



# Corn Grower Update

Winter Edition 2016

*"Your Eyes, Your Ears"*

## Nebraska Corn Specialty License Plate

The Nebraska Corn Growers Association developed a new specialty license plate available to the public. The license plate features a large golden ear of corn against a ready-to-harvest field and bright blue Nebraska sky.

"You don't have to be a member of NeCGA to purchase one of these attractive license plates," said Larry Mussack of Decatur, president of the Nebraska Corn Growers Association.

"Anyone who grows corn, does business with corn farmers, grew up on a corn farm, or simply wants to show their support for Nebraska's corn industry can apply. Corn is Nebraska's number one commodity, so we expect to see a lot of these plates on vehicles all across the state."



### What can the plate go on?

- Autocycle
- Bus: Commercial
- Bus: Local
- Bus: Non-commercial
- Low Speed Vehicle
- Mini Truck
- Mobile Home: Motorized
- Mobile Home: Non-Motorized (travel trailer camper, pop-ups, fifth wheel campers, etc.)
- Motorcycle
- Passenger Vehicle
- Trailer: Commercial
- Trailer: Farm
- Trailer: Fertilizer
- Trailer: Pole & Reel
- Trailer: Semi-Commercial
- Trailer: Semi-Farm
- Trailer: Utility
- Truck: Commercial
- Truck: Farm
  - Including those designated "Not for Hire"
- Truck: Local

### Facts:

- Cost: \$70 per plate
  - Due with initial application and yearly renewal
- The DMV assigns plate numbers when applications are submitted
  - No customized plates available
  - Will NOT have county number
- No limit to the amount of plates you can purchase
- You do not have to belong to NeCGA to purchase the plate
- Current plates and registration must be surrendered when the organizational plates are registered
- Applications forms and \$70 need to be turned into NeCGA
  - 1111 Lincoln Mall, Suite 308 Lincoln, NE 68508
  - Email: [mwrinch@necga.org](mailto:mwrinch@necga.org)
  - Credit Cards will be charged a 5% processing fee

# Update from Mick Mines

The Nebraska Legislature moved past Day 10 of the legislative session, and so ended the introduction of 436 new bills and 10 constitutional amendments. Going forward, senators will spend their mornings engaged in floor debate and afternoons in hearings on the new legislation.

The Governor's first priority this session is to further reducing the tax burden on property owners. At his request, LB958 and LB959 were introduced to cap the growth in property taxes and further restrict local government bodies from playing games with their budgets. We'll have to see if the Legislature buys in.

In this "short" 60-day session, look for extended debate (a nice way to say filibuster) on all the tough issues like tax relief, prison reform, medicaid expansion, water in the Republican and Niobrara, and on and on.

Additionally, state revenue from sales and income taxes is in a hole larger than \$100 million. The hole must be filled before any of the wonderful new ideas for spending can pass. Should be fun.



## Board of Directors

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# NeCGA's Annual Meeting

The Nebraska Corn Growers Association held its annual meeting at the Raising Nebraska Building in Grand Island on December 3, 2015. The NeCGA meeting was held in partnership with the annual meeting of the Nebraska Soybean Association.

Members elected new officers for the association during 2016 as follows:

- Dan Nerud of Dorchester, Secretary
- Deb Gangwish of Shelton, State Director

We'd like to recognize that Deb Gangwish is the first woman to serve on NeCGA's Board of Directors!

NeCGA also bestowed its annual Golden Ear Award, which recognizes outstanding contributions to Nebraska's corn industry. This year's award was given to Gary Zoubek, an Extension Educator for the University of Nebraska Lincoln. Gary has focused his entire career in the areas of efficient irrigated crop production. He has been involved with several organizations working on water quality and quantity issues as well as economics. NeCGA was honored to present the Golden Ear Award to Gary Zoubek.



Individual recruiter awards were presented to the Top 5 Nebraska Recruiters.

- Jordan Emanuel, Colfax-Dodge
- Dan Kellner, Saunders
- Steve Nelson, Colfax-Dodge
- Dave Merrell, Central Plains
- Curtis Rohrich, Buffalo-Hall



## Winter Recruitment Blitz

**Contest runs:**  
**January 1st - March 31st**

### Contest Details:

- Every member who attends and participates in a call-a-thon will be entered into a drawing to win the new NE Corn Specialty Plate.
- The top recruiter from January 1 to March 31 will win the new NE Corn Specialty Plate.
- All NEW members from January 1 to March 31 will be entered into a drawing to win the new NE Corn Specialty Plate.

\*Locals who have already held a call-a-thon will be counted in the drawing



## NeCGA's Upcoming Events

Spring Action Team Committee  
February 1-5

Membership Symposium  
February 1-3  
Santa Fe, NM

DC Leadership Program  
February 8-12

President's Day - NeCGA Office Closed  
February 15

Women in Ag  
February 25-26  
Kearney

Legislative Steak Fry  
March 1  
11:30 AM-12: 30 PM @ Billys

Commodity Classic  
March 2-5

**NEWS FROM**  
**THE NEBRASKA CORN**  
**GROWERS ASSOCIATION**  
*"YOUR EYES, YOUR EARS"*



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