



ALL HANDS --- ON DECK



MissouriCorn

2023

YEAR IN REVIEW

Next Generation Fuels Act | Atrazine Assessment | Farm Bill | Progress in Mexico

KEEPING YOUR SEAT AT THE TABLE

There aren't enough hours in the day. While you can't be everywhere at once, the Missouri Corn Growers Association is working to defend and grow the industry on your behalf. From protecting and preserving today's international markets, to fighting for credible science at the regulatory level, to successfully implementing beginning farmer incentives in the state legislature, plenty is happening each week that could affect your operation.

One way to stay informed on ag policy, market development, upcoming events, and more is through StalkTalk, the official e-newsletter exclusive to Missouri Corn Growers Association members. To check if you're a member or to join, call the Missouri Corn office at (573) 893-4181. Growers can sign up for a one-year, three-year, or lifetime membership by visiting mocorn.org.



3118 Emerald Lane
Jefferson City, MO 65109



(573) 893-4181

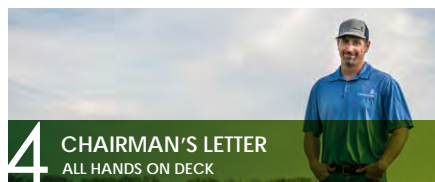


membership@mocorn.org



mocorn.org

As a grassroots organization, the Missouri Corn Growers Association's strength is in its members. Whether advocating for biofuel infrastructure or driving home the benefits of state and federal legislation, Missouri corn growers need to have a seat at the table to make our collective voice heard on issues impacting farms and rural families. That's why becoming a member of MCGA is so important. Join now.



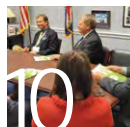
Next Generation Fuels Act



Atrazine Assessment



Phosphate Tariffs



Farm Bill



Progress in Mexico



International Trade Teams Explore Ethanol



Missouri Corn in Action



Financial Summary



Volunteer Board of Directors

2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

MISSOURI CORN STAFF

Bradley Schad
Chief Executive Officer

Becky Frankenbach
Director of Communications

Cindy Remmert
Director of Finance

Darrick Steen
Director of Public Policy

Katie Marshall
Director of Grower Engagement

Kurt Boeckmann
Director of Environmental Programs

Lane Howard
Director of Market Development

Hilary Black
Associate Director of Communications

Ann Kistner
Membership Manager

Jacob Knaebel
State Legislative Affairs Manager

Kevin Buckallew
Grower Engagement Manager

Lori Schulte
Operations Manager

ALL HANDS

ON DECK

Matt Lambert
MCMC Chairman



Missouri Corn Merchandising Council Chairman
Matt Lambert of Laclede.

Like many of you, fall is the busiest season on our family's farm. Not only is it harvest, but it's also the time of year we open our annual pumpkin patch and corn maze. It takes a lot of time, sweat, and our entire family working together to get it all done. While I'm in charge of planting the pumpkins and cutting the maze, my wife oversees the store and employees. My dad runs the combine, and our boys are kept busy managing activities, helping pick, and caring for the animals. Even my father-in-law comes to stay and lend an extra set of hands.

At our family's very foundation, we strive to grow opportunities for our boys and future generations while leaving our farm in better shape than we got it. To do so, we know it's going to take each of us putting in the work required to move forward.

Similarly, in order for the Missouri Corn Merchandising Council to be successful, it takes an all-hands-on-deck approach. Coming from different areas of the state and having various interests – from exports to sustainability to ethanol to livestock –

collectively, your board of directors and staff are tackling the issues impacting Missouri growers.

By combining those interests and bringing other industry partners to the table, like the U.S. Grains Council and our state agriculture partners, we are able to leverage your checkoff dollars to expand markets, explore new uses, invest in sustainable practices, and share your story.

As we head into another year, MCMC will remain hard at work, with all of us coming together to grow opportunities for your corn and leave the industry better than when we started.

Sincerely,



Matt Lambert • Laclede
Missouri Corn Merchandising Council Chairman



Mace Lambert steps up to care for the family's cattle while his dad discusses today's farming practices at the International Transport Forum in Leipzig, Germany.

GRASSROOTS

AT WORK

Brent Hoerr
MCGA President



Missouri Corn Growers Association President
Brent Hoerr of Palmyra.

After farming for more than 50 years, it's been a year of firsts for our family. The first grandchild experienced his first planting season, his first birthday, and his first harvest.

As we prepare to welcome his first sibling, it's now more important than ever that the decisions we collectively make are best for long-term success.

While every family member is a partner in the farm's success, every farm is a partner in the overall industry's success. There

truly is nothing like coming together as an organization. By pooling our efforts and working together, the strength of our grassroots is immense. And that's why the work of the Missouri Corn Growers Association matters. By bringing together farms across the state with diverse issues and similar goals, we can make a bigger impact.



Missouri Corn Growers Association President Brent Hoerr welcomes the next generation to the family farm, his first grandson. Just like it takes each member of the farm family to be successful, each family farm must work together to make the industry successful, and MCGA is committed to bringing all partners to the table to work on the industry's behalf.

This year alone, we've seen multiple hard-fought victories. Fertilizer tariffs were brought to the forefront after farmers shared the hardships faced by astronomical price barriers. The EPA is taking another look at the science behind atrazine after farmers shared the long-term, proven safety and effectiveness of the crop protection tool. An international panel is forming after farmers pushed to hold Mexico accountable to the current trade agreement.

MCGA's efforts are successful because we are working together. By each of us taking two minutes to make a call, send an email, or visit with elected officials, the combined, grassroots voice has proven victorious time and time again. If you are not a member, I encourage you to join. Our families and our future depend on us to take action when decisions need to be made and ideas need to be shared with those who have the authority to change how we operate.

Grassroots work, and we invite you to work alongside us this year.

With thanks,

Brent Hoerr

Brent Hoerr • Palmyra
Missouri Corn Growers Association

END OF THE COMBUSTIBLE ENGINE



A top priority for the corn industry, the Next Generation Fuels Act aims to transition gasoline vehicles to low-carbon, higher-octane fuel, reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and take advantage of higher ethanol blends. What is this federal legislation, and why does it matter to corn growers nationwide?

In May 2023, the EPA proposed sweeping new vehicle emission standards. If implemented, electric vehicles (EVs) would account for 67% of new light and medium-duty vehicle sales and nearly half of new heavy-duty vehicle sales by 2032. While electric vehicles have gained attention in recent years, lack of infrastructure, accessibility, and rising costs are significant hurdles for Missouri farmers, businesses, and consumers.

Reintroduced in 2023 by bipartisan members of the House and Senate, the Next Generation Fuels Act would modernize liquid fuels, ensuring today's internal combustion engines remain competitive, relevant, and affordable. This policy would ensure consumers have greater choice and affordability by model year 2026. Higher octane fuels allow for engine optimization, which helps automotive manufacturers meet vehicle fuel efficiency standards and lower emissions. The bill increases octane sources—such as corn-based ethanol—that result in nearly 50 percent fewer GHG emissions than unblended gasoline and sets new limits on toxic hydrocarbon aromatics.



Missouri Corn Growers Association President Brent Hoerr (left) and CEO Bradley Schad (center) meet with U.S. Senator Josh Hawley in Washington, D.C., to stress the need for the Next Generation Fuels Act and a pathway for additional ethanol in the fuel supply.

In addition to strong congressional and national support, more than 35 Missouri businesses and organizations have also stepped up to help convey the importance of the Next Generation Fuels Act to the state's economy and local communities.



Missouri Corn Director of Public Policy Darrick Steen thanks U.S. Rep. Mark Alford for supporting the Next Generation Fuels Act while the representative visited with corn farmers during the Missouri State Fair.

THE NEXT GENERATION FUELS ACT, S. 994/H.R. 2434

SUPPORTERS

AG-POWER

BECK'S

HOMETOWN FUEL

Mid-Missouri Energy

CasnerAg

UFA

Gibson Insurance Group

WCA

DIEHM'S

Heritage TRACTOR

CENTRAL MISSOURI AGRISERVICE LLC

SN PARTNERS

POET biorefining

RAY-CARROLL FUELS LLC

FCS FINANCIAL

GATEWAY SEED

ICM BIOFUELS

SME

McCORRICK AG SALES

Heartland TRACTOR

AGRI Services OF BRUNSWICK LLC

MFA INCORPORATED

PIT STOP

FARM CREDIT SOUTHEAST MISSOURI

BAKER IMPLEMENT COMPANY

DYSART AGENCY LLC

MO-AG

MoRFA

Alliance Bank

COMMUNITY BANK

MISSOURI FARM BUREAU

Additional supporters include Malan Seeds, Rural Missouri Insurance Service, GLS, and Marshall Diesel, LLC.

JOIN US

If your company is interested in joining the growing coalition of the Next Generation Fuels Act, contact the Missouri Corn office at (573) 893-4181. Learn more about the benefits of low-carbon, high-octane fuels at ncga.com/octane or visit mocorn.org.

MissouriCorn
GrowersAssociation

Bradley Schadt, CEO
bschadt@mocorn.org
Darrick Steen, Public Policy Director
dsteen@mocorn.org
Lane Howard, Associate Director of Market Development
lhoward@mocorn.org

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MISSOURI CORN ■ 2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

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REPORT REAFFIRMS FLAWED SCIENCE IN ATRAZINE ASSESSMENT



Corn growers in Missouri and across the country continued efforts to advocate for the Environmental Protection Agency to use the best available science in the multi-year re-registration process of atrazine. Thanks to this steadfast commitment from growers, progress is being made. After pushing for EPA to conduct an independent Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) to take a closer look at several low-quality studies, the final report echoes corn grower comments.

Fifteen members of the agriculture community presented during the three-day virtual discussions, highlighting the use of technology and sustainable farming practices. The presentations from farmers were critical in showcasing real-world consequences if the discredited studies continue to be utilized by EPA. Growers and industry leaders also stressed the importance of atrazine to no-till and reduced tillage farming. A herbicide valued for its use in sustainable farming practices, many growers would be forced to abandon carbon-smart efforts under EPA's proposed directives.



MCMC Chairman Matt Lambert testified on behalf of Missouri corn farmers. As a sixth-generation farmer and Leopold Conservation Award winner, Lambert highlighted the safe, scientifically proven, and cost-effective role atrazine plays in allowing more sustainable no-till practices on their farm. Growers from Kansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Minnesota, and Michigan, as well as industry representatives from the National Corn Growers Association, National Sorghum Producers, Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association, Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation, and leaders of the Triazine Network, also provided testimony.

The EPA must now consider the panel's suggestions in recalculating the proposed revisions before moving into a court-ordered review required under the Endangered Species Act. A public response by the agency is anticipated in early 2024. In addition, EPA has also stated it will reply to the approximately 16,000 public comments submitted by growers in October 2022. This latest advancement in stopping the longstanding effort to ban atrazine is a potent reminder of the power of grassroots. Thanks to all who submitted comments to EPA urging them to follow the science.



Sharing his on-farm experience and his family's focus on sustainability, MCMC Chairman Matt Lambert stressed the critical role atrazine plays on his farm during an EPA Scientific Advisory Panel. Lambert urged the committee to utilize sound, peer-reviewed, and real-world science in the re-registration of atrazine.

FIGHT CONTINUES TO LOWER FERTILIZER TARIFFS



For over three years, MCGA has been a vocal opponent of countervailing duties (i.e., tariffs) placed on imported phosphate fertilizers. Pushing back on unneeded and unfair pressure on already record-high fertilizer prices, MCGA and corn farmers across the nation took up the fight.

Since then, growers have led an aggressive campaign. MCGA supported an appeal by signing an amicus brief in a case brought before the U.S. Court of International Trade (CIT) in 2021. Corn organizations followed up with signed letters to the White House and federal agencies discussing the tariff and high prices imposed on corn farmers.

Efforts began to pay off, with the CIT scrutinizing the International Trade Commission's (ITC) original decision and ordering it to reexamine the 20% tariff previously imposed.

In the meantime, MCGA grower leaders and staff worked with Missouri's congressional delegation, laying out the impacts and encouraging additional support. U.S. Reps. Sam Graves, Mark Alford, and Ann Wagner signed an October 2023 letter to the Department of Commerce supporting a request to lower the tariff.

This is not an easy battle, but steady progress is being made. In January 2024, the Department of Commerce lowered the tariff from nearly 20% to 7.41%. This occurred even while the ITC doubled down on its assessment in January, stating the major U.S. fertilizer conglomerates were materially injured – despite a time of record-high fertilizer prices and record profits by these companies.

The CIT will now review both decisions and render a final ruling, which is expected in the coming year.



Growers can be proud of the progress made, but uncertainty remains on the larger goal. Concentration in the fertilizer industry has come at an incredible cost to the farmers who depend on these inputs to produce crops and food. MCGA will continue its vigorous case for eliminating these tariffs while increasing competition in the marketplace.

Fighting for fairness is often not an easy battle, especially when you have a farm to run and a family to raise. That's why when you're busy planting or harvesting, the MCGA board and staff are at the table when you can't be. Thank you for being a member. Help us amplify your voice further by inviting your friends and neighbors to join us today.



SCAN TO
JOIN TODAY!

PUSHING FOR A STRONG FARM BILL



As feared, Congress failed to pass a new farm bill by its Sept. 30 expiration deadline, instead agreeing to a one-year extension. While the preference would have been to pass a robust and critical safety net, MCGA continues to work hard to ensure Missouri's congressional leaders understand the value the farm bill provides to farmers, rural communities, and the entire country.

MCGA is also advocating for increased funding within the farm bill's trade title. This includes the Market Access Program (MAP) and the Foreign Market Development (FMD) program, which supports export market expansion for U.S. farm and food products. These programs are critical to marketing and promoting U.S. commodities and products internationally.

Republican and Democratic staff from both chambers say they want to pass a farm bill that supports farmers. However, significant disagreement exists about major farm programs, including the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs, crop insurance, and conservation programs.



Missouri corn farmer Jay Fischer participates in farm bill discussions with U.S. Representative Mark Alford during a round table on the important federal measure.

Another critical area of dispute in the House is the nutrition title funding SNAP. Republicans want more limits on these funds, a move Democrats say would doom the farm bill.

Take note: the deadline to complete enrollment and any election change in ARC and PLC for the 2024 crop year is March 15, 2024.



U.S. Representative Blaine Luetkemeyer (left) meets with Missouri Corn board members Jay Fischer, Gary Porter, Adam Casner, and Missouri Corn staff during a meeting in Washington, D.C.

MAKING PROGRESS IN **MEXICO**



The battle for sound science continues in Mexico. The dispute led by corn growers stems from a 2020 decree by Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador that sought to ban imports of biotech corn beginning in January 2024. MCGA joined NCGA and corn grower leaders across the country to sound the alarm and called on the Biden administration to initiate a dispute settlement under the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA).

A top market for U.S. corn, Mexico issued a revised decree in February 2023 banning biotech white corn but left the door open for a future ban on biotech corn for feed. Keeping the pressure up in the media and with members of Congress, corn organizations moved the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) to request a panel formation to resolve Mexico's clear violation. This council of objective experts will now hear the case and make a final determination based on the commitments both parties signed as part of the free trade agreement. A final ruling is expected later this year.



Mexico's decree is not based on sound scientific evidence. Regulators and health organizations around the world, from the World Health Organization to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, have confirmed the safety and benefits of biotech crops for decades.

"Given the transportation advantages, Mexico represents a critical market for Missouri corn farmers. For months, corn farmers have led the charge to push back on a ban based on politics and not science. While it is unfortunate that we have reached the point requiring a formal dispute, the U.S. cannot allow this violation to go unchecked. Mexico's policy runs counter to USMCA and threatens to cause severe economic harm to Missouri farmers and stifle innovation that promotes food security. MCGA stands firm that USMCA must be enforced in its entirety."



- Media statement from MCGA Past President Clint Stephens

INTERNATIONAL TRADE TEAMS EXPLORE ETHANOL



Educating a Key Partner

Missouri Corn, along with the U.S. Grains Council and Kansas Corn Commission, co-hosted a trade team of Mexican corn starch end-users. The team traveled to the U.S. in late August and early September to learn more about contracting prices through a course at StoneX in Kansas City. The group also had the opportunity to meet with Ingredion at their North Kansas City facility and visit the Nunemaker-Ross farm in Kansas, where they discussed current farming practices around sustainability and technology.

Taking it one step further, the trade team had the opportunity to meet with MCGA Secretary/Treasurer Dylan Rosier to see firsthand the benefits of biotechnology in today's farming operations and the long-term implications of the current trade dispute.

Providing a Firsthand Look

Missouri Corn hosted a post-summit trade team in conjunction with the U.S. Grains Council's (USGC) Global Ethanol Summit in October. The team consisted of government officials, think tanks, oil refiners, and ethanol end-users from the Middle East, Africa, and Europe. The group's purpose was to better understand the U.S. ethanol supply chain and infrastructure, as well as to learn from the country's experience with E10 and the transition to E15.

While in Missouri, the team saw ethanol production firsthand when visiting the National Corn to Ethanol Research Center and POET-Ladsonia; experienced Missouri's diverse logistical rail and river infrastructure at ADM's St. Louis facility; and discussed current farming practices, technology, and on-farm grain storage with Missouri Corn board member Jim Boerding in St. Charles, Mo.



Missouri Corn Director of Market Development Lane Howard talks about ethanol production and supply chain with a trade team following the U.S. Grains Council Export Exchange.



Missouri Corn is a longstanding partner with USGC to highlight the U.S. corn and ethanol supply chains to develop markets, enable trade, and improve lives.

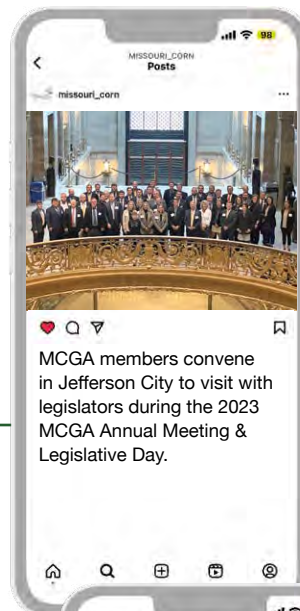


Missouri Corn Board Member Jim Boerding of St. Charles discusses Missouri corn production and opens his farm to a trade team following the U.S. Grains Council Export Exchange.

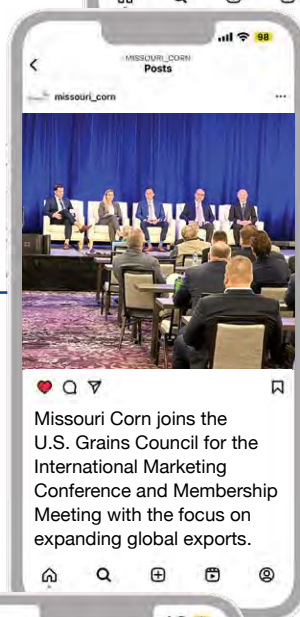
MISSOURI CORN IN ACTION



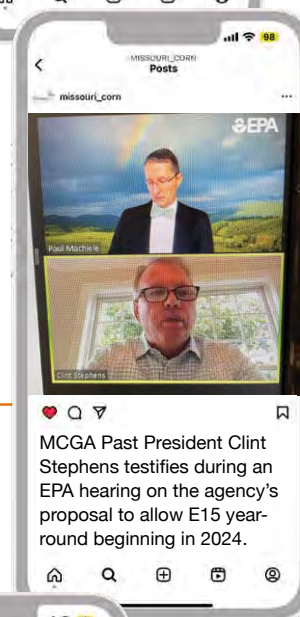
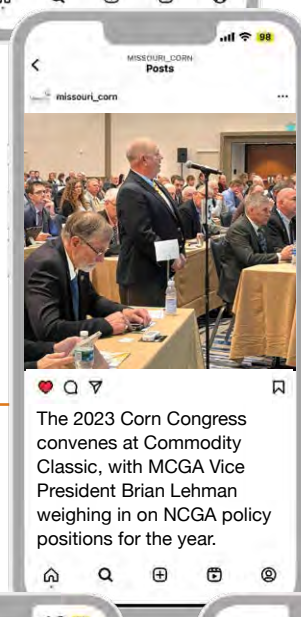
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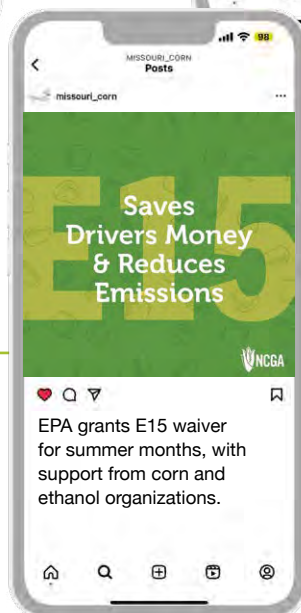
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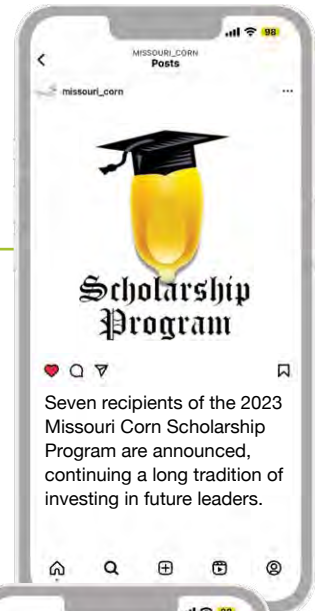
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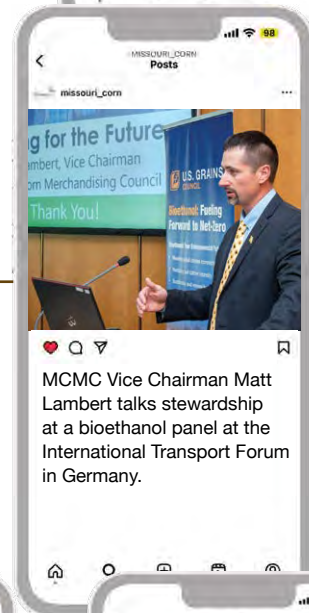
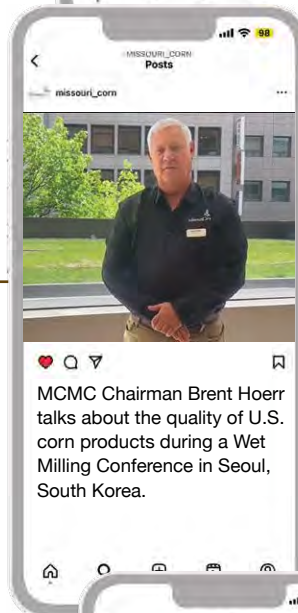
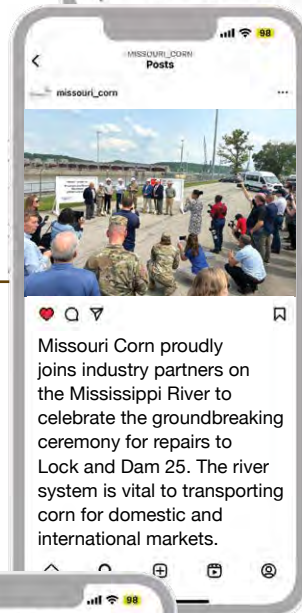
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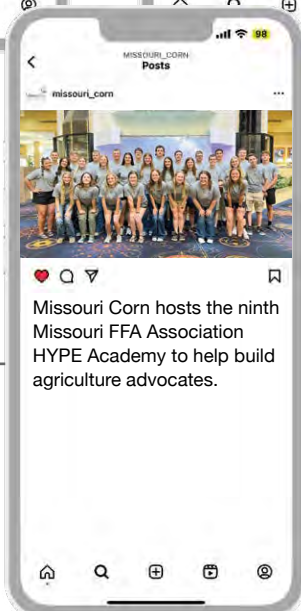
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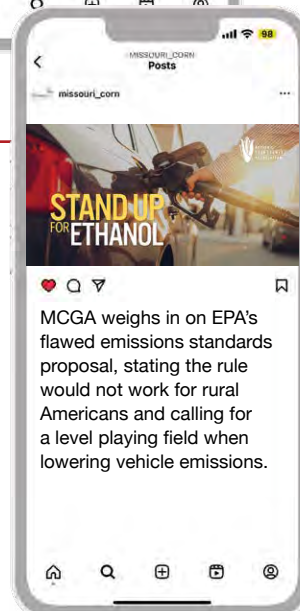
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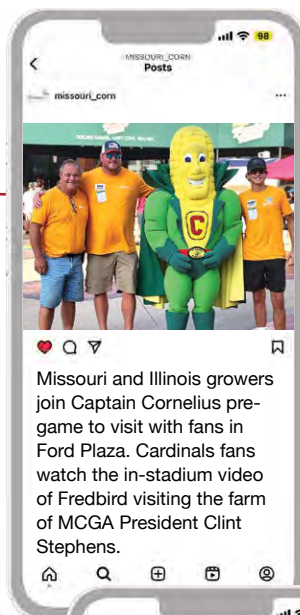
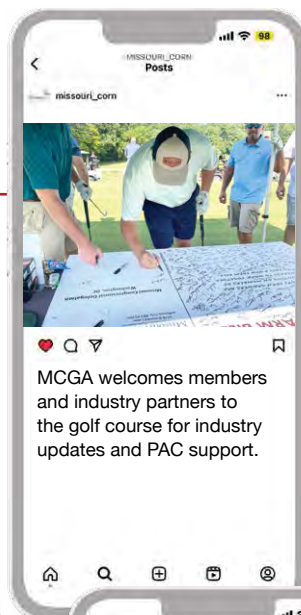
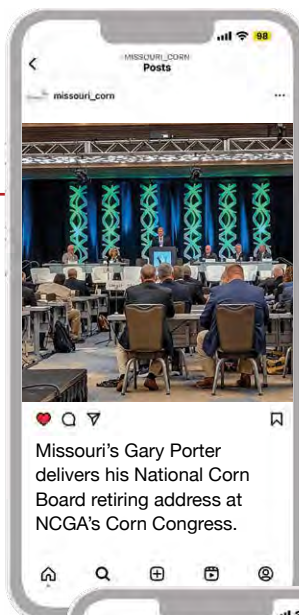
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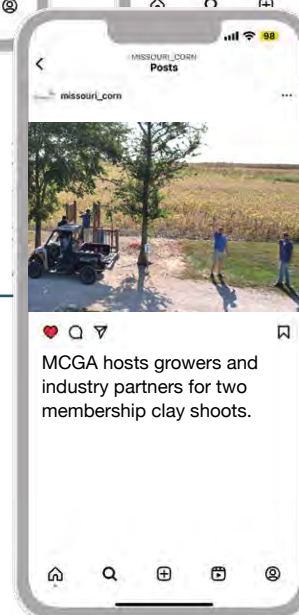
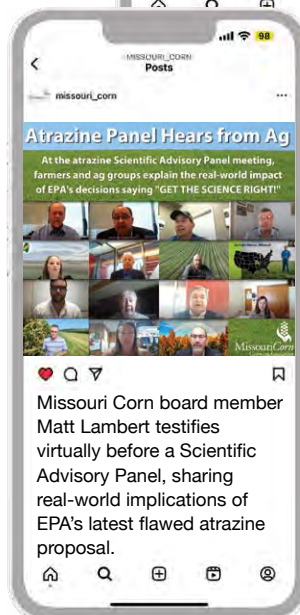
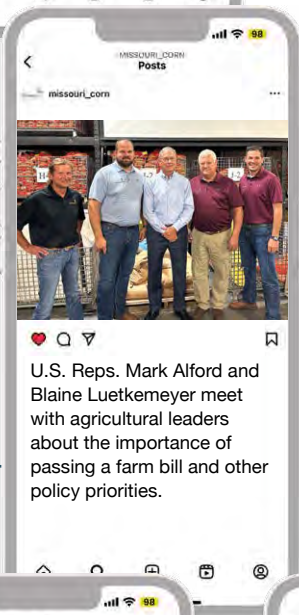
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JULY



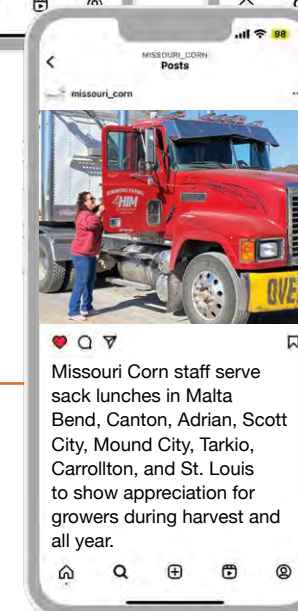
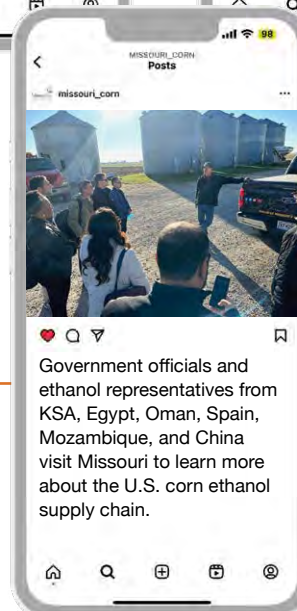
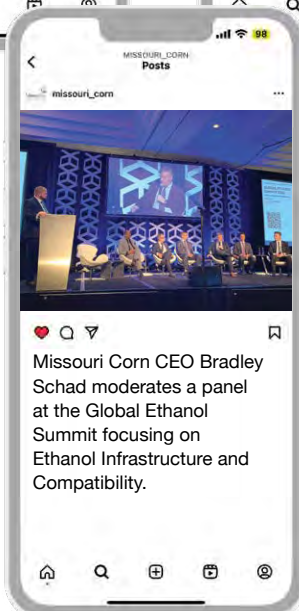
AUGUST



SEPTEMBER



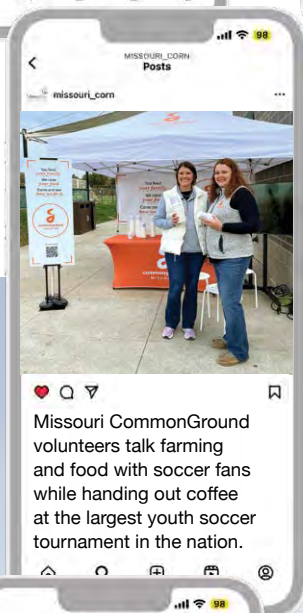
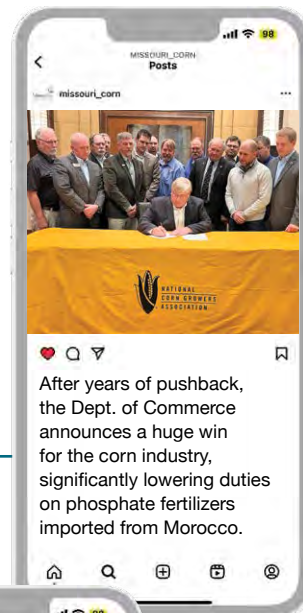
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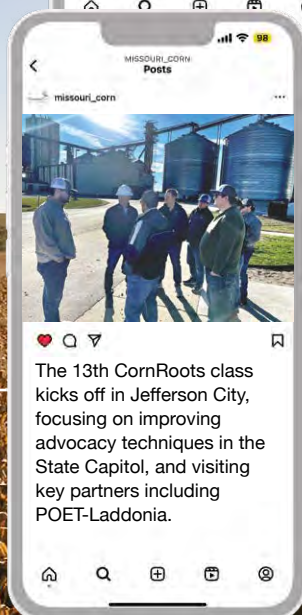
OCTOBER



NOVEMBER



DECEMBER



MCGA & MCMC

FINANCIALS



Missouri Corn Growers Association

Financial Summary

Overview

Beginning Balance	\$1,566,557
Total Income	\$3,883,875
Total Expenses.....	\$983,427
Ending Balance	\$4,467,005

Income

Dues.....	\$21,995
Other	\$161,880
Contributions.....	\$3,700,000
Sub-Total	\$3,883,875

Expenses

General & Administrative	\$123,923
Legislative & Public Policy.....	\$520,950
Market Development.....	\$338,554
Sub-Total	\$983,427

Missouri Corn Merchandising Council

Financial Summary

Overview

Beginning Balance	\$9,069,264
Total Income	\$4,852,763
Total Expenses.....	\$8,156,262
Ending Balance	\$5,765,765

Income

Checkoff Income.....	\$4,562,002
Other	\$205,891
Investments	\$84,870
Sub-Total	\$4,852,763

Expenses

General & Administrative	\$355,830
Communication & Grower Services.....	\$1,150,621
Production Stewardship.....	\$627,209
Value Enhancement	\$583,302
Market Development.....	\$5,439,300
Sub-Total	\$8,156,262

Missouri Corn Board of Directors

DISTRICT 1



Ryan Meyerkorth • Rock Port
MCGA Secretary/Treasurer
USGC Value Added



Dylan Rosier • Mound City
MCMC Treasurer
USGC Western Hemisphere Chairman

DISTRICT 3



Brian Willott
Mexico



Brent Hoerr • Palmyra
MCGA President
NCGA Sustainable Ag Research
USGC Innovation and Sustainability

DISTRICT 5



Brandon Thiel • Marshall
NCGA Ethanol



Brian Lehman • Versailles
MCGA Vice President
NCGA Member & Consumer Engagement
USGC Middle East/Africa/South Asia

DISTRICT 7



Clint Stephens • Advance
NCGA Production Technology Access



Patrick Seyer • Oran
MCMC Vice Chairman
NCGA Stewardship

A 14-member board of grower-leaders elected by their peers directs both the Missouri Corn Growers Association and the Missouri Corn Merchandising Council.

DISTRICT 2



Matt Lambert • Laclede
MCMC Chairman
NCGA Market Development
USGC Trade Policy



Adam Casner • Carrollton
MCMC Secretary
USGC Ethanol

DISTRICT 4



Brice Fischer
Rich Hill



Greg Bertz
Mayview

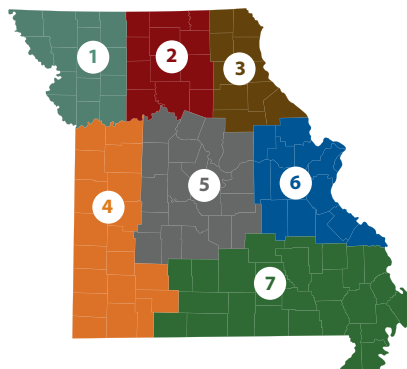
DISTRICT 6



Jim Boerding
St. Charles



Dan Kuenzel
Washington



*MCGA = MISSOURI CORN GROWERS ASSOCIATION
Established in 1978, the Missouri Corn Growers Association (MCGA) is a grassroots organization of farmer-members dedicated to protecting the rights of members, building new markets for corn, and increasing opportunities for Missouri corn farmers through sound public policy.



*MCMC = MISSOURI CORN MERCHANDISING COUNCIL
The Missouri Corn Merchandising Council (MCMC) was formed in 1985 after a referendum was passed to establish a one-half cent per bushel corn checkoff. Missouri growers voted in 2008 to increase the checkoff to one cent per bushel, strengthening investments in the development and expansion of corn markets, educating customers, and exploring new research opportunities.





3118 Emerald Lane • Jefferson City, MO 65109



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JEFFERSON CITY, MO
PERMIT 182



2023

MISSOURI
CORN CROP*

3.9 
MILLION ACRES
PLANTED

3.7 
MILLION ACRES
HARVESTED

561.5 
MILLION BUSHELS OF
TOTAL PRODUCTION

153 
BU/AC
ON YIELD

* Data provided by the USDA-NASS Missouri Ag Statistics.