been published as a performance-oriented rule and the special permit is no longer needed, the Asmark Institute will solidify plans to continue to offer the NTIP database to its clients. Asmark will continue to track nurse tanks and provide an annual accounting to serve as a reminder for when tanks need to be re-inspected and tested. The NTIP Kits will be re-fashioned to contain just what is needed to meet the new requirements and should result in the cost of the kit being reduced. [*Source: Asmark Institute*]

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### FEBRUARY, 2011

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| 9-10  | 2011 Missouri Pork Expo; Columbia, MO                              |
| 11-13 | Missouri Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers;<br>Lake Ozark, MO |
| 16-18 | 2011 Drainage Workshop; Comfort Inn; Chillicothe, MO               |



MFA Incorporated, a Midwest-based agribusiness, has an opening for an Account Manager in their Plant Foods division. This position is located in the corporate office in Columbia, MO. The successful applicant will be responsible for maintaining and increasing wholesale sales of fertilizer to MFA Retail locations as well as new and established dealers and when necessary will help coordinate delivery of product via truck, rail and barge. We are looking for an applicant with a B.S. degree or equivalent experience; someone with prior sales experience and that is comfortable having customer contact, has great customer service skills, and must be a self starter and self motivated. Please send your resume to: MFA Incorporated, Human Resources, 201 Ray Young Dr., Columbia, MO 65201. E/O/E M/F/D/V

**Mid-West Fertilizer - Agronomist Job Description**

Mid-West Fertilizer has an open position for an Agronomist in the southeast Kansas area. Looking for self motivated, self starting individual with experience and/or a degree in Agronomy. The position would include developing a close working relationship with producers in the area and working to develop our VRT/GIS based offerings. Contact Mid-West Fertilizer at 620-839-5251 for more details.

**Butterfield & Associates Grain, Inc. & T&R Soil Service -  
Farm Consultant Job Description**

Set up and administer seed programs for Monsanto (Dekalb and Asgrow) and Garst seed companies. This is to include sales of products, test plot planting and harvesting, yield checks, working with company reps to effectively implement programs.

Plan and administer Purina Mills and Land O' Lakes feed products and programs. This is to include sales, setting up feed trials and working with producers to customize cattle management and nutrition. Working with company rep in retail operations involving equine and pet food sales. The successful candidate will utilize resources and facilities of Butterfield & Associates Grain, Inc. and T&R Soil Service for 60% of time in seed and 40% in feed. Salary and bonus compensation based on experience and knowledge. Position open immediately. Time allotment 50% @ Butterfield & Associates Grain. Inc. and 50% at T&R

Soil Service. Must be able to attend product and sales training by suppliers; some overnight stays may be required. Contact Butterfield & Associates at 660-938-4116 or T & R Soil Service at 660-646-2589 for more details.

**Note: If you have a job you would like listed on our Web site's classified page and in the Missouri Agribusiness Wrap Up, please email to [mo-ag@mo-ag.com](mailto:mo-ag@mo-ag.com).**

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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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