

## Get to Know Us

'Get to Know Us' is a feature of some of our Farm Bureau Young Leaders and volunteers. We hope to share what agriculture means to those featured, share the variety of agricultural jobs/careers in our surrounding areas, and have our communities get to know us a little better! This month's feature is on: Jason Johnson.

### Tell us about yourself:

I am a 4th generation farmer and grew up as an only child. I went to Yorkwood High School and graduated in 2006. I am a Volunteer Fire Fighter for LYFPD (Little York Fire Protection District) The fire department responds to around 40 to 60 calls a year. We have six fire trucks that are in use. I have been active on the department for three years now. I like to hang out with friends and family, weld, travel, have cookouts, shoot guns, and go boating.

### Did you grow up in agriculture?

Yes, I did. My family raises yellow corn and yellow soybeans. We also have livestock, which includes around 100 head of cattle that we breed out to have a spring and fall herd of calves each year. We have two hog confinements which hold 1,200 pigs each, so we have around 2,400 in total. We are a wean to finish operation; we get baby pigs when they are a day old (around 5lbs) and grow them up to around 300lbs. We do two rotations of this each year.

### Where did you go to college? What is your degree in?

I went to Carl Sandburg College in Galesburg, a two-year trade college. I received my Certification in Welding. I thought it was a very good trade program to be enrolled in.



### How many years of experience do you have in agriculture? What areas of the industry have you worked?

I could say my experience would be around twenty-five years, as I was always riding around with my Dad on the tractor. Outside of the family farm, I worked at Monsanto right out of high school for a few years. I worked at Alexis Fire Equipment in the welding fabrication department for about a year and a half. I also worked at the Monmouth Quarry as a truck driver and then field manager for over four years.

### What advice would you give students considering a career in an agriculture related field?

Be confident, and also be a good listener and be patient. Good things come to those who wait.

### What benefits do you get from the Farm Bureau Young Leaders?

I enjoy meeting and interacting with younger farmers around the area like myself and learning about their professions. I appreciate trying to get the younger generation of ag students to be interested in different areas of agriculture.

If anyone has any questions or comments for Jason, or would like to learn more about Farm Bureau and our Young Leader committee, please give us a call at 309-734-9401 or email [whfb@whfarmbureau.org](mailto:whfb@whfarmbureau.org).

