



13750 S. Sedona Parkway, Ste 5  
Lansing, MI 48906

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Contact: Jody Pollok-Newsom  
Phone: (517) 668-2676

### **Michigan Corn Growers Get Revved Up for Ethanol**

LANSING, MICH. – A crowd of more than 1,000 corn growers and industry supporters gathered at the Michigan Corn Growers Association (MCGA) 2011 Ethanol Night at the Races on Sept. 9, at Dixie Motor Speedway in Birch Run. Ethanol Night at the Races, a yearly highlight for MCGA members, is a way for the MCGA to promote the use of ethanol while combining great food, fellowship and a full night of racing.

“Ethanol Night at the Races is a great outlet for us to showcase the many uses for ethanol,” said Jeff Sandborn, MCGA president and corn grower from Portland. “We can’t think of a better place to celebrate Michigan’s ethanol accomplishments than at Ethanol Night at the Races.”

“With ethanol blends becoming more and more available in our state and across the country, Ethanol Night at the Races is the perfect way for us to highlight the advantages of using ethanol-blended fuels, while also thanking our members for their support during the past year,” explained Sandborn. “This event is an exciting way to showcase how agriculture can help consumers lessen our dependence on foreign oil and improve our environment through increased ethanol usage.”

In addition to learning about ethanol’s performance capabilities in race cars and watching MCGA board member Don Morse’s ethanol-powered car race during the night’s feature event, MCGA members also had the opportunity to examine many other ethanol-powered projects. On display for the night’s festivities were Kettering University’s ethanol-powered snowmobile and formula car. Representatives from the organization were also on-site for the event to talk with attendees about their projects and the benefits of ethanol.

Ethanol Night at the Races is truly a member’s event and two MCGA members who always go the extra mile in assisting with this event are Mark Bauer, a Pioneer seed dealer from Reese, and Don Morse, who in addition to being an MCGA board member, Saginaw County Corn Growers Association president and a Birch Run corn grower, is also a Pioneer seed dealer. Mark and Don are instrumental in the event as they and the corn growers of Saginaw County work diligently every year to help host the dinner. “We are so lucky to have Don, Mark and the other corn growers in Saginaw County and we can’t express enough how grateful we are for all that they do,” said Jody Pollok-Newsom, MCGA executive director. “Without them, Ethanol Night at the Races would not be possible.”

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The MCGA would also like to thank the sponsors of the event who are key in helping to make this event so successful. The 2011 sponsors of Ethanol Night at the Races included ADM Grain Company; The Andersons Albion Ethanol, LLC; Carbon Green BioEnergy; Crop Production Services; Don Morse, a corn grower and Pioneer Representative; The Fraleigh Law Firm; Great Lakes Hybrids; Greenstone Farm Credit Services; Growers National Cooperative; Mark Bauer, a corn grower and Pioneer Representative; Michigan Agri-Systems; Pioneer Hi-Bred International; Poet Biorefining; Tri County Equipment; and Weiss Equipment.

Headquartered in Lansing, the CPM is a legislatively-established statewide program that utilizes one-cent per bushel of Michigan corn sold. Investments are made in the areas of research, education, market development, and new uses in an effort to enhance the economic position of Michigan corn farmers. The CPM works cooperatively with the Michigan Corn Growers Association (MCGA), a grassroots-membership association representing the state's corn grower's political interests since the 1970's. Michigan's corn industry adds more than one billion dollars to the state's economy annually and in 2010, Michigan's corn farmers harvested a record setting crop of more than 315 million bushels.. For more information, visit the website of the MCGA and the CPM at [www.micorn.org](http://www.micorn.org).

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