



Wisconsin Corn Growers Association

www.wicorn.org

Summer 2016

Corn Growers Needed to Contact EPA on Proposed Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) Rule

The Wisconsin Corn Growers Association (WCGA) is asking corn growers to contact the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to accurately set the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) for ethanol.

“EPA continues to short-change ethanol in its proposed renewable volume obligation (RVO) ,” said Casey Kelleher, president of WCGA. “There is no doubt the RFS and ethanol is working for America. EPA’s reduction in statutory targets takes us backward on the gains we’ve made on our environment, our economy and our energy security.”

EPA has proposed to set the annual RVOs target for corn-based ethanol 200 million gallons below the amount set by Congress in the RFS. The 2017 RVO standard as proposed by EPA effectively cuts corn usage by 71.4 million bushels.

“Today, ethanol is standing on its own as a renewable, clean burning, lower cost fuel option in the marketplace,” said Kelleher. “EPA needs to get with the times on ethanol.”

Corn growers have until July 11 to comment on EPA’s proposed corn-based ethanol target.

Corn Grower Calendar

- July 19 Farm Technology Days, Lake Geneva
- July 19-20 NCGA Corn Congress Washington, DC
- July 25-27 U.S. Grains Council Board of Delegates Louisville, KY
- Aug. 13-20 Wisconsin Corn Program Office Closed
- Aug. 31 UW Agronomy & Soils Field Day Arlington
- Feb. 2-3, 2017 Corn/Soy Expo Wisconsin Dells

Comment on EPA’s RVO proposed rule online at: www.ncga.com/rfs

ETHANOL

Increases competition & gives drivers better options at the pump.

Reduces gasoline prices by **\$.50 to \$1.50** a gallon.
E15 is approved for **80%** of cars.



The Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) is a clean energy policy that provides market access for biofuels, which benefit our environment, our economy and our energy security.

ETHANOL

Protects the environment and our health.

Reduces CO2 emissions by **36%**

Reduces greenhouse-gas emissions by **59%**

Displaces cancer-causing benzene additive.



The Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) is a clean energy policy that provides market access for biofuels, which benefit our environment, our economy and our energy security.

ETHANOL

Strengthens our economy and energy security.

Reduced U.S. dependence on foreign oil by **50%** since 2005.

Generated **\$4.2 billion** in economic activity in Wisconsin.

The Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) is a clean energy policy that provides market access for biofuels, which benefit our environment, our economy and our energy security.

Get Ready for WI Corn Yield Contest

WCGA is seeking applicants for the association's 2016 Corn Yield Contest. WCGA recognizes top-yielding corn production from farmers in four districts of the state.

First, second and third-place cash prizes will be awarded for WCGA member/growers in each of the following four organizations:

Columbia County Corn Growers, Juneau/Adams/Marquette Corn Growers and the Dodge/Fond du Lac Corn Growers group. Corn growers in other parts of the state will compete against each other in a statewide category. First-place winners in each of the four categories receive \$500; second place receives \$250; and third place receives \$100.

Entry in the state corn yield contest is free, but farmers must be members of WCGA, and only one entry per member will be accepted. At harvest, corn yields must be verified for the contest by either a county agent or a professional agricultural consultant, and can be confirmed by using a weigh wagon or truck scale. A harvest form must be submitted to be considered for a prize and will be sent to everyone requesting an entry form. A harvest report form must be postmarked or received electronically by Dec. 1, 2016.



Get the rules and entry form at:
wicorn.org/growers/corn-yield-contest

Making an Impact with CORN PAC

Later this summer, WCGA members will receive a letter asking for a contribution to **CORN PAC** – WCGA's Political Action Committee.

CORN PAC was established to address the growing threats to corn growers' right to farm. Since its formation, WCGA's voice in state politics has grown along with the fund.

The funds are used to support friends in the legislature – those state candidates who most effectively represent corn grower issues.

There will always be a host of ag-related issues being discussed in our capital – from high-cap wells, to atrazine prohibition zones, to Implements of Husbandry regulations.

On these issues, and many more, WCGA has been an effective voice for production agriculture.

Please consider joining many of your fellow WCGA members as a CORN PAC contributor. Your contribution will help make WCGA even more effective as our challenges continue to grow.

A personal check, made out to CORN PAC can be sent to:

Wisconsin Corn Growers Association
16 N Carroll Street, Suite 600
Madison, WI 53703



Corn Growers Launch Action App

WCGA has teamed with NCGA to launch a mobile app with tools and information on the top issues confronting corn growers. The app enables users to take action from a smartphone. The app provides access to updates on key legislative and regulatory issues, a State Legislative Action Center for voicing views on important legislation and rules, and a Congressional and state legislative directory.

To download app and get to WCGA's State Action Site:

1. Go to App Store or Google Play. Search for "NCGA Action." Download the app.
2. After app is downloaded, tap on "State Action."
3. Scroll down and tap on "Wisconsin."
4. Select "State Legislative Action Center" to comment on current legislation or rules.





Wisconsin Corn
Growers Association



AMERICAN
ETHANOL



Ethanol Night At The Races

Thank You Sponsors



No Progress on Transportation Funding - Just Fix It

In the last 12 years, the costs to maintain Wisconsin's roads have doubled, yet funding has remained flat. Projections for funding over the next six years is expected to increase from \$1.93 billion to \$1.955 billion, an increase of only \$255 million. Debt service on transportation has also doubled in the last 10 years. Legislators and the Governor are at odds over funding, resulting in a stalemate in funding road improvements.

WCGA is part of the Transportation Development Association (TDA), a coalition of 400 groups advocating building and maintaining adequate roads and responsible funding. TDA has launched a "Just Fix It" campaign to let elected officials know the problems motorists, communities, businesses and farmers are facing with under maintained roads and bridges. They are asking people to send a video describing the conditions of the roads and bridges they use.

WCGA's policy supports adequate funding of state and federal transportation budgets. WCGA also opposes charging farmers for using, maintaining and upgrading local roads not designed or maintained for modern agricultural equipment.

Send your road video story to:

tdawisconsin.org/just-fix-it-wisconsin

Passage of TPP Remains Elusive

WCGA continues to reach out to Wisconsin's congressional delegation to support passage of the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement. TPP is a pathway that will expand current markets and increase global demand for Wisconsin corn in all forms, including market opportunities for Wisconsin's value added dairy, beef and pork.



TPP Highlights



Dairy

Japan will eliminate tariffs on cheese and whey and create tariff-rate quotas (TRQs) for whey, butter, milk powder, and evaporated and condensed milk. Malaysia and Vietnam will eliminate tariffs on dairy products. Canada will eliminate tariffs on whey and create TRQs for cheese, fluid milk, butter and other products.



Soybeans

Tariffs are already low in TPP markets, but soybean producers will benefit from reduced meat tariffs that are expected to create new feed demand. Japan, Malaysia, and Vietnam will eliminate tariffs on soybean oil and soybean meal.



Corn

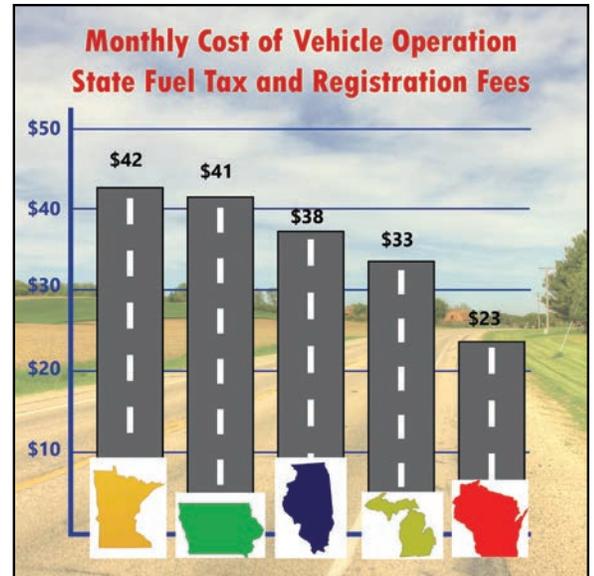
Tariffs are already low in TPP markets, but corn producers will benefit from reduced meat tariffs that are expected to create new feed demand. Malaysia and Vietnam will eliminate tariffs within 5 years.



Beef and Veal

Japan's beef tariff, currently as high as 50%, will be reduced to 9%. Japan will eliminate duties on ¼ of tariff lines, including processed beef products. Vietnam will eliminate tariffs and Malaysia will lock tariffs in at 0%.

Legislative Action



New FAA Drone Rules Open Aerial Technology for Precision Farming Practices

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) finalized regulations for unmanned aircraft systems (UAS or "drones") under 55 pounds that will take effect late this August. The new rule simplifies the process for the commercial use of drones. Under the new rule:

- UAS weighing less than 55 pounds can fly at altitudes of up to 400 feet and up to 100 miles per hour during the day.
- UAS must stay within the operator's visual line of sight.
- Nighttime operation banned without an FAA waiver; operation from a moving vehicle or aircraft; and carrying hazardous materials.
- Commercial drone pilots must be at least 16 years of age and must obtain a remote pilot airman certificate with a small UAS rating or be under direct supervision of someone who holds one.
- Recreational drone operators are still required to register their hobby drones at: faa.gov/uas/getting_started/fly_for_fun

The Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI) estimates that agriculture will account for as much as 80 percent of all commercial UAS use. Applications of unmanned aerial systems include crop scouting; early detection of pest infestations and crop disease; more precise application of fertilizers and other crop inputs; and reducing the need for humans in potentially dangerous tasks.



DNR Moves Ahead on High Cap Well Applications

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is implementing a new process for reviewing and approving high capacity wells. In May, the Attorney General Brad Schimel issued a formal opinion that stated the DNR lacked authority to put certain conditions on farmers and others who want to construct large wells. DNR has a backlog of 150 permit applications.

DNR posted new information regarding their plans to implement the Attorney General's opinion. Based on DNR's summary and FAQs, it appears that the DNR will review new well applications using the same approach applied prior to the 2011 Lake Beulah Supreme Court decision or, essentially as they were reviewed under the 2003 Groundwater Protection Act.



As a result of the opinion, in addition to determining whether the proposed well meets well construction requirements, the DNR will review each application to determine whether the proposed high capacity well:

- is within a groundwater protection area (within 1,200 feet of a class 1, 2 or 3 trout stream or a designated outstanding or exceptional resource water);
- may impact springs with flow greater or equal to one cubic foot per second;
- will result in water loss greater than 95 percent;
- will result in 10 or more feet of water level drawdown in the public utility well based on 30 days of continuous pumping from the proposed high capacity well or well system; and
- will degrade safe drinking water and the groundwater resource or impact public safety.

The applications that meet the criteria listed above will be subject to an environmental review process and any approval will include conditions to ensure the well does not result in significant adverse environmental impacts and may require preparation of an environmental impact statement. In addition, if any of these conditions is met, the DNR may include specific conditions in the high capacity well approval, which may include conditions as to location, depth, pumping capacity, rate of flow and ultimate use.

Get more information at:

dnr.wi.gov/topic/wells/highcapacity.html

EPA Attacking Atrazine with Bad Science

The EPA issued its draft Ecological Risk Assessment for atrazine. EPA recommends reducing the aquatic life level of concern nearly three times less than current levels, and seven times less than scientific studies have indicated as acceptable. This would effectively ban the use of atrazine in most farming areas in the U.S.

EPA has discounted 7,000 rigorous, high-quality scientific studies and didn't adhere to its own high standards. Studies suggest farming without atrazine could cost corn farmers up to \$59 per acre and would require much more tillage, leading to water and nutrient loss.



Corn growers have until October 4 to comment on EPA's proposed atrazine risk assessment.

[Comment on EPA's Atrazine standard at ncga.com/atz.](http://ncga.com/atz)

Supreme Court Leary of Clean Water Act

The U.S. Supreme Court recently unanimously ruled that landowners may challenge the federal government whenever it tries improperly to regulate land with regulations designed to protect water.

The ruling is a huge win for agriculture, and bodes well for corn growers' legal fight over the Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) rule.

The Court agreed with a farmer, who sued the Army Corps of Engineers over the standing of "jurisdictional determinations."

Several of the Justices also took shots at the Clean Water Act, saying the CWA "continues to raise troubling questions regarding the government's power to cast doubt on the full use and enjoyment of private property throughout the nation."

Ethanol Night at the Races a Success

Corn growers and ethanol producer family members attended the Ethanol Night at the Races, June 11, at Jefferson Speedway. The evening featured the American Ethanol SuperTruck Races Series.

New Alice in Dairyland, Ann O'Leary, and farm broadcaster, Pam Jahnke, joined the event to promote ethanol.



Corn Promotion

The WCGA and American Lung Association of Wisconsin met race fans as they entered the track, promoting the benefits of ethanol and educating consumers about the use of ethanol in racing and in their vehicles.



Ethanol Promotions for FFVs at Cenex

United Cooperative and the American Lung Association in Wisconsin Clean Air Choice® Program held promotions of E85 and E30 at five Cenex locations in May and June. E85 was discounted 85-cents and E30 discounted 30-cents a gallon during the promotions.

Promotions to Flex Fuel Vehicle (FFV) owners were held in Beaver Dam, Reedsburg, Poynette, Baraboo and Hustisford. While drivers filled up, they completed a survey about their awareness and use of ethanol in their FFV.

The event is supported by the Clean Air Choice® program, and Wisconsin Corn Promotion Board.



Corn Exports Generate \$302 Million and 741 Jobs to Wisconsin's Economy

Wisconsin exported \$207 million in corn and corn products in 2014, increasing the economic output in the state by \$302 million. The study indicated 741 jobs were related to exports of corn and corn products.

- In 2014, Wisconsin's corn and corn product exports were valued at \$214.4 million.
- The economic "ripple effects" of these corn and corn products exports created:
 - \$301.9 million in economic output,
 - \$66.2 million in gross state product (GSP), and
 - 741 full-time equivalent jobs in the state economy.
- For every \$1 million in exports of corn, ethanol, DDGS, corn gluten feed and the corn equivalent of meat exports, 3 jobs and \$0.3 million of GSP are added within Wisconsin.

Learn more at: wicorn.org/corn-export-economic-impact

Corn and Corn
Product Exports add

\$301.9 million
to Wisconsin's economy



Stay Connected with Wisconsin Corn Growers

Keep track of current WCGA news and information regarding the corn industry. Check us out online:



www.wicorn.org



wicorgrowers



@wicorgrowers

WCGA Needs to Connect with You - Send us Your Email

WCGA wants to get your current contact information, especially your email. Make sure you provide all of your contact information when you renew your membership. **Send your email to: info@wicorn.org**

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The success of Wisconsin corn growers depends on many factors. That's why the Wisconsin Corn Growers Association works to represent growers with state and federal policy leaders. We rely on membership dues to give corn growers a strong voice. Please join our efforts today to create opportunities to keep corn growers in Wisconsin successful.

Wisconsin Corn Growers Association Membership Application

Join the WCGA by completing and mailing this membership form. You may also join online at: <https://membership.ncga.com/mobile/NewRegistration.html>.

Payment enclosed: \$150 (3-year membership) \$60 (1-year membership) Select One: New Renewal

Name: _____

Business/Company Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ County: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Credit Card: MC VISA Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Cardholder's Name (print): _____ Cardholder's Signature: _____

Billing Address (If different than Member Address) _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Name of recruiter who asked by to join: _____

Are you interested in getting more information about WCGA leadership opportunities: Yes No

Return to: Wisconsin Corn Growers Association, W226N5956 Lynwood Drive, Lisbon, WI 53089

Dues paid to WCGA are not deductible as charitable contributions for income tax purposes. However, they may be tax deductible under other provisions of the Internal Revenue Code.



Wisconsin Corn Growers Association

W226 N5956 Lynwood Dr.
Lisbon, WI 53089

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MEMBER BENEFITS

Legislative Action

Work on local, state and national issues to protect farm profitability.



Participate in state and national corn yield contests with cash awards.

Corn Promotion

Promote of ethanol and corn products and development of new uses.



10% discount on purchase of Cabela's gift cards.

Consumer Education

Educate students and consumers on corn production and corn products.



Direct access to race updates, exclusive access to NASCAR gadgets, gear, race tickets and more.



Reduced prices on dozens of Ford and Lincoln vehicles.



Registration discount for Wisconsin corn and soybean growers to meet with industry reps and attend seminars.

\$100 SEED CORN COUPON FOR 2017

Join or renew with a three-year membership and receive one \$100 coupon toward the purchase of seed corn from supporting companies in 2017.

