



A professional society representing the nation's crop production and research consultants

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



By
Nathan Goldschmidt
NAICC
2018 President

Are GMOs Really Safe?

A few months ago, I talked about some common questions surrounding genetically modified organisms (GMOs) that we hear from our friends and neighbors. There is a lot of fear and animosity toward GMOs, and much of the public fails to understand why farmers plant GM crops if they're unsafe and harmful. In fact, a lot of research goes into demonstrating the safety of every GM crop before it is released to be grown and consumed.

Before any GM crop can be grown and sold commercially, it must go through an extensive approval process with multiple government agencies, including USDA, FDA, and sometimes EPA. If the product will be exported, it must go through additional approval processes for the government agencies of each country into which it will be imported. Only GMOs that meet the requirements of all these approval processes may be consumed as food used as animal feed. Currently almost all the GMO products grown in the US have also undergone extensive independent evaluation by governments of Europe, Japan, South Korea and other Asian nations, and South and Central America and have been confirmed as safe for human consumption by all these nations.

The GMO development and approval process has many steps and takes several years from the first time the transgene of interest is inserted into a crop until that GM trait receives government approval for

commercial release. The following is a brief outline of the steps a new GM trait must undergo before it can be grown and sold commercially.

1) A desirable gene from a common bacterium or another plant species is isolated, replicated, and inserted into a plant embryo. This is what is known as plant transformation. Incidentally, only genes that come from bacteria, viruses, or other plant species are used for GM crops. Even the non-GM crops we eat have genes from bacteria, viruses and other plant species incorporated into their DNA through natural processes.

2) The transformed plants are grown in a greenhouse and evaluated for a) performance of the intended trait; and b) normal growth and development. Only plants that carry the intended trait and have normal and growth and development are advanced for further testing. At this stage of the process, hundreds to thousands of plant transformations are culled and never see the light of day again.

3) The entire genome is sequenced, and all amino acids in the genome are compared against a database of known allergens. To date, no new allergies have been caused by food derived from GMOs, according to the Institute of Food Research in the United Kingdom (Genetic Literacy Project Apr 2014 <https://geneticliteracyproject.org/2014/04/16/are-gmos-causing-an-increase-in-allergies/>).

4) A range of food safety studies are conducted to determine whether the chemical composition and nutrient levels of food or feed product from the GM trait is different from its conventionally grown counterpart.

5) Agronomic and ecological safety studies are conducted to determine if the GM trait has altered growth or development, has a greater potential for weediness, or negatively impacts the insect or animal community compared to its conventional counterpart.

The data collected in each of these steps is evaluated by scientists at government agencies in multiple countries across the world to determine whether the GM trait is safe for consumption and safe for the environment compared to its conventional counterpart. Some countries have different requirements than others, so the overall body of evidence collected for each GM trait is staggering. We actually know more about the genetics, the potential allergens, and the nutrient levels of commercially approved GMO varieties than about most conventional or organic varieties. Scientists across academia, industry, and governments across the world have each taken a hard look at the evidence to verify the safety of every single GM product grown before it reaches your mouth.

Joy Whitsel contributed to this article.

Updated Website

We are very excited about our new website look and its improved member usability. Many thanks to APEX WebStudio LLC for all their hard work and expertise! Thanks also to the NAICC Marketing Committee for your leadership on this project.

Please check it out at NAICC.org.

See page 5 for details on how to renew your dues for 2019!

Come Join Us In Savannah!



NAICC ANNUAL MEETING AND AG PRO EXPO

January 16-19, 2019

Savannah International Trade and Convention Center
Savannah, Georgia

www.naicc.org

The 2019 NAICC Annual Meeting & AG PRO EXPO is January 16-19, Savannah International Trade and Convention Center, Savannah, GA.

Go to <http://naicc.org/2019-annual-meeting/> for a Schedule at a Glance and hotel links to reserve your room. Registration and exhibitor materials will be available mid-October.

Opportunities With FEAE

Richard L. Jensen, Ph.D. Memorial Scholarship

Applications are available at <http://thefeae.org/jensen-scholarship/>. We encourage you to share the application with your summer employees or college students working toward an Agriculture degree. Students working for NAICC members will qualify for preferred status.

The three scholarships are provided by NAICC's Foundation for Environmental Agriculture Education (FEAE) to deserving college students with an Agriculture major. Each application will be eligible for all three scholarships and will be awarded based on merit. The top scholarship is \$3,000 followed by two scholarships of \$1,500 each.

Application deadline is November 1, 2018.

Silent Auction: Be a part of The Foundation's (FEAE) Silent Auction by donating and/or taking home one-of-a-kind items from throughout North America and Europe! Whether you are providing items for the silent auction or are one of the successful bidders, you are sure to have a great time. Proceeds from the auction go toward instrumental educational programs that benefit our industry at large. Please send your donation ideas to Debra Fitzgerald at fitzgerald@iskbc.com.

www.naicc.org

Savannah is the Place to Be in January 2019

Savannah's southern charms, beauty and history make this the perfect site for the 2019 NAICC Annual Meeting and AG PRO EXPO. Locals are friendly; city is highly walkable and safe; and Savannah offers fantastic food options, fun shopping experiences and loads of historic attractions. Take a look at what Savannah has to offer at www.visitsavannah.com. The Official Savannah Visitor's Guide can be found at this link and is an excellent source for planning your sightseeing and dining adventures.

In 1733, 114 English settlers led by James Edward Oglethorpe, a politician, soldier and philanthropist bent on establishing the 13th colony of Georgia, settled the first city for the colony. The city became a major exporter of cotton in the early 1800s, and its prosperous residents built elegant homes and enjoyed a cosmopolitan lifestyle.

The decline of cotton production and the Great Depression threatened to curtail Savannah's progress in the 1920s and '30s, but the town got a boost when the Union Bag and Paper Company opened a large plant which is now part of the International Paper Company empire. Cotton warehouses of old still sit on the banks of the Savannah River and are now home to antique shops, distinctive boutiques, art galleries, quaint brew pubs, fabulous restaurants, unique nightspots, elegant inns and hotels.

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September 2018



Happenings on the Hill

Glenn Luedke, NAICC Legislative Assistant

It's here! Web-Based Training for Trainers of Agricultural Workers and Pesticide Handlers under the National Worker Protection Standard (WPS).

- It's posted here on the PERC website.
- The cost is \$35, which covers the cost of the hosting, course maintenance, and certification management.
- Offered via the NPSEC Store, hosted by eXtension.

This web-based course provides the information required to train those who will train agricultural workers and pesticide handlers under the WPS (CFR 170). It will guide you through the necessary procedures to provide effective training about pesticide safety topics. This course is one way to become qualified to train agricultural workers and pesticide handlers under the WPS.

This is a self-paced eLearning course; you will view eLearning modules, take quizzes, and complete a final exam at your own pace. Once you have successfully completed all the course requirements, passed the final exam with the minimum passing score of 70% and then completed the course evaluation, you will be issued a WPS pesticide safety trainer certification. This course will take you approximately two to three hours to complete.

Completion of this course certifies you as a qualified WPS trainer of agricultural workers and pesticide handlers in the continental U.S, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. You must check with your state or tribal pesticide regulatory agency for possible additional requirements.

If you have any questions about this message, please direct them to PERC using the contact information below. Please share this announcement as appropriate.

All the best from our team,

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CHLORPYRIFOS

The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ordered the EPA to revoke all food tolerances and cancel all registrations of the widely used insecticide chlorpyrifos within 60 days. The Court reasonings for the ban on chlorpyrifos are:

- “(EPA) found ‘significant uncertainty’ as to the health effects of chlorpyrifos, which is at odds with a finding of ‘reasonable certainty’ of safety” under the FFDCA.” (Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act)
- “Chlorpyrifos similarly does not meet the statutory requirement for registration under FIFRA, which incorporates the FFDCA’s safety standard.”

At press time, we learned that the Department of Justice has requested a rehearing of the pesticide case before the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. See page 9 for a USDA press release.

DICAMBA

As a member of the Pesticide Policy Coalition, NAICC supported a letter sent to EPA Acting Administrator Andrew Wheeler that stated support for the extension of registrations of dicamba formulations developed to address current weed control needs in time for producers to make purchasing decisions for the 2019 crop year.

We encourage all NAICC members to contact EPA and their Representatives and Senators to make them aware of the extra burden and hardship that losing these two vital actives ingredients will cause our American farmers.

FDA

The FDA has expressed interest in weighing in on labeling claims in the organic food sector. FDA feels it is their duty to monitor and police the organic food industry. This action has taken USDA officials by surprise since USDA oversees the National Organic Program. The FDA commissioner stated that USDA has jurisdiction over the term “organic”, but the FDA oversees “general food labeling compliance and safety issues”.

BROADBAND

The Secretary of Agriculture announced that a webpage featuring the importance of rural e-connectivity has been developed. The website provides direct access to information for long-established programs. The new site provides a feedback form.

The House Energy and Commerce Committee approved H.R. 4881 which directs the FCC to create a task force focused on precision agriculture’s connectivity and technical needs. The panel also approved H.R. 3994, a measure to establish an Office of Internet Connectivity and Growth within the Commerce

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Department. This department would work with local and regional groups to encourage broadband expansion and adoption.

LABOR

The AG Act is an immigration bill that would create the H-2C program in place of the current H-2A program. In mid-summer, the “Ag-Only Guest Worker Bill” was introduced. The goal of the bill is to create and establish a pool of workers already screened and cleared by the Department of Homeland Security. The USDA would be allowed to draw from this group as needed. The rule allows individuals to pre-qualify to enter the U.S. and work in ag only. The intention is to establish a smooth process in which a grower can draw from that pool to get an adequate labor force and apply for workers needed year around or seasonally. The bill, if passed, would allow workers to be in the U.S. for a period of five years at a time. The workers can travel back to their home countries. Workers must remain employed in agriculture and if they are not then , they’re out of the program. Workers currently employed in agriculture and are undocumented, would be screened by DHS and then would become part of the program.

The Ag and Legal Workforce Act is also under consideration. This bill is an attempt to combine the H-2A program with the H-2B program (H-2A relates to on-farm workers; H-2B programs relate to workers in other non-ag, non-field and non-farm capacities). This program would change the visa period from 10 months to three years and eliminate mandatory housing and transportation and allow workers to work on more than one farm.

ENDANGERED SPECIES

Farm organizations expressed their approval of an Administration move to prioritize regulatory improvements of the ESA. Farm organizations and the public will be able to provide constructive comments. Preliminary understanding of the revisions mirrors the wishes of farmers and ranchers, namely that the language in the provisions presents a clear understanding of the intent and encourage voluntary conservation work, increase local involvement and chart a path for real recovery and de-listing of species. Under the proposed changes, species listed or declassified as threatened would only have protective regulations if a species-specific rule is made known. The proposed changes are said to better tailor protections to the needs of threatened species while still providing meaning to the statutory distinction between “endangered species” and “threatened species”.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) have made two proposals and are asking for public comment. The proposals include revisions to definitions for “destruction or adverse modification” and “effects of the action”, the addition of a definition for “programmatic consultation”, potential changes to the definition for “environmental baseline” and clarification of the application of the “reasonably certain to occur” standard.

EPA

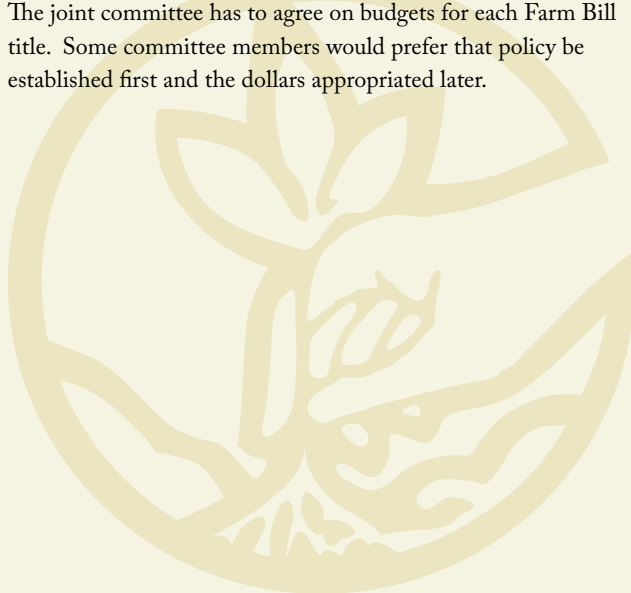
Farm organizations expressed their support of an Administration move to return water-permitting authority to the states. Under the terms of the agreement, states can assure authority to issue permits for earth moving in and around regulated waterways, wetlands and land that at times, channels water. This agreement is said to be a major step toward fully restoring the rule of law to environmental regulation.

The Administration has voiced concern over the fact that the U.S. Senate wants to increase the EPA budget by \$2.7 billion. Opponents of the move state that too much of the funding is targeted to the funding of programs that are outside of the EPA’s core responsibilities.

WOTUS: The Department of Justice is reviewing the action by a South Carolina District Court. The court ruling stated the Administration failed to offer the public a proper opportunity to comment. The rule is now in effect in 26 states. Federal court injunctions are still in place in the other 24 states. An appeal is expected. The major “fight” will be over the Administration’s final rule to repeal WOTUS as the U.S. Corps of Engineers and EPA prepare a replacement rule.

USDA

House and Senate leaders have both stated that significant progress has been made during joint committee sessions, and in particular, language in the SNAP program. Several other issues will need additional time to work out the differences and include the commodity and conservation provisions and the USDA program that would carry out a national science-based education campaign to increase public awareness regarding the use of technology in food and ag production. The House and Senate versions both support the inclusion of special language to amend the Plant Variety Protection Act. Differences in the Crop Insurance Program still exist in the House and Senate versions. The joint committee has to agree on budgets for each Farm Bill title. Some committee members would prefer that policy be established first and the dollars appropriated later.



NAICC Awards – Nominate Someone Today

By Steve Hoffman, Past President

All of us are leaders. Our clients depend on us to deliver results even when Mother Nature seems determined to ruin the trials and crops that we oversee. Our clients assume that we are keeping abreast of issues that affect them. Our clients expect leadership from us. The general public expects leadership from the experts that oversee the various segments of our food production system. As we become more aware of the vulnerability of our soil and water resources, we also become self-aware that we need to lead our clients to become more sustainable.

One easy way to improve your leadership skills is to spend time around other leaders. One of the reasons I look forward to the NAICC Annual Meeting is the growth in leadership that I experience by just interacting with the other members and speakers.

Several years ago, a couple of our sustaining members had the foresight to encourage the NAICC to start a leadership program. They contributed seed money to get the program started. One of the four modules is even named after Ray Young, a true leader that we all are proud to know.

The NAICC Leadership Program is available for up to three NAICC member candidates every year. Candidates need to fill out and submit an application form by November 1st. The next class of leadership candidates will then be chosen. The leadership program is divided into four modules. The first module consists of attending the NAICC Annual Meeting in Savannah, GA, this January 2019. Candidates are expected to become familiar with the NAICC during this module. The second module, the Ray Young Governmental Affairs Module, consists of visiting Washington, DC during the March NAICC Executive Board meeting. The leadership candidates will accompany NAICC Board members and Government Affairs committee chairs to meetings with EPA, USDA, Congress members and their staff. The leadership candidates also participate in meetings with commodity groups and Washington representatives of some of our Sustaining Members. This module culminates with attendance at the Crawfish Boil on the Hill.

The third module consists of a site visit to tour members' facilities: one member who shares the participant's area of expertise and another member who is outside the participant's area of expertise. Participants are encouraged to visit an area of the country that they are not familiar with. These site visits could also include a tour of a sponsor company or other agricultural facilities. The final module consists of attending the NAICC Annual Meeting again in San Antonio, TX, in January 2020 in San Antonio, TX, where candidates will give a short presentation of their experience to the membership. Upon completion of these four modules,

the participants will be given a certificate to show that they are graduates of the NAICC Leadership program.

If you are interested in participating in this program, please fill out an online application at <http://bit.ly/NAICCLeadership> by November 1, 2018. The fee for the program is minimal and will cover the travel expenses to Washington DC, and the site visits. Please ask about the sponsorship opportunities that are available.

We encourage you to forward the Leadership Program brochure (<http://bit.ly/NLPBrochure>) to a colleague and/or co-worker.

Past NAICC Leadership graduates are Laurie Bennett, Amalia Easton, Bree Goldschmidt, Amalia Easton, Stephanie Laux, Allie Marks, Sandy Mackie and Michelle Mitchell. Our current class consists of Nathan Casper and Greg Whittington. These members would be a great resource if you want to talk to someone who went through the program.

RENEW FOR 2019!

Don't forget to renew your NAICC membership online by November 31 to be included in the 2019 membership directory.

You should have received an email with your member login instructions for the new website. Besides the new look and compatibility with mobile devices, our website also has a new member database powered by Wild Apricot that will provide us greater functionality in multiple areas.

Follow these easy steps to get started:

1. Your username is the email on file with NAICC.
2. Open your browser to <http://naicc.org> and click "Members Only" in the top right-hand corner.
3. For the first login, you'll need to create a new password. To do that, click "Forgot Password" and enter your email address. You'll receive an email with a link to set your new password.
4. After you log in, click "Edit Profile" to make any changes to your profile. Please double check to make sure that your information is correct. This is what will be in the 2019 membership directory. Remember to click SAVE.
5. Click on "Privacy" to select if you want all, part or none of your directory listing available to the general public.
6. The Membership Directory will ONLY be mailed UPON REQUEST. There is a check box on your profile page that is defaulted to "NO". If you would like to receive a printed copy of the directory, change the check box to "YES".

Member Profile

Early in August, Randy Darr, President of SoilRight and Brookside BOD member, attended the John Maxwell International Maxwell Certification Conference (IMC). At this IMC, Randy became 1 of 20,000 members around the world, who are certified to present Maxwell content in the areas of leadership and personal growth training.

John Maxwell is considered the world's foremost authority in the arena of leadership and personal growth. Being a member of the John Maxwell Team, Randy will be receiving continuous training through his JMT membership in the mastery of the Maxwell method.

Through his new corporation, Raney Day Solutions, Inc., he along with his son-in-law and daughter, Boone and Kaylee Raney, will be providing keynote speaking, leadership seminars, and personal coaching services to companies and individuals that have a deep desire to become more significant in their endeavors. Randy will be focusing on taking the Maxwell message of leadership to the agriculture industry.



Randy Darr receives his John Maxwell TEAM certificate.

Savannah

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Attendees can take advantage of the "Show us Your Badge Program" which consists of local businesses offering special discounts to conference attendees as a thank you for visiting Savannah and their establishment. To redeem the discounts, guests just simply shows the cashier their NAICC name badge! To see a list of participating vendors and what their offerings are, please visit: www.savannahbadge.com.

Come and discover the enchanting soul of Savannah during the 2019 NAICC Annual Meeting and AG PRO EXPO, January 15-19, at the Savannah International Trade and Conference Center, Westin Savannah and Hyatt Regency Savannah.

WSSA Advocates for Weed Controls That Protects Soybean Export Value

Experts from the Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) attended the 2018 Farm Progress show in Boone, Iowa, to highlight system-wide strategies for protecting soybean export values by reducing weed seeds in harvested soybean crops.

The U.S. is a major exporter of soybean, which represents more than half of the nation's \$39 billion in annual grain exports. When weed seeds are detected in exported crops, the importing country may impose additional inspections or treatments, or may reject or destroy the shipment. Recurring violations can lead authorities to suspend exports from a given region or to close their import markets entirely.

"Herbicide-resistant weeds have led to a rise in the number of weed seeds finding their way into harvested crops," says Lee Van Wychen, Ph.D., executive director of science policy for WSSA. "We need a proactive, system-wide strategy to reverse this trend and protect economically important foreign markets."

WSSA representatives attending the Farm Progress show will promote a system-wide approach developed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) to reduce weed seeds in harvested soybean crops. WSSA is among nearly two dozen public agencies, scientific societies, industry organizations, grower groups and trade associations to endorse APHIS' recommendations, which span weed control during planting, harvesting, storage, handling and transport.

Examples include:

- Regularly vary management practices to eliminate weeds, avoid development of resistant weeds and discourage the buildup of any one weed type.
- Use herbicide mixtures with multiple sites of action, including a combination of pre- and post-emergence herbicides with residual control.
- Rotate crops to lower weed densities, increase crop yields and improve soil quality.
- Plant with narrow spacing between rows to allow plants to form a closed canopy and out-compete weeds for sun and water.
- Remove late-season weeds that have escaped.
- Adjust combine settings to remove weed seeds.
- Regularly clean storage bins, augers and legs, transport vehicles and farm equipment to prevent weed spread and cross-crop contamination.

The full list of recommended best practices is available for download at the USDA APHIS website.

Support NAICC by Serving on a Committee

In-coming President Matt Eich will soon begin appointing committee members for the 2019 NAICC Committees. This is a great way for you to get involved in NAICC and support the Alliance. Review the committee descriptions below and let us know on which ones you are interested in serving. You can email Matt at MEICH@centrol.com or Allison Jones, EVP at allisonjones@naicc.org. Or you can mark the committee on your dues renewal form.

Each committee is comprised of a Committee Chair person appointed by the President (occasionally two people act as co-chairs); committee volunteers are from the membership; and the President appoints an Executive Board Liaison for each committee. The role of the Board Liaison is to sit in on committee meetings when possible and to function as the point of contact between the Committee Chair and the Executive Board. A few committees also have sub-committees within their structure, and for the most part these subcommittees also have a Chair that functions the same way, but typically report to the larger oversight committee (details below).

All committees meet on Wednesday afternoon at the Annual Meeting with the exception of the Allied Industry Committee which meets on Friday morning. Most committees conduct their business via email but conference call meetings throughout the year are available. Any member in good standing can serve on any of the other committees.

Here is a brief description of each committee to help you decide where you would like to serve:

Allied Industry Committee is made up of eleven elected Sustaining Members and two Voting members, (appointed by the President). The purpose of this committee is to recommend ways that NAICC and industry can work more closely on projects they have in common. This committee also identifies areas of mutual concern and provides an avenue of communication as well as evaluates papers for the Emerging Technology Session using the current criteria and specifications.

One of the most vital committees is the **Annual Meeting Coordination Committee (AMC)** tasked to plan, coordinate, and find speakers for the program of the next annual meeting, with input from the **Consultant Education (CEC)**, **Research Education (REC)** and **Quality Assurance Education (QAEC) subcommittees**. This committee is chaired by the President-Elect.

The **Certification Board** is appointed by the President and finalizes, administers and modifies the NAICC Certification program as needed.

An integral part of NAICC and the Executive Board decision-making process is from information coming from the **Governmental Affairs Committee (GAC)**. It is made up of three subcommittees: **GAC-Crop Consultant (GAC-C)**; **GAC Researcher & QA (GAC-R)**, and the **Crawfish Boil on the Hill (CBOH)**. The GAC monitors and discusses legislation and regulatory issues and policies, pending, proposed and needed, specifically those that will directly impact NAICC members, but

also general agricultural, environmental and food issues on which NAICC may be consulted or wish to express an opinion. The committee assists the Executive Vice President and the NAICC Legislative Assistant, Glenn Luedke, to provide information to the membership through newsletter articles and mailings and identifies issues and develops talking points for the NAICC Board prior to Hill visits.

The **Crawfish Boil on the Hill (CBOH)** subcommittee plans the annual CBOH event to be held in conjunction with the March Executive Board meeting in Washington, DC NAICC hosts Congressmen, Senators, Congressional staff, USDA, EPA and other agency personnel, as well as invited commodity and Ag association groups/ representatives for an evening of good food and networking opportunities.

The **Education Outreach Committee (EOC)** has two subcommittees: Consultant Education and the Researcher/ QA Education. They are responsible for developing educational opportunities for members outside of the annual meeting. Currently this committee is responsible for planning and promoting the Focus on Precision Ag workshop and the GLP Training course and other regional workshops held annually.

Although it is seldom needed, the **Grievance and Ethics Committee (G&E)** reviews any grievances that one member may file against a fellow member and if necessary submit any recommendations stemming from a review to the Executive Board. They also periodically review the NAICC Code of Ethics and recommend updates as needed.

The **International Outreach Committee** works to establish contact with other consulting organizations outside of the U.S. and to look for opportunities to cooperate on educational programs and information exchange. They assist in keeping NAICC informed of agricultural issues facing consultants in other countries. This committee also acts as liaison to the Global Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants.

The **Leadership Program Committee** is responsible for developing and implementing certain portions of the NAICC Leadership Program (NAICCLP).

The committee responsible for marketing the association to sustaining members and current membership is obviously called the **Marketing Committee**. The committee is also responsible for the Consultant of the Year award program and reviewing the NAICC website, NAICC.ORG for needed updates.

The committee responsible for recruitment of new members as well as periodic examination of the eligibility of all members is the **Membership Recruitment, Retention and Rules Committee** or the MRR&R. Members also head up the New Members Boot Camp held at the Annual Meeting and act as a liaison to new members during their first two years of membership. The committee consists of one Executive Board Directors plus a minimum of three other appointed members.

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The **Newsletter Subcommittee** is under the jurisdiction of the MRR&R. This committee works with the Executive Vice President to source and accumulate articles for the NAICC News that are of interest to the membership and current events in crop and research consulting businesses and in agriculture.

The **State Affiliates Relations Committee** was developed to work with the states consulting organizations to create more involvement from consultants on the national level. They are also focused on helping create new consulting/researcher associations in states that do not already have an organization.

NAICC Photo Contest



Since everyone is so busy in the field and forgot to post photos for the NAICC Photo Contest, we decided to forgo the 2nd quarter contest for 2019. The deadline for the 3rd quarter contest is October 15, and can be uploaded at: <http://naicc.org/photo-contest-upload-form/>. With the new system, you will now need a password to complete the upload process. This month's password is naicc2018pcu.

The theme is **"My boss is the best because...."**. Don't miss this chance to win a \$50 Visa gift card.

Call For Articles

The NAICC Newsletter Committee encourages members to submit articles for upcoming issues. We'd love to hear what went on this summer - the good and bad! Or for those on the east coast, tell us how you and your clients weathered Florence. The skies the limit. Send your articles to committee chair Torrance Lee at Torrance.Lee@valent.com or Donna Landis at MemberServices@naicc.org.

Support
**Foundation for Environmental
Agriculture Education.**

When you shop at smile.amazon.com,
Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

amazonsmile

Always log onto smile.amazon.com
for your purchases to qualify

The correct answer from the July newsletter was Jack-Jack (from The Incredibles).

Congratulations to Toni Johnson
for winning the gift card!

Answer the following question for a chance to
win a \$50 Visa Gift Card:

What show is portrayed in the poster below?



Submit your answer here:

<https://goo.gl/forms/wKo2uAXUTWZijX5R2>

One winner will be randomly selected
from the correct answers and announced
in the next newsletter.



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Secretary Perdue Statement on DOJ Filing in 9th Circuit Chlorpyrifos Ruling

USDA Office of Communications sent this bulletin at 09/24/2018 07:12 PM EDT

You are subscribed to USDA Office of Communications.

Release No. 0196.18

Contact: USDA Press
Email: press@oc.usda.gov

Secretary Perdue Statement on DOJ Filing in 9th Circuit Chlorpyrifos Ruling

(Washington, D.C., September 24, 2018) – U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue today praised the Department of Justice’s (DOJ) decision to request a rehearing of a pesticide case before the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. DOJ has asked for a panel rehearing and a rehearing en banc in a case in which the court directed the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to ban chlorpyrifos, a common and useful pesticide, within 60 days.

Secretary Perdue issued the following statement:

“USDA disagrees with the ruling ordering EPA to revoke tolerances and cancel registrations for chlorpyrifos. The decision appears to be based on a misunderstanding of both the available scientific information and EPA’s pesticide regulatory system. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and other groups have pointed out significant flaws in the draft chlorpyrifos assessments on which the court based its opinion, and USDA supports EPA’s conclusion that the available scientific evidence does not indicate the need for a total ban on the use of chlorpyrifos. EPA should be allowed to continue its ongoing science-based and expert-led evaluation of chlorpyrifos, which is part of EPA’s registration review program that covers all pesticides.

“The costs of an incorrect decision on chlorpyrifos are expected to be high and would cause serious impacts to American farmers working to feed, fuel, and clothe the United States and the world. This ruling, which would mean the sudden and total loss of chlorpyrifos, prevents farmers from using an effective and economical crop protection tool. Chlorpyrifos is used on well over 50 crops grown throughout the United States due to its efficacy and broad-spectrum activity across multiple pests. For some crops and target pests, chlorpyrifos is the only line of defense, with no viable alternatives.

“Chlorpyrifos helps farmers and consumers by improving production efficiency and contributing to public health and safety. The arbitrary, immediate, and total loss of this crop protection tool endangers agricultural industries and is expected to have wide economic impacts. Given the court’s incorrect assessment of the scientific evidence, we thank the Department of Justice for continuing to fight on behalf of American farmers and consumers in support of science-based regulatory oversight of crucial crop protection tools.” #