

For Immediate Release
November 6, 2009

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New Officer Elected for the Corn Marketing Program of Michigan

LANSING, MICH. – The Corn Marketing Program of Michigan (CMPM) board of directors elected their new slate of officers to lead the organization throughout the upcoming year.

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.

Of that nine-member board, the following corn farmers serve on the executive committee:

- Clark Gerstacker of Midland serves as President
- Brian Kreps of Temperance serves as Vice President
- Mark Kies of Allen serves as Treasurer
- Richard Dobbins of Concord is the newly elected Secretary

"I am honored to once again, be elected President of the Corn Marketing Program of Michigan," said Gerstacker, who is also serving in his second term on the National Corn Board. "During the past year, the CMPM has accomplished a great deal, including dispelling the myths surrounding corn and ethanol by spreading 'kernels of truth'; funding research that could improve current production techniques and efficiencies or create a new market or usage for Michigan's corn crop; and helping to educate the state's consumers regarding new corn-based products such as plastics, fabrics, carpet, salt substitutes and ethanol. Throughout the next year, the CMPM will continue busting the myths about corn and ethanol and continue striving to keep corn production a viable industry in Michigan. This is a very exciting time to be involved in the Corn industry and I look forward to continuing in my leadership role with the CMPM."

"The new officers and the entire board are looking forward to directing the CMPM during the next year," added Kreps. "The organization will continue working to improve opportunities for Michigan's corn industry through our research program, educational activities and market development."

Headquartered in Lansing, the CMPM 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 CMPM works cooperatively with the Michigan Corn Growers Association (MCGA), a grassroots-membership association representing the state's corn grower's political interests. For more information on the CMPM and the MCGA, visit the web site at www.micorn.org.

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