MID AMERICA CROPLIFE ASSOCIATION

To research public issues relating to crop production
and to work together
to improve the crop life cycle
via health, safety and public education.

NewsUpdate

May, 2013

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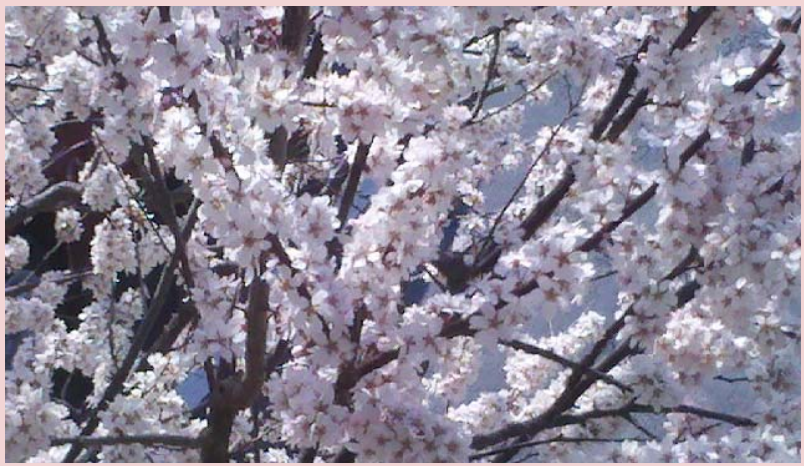

May - Happy May Day! Let's hope the temperatures warm up and stay that way for a few weeks. What a crazy month April was. But there are signs of spring popping up throughout the area and in talking with people across the Midwest, they are anxious to get out into the field.

Each spring brings eternal optimism for farmers across the county and this year is no exception. They have dealt with wind, snow, ice and flooding and yet are ready to put the crop into the ground with high hopes for a bountiful crop. Let's hope that happens!

As for a new crop, one of the other issues facing the crop protection industry is having good employees. Thus MACA is pleased to announce the first class of the Young Leader Scholarship Program. What an amazing group of young people! Read below for their quick story and make plans to meet

Louis, MO

June 6 - MACA Board of Directors Meeing, St. Louis, MO

September 3-4-5 - 2013 MACA Annual Meeting at the Omni Interlocken Resort, Broomfield, Colorado

September 13-15 - MABA outlook Conference, Mackinac Island, MI

2014
January 13-16 - MABA Winter Conference & Trade Show, Lansing Center, Lansing, MI

Send to a Colleague

MACA OFFICERS 2012-2013

Jason Paris
President

Greg Reigh
Vice President

Tom Quade
Secretary/Treasurer

Matt Wagner
Immediate Past President

them at the MACA Annual Meeting in Broomfield, Colorado in September.

Finally, I hope you'll make plans to join MACA for a night at Bush Stadium on June 5 when the Cardinals take on the Diamondbacks. It's part of the MACA quarterly meetings set for June 5-6. It will be a fun night of fellowship and baseball....check out the details below.

Minnesota - April, 2013

JUNE QUARTERLY MEETING

The Mid America CropLife Association (MACA) will hold its next quarterly meeting **Wednesday, June 5, 2013**, and **Thursday, June 6, 2013,** at the Marriott St. Louis Airport Hotel, 10700 Peartree Lane,St. Louis, Missouri. Please make your hotel arrangements prior to the meeting by calling the Marriott at 800-228-9290 or directly at 314-423-9700 to reserve a room at the rate of $124.00 plus tax (this includes the meeting fee of $25/person). To ensure this rate, say you are with MACA. Last day to reserve a hotel room is *Monday, May 13, 2012*, by 5:00 p.m. There is a complimentary shuttle to and from Lambert Airport 24 hours a day.

The committee meetings are on Wednesday with the Board meeting Thursday morning beginning at 7:30 am. Please plan to join President Jason Paris, Vice President Greg Reigh, Secretary-Treasurer Tom Quade and Immediate Past President Matt Wagner for a baseball game - Cardinals take on the Diamondbacks at Busch Stadium starting at 7:10 p.m. Tickets for the game are $115/person and include food and beverages in the MACA suite. Please call the MACA office or email Bonnie by ***May 30*** to reserve your ticket. Tickets are limited - so to ensure your spot be sure to RSVP.

STATE NEWS

Michigan - "Fieldwork all depends on continuing rainfall, but if it is light, we could be in the fields by the end of the week, but we are clearly at least 3 weeks or more behind last year with sugar beets

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Membership renewals for 2013 continue to come in. At this time, 58 have renewed their membership. Several applications for membership are in the process of being submitted. Thanks!

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

"Attitudes are contagious. Is yours worth catching?"
~ Dennis E. Mannering

President.

Budgets, some policy, but mainly education reform, insurance reform and medical care issues continued to be the hot topics during April at the capitol.

But after the fertilizer plant explosion in Texas, Byrum says "Get ready for more scrutiny on some fertilizer products."

Kansas - "While the drought officially persists across Kansas, it has eased up some this spring in the eastern half of the state which has received adequate to above average precipitation," says **Randy E. Stookey, esq., Vice President and General Counsel, Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association (KARA)**. "However, as of April 15, 2013, average topsoil moisture was still 40 percent short or very short, and subsoil moisture was 72 percent short or very short, with western Kansas being much further behind than the eastern half of the state."

As of the April 15th, the Kansas winter wheat crop was 35 percent jointed, behind 89 percent on that date in 2012 and 47 percent on average. The winter wheat crop was rated as 33 percent poor to very poor. Hay and other forages supply was 71% short or very short. Corn planting was only at 3 percent complete, behind 16 percent last year and 10 percent on average. Continued rain/snow and unseasonably low temps throughout most of the month of April have further hindered corn planting. However, temperatures look to rebound in early May, reaching highs in the 80's with sporadic continued rains.

The Kansas Legislature broke for a month on April 5th, and will reconvene to conduct the veto session on May 7, 2013. The main tasks remaining for this Legislature are setting a budget for the next two fiscal years, and agreeing to a tax bill. Kansas budget analysts are currently estimating a tax revenue shortfall next year due to new tax rate reductions and exemptions on certain nonwage business income. One main tax issue yet to be decided is whether to repeal a portion of the state sales tax.

We are eagerly anticipating the adoption of new regulations from the state corporation commission allowing broader exemptions on hours of service regulations for motor carriers transporting agricultural products. The new regulations are based on the federal MAP-21 act and accompanying FMCSR's.

Nebraska - "Most field work has started amid some snow fall and rain throughout the state," reports **Alice Licht, Executive Vice President & Legislative Director, Nebraska Agri-Business Association.** "Western Nebraska is particularly relieved that they are finally receiving some significant moisture for the first time in 14 months."

The Nebraska Legislature is on day 68 of the 90 working day session, with scheduled adjournment for June 5. From January through March, we were pretty busy with hearings on several bills. Hopefully, all the negative bills for the industry are put to bed for this year which included putting in buffer zones for 2,4-D products and require permitting for these products around sensitive crops; requiring phone calls to the One Call Digger's Hotline prior to taking soil samples; putting a sales tax on all our ag input items

AMBASSADOR OPPORTUNITIES

Most Recent Posts:
Loves Park, IL
Palatine, IL
Waltonville, IL

Fort Wayne, IN
Milltown, IN

Fowlerville, MI

Maple Grove, MN

LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON!
Avery Paris

enforcement of ag aerial applicators to the Nebraska Department of Aeronautics rather than the Department of Agriculture.

We're moving a bill through which is positive for the seed industry relating to cool season grasses and labeling requirements. Legislation is also moving which will lower the ag pesticide label fees with the Nebraska Department of Agriculture from $200 to $160 per label.

The Legislature is coming to a slow crawl, tackling heavy issues such as school financing, pitting urban senators against rural senators. The two-year budget is soon to come out which will most likely result in lengthy debate.

Political races for 2014 will soon heat up with Nebraska having an open Senate seat. Senator Mike Johanns has announced he will not seek re-election. Three House seats, the Governor, Lt. Governor, Treasurer, Auditor and Attorney General seats are also up, along with half of the Legislature.

CROPLIFE AMBASSADOR NETWORK

Spring has finally arrived well at least it has today, so I'm going with it. The meteorologists say it will be gone by Wednesday so we will take what we can get. What a difference a year makes. Last year, at this time, we were enjoying an unusually warm spring, lots of planting going on everywhere not too much rain. This year lots of rain, some flooding and cooler temps are slowing the planting season. Well, instead of watching the rain, volunteer to visit a classroom! The web site still has several opportunities that are just waiting to be filled with someone like you! I know the rain may stop then you'll be really busy but it may not and visiting a classroom makes an impact on so many. I have recently added a few presentation requests. Due to a computer glitch, which we are still working on, requests and visit summaries from the web site have not been coming through so I apologize for hounding you when you have already filled them out. We hope to resolve these issues soon.

It has been an exciting spring for me, as I attended my first trade show! I attended the NAMA conference in Kansas City in April as an exhibitor. I spoke with many people from around the country and several from Canada (with no plans of expansion there) about our program and signed up a few new ambassadors. I also spoke with many of the students that were attending the conference through the student/universities NAMA program.

I had the privilege of meeting with the Science Education Outreach Program at Monsanto thanks to Greg High. Greg and I met with Valerie Bayes a Science Education Outreach Specialist to aide in revamping our presentations. I would like to update the presentations information as well as improve some of the graphics to make them more visually appealing and engaging to students and presenters alike. I do promise I will keep them easy to download and use for the presenters. Jean our office assistant has been working hard to research the resources used on the current

St. Louis Busch Stadium

EPA Region 7 recognized last month the St. Louis Cardinals baseball club for efforts to divert, donate and compost food waste around Busch Stadium.

The Cardinals are members of EPA's Food Recovery Challenge program. The Cardinals and their organization's concessionaire have diverted more than 27 tons of unused food from concession stands in Busch Stadium to Operation Food Search to feed the area's poor and hungry.

Since 2008, the St. Louis Cardinals have diverted approximately 2,000 tons of solid waste from local landfills. The organization has reduced its energy use by 20 percent and its water use by 10 percent since opening in 2006. On average, four tons of trash are recycled at the stadium each game.

me some great new resource ideas and places to look. Along with updating the presentations I would like to update or add to our current ag bag items I send to new ambassadors. Look for a survey coming from me in the coming weeks and please take the time to fill it out as honestly as possible. I want to make these improvements to help you so your feedback is very important.

Please see the left column for the most recent Ambassador Opportunities.

Diane Orf - Program Manager
314-849-9446
Diane@MACA.org
Please contact me at the MACA office on Monday, Tuesday or Thursday if you have any questions.

Like us on Facebook

CropLife Ambassador Network
Mission: To provide scientifically based, accurate information to the public regarding the safety and value of American agricultural food production.

WATER ISSUES

"I would like to begin by saying our hearts go out to the families of those killed and to those hurt in the explosion of the fertilizer facility in West, Texas," reports **MACA's Water Consultant Steve Taylor**.

So far, Congress has refrained from judging the effectiveness of existing regulatory programs before an investigation can be completed.Some members of Congress have called for reform of the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) program and for the use of inherently safer technologies (IST). Others are focusing on chemical security regulations and inspection requirements in state and federal regulatory programs.

Now, in regards to the EPA numeric nutrient criteria (NNC) lawsuit in which MACA is an intervener, the environmental groups have filed a brief with the court which primarily attacks EPA's claim that its decision is completely unreviewable by the court. In addition, the Plaintiffs seemed focused less on the original goal of EPA developing NNCs and more on establishing the necessity of NNCs. Our response to this brief is due to the court by May 10th.

Regarding the on-going issue of 'Waters of the United States', a group of 30 U.S. Senators sent a letter April 23 asking EPA to withdraw its draft guidance on the subject. The guidance could lead to farm ditches being considered regulated waters.

Finally, a quick update on the Chesapeake Bay where an April 23 report from the Center for Progressive Reform states that the economic benefit of noncompliance (EBN) should be a key factor in penalty calculations for non-compliance. This involves

this could possibly result in enforcement action that would require reduced agricultural production and thus lower economic benefit from nutrient runoff.

In another separate report, scientists with the Chesapeake Bay Program state that submerged grasses in the Bay declined in 2012 for a third successive year. They further state that Total Maximum Daily Load plans for nutrients and sediment is crucial to combat this decline.

And one final note regarding the Bay, on April 24th, the House Natural Resources Committee approved a bill (H.R. 739) that would require an adaptive management plan for restoration of the Chesapeake Bay watershed and an interagency budget report. The legislation is intended to better coordinate the efforts of the federal government and surrounding states to restore the bay.

Minnesota - April, 2013

MACA YOUNG LEADER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS NAMED

The MACA Young Leader Scholarship Program (MACA YLSP) has selected 12 recipients to receive a $2,000 scholarship for the 2013 fall semester provided they complete their summer internship. The YLPS is designed to expose future agriculturalists to the crop protection industry and future career opportunities. Recipients will benefit from the financial compensation and exposure to MACA and networking with MACA members. MACA members benefit by developing a talent pool of future industry leaders and through the heightened awareness of MACA within the participating universities.

Candidates must be enrolled at one of the 13 Land-Grant Universities and have secured a summer internship (2013) within agriculture, preferably within the crop protection industry and attend the MACA Annual Meeting.
Recipients include:

- **Colorado (**Colorado State University)- Lily Niknami , Soil & Crop Science, concentration in Applied Info Technology/Spatial Information Management, interning with USDA - ARS Water Management Research Unit
- **Illinois** (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)- Brad Bernhard, Crop Science, interning with Heritage FS.
- **Indiana (**Purdue University) - Kelsey Tuholski, Soil & CropScience/Farm Management, internship with

- **Iowa** (Iowa State University) - Bethany Olson, Agricultural Business/Agronomy with internship at DuPont Pioneer
- **Kansas** (Kansas State University) - Paige Druffel , Agricultural Communications and Journalism, interning at Monsanto
- **Michigan** (Michigan State University) - Krista Janeschek, Crop and Soil Science/Agribusiness Management with internship at Wilbur-Ellis.
- **Minnesota** (University of Minnesota) - Nicholas Peterson, applied Plant Science/Soil Science will intern with Winfield/Land O'Lakes
- **Missouri** (University of Missouri) - Andrew Perry, Agricultural Economics & Plant Science/Animal Science, Agricultural Systems Management, will be interning at Pioneer Hi Bred, Inc.
- **Nebraska** (University of Nebraska - Lincoln) - Justin Loeffelholz, Agronomy-integrated Crop Management Option/Agricultural Economics, will be interning at Dow Agrosciences.
- **North Dakota** (North Dakota State University) - Morgan Hanson, Crop and Weed Science, interning at WinField Solutions, LLC.
- **South Dakota** (South Dakota State University) - Ted Berckes, Agronomy, interning with Helena Chemical Company.
- **Wisconsin** (University of Wisconsin-Madison) - Leanna Leverich, double major in Agricultural & Applied Economics and Life Science Communication, will be interning at Capital Newspaper's Agri-View Sales and Editorial.

A special thanks to the Crop Production Issues Committee for their work on this program and the subcommittee members **Phil Harms, Tim Riley, Jeff Hayslett, and Wayne Jelinek.** More than 30 applications were submitted and review by each of the committee members. Stay tuned for more coverage of the YLSP recipients....we'll have photos from their internship and they'll be at the 2013 MACA Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado!

SHORT NOTES

- MACA signed onto a letter with **the National Association of Manufacturers** that seeks better disclosure from the EPA of the lawsuits brought against the agency that give rise to "sue and settle" rulemakings. "Sue and settle" rulemakings occur when a group sues the agency to take on a new regulation, and instead of litigating the case-no matter how strong the defense may be-the agency simply settles the case and agrees to issue a new regulation (and often pays attorney's fees and costs). The entities who will be subject to the ensuing regulation-often manufacturers-rarely if ever have notice that a lawsuit has been filed, and even if they do, are often precluded from participating in the closed-door settlement. The letter makes a simple

immediately provide all stakeholders with timely and transparent access to information involving any legal action, or notice of intended legal action, against the EPA.

- What's the difference between the **Wisconsin Agribusiness Council** and the **Wisconsin Agri-Business Association**? The Council is a venture of multiple agricultural associations and organizations designed mainly to promote agricultural education in Wisconsin. The Wisconsin Agri-Business Association is the trade association for agribusinesses in Wisconsin. We were formed on April 1, 2012 from a merger of the Wisconsin Agri-Service Association and the Wisconsin Crop Production Association. They have 320 members ranging from grain elevators, feed mills, seed processors and technology, fertilizer and chemical manufacturers, dealers, applicators, farm supply companies, equipment manufacturers and sales, ethanol plants, etc...
- **Monsanto** has been in the news the last few weeks. Monsanto signed a series of cross-licensing deals that will give **Bayer CropScience** a royalty-bearing license to Monsanto's herbicide-tolerant soybean technology. The technology is sold under the brand name Genuity Roundup Ready 2 Yield. In return, Bayer will grant Monsanto licenses to technologies for corn rootworm and herbicide tolerance. Monsanto and **Dow Agrosciences** also announced a cross-licensing deal that will allow Dow to use a corn rootworm technology being developed by Monsanto. In exchange, Dow will give Monsanto access to a new corn technology that enables crops to survive applications of the chemical 2,4-D. Finally, Monsanto and DuPont, agreed to settle lawsuits, and, at the same time, agreed to allow licensing of each others' technologies, including a Monsanto technology that allows crops to survive applications of dicamba, made by chemical giant BASF.
- **MACA's 2004-2005 President Duane Mol** stopped by the office on April 17 for an update on MACA and to provide an update on CPS, their efforts as well as crop conditions around the Midwest.
- The **Agribusiness Association of Iowa** announced today the appointment of Joel Brinkmeyer as their new Chief Executive Officer. He'll begin work on May 15.
- **Monsanto Company** will begin construction this summer on a $400 million expansion project at its Chesterfield Village Research Center. The expansion calls for 36 new greenhouses, additional office and lab space, as well as plant growth chambers. Those greenhouses and growth chambers help Monsanto simulate different climates to aid in research for best performing seeds.
- Congratulations and best wishes to **Rob Dittmer, DuPont Crop Protection**, who is retiring after 40 years! More details next month.