



# Political Papers

JANUARY 2012

## CONGRESSIONAL CALENDAR

Jan 17—House returns

Jan 16—Federal Holiday

Jan 19-20—House District Work Days

Jan 23—Senate returns

Jan 26-30—House District Work Days

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY CALENDAR

Jan 11, 18, 25—Perfunctory Sessions

Feb 1—State of the State Address

Illinois Corn Growers Association  
PO Box 1623  
Bloomington, IL  
61702-1623

P: 309-557-3257  
F: 309-827-0916

www.ilcorn.org  
ilcorn@ilcorn.org

## ICGA PAC EVENT RAISED NEARLY \$4000

What has become an annual IL Corn Growers Association Political Action Committee fundraiser on November 21 raised nearly \$4,000 for the ICGA PAC.

The event focuses on providing

entertainment for current and former board members and county leaders that are already in Bloomington for the ICGA policy session and Illinois Commodity Conference the week of Thanksgiving.



This year, attendees played trivia games and participated in wine tastings trying to determine which were locally produced wines.

A silent auction was held, raising more than half of the funds for the evening. Thank you to our sponsors for donating items to make our PAC event a success:

- CornBelters
- Bloomington Meats
- Ropp Cheese Farm
- Big R
- Syngenta
- Farm and Fleet
- Case IH
- Sloan Implement

Please mark your calendars for our 2012 PAC event on November 19 at the Illinois Corn home office in Bloomington, IL.

## NEW CROP INSURANCE OPTIONS FOR 2012

Farmers all across the state have told us that federal crop insurance isn't working for them. The Illinois Corn Marketing Board listened and funded research to help fix the problem.

In 2012, Illinois farmers will have the option to select the Trend Adjusted APH Yield Option which will update your APH to more accurately reflect your predicted yield instead of an average of your historic yield.

Essentially, updating your predicted yield by taking this option will allow you to purchase the same coverage as last year for a



lower premium or will allow you purchase additional coverage for the same incremental cost.

There is not a corn or soybean farmer in Illinois who qualifies that will not benefit from this option!

How does it work?

The yield trend for each county is calculated. This number basically describes the number of bushels

that you are continually producing over the bushels you produced the year before. This number is added to your yield history and then the new numbers are averaged to predict next year's yield for your farm.

As an example, if a farm in McLean County had a yield trend number of two, the option would add two more bushels to your APH in 2011, four more

“EVERY MAN OWES A PART OF HIS TIME AND MONEY TO THE BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY IN WHICH HE IS ENGAGED. NO MAN HAS A MORAL RIGHT TO WITHHOLD HIS SUPPORT FROM AN ORGANIZATION THAT IS STRIVING TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS WITHIN HIS SPHERE.” ~ THEODORE ROOSEVELT

Have you ever wondered how you could get more involved in the Illinois Corn Growers Association or its Political Action Committee?

Let us know your interest and we can certainly find an activity that fits you and your interest level. If you support a certain candidate, ICGA can help you hold a fundraiser for that candidate. If you are interested in seeing firsthand what ICGA does in Washington, DC, there

are opportunities to accommodate that as well.

Simply email [lmitchell@ilcorn.org](mailto:lmitchell@ilcorn.org) to express interest in getting more involved.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Volunteering is simple!



Find out more about your candidates for President via the Corn Caucus Project at [www.iowacorn.org/corncaucus](http://www.iowacorn.org/corncaucus).

## PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES GRADED

The Iowa Caucuses are recently over with Mitt Romney winning, but the Illinois primary voting day isn't until March 20. The Illinois Corn Growers Association contributed to a project of the Iowa Corn Growers Association to grade all the candidates on issues important to corn farmers.

The Iowa Corn Growers Association released the Corn Caucus Project Presidential Report Card, a reference guide to presidential candidates' positions on agricultural policies.

The Corn Caucus Project Presidential Report Card provides information on the eight major candidates' responses to questions on legislative priorities for corn. Topics on the survey included: ethanol, farm programs, Environmental Protection Agency regulations, trade and transportation.

Based on survey responses submitted by presidential can-

didates, media and official records, each candidate was scored and graded. If a candidate failed to complete the survey, the committee used published statements, official records or information from

the candidate's website to complete the voter guide.

Answers to the survey and issue tracking are available online at [www.iowacorn.org/corncaucus](http://www.iowacorn.org/corncaucus).

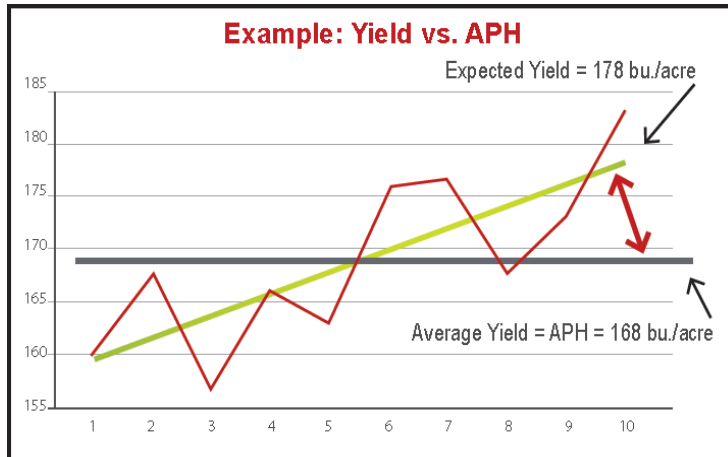
Overall Candidate Grade	
Barack Obama (D)	B
Michele Bachmann (R)	D+
Herman Cain (R)	D
Newt Gingrich (R)	A
Ron Paul (R)	D
Rick Perry (R)	C-
Mitt Romney (R)	B
Rick Santorum (R)	A-

# CROP INSURANCE (cont.)

bushels to your APH in 2010 and ten more bushels to your APH in 2007. The adjusted yields would be averaged to predict your expected yield in 2012 and then you would decide whether to insure 50%, 75% or 80% of that new expected yield.

**WE DELIVERED THE TOOLS**

The process to approve this new product was a long one, riddled with government paperwork, bureaucracy, and political power. The Illinois Corn Growers Association leveraged the Illinois Corn Marketing Board's research on



For more information on how your checkoff dollars and association are working for you, visit [www.ilcorn.org](http://www.ilcorn.org).

potential improvements to the Federal crop insurance program in order to bring this pilot program as an option to our members.

Please seriously consider signing up for the Trend Adjusted APH Yield

Option in March when you make your crop insurance selections.

For farmers in Illinois, this product is a tool that you cannot live without.

## STATE POLITICS PUNISH LIVESTOCK FACILITIES

Livestock is an important market for corn grown in the U.S. Here in Illinois, though it is not our largest market, it is a valuable market. Livestock in Illinois has room to grow before it can fulfill the protein needs of Illinois residents and though it is also an opportunity for rural economic development that our state desperately needs, the leaders of our state are NOT in favor of the industry.

Governor Quinn and the staff that he has placed around him try to undermine the industry at every turn. Perhaps the best example of this is the AJ Bos Dairy (Tradition Dairy) in JoDaviess County where Illinois leadership have thrown hurdle after hurdle in front of the dairy trying to prevent it's siting. Though the dairy continues to meet and exceed all the requirements asked of it, the Attorney General

and Governor simply will not let cows be milked on the premise.

AJ Bos remains in favor of the Illinois site. Tradition Dairy with it's \_\_\_\_\_ cows will not replace all the cows that JoDaviess County used to house. JoDaviess County is historically an agricultural county.

The agricultural community stands behind this and other livestock sitings that are punished by Illinois authorities. The Illinois ag associations have sat down with Governor Quinn and his staff, explaining the need for livestock in the state, how livestock and grain farming work hand in hand, and how both are integral as an economic driver for the state. Though at the time, the meetings seem successful, Governor Quinn and his staff return to their negativity about livestock as soon as our backs are turned.



Now that Illinois agriculture is certain that livestock will not get a fair trial in Illinois, legislative changes and political pressures are the next course of action.

The agricultural industry simply cannot allow public officials and Illinois leaders to believe that they can stimey economic growth by manipulating the legislative and legal process to stop livestock.

## Illinois Corn Growers Association

PO Box 1623  
Bloomington, IL 61702-1623



## PRIMARY IN MARCH '12 PROMISES

### INTERESTING RACES!

As the March 20, 2012 primary approached, take a moment to familiarize yourself with your new legislative district and the candidates you might be voting for.

Keep in mind, the candidate you've had for the last ten years might just be changing drastically.

Notable primary races include:

District 2: Jesse Jackson, Jr vs. Debbie Halvorson (Redistricting has placed former Congresswoman in the 11th District Halvorson into incumbent Congressman Jackson's district.)

District 16: Adam Kinzinger vs. Don Manzullo (Redistricting caused Kinzinger to move into the incumbent Congressman Manzullo's 11th district.)

Notable election races this fall include:

District 11: Judy Biggert vs. Bill Foster (Redistricting has placed former Congressman in the 17th District Foster into incumbent Congresswoman Biggert's district.)

District 12: Jerry Costello is retiring so the field is wide open!

District 13: With an entirely new district and new constituents, Congressman Tim Johnson and Congressman Bobby Schilling may have a good campaign ahead of him to keep his seat.

As the election approaches, ICGA will keep watch over these races and continue to support the candidates that you support!



*Help candidates who help you ...*

## DONATE

Donating to the ICGA PAC is easy!  
Simply complete your personal check and fill out the form below.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

PAC contributions are not tax deductible and cannot be treated as a business expense. For ICGA's PAC Policies and Guidelines, contact the ICGA office at 309-557-3257.