NAICC-President’s Address

Sheraton-New Orleans
The Future is Bright!!!
I Survived the DROUGHT
Took everything but my
FARMER TAN

2011

2012

TEXAS
FARM TRUCK
Job Outlook

- Average American farmer is 60 years old
- 146,000 students in U.S. are enrolled in agriculture degree programs
- 54,000 new jobs created each year in agriculture related fields
Agriculture = Technology
New technology = JOBS!!

**Employment Opportunities**

- Science and Engineering: 47%
- Management and Business: 27%
- Education, Communication, and Governmental Services: 15%
- Agricultural and Forestry Production: 11%
Trip Across the Pond
AICC Annual Meeting

“Where might our industry be beyond 2020?”
Cedric Porter, Supply Intelligence
Challenges for independent agronomists

- Move away from chemical solutions
- Greater need for advice
- Opportunities to become more crop managers
- Value in being a specialist and selling services to growers
- Continued collaboration between independents to offer complete services
- Agronomists contracting with growers to produce certain crops
GREATER NEED FOR ADVICE
OPPORTUNITIES TO BECOME MORE CROP MANAGERS
VALUE IN BEING A SPECIALIST & SELLING SERVICES TO GROWERS
CONTINUED COLLABORATION BETWEEN INDEPENDENTS TO OFFER COMPLETE SERVICES
AGRONOMISTS CONTRACTING WITH GROWERS TO PRODUCE CERTAIN CROPS
UNITED KINGDOM...  
20 YEARS AHEAD???

WHAT ON EARTH CAN WE DO FOR YOU?
Independence is alive in the U.K.

- AICC
- NAIB TAG
- ADAS
Challenges in the U.S. for the next 20 years

• Decreased funding to Extension, USDA

• Who fills the gap in need for independent research & information
NAICC

• Already formed a network that brings together crop consultants, research consultants, and QA

• This will be the new independent network for unbiased information
Just remember: We all just need some encouragement from time to time