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THE
2018
ICGA
ANNUAL
REPORT

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DEAR MEMBER;

It has been my pleasure to serve as your president for the past year.



The year has had its challenges.

Most notably, Illinois Corn Growers Association made a significant change to its management and staffing with a break away from the Illinois Farm Bureau, who had provided HR services for the last 40 years. The quality of our staff and their commitment to you and your farm means that you won't see any changes as an ICGA member. In reality, the transition has been tough to work through, and I'm thankful to have presided over such a great group of volunteers to see us through the challenge.

The year has also been challenging to manage with an administration that has kept us on our toes! Changes in how we negotiate trade with our partners, changes in how agencies administer regulations and programs, changes in how our government functions have impacted our farmer members and have given your association the opportunity to work even harder to serve you.

The ICGA Board understands that times are tough on the farm. We will keep working to support you in Washington and Springfield. We will strive for better farm economies in the future. We will construct a foundation for our children and grandchildren to make choice to stay on the family farm.

Sincerely,
Aron Carlson, Winnebago



Illinois Corn Growers Association ilcorn.org

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ilcorn@ilcorn.org**

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FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2018

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$263,927
Short-term investments	1,889,000
Accounts receivable	71,583
Grants receivable	121,009
Prepaid expenses	49,208
Other current expenses	2,265

TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS **\$2,396,992**

INVESTMENTS **\$80,647**

NET PROPERTY, PLANT, & EQUIPMENT **\$679,548**
OTHER NONCONCURRENT ASSETS **\$15,166**

TOTAL ASSETS **\$3,172,353**

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts payable	\$27,758
Deferred revenue	805,848
Accrued expenses	415,434

TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES **\$1,249,040**

LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

Management services contract liability	\$361,228
Deferred rental revenues	205,522

TOTAL LIABILITIES **\$1,815,790**

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted- Board designated	\$80,000
Unrestricted	1,276,563

TOTAL NET ASSETS **\$1,356,563**

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS **\$3,172,353**

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES & CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

REVENUES

Dues	\$146,318
Corporate partners	950
Interest	4,944
Grant and project funding	1,718,823
Rental	8,221
Special projects	617,315
County projects	30,000
Equity income (Loss)	109
Unrealized gain on marketable securities	1,080
Other	1,649

TOTAL REVENUES **\$2,529,409**

EXPENSES

PROGRAM SERVICES

Exports Committee	\$466,149
Grassroots Committee	518,806
Industrial Committee	617,897
Special projects	642,788
Management and General	131,884

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$2,377,524**

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS **\$151,885**





2017

October 20

ICGA protects cropped acres from consideration in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Monarch Habitat Plan

December 31

127 farmers redeemed the 2017 ICGA Cover Crop Coupon for reduced cost oat and radish seed

To help Illinois farmers meet the requirements of the Illinois Nutrient Reduction Strategy, ICGA has grown very involved in conservation and nutrient loss work over the last several years. One important component of this work is helping Illinois farmers try cover crops on their farms with less cost and less risk. One way we're helping is to offer members a cover crop coupon, allowing them to buy cover crop seed at a reduced cost from several vendors. ICGA also manages a cover crop program for farmers trying cover crops for the very first time, offering the seed, flown on to forty acres of their choice, for around \$15 per acre.

We understand that to change how you manage your farm, you first need to understand how the changes might impact your bottom line. In a time when the farm economy is so challenging, any negative consequence to your bottom line can spell disaster! We hope that these cover crop programs help mitigate the risk for you, and help you determine how you can integrate cover crops on your farm.

ICGA is also very involved in the Precision Conservation Management program. This program seeks to work directly with interested farmers to coach them through conservation changes to their acres and analyzes the financial impact to those practices. Through this program, farmers can quickly understand the positive and negative impacts that investments like planting cover crops can have for the future of their farms.

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED...

As a valued member of Illinois Corn Growers Association, you're eligible for an exclusive offer: Redeem this coupon from one of the participating seed companies for up to \$200 off your 2017 cover crop seed purchase.

ICGA has partnered with these companies to make cover crops more financially attainable for you regardless of whether you've tried cover crops before or are considering them for the first time.

We already know that establishing a cover crop on your field in the fall preserves nitrogen so it can be used by your cash crop in the Spring. Cover crops also build organic matter in the soil and protect against soil erosion.

Follow these steps to redeem your coupon with one of the participating cover crop seed companies:

- 1) Visit www.ilcorn.org/covercrops to see specific program guidelines for each seed company and to activate your coupon.
- 2) Activate your coupon by clicking the FarmSite link and filling out a quick form.
- 3) Record the Reference Number provided after submitting the form.
- 4) Redeem this coupon with a participating seed dealer.

Reference

Questions can be answered by your local cover crop specialist. Contact information for each company is located at www.ilcorn.org/covercrops

Limit one discount per ICGA membership. Must present this coupon to seed dealer at time of purchase. This coupon is only good for the 2017 crop year. Offer expires 12/31/17.

Discounts provided at the discretion of each seed company's terms and conditions as stated on the ilcorn.org/covercrops web page.

This offer CANNOT be used in conjunction with the ICGA Reduced Cost Cover Crop Program.

SEED DEALER is to return this coupon and return to ICGA.

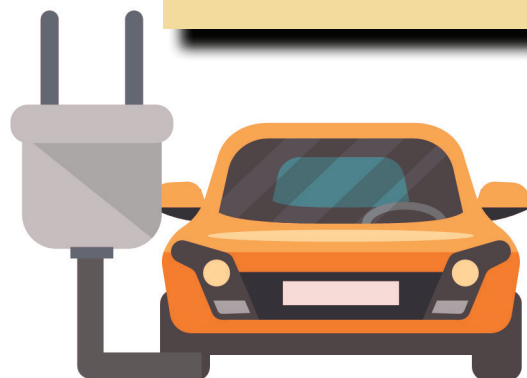
at the conclusion of the program, 12/31/17.

Mail to: ICGA | P.O. Box 1423 | Bloomington, IL 61702-1423.

Inquiries can be directed to ilcorn@ilcorn.org or (202) 557-3257.

October 5

ICGA provides comments to U.S. EPA addressing the unfair incentives provided for electric vehicles in 2012 at the expense of biofuels



November 8

ICGA sends a letter to the Illinois Senate supporting the Livestock Management Facilities Act

November 21

ICGA annual meeting: ICGA recognizes award winners

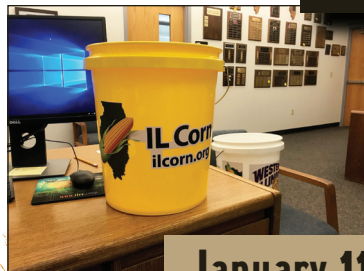


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2018

January 22

The Supreme Court held challenges to the WOTUS rule must be heard in district courts, resulting in the lifting of a nationwide court order that blocked the rule from ever coming into effect



January 11

ICGA sponsored WIU buckets to teach teachers about soil health

January 12

USDA announced that Illinois produced 201 bushels per acre in 2017, up four bushels from 2016



February 25

Corn Congress commences with discussion of organizational policies and priorities

March 15

530 members joined ICGA for the first time or renewed their membership

February 28

ICGA members call President Trump, USDA, and Congress, opposed to small refinery RFS waivers

March 26

ICGA partnered with Bayer to offer a pollinator-friendly, seed lubricant product, Bayer Fluency Agent Advanced, to 157 members



March 30

Director Marty Marr of Jacksonville elected Illinois Livestock Development Group VP

March 13

ICGA fly in to Washington, DC to discuss trade to Washington to discuss trade

The ICGA Board of Directors travels to Washington, DC once a year as a group to discuss priority issues with our elected officials in their Washington, DC offices. This year, we focused considerably on trade.

Our message throughout the year has been simple: Farmers need trade, even more so in a severe economic downturn. We have heard from our members that they are supportive of the President's efforts to negotiate fair and equitable trade deals, but we also know that the process of the negotiation is having major negative consequences on Illinois farms.



There are things Congress can do to help mitigate the pain unfinished trade agreements. Funding for programs like the Foreign Market Development Program and the Market Access Program in the Farm Bill are crucial and we've discussed those at length. Fast congressional approval for a potential trade agreement, once it's been negotiated, would also help farmers to be able to capitalize on the new terms quickly. And, of course, ICGA continues to be engaged in the Market Facilitation Program. Though our farmers prefer trade, not aid, we know the MFP funds came at an important time for our Illinois farm families.

April 13

Mazon farmer Paul Jeschke testifies on ethanol



April 20

ICGA submitted comments to EPA in support of Imidacloprid, Clothianidin, Thiamethoxam, Glyphosate

May 30

ICGA backs NCGA and others in a lawsuit against EPA over RFS waivers granted to small refineries

June 5

ICGA hosts Attorney General candidate Erika Harold



June 18

Risky Business Conference helps farmers understand conservation options

April 30

Martin Barbre of Carmi named RMA Administrator



June 1

#RFSWorks and #IwantmyE15 Twitterstorm is a success!

May 18

ICGA initiates member cover crop program, offering radish and oat seed applied for \$15/acre

June 21

U.S. House passes Farm Bill

June 28

U.S. Senate passes Farm Bill

ICGA started preparing for a new farm bill in late 2016 with a round of farm bill listening sessions. The most important thing we heard from you in those sessions was that preserving crop insurance was key to your farm family's survival.

When the House and the Senate passed versions of a farm bill in June 2018, we were elated. It took work, including a last-minute lobbying effort to prevent crop insurance amendment #3103 from being included in the Senate version, but with your help we passed two farm bills that both preserved the integrity of the federal crop insurance program.

Now we wait. ICGA shared priorities for the conference committee version of the Farm Bill, and we were able to get three of our four ideas included. We'll call that a win whether the final farm bill passes this year or not!



April 10

ICGA participates in Twitterstorm promoting NAFTA



July 20

ICGA hosts 26 FFA students in Washington, creating more advocates

August 14

ICGA conducts numerous interviews on priority issues at State Fair



August 24

Governor Rauner visits the ICGA board meeting

August 30

ICGA supports Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency (CREATE) grant request – CREATE receives grant for railroads

August 14

ICGA hosts elected officials and Army Corps of Engineers officials at LaGrange Lock and Dam

July 26

President Trump promises “very close” on E15

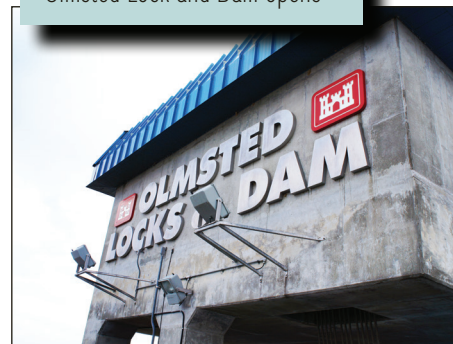
Moving a majority of the fuel sold to E15 represents a huge market opportunity for Illinois corn and some demand to buoy corn prices during a very difficult time for farmers. In July, President Trump told us he was “very close” to the Reid Vapor Pressure Waiver that would allow E15 to be sold year-round. He finalized the waiver on October 9.

Ethanol has represented the fastest growing marketing opportunity for your corn for several years, and in a severe economic downturn like you are currently experiencing ICGA is looking for fast growth opportunities for corn demand. We are working on growing international markets for American ethanol and have seen growth in ethanol exports of 18.5% as of July 2018 from the prior year.

Work in this area with international environmental policies continues. The price of corn-based ethanol makes exports an easy sell to other global markets.

August 30

Olmsted Lock and Dam opens



September 13

House of Representatives passed the America’s Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 and passed a three-bill package including funding for the Army Corps of Engineers to help lock upgrades.



July 24

ICGA weighs in on the “Trade Aid” package



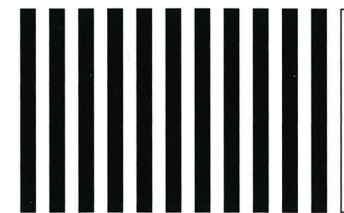
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UNDERSTAND THAT WE CAN'T
WIN THESE BATTLES ALONE!**

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**Illinois Corn
Growers Association**



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HERE'S WHAT WE ACCOMPLISHED WITH YOU IN 2018!

- WITH A BROAD INDUSTRY AND AG COALITION, WE ARE WORKING TO BLOCK IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2015 WOTUS RULE AND REPLACE IT WITH A RULE THAT PROTECTS FARMERS.
- NEW LOCK AND DAM COMPLETED AT OLMSTED, ILLINOIS!
- DEVELOPED A WORKABLE WRDA 2018 IN CONCERT WITH THE SENATE, THE HOUSE, AND MANY OTHER PARTNERS THAT DOES NOT AUTHORIZE ADDITIONAL FEED OR TOLLS TO USE THE LOCKS AND DOES ENSURE SECURED FUNDING TO START MAJOR REHABILITATION AT LAGRANGE LOCK, MEREDOSIA.
- INCLUDED MANY PRIORITIES IN THE CONFERENCED VERSION OF THE 2018 FARM BILL, INCLUDING:
 - EXPANDING ENTERPRISE UNITS TO INCLUDE A FIELD IN ANOTHER COUNTY
 - ALLOWING FOR THE ABILITY TO COMBINE ENTERPRISE UNITS FOR THE SAME CROP
 - ALLOWING FOR A SIMPLER MULTI-YEAR CONTRACT FOR COVER CROP PLANTING AND REMOVES COMPLICATED BARRIERS
- LAID THE GROUNDWORK FOR YEAR-ROUND E15 ACCESS

