



For Immediate Release
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Michigan's Corn Farmers Have the Chance to Get Involved

DEWITT, MICH. – Have you ever wanted to help set the tone for the state's corn check-off program? Are you interested in discovering new uses and new markets for the corn you grow every year? Now is the time to act, as the Corn Marketing Program of Michigan (CMPM) has three open board positions.

Established under P.A. 232 of 1965, and voted in by the state's corn farmers in 1992, the CMPM receives one penny per bushel for all field corn grown in Michigan and sold. The check-off funding is invested in research, market development, education, and new uses. The nine-member, governor appointed board of directors sets the yearly direction of the check-off program. Board terms are staggered, and each year, three board positions are up for appointment. Michigan is divided into nine districts based on corn production. Each district is represented by a corn farmer from that area.

A board member is selected from each of the established CMPM districts. The CMPM is looking for representatives from the following districts:

- District 5 – Eaton, Ingham, Ionia, and Jackson Counties
- District 6 – Clinton, Genesee, Shiawassee and Tuscola Counties
- District 9 – Arenac, Gladwin, Isabella, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo and all counties north.

Those interested in the board positions may contact the CMPM office for a petition to apply for the board. The petition must be signed by 50 farmers within the applicant's district and returned to the CMPM office by 5 p.m. on January 13. All applicants must grow corn within their district. Two nominations for each district will be submitted to the governor. If two applicants for each district are not received by January 13, nominations for the position will be secured during lunch at the following meetings:

- February 5 – (District 9) – Corn and Soybean Research Meeting, Kelly's Venture Inn, 3090 US 23S, Roger City
- February 15 – (District 5) – Corn and Soybean Research Meeting, Haynes Farm, 474 S. Onondaga Road, Mason
- February 18 – (District 6) – Clinton Co. Progressive Farmers Meeting, Smith Hall, 819 West Park Street, St. Johns

(more)

When two candidates are secured for each open district, each candidate must complete an application and return it to the CPM office. The completed paperwork is then forwarded to the Governor's office for appointments to be made. Corn farmers who have any additional questions, or would like more information, may contact the CPM office toll free at 1-888-323-6601.

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 growers' political interests. For more information on the CPM and the MCGA, visit the web site at www.micorn.org.

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