

# Forage Feed

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**IFGC News**  
 It is that time of year for IFGC **membership application or renewal**. 2008 dues should be sent by December 31 to.. Illinois Forage & Grassland Council P.O. Box 233 Greenville, IL 62246  
 The IFGC **2008 Forage Institute** will be held on February 26 at the Holiday Inn, Mt. Vernon, IL. Future issues of *Forage Feed* will contain program agenda and pre-registration details.  
 IFGC had an informational and membership booth at the **2007 Farm Progress Show** held August 28-30 at Decatur, IL. A thank you goes to all the IFGC board members and members for staffing the exhibit during the event.

**NWIFGC Hay Auctions**  
 The Northwestern Illinois Forage and Grassland Council is hosting their hay and straw auctions at the Orangeville Boco MiniMart parking lot, located on Route 26 about twelve miles north of Freeport, IL. Auctions are scheduled for the 2nd and 4th Saturday's of the month and began on October 26 with the last auction scheduled for April 26. Consignments should arrive by 10:30 am. It is preferred, but not required, that hay lots have a certified scale ticket on the day of the auction. This will allow hay to be sold by the ton rather than by the bale. Straw is typically not weighed and is sold by the bale.

Quality tested hay is encouraged. Hay analysis will not be provided on site. There is no consignment fee for members of the Northwest Illinois Forage and Grassland Council. Non-members are charged \$10 which is collected prior to the auction start. B & M Hay Auctions will retain a 6% commission fee from the sale proceeds and 3% for no sale lots. A skid loader is available at the sale site for loading/unloading sale lots.

Auction questions can be directed to Jim McNeil, B & M Hay Auctions, 608-938-4822 or 608-293-9999 or to Don Brown, Jr. 815-238-8372.

**Important Dates**

- January 26-31, 2008, Joint Annual Conference of American Forage & Grassland Council and Society for Range Management, Louisville, KY [www.rangelands.org/events.shtml](http://www.rangelands.org/events.shtml)
- February 26, 2008, Illinois Forage Institute, Holiday Inn, Mt. Vernon, IL



Scott Jones, Midwest Grass & Forage, Industry IL and IFGC board member (left) visiting with Dick Dickerson, retired NRCS state agronomist at the IFGC booth at the Farm Progress Show.

## Report from the 2007 Illinois Forage Expo, September 6, Shelby County

by Dale Baird, University of Illinois, Crop Systems extension educator

The 2007 Illinois Forage Expo was held on September 6 and hosted by the Prescott Frost Farm in Shelby County. The Frost operation consists of 150 head beef cow/calf operation utilizing certified organic pasture and alfalfa hay acres. The operation's goal is to market certified organic beef in the future.

Attendance was influenced by the competing corn and soybean harvest but those who took the opportunity to attend took home some ideas to implement into their forage operation.

There were four educational sessions that varied from *Developing a Marketing Plan for Organic Commodities* to *Forage Production APH & GRP Insurance*. Also, the tour of the Frost beef and forage operation was well attended.

The weather did not cooperate to allow any equipment field demonstrations as the site



Prescott Wilbur, Forage Expo host, describing his operation on the Farm Tour

experienced several showers during the day. However, there were nearly 30 commercial exhibitors ranging from forage equipment dealers to seed dealers to educational organizations. A popular activity of the day was the *Hay Evaluation Contest*, where

participants had the opportunity to evaluate two classes of hay (four hay samples per class) based only on their visual observations. The classes included an alfalfa class and a mixed grass/legume class. Official rankings were based on NIR analysis. Nearly thirty participants entered the contest and the top five placing individuals were...

- 1st Glen LeDuc, Edwardsville, IL
- 2nd David Schaefer, Beecher City, IL
- 3rd Harold Frailey, Beecher City, IL
- 4th Elva Chupp, Humbolt, IL
- 5th Andy Miller, Arthur, IL



Michael Bandy, staff member, American Forage and Grassland Council, presented an AFGC Update at the Forage Expo

A special thanks for planning the event with the Forage Expo host goes to Ellen Trainor, U of I Extension, Shelby County; Amy Rochkes, Shelby County Farm Bureau and Roger Staff, USDA NRCS and IFGC board member.

The Illinois Forage Expo was co-sponsored by... Illinois Forage & Grassland Council

University of Illinois Extension

Shelby County Farm Bureau

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Moultrie County Soil & Water Conservation District

Illinois Grasslands Conservation Initiative

USDA Risk Management Agency

## 2007 IFGC Corporate Members

There are ten 2007 IFGC corporate members which are listed below. Many of the corporate members were exhibitors at the February 2007 *Forage Institute* and/or the September 2007 *Forage Expo*. Beginning with this issue of *Forage Feed*, several corporate members will be highlighted in each newsletter throughout the coming year.

Ag Structures, Georgetown, IL  
Chris Kirschner, 888-281-9337  
<http://www.agstructures.com>

Agri-King, Fulton, IL  
Ron Atherton, 815-589-2525  
<http://www.agriking.com/>

Byron Seeds, Dongola, IL  
Ernest Weaver, 800-801-3596

Farm Credit Services of Illinois, Bloomington, IL  
Rod Stoll, 800-327-2141  
<http://www.usfarmcredit.com/>

Growmark, Bloomington, IL  
David Gentry, 309-557-6397  
<http://www.growmark.com/>

Illinois Farm Bureau, Bloomington, IL  
Tamara White, 309-557-3112  
<http://www.ilfb.org/>

McGill Fence & Equipment, McLeansboro, IL  
Del McGill, 618-643-5027  
<http://mcgillfence.com/>

National Trail Enterprises, Jewett, IL  
George Holsapple, 217-821-5105  
NationalTrail@mmtenet.com

Pennington Seeds, Greenfield, MO  
Justin Burns, Greenfield, MO  
417-825-3672,  
JustinBurns@penningtonseed.com

Pirok Big Bale Feeder, Highland, IL  
Henry Pirok, 618-644-5853

### Ag Structures

806 North Main Street  
Georgetown, IL 61846  
Vermillion County  
Toll Free: 1-888-281-9337  
<http://www.agstructures.com>

AgStructures.com, a division of International Greenhouse Company, makes shopping for hoop barns and fabric tension buildings convenient for potential customers. Their online farm store has a comprehensive selection of Span Tech hoop buildings, wide trussed fabric buildings, livestock feeders, livestock drinkers, farm structure heating, cooling and arch building supplies.

### Agri-King, Inc.

Box 208  
Fulton, IL 61252  
Whiteside County  
Toll Free: 1-800-435-9560  
<http://www.agriking.com>

Agri-King's philosophy is to help the livestock producer get the most out of each pound of feed and each head of livestock through accurate, precise feed analyses and ration formulation. Agri-King's lab offers nutritional analysis of grains, forages and TMRs. Also, mineral and mycotoxin assays are available. Additional services include ration formulation, livestock nutrition consultation and silage additives.

### Byron Seeds

665 Moscow Road  
Dongola, IL 62926  
Union County  
Toll Free: 800-801-3596

Byron Seeds offers a wide range of forage seed varieties for potential customers including alfalfa, numerous common Illinois cool season grasses, pea mixes, sorghum/sudans, forage chicory, clovers, trefoils, small grains, brassicas and many others including Barenburg mixes.

## IFGC & AFGC Membership

This article addresses some of the differences in membership to Illinois Forage and Grassland Council (IFGC) versus American Forage and Grassland Council (AFGC). IFGC is a state affiliate council of AFGC, the national organization. IFGC members and 25 other state affiliate council members comprise the vast majority of AFGC membership. The new AFGC office, located in Elmhurst Illinois, will annually mail out *some* AFGC renewal membership forms but only to members that had not been previously affiliated with any state council. AFGC membership options include *Individual Members* for \$30; *Sustaining Members* at \$100; and *Corporate Members* at \$500 and more. AFGC membership forms can be accessed at <http://www.afgc.org>

IFGC membership options, available at <http://www.illinoisforage.org/>, include an *IFGC Individual Membership* for \$25 which includes membership to AFGC or an *IFGC Corporate Membership* for \$200 which includes an individual (not corporate) membership to AFGC and complimentary exhibit space at the Illinois Forage Institute and Illinois Forage Expo. Simply stated, an IFGC membership also includes individual membership with AFGC, HOWEVER, a membership paid and sent directly to AFGC by an individual or business does not cover IFGC dues and membership.

The Northwestern Illinois Forage & Grassland Council (\$30 membership dues per year) and the Western Illinois Forage & Grassland Council (\$25 membership dues per year) are affiliate councils of IFGC. Their dues include individual membership to their respective local council, IFGC and AFGC. The structure here is from the bottom up so to speak. If available, dues are paid at the local area *Council* first and include IFGC and AFGC dues as well.

Membership application and dues should be returned to **IFGC, P.O. Box 233, Greenville, IL 62246**. Also, please indicate if you are a renewal member for either the ***Northwestern Illinois Forage & Grassland Council*** or the ***Western Illinois Forage & Grassland***

**Council.** If you have any questions about membership please contact any of the IFGC board officers for clarification. Thank you for your support of the Illinois forage industry!

Roger Staff  
IFGC Co-Secretary/Treasurer  
618-664-3590 Ext.3

## Upcoming Events

**January 7-8, 2008: Heart of America Grazing Conference, Holiday Inn Select Columbia, MO**

<http://www.uky.edu/Ag/Forage/>

**January 26-31, 2008: Joint Society for Range Management & American Forage & Grassland Council Annual Meeting and Conference, The Galt House, Louisville, KY.**

Early registration, \$200, for AFGC members due by December 14. Registration of \$250 due by December 28. Conference registration at

<http://www.rangelands.org/events.shtml>

**February 4-5, 2008: National Alfalfa Symposium, Ramada Inn & Conference Center, Kearney NE**

The symposium will include presentations on alfalfa research, production and marketing by university researches, growers and industry personnel. Early registration is \$100 and due by December 31. Conference registration and agenda is available at <http://hayandforage.com/alfalfasyposium/> or call 1-800-722-5334, ext 14695

**February 5-6, 2008: Mid-America Alfalfa Expo, Buffalo County Fairgrounds, Kearney, NE**

Expo expects over 100 commercial exhibitors. Further information available at <http://alfalfaexpo.com/> or call 1-800-743-1649

**February 26, 2008: Illinois Forage Institute, Holiday Inn, Mt. Vernon, IL**

**2008 Illinois Forage and Grassland Council Award Nominations**

**NOMINATIONS DUE JANUARY 18, 2008 to**

**Jim Morrison**

**Rockford Extension Center, 417 Ware Avenue, Suite 102, Rockford, IL 61107-6412**

**Phone: 815-397-7714 Fax: 815-397-8620 Email: morrison@uiuc.edu**

(Winners to be recognized during the 2008 Illinois Forage Institute.

Current IFGC officers and board members are not eligible.)

***Outstanding Producer Award***

Presented to an individual producer (major source of income derived from use of land for forage) who has been outstanding in the production, harvesting, storage, utilization, and/or marketing of quality forages in Illinois.

***Outstanding Education/Government Award***

Presented to an individual (employed by an educational institution, US government, or agency) who has demonstrated exceptional service and leadership to Illinois forage.

***Outstanding Industry Award***

Presented to a company or individual representative of a company that has demonstrated outstanding commitment, interest, support, and assistance to the Illinois forage industry.

**----- Nomination Form -----**

Award \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee Name, Address, Phone, Title and Affiliation (if appropriate): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Briefly describe, on **an attached sheet**, why the individual deserves the specific award. This could include:

- a description of the forage operation including comments on management practices, innovations, etc.
- a description of significant contributions/accomplishments in forage agriculture.
- a description of major involvement in forage agriculture on a local, state, or national level.

Nominator Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation, Address, Phone, and Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Illinois Forage & Grassland Council**  
**P.O. Box 233**  
**Greenville, IL 62246**

**IFGC**

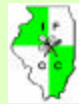
Phone: (618) 664-3590 ext 3  
 Fax: (618) 664-3958

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Contributions for future *Forage Feed* issues or requests to receive future issues electronically can be emailed or mailed to the editor.



The mission of the Illinois Forage and Grassland Council is to provide the framework that unites industry, producers, and educational/governmental institutions for the production, marketing, and wise use of forages and grasslands.

## 2007 IFGC Officers and Board

### 2007 IFGC Officers

President (Industry)	<b>Ron Atherton</b> Office (800) 435-9560 Ron. Atherton@agriking.com
Vice President (Producer)	<b>Don Brown Jr.</b> (815) 865-5471 don.brownjr@yahoo.com
Co-Secretary/ Treasurer (Edu/Gov)	<b>Jerry Millburg</b> Office (888) 458-4787 Jerry.Millburg@usda.gov
	<b>Roger Staff</b> (618) 664-3590, ext 3 Roger.Staff@il.usda.gov
Past President (Edu/Gov)	<b>Dean Oswald</b> Office (309) 836-2265 oswaldd@uiuc.edu

### Board of Directors

### Terms

Producers	<b>Beau Byington</b> (630) 364-6568	2006— Feb 2009
	<b>Jim Burrus</b> (217) 886-2552	2007— Feb 2010
	<b>David Schaefer</b> (618) 487-5565	2007— Feb 2010
Edu/Gov	<b>Zane Schneider</b> (618) 644-3621	2006— Feb 2008
	<b>Matt Bunger</b> (309) 452-0830	2006— Feb 2009
	<b>Frank Ireland</b> (618) 695-2442	2007— Feb 2010
	<b>Jim Morrison</b> (815) 397-7714	2004— Feb 2008
Industry	<b>Dale Baird</b> (815) 397-7714	2006 — Feb 2009
	<b>Brad Halbrook</b> (217) 774-4794	2007— Feb 2010
	<b>Kevin Schwarz</b> (618) 594-7646	2006— Feb 2008
	<b>Scott Jones</b> (309) 254-3556	2005— Feb 2008

Check out IFGC's web site at  
[www.illinoisforage.org](http://www.illinoisforage.org)