# farmdocdally LIVE | Coronavirus and Ag Farm Policy, Farm Incomes, and Upcoming Management Decisions

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#### **Jonathan Coppess**

**Nick Paulson** 

**Gary Schnitkey** 



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## What do you expect farm income on crop farms in Illinois to be in 2020 relative to 2019?

Include MFP-like and CFAP program payments in your expectations.

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- O Increase significantly
- O Increase
- O Remain the same
- O Decrease
- O Decrease significantly

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# **Agricultural Policy Now**

## **Jonathan Coppess**



# **Estimated Outlays for Farmers; Near-Term (CBO)**

Outlays by Program and Fiscal Year (CBO March 2020)



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## **CARES Act**



https://farmdocdaily.illinois.edu/2020/04/reviewing-usda-funding-in-the-cares-act.html

## The CARES Act

enacted March 27, 2020 (total \$2T)

 ✓ \$9.5 billion for producers, specifically specialty crops, local food & farmers market producers, livestock and dairy

## ✓ \$14b CCC reimbursement applicable after June 2020 report

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# **Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP)**

## Producer Assistance; CFAP-USDA (Reported)



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https://farmdocdaily.illinois.edu/2020/04/payments-or-purchases-questions-for-usda-on-priorities-in-a-pandemic.html

# House (May 12, 2020): HEROES Act

Livestock • Assistance for losses for depopulation (85% first 30 days) • \$300m for animal disease & Poultry • \$500m for direct donation of dairy products Dairy • \$500m for loans to dairy processors Supplemental dairy margin coverage payments • \$100m for grants to states to help specialty crop farmers Specialty \$50m for grants to local ag market entities crops, • \$50m for training and outreach, beginning, disadvantaged, etc. etc. • \$28m grants for farm stress assistance programs

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# House (May 12, 2020): HEROES Act

| Biofuels &<br>Cotton users      | <ul> <li>Payments at \$0.45 per gallon produced Jan 1 to May 1<br/>(or 50% of 2019 if none produced)</li> <li>\$0.06 per pound for cotton consumed</li> </ul>   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Direct payments<br>to producers | <ul> <li>\$16.5 billion for CFAP</li> <li>85% of 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter "actual losses" for CFAP commodities</li> <li>85% of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter "actual losses" for non-CFAP commodities.</li> </ul> |
| CCC                             | <ul> <li>Changes for powers to aid in livestock/poultry disposal<br/>and for supply chain issues;</li> <li>Notification on spending</li> </ul>  |
| Conservation                    | <ul> <li>Soil health program: 5m acres at \$70 per acre and up to \$30 per acre for<br/>putting cropland (3 years production) into soil conserving use for 3 years.</li> </ul>  |

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# House (May 12, 2020): HEROES Act

Enhanced • \$25m for meat, dairy, poultry projects for or specialty crop harvesting-packaging-donation (to states) donated foods To programs for emergency food assistance, seniors farmers' Added flexibility markets and native American reservations programs. • Increase in benefits using 115% of the 2019 thrifty food plan SNAP \$300m for admin costs in 2020 and 2021 FY; blocks USDA rules.

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## Summary: Potential Assistance to Farmers, 2019 Crop

**Overview of Assistance to Farmers: MFP and Covid-19 Proposed** 



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C/PLC (CBO) farmdoc MFP payments on 2019 production averaged about \$70 per acre in Illinois. What are your expectations for 2020 payments from MFP-like and CFAP programs in 2020?

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○ Over \$100 per acre

- O Between \$50 and \$100 per acre
- O Between \$25 and \$50 per acre
- O Less than \$25 per acre



# Agricultural Policy Innovations: Recent Past and Next Year

## **Nick Paulson**

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# **Existing Farm Safety Net**

## **Commodity Title**

- ARC/PLC
  - Multi-year adjustments to ARC guarantees
  - Fixed price floor for PLC
  - Base acres
- MAL
  - Actual production

## **Crop Insurance**

- Fixed coverage level options
- Annual adjustments to guarantees

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Planted acres

Farm Bill programs debated by Congress and in place during life of current legislation

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# **Existing Farm Safety Net - Corn**

## **Commodity Title**

#### **Marketing Year Average Price - Corn** \$7.00 \$6.89 \$6.00 \$5.29 \$5.00 \$4.00 \$3.70 \$3.00 2010 2011 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019\* 2020\* 2012

## **Crop Insurance**



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# **Existing Farm Safety Net - Soybeans**

## **Commodity Title**



## **Crop Insurance**



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## Trade Wars, and Flooding, and Pandemics, Oh My!

- 2018
  - MFP payments
  - Good yields
- 2019
  - MFP payments
  - Prevent plant "top up"

- 2020
  - CARES Act
     CFAP
    - PPP, EIDL
  - House HEROES Act
- 2021 and beyond?

## ad hoc programs authorized by the Administration, run through USDA

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# **Operator and Land Returns, Central Illinois**



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What do you expect MFP and CFAP-like payments to be in 2021?

- O Continue over \$50 per acre
- O Between \$0 and \$50 per acre

 I do not expect a continuation of these program in 2021





# Returns, Cash Rents, and Management Decisions in 2021

## **Gary Schnitkey**

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## Corn and Soybeans, Central Illinois, High-Productivity

|                                  | Corn   |        |        | S      | Soybeans |        |  |  |
|----------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------|--------|--|--|
|                                  | 2018   | 2019   | 2020P  | 2018   | 2019     | 2020P  |  |  |
| Yield per acre                   | 237    | 208    | 215    | 75     | 64       | 68     |  |  |
| Price per bu                     | \$3.60 | \$3.55 | \$3.20 | \$9.36 | \$8.55   | \$8.20 |  |  |
| Crop revenue                     | 853    | 738    | 688    | 702    | 547      | 558    |  |  |
| ARC/PLC                          | 0      | 10     | 30     | 0      | 10       | 30     |  |  |
| MFP                              | 1      | 82     | 0      | 122    | 82       | 0      |  |  |
| CFAP                             |        | 20     | 80     | 0      | 20       | 80     |  |  |
| Crop insurance                   | 2      | 10     | 0      | 2      | 10       | 0      |  |  |
| Gross revenue                    | 856    | 860    | 798    | 826    | 669      | 668    |  |  |
| Total non-land costs             | 574    | 606    | 571    | 353    | 372      | 359    |  |  |
| <b>Operator and land return</b>  | 282    | 254    | 227    | 473    | 297      | 309    |  |  |
| Cash rent                        | 274    | 275    | 275    | 274    | 275      | 275    |  |  |
| Farmer return                    | 8      | -21    | -48    | 199    | 22       | 34     |  |  |
| NOIS<br>ral & Consumer Economics |        |        |        |        |          |        |  |  |

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- 2019 farm return has been lowered because of lower prices
- Built into budgets is \$100 of CFAP payments, \$20 for 2019 crop and \$80 for 2020. Those are not for certain
- Overall lower returns for 2019 and 2020, lower income

# Added 2021 Budgets (no MFP or CFAP)

|                          | Com    |        |        |        | Soybeans |        |               |              |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------|--------|---------------|--------------|
|                          | 2018   | 2019   | 2020P  | 2021P  | 2018     | 2019   | 2020P         | <b>2021P</b> |
| Yield per acre           | 237    | 208    | 215    | 217    | 75       | 64     | 68            | 68           |
| Price per bu             | \$3.60 | \$3.55 | \$3.20 | \$3.40 | \$9.36   | \$8.55 | <b>\$8.20</b> | \$8.30       |
| Crop revenue             | 853    | 738    | 688    | 738    | 702      | 547    | <b>558</b>    | <b>564</b>   |
| ARC/PLC                  | 0      | 10     | 30     | 20     | 0        | 10     | 30            | 20           |
| MFP                      | 1      | 82     | 0      | 0      | 122      | 82     | 0             | 0            |
| CFAP                     |        | 20     | 80     | 0      | 0        | 20     | 80            | 0            |
| Crop insurance           | 2      | 10     | 0      | 0      | 2        | 10     | 0             | 0            |
| Gross revenue            | 856    | 860    | 798    | 758    | 826      | 669    | 668           | 584          |
| Total non-land costs     | 574    | 606    | 571    | 571    | 353      | 372    | 359           | 359          |
| Operator and land return | 282    | 254    | 227    | 187    | 473      | 297    | 309           | 225          |
| Cash rent                | 274    | 275    | 275    | 275    | 274      | 275    | 275           | 275          |
| Farmer return            | 8      | -21    | -48    | -88    | 199      | 22     | 34            | -50          |
|                          |        |        |        |        |          |        |               |              |

- A bit higher prices
- No additional payments (after the election)
- Much lower returns

# Cash Rents for 2021

- Be very careful in setting 2021 cash rents Consider that there may not be MFP, CFAP payments in 2021
- Evaluate price prospects at the end of the summer If futures markets suggesting low \$3 and low \$8 soybeans cash prices for 2021, lower cash rents or use a variable cash rent
- If use a cash rent

Build clause in for cash rent levels with and without additional MFP and CFAP payments in 2021



## Advice

With additional government aid (more than currently announced Coronavirus Food Assistance Program), most crop farms will be "ok" (not great, not without financial losses) at the end of 2020. 2021 is the question

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- Consider planting soybeans on "switchable" acres
- Consider the PPP and EIDL program, conserve all working capital
- Start marketing remaining 2019 crop
- Adjust 2020 crop marketing goals to lower prices
- Danger point: Setting cash rents for 2021

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# **Upcoming Webinars**

## What is the Outlook for the Ethanol Industry Going Forward? 11:00 to 11:45am CT, Tuesday May 19<sup>th</sup>

The ethanol production industry has been severely impacted by demand destruction caused by coronavirus restrictions. The purpose of this webinar is to examine the financial damage done to the industry and the outlook for recovery through the end of 2020. Scott Irwin and Todd Hubbs of the farmdoc team will be joined by Eric Moseby, General Manager of Lincolnland Agri-Energy in Palestine, Illinois to discuss these issues.

## **Coronavirus and The Pork Industry: Perspectives from The Maschhoffs** 11:00 to 11:45am CT, Friday May 22<sup>nd</sup> (Last Webinar of the Series)

Bradley Wolter, CEO of The Maschhoffs, will share his perspectives on the impacts that Carnivorous has had on the pork industry, with discussion on human resource, pig health, and supplier issues. Gary Schnitkey will provide an economic update as well as background on recent trends in the pork industry.

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# **Thank You for joining us! Please submit your questions**

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| Setting the Stage<br>March 17th, 2020   | Lessons from Infectious Disease<br>and Livestock<br>Watch Video<br>Watch Video<br>Constructions<br>Match 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| Rural Economy Stimulus: CARES<br>and PPP Funding<br>Thursday, April 16th, 2020 at 1:30 CST  | Getting the 2020 Crop Planted<br>April 17th, 2020   | The Impact of the Coronavirus<br>Pandemic on Food Prices and<br>Retail Food Sector  | Gardner Policy Group<br>April 24th, 2020   |

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