

IOWA INSTITUTE FOR COOPERATIVES

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May 8, 2024

To: Iowa Institute for Cooperatives
Members and Affiliates

From: David Holm, Executive Director

Subject: Iowa Institute for Cooperative's
Summer Management Workshop

We will be hosting our Summer Management Workshop on Tuesday, June 25th at the Fareway Conference Center in Boone. At this workshop we host a variety of speakers who address issues and trends of current importance to assist the decision makers at your cooperative. Please share the agenda with your Board of Directors and staff and register those who would like to attend. The earlier the better but we need them no later than Friday, June 21st so we can guarantee meal counts.

We are going to start the day with Shawn Packer who is an attorney with JPH law firm based in Washington DC. Shawn spends a lot of his practice on immigration and foreign workers. Many of you have utilized guest workers primarily through the H2A program. There are a lot of discussions going on in Washington about the H2A program and Shawn is going to update you on those discussions. There are many other visa programs available for foreign guest workers and Shawn is going to walk you through your other options and choices that may actually fit your needs better than H2A's.

Our second speaker of the day is Jim Knuth. Jim is a Senior Vice President with Farm Credit Services of America. They are completing their loan renewal process and Jim is going to share what they are seeing as growers renew their loan agreements. Jim will also share some thoughts about what FCSA sees for agriculture's outlook for the next 2-3 years.

After a short break we are going to talk about biologicals. I believe we all welcome new technologies and production methods. What prompted us to add this to the agenda is the effect this could have on your agronomy departments. You all invest in assets that are intended to last 25+ years. Have you ever stopped and thought about the impact biologicals could have on your fertilizer volume. Dr. Connor Sible is a post-doctoral scientist at the University of Illinois. His research has focused on plant growth, biologicals and bio stimulants. He is going to share his thoughts on the impact these new tools may have on your retail agronomy business.

After a full morning, we are going to take a break for lunch.

Our first presenters after lunch are Kent Hartwig and Travis Deppe with Gevo. Gevo is a startup company that is working on producing Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF). That's interesting but why would you care about that? They are going to need you to produce corn and soybeans with a lower

Carbon Intensity score so that their final product maximizes value to their customers. There have been volumes written about CI scores and while the guidelines and rules are just starting to be published the first crop that will be eligible to participate is the crop you are growing this summer. I think we all need to get a better grasp on the impact this could have on cooperatives and your members.

No farm bill, a presidential election coming up, disrupted supply chains, inflation still driving up wages and inflated interest rates. Things may have settled down post-pandemic but there is no shortage of external events that are affecting our lives every day. Dr. Bobby Martens, the IIC Endowed Professor at Iowa State University is going to try and make some sense out of all of this and give you some insight into what might be around the corner for our economy.

This is a full day of information that will impact your cooperative and the members you serve.

Please share this letter with your Board of Directors and leadership team to determine who would like to attend. Fill out the enclosed registration form and return it as soon as you can but no later than Friday, June 21st.

The Fareway Conference Center is part of the Cobblestone Inn and Suites and is located at 1900 Lakewood Drive in Boone. It is located on the south side of Hwy 30.

We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, June 25th and if you have any questions don't hesitate to contact us.

As always, thank you for your support and membership, we do value it.

Sincerely,

Dave Holm
Executive Director

Agenda

Summer Management Workshop

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

Fareway Conference Center at Cobblestone Inn and Suites

1900 Lakewood Drive, Boone, IA

8:30 - 9:00 **Registration and coffee and donuts**

9:00 - 10:00 **Update on use of foreign guest workers**
Shawn Packer, JPH Law

10:00 - 11:00 **Status of farmers finances**
Jim Knuth – FCSA

11:00 - 11:15 **Break**

11:15 - 12:15 **What is the future of biologicals in crop production**
Dr. Connor Sible, University of Illinois

12:15 - 1:00 **Lunch**

1:00 - 2:30 **What is the latest on a CI score and why do I care**
Kent Hartwig and Travis Deppe, GEVO

2:30 - 2:45 **Break**

2:45 - 3:45 **Latest Economic Update**
Dr. Bobby Martens, Iowa State University

3:45 - 4:00 **Closing Comments & Adjourn**

REGISTRATION FORM

2024 Summer Director/Management Workshop

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

Fareway Conference Center at Cobblestone Inn & Suites

1900 Lakewood Dr. Boone, IA

Cooperative Name: _____

Cooperative Town: _____

**Please list the names of people who will be attending.
Managers, Directors, and Staff Members are all invited.**

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**Registration Fee is \$295 per person if sending 1-4 persons.
Registration Fee is \$250 per person if sending 5 or more persons.**

To register, please email to info@iowainstitute.coop; then mail a copy with your check by Friday, June 14, 2024 to:

**Iowa Institute for Cooperatives
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