



## **NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF INDEPENDENT CROP CONSULTANTS**

*A Professional Society Representing the Nation's Crop Production and Research Consultants and Quality Assurance Professionals*

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### **FROM THE PRESIDENT**

By Debra Stroschein

Ag education is so important and crucial for this country. People need to know where their food comes from. Does it start in the home or from your parents? I was lucky I was raised on a farm. So, I got to see where our food comes from. My parents also taught me a magnificent work ethic. My father taught me from an early age that I could do anything I wanted. All I had to do was set my mind to it and work hard. When I have the opportunity to speak around the country for NAICC, I look forward to meeting with the farmers in this great nation. It is so interesting to me to see that generation after generation is still farming.

(continued)

Click [here](#) for the full article.

## HAPPENINGS ON THE HILL

by Keith Jones

Mid July 2024 finds me thinking of the adage, “there are decades where nothing happens; and there are weeks where decades happen”. Last Saturday’s attempted assassination of former President Trump has caused not only a deep, if momentarily, national introspection of how the country arrived here but also set into motion an ascending Republican Party with Democrats finding themselves in an increasing disarray since President Biden’s shaky performance in the first presidential debate.

At the timing of this writing, it is appearing more likely than not that President Biden will drop from the ticket, setting the stage for a possible open convention when Democrats meet in Chicago on August 19-22.

Any speculation on what the current state of the two political parties means for agricultural policy would be meaningless at this point. But other actions emerged in late June - early July that will have significant near and long-term impacts on agriculture, particularly in regulatory settings.

### **Supreme Court**

On June 28, the Supreme Court overruled the so-called “Chevron” doctrine in issuing its decision in *Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo*. Chevron required federal courts to defer to administrative agencies’ interpretations of their governing statutes in cases where those statutes are ambiguous.

Over time, conservative legal theorists increasingly argued that Chevron provided an unfair legal advantage to agencies when defending their rulemaking in courts.

In overturning Chevron, environmental law firms such as Beveridge and Diamond believe the U.S. Government may now use a 1944 case, “Skidmore “in lieu of Chevron arguments as Chief Justice Roberts referred to Skidmore five times in his Loper Bright opinion. At its core, Skidmore provides that judicial deference to an agency’s interpretation only rests on the agency’s “power to persuade.”

With the Roberts court move towards deregulation and judicial branch consolidation of authority firmly in place, the regulated community will find itself confronted by both challenges and opportunities in this new legal landscape.

### **Congressional Actions**

EPA was the focus of two House of Representative hearings in July. The first on July 10, found the House Oversight and Accountability Committee receiving testimony from EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan. In the hearing, a line of questioning emerged on the impact of potential staff reductions, relocations, or eliminations on pesticide registrations. To those questions, Administrator Regan made it clear that if those actions

were to happen, delays in moving new pesticides to market will occur significantly hurting agriculture.

On July 11, the House Committee on Agriculture held “Examining the Consequences of EPA’s Actions on American Agriculture” where four witnesses provided a grower/producer perspective. Testimony and member questions addressed issues surrounding FFRA, PRIA, PFAS and ESA. Witnesses and members advocated that on especially on pesticide issues, early consideration of USDA’s perspective and input from its Office of Pest Management Policy would be invaluable to the EPA regulatory process.

### **Agency Actions**

On July 8, EPA announced an update to the level at which atrazine could adversely affect aquatic plants as well as fish, invertebrates, and amphibians. The new revised atrazine concentration of 9.7 micrograms per liter (µg/L reflecting exposure modeling corrections and public comment. This action may make it easier for growers to use the herbicide.

On July 15, EPA announced new spray drift protections. More on that can be found [here](#).

On July 25, EPA released draft strategy to better protect endangered species from insecticides. Click [here](#) for more information.

### **Farm Bill**

Agriculture interests will engage in a late summer full court press for a 2024 calendar year Farm Bill passage. Do not be surprised when another extension rides with an expected September continuing resolution to fund the Federal government.

## **NAICC LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

The NAICC Leadership Program’s purpose is to help ensure agricultural sustainability by facilitating the growth of new leaders within NAICC.

### **PROGRAM INFORMATION AND OBJECTIVES:**

- Enhance leadership skills and personal development.
- Promote NAICC, the crop consulting, research consulting, and quality assurance professions, and advocate for agriculture.
- Encourage networking and rapport among ag professionals
- Prepare leaders to be an effective resource for regulators in relation to agriculture

For more information and to apply visit our website and the [Leadership Program information page](#). Applications are due November 1st.



**Exclusive Savings for NAICC Members: Register Now for the Agronomy Conference & Expo!**

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**Exclusive Savings for NAICC Members: Register Now for the Agronomy Conference & Expo!**

TFI is offering complimentary registration for qualified crop consultants and agronomists to the [Agronomy Conference & Expo](#), August 12-14, 2024, in St. Louis.

Attendees also earn CCA credits for nutrient stewardship, sustainability, and more. To claim your complimentary registration, [submit your details through our online registration form](#). Upon verification, you will receive confirmation of your complimentary registration.

## NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

NAICC Welcomes New Member Michael David

By Chrystal Johnson

Michael David, founder of Quant-Agro in Durham, NC, has been in the research industry for over 25 years. After working in early-phase research in the lab for a larger international company for more than 23 years, he wanted to branch out and start his own company to bring early research approaches to pre-field and formulation optimization studies.

I had the pleasure of meeting Michael in January. His energy and motivation were almost palpable. Michael said the most challenging aspect of his job was new business development, many of us can relate to that!

Michael, NAICC is happy to have you, and we look forward to your success and camaraderie as you network and grow in the future!



## MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA

Another great place to visit near Monterey

### Carmel-By-the-Sea

Less than 10-minute drive from Monterey, Carmel-by-the-Sea is a charmer of an oceanside town that's well worth a visit.

It features white-washed cottages, upscale galleries and boutiques, and world-renowned restaurants and wineries set against the dramatic backdrop of the Pacific. It's no wonder this place has been a favorite escape for Hollywood A-listers and other notables for decades.

Take a leisurely stroll down its picturesque streets, enjoy some people watching on the beach, or just sit back with a coffee and watch the world go by — you'll quickly see why Carmel is a favorite escape for both locals and visitors alike.



### OBITUARY: NED FRENCH

NAICC mourns the loss of member, Ned Mims French, II

Reading the beginning of Ned's obituary, it stated "As a rancher at heart, some of Ned's favorite childhood memories were long days during wheat harvest and late nights in the hay field with his cousins in Oklahoma. His Oklahoma family helped him connect the dots between his love of science and agriculture."

NAICC and the agricultural research industry benefited from this connection of love and science. Ned will be greatly missed.

To read the full obituary, click [here](#).





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## NAICC ACADEMY WEBINARS

Click on the links below or go to <https://naicc.org/naicc-academy> to sign up!

### 2022 On-Demand Webinars

[Basic GLP Training](#) – \$250

[Carbon Markets 101](#) – \$75

[Inside Out – What Goes on Inside the Mind of an Auditor?](#) – \$75

[New Technologies in Agriculture](#) – \$75

### Free Videos

#### Worker Protection Standards:

[How to Comply](#)

[WPS Training Videos](#)

### 2021 On-Demand Webinars

[2021 Hot Topics in Midsouth Ag](#) – \$25

[2021 Hot Topics in Midwest Ag](#) - \$25

[Efficacy Research Workshop](#) – \$100

[GAIAC Presents: Fall Armyworm/Precision Ag/Business Management](#)– \$75

[Nutrient and Carbon Trading](#) – \$25

[Virtual Auditing – Sponsor and CRO Perspective](#) – \$50



## What's the Deal with GLP Equipment? – \$50

### Become a NAICC Academy Sponsor

NAICC is looking for Academy Sponsors. Gain exposure for your business by having the opportunity to showcase your Company's name and products/services in front of over 700 independent crop, researcher, and quality assurance consultants. This is a great way to make the most of your advertising dollars while giving back to our organization and allowing members alike to further educate themselves on our great industry other professional development topics.

### Sponsorship Information



### TRIVIA QUESTION

Answer the following question for a chance to win a \$50 Visa Gift Card:

Where is NAICC President Debra Stroschein's family farm?

Submit your answer [HERE](#)



**Last Month's Answer:**

**Jethro Tull**



**Congratulations to last month's winner:**

**James Clower**

**You are the winner of a \$50 VISA Gift Card!**

**Thank you to the Newsletter Committee for putting this issue together:**

Karla Jensen, *Chair*, Jo Gillilan, *Co-Chair*,

Amalia Easton, Rachel Lighfoot, Walter Albeldano,

Chrystal Johnson, Director of Member Services, and Kim Bourgeois, Board Liaison

If you would like to submit an article or have a suggestion for the *NA/CC News*, please contact [Karla Jensen](#) or [Allison Jones](#).

**[NAICC](#)**

**Your professional society representing the nation's crop production,  
research consultants and quality assurance professionals.**

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