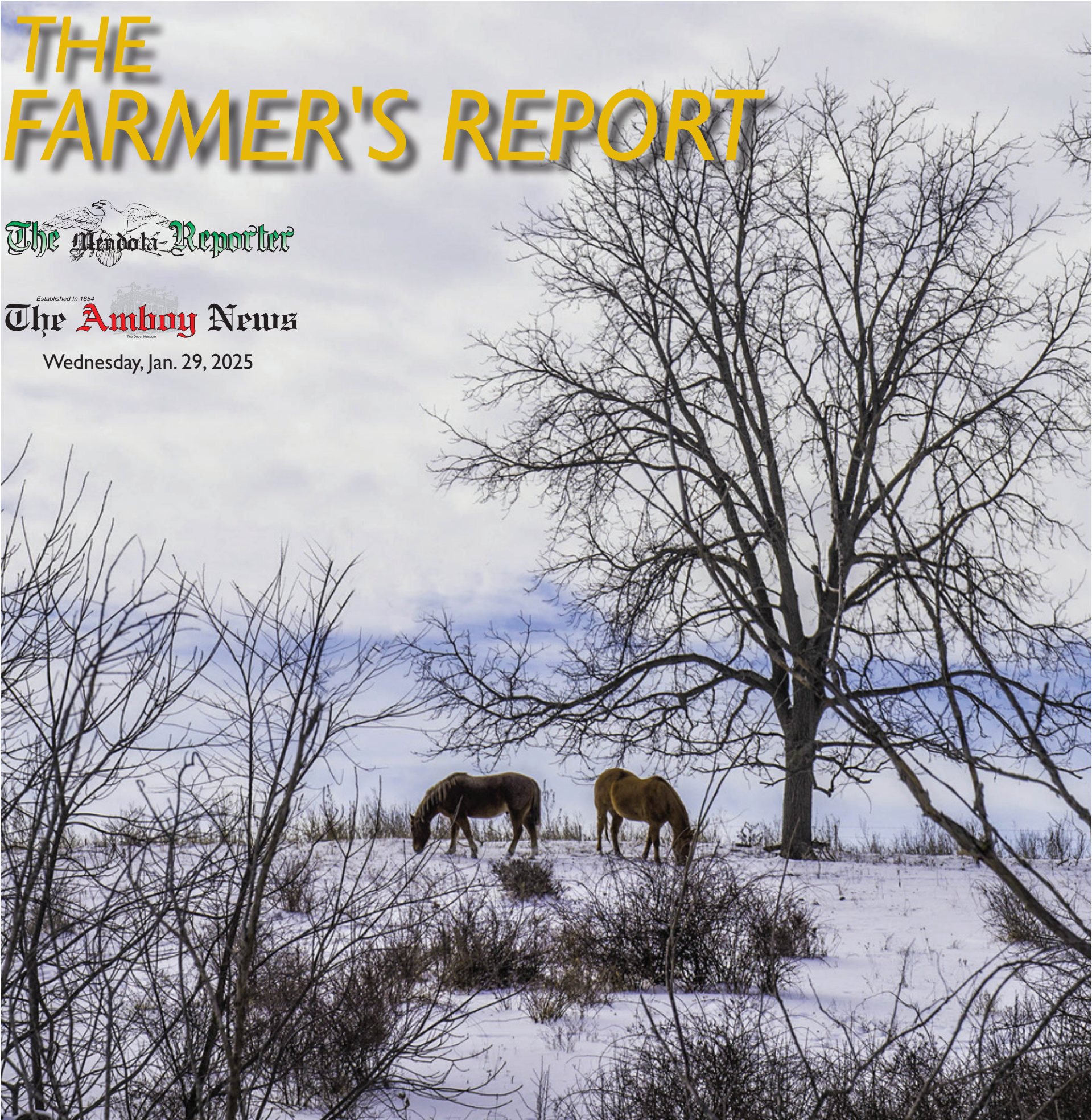


# THE FARMER'S REPORT

The Mendota Reporter

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Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2025



## Illinois Soybean Association study reveals economic costs and opportunities of rural bridge maintenance

BLOOMINGTON – Leading the nation in soybean production, Illinois farmers rely on strong infrastructure, like bridges, to transport their products to market. And, with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) announcing a record-setting soybean harvest of 720 million bushels for 2024, robust infrastructure is crucial to support this increased output. Agricultural productivity is also expected to grow by 15-30% over the next 20 years, so the need for efficient infrastructure will only become more critical. Recognizing this, the Illinois Soybean Association (ISA) recently commissioned a study evaluating the economic impact of maintaining reliable bridge infrastructure in Illinois.

“Roads and bridges are the first point of connection between soybean farmers and the market,” said ISA Market Development Committee Chair Brady Holst. “Well-maintained bridges ensure farmers have timely access to processing facilities, grain elevators and transportation hubs. That’s why ISA commissioned this study to gain insights into the economic impacts of this vital infrastructure,

not just for farmers, but our state as a whole.”

The ISA study conducted a cost-benefit analysis for all roadway bridges within the State of Illinois after removing bridges in the Chicago Metropolitan Area and interstate bridges. The study also analyzed the economic impacts specific to Illinois’ top 13 agricultural-producing counties, including Bureau, Champaign, Christian, Henry, Iroquois, LaSalle, Lee, Livingston, McLean, Ogle, Sangamon, Shelby and Vermillion.

A major takeaway of the study is that every dollar invested in Illinois bridge maintenance results in \$4.97 in benefits for all roadway users. For the top 13 agricultural counties, specifically, every dollar invested in bridge maintenance results in \$3.00 in benefits for all users.

The broader impacts of investing in the maintenance of reliable bridges can include additional employment, labor income and value to the local, regional and state economies. According to the ISA study, bridge investments in the State of Illinois will provide approximately 52,640 jobs, a labor income of \$2.83 billion, and



an added economic value of \$5.63 billion over the next 30 years. For Illinois’ top 13 agricultural counties, bridge investments will provide approximately 5,979 jobs, \$231.9 million in labor income and \$639.8 million in total value added.

“Investing in bridges isn’t just a good deal for Illinois farmers, it’s a win for all Illinois citizens,” said Holst. “The long-term benefits of bridge repair and maintenance are significant economic opportunities for our state.”

The ISA study also underscored the need for continued investment by assessing the condition of Illinois’ 26,873 bridges statewide. Alarming, many of Illinois’ bridges are in a state of disrepair, posing significant risks. In fact,

65% of bridges statewide are in fair or poor condition. The study also highlighted that 72% of bridges in Illinois are owned by local governments, making repair or replacement significantly

challenging due to budget constraints.

“If these deteriorating bridges are not repaired or replaced, they will be given weight restrictions or be closed,” said Holst. “If this happens, the resulting detours will increase transportation costs and travel time for farmers and other roadway users, negatively impacting farmers’ livelihoods and the overall health of our state’s economy.”

To read the full study on the economic impact of rural bridges in Illinois,

visit, [ilsoy.org/market-development-study](http://ilsoy.org/market-development-study).

### About the Illinois Soybean Association

The Illinois Soybean Association (ISA) checkoff and membership programs represent more than 43,000 soybean farmers in Illinois. The checkoff funds market development, soybean production and government relations efforts, while the membership program, Illinois Soybean Growers (ISG) and the Illinois Soybean Growers PAC actively advocate for positive and impactful legislation for farmers at local, state and national levels. ISA upholds the interests of Illinois soybean farmers through promotion, advocacy, research and education with the vision of becoming a trusted partner of Illinois soybean farmers to ensure their profitability now and for future generations. Learn more at [ilsoy.org](http://ilsoy.org) and [ilsoy-growers.org](http://ilsoy-growers.org).



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## USMCA dispute decision a win for Illinois corn farmers

By **TAMMIE SLOUP**  
*FarmWeek*

The United States' victory in its dispute over Mexico's decree to ban genetically modified corn imports is good news for Illinois corn growers.

United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai announced the U.S. prevailed in its dispute under the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) challenging certain Mexican biotechnology measures concerning genetically engineered (GE) corn. The USMCA panel agreed with the U.S. on all seven legal claims, finding that Mexico's measures are not based on science and undermine the market access that Mexico agreed to provide in the USMCA.

"The panel's ruling reaffirms the United States' longstanding concerns about Mexico's biotechnology policies and their detrimental impact on U.S. agricultural exports," Tai said. "It underscores the importance of science-based trade policies that allow American farmers and agricultural producers to compete fairly and leverage their innovation to address climate change and enhance productivity. We look forward to continuing our collaboration with the Mexican government to ensure a level playing field

and provide access to safe, affordable and sustainable agricultural products on both sides of the border."

The dispute challenged two sets of measures reflected in Mexico's February 2023 presidential corn decree, including an immediate ban on the use of GE corn in dough and tortillas, and an instruction to Mexican government agencies to gradually eliminate the use of GE corn for other food uses and in animal feed. The U.S. established the panel in August 2023.

Illinois Farm Bureau President Brian Duncan called the decision an "important victory."

"It was a strong ruling on behalf of U.S. corn growers and a vital export market that we need to remain open," Duncan told RFD Radio. "It's also a victory for rules-based trade."

IL Corn Growers Association (ICGA) President and Waterloo farmer Garrett Hawkins said the panel's decision is positive news for Illinois corn farmers and Mexican corn importers.

"As the largest corn export state in the union, Illinois corn farmers are proponents of free trade agreements and of making free trade agreements work," Hawkins said in a statement. "ICGA and the National Corn Growers Association had a significant role in fighting this unscien-

tific Mexican government overreach and urging the U.S. Trade Representative to challenge the ban that would limit Mexican buyers' choices and reduce U.S. market access. We are so happy to see the ruling issued in our favor and look forward to building our trade relationship with our top export customer for all types of corn."

From January through October 2024, the United States exported \$4.8 billion of corn to Mexico — the United States' largest export market for the grain.

The panel issued its final report on Dec. 20. Under USMCA rules, Mexico has 45 days from the date of the final report to comply with the panel's findings.

The panel, in its report, wrote that while Mexico is seeking to address genuine concerns in good faith, such



**A bountiful harvest resulted in this corn pile in Amboy (Lee County) last fall. Illinois exports more corn than any other U.S. state, so growers here recently welcomed a key decision concerning trade with Mexico. (Photo by Catrina Rawson of FarmWeek)**

concerns should be "channeled into an appropriate risk assessment process, measures based on scientific principles and in dialogue

among all USMCA parties to facilitate a constructive path forward."

*(This story was distributed through a cooperative*

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## From farm toys to the fields, teenager takes the reins

By TAMMIE SLOUP  
FarmWeek

Nine-year-old Charlie Roegge captured the attention of YouTube viewers during COVID with his daily farming updates.

“He’d set up like a hay operation with his toy tractors, and he’d go through and talk about all of the steps involved in hay production or harvesting. And it started garnering some attention,” said his mother, Jill Roegge. “So, he just kept adding more and more to his farm videos, and he started going out to real equipment and showing things on real equipment, and also interview people, like he interviewed his dad a couple of times.

“He enjoyed being in front of the camera and talking about farming.”

Today, the high school freshman traded in his farm toys for real machinery, and recently completed his first harvest of soybeans and corn.

“It felt really good to climb in the combine. It made me feel very accomplished of what I had done, and just excited to keep going,” Charlie Roegge said.



Charlie Roegge climbs down from his tractor after tilling a soybean field near his home in Cass County. (Photo by Tammie Sloup of FarmWeek)

The 14-year-old sold his cattle herd to pay for used farm equipment that he utilized during this year’s harvest of his 80 acres surrounding his Arenzville home in Cass County, as well as a field near his grandmother’s home in Virginia.

Much of his knowledge was gleaned from following

his late father, Matt, around the farm starting when he could first walk. Matt Roegge would take his son with him everywhere, from the grain elevator to riding beside him in the combine. Matt Roegge also farmed with his two brothers and father, and like a sponge, Charlie Roegge absorbed

much of their conversations about farming.

“People are always surprised about his knowledge at such a young age of all the farm processes,” Jill Roegge said. “But I think it was just because of all the time that he had spent on the farm following his dad around from the time he was about 18 months old until he was 11 years old. He was with his dad most days of the week.”

In 2021, Matt Roegge passed away from COVID complications. With Charlie’s older brother and sister not involved in the farm, the operation was taken over by Jill and Charlie.

This was the first year the mother and son became active in the operation, as someone else tended to the fields as the family sorted out some issues.

“We relied a lot on each other and worked through it together, and we have a strong family support

**“It felt really good to climb in the combine. It made me feel very accomplished of what I had done, and just excited to keep going.”**

—Charlie Roegge

system, so we were able to get through things with that,” Jill Roegge said. “It’s definitely changed Charlie and I’s relationship, because he was always a lot closer with his dad than he was with me, but this has kind of forced him to rely on me a little bit more. But I think we have a pretty good time together and a pretty open relationship that we can talk about most anything.”

When it came time to purchase equipment for the farm, Charlie Roegge turned to the classifieds and fellow farmers.

“He sold his cattle so that he could buy equipment; he really wanted to harvest, and so he did a lot of looking on classified ads and looking for equipment and talking to local farmers who might be upgrading that would have some used equipment he could purchase,” Jill Roegge said. “All of the equipment that he has gotten is from selling his cattle, which he really loved his cattle, but he knew that he could get more cattle later on in life.

“I think it means a lot to him that it’s his own equipment, and I think that’s giving him a little bit more respect for the equipment; he wants to take good care of it, and he’s protective of it.”

“It took a lot of work getting everything ready and all set up and all managed and mechanically sounding good, but, yeah, it was really special, and it was awesome

to be able to do it on my own,” Charlie Roegge said.

As the former YouTuber and FarmWeek CropWatcher 2.0 wrapped up his first harvest, Charlie Roegge reflected on losing his father and role model.

“My dad was very helpful to everybody and anyone who needed it. He was very hard working and kind,” he said, adding if he could talk to his father now, he’d ask him what he needed to do to have a successful farm.

Jill Roegge said her husband likely would keep encouraging their son to continue in the direction he’s heading.

“My hope is that he enjoys what he does, and that he finds meaning and purpose in it, which I feel like he’s already doing,” Jill Roegge said. “I want him to be proud of his work, and I think he is, and I think that as he grows and matures, he’ll become even more proud of the job that he’s doing and carrying on the traditions that his dad started with him.”

His dad might have even overlooked that his son purchased a green combine instead of a red one, she joked.

(This story was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit FarmWeekNow.com.)

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## Illinois scientists to test modernized genetic model for optimized crop breeding

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has funded University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign research that aims to connect the dots between quantitative and molecular genetics and improve crop breeding.

The four-year, \$795,000 grant investigates new theories on how genetics influence complex crop traits, such as yield or grain quality. These traits are controlled by lots of different genes — sometimes hundreds or thousands — which makes untangling their contributions difficult. Crop breeders use a host of advanced genetic tools to predict and select desirable complex traits, but these tools rely on outdated genetic understanding, believes project leader Alex Lipka.

“The theory used to quantify genetic contributions to traits in statistical models stems back from 1918. In 1918, they didn’t have the central dogma of molecular biology, so they didn’t even know that DNA had two strands. There are over a century of advancements that have not been incorporated into the most widely used models to quantify genetic architecture,” said Lipka, an associate professor in the Department of Crop Sciences, part of the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) at Illinois.

An emerging genetic framework called the omnigenic model incorporates modern advances in molecular biology into classical genetic theory. The omnigenic model divides all the genes in an organism’s genome into two components: core genes and pe-

ripheral genes. According to the model, the core genes directly control the trait of interest. If, for example, several core genes for plant height are switched on, the plant should be taller.

Peripheral genes, on the other hand, do not directly control the trait but can still subtly impact it. These genes are involved in cellular processes that influence how the core genes direct the trait. For example, a peripheral gene might produce a protein that can travel within the cell and change the activity of a plant height core gene. While the effects of the peripheral genes may be small individually, added together they can contribute even more to genetic variability than core genes.

If the omnigenic model is correct, Lipka believes that incorporating peripheral genes could advance breeding tools. “If we can harness the collective effects of the peripheral genes, then there can be really powerful ramifications for getting and selecting for optimal trait values,” Lipka said.

Lipka and his collaborator Geoffrey Morris at Colorado State University, who also received an NSF grant for this project, will develop statistical methods for testing the omnigenic model in crops.

“We don’t currently have the statistical tools to properly assess evidence of the omnigenic model,” Lipka said. “We’re going to develop these tools and test them out in a biologically rigorous manner.”

They plan to use a software package previously developed by Lipka’s team to simulate how core genes,

peripheral genes, and the interaction between genes could affect complex traits in a simulated crop population. Their simulations will be informed with data from Arabidopsis, a model plant species, and sorghum, a climate-resilient crop widely eaten in areas of the world with food insecurity.

“It’s difficult for plant breeders to keep pace with a changing climate and increasing food demand,” said Morris, whose team supports plant breeding programs around the world. “In this project, new methods will first be rigorously tested with data sets from ongoing breeding partnerships in the U.S., Senegal, and Haiti. Ultimately, though, our goal is to see these methods deployed by plant breeders to identify high-yielding, climate-resilient varieties.”

They will simulate multiple populations with different types of selection and selection intensity, repeat this for several generations, and ultimately quantify evidence for or against the omnigenic model. By the end of the project, they will put all of their work into a new software package that other researchers can use to test and apply the model.

“In some of the preliminary studies, the omnigenic model actually seems like it might be working, which is just really cool,” Lipka said.

Lipka is also affiliated with the Center for Digital Agriculture, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology, and the National Center for Supercomputing Applications at Illinois.



University of Illinois Extension’s Commercial Agriculture Educator, Kevin Brooks, presenting his seminar on “Planning Farm Succession.” (Photo contributed)

## Farmland Owners Conference attracts over 220 attendees from seven states

OGLESBY — The 2024 Farmland Owners Conference held in November left attendees inspired, informed, and empowered. The event, held at Illinois Valley Community College, brought together over 220 landowners, agribusiness representatives, and industry experts to discuss the latest trends, challenges, and opportunities in agriculture.

The conference featured a diverse lineup of presenters, with breakout sessions covering a wide range of topics, including:

- Land values, auctions, and appraisals
- Estate planning

- Professional farm management

- Soil fertility and health
- USDA Farm Service Agency programs

- Solar farms
- Organic production

Seventeen different organizations were featured at the resource fair, including COUNTRY Financial, Illinois Farm Bureau, American Farmland Trust, OSF Healthcare, Illinois Soybean Association, and The Land Connection.

“My brother and I attended this conference together and we are very grateful for some new ideas and resources,” said one attendee. “We

are both farm kids, gone for a couple decades, and now trying to figure out how to be of more help to our father and figure out our role with the farm in the future. I would absolutely attend a similar workshop in the future.”

The 2024 Farmland Owners Conference demonstrated the need for education directed at current and future farmland owners. By providing a platform for knowledge sharing, networking, and collaboration, the event empowered landowners to make informed decisions and secure the future of their land.

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## Illinois Soybean Association announces its 2024 Achievement Award winners

BLOOMINGTON — Illinois agriculture thrives thanks to passionate leaders. To honor their contributions, the Illinois Soybean Association (ISA) established the annual Achievement Awards, recognizing those who strengthen the industry.

The five winners of the 2024 ISA Achievement Awards were honored for their contributions to the industry on Dec. 3 at the third annual ISA Impact Awards Banquet held in Bloomington. The program for the evening featured Lucas Lentsch, CEO of the United Soybean Board as the keynote speaker and Tyne Morgan, Host of the U.S. Farm Report as the emcee. Representatives from numerous allied industry organizations and corporate partners were also in attendance to celebrate the achievements of the award winners.

“ISA is proud to honor these hardworking individuals who are leading our industry into a better future through their leadership, excellence, commitment and service,” said John Lumpe, ISA CEO. “We thank them for all of their contributions that benefit farmers and the Illinois agriculture industry as a whole.”

The 2024 Achievement Award winners are as follows:

The ISA Chairman’s Award recognizes an individual who has gone above and beyond to serve the state’s soybean interests. It is the highest award given by ISA and is presented in appreciation of one’s dedication, leadership and years of service to the soybean industry.

The recipient of this year’s Chairman’s Award is Mark Gebhards.

Mark Gebhards serves as Chief Strategy Officer and Adviser to the Illinois Farm Bureau President, where he helps ensure the Illinois Farm Bureau meets the needs of its members. From 2003 to 2023, he led the Farm Bureau’s Governmental Affairs and Commodities Division, overseeing lobbying, commodity programs, and agricultural collaborations. Raised on a grain and livestock farm near Springfield, Gebhards has held leadership roles with the Illinois Pork Producers Association, the American Soybean Association and county Farm Bureaus.

ISA’s Farm Family of the Year Award recognizes an Illinois farm family who is actively engaged in ISA’s membership program, shows commitment to ISA programming and has demonstrated impact in their community and across the industry.

The recipients of the Farm Family of the Year Award are Ron, Deb and Michael Moore. Ron and Deb Moore, along with their son Michael, raise corn, soybeans and cattle in Roseville, Illinois. Ron has held key leadership roles, including President of the American Soybean Association and Chairman of the Illinois Soybean Association, and is a strong advocate for sustainable farming. Deb has served in various leadership roles with the Warren County Board of Supervisors, Illinois Cattlewomen and other civic organizations.

The Moores also actively connect with urban and international audiences to promote modern agriculture. Michael, a graduate of Illinois State University, is a previous Soy Ambassador and currently a crop insurance agent.

The Friend of Illinois Soybean Farmers Award recognizes a friend to the organization in any capacity and is presented in appreciation of one’s efforts in championing on behalf of Illinois soybean farmers.

The recipient of the ISA Friend of Illinois Soybean Farmers Award is Dr. Aaron Hager. Professor of weed science at the University of Illinois, Hager has over 30 years of experience advancing sustainable weed management for Illinois corn and soybean producers. His research integrates applied science with ecological and molecular biology collaborations, focusing on innovative solutions for weed control. Hager’s groundbreaking work includes identifying the first cases of multiple herbicide resistance in Illinois waterhemp and the world’s first resistance to HPPD-inhibiting and Group 15 herbicides in broadleaf species. His expertise is recognized nationally and internationally.

The ISA Champion of the Year Award honors an individual in Illinois who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and dedication to advancing the interests of soybean farmers. This award recognizes efforts in shaping policy, influencing regulations and supporting initiatives that benefit the soybean industry. The

recipient is celebrated for their proven track record and unwavering commitment to championing the agricultural community and its crucial issues.

The recipient of the Champion of the Year Award is Jonathan Coppess. Associate Professor and Director of the Gardner Agriculture Policy Program at the University of Illinois, Coppess specializes in agricultural law, risk management, and conservation, blending historical policy insights with contemporary challenges. His work includes research, outreach, and education on farm support, conserva-

tion, and renewable energy. Coppess also connects with producers and agribusinesses through teaching, presentations, and contributions to platforms such as farmdoc and farmdoc Daily.

The ISA Excellence in Media Award recognizes a member of the media who promotes Illinois soybeans and Illinois agriculture through their coverage in print, broadcast, social and beyond.

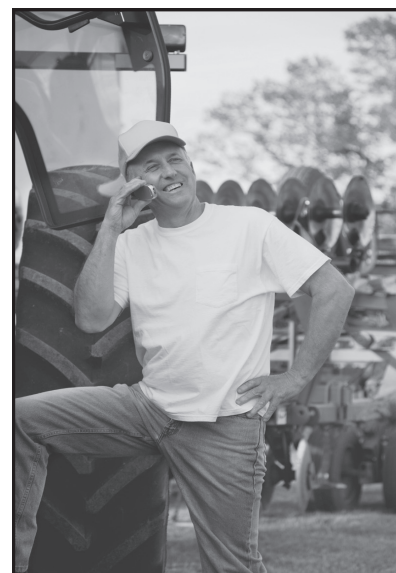
The recipient of the Excellence in Media Award is Rita Frazer. Audio News Manager for the Illinois Farm Bureau’s Marketing and Communication Division,

Frazer has over 30 years of experience in agricultural broadcasting. Beginning at WSMI radio in 1990, she built her reputation as a passionate advocate for Illinois agriculture. Since 2011, Frazer has led the RFD Radio Network, earning numerous accolades, including the 2024 National Association of Farm Broadcasting Farm Broadcaster of the Year Award. A past president and 34-year member of the NAFB, she is dedicated to advancing agricultural storytelling.

To learn more about the Illinois Soybean Association, visit [ilsoy.org](http://ilsoy.org).



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## Pesticide dilemma facing Illinois farmers and EPA's endangered species restrictions

SPRINGFIELD – As restrictions on pesticide use ramp up, Illinois farmers face challenges of navigating the law while still producing a healthy crop.

In 2023, proposed regulations threatened to remove the practical use of many of the most effective herbicides commonly used in commercial agriculture, which farm officials said would be disastrous for farmers.

As the U.S. Environment Protection Agency implements pesticide label restrictions to protect endangered species, farming officials say the restrictions are already limiting the practical use of pesticides. Under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, the EPA must consider the potential impact any given pesticide may have on endangered or threatened species within the state where the chemical is registered for use.

During an Illinois Soybean Growers webinar, Stanley Culpepper, a professor in the Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, said it is important for farmers to do their homework before applying pesticides and herbicides.

“Remember, the pesticide that you are applying on the field, does it or does it not potentially harm the species,” said Culpepper. “You have to understand where both of those are at and if they overlap.”

Culpepper said farmers he comes across want to know why they should endanger the sustainability of their farm.

“The very simplified answer is lawsuits,” said Culpepper. “When our pesticides are taken to the court system, we’re simply losing because we’re not following the requirements of the endangered species act when registering and re-registering those pesticides.”

Culpepper believes the restrictions will expand and impact every U.S. farmer and their ability to manage pests effectively. He adds that it is essential that Illinois farmers work with the EPA and other related agencies to find common ground.

Illinois was the number one soybean producer in the U.S. in 2023 and the number two corn producer behind only Iowa.

## Tight global supply keeping fertilizer prices elevated

By RHIANNON BRANCH  
*FarmWeek*

As farmers enter another year of predictably tight margins, it does not look like fertilizer prices will grant much relief to the balance sheet.

“The problem is we’re starting 2025 with nitrogen and phosphate values looking fairly firm on tight supply and demand,” Josh Linville, vice president of fertilizer at StoneX, told FarmWeek. “We’re worried about what that means for our prices going into the spring.”

Chinese exports and European production of urea are both falling, which means global prices could push higher.

“That should result in a situation where we have to start doing a lot of work to get the imports coming in that we very desperately need,” Linville said. “We’re going to have to move our price up quite a bit to make that relationship happen.”

He said prices for urea ammonium nitrate and anhydrous ammonia, which are more commonly used in Illinois, usually follow the urea market.

One fertilizer that is well supplied globally and therefore mildly priced is potash, but that could change after President Donald Trump takes office this month.

“We have to worry about



**Declining production of urea in China and Europe could pressure prices for fertilizer, including anhydrous ammonia, in the U.S. in the months ahead. (Photo by Illinois Farm Bureau)**

the threat of 25% tariffs against Canadian goods,” said Linville, who noted Canada is the world’s largest producer and exporter of potash. “These tariffs will have real effects on the farm side if they get implemented.”

Linville said Trump is known for using tariffs as an “economic weapon,” but for a commodity market like fertilizer the benefits aren’t likely to outweigh the consequences.

“A lot of times, the farmer of the country that implements the tariff is really the one that pays the price,” he said. “We are going to have to watch that because it could have an adverse effect on our pricing.”

On the other hand, Linville said the world “enjoyed

a sense of peace” during Trump’s first term with fewer wars and global conflicts from 2016 to 2020, compared to recent years.

“On the flip side, I am very hopeful that if he can bring back a period of tranquility, we can see markets start to calm down, trade flows return back to normal and get prices back to historic norms,” he said.

Linville said as always it will be important for farmers to convey their fertilizer intentions to suppliers in 2025 so they can plan accordingly.

“I understand it’s easy to want to bury your head in the sand in these kinds of times, but we need to have more information flowing than less,” he said.

And despite a hefty delay to the fall 2024 fertilizer

application season, Linville expects the number of spring applications to be about normal.

“It was probably one of the most unorthodox fall application seasons we’ve ever seen,” he said. “The first several weeks of November, hardly anybody across the Midwest turned a wheel.”

But he said the weather opened a window around Thanksgiving and Midwestern farmers took advantage of it.

“We surveyed the industry, and I think we hit about 90% of what our expected fall run was,” Linville said. “So that is fortunately keeping that horror story that we were talking about for springtime off the table.”

Fertilizer prices in Illinois averaged between \$650 and \$775 per ton for anhydrous ammonia as of Dec. 27, up an average of \$9.46 from the previous two weeks, according to the Illinois Production Cost Report. Prices ranged from \$679 to \$760 per ton for diammonium phosphate (up \$3.33), \$400 to \$525 for potash (down slightly) and \$525 to \$554 for urea (unchanged) as of the same date.

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