



2023 Fall Ag Preview

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Warren-Henderson Farm Bureau and Kellogg Printing

NOVEMBER, 2023

Ag in the Classroom

Anna Sharp Shares Thanksgiving Lessons

With farmland making up 75 percent of the state of Illinois' total land, it is no surprise that agriculture plays a dominant role in supporting the state's economy. That's why programs, such as Ag in the Classroom, hold a lot of importance in teaching young students where their food comes from.

Throughout the year, Ag in the Classroom offers students a variety of timely lesson plans for students. Warren-Henderson Ag in the Classroom Coordinator Anna Sharp gives a look into the lessons she plans for students as we head into Thanksgiving.

"One of my favorite topics, not anything we raise around here—cranberries. We talk about cranberries, we talk about turkeys," said Sharp. "One of my favorite lessons is going through some of the Thanksgiving foods they are going to be eating and figuring out what the main product or crop that we need for that food and where it's grown in the United States. That is a fun one, to look at the map and figure out who grows the most green beans and who grows the most sweet potatoes."

In December, Sharp adds that she will talk with students about trees and tree farming.

Marshall Outlines Ideal Winter Conditions as Farmers Wrap Up Their 2023 Harvest

During the summer months, farmers started to worry about the 2023 crop as the area crept into drought conditions. Fortunately, timely rains helped pull off what many described as a surprising harvest season, said West Central FS Crop Specialist Brendan Marshall. As farmers wrap up the 2023 season, it is time to start looking ahead and planning for the 2024 season. Marshall said looking ahead to this winter, while he doesn't want to wish for snow, some snow will be good for the fields.

"Ideal conditions would be that we maybe get some snow over the winter on frozen ground and then we have a slow thaw so that it goes into the ground and doesn't run off," said Marshall. "If it's going to rain this winter, just not on frozen ground so [the soil] can bring it in. Rain on frozen ground is not a good thing for anybody because it does so much erosion and tears things up whether you have flat ground or hillsides."

Winter predictions from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) released in mid-October predict drier-than-normal precipitation levels for the Midwest with Illinois possibly seeing a warmer-than-normal winter.

No Agriculture, No Beer;

A Look Into Agriculture's Role In Beer


American beer has a long history stretching back to the days before the United States was settled. At the core of the success brewers across the country have found over the years ties back to agriculture. Adam Vitale, President of G&M Distributors points out that without agriculture, we wouldn't have beer.

"There are 52,000 agricultural jobs in the United States that depend on the American Beer Industry. This is anything from barley growers, hop growers, rice growers, and of course corn farmers," said Vitale. "At G&M we are really proud to represent Anheuser-Busch and we are proud to represent the number one beer in the area which is Busch Light, and corn is a critical component to that beer. Busch Light is brewed with corn and Anheuser-Busch is actually the largest brewer-corn producer in the state of Illinois."

One way Anheuser-Busch has honored the farmers that make products such as Busch Light possible, Anheuser-Busch debuted its Corn Cans in 2020.

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IPPA 100% Real Pork Campaign Celebrates Pork Industry from Farm to Fork

Despite consumers showing interest in plant-based meat options, sales of these meat alternatives have been falling steadily since 2021. An August report from CoBank's Knowledge Exchange titled "Consumer Interest in Plant-Based Meats Fades Amid High Prices and Product Shortcomings" found that sales of meat alternatives have dropped over 20 percent for the 52-week period ending July 2, 2023.

In efforts to promote pork as a "real" option for consumers, the Illinois Pork Producers Association along with other state pork associations have teamed up with the National Pork Board to promote their marketing campaign 100% Real Pork, says IPPA District 1 Director Jill Brokaw.

"In the last few years, we have had some different trials done with local grocers with ground pork being put in the meat case and replacing some of those artificial meats or other protein options. The grocers were finding that they were expiring on the shelf and they were losing that dollar capture. With the help of the National Pork Board, we got them to remove those from the front-facing cases, move them back to the freezer section, and replace that space with pork products. It showed a significant increase in the amount of ground pork distributed because of that action."

The National Pork Board carried out this test with 70 Hy-Vee grocery stores in 2022 using. According to their report "In-Store Research Focuses on Ground Pork Placement" sale of ground pork was 20% higher in the stores that added a ground pork section than in the control stores.

Solar Energy Gaining Momentum in Illinois

The state of Illinois has been investing in its future in sustainable energy with a particular focus on solar. Back in January, Governor JB Pritzker signed into law legislation that would prevent counties from enacting local ordinances that would ban local wind and solar projects.

Illinois is one of the 38 states with a renewable energy standard in place. In Illinois, that standard requires 25% of the state's energy comes from renewable sources by the year 2025. For that to happen, the Solar Energy Industries Association reports that Illinois' solar capacity could grow to 1,700% in the next five years.

Troy Coziahr, manager of Hertz Farm Management explains the increase in the solicitations of solar companies looking for new opportunities.

"In our office, as a farm management company, it's daily. Every single day we are getting solicitations in the mail from energy companies all over the place. What they are doing right now, I don't mean this as a negative comment necessarily but it's kinda a fishing expedition," said Coziahr. "They are just casting out a line every direction that they possibly can, trying to see where they can secure blocks of land that would have interested landowners that they can consolidate to come up with agreements to put up wind turbines or solar panels."

According to Forbes, Illinois has already invested more than \$2 billion to expand solar energy in the state, creating over 5,000 jobs.

The USDA is also providing grant funding to farmers in Illinois to help roll out renewable energy projects through the Rural Energy for America Program. According to Total Traffic News, the program will provide \$25 million in loan guarantees to a solar farm near Monmouth to produce power for over 7,200 homes.

What Does the Passing of Proposition 12 in California Mean for Illinois Pork Producers?

Since the Supreme Court chose to uphold Proposition 12 in March, pork producers across the country have been left wondering what this could mean for their operation. Proposition 12, a 2018 ballot initiative passed in California, set new housing requirements for meat sold in California. Illinois Pork Producers Association's Lana Shovlin says that right now, Illinois farmers are not expected to become compliant with these housing requirements.

"That is something they have the option, whether or not they want to do that, but on the way here this morning, I was talking to our president Chad Leman and I think the problem that they are all facing is 'what is the next step?' If we don't become Prop 12 compliant that's fine but then as more states see what's happening, will they adopt Prop 12 compliance as well? Then we do end up having to adapt to those standards."

California produces only one percent of the US pork supply, however they consume around 13 percent of the country's supply. Shovlin adds that the problem does not just lie within California's Proposition 12.

"It's the fact that all these different states could start bringing up different ballot initiatives and throwing these

rules around that don't have any scientific evidence or guidance from actual farmers writing that legislation. So, if we do say we are not going to be compliant, which is what most of Illinois is doing. It costs several thousand dollars per pig to change up your operation to be Prop 12 compliant. Well, so then what happens? You look at the ramifications of that; California has less pork, and the rest of the country has more pork. Then our markets are going to go even lower than we struggled with this last year."

Shovlin says that there is a possibility that Illinois could follow California and implement its own version of Proposition 12. That's why, she says, it's important for farmers to always be sharing their stories and continue to work with their local Farm Bureau offices on action steps.

With California's Proposition 12 going into effect at the beginning of the year, the Canadian government has issued a statement stating it is looking into the implications the proposition could have on international trade. According to the National Association of Farm Broadcasters, Canada's farm animal care codes are all part of its trade agreement.

Brazil Outpaces The U.S. In Corn Production

In the 2023 season, Brazil overtook the United States becoming the leader in corn exports, a title the country also took from the U.S. back in 2002. Local Archer Daniels Midland (ADM) Grain Merchandiser Dan Bowman says the weather is a factor:

"From an export standpoint, they have surpassed us in corn and beans this year. I think the biggest key down there going back to uncertainty is from a production standpoint, their weather is maybe a bit more volatile than ours is due to the vast area of production down there in Argentina and Brazil in particular."

In the 2023 harvest year, USDA data shows that the US accounted for 23 percent of global corn exports whereas Brazil accounted for 32 percent.

However, Bowman adds that volatility in the weather in places such as Brazil can be offset by their multiple growing seasons. But even with more growing seasons to take advantage of, the United States still has the leg up when it comes to infrastructure.

"In my mind, the next step is infrastructure within. Like our country's elevator system, that will maybe spread those commodities throughout the course of the calendar year to be more of an export threat to the US. That's the one thing we have that they don't have," said Bowman. "But I think too as they are doing all of those things, I think the US is also progressing with more uses with our products too with sustainable aviation fuel on the corn side, green diesel. There is a lot of expansion right now in the bean processing industry right now."

Heading into the 2024 planting year, reports show that Brazil is holding onto its lead in corn. The only other year that the U.S. has dropped out of its first place position for corn exports was in 2013 following a devastating drought.

Brazil is a Colleague Not a Competitor to Illinois Agriculture

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) projects that the 2023/24 soybean supply will be down 154 million bushels from last year, with Illinois being one of the states with lower yield outlooks. A lower new-crop forecast could impact the demand for US soybeans as the United States already sees slower export sales with more international competition.

Back in 1998, local farmer and former American Soybean Association Chairman Ron Moore traveled to Brazil, which overtook the United States as the largest producer and exporter shortly after.

"What I learned is that they are not our competitors, as much as our colleagues," said Moore. "If you take out the Brazilian soybean crop, how much is the feed going to be for our hog producers and our poultry producers? It will be cost-prohibitive to do that. There's an oversupply right now but we need all the grain we can produce in the world because there are places that need it."

Adoption of technology and improved technology have helped Brazil and other South American countries close the gap of production with the United States.

The November WASDE report released November 9th reports the forecasts 2023/24 corn production at 15.2 billion bushels.

Cattle Market Sees Record Buying and Selling Prices in 2023

The cattle industry started 2023 with its lowest inventory since 1962. With drought, high input costs, low inventory, and high demand, it is making it an interesting time to be in the cattle market. Tyler Schleich of Schleich Cattle and Vice President of the Tri-County Cattlemen gives a look into what cattle producers are dealing with in the market.

"If you had cattle on feed you're selling them for record highs but you are also buying them back for record highs. That's become quite the challenge, especially in my role in the nutrition business," said Schleich. "But we talk about corn and beans, the price points on those are still extremely competitive to feed livestock right now. I actually have some pretty good profits coming back on some of these in-coming cattle."

Schleich adds that while we are not currently in the bull sales season, he is looking at those prices to also be strong in the short-term.

According to John Perkins with Brownfield Ag News for America, for 2024, the USDA raised its' beef production and average price projections, while leaving pork, broilers, and turkey unchanged. Next year's beef production is seen at 24.795 billion pounds, a jump of 50 million on placement expectations, with an average steer price of \$180 per hundredweight, \$8 higher.

The Tri-County Cattlemen's association will hold its annual banquet February 20th, 2024 at The Barn at Fairview Acres. The night will include a dinner, auction, entertainment and a program with South Dakota rancher Amanda Radke.



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Youth In Illinois 4-H Organizations Making a Difference at a Young Age

All across the country, there are nearly six million youth taking part in 4-H with 200,000 being in the state of Illinois. As the largest youth development organization in the United States, 4-H challenges youth to grow their potential through a variety of different project areas. 4-H Youth Development Educator Shelby Carlson says there is so much talent within the youth in 4-H, especially here in Illinois.

"The best way I can demonstrate this is my parents were recently judging at the Illinois State Fair in the 4-H building, and my dad had been plagued with this problem. He had a small ATV-type vehicle that wasn't running smoothly and he was still trying to figure out what he was going to do," said Carlson. "He was judging that small engines project and this young kid, he says he was about ten, came up and was telling him about his project and what he had done to get that [engine] going. My dad asked him a question and he said 'No you don't need to tear the whole thing apart this is what I did'. Dad kinda stopped, and that night he turned and looked to my mom and said 'That ten-year-old told me what that problem was.'"

Carlson adds that there are over 80 4-H project areas in Illinois, meaning there is a place for anyone wanting to pursue their passion. Carlson can be reached at the University of Illinois Extension office in Monmouth.

Local High School Senior Says Love For Art Supported in 4-H

No matter your interest, there is a place for you in 4-H. That is especially the case for McKelbey Bugner who takes part in the visual art project area of 4-H.

"I think one of the common things with 4-H is that a lot of people think that it is just about animals. I do a lot of art," said McKelbey, "so if you are an artist, join 4-H! You can get your art judged by other artists and they will tell you critiques, or what you are doing good already."

McKelbey, a high school senior, has been a member of 4-H since she was eight years old and credits 4-H for teaching her valuable skills such as public speaking and leadership. She currently serves her club, Back Country Braves 4-H club, as the treasurer.

The Back Country Braves 4-H Club is a small 4-H Club based in Warren County, explains club leader Marty Bugner.

"We do community projects- collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House, we did the Camber of Commerce Farmers Market to sell the beverages they do for free-will donations on Friday nights," said Marty. "All our members have done State Fair exhibits. A lot of our past members have done animals, dog training, cats, goat, sheep, pigs, and beef"

The Back Country Braves 4-H Club meets on the second Saturday of each month.

For more information on joining a local 4-H club in Warren and Henderson County, contact 4-H Youth Development Educator Shelby Carlson at srcarls2@illinois.edu

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Learning Better Ways to Manage Tar Spot

Tar spot has shown up in farm fields around the Corn Belt since 2015. Kevin Gale, an agronomist for AgriGold in northern Illinois, says the industry learns more about the disease every year and how to manage it.

"Tar spot is a disease that will continue to show up each year. The tar spot impacts yield and hinges on the timing of rainfall. This year, the tar spot didn't get going early due to the dry conditions that we've had with limited humidity in much of the Corn Belt. However, in areas that were fortunate to catch an early rain in mid-June, that rainfall allowed tar spot infection to occur much earlier in the season, which took a toll on some fields if left unmanaged"

He says that there are ways that farmers can take action against tar spot, whether it be with hybrid selection or fungicide.

"Fungicide use has become common practice in recent years and can be very effective at reducing tar spot infections for up to 14 to 21 days after application. However, it may take two to three applications to be completely effective if environmental conditions warrant."

Gale adds that if you saw high levels of tar spot over the last few years, selecting tolerant hybrids should be a strong consideration next year.

(Source, WRAM is a member of the National Association of Farm Broadcasters)



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Farmland Sales Aren't Slowing Down For Harvest

Farmland sales have remained strong through 2023 but typically slow during harvest season when farmers are busy elsewhere. But Paul Shadegg, senior vice president of real estate operations with Farmers National Company, says sales aren't slowing as much as in the past year.

"With those pressures of increased interest rates and the input costs operators had through the growing season in 2023, our concern was that we would see some people step back, and maybe we would see less competition for land, a downtick in demand, which was going to result in some decreased values. What we're seeing is almost the opposite. The optimism is there, and then what we've seen in our recent sales is just a continued demand for land."

He says technology means farmers don't have to stop what they're doing to participate in a land auction.

"There are so many tools out there today, including simulcast auctions and online options, for bidding. We had a guy tell us just the other day he was out in the field driving a semi hauling corn to town, and he bought the farm driving down the road on his phone."

Shadegg says if interest rates keep climbing, it will eventually start to affect demand for land.

(Source- WRAM is an affiliate of the National Association of Farm Broadcasters)

Inflation Reduction Act: A Game Changer for Biofuel Goals

In August of 2022, the Inflation Reduction Act was signed into law representing the most significant federal commitment to low-carbon biofuels since the 2007 Renewable Fuel Standards. Big River Resources CEO David Zimmerman says that the passing of the Inflation Reduction Act was a "game changer" for the biofuels industry.

"At the [Farmers] Breakfast, we were talking about incentives for farmers to plant cover crops or no till. Those are voluntary carbon credits that farmers have access to today," said Zimmerman. "But what the Inflation Reduction Act does is change the game in that it does incentivize the bio-processing facilities, such as ours, to actually lower their carbon footprint."

The Inflation Reduction Act creates new tax credits for clean fuel production, sustainable aviation fuel, and expands carbon capture, utilization, and storage credits.

Meanwhile, As discussions continue to ramp up around biofuel adoption for vehicles, people are looking for other ways they can also reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) has the potential to reduce carbon emissions from flying by 80 percent, but is the United States ready to make this change?

Past American Soybean Association Chairman Ron Moore said that while many large soybean processors have already started to build facilities to process soybean oil into sustainable aviation fuel, there isn't a big pull to start growing more beans.

"I think it will come but it's going to come because the market is working the way markets should. There is a demand, people will build buildings or build processing plants," said Moore. "What I am worried about is if you have government policies that artificially create demand that isn't there yet, then we are going to fall short of producing enough soybeans to meet the demand."

According to the Office of Energy Efficient and Renewable Energy, the current administration has challenged the production of SAF to reach 35 billion gallons per year by 2050 with a near-term goal of 3 billion gallons per year by 2030.

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Getting the Most Out of Your Cover Crop Program With the Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District

It's never too late to look into new conservation practices and programs for your operation. Shawnee Sheehan, Resource Conservationist for the Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District said that applications are now open for fiscal year '24 for the state-funded program Partners for Conservation program.

"Partners for Conservation can cover a variety of different items with cost share at 75 percent moving forward," said Sheehan. "The practice component list is pretty long and it covers things as far as water and sediment control basins, grass waterways, no-till cover crops, conservation cover, and just a really wide variety of different things we can assist our farmers putting conservation on their properties."

Applications for Partners for Conservation can be done in person at the Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District office or online at warrencoswcd.com by November 30th.

Other cost-share programs are currently available through the Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District. On a local level, Sheehan adds the board recently approved up to \$1,000 per applicant based on a 75 percent cost share rate for cover crop seeds.

"And our cover crop program can be stacked with other programs. We can for sure be stacked with cover crop programs with ADM as well as American Farmland Trust. If you want to do anything with American Farmland Trust, you can actually get on their website and their applications are all digital. When filling it out, if you put your referral was Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District, one dollar from every acre comes back into our district from AFT."

According to Sheehan, if you bring your cover crop seed invoice to the Conservation District office, they can get it filed with the state.



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Illinois Corn Applauds Efforts to Strengthen River Systems for Grain Movement

Illinois is one of the largest exporters of corn and soybeans in the United States, primarily due to the state's proximity to the Upper Mississippi, Illinois, and Ohio Rivers. As nearly one billion bushels of corn is exported from the state each year, Illinois Corn Executive Director Rodney Weinzierl says improving the Illinois, Mississippi, and Ohio River systems has been a priority for Illinois Corn for several years.

Illinois Corn celebrates the bipartisan effort in the addition of the House Energy and Water Appropriations Bill in Fiscal Year 2024, for providing funding for river infrastructure.

"We got our first lock start on Lock 25. We have been working to get seven new locks going on the Upper Mississippi and the Illinois Rivers," Weinzierl added.

According to an article by Haley Bickelhaupt with Illinois Corn, the \$75 million attached to the bill, is part of the Community Project Funding (CPF) process and was supported by Representatives Darin LaHood, Eric Sorensen, and Nikki Budzinski. The secured funding will support the Navigation and Ecosystem Sustainability Program by constructing new 1,200 foot locks in Peoria and LaGrange on the Illinois River and Lock 20 through 25 on the Mississippi River.

"We are about to get a second lock start, probably in 2025, and it is because Congressman Sorensen, Congresswoman Budzinski, Congressman LaHood, and Senators Duckworth and Durbin and putting monies in what is going to pass sometime this year, a budget, that will start LaGrange Lock on the Illinois River in 2025," Weinzierl stated.

Community Project Funds are supported 65% by the federal government and 35% by the Inland Waterway Trust Fund.



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Invasive Pest: Spotted Lanternfly Detected in Illinois

In September, spotted lanternfly were detected for the first time in the state of Illinois. This Asian-native pest was first detected in the United States back in 2014 in Pennsylvania and has spread into 14 other states. According to Illinois State Agriculture Pest Survey Coordinator Kelly Estes spotted lanternfly can be a problem because they feed on a wide variety of plants.

"Something that might be a concern for us here in Illinois would be grapes, both wild and cultivated. Maple trees are another host plant," said Estes. "It has piercing sucking mouthparts so it feeds in the grape vine- on the actual vine not the grape. And it will feed on the tree itself."

Adult spotted lanternflies are about an inch long. Its front pair of wings are gray with black spots and the back pair of wings are red with black spots. If you believe you have spotted one of these pests you can send a photo to lanternfly@illinois.edu before removing and destroying the insect.

Another pest some Illinois farmers have noticed swarming combines this harvest is adult green clover worms. According to Brownfield Ag News for America, Illinois did see a relatively high population of these insects as well as some defoliation from the insect.

Monmouth College Professors Apply to Receive Moon Tree Seedlings from NASA

NASA and the USDA Forest Service will be distributing Artemis Moon Tree seedlings that flew around the moon on NASA's Artemis 1 mission in 2022 to various education and community organizations. Monmouth College Associate professor of Physics and Engineering Michael Solontoi and Associate Biology Professor Eric Engstrom have submitted an application to receive seedlings, shares Solontoi:

"The Artemis 1 mission that robotically orbited the moon not too long ago, they brought seeds again. Those seeds have turned into seedlings and they are getting ready to distribute those out to the world. We think it would be cool to have a tree that grew from a seed that spent four weeks in space and two of those weeks were orbiting the moon."

This will be the second generation of Moon Trees to be planted in American soil. The first Moon Tree program began with the Apollo missions.

"Back in the early 70's, when Apollo was going- Apollo 14 brought about 2,000 tree seeds with them to lunar orbit. Those seeds were raised into seedlings and then Distributed around America's Bicentennial. You can still find these moon trees growing and one can go visit them today."

Five different species of seedlings journeyed 270,000 miles from Earth and around the moon. Engstrom reported they are interested in growing either a sycamore or sweetgum at Monmouth College.




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Free Testing Available for Damaging Soybean Pest in Illinois Fields

The hot, dry conditions farmers saw during the 2023 growing season brought up ideal conditions for an unwelcome pest in Illinois soybean fields. Soybean Cyst Nematodes, the microscopic worms that live in the soil that feed on the roots of soybean plants, cause major yield and money losses on farming operations.

To help farmers save money, the Illinois Soybean Association and the University of Illinois Extension service Plant Clinic have teamed up to offer free testing for this microscopic pest. University of Illinois crop sciences professor Nate Schroeder said you can test for these nematodes anytime you are able to get a soil probe into the ground.

"A lot of time when we recommend to do it is, let's say you just finished a soybean harvest and you want to see if the nematode population increased," said Schroeder. "Or if you are going into soybeans, and you are thinking about what variety to use, the fall sample can be a good time. But really, any time can be fine as long as you have the opportunity to get out there and sample from your fields."

Picking a variety of soybeans that includes nematode resistance is one way farmers can combat nematode numbers in their fields. However, Schroeder said if you are still seeing increasing populations, that could mean the nematodes in your field are adapting. When that happens, it means it's time to look into different types of resistance. He adds that switching to corn on those high-population soybean fields for two years will help slow the population growth of Soybean Cyst Nematodes.

The tests through the Illinois Soybean Association will cover sample testing and shipping through August 31, 2024.

The Illinois Soybean Association checkoff program will hold its Soybean Summit on February 1st, 2024 for growers looking to gain information and insights from leading soybean experts. Another great event soybean producers can take advantage of is Commodity Classic, taking place in Houston Texas February 28 to March 2nd 2024.

Monmouth-Roseville FFA Members Find Success in Ag Sales

The Monmouth-Roseville FFA chapter has been keeping busy all year with events and competitions. One contest the chapter has found a lot of success in is Ag Sales.

Logan Corzatt, Aubrey Killey, Camden Johnson, and Haley Frakes make up the M-R Agricultural Sales team. The team earned first place during their Sectional CDE competition on October 4th qualifying for their district contest. The team then traveled to Blackhawk College for the District Ag Sales contest, where the team placed fifth overall. Chapter President Logan Corzatt shares the team's success in this year's contest.

"Our ag sales this year was selling Pioneer Products corn and soybean hybrids," explained Corzatt, "so that's what we were mainly focusing on there, trying to get a sale on that. We ended up being the fifth overall team quite a few teams that are competing. Camden Johnson was sixth overall, and Haley Frakes was fifth. Aubrey Killey was fourth and then I myself won the room."

On top of Ag Sales, the M-R judging team placed third overall at the John Wood Judging contest with Corzatt placing first individual overall and Kaden Russell placing high individual.



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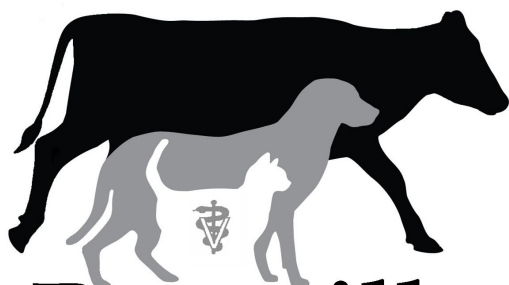


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Roseville Veterinary Service

Located at 165 W Penn in Roseville, Illinois, just under the water tower and across from Casey's, owner Dr. V. Rudy Corman II, a Roseville local, came back to begin practicing at the clinic once graduating with his DVM in May 1991. Associate veterinarian Dr. Sydney Hennenfent joined the practice in May of 2022. The clinic also has three veterinary technicians on staff.

Providing on-farm livestock services for bovine as well as small ruminants and in office small animal work such as annual wellness examinations and vaccinations and surgical procedures. Specialized equipment such as surgical laser, dental scaling machine, full blood machine, and digital radiography offered. Our portable ultrasound can be used in clinic or on the farm allowing our team of doctors and technicians to get quality images and look at the patient in-depth, leading to speedier and more precise diagnoses.



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With harvest season coming to a close, it's time to ask yourself, how does your back feel? At this time of the year, most farmers are coming off long hours of either sitting in the combine or grain truck. This can result in tightness in both your hamstrings and hip flexors. When this occurs, this causes your lower back to do more work than necessary resulting in muscle spasm. Muscle spasm pain can present itself as a sharp stabbing pain, or it can be an aching type of pain. Neither are desirable, leaving you to ask the question, "how do I get rid of this?" While there can be much more than meets the eye when talking about lower back pain, most of the pain can be remedied by becoming more flexible in your hamstrings and hip flexors, as well as improving your overall core strength. Your hamstrings are those muscles that attach to the part of the pelvis that you sit on and run down the back part of your thigh to your knee. Your hip flexors make up the front part of your hip/pelvis and attach to the front part of your spine. When these are tight, they don't allow your pelvis to move like it should and force the lower back to do more than it needs to. The result is pain. With winter just around the corner, now is the perfect time to finally address the imbalances in your body that are leading to your back pain. If you are unsure how to best approach this, Advanced Rehab and Sports Medicine offers free screenings to help you determine what is causing your pain. Take the time this winter to finally address your lower back pain. This will allow you to approach the spring planting season healthier and stronger, and more importantly, pain free!

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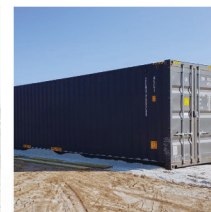
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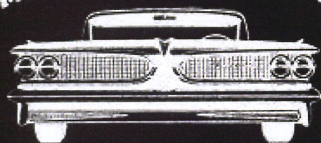
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