

## SEMO Ag Leaders Hosted Educational 2014 Tour in Southeast Missouri

The 2014 MYF/YFW Summer Tour was a great success, featuring producers, businesses, farm families and sponsors in southeast Missouri. Inside see a special photo feature and highlights on the tour stops. Please pass on your thanks to tour sponsors, volunteers and site hosts.

*Continued on pages 4-6.*





# Born to farm.

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# The President's Pen

It is no small thing to decide to try to make a living as a farmer. There is a certain call that requires more than just a 9 to 5 schedule. It can be grueling and stressful, but when you reap what you sew the reward is truly great. I keep on hearing how farm income is down, and I wonder if I will be able to make it. I know the previous generation that is still farming weathered the 80's, but it was a real struggle. As grain prices continue to plummet and there is an all-time low of forward contracted grain let us remember why we are farmers, and make sure we're ready if indeed such a downturn in the farm economy is coming. Record keeping and planning are going to be more important than ever. The good thing is that learning these practices will help you survive and also make you more profitable in the future.



*Jordan Yoder,  
MYF/YFW President*

Visit our new website: [www.moyoungfarmers.org](http://www.moyoungfarmers.org)

**Missouri Young Farmers** Home

State YF Convention 

State Tour 

National Institute 

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The 2014 MYF/YFW Summer Tour included several innovative and unique stops. Blair Aviation, a family business, has been applying seed, fertilizer and spray to area crops. They are currently using two Air Tractor 802s to make their applications and keep up with demand.

Martin Rice started 50 years ago with 160 acres. Three generations later, the Martins raise more than 4,000 acres of long grain and jasmine rice.

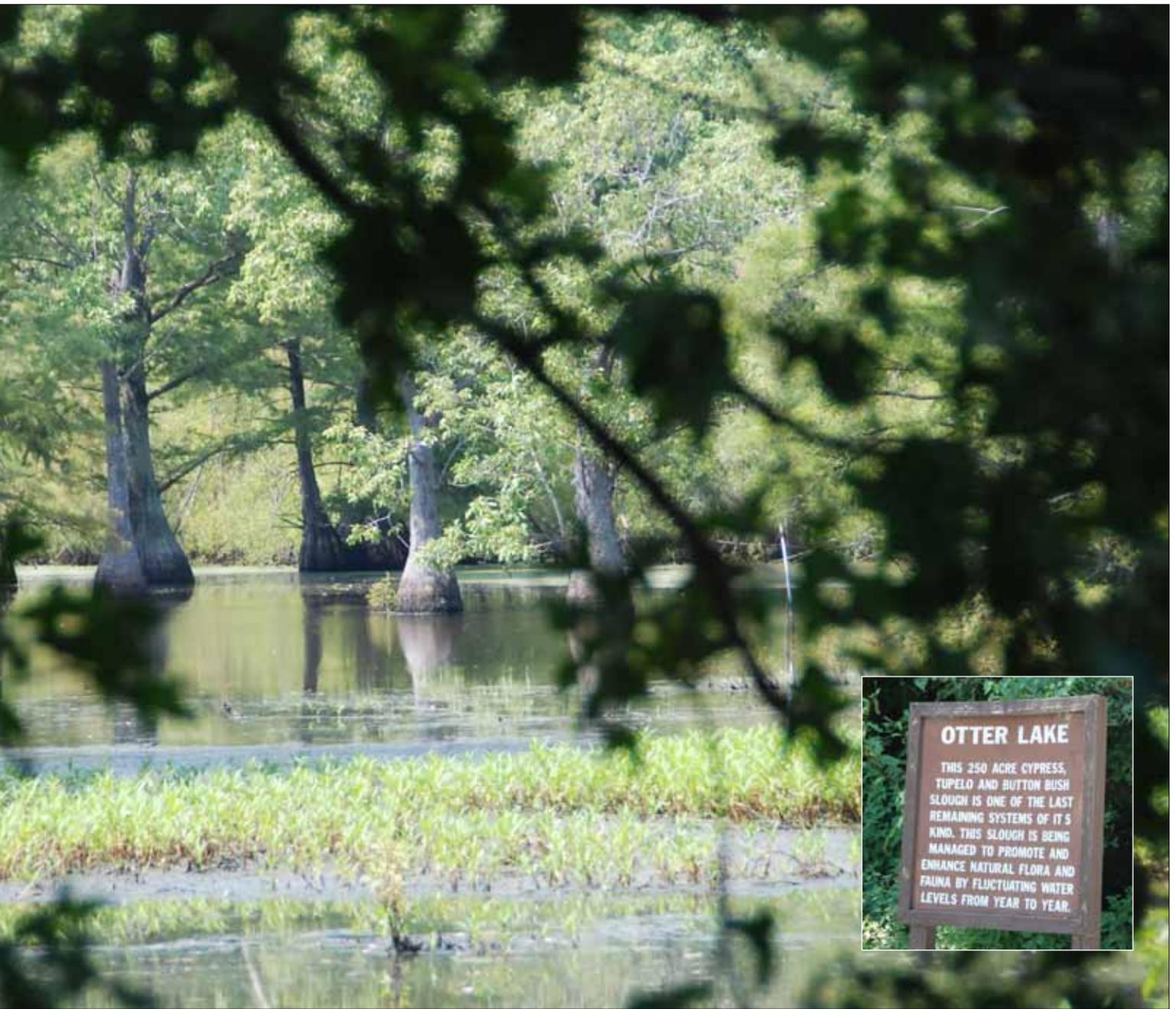
The Stoddard County Cotton Gin was built in 1973 but has been owned by Allen Below and Rex & Kenneth Keller since 1993. They can gin 800 bales of cotton in a 24-hour period.

Bader Orchard has more than 100 workers who pick, sort and pack hundreds of bushels a day during the summer.

The Tanners at the Fancy Farm Popcorn Company have raised popcorn since 1987. They package popcorn in bulk or convenient pre-measured kits for individuals, fundraisers or businesses.

The MDC Otter Slough Conservation Area is a small remnant of the former swamps that were extensive throughout the Mississippi Lowland





of the Missouri Bootheel prior to the drainage efforts which began in the late 19th century. It is now surrounded by irrigated cropland.

Flower Fish Farms has raised fish for more than 45 years. They have nine species of warm water fish that they wholesale all over the Midwest.

Rinehart Farms includes three generations and 3,300 acres. They primarily grow rice with some beans and wheat. Roberts Produce has 80 acres of watermelons, cantaloupes, tomatoes, sweet corn, and peppers. In the fall they raise pumpkins, gourds, ornamentals and mums. Most of their crops are irrigated using drip tape and other methods of micro-irrigation.

Members also enjoyed great food, antiques, and entertainment.



## Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to the MYF/YFW Scholarship winners. Pictured are from left are: Ross Becker, state executive committee; Russell Allgier from Fredericktown (junior in agricultural education at Southeast Missouri State University, or SEMO); Matthew Bloes, from Dittmer, (senior in agricultural education at SEMO); and Nathan Honan, state executive committee holding Brewer Honan, future young farmer.



## Chapter Spotlight: Bolivar Young Farmers and Young Farm Wives

The Bolivar Young Farmers was chartered in 1977. Today four of the charter members are active in the group. The Bolivar Young Farm Wives were chartered in 1978. They also have four of the charter members as current members. Payton and Blanche Schaffer were the charter advisors.

The first club summer tour was held in 1977 and one has been planned every year since. Attendance has declined during the years but a good time is had by

those attend. The first several years a chicken barbecue would be hosted the evening of the tour with attendance around 100-150.

For several years a toy tractor show was held as a fundraiser. Proceeds from the toy show were used to sponsor scholarships to graduating Bolivar seniors. The scholarship program has continued since 1997. Today the group works our local Light The Park at Christmas to assist with funding the scholarship program.

In 2010 the club was honored to

host the Missouri Young Farmers Summer Tour in the Polk County area. We also assisted with two National Young Farmer Tours which were held in southwest Missouri. Our members have participated over the years in district meetings, state convention, state tours and national tours.

We are now seeing children of members joins us in the group. We may not be a large group and some of us certainly aren't young but we enjoy getting together.



**Thanks to SEMO Ag Leaders, tour sponsors and sites for a fantastic 2014 tour!**

# 2014 NYFEA Institute

December 10 – 13, 2014

Louisville, Kentucky

## Schedule/Registration



**HOTEL:** MARRIOTT Louisville Downtown, 280 West Jefferson Street, Louisville, KY 40202. Reservations: Call 1-800-266-9432 and designate your attendance with NYFEA. Room rates are \$106/night, plus tax. Deadline for hotel reservations is November 17, 2014. Hotel Parking Rates are \$14.00 per day for overnight attendees.

[Click Here for Hotel Reservations](#)

**SCHEDULE:**

**Wednesday—Dec. 10**

- 1:00 p.m. NYFEA Board of Directors Meeting
- 4:00 p.m. NYFEA Delegates Meeting

**Thursday—Dec. 11**

- Breakfast at hotel
- WEST TOURS to Bowling Green
  - Corvette Museum
  - Corvette Plant
  - Bale Tobacco Warehouse
  - Triple Oaks Farm
- Kentucky Proud Trade Show and Kentucky Farm Safety Program
  - Lunch at Triple Oaks Farm sponsored by Pioneer
- Churchill Downs Museum
- Evening dinner at Churchill Downs Millionaires Row

**Friday—Dec. 12**

- Breakfast at hotel
- EAST TOURS to Lexington
  - Big Ass Fans
  - WinStar Farm Thoroughbred Stallions/Three Chimneys Farm
  - University of Kentucky Beef Farm
  - Four Roses Distillery
    - Lunch at and sponsored by Big Ass Fans
- Return to Louisville —Dinner/4th Street Live Activities on your own

**Saturday—Dec. 13**

**NYFEA Institute Activities**

- 7:00am NYFEA Delegate meeting
- 8:00am Ag Decision Makers College featuring insight on KY agriculture and previews of future institutes
- 10:00am YALE program featuring Ag Communication Award
- 11:30am Salute to Louisville lunch
- 1:30pm Conclusion of Ag Communication Award
- 2:00pm Ag Leaders Club seminar
- 4:30pm NYFEA and KY Reception and Auction
- 5:00pm Evening Activities – Banquet and a presentation of the John Deere Ag Communication Award

**BIG SHOW ENTERTAINMENT—EXILE!!!**

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THE BIG SHOW!  
SATURDAY EVENING**



Register Online at NYFEA website <http://www.nyfea.org/institute-brochure-2014.html>  
If a computer is not available, Mail Registration Form and Registration Fees (payable to NYFEA) to:  
NYFEA, P.O. Box 20326, Montgomery, AL 36120

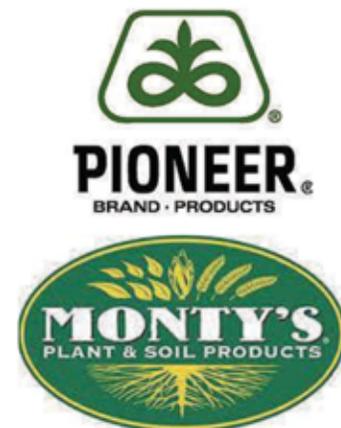
**Early Bird Registration Deadline: October 15, 2014 (Late Registration add \$25 to cost)**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ YF State: \_\_\_\_\_ Area: \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State and Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**(Registration will be confirmed via email)**

NYFEA Attendance to all events: \$275 each	# _____	@ \$275 =	_____
NYFEA Daily Rate is \$100 each day Thursday	# _____	@ \$100 =	_____
NYFEA Daily Rate is \$100 each day Friday	# _____	@ \$100 =	_____
NYFEA Daily Rate is \$100 each day Saturday	# _____	@ \$100 =	_____
NYFEA Student Rate is \$239 all events	# _____	@ \$239 =	_____
(Includes 3 room nights if shared with another student)			
(Students must attend AG Decision Makers College & YALE on Saturday)			
Child Registration (age 5 and under) - FREE	# _____	FREE	_____
Child Registration (age 6-10) - \$50	# _____	@ \$50 =	_____
Child Registration (age 11-16) - \$130	# _____	@ \$130 =	_____

**TOTAL DUE NYFEA** \_\_\_\_\_



Big Ass Fans will host NYFEA members at their one-of-a-kind Research and Development facility during the 2014 Conference. Ranging from 5 to 24 feet in diameter, Big Ass Fans pair energy efficient motors with advanced airfoil technology to circulate large volumes of air, improving employee comfort, reducing product spoilage and promoting good indoor air quality. Additionally, Big Ass Fans can work with traditional HVAC systems, resulting in huge energy savings.

# State Convention Preview

Research farm tour, learning opportunities, fun, and don't forget food! The Young Farmer's state convention is scheduled for February 6-8. We want to kick it off on the right note so Friday afternoon we plan to tour Lincoln University's Research farm. Also be looking for a good slate of workshops for learning and sharing. Please don't forget to check out the info on our toy and photo shows.

My personal favorite category I think will be the Farmer's mess ups on display at the photo show. Don't forget to dig your sandbox up to share some of your childhood treasures. Let's round it all off with the fact that other farmers and friends will be there to laugh and learn from each other.

*-Jordan Yoder*

## Fall & Winter Missouri Ag Events

**October 3: Wurdack Field Day at Hugo Wurdack Research Center, Cook Station**

**October 4: Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center Field Day, New Franklin**

**December 10-13: NYFE Institute, Louisville, Kentucky**

**2015**

**January 22-24: Heart of America Dairy Expo, Springfield**

**February 6-8: Missouri Young Farmers/Young Farm Wives State Convention**



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For more information about MFA PowerCalf, contact your nearby MFA or AgChoice, or call 1-888-514-2333. Or visit us at [www.mfa-inc.com](http://www.mfa-inc.com).

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