

# coloradoC.Q.

Spring Quarter 2020 Volume 20, No.1

CORN QUARTERLY





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*Front Cover Photo Credit to  
Ryan Kanode*

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*Colorado C.Q. (Corn Quarterly) is a publication of the Colorado Corn Growers Association (CCGA). Members of CCGA are dues-paying, politically active farmers who focus on policy that impacts the state's corn producers and broader ag community. They engage in education and outreach, among other endeavors.*

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## From the Executive Director

Welcome to 2020, and to a new decade! I want to take a moment to introduce myself. My name is Nicholas Colglazier, and I am Colorado Corn's new Executive Director. I am excited to get to work for you to further Colorado Corn's mission, and to face the new challenges and opportunities that 2020 will bring us. I look forward to meeting many of our members, growers, first handlers, and many more partners to our industry. I want to build on the work that Mark Sponsler accomplished, and thank him for his many years of service to this organization.



**Nicholas Colglazier**

I am a fourth generation Coloradan who has tremendous pride of my roots in agriculture. Raised on a diversified crop farm in northeast Colorado, I grew up working alongside my family raising corn, wheat and pinto beans, which instilled in me a deep love of the land, rural Colorado, and agriculture. It is this experience that has provided me with countless opportunities to serve the industry I love, from working with the land, to spreading my love of ag and leadership as a Colorado State FFA Officer, to defending our industry as an "advocate" on public policy issues.

I could not be prouder to be in the position I am in right now, helping lead a great organization into the future, but the hard work is just beginning. Change and transition are seldom easy. It takes time to build the relationships that lead to enduring partnerships and success. It takes energy to learn all the issues impacting our growers. It takes leadership to set our strategic plan to tackle the challenges we face and grasp the opportunities of the future. This is never done alone. It will take a great team, our board of directors, growers, industry partners and communities coming together to ensure this successful transition for the benefit of our corn growers, their communities, and all of agriculture in Colorado.

Already upon us is a challenge we haven't faced for generations in the COVID-19 pandemic. It has certainly caused consternation in our markets, doubts in global trade, and generally squeezed farmers even more than before, yet there is a silver lining. Agriculture has been recognized as something we have always seen it as – essential. As we try to stem the impact of this novel virus, the government has put our industry and producers at the forefront, illustrating their essential importance to providing the food, fiber, and fuel we still need.

Even as we face this uncertainty, it is still time to build. We will build on the great work Colorado Corn, our national partners, National Corn Growers Association, U.S. Grains Council, and the U.S. Meat Export Federation have done to position us to grasp opportunity as we emerge from the wilderness. The Colorado Corn staff looks forward to working on behalf of our members and growers to ensure a thriving Colorado agriculture industry.

Be Safe and Be Well!

Nicholas Colglazier  
Executive Director

### CCGA Board



**Director 1-2, Alex Eckhardt** grew up on the family farm in LaSalle, Colorado. As a kid Alex loved spending time with his family on the farm, riding in tractors or the combine. As he got older, he started operating equipment on the weekends and after school. During his teens, Alex was very involved in 4-H and FFA. Following high school, he attended Northeastern Junior College (NJC) to pursue

a degree in Ag Business. He also went through NJC's Firefighter academy. When he transferred to Colorado State University Alex was close enough to home, he could work weekends on the farm. He also became a reserve/volunteer Firefighter with Platteville-Gilcrest Fire Protection District and Evans Fire Department.

In 2012, Alex left CSU to attend the Police Academy at Colorado Mountain College in Glenwood Springs. Upon graduating the academy, he worked for the Logan County Sheriff's Office as a Patrol Deputy and later a Major Crimes Investigator. When he accepted a Patrol Officer position with the Aurora Police Department in May of 2016, he moved back to LaSalle. On his days off he worked on the farm and became more involved in the family's operation. By the summer of 2018, Alex jumped at the opportunity to farm full time, something he truly loves, and being able to work along-side his family.

**Director 6, Jeff Cure** grew up working on his family's farm near Burlington. After graduating from Burlington High School, he received an undergraduate degree from Metropolitan State University of Denver and a law degree from the University of Denver. During his time in Denver, Jeff scheduled many of his classes at night and online to ensure he could maintain his connection to the farm while away for college.



Jeff, and his wife Sara, operate a corn and wheat farm in eastern Colorado and western Kansas. In addition to the farm, Jeff maintains a law practice and crop insurance agency. His direct involvement on the farm gives him a unique perspective when approaching matters for his farming and ranching clients.

Jeff and Sara have been blessed with six children, three boys and three girls. As natives of eastern Colorado, they have a deep appreciation for the rural way of life. They continue to be excited about the opportunity to raise a family surrounded by agriculture – to which they attribute a strong moral fiber, work ethic, and faith.

### CCAC Board

**District 3 Alternate, Andy Bartlett** is the Associate Professor of Soil and Crop Science and instructs all agronomy and precision agriculture related courses at Northeastern Junior College in Sterling. He is passionate about all things related to agriculture, especially anything agronomy and technology based. Because of his passion he is starting a precision agriculture program at NJC. Andy received his



Associates degree from Northeastern Junior College and his Bachelors and Masters of Science in Soil and Crop Science from Colorado State University. He serves on several boards including the NJC Collegiate Farm Bureau Advisor, a member of the board of directors for the Logan County Farm Bureau. He is a bookkeeper for the South Platte Ditch Company and is a deacon at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Sterling. Andy and his wife Meagan along with their son and daughter operate a farm in Merino.

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# CCGA Recent Activity

### State Legislative Update Becky Brooks

March 30, 2020 -- Wow! It has been less than three months since the 2020 Session of the Colorado General Assembly was gavelled into active status. As of March 30, 2020, the General Assembly would be at day 83 of the 120-day session.

### So, what is the current status of the legislature?

What happens to the remainder of the 550 plus bills still in the process when the GA recessed two weeks ago due to pandemic?

### The following appears to be the current status

- Both House and Senate reconvened March 30, 2020 relative to the recess motion two weeks ago.
- Neither had a quorum. Only nine members of the House answered roll call and the Senate President waved roll call and simply stated it was clear to the chair that less than eighteen members were present and therefore a quorum was not achieved.
- The General Assembly has received the ruling from the Colorado Supreme Court that will allow them, due to the declaration of a public health disaster, to reconvene only requiring them to count days worked towards the 120 day limit and not consecutively as stated in the jointly agreed upon rules.
- The General Assembly will now need to decide on how it will proceed given the supreme courts ruling, determining when to reconvene, how working days will be counted, and bills (other than the required budget and school finance act) that will be addressed.
- Currently, all bills still in the process are on hold. The Governor's office has indicated any sunset bills (Grain Handlers, Seed Handlers, etc.) will have a one-year extension and will be dealt with in the 2021 session.

Like the rest of our lives during this strange and troubling time, we are experiencing new challenges and unknown territory. Due to the extension of the "shelter in place" until April 30, 2020, there remains a limit to the number of people who can congregate.



### Randy Wenger, Public Policy Committee Chair

Colorado Corn Growers Association Public Policy Committee kicked-off the year with the Colorado General Assembly introducing 360 bills on the first day. Fast forward to March. The COVID-19 epidemic comes along and everything in the legislature has come to a halt. While the session was suspended on March 14, the committee continues to hold their weekly call (and others as needed) to stay informed and discuss how to help farmers and stakeholders in agriculture deal with what's occurring. From ensuring supply chain disruptions will be minimal to participating in town hall phone calls with elected officials to advocate for resources and tools to offset the economic impact, we've been busy.

Prior to the General Assembly Suspending the Session, CCGA was tracking 30 bills, had supported five and opposed one, and joined two coalitions.

### In Support

**HB20-1003** - Rural Jump start Zone Act Modification

**SB20-054** - Rural Development Program Creation - was postponed indefinitely.

**SB20-002** - Rural Economic Development Initiative Grant Program

**SB20-115** - Register Surplus Military Vehicle as Farm Vehicle

**SB20-132** - Surplus Military Vehicle and Emergency Vehicle

### In Opposition

**HB20-1117** - Misbranding Nonmeat and Artificial Meat

### Coalitions Joined to-date in 2020

Colorado for Responsible Pesticide Applications (CRPA)  
Coloradans Against Public Option



### Focused on Growing Leaders

January 31, 2020 - Corn farmers from across the country traveled to Washington D.C. to take part in the second phase of the annual Leadership Academy sponsored by National Corn Growers Association (NCGA). While in town, the group visited numerous congressional leaders and got an inside look at parliamentary procedure and how lobbying works on Capitol Hill.

The Leadership Academy class received briefings on the issues facing America's farmers in the coming year followed by presentations from lobbyist and Hill staffer panels explaining how the lobbying process functions in Washington, D.C. to get the best result from interaction with members of Congress and their staff. They then had the opportunity to see the process in action during a series of visits with congressional leaders.


This advanced leadership class, co-sponsored by Syngenta and now named Leadership At Its Best also met in Washington for a second session that also included intensive training and learning opportunities in Raleigh, N.C. In addition to exploring important topical briefings from a multi-organization team of staff experts, the group underwent extensive, high-level media training and met with representatives in the House and Senate. This program, which builds upon the skill set developed through Leadership Academy, has played an integral role in developing top-notch association leadership in a multi-association class that builds bonds that facilitate future success.

*"For three decades, our leadership programs have played an important role in helping corn growers become leaders at the state and national level. In Washington, our farmer leaders saw firsthand how decisions made in our nation's capital impact us all back on our farms. Using the skills developed here, these farmer-leaders' voices will benefit NCGA and all of agriculture through their current and future endeavors. NCGA will continue to invest in making our leaders the most effective they can be as they are a critical piece in keeping positive corn policies at the forefront in D.C. and state politics."*

--Kevin Ross,  
NCGA President & LAIB graduate



2020 Leadership At Its Best Group Affiliated with NCGA:  
Back row: JR Roesner (IN), Jay Reiners (NE), Randy Melvin (ND), Dave Merrell (NE), Mark Recker (IA). Front row: Mike Berget (WI) Troy Schneider (CO), Dan Wesley (NE).



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## **NCGA Leadership Programs for 2020-2021**

### **Corn Ambassadors Program**

**July 20-22, 2020 in Minneapolis, MN\***

Sponsored by Syngenta, the Corn Ambassadors program is aimed at farmers who are just becoming active in their industry or who are seeking leadership opportunities within their state corn organization. The program features practical, hands-on communications, advocacy and recruitment training. Growers new to their association, young married couples, and members who are transitioning from state collegiate corn/ag leadership programs are ideal for this program. Participants must be at least 21 years of age, active in corn farming, NCGA members and not currently serving in a state board officer position. Ideal class size is between 20-30 participants.

### **Leadership Academy**

**August 3-7, 2020 in St. Louis, MO\***

For over 30 years, the NCGA Leadership Academy has prepared corn association and checkoff grower leaders to deliver the high level of service necessary for corn associations to achieve their goals and for the corn sector to lead American agriculture. Those interested should be active CCGA/NCGA members and have not already participated in Leadership Academy or a previous Syngenta Leadership At Its Best program for another ag association.

Session 1 - Media training, transformational leadership

Session 2 - Policy briefings, working with staff/lobbyists, Hill visits: March 22-25, 2021 in Washington, D.C.

### **Women and Mentors Program (New)**

**August 6-7, 2020 in St. Louis, MO\***

This program will focus on the development of emerging and established female leaders, as well as both men and women who are interested in becoming better mentors and encouraging female leadership. State associations are encouraged to submit mentors and established and emerging female leaders to participate in the program.

### **Applications and Questions**

For further details and applications, email [kreddin@coloradocorn.com](mailto:kreddin@coloradocorn.com) as soon as possible.

**Applications for all programs are due by May 1, 2020.**

***\*Due to COVID-19, dates and locations are subject to change.***



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### Colorado Grain Corn Farmer Talks Production, Trade in Latin America

Mike Lefever -- As a member of U.S. Grains Council, I was fortunate to be part of a trade mission in January where we met with buyers and end users from Guatemala, Costa Rica, and the Dominican Republic. Latin America consists of twenty countries and 14 dependent territories. This region covers approximately 13% of the earth's land surface and has a population of 654 million people. The primary languages are Spanish and Portuguese.



U.S. Grains Council trade mission group shown meeting with Dom Osmar Benitez, Minister of Agriculture of the Dominican Republic where they discussed DDGS in detail.



Reece Cannady, Manager of Global Trade for U.S. Grains Council, presenting in Dominican Republic.

On day one our first presentation was a corn harvest quality report in Guatemala to their poultry and dairy associations, grain suppliers, feed producers, livestock producers, feed ingredients storage facilities and sanitary authorities. Later that day we had one on one meetings with

Inversiones (CMI) [www.cmi.co](http://www.cmi.co), which is the largest poultry producer in Central America with sales of over \$3 billion in USD. Their grain inventory policy is 28 days. Note: when we have issues on the Mississippi, they have to look elsewhere for feed. Makes a strong argument for updating our waterways infrastructure!

Two days after these meetings, the Guatemalans placed an overnight trade order in for 143,948 metric tons of corn! Was it because of our trip and the work by with the USGC? We'd like to think so!

In Costa Rica we gave two more corn harvest quality reports, one to Groupon Bios (poultry producer) and another to the largest dairy producer in Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Panama.

Dos Pinos has 200,000+ cows, over 93,000 are in production. They are a large buyer of US corn! Between these two companies, they import nearly 30% of Costa Rica's corn.

We met with poultry and dairy associations, feed producers, and feed ingredients storage facilities in the Dominican Republic. The group spent an afternoon with Pollo Cibao. Their production capacity is 2.4 million chickens, which is 33% of the Dominican market. They are responsible for 2700 jobs and produce a four and a half to five-pound chicken in just 36 days. They have invested over \$50 million in their operation over the past three years.

Our last meeting was with Dom Osmar Benitez, the Minister of Agriculture of the Dominican Republic where we discussed DDGS in detail. If we get a container to them, they will have an animal nutritionist from their university, and an expert from USGC conduct weight gains to determine future use. This could open a substantial market on the island! Colorado, Kansas and anyone else that would like to participate will work together with USGC for follow-up.

In summary, this was an extremely educational and eye-opening trip for me. Our customers are very educated about corn quality and were aware of America's weather issues this past year. With all the handling from the combine to the bins, to the elevator, to the rail cars or barges and to the ships ending at their final destinations, they are concerned with the potential for damaged kernels and for the possible development of mycotoxins. I believe without the work of U.S. Grains Council it would be very difficult to find new customers and retain the current ones. When an end user has questions, problems, or concerns, their go-to problem solver is the U.S. Grains Council. I am confident this trip did and will continue to move corn and DDGS for U.S. farmers!



Mike Lefever shared insights about farming along with details from the 2019/2020 U.S. Grains Corn Harvest Quality Report in Guatemala (shown above), Costa Rica and Dominican Republic. Lefever is a board director of Colorado Corn Administrative Council and National Corn Growers Association. He also serves on U.S. Grains Council Western Hemisphere Advisory Team.



### Recap: Growth Energy Leadership Conference

Growth Energy's 11th annual Leadership Conference in early February provided much needed insight, new information and networking opportunities for Colorado Corn's Kim Reddin as she digs more into her role as Director of Market Development.



Dan Sanders, Vice President of Front Range Energy in Windsor, CO is the current Chairman of Growth Energy. He is pictured with Emily Skor, CEO of Growth Energy at the 11th Annual Executive Leadership Conference February 5-8, 2020.

During her opening remarks, Growth Energy's CEO, Emily Skor shared the following, "We envision a future without barriers in the marketplace. Where infrastructure nationwide supports all ethanol blends. Where policymakers globally lean in on ethanol, embracing it as a solution to climate change. And where consumer confidence in ethanol soars to new heights."

Skor went on to say, "Politically, both parties are looking for innovative solutions that will bring us to a low-carbon solution. We are that solution. We represent the

transformational change that world leaders are seeking."

When asked about what she gleaned from the conference Reddin said, "Hearing from a number of industry experts on expanding consumer access to E15/Unleaded 88 was really valuable, and so was the conversations around a low carbon future with ethanol fuels. The real value however were the conversations I had with retailers and others in this industry working to expand access to higher blends and making sure biofuels have their rightful place in the conversations about climate solutions."



Panelists for "Looking Beyond Our Borders: Opportunities Abroad" left to right: Daniel Beltrán of Grupo Comborsa, Kristy Moore of KMoore Consulting, Kenneth Smith, Craig Willis of Growth Energy, Stephan Wittig of US Grains Council. The group shared what strides they have made to grow ethanol exports to Mexico.



"A Look 'Under The Hood'" was another great panel with Chris Carter of Under the Hood, Austin Dabney of Growth Energy, John Dodson of NASCAR, Russ Evans of Under the Hood, Shannon Nordstrom of Under the Hood, Andy Randolph of ECR Engines.



### Building Consumer Relationships

Captain Cornelius and Colorado Corn Administrative Committee partnered with La Jota Mexicana radio this winter with on-air advertising and the combination of a fun, informative video and social media (view the video at [coloradocorn.com/news-events](http://coloradocorn.com/news-events)).

Through this outreach referral traffic to the website increased by 50% compared to the previous 6-8 week period.



Captain Cornelius with La Jota radio DJ during the production of the video explaining the benefits of fueling up with E15 and to 'look for the blue hose'.

### Strengthening Industry Relationships

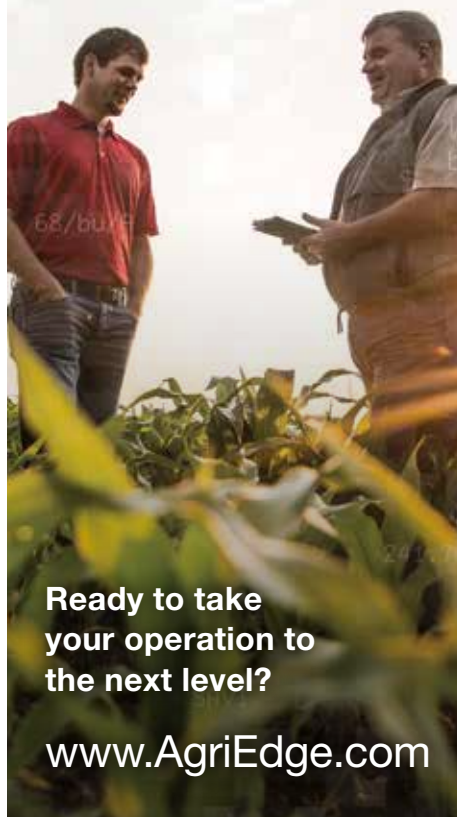
Industry relationships are vital to the strength and growth of both organizations that make up Colorado Corn – those being the growers association and the administrative committee. The Farm Show is the ideal place for connecting with those in the ag community, strengthening relationships, and building new ones.



Nick Colglazier and Lauren Ebel, enjoyed meeting members, sponsors, and stakeholders during the Colorado Farm Show.

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A well timed promotion is being launched soon and will build on the previous work done to promote ethanol in Colorado Springs in partnership with our state partners in Nebraska and Kansas and the American Lung Association's Clean Air Choice program. Stay 'tuned' for details and results from this consumer, mechanic, and c-store facing campaign.



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# Nutrient management



Nutrient management involves determining the appropriate rates, timing, source and methods of fertilizer application for crop nutrition. Taking into account the science of soil, crop, weather and hydrologic factors, nutrient management also aims to reduce nutrient loss from the field to improve profitability for the farmer, and water quality for society.

## 4Rs of Nutrient Stewardship

1 Right Source	2 Right Rate	3 Right Time	4 Right Place
Matching the right fertilizer for your crops' needs	Matching the right amount of fertilizer for your crops' needs	Making the fertilizer available when needed by the crop	Applying the fertilizer where it is available for the crop and less prone to loss

## Factors that affect nutrient management

### Soil Fertility

Use results from a soil lab to determine the current available amounts of nutrients in the soil and actively manage soil pH. Availability of certain nutrients or chemicals in the soil can impact the availability of other nutrients. Using the same lab and the same sampling points every time you test is important. Variations in test methods can affect recommendations.

### Soil Texture

How fine- or coarse-textured soil is can impact how readily a soil can retain or lose nutrients.

### Crop

Soil fertility and fertilizer needs vary by crop.

### Weather

Temperature and moisture can have large impacts on both the loss of nutrients from the soil and the availability of nutrients to a crop.

### Source

Fertilizer options can vary by region, cost, and available application equipment.


### Equipment

Available equipment can impact the best source, rates, placement, and timing for a fertilizer.

### Geographic Recommendations

Many state extension services provide local and regional recommendations for fertilizers. Some agronomists may offer recommendations based on local on-farm research.





Use results from a soil lab to determine the current available amounts of nutrients in the soil and actively manage soil pH. Availability of certain nutrients or chemicals in the soil can impact the availability of other nutrients. Using the same lab and the same sampling points every time you test is important. Variations in test methods can affect recommendations.

## Additional considerations

### Regulations

Local and state regulations may dictate the timing, source, rate, and placement of fertilizers. Reference the state-specific NRCS standard for nutrient management (590 Nutrient Management).

### Precision Agriculture (Variable Rate Technology)

Precision agriculture, or variable rate technology, provides the opportunity to manage nutrients differently for every acre. For example, it may make sense to shift fertilizer from areas that have high fertility or high risk of nutrient loss to those with low fertility and low risk of nutrient loss allowing for greater return on investment with fertilizer.

### Nutrient Management Plans

Certain geographies and livestock operations are required to establish Nutrient Management Plans which may have further restrictions on fertilizer or manure applications. Sometimes these are not required but are incentivized. They must be written by a Certified Crop Advisor registered within your state who is also a Technical Service Provider with the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service.

A grower can formulate their own Nutrient Management Plan to be organized and ready to work with their supplier. This allows the option to customize it to your operation with the option to change it as necessary. Set attainable economically minded goals for raising soil fertility in low testing fields as well as plan which fields would have the most advantage of higher fertilizer applications and which have lower requirements.

Know your national, state, and local regulations on nutrient management before making a plan and applying fertilizer. Visit [soilhealthpartnership.org](https://soilhealthpartnership.org) to learn more about soil nutrient management.



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# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 116<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 166

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2020

No. 2

## *Senate*

### RECOGNIZING ALL AMERICAN BEEF BATTALION

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the commendable actions of the group known as All American Beef Battalion, which provided an immeasurable service to our veterans, active servicemembers, and their families at Fort Carson in Colorado Springs, CO, on Veterans Day.

Bill Broadie, a veteran who was injured during the Vietnam war, was dismayed to find on his return home that anti-war protesters were not just opposed to the conflict, but actively directed their ire at troops returning from the war. After the events of September 11, 2001, Broadie—now a cattleman in Kansas—wanted to provide a service that showed the troops about to deploy into war that their service would not go unappreciated. In 2008, the All American Beef Battalion was born.

Broadie utilized his cowboy instincts to come up with an innovative way to show the appreciation he and so many American men and women feel toward these brave

servicemembers: a ribeye steak dinner for the servicemembers and their loved ones. With that purpose, the volunteers at the All American Beef Battalion have served over 400,000 people across 26 States, including my home State of Colorado, where they have hosted these dinners at least 10 times.

On November 10, 2019, they served 150 veterans and their families at the Fraternal Order of Eagles No. 143 in Colorado Springs, CO. This provided a wonderful way for these men and women to celebrate our Nation's 101st Veterans Day and, as a special treat for the former U.S. Marines present there, the 244th birthday of the U.S. Marine Corps.

Our country's military servicemembers, both veterans and Active Duty, sacrifice so much in defense of our freedoms. I am so pleased that the All American Beef Battalion has found a unique way to show these brave men and women how much we appreciate their service.

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Colorado Corn is a proud supporter of All American Beef Battalion – a volunteer organization that travels the U.S. feeding our nation's troops and their families. Join or renew your CCGA membership as a One or Three Year Freedom Member to have \$50/\$150 respectively, donated to the Steaks for Troops program.

Interested in volunteering for an upcoming steak feed?

Contact Colorado Corn at 970-351-8201 or [membership@coloradocorn.com](mailto:membership@coloradocorn.com).



## Embracing the Sustainability Conversation

**Chelsea Dinterman**

**Communications Intern, Animal Agriculture Alliance**

How will we feed 10 billion people by 2050? It's a question that was asked many times throughout the animal science courses of my undergrad. My fellow students had some go to answers: "improve technology" or "improve production practices," but the most popular answer by far was "find ways to be more sustainable."

Sustainability has been a hot topic in the news over the past few years, but for farmers, ranchers and the animal agriculture community as a whole, it's nothing new. The animal agriculture community has continuously worked to do more while using fewer resources. In the past 50 years, remarkable strides have been made in every facet of the industry. For example, in 2017, the beef industry used 19% less feed, 33% less land and 12% less water to produce a pound of beef than in 1977. Similarly, the pork industry uses 75.9% less land, 25.1% less water and has a 7.7% smaller carbon footprint than in 1960.

Despite significant advancements, animal activist groups would have you believe animal agriculture is a major driver of climate change. In the age of social media, they're experts in getting their message heard, making their relatively small voice one of the loudest. They spread misinformation and use fear-mongering to capitalize on the public's concern about the environment as a way to convince people to take meat, poultry, milk and eggs off of their plates. This negative connotation around the word "sustainability" can leave farmers and ranchers hesitant to embrace the ongoing dialogue, despite having spent decades working towards sustainable practices.

Farmers and ranchers need to embrace this conversation and continue to be transparent about how farms look and operate today and most importantly, why. U.S. farmers and ranchers lead the world in efficient practices that deliver unmatched nutrition while conserving natural resources and decreasing environmental impact. We need to share and explain those practices to consumers, restaurant/retail brand leaders and other influencers. When consumers have questions, the answers should come straight from the source. But if no one shares what they do on the farm, can we blame people for believing the misinformation animal activist groups share?

The sustainability question gives producers an opening to share the improvements being made on the farm. We're seeing more and more consumers make mindful buying decisions. They're no longer buying just for taste, but also

considering environmental impact and animal welfare. Without joining the sustainability conversation, farmers and ranchers may find animal protein products being left off consumers' plates due to confusion about their role in a healthy, balanced and sustainable diet.

Once a conversation is started, simple facts can have a powerful impact. Many consumers may not know that a gallon of milk takes 31% water, 21% less land and a 20% smaller carbon footprint than it did in 2008, or that egg producers use 32% less water, 26% less feed and have reduced their carbon footprint by 71% since 1960. Those are substantial numbers and sharing them may be the difference between animal protein products being put in the cart instead of left on the shelf.





# Making A Difference With Research

By teaming up with municipalities, businesses, universities, research facilities, and the state of Colorado, Colorado Corn Administrative Committee is continuously bringing more tools and knowledge to farmers which benefits first handlers, livestock producers, ethanol plants, and ultimately consumers. The following is a brief summary of current projects:

- Reduced Tillage and Residue management to enhance soil health and provide economic incentive for corn growers. This is the second year of data collection to evaluate no-till under furrow irrigation on the Western Slope.
- Understanding the impact of residue management and other soil practices to improve soil health and water use in irrigated corn production. Along with residue retention and reduced tillage, this project will explore how cover crops and compost additions affect soil health outcome and potential tradeoffs with water use.
- Evaluating Potassium Fertilizer Recommendations and Improving Late-season Standability. This project will explore grain yield response to changes in K soil test levels, and if K fertilizer increases late-season standability.
- Management of Hairy Galinsoga - Documentation and mapping known fields will show the extent of the problem and evaluate herbicide treatment/combinations for controlling spread resulting in the production of educational materials for use by growers and crop consultants.
- Image Classification and Analysis for Real-Time Precision Weed Management This initial research will be to develop an image classification system for weeds in crops at late-season and pre-harvest growing stages.
- Salinity Study - NEIRBO has completed its study on current and historical salinity conditions in the South Platte River. This high-level analysis provides an overall understanding of salinity within the South Platte Basin's hydrologic system. Full study is available at <https://nierbo.com>. Next steps in the project: 1) Salinity Impact on Crop Yield, 2) Irrigated Agriculture Salinity Contribution, and 3) Lower Basin Reservoir Salinity

**Total dollars invested in research projects from 2010 to 2020 = \$1,225,688**





### NWSS Cams Classroom

CAM's Classroom was a fun, and new way to connect with Stock Show visitors this year and Colorado Corn and Wheat were part of the experience. Each class time featured a lesson and activity created by educators at Colorado State University and state ag industry leaders to enhance the CSU Ag Adventure experience during the National Western Stock Show.



Kim Reddin with Colorado Corn (pictured above) and Madison Anderson with Colorado Wheat teamed up to give a lesson about all the products made from corn and wheat. Kids and parents participated by asking questions and the kids enjoyed a coloring activity. Corn and wheat also had an interactive educational display in the Hall of Education. The National Western hosts an estimated 20,000+ students, teachers, and parents each year through their School Visits Program. Over 700,000 people attend the sixteen-day event annually.

### Bennett FFA Receives Colorado Corn FFA Grant

Colorado Corn Administrative Committee is pleased to announce Bennett FFA is the 2019-2020 recipient of the Colorado Corn FFA Grant. The program assists chapters in the state with projects that lack funding within their school district's budget. Applications were accepted through November 15th.

Using a standardized evaluation process, the grant committee carefully reviewed eight applications this year. Of those, Bennett FFA's ambitious set of goals to address the needs of their growing student body stood out from the other applications. Their program goals center around an immersive agriculture education facility with a greenhouse.

Colorado Corn started the FFA grant program in 2013 and has contributed over \$25,000 to various FFA chapters across state. Colorado Corn Grant Committee Congratulates Bennett FFA and thanks every chapter who took time to apply. The 2020-2021 grant application deadline will be announced in September 2020.

### Dining with Healthcare Professionals

CommonGround volunteers Danell Kalcevic, Kelsey Pope, Colleen Peppler, Jan Kochis, Erin Barkey, state facilitator Ann Cross and Wendy White, Colorado Proud program manager, hosted a dinner for health industry professionals from several Denver area hospitals on Tuesday, February 11 at Carrabba's Italian Grill in Louisville, CO.

Adriann Pidek, Clinical Nutrition Manager at Lutheran Medical Center in Wheat Ridge, and a past attendee of the annual CommonGround dinners, contacted



Ann Cross with a request to connect the hospital personnel with the volunteer farm and ranch women to have an in depth discussion about food production related to nutrition.

The CommonGround volunteers welcomed the opportunity to share their experiences, as well as science and research, to help sort through the myths and misinformation surrounding food and farming.

Guests included the Director of Nutrition and Clinical Nutrition Manager from Lutheran Medical Center, Denver Health Director of Nutrition and Retail Manager, Sodexo Internship Regional Director and Senior Regional Manager Clinical Support, Good Samaritan Outpatient Registered Dietitian, and Children's Hospital Aurora's Internship Director.

"We look forward to following up with this group to arrange additional opportunities to keep the conversations going" said Cross.

## USGC Trade School



### U.S. Grains Council Team Visits Colorado

Thanks to Julia Debes, Katy Wyatt, and Kyle Gilliam for being in Colorado to help us host a great event with lots of valuable information and to D.C. based Floyd Gaibler, Melissa George Kessler, and Jack Custard. Thanks also to NCGA team member Lesly McNitt.



The first of several local speakers included Don Brown, past Commissioner of Colorado Agriculture and Yuma farmer. His personal stories about international trade relations were sobering and insightful.



Cheyenne McEndaffer from the U.S. Meat Export Federation, showed how exports of red meat impact Colorado agriculture.



Tanner Ehmke with CoBank presented the ag trade and economic outlook - insights to just how trade continues to shift the domestic and global marketplace.



Approximately 50 farmers and grain merchandisers from Colorado, Kansas and Nebraska attended the two half-day sessions.



# CCAC & CCGA Board of Directors

## CCAC Board of Directors

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 Jeff Cure  
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### Outreach Advisory Team

Josh Hasart  
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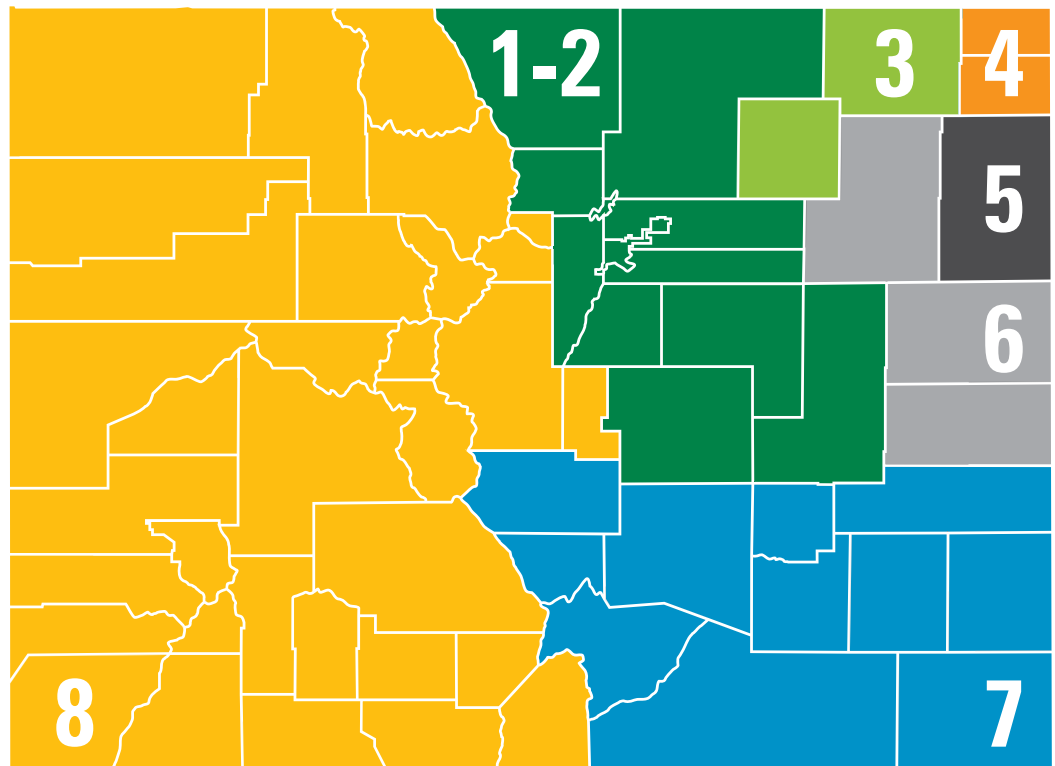
## Action Teams & Committees

### Research Action Team

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 Dave Eckhardt  
 Rod Hahn  
 Josh Hasart  
 Lanny Huston  
 Troy Schneider  
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### Market Development Action Team

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 Jessica Brophy  
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 Randy Wenger



## Impacts of the Coronavirus & Agriculture

**During this time of uncertainty, be sure to visit Colorado Corn's website for the latest COVID-19 news from an agricultural and policy perspective in Colorado and beyond. The staff and board of directors have and will continue to work with federal, state, and local officials to keep the continuity of business intact while taking into account the serious public health consequences of COVID-19.**

**For the latest news and resources please visit <https://coloradocorn.com/covid-19>**