



# Rooster Ag'

Farmland Real Estate

Farm Management

Federal Crop Insurance & Farm Appraisal Services

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## A Family Owned Company

## February 2020



### Seed to Table

While in Florida over the Holidays on our way home from dinner one night, we saw a store named "Seed to Table," a grocery store of epic proportions owned by a farming entity called "Oakes Farms" based out of Naples. This place was hopping. We had to go in to check it out. As we walked in, we were in the produce section which was stacked with fruits and vegetables, it was unbelievable. Then, we noticed music playing, patrons walking around drinking beer and wine from the multiple stations with bars and tastings throughout. Seafood like I had never seen. A bakery, sushi, pasta bar and even a guacamole bar. I was in awe. I had to wonder, "is this the future of Agriculture and is it truly **Seed to Table**? Can we find a way to skip the middleman and produce products from our **Seed** to the end users' **Table**? Or, maybe own our factories which are owned and operated by a consortium of growers?" If you get a chance, check out their website at [www.oakesfarms.com](http://www.oakesfarms.com) and let me know your thoughts on this futuristic approach to Agriculture and the ability to go from **Seed to Table**.



### A New Era

As we begin the **New Era** of the next decade, I want to reflect on how different things have become over the last few decades. A lot has changed since I graduated high school in 1980. We didn't have cell phones, unlimited internet access or the ability to contact any person at any time. I asked my youngest son the other day if he could imagine life without the internet or his iPhone... he could not! Fast-forward 40 years and here we are with over **1.6 million** farmers using YouTube, **1.5 million** farmers on Facebook, **25%** of farmers on Instagram and **17%** of farmers on Twitter. It is of no question our information source has changed and we all have adapted to this **New Era** that continues to change daily. As we begin the new decade, we are making plans to adapt even further into today's social media platforms to connect with farmers, land owners and investors on a different level. This **New Era** is bringing to light how important it is to use social media to connect with this diverse group, because the numbers don't lie, social media is the place to be in this decade.



**Over 51% or 1.6 million farmers are using YouTube today to gain knowledge and to see what other farmers are up to.** A great account to follow is the Millennial Farmer. He has over 400 thousand subscribers and shows the every day side of farming as a 5th generation farmer.



**One of the easiest ways to connect is Facebook. 46% of farmers in America are on Facebook, which is about 1.5 million farmers in total.** Facebook is easy to post on with both text, photo, and video.



**Instagram is growing in the farming community every day.** With over 25% of farmers on Instagram, it proves to be a great way to connect with a younger generation of the farming community. A great account to follow on Instagram is @modfarm.



**The least popular social media with farmers is Twitter.** Just because it is the least popular, doesn't mean it isn't used. Over 17% of farmers are on Twitter, which still makes it a great resource to connect with our future farmers, landowners and investors.

# ~ Weather Almanac ~

## by Meteorologist Frank Watson



### February Weather Outlook

Temperatures are favored to average colder than normal. Precipitation is expected to total above normal. For the most part the first half of the month should be fairly quiet. A passing snow is favored on Groundhog Day, February 2, and light snows are possible on February 4, 5, 8 and 10. Prospects for snow increase on February 14 and 15th. The second half of the month looks more active. Chances increase for a large precipitation event on February 19 and 20. Clouds with passing snows will linger from February 21 to 24. Expect sun from February 25 to 27. Clouds and passing snow is favored on February 28-29.



### Weather Trivia

***"CLIMATE IS WHAT WE EXPECT,  
WEATHER IS WHAT WE GET."***

The solar year is approximately six hours longer than the calendar year, which is why February must gain an extra day every four years. The extra date in February is called Leap Year with February 2020 having 29 days.

### February Astronomy Calendar

February will offer improving planet viewing opportunities, especially in the morning hours as Mars, Jupiter and Saturn will be out before sunrise. Venus will be the planet with the best viewing in the evening hours.

**The first Quarter moon is Saturday, February 1.**

**Mercury** rises after the sun and is lost in the sun's glare. You might be able to catch Mercury setting in the southwest sky after sunset to start the month. As we get deeper in the month viewing opportunities decrease.

**Venus** rises after sunrise and will be viewable in the evening hours in the southwest skies after sunset. Look for the waxing crescent moon below Venus on Wednesday, February 26.

**The moon is Full on Sunday, February 9.**

**Mars** will be viewable before sunrise in the southeast sky. A waning crescent moon will be next to Mars on Tuesday, February 18.

**The last Quarter moon is Saturday, February 15.**

**Jupiter** will be rising before sunrise and will be viewable throughout the month 1-2 hours before sunrise. Look for a waning crescent moon to the right of Jupiter on Wednesday, February 19.

**The moon is New on Sunday, February 23.**

**Saturn** will come into view about mid month just before sunrise. It will be the lowest of the three planets in the southeast sky of Mars, Jupiter and Saturn. Look for a waning crescent moon to the right of Jupiter on Thursday, February 20.

**Morning Planets:** Mars, Jupiter, Saturn (dawn)

**Evening Planets:** Mercury (dusk), Venus, Uranus, Neptune (dusk)

### Future Weather Outlook

March is expected to experience warmer than normal temperatures.

**Precipitation** is expected to total above normal. Favored dates for heavier precipitation center on March 3, 4, 9, 13, 14, 15, 16, 22, 23, 25, 27, and 31.



### Long-Range Weather Outlook

**April** expect colder than normal temperatures with near normal precipitation.

**May** expect warmer than normal temperatures with below normal precipitation.

**June** expect above normal temperatures with wetter normal precipitation.

**July** outlook favors above than normal temperatures and above normal precipitation.

**August** outlook favors warmer than normal temperatures and above normal precipitation.




Weather projections, features and facts created by Bruce Watson for our **Weather Almanac** are presented as scientific guidelines as to what we might expect over a large area of the Midwest, as well as our part of the state and general service area.

The "Normals" appearing on the back page are provided for the particular counties we serve and reflect the average high and low temperatures, plus average amount of sunshine and precipitation experienced week to week in the area over the past 170 years.

Frank Watson utilizes a model that Bruce Watson specially designed, based on weather observations that much more clearly represent our local climate than do shorter, 30-year National Weather Service averages. These figures draw on the long history of systematic observations begun by the U.S. Army in 1817.



# Northern Illinois Ag' Center

A Rooster Ag' Company 

***"Where work gets done!"***

**www.niac.farm**

1100 S. County Line Rd. Maple Park, IL 60151

## NIAC Spotlight

### Juna Schmitt

**Marketing/ Admin. Director**



Helllo! My name is Juna, and I am taking over things at the front desk, as well as doing Rooster's marketing. I moved to Illinois from Iowa after getting my Bachelor's degree in advertising from Drake University in Des Moines. I have worked in retail, data management and a bunch of other little places in the past few years, but am excited to finally settle

down here at Rooster Ag'. When I'm not here at the desk, I am working out, binge-watching shows on Hulu, or hanging out with my puppy. I currently live in Plainfield (but looking to relocate!!) with my boyfriend, Josh, and our 9-month old pup, Archie— who I am obsessed with. I learned *so much* in my time at Drake and had so many opportunities to work on all different aspects of marketing. I got to run social media accounts, teach other students how to use Adobe software, create comprehensive campaigns for local non-profits, craft strategies, write copy... the list truly never ends. I look forward to using my experience to push out some digital campaigns, work on Rooster's website and make the NIAC the place-to-be for those in the agribusiness here in Illinois. Stop by and say hi!

### All About You

The Northern Illinois Ag' Center was created for *you*. We know that nowadays no one wants to leave the comfort of their own home, and that everything can be done online. However, Rooster Ag' and the rest of the NIAC tenants want to create a personal relationship with each and every one of you.

The doors are open, the energy is high, and everyone is ready and willing to sit down over a cup of coffee and discuss whatever it is you're looking for.

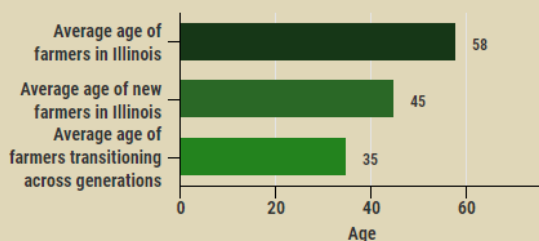
Currently, the NIAC houses Wade Law, Thorn Creek Insurance, Clifton Larsen Allen Accounting, Michelle Conklin Photography, Advance Trading Inc., Northern Bank and Trust, and Rooster Ag'. Rooster Ag' offers a variety of services such as Farm Real Estate, Farm Management, Farmland Appraisals and Crop Insurance. When you stop in to the Northern Illinois Ag' Center **you are bound to leave with more than you showed up with.**

If we don't have what you're looking for, let us know! We are always looking to expand our tenants and have a few offices open and ready to lease, but we want to make sure everyone here has something they can offer you.

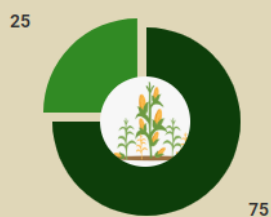
It's all about you here at the Northern Illinois Ag' Center, so tell us what you want, so we can try and get it for you.

Please email [Juna@RoosterAg.com](mailto:Juna@RoosterAg.com) with any suggestions.

### Average Age of Farmers



### Percent of farmland vs. Non-Farmland in Illinois



● Farmland in Illinois ● Non-farmland in Illinois

### Who is really farming in Illinois?



**90%**  
of Illinois farms are still family farms.



**30%**  
of farmers in Illinois are women.



**10.6%**  
of farmers in Illinois are under age 35.

## FARMLAND FOR SALE

**Winnebago County—Pecatonica Twp—697± acres/633± tillable acres.** Located north of Pecatonica, IL with road frontage along Pecatonica Road, Brick School Road & Green Road. Good soil quality, with well maintained waterways/drainage. **\$8,900 per acre**

**Henry County—Kewanee Twp—1,787 ± acres/1,273 tillable acres.** Known to be one of the largest contiguous tracts of land for sale in Illinois. Income generated by both the farm rent and CRP program. At ask price the farm kicks off a 3.5% ROI. **\$5,375.25 per acre.**

**DeKalb County—Paw Paw Twp—246.22± acres/222.00± tillable acres.** Located off Chicago Road on the DeKalb/Lee County line. Good soils with a soil PI of 131.20. **\$8,000 per acre**

**Kendall County—Seward Twp—180.00±/173.04 tillable acres.** Excellent location off County Line Road, just south of Route 52 in Minooka, IL. Mostly Tillable! Divisible via multiple configurations! **\$8,611 per acre**

**Kendall County—Little Rock Twp—101± acres/95± tillable acres.** Excellent location off Little Rock Road & Griswold Springs Road in Plano, IL. Adjacent to Walmart! **\$9,950 per acre**

**Kane County—Blackberry Twp—46.29± acres/34.61± tillable acres.** Excellent location off Finley Road & Scott Road just south west of Route 47 & the new I88 interchange. **\$990,000.00**

**DeKalb County—Milan Twp—117.36± acres/115.58± tillable acres:** Located at the intersection of Keslinger & Tower Rd. 98% Tillable, with 115.58 tillable acres of good soils and an average PI of 132. **\$9,450 per acre.**

**McHenry County—Dorr Twp—92.33± acres/73.53± tillable acres.** Excellent location off McConnell Road in Woodstock, IL. Farm to Future Development Potential. **Price Reduced to \$7,750 per acre**

**Henry County—Grafton Twp—61.94± acres/38.38± tillable acres:** Situated between Route 47 & S. Union Road just north of Huntley, IL. Excellent Hunting property for Whitetail & Waterfowl. Hunting/Recreational/Farming Property! **\$425,000.00**

### RECENT COMPARABLE FARMLAND SALES/CLOSE

| Date  | County | Twtnshp  | Acres | Price/Acre | Date  | County  | Twtnshp  | Acres | Price/Acre |
|-------|--------|----------|-------|------------|-------|---------|----------|-------|------------|
| 12/19 | Boone  | Bonus    | 201.0 | \$9,000    | 12/19 | LaSalle | Richland | 232.0 | \$9,000    |
| 11/19 | DeKalb | Franklin | 221.0 | \$9,725    | 12/19 | LaSalle | Adams    | 120.0 | \$9,750    |
| 12/19 | DeKalb | Sandwich | 205.0 | \$10,999   | 11/19 | Lee     | Wyoming  | 160.0 | \$9,135    |
| 10/19 | Kane   | Virgil   | 184.0 | \$8,040    | 10/19 | Lee     | Wyoming  | 190.0 | \$10,449   |
| 11/19 | Kane   | Campton  | 123.0 | \$10,600   | 11/19 | Ogle    | Flagg    | 115.0 | \$9,986    |

*The sales reported are randomly chosen from the most recent issue of the Illinois Land Sales Bulletin, a bi-monthly report on farmland sales of 20 acres or greater. This data is obtained from the transfer declarations recorded at 90+ courthouses around the state. Subscriptions are available by*



\*\*\* Denotes Sales by Rooster Ag'

visiting [www.ilsb.us](http://www.ilsb.us) or calling 608-543-3125.



**Rooster Ag'**  
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**When snow falls,  
nature listens.**



## NORMALS FOR THE MONTH

| JAN. 26 TO FEB. 1         | FEB. 2 TO 8               | FEB. 9 TO 15              | FEB. 16 TO 22             | FEB. 23 TO 29             |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| AVG. HIGH..... <b>30</b>  | AVG. HIGH..... <b>30</b>  | AVG. HIGH..... <b>29</b>  | AVG. HIGH..... <b>29</b>  | AVG. HIGH..... <b>29</b>  |
| AVG. LOW..... <b>11</b>   | AVG. LOW..... <b>12</b>   | AVG. LOW..... <b>10</b>   | AVG. LOW..... <b>10</b>   | AVG. LOW..... <b>10</b>   |
| SUNSHINE..... <b>54</b>   | SUNSHINE..... <b>49</b>   | SUNSHINE..... <b>47</b>   | SUNSHINE..... <b>52</b>   | SUNSHINE..... <b>52</b>   |
| % DAYLIGHT HOURS          | % DAYLIGHT HOURS          | % DAYLIGHT HOURS          | % DAYLIGHT HOURS          | % DAYLIGHT HOURS          |
| Precipitation <b>0.42</b> | Precipitation <b>0.42</b> | Precipitation <b>0.38</b> | Precipitation <b>0.35</b> | Precipitation <b>0.35</b> |