



A monthly update from Bonnie McCarvel,  
Executive Director of MACA

## JULY 2019

**July** - The days are passing by, but it's been a busy and productive time. The MACA Quarterly Meetings held June 5-6 in St. Louis were great with 10 first time members attending as well as long time members. Participants climbed the steps to view and tour the Food Roof Farm in downtown St. Louis where they learned about the project and how it is helping to feed people in the metro area. They also learned about sustainability from **Linda Froelich, FMC**, as she shared their sustainability report and the attendees almost saw a Cardinals baseball game...but the rain prevented that from happening!

Read on for the board meeting summary, be sure and make plans to attend the 2019 MACA Annual Meeting and hear Phil Lempert, the Supermarket Guru®, speak. It will be a bit different topic, but very pertinent to what is going on with consumers. Just click [here](#) to check out the program. Don't forget to reserve a private meeting room or to reserve a sleeping room or register for golf or the industry tour. It will be a great meeting - just need you there!

Happy 4th of July! Hope you enjoy the day with family and friends!



**Bonnie McCarvel**  
Executive Director  
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## MACA QUARTERLY SUMMARY

The Mid America CropLife Association (MACA) quarterly meetings were held **June 5-6** at the **Hilton at the Ballpark Hotel, St. Louis**. It was a busy two days!

Twenty-seven people attended the Food Roof Farm and learned about the farm on the roof that is helping to provide food for local neighborhoods and restaurants. The 8,500 square foot rooftop captures up to 17,000 gallons of stormwater per storm event and is also designed to maximize food production while providing a unique community green space and education center. Over 200 varieties of edible plants are grown on the roof and it includes a living wall and hydroponic towers. There's also a shaded and multi-functional community hub space, state of the art greenhouse, and chicken house with a green roof.



Linda Froelich, FMC, provided an update on their sustainability program. She shared how it was developed as well as how they are reviewing what has been accomplished.





Committee meetings were held Wednesday afternoon for the Annual Meeting, D&E, Industry Communication and Production & Environmental Stewardship (PES) where the members work on programs to benefit members as well as heard from speakers.

Ten first time attendees participated in a special welcome session to learn about MACA and meet the board officers and committee chairs.

The Cardinals baseball game got off to a great start with the singing of the National Anthem, but then the rain came and the game was delayed and then postponed until August 31. But the 38 MACA attendees didn't miss a beat - they ate and chatted for nearly two hours. One of the best networking sessions ever!



The Board met on Thursday morning and took the following actions:

- Approved The Pesticide Waste Disposal Flowchart developed by the MACA D&E Committee with input from the industry.
- Approved developing "fun facts" of consumer agriculture for annual meeting reception in Indianapolis. The PES committee will create 20-25 slides that will make people take notice and laugh at what they can take home and share with others to explain what agriculture is doing and why is it important.
- Approved Taylor-Cain Corporation as an allied member with Taylor Jackson as the contact.
- Approved the 2020 annual meeting hotel site for September 8-10 at the Marriott Grand Hotel, St. Louis, MO.

- Sustainability Forum for Tuesday, November 5-Wednesday November 6 was reviewed.
- Reviewed the membership survey John Mattingly, AgMatrix, had conducted this spring and President Edsten shared some of the key points with the group. There will be more on this at the November meeting.
- Approved the 2018 Financial Review prepared by Joe Filla, Filla & Filla, CPAs.
- Nominating Committee working on filling the board seats and officers. If interested contact chair Gunther Kreps.
- The next board meeting will be held July 24, 2019 at 3:00 pm Central via conference call.
- The next regular Quarterly Meetings will be held November 6-7 at the Renaissance Airport Hotel, St. Louis, MO.

## ANNUAL MEETING

Registration is now open for the 2019 MACA Annual Meeting! Click [here](#) to check the schedule and register on-line. 'Consumer Driven Agriculture' will take place September 3-5 at The Alexander Hotel, Indianapolis, Indiana. Come and hear the latest information!

The keynote speaker Tuesday afternoon, Phil Lempert, The Supermarket Guru®, alerts customers and business leaders to impending corporate and consumer trends, and empowers them to make educated purchasing and marketing decisions. Thursday, William I. Tierney, Jr., PhD, AgResource Company, will present 'The Financial Shape of Agriculture.' Wrapping up the meeting will be a food chain panel featuring Jennifer Maloney, Bayer CropScience, Vince Restucci, R.D. Offutt Farms Co. and a third speaker, to be announced, who will discuss what consumers want, buying habits and how those things are impacting production.

The 13 YLSP recipients will also share their insight on Tuesday afternoon. Wednesday is open for customer meetings plus the 2019 MACA Golf Tournament and the Industry Tour and Lunch.

**REGISTRATION** - everyone must register for the meeting if attending any part of the meeting. Early registration ends August 12.

**HOTEL** - Call reservations at 855-200-3002 and be sure and give the event name Mid America CropLife 2019 Annual Mtg. #55284 or register online at <https://book.passkey.com/e/49895332>.

Single/Double Occupancy - \$195.00 for standard guestroom per room, per night, plus tax. (Includes \$25.00 credited to MACA to defray meeting expenses.) The cut-off date for hotel reservations is **Monday, August 12, 2019**.

**GOLF** - The golf tournament will be at The Fort Golf Course with a shotgun start at 11:30 am with Paul Edsten and Jerry Miller coordinating the teams and details.

**TOUR** - The industry tour will be at Schutz Containers with lunch featuring the cooking skills of MACA board member Brian Clark, with assistance from Matt Wagner, GreenLeaf Inc., and Jaime Yanes, Albaugh, LLC.

**PRIVATE MEETING ROOMS** - are \$300 per day. Contact [Bonnie](#) by July 20 to book a room.

**SPONSORS** - Sponsors for the meeting are needed - please contact [Bonnie](#) if you

would like to be a sponsor. Levels range from \$500 for Bronze to \$4,000 for Platinum.

## STATE UPDATES



**ILLINOIS** - "The Illinois legislature adjourned for the year with no significant legislation on pesticide use," writes **Jean Payne, President, Illinois Fertilizer & Chemical Association (IFCA)**. There were bills introduced to increase penalty amounts within the IL Pesticide Act, and also legislation to restrict use of neonic pesticides on state owned property, but none of these bills advanced. The priority of this year's session was a Capitol budget including many tax increases to fund a statewide infrastructure projects and education. That bill passed, as did raising the minimum wage, expanding gambling and legalizing recreational marijuana. We expect near year will be a major year for environmental legislation.

The Illinois Department of Ag has extended the cut-off date for dicamba application to soybean to July 15, 2019 due to the delayed planting season.

Corn and soybeans that were planted need some heat. Illinois may set a record for prevent plant acres. In Illinois, 88% of corn was planted and 70% of soybeans at the time of this report.

As for the 4th, **Payne** says "Everyone is hoping for sunshine, although there is concern that expected hot temperatures will coincide with the majority of dicamba application on soybeans."



**KANSAS** - "In 2019, the Kansas legislature passed legislation to allow the Kansas department of agriculture to monitor and regulate the commercial production of industrial hemp in accordance with the 2018 Farm Bill. Kansas expects to see growth in the ag sector from this new crop," says **Randy E. Stookey, Senior Vice President, General Counsel, Kansas**

### **Agribusiness Retailers Association.**

KARA has submitted an industry letter of support to the Kansas department of agriculture requesting approval of a special local needs registration under section 24(c) of FIFRA with regard to the application of Dicamba herbicide, due to certain conditions that present a specific and special local need in Kansas. The special local needs registration would allow application of Dicamba on cotton up to 90 days after planting; and, for soybeans, application up to 60 days after planting and/or the R1 growth stage, whichever comes first. KARA is waiting to hear back from the department on this request.

As of June 18th, 74% of Kansas soybeans had been planted, against 93% this same time last year, and 82% on the 5 year average. Kansas corn was very late being planted, and corn condition is being reported as 42% good, compared to 51% good on the 5 year average.



**MICHIGAN** - "There's very little action at the capitol...some conversation about pollinators, glyphosate and dicamba, but nothing serious," reports **Jim Byrum, President, Michigan Agri-Business Association**. "And no new regulations."

Field work is done, there's a few dry beans yet to plant, but overall about 20% of corn intended didn't get planted, and the same percentage for soybeans...and the crops that did get planted look pretty poor...yield will be a problem.

Byrum, the eternal optimist says he'll be "Hanging at Lake Michigan and hopefully enjoying warm, sunny weather for the 4th!



**MINNESOTA** - "The Legislature adjourned until 2020," says **Bill Bond, Executive Director, MN Crop Production Retailers**, "and all is well."

MN's new Groundwater Protection Rule (GPR) became effective June 24, 2019. The GPR will reduce the risk of nitrate from fertilizer impacting groundwater in areas of the state where soils are prone to leaching and where drinking water supplies are threatened. Nitrate is one of the most common contaminants in Minnesota's groundwater; elevated nitrate levels in drinking water

can pose serious health concerns for humans. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) will oversee implementation of the rule. Beginning in 2020, use of nitrogen fertilizer in the fall and on frozen soils will be restricted in areas of the state with vulnerable groundwater, such as areas with coarse textured soil, shallow bedrock, or karst geology, and in public wellhead areas - known as Drinking Water Supply Management Areas (DWSMAs) - with elevated nitrate levels. The GPR outlines a multi-level approach involving local farmers and agronomists working to mitigate nitrate losses in DWSMAs with high nitrate in groundwater. Farmers in a DWSMA would be subject to four levels of mitigation which move from voluntary to regulatory. A local advisory team, consisting primarily of producers and agriculture professionals, will advise the MDA regarding appropriate response activities for the area and support implementation of these activities. The Groundwater Protection Rule is part of the state's overall Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan (NFMP) which was developed with broad stakeholder input over a five year period and implemented in 2015. More information on the rule and the NFMP is available at [www.mda.state.mn.us/nfr](http://www.mda.state.mn.us/nfr).

As for field work, it is wet but finally finishing.

The 4th of July will include fireworks in the Bond household!



**WISCONSIN** - "On June 25-26, the Republican controlled Wisconsin State Assembly and Senate passed a two year \$81 billion budget, and sent it to Democratic Governor Tony Evers," says **Tom Bressner, Executive Director, Wisconsin Agri-Business Association**. "As of this writing, we have no idea if he will sign it, veto it, or line item veto it. Perhaps the biggest news for agriculture in the proposed budget is \$8.8 million to create a Dairy Innovation Hub to help the ailing dairy industry in Wisconsin. The

Hub will incorporate researchers from three Wisconsin universities, charging them in new product development and marketing initiatives."

As for regulations, Bressner says not legislatively, but more to come from the regulatory side. Water quality is a huge topic in Wisconsin, with lots of fingers pointed at the dairy industry.

Field work for the most part, what is going to get planted has finally been planted. Most fields have small ponded areas that did not get planted. There is a lot of summer left, so the potential for a good crop is still here... as long we get lots of heating units and can hold off until late October for our first frost. That is asking for a lot.

Finally, last week, Bressner got a 5.2 inch rain, that combined with all the rain we already had, caused my finished basement to become a two inch deep pond. I am hoping to finish the clean up by the 4th. Sounds fun, doesn't it?

## CROPLIFE AMBASSADOR NETWORK



**Our Mission...** To provide scientific based accurate information to the public regarding the safety and value of American agricultural food production by placing agricultural professionals in the classroom of K-12 students in 13 Midwest states.

I hope everyone is having a great summer and enjoying the heat in your area and I really hope it has stopped raining in some parts! It was great to see so many of you at the June board meetings here in St. Louis. I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the annual meeting in September. Currently, I'm working on finding more schools to offer our presentations to and finding more ambassadors to help with those presentations. If you have suggestions on schools or people to be ambassadors please pass it along! You can email me at [michelle@maca.org](mailto:michelle@maca.org).

We currently have presentations on Farming and the Water Cycle, Farm Fueled: Biofuels, Farmers Stewards of the Land, Careers in Agriculture, Feeding Plant Earth, The Buzz about Bees and Agriculture's Abundance. I would love to have your help updating these presentations. Please email me if you can help review the current presentations and make suggestions on changes and updates - [michelle@maca.org](mailto:michelle@maca.org). Soon we will have a presentation on GMOs. If you are interested in helping to create that or review it please reach out to me as well.

Let's get social. Join us on **Facebook** to keep updated about the CAN program and for fun information.



Find us on [Facebook](#) - search - CropLife Ambassador Network- CAN

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Wednesday: 8 am - 2 pm  
Thursday: 8 am - 12 noon

## WATER ISSUES

"Water runoff from production agriculture is generally considered "nonpoint" discharges and exempt from EPA's permit program," says **MACA Water Consultant Steve Taylor**. However, groundwater issues have begun to creep into the agricultural world. EPA has been looking into whether permits may be needed for pollutant discharges that originate from groundwater or subsurface water. The U.S. Supreme Court is also considering a case regrading this issue.

In April 2019, EPA filed notice requesting public comment on its interpretive statement 'Discharges of Pollutants via a Direct Hydrologic Connection to Surface Water'. The Federal Water Quality Coalition (FWQC), of which MACA is a member, has responded and filed comments to EPA. As a general comment, we agree with EPA in that EPA's permitting program does not cover releases to groundwater even if that groundwater eventually connects to a surface waterbody. If circumstances change (i.e. an unfavorable Supreme Court ruling) which force EPA to consider permitting releases to groundwater, the technical issues involved in tracing and regulating pollutant releases to and through the soil, then to groundwater, and finally to surface water would be immense. In this situation, we commented that massive new regulations (not just amendments to current regulations), subjected to public comment, would be required.

MACA will continue to stay engaged on this priority issue and continue to keep you informed.



**Steve Taylor**  
**MACA**  
**Water Consultant**

## 2019 YLSP UPDATE



The 13 student winners from the Young Leader Scholarship Program have started their summer internships! Check out some photos from their internships!

- **Colorado:** Rachel Chayer is interning at Colorado State University's Molecular Weed Research Lab this summer.





- **Illinois:** Madelyn Heinecke is a Field Biology intern at BASF Midwest Research Farm in Seymour, IL.



- **Indiana:** Sara Lechliger has a summer internship with Helena as a Sales

Intern in Donovan, IL.



- **Iowa:** Erin Chalupa is with Valent USA this summer as Marketing Intern.



- **Kansas:** Nate Dick is interning this summer with Crop Quest Agronomic Services in Silver Lake, Kansas.



- **Michigan:** Devin Koroleski is with Cooperative Elevator Company this summer as an intern in different parts of Michigan.



- **Minnesota:** Sierra Williamson is interning with Land O' Lakes this summer in Arden Hills, MN.



- **Missouri:** John Clayton Robinson is an intern with Bayer CropScience this summer in sales.



- **Nebraska:** Rachel Knox is an intern with BASF this summer in Beaver Crossing, NE.



- **North Dakota:** Adam Kroll has a summer internship with Cargill as a commodity trading intern.



- **Ohio:** Mary Buehler is doing a summer internship with Farm Credit Mid-America in Ohio as a Growing Forward Intern.



- **South Dakota:** Ally Ringeisen has a summer internship with NuWay K&H Cooperative located in Trimont, MN.



- **Wisconsin:** Sam Jesse is an intern this summer with Legend Seeds in Wisconsin.



## SHORT NOTES

- Please welcome the **Taylor-Cain Corporation** as an allied member with **Taylor Jackson** as the contact. Taylor is the daughter of the corporation founder **Steve Taylor**.
- Congratulations and thanks to **Mark Stewart, Drexel Chemical**, on being the first to register for the 2019 MACA Annual Meeting!
- Special thanks to **Helena Agri-Enterprises** on being the first to be a 2019 MACA Annual Meeting Sponsor.
- Congratulations to **MACA Board Director Shelbi Domjen** and her husband Sam! Baby Domjen is has arrived - Sloan Evelyn Domjen, was born June 4th at 1:11 pm. Baby and mommy are doing well and daddy is adjusting to the smell of dirty diapers-and even changing them.



- Congratulations to **Mike Lehman, AMVAC**, on the birth of his daughter. Kelsey Mackenzie was born on Sunday, June 16th.....Father's Day. What a perfect father's day present! Kelsey weighed 9.0 lbs at birth and joined the other Lehman siblings. Momma is doing well...off running errands while dad watches Kelsey.



- Adam Burnhams is the new VP Market and Consumer Strategy at AgBiome. Adam was previously at Sipcam.
- **BASF** opened its new global Agrochemical Application Research Center (AARC) in Research Triangle Park, NC. It will help to further optimize stewardship guidelines regarding on-target application of BASF crop protection products used worldwide.
- **Jason Paris, UPL**, reports the pumpkin patch is doing well! He planted on June 4, so things are on target. Jason will be moving to Quality Ag Services based in Albia, Iowa on July 1. Can't wait to see the pumpkins later this year!
- For the hockey fans, the **St. Louis Blues** claimed the Stanley Cup on June 12! It was great to watch the final game against the Bruins and see St. Louis celebrate the victory on June 15. What a sea of blue it has been!

## CALENDAR

### 2019

**July 4** - Independence Day - office closed

**July 11-12** - MO-AG Summer Meeting, Lake Ozarks, MO

**July 24** - **MACA Board of Directors Meeting via Conference Call**

**August 20** - KARA Annual Meeting and Golf Scramble, Manhattan, KS

**August 21-22** - MAGIE Show, McLean County Fairgrounds, Bloomington IL

**September 3-5** - **MACA Annual Meeting, The Alexander Hotel, Indianapolis, IN**



**November 6-7** - MACA Quarterly Meetings, St. Louis, MO

**November 20-21** - Kansas Agri-Business Expo, Wichita, KS

**December 3-4** - [2019 Northern Ag Expo](#), Fargodome, Fargo, ND

**December 3-5** - [2019 ARA Conference & Expo](#), New Orleans, LA

**December 10-12** - MN Crop Production Retailers Short Course at the Minneapolis Convention Center and rooms at the Minneapolis Hilton hotel.

## **2020**

**January 13-15** - MABA's 87th Annual Winter Conference & Trade Show, Lansing Center, Lansing, MI

**January 14-16** - Wisconsin Agribusiness Classic, Alliant Energy Center, Madison

**January 15-16** - Ag Expo, Sioux Falls [www.agexpo-sd.org](http://www.agexpo-sd.org)

**January 28-29** - Nebraska Agri-Business Expo, Embassy Suites Convention Center, LaVista, NE

**January 29-31** - [2020 OABA Industry Conference](#), Renaissance Columbus Westerville - Polaris Hotel - Westerville, OH

## **THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH**

**"America was not built on fear.  
America was built on courage, on imagination, and an unbeatable  
determination to do the job at hand."**

~ Harry S. Truman



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[MACA 2019 Meeting Dates](#)

[C.A.N. Website](#)

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