

# University of Illinois Requests Data from Farmers to Better Understand Unique Growing Year



URBANA, Ill. – Researchers and Extension Specialists from University of Illinois College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences are asking Illinois growers to share basic planting, harvest, and yield data with the college to learn from the extraordinary growing conditions experienced this year.

“What we have is a giant, unplanned, and involuntary experiment that is being conducted by Illinois farmers this year,” said Emerson Nafziger, professor emeritus in the U of I College of ACES. “This experiment can help us understand the ramifications of how planting date and variety maturity affect overall yields.”

Using an anonymous online form, email, or the U.S. Postal Service, farmers can share very simple parameters from this year’s crop with researchers. “The opportunity to collect a small amount of data on a large number of fields will help Extension provide better guidance if we find ourselves in this kind of situation again in the future,” said Chelsea Harbach, an Extension educator at the Northwestern Illinois Agricultural Research and Demonstration Center near Monmouth.

The researchers request data on the 2019 corn and soybean crop from fields in every county of Illinois, and encourage farmers to respond by the end of December, 2019.

More information and information on the project is here: <https://extension.illinois.edu/nwiardc/2019-delayed-planting-impact-study>

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The link to the 2019 Crop Planting Date-Yield Survey can be found at [whfarmbureau.org](http://whfarmbureau.org). Contact W-HFB at 309-734-9401 or [whfb@whfarmbureau.org](mailto:whfb@whfarmbureau.org) with any questions. Thank you in advance for helping out the University of Illinois with this work. “We hope never to have a spring as wet as this last one, but if we do, having this information will give us a much better idea of how to deal with it and of what to expect.” – Talon Becker, PHD, Extension Education, AGRI NTRL RSRSC I.