



For Sale: 117+ acres, Shabbona Rd, 5 miles south of Shabbona, PI=137.2; 12.7 ac CRP@ \$333/ac.



“Your Farmland Specialists”

Eric K Manges-Managing Broker, 630-730-2975

Craig D. Mann-Broker, 815-592-6266

3939 Garnette Ct, Naperville, IL 60564

RECENT LAND SALES:

Feb '20, DeKalb Co, Afton Twp, Elva Rd, Sec 17, 160 Ac, \$10,500/Ac. PI=143.4 \$76.56/PI

Feb '20, DeKalb Co, South Grove Twp, Mowers Road, Sec 17, 40.5 Ac, \$9,752/Ac. PI=139.8 \$70.63/PI

Mar '20, DeKalb Co, Milan Twp, Tower Rd, Sec 29,30, 344.72 Ac, \$9,891/Ac. PI=137 \$72.43/PI

Mar '20, DeKalb Co, Milan Twp, McGirr Rd, Sec 26, 129.95 Ac, \$10,700/Ac. PI=140 \$76.99/PI

Class A farms. PI range=137-143.4. Price per PI range: \$70.63 to \$76.99 per PI. Median: \$74.50/PI

Sustainability in Agriculture:

I have written a few articles on Sustainability in Agriculture over the past few months. It is a hot topic in virtually all industries, and perhaps especially in agriculture.

This is a consumer driven topic. Why? Consumers want to know that they are purchasing food that helps the environment, improves their health, and improves the livelihood of all involved in the food production process.

What are the criteria for measuring sustainability? Enter ESG- the environmental, social and governance factors affecting the company and being effected by the company. When we first hear sustainability, we think of environmental: climate change, carbon emission, green products, air and water pollution and biodiversity. These are certainly high priority in many consumers minds. And, they are most directly connected to farmers as we are constantly interacting with our environment and want to improve it.

But, consumers are also concerned with social issues. These may include labor standards, employee engagement, pay and development, diversity and inclusion, and community relations. How is the company treating employees? How is the company improving the community?

Governance asks the questions of how does the company comply with regulations? Does it clearly respect and honor local and state laws, statutes and regulations? Is management clear on their legal and moral obligations? Is management willing to monitor, measure and report performance?

Companies in all industries are setting goals to meet these ESG standards and communicate them to consumers. Ag companies are no exception, and to some extent agriculture is higher visibility due to our direct effects on the land, water, soil and environment.

Sustainability in Agriculture, cont'd:

Does this ESG affect farmers? YES! First, if farmers are involved with food production, the food companies want their producers to meet their principles. In some cases, they have exclusive, identified producers and promote this move.

Second, there is a new coalition of farmland owners, managers and operators established as Leading Harvest.org. They have established 13 ESG principles to be applied to all of their farmland properties. These will affect all of their farmer tenants. To date they have enrolled over 2 million acres into their program.

These principles include 7 involving the environment: protection of water, crops; energy use, air quality and climate change; waste & material management; biodiversity to name a few.

They also include principles involving employees, farm labor; local communities; and legal & regulatory compliance. In addition to establishing these principles they will require 3rd party auditors to monitor progress.

So, yes sustainability is coming to the farm. While many farmers may already meet such principles, it will soon be necessary to report, audit and communicate those successes to landowners, vendors and their communities.

Source: Leading Harvest.org; AgWeb

Check us out at: www.mangesrealtyinc.com
or www.manges.land

Shameless Purdue plug:

A Purdue University team has discovered a material derived from crustacean shells that may provide a new option for powering medical sensors, phone screens and other devices.

The material is chitosan-an abundant natural biopolymer from marine crustacean shells-to create triboelectric nanogenerators (TENGs). TENGs help conserve mechanical energy and turn it into power. The chitosan-based TENGs present efficient energy conversion performance and tunable biodegradation rate.

Assistant Professor Wenzhuo Wu, Purdue College of Engineering, said, "We have taken an innovative approach to using typically wasted shell material and turned it into functional, self-powered devices."

Professor Wu said the technology can be useful for medical sensors to monitor the activity of the heart or brain, or to help with touchscreen technologies on medical devices or cellphones. It also has applications for virtual and augmented reality technologies, as this innovation can detect body movement and turn the mechanical energy into electrical energy.

Another amazing innovation coming out of our land grant Universities!

Source: Purdue University Newsletter

"Arctic" Apples Coming to a Store Near You

After a decade of research and development, Okanagan Specialty Fruits Inc, Summerland, British Columbia recently exhibited their "Arctic" apple slices at the PMA Foodservice show.

Arctic apples are genetically engineered apples that exhibit a nonbrowning trait that offers a key benefit to the food service industry. They have a 28-day shelf life, compared to 18- to 21-day average in the industry. This allows fresh-cut slices to have multiple uses for food service operators.

The company estimates Arctic production at 8 million pounds for 2019-20 season, with additional production coming for 2020-21 season.

For the scientists: Apples naturally contain chemicals known as polyphenols that can react with oxygen in the air to cause browning. This reaction occurs with the help of polyphenol oxidase (PPO) enzymes, which bring polyphenols and oxygen together. When apples are cut, the structures are broken allowing the PPOs to interact with polyphenols and oxygen to drive the browning.

To develop the Arctic apple, scientists created an anti-PPO gene that destroys the PPO RNA before it can be used to make PPO enzymes. The first Arctic apple varieties created were Golden Delicious and Granny Smith. Both widely used for apple slice packs in food service.

To date, the Arctic apples are only being sold sliced in 40-ounce packs to food service or 2-ounce packs to retailers. However, as new varieties come into production whole apples may be coming to retailers.

New varieties coming into production include Fuji and Gala. These varieties are very popular in retail markets and mostly sold as whole apples.

As may be anticipated, some anti-GMO groups continue to protest the approval of Arctic apples. However, the National Academies of Science has found no convincing evidence the GE crops have negatively impacted human health or the environment.

Source: "The Packer", 08/14/2019; Okanagan website, Allison Baker, Harvard University, 01/15/18

"LIFE ON THE FARM" By Eric Manges

Time to Show (and Tell) our Faith

Wow! We thought 2019 was an "interesting" year! Now, 2020 started with a nation-wide economic shutdown. Hopefully we will not try to make this year even more "interesting". But, in any case we are faced with even more questions and challenges so far.

These last weeks of quarantining, social distancing and self-isolation have been a major adjustment in peoples lives. Being faced with a real pandemic has caused many to question their faith in God. Where is God in all of this pandemic and even death? How should we react to the new rules of isolation? When and how will this pandemic end?

For Christians, this is a prime time to show others our faith in God. We know God is near to us in all situations. He didn't promise easy, but He did promise forever. So, when those around us are worried, depressed and anxious we can assure them.

Recently, a friend sent a reference to Luke 19:40. As Jesus was riding into Jerusalem and to his death on the cross, his disciples were proclaiming the glory of the LORD! The local church leaders wanted Jesus to rebuke his disciples. This was his response: "I tell you, if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."

Many around us need this news. They are craving answers, desperate for comfort and hope. They need the faith and hope in eternal life through Jesus Christ. May we all have the confidence to share this good news to those around us.