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Crop report will answer questions, extension economist says

The USDA's first Crop Report of the season, to be released today, should answer many questions concerning crop marketing, according to a local expert.

Dr. Darrel Good, University of Illinois Department of Agriculture professor and extension economist, addressed approximately 50 area farmers at a marketing seminar Friday.

The seminar was sponsored by Demeter Inc. and the Hoopeston Public Library.

The 1996 growing season has done a role reversal of 1995, Good said. Last year, the corn crop "fell apart late in the growing year," while beans showed a "fairly strong domestic demand and a weak export demand."

This year, overall corn yields should be "a respectable crop" although Good said there are "clearly some problem areas" nationwide.

Beans, on the other hand, will be short. "There are

problems with this late-planted crop really reaching its potential," he said.

Early bean estimates will be the highest of the season. "My guess is whatever the number is on Monday, the crop will be less at harvest," he said.

Experts estimate Monday's report will reflect 2 to 2.25 billion bushels of beans, but "we're going to come up a bit short" with "2.2 or smaller on this year's crop," Good said.

The shortage may result in a rationing mode later in the year. A smaller bean crop, combined with reductions in rapeseed, sunseed and cottonseed harvests may have a significant effect on the market.

Exports could drain the supply further, as China may figure into the equation. That country has purchased South American beans but "is not yet on the books for the new U.S. crops," Good said. "It looks like they may be a factor in things."

See CROP on other side

Briefly

Music Booster winners

Winners in the Hoopeston Area Music Booster calendar drawing are: Aug. 12, Vickie Ellis, Rankin; Aug. 13, Ross and Diane Swartz, Wellington; Aug. 14, Ralph Woods, Niles; Aug. 15, Robert King, Hoopeston; Aug. 16, Mary Kay Swim, Hoopeston.

Multi Agency van, activity schedule

This week's schedule for the Hoopeston Multi Agency senior van is: Monday, Hoopeston shuttle; Tuesday, Lincoln Mall or Kankakee Mall (leave at 8 a.m.); Wednesday, Danville; Thursday, Hoopeston shuttle (Senior Luncheon), Cissna Park dinner theater (leave 5:30 p.m.) Friday, Danville.

To make reservations or for more information, call the Multi Agency at (217) 283-5544.

Activities at the center include Monday, ladies bridge, 12:30 p.m.; Wednesday, community potluck, 11:30 a.m., with Chalmers Flint as featured speaker; Thursday, men's coffee, 9 a.m.; men's euchre, 12:30 p.m.; Friday, unemployed discount program, 1-3 p.m.

Bowling meeting scheduled

A Classic meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 23 at Parkview Lanes. All interested people are urged to attend or call Doug Wagoner at (217) 28306541 or Mike Dean, 283-9608.

Fragrant candle of the week
Yankee's "Sunflower"
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VEHICLES FOR SALE

1987 Nissan pickup truck, \$2,200. Call (217) 283-6147 or see at 711 E. Lincoln, Hoopeston.

Having a rummage sale?
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Police News



A **key ring** with seven keys was turned in Friday at the police station.

The owner may identify and claim it there.

A **white 1986** Chevrolet with license plate GGR548 was towed Saturday from the Coffee Cup on Route 1. The car was taken to Knuth's.

A **boy's mountain bike** was found Saturday at the football field.

The owner may identify and claim it at the police station.

Alvin R. Lovell, 17, of #36 Parkview Court, was arrested Saturday. Lovell faces preliminary charges

Crop continued from other side

Other factors in the picture include a five percent increase in palm oil production and the possibility for a bumper bean crop in South America, especially Brazil.

Prices, Good said, will be well supported. "It's hard to see prices going below \$7," he said, adding the average will probably be \$7.50 with periods of \$8 and \$8.50. "I'm not ready to say \$9 yet," Good said, adding if rationing comes to pass, farmers may see \$9 beans.

Good warned that there could be a long term downside to the market, although "it's hard to see anything in the short term that will do that.

"The thing that could put the brakes on soybeans is if south America has the kind of year they're predicting and if next year's weather here is good," he said.

Regarding corn, Good said he agrees with private estimates putting the harvest at 9 to 9.1 billion

of criminal trespass to property and battery.

He was arrested on a complaint from Cyndi R. Houston, #24 Parkview Court, who alleged Lovell forced his way into her home and struck a boy who was baby-sitting her children.

Lovell went to the police station at 3:15 p.m., when he was given a notice to appear.

Robert L. Clayburn, 24, of 321 W. Main, was arrested at 2:16 a.m. Sunday on a Vermilion County warrant for failure to appear for a status check.

Clayburn was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville in lieu of \$3,000 bond, 10 percent to

bushels, with yields of about 124 bushels, compared with 113.5 last year.

And while approximately 60 percent of the crop is listed at good to excellent, "when you start looking at individual states, the numbers start jumping all over the place," he said.

For example, southeastern states have seen their numbers drop, while Ohio has stabilized on the low end and Illinois and Indiana numbers are on the rise.

The average cash price will be under \$3, as the crop enters "a new plateau," Good said. The old plateau of \$2.30 could increase by 25 to 35 cents, he said. Corn will follow the lead of wheat and cotton, with high prices followed by long-term decline. However, "I don't see the bottom falling out of the corn market," he said.

Worldwide, Good sees "a very robust demand situation," especially on the domestic scene.

Internationally, "western Europe, Canada, China and the former Soviet Union all have the potential for larger crops" which may result in weaker exports, he said.

Weather



Mostly sunny and warmer today. High in the mid 80s. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low in the mid 60s. Tomorrow, isolated thunderstorms. High near 85, low near 65.

Last Week's Power Tools
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Black & Decker Jig Saws			
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Makita Finishing Sander			
w/dust bag	\$49.99	\$45	\$40.50
Makita 7/4" Circular Saw	\$124.95	\$120	\$108
Skilsaw 7/4" Circular Saw	\$82.99	\$75	\$67.50
3/8" Makita Angle Drill	\$189.99	\$160	\$144
Porter-Cable Disc Sander	\$174.99	\$140	\$126
Makita 1/2" Impact Wrench	\$239.99	\$199	\$179.10
Black & Decker 3/8" Drill	\$29.99	\$26	\$23.40
DeWalt Drywall Screwdriver	\$159.99	\$125	\$112.50
Makita Disc Grinder	\$179.99	\$145	\$130.50

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 Ad #3