



2012 Issues Forum Topics

ORGANIZATION: American Farm Bureau Federation

SPOKESPERSON:

- **Mary Kay Thatcher**, Senior Director, Congressional Relations

TOPICS:

- Farm Bill

SPOKESPERSON:

- **Don Parrish**, Senior Director Regulator Relations

TOPICS:

- Clean Water Act

Media Contact: Tracy Grondine

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ORGANIZATION: American Farmland Trust

SPOKESPERSON(S):

- **Jon Scholl**, President
- **Kitty Smith**, VP of Programs & Chief Economist
- **Mitch Hunter**, Federal Policy Manager
- **Michele Wells**, Wells Communications
- **Dave Juday**, The Juday Group

TOPICS:

- The state of the farm bill based on the latest intelligence from the Hill.
- Conservation compliance (particularly as it relates to crop insurance).
- Conservation program funding and streamlining/consolidation.
- Policy options to promote farmland protection and improve the cost-effectiveness of the conservation title.

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ORGANIZATION: American Seed Trade Association

SPOKESPERSON(S):

- **Leslie Cahill**, ASTA vice president of Government affairs

- **Ric Dunkle**, ASTA senior director of seed health and trade
- **Bernice Slutsky**, ASTA vice president of science and international affairs

TOPICS:

- The latest in the seed industry
 - As an industry, how is technology changing things?
 - What is ASTA pushing for?
 - What's the unique nature of the seed industry?
- Seed Treatments
 - How are seed treatments changing the industry?
 - What do farmers need to know about seed treatments?
 - How should leftover treated seed be disposed of?
- National Plant Germplasm System (NPGS)
 - What is the National Plant Germplasm System?
 - Why is it important?
- Refuge-In-the-Bag
 - What's refuge-in-the-bag designed to do?
 - Is it working?
 - Who benefits from this product?

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ORGANIZATION: American Sugar Alliance

SPOKESPERSON(S):

- **Luther Markwart**, Chairman
- **Paul Cummins**, Communications Coordinator

TOPICS:

- A review of the current sugar policy and prospects for the 2012 Farm Bill.

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ORGANIZATION: Animal Agriculture Alliance

SPOKESPERSON(S):

- **Kay Johnson Smith**, President and CEO
- **Sarah Hubbard**, Communications Director

TOPICS:

- Animal welfare on today's farms
- Activist attacks on agriculture
- Agriculture education and outreach
- College Aggies Online scholarship competition
- Farm and facility security recommendations
- International animal welfare guidelines

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ORGANIZATION: Corn Refiners Association

SPOKESPERSON:

- **Audrae Erickson**, President

TOPICS:

- Importance of conveying the positive story of food and agriculture to consumers/High Fructose Corn Syrup – “Sugar is Sugar” Educational Campaign
- International trade and its benefits for the corn refining industry

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ORGANIZATION: CropLife America

SPOKESPERSON(S):

- **Jay Vroom**, President & CEO
- **Mary Emma Young**, Manager of Media & Member Communications

TOPICS:

- Key regulatory issues having an impact on crop protection industry and growers across the

country

- Clean Water Act and Endangered Species Act

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ORGANIZATION: Farm Credit Administration

SPOKESPERSON:

- **Leland A. Strom**, Chairman & CEO

TOPICS:

- Farm Bill from the lender's perspective
- Confidence in the Financial Services Industry – CFTC Rulemaking on Derivatives and Fallout from MF Global
- CoBank merger and prospects for future mergers of Farm Credit System institutions
- Land Prices
- Volatility in Commodity Markets

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ORGANIZATION: Growth Energy

SPOKESPERSON(S):

- **Jim Nussle**, President & COO
- **Darren Johnson**, Communications Assistant
- **Hillary Price**, Public Affairs Associate

TOPICS:

- E15
- RFS
- Ethanol Infrastructure

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ORGANIZATION: Koch Agronomic Services

SPOKESPERSON(S):

- **Dr. Greg Schwab**, Director of Agronomy
- **Tom Snipes**, Vice President of Commercial Operations

TOPICS:

- Managing for weather variability in 2012: Planning for the unpredictable can be profitable.
 - Where Nitrogen stabilizers add value
 - When N rescue treatments make sense
 - The need for speed in the event of weather-delayed field activity
- Raising awareness of how nitrogen is lost: Survey of third party experts with this season's take on the weather's impact and what are the greatest loss factors

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ORGANIZATION: National Biodiesel Board

SPOKESPERSON:

- **Ben Evans**, Director of Federal Communications

TOPICS:

- The positive benefits that biodiesel brings to farm communities and the economy at large.
 - 40,000 jobs
 - Displacing an equivalent amount of petroleum diesel,
 - Reducing U.S. dependence on imported petroleum and
 - Reducing tailpipe emissions including greenhouse gases.
- Critical policy issues impacting biodiesel's ability to continue this growth and momentum.
 - Pending Obama Administration decision on whether to increase the biodiesel volume requirement under the Renewable Fuel Standard next year,
 - The inability of Congress to extend the biodiesel tax incentive since its expiration on Dec. 31, 2011, and several provisions in the farm bill that help advance biodiesel innovation and market awareness.

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ORGANIZATION: National Cattlemen's Beef Association

SPOKESPERSON:

- **Colin Woodall**, Vice President of Government Affairs

TOPICS:

- Country of Origin Labeling
- UEP/HSUS Agreement
- Beef Safety
- Farm Bill

SPOKESPERSON:

- **Kent Bacus**, Associate Director of Legislative Affairs

TOPICS:

- Estate Tax
- Transportation
- Exports

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ORGANIZATION: National Corn Growers Association

SPOKESPERSON(S):

- **Janice Walters**, Communications Manager
- **Jon Doggett**, VP of Public Policy
- **Sam Willett**, Senior Director of Public Policy
- **Sarah Gallo**, Director of Public Policy
- **Rod Snyder**, Director of Public Policy
- **Elizabeth Jones**, Director of Public Policy

TOPICS:

- Farm Bill
- Water quality
- RFS
- Trade and Biotechnology

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ORGANIZATION: National Council of Farmer Cooperatives

SPOKESPERSON(S):

- **Chuck Conner**, President & CEO
- **Justin Darisse**, Communications Director

TOPICS:

- Farm bill
- Year of the Farmer Co-op
- Regulatory reform initiative

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ORGANIZATION: National Farmers Union

SPOKESPERSON(S):

- **Roger Johnson**, President
- **Tony Jarboe**, Communications Coordinator

TOPICS:

- 2012 Farm Bill
- Market-Driven Inventory System (MDIS)

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ORGANIZATION: National Milk Producers Federation

SPOKESPERSON(S):

- **Christopher Galen**, Sr. VP, Communications

TOPICS:

- Dairy policy and the Farm Bill
- Milk price outlook for the remainder of 2012

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ORGANIZATION: National Pork Producers Council

SPOKESPERSON:

- **Nick Giordano**, VP and International Trade Counsel

TOPICS:

- Trans-Pacific Partnership, Russia

SPOKESPERSON:

- **Chris Wall**, Asst. VP, Government Relations

TOPICS:

- Egg Bill
- 2012 Farm Bill

SPOKESPERSON:

- **Dr. Liz Wagstrom**, Chief Veterinarian

TOPICS:

- Antibiotics, Comprehensive Disease Surveillance

SPOKESPERSON:

- **Michael Formica**, Environmental Counsel

TOPICS:

- Clean Air and Water Rules

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ORGANIZATION: Renewable Fuels Association

SPOKESPERSON(S):

- **Bob Dineen**, President & CEO
- **Matt Hartwig**, Chief of Staff

TOPICS:

- E15 Implementation
- Renewable Fuels Standard
- Cellulosic Tax Incentives
- Open Fuel Standard

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ORGANIZATION: The Fertilizer Institute

SPOKESPERSON(S):

- **Kathy Mathers**, VP, Public Affairs
- **Lara Moody**, Director of Stewardship Programs



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TOPICS:

- The 4 “R’s” of Nutrient Stewardship
- Get Recognized! 4R Farmer Awards Program
- Spring Fertilizer Supply and Demand

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ORGANIZATION: U.S. Grains Council

SPOKESPERSON(S):

- **Rebecca Bratter**, Vice President of International Operations
- **Erick Erickson**, Director of Planning and Programs
- **Floyd Gaibler**, Director of Trade Policy

TOPICS:

- Commodity Trading with the Embryonic Giant China
- Future of Food and Agriculture in East Asia: USGC Food 2040 Report
- Rising Global Competition: The Fight for Market Share
- The Budget Train Wreck: Eating the Seed Corn?
- India as Corn Importer. How Soon?

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ORGANIZATION: U.S. Wheat Industry

SPOKESPERSON(S):

- **Dana Peterson**, CEO, NAWG
- **Jane DeMarchi**, Dir. for Government Affairs for Research & Technology
- **Mark Gaede**, Dir. of Government Affairs, Environmental Policy, NAWG
- **Melissa George Kessler**, Dir. of Communications, NAWG
- **Shannon Schlecht**, Dir. of Policy, U.S. Wheat Associates
- **Steve Mercer**, Dir. Of Communications, U.S. Wheat Associates
- **Julia Debes**, Communications Specialist

TOPICS:

- Farm Bill
- Research Funding
- Environmental Regulation
- Export Market Development
- World Wheat Situation

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ORGANIZATION: United Soybean Board/Soy Checkoff

SPOKESPERSON:

- **Vanessa Kummer**, United Soybean Board Chair, Soybean farmer from Colfax, ND.

TOPICS:

- The soy checkoff works to ensure that our industry and its customers have the freedom and infrastructure to operate.
- Research has proven the sustainability performance of U.S. soy production.

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