**December 17, 2019**

Another in the series of Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom non-fiction text examples to be used in your classroom. Remember, these will be available every MONDAY afternoon that *FarmWeek* is published during the school year.

Questions about this can be directed to Kevin Daugherty, Education Director of Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom at kdaugherty@ilfb.org.

\*\*Reminder these questions are designed to use with the on-line version of *FarmWeek.*

<http://digital.farmweeknow.com/app.php?RelId=6.2.2.7>

Note, by request of teachers we have included the answers to the questions immediately following the questions on a separate worksheet.

*Teachers want to be sure to get this in a timely fashion? Sign up for your copy to be directly emailed at* <http://www.agintheclassroom.org/FWArticle/fwarticle.shtml>

**Harvest delays linger; IFB plans meetings to address concerns**

**NOTE ....We will not publish a Bell-Ringer December 23 or 30. Our next activity will be on January 6, 2020! Happy Holidays!!**

**NAME:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ CLASS PERIOD\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Directions:** Please use the online version of *FarmWeek.* <http://digital.farmweeknow.com/app.php?RelId=6.2.2.7>

Use the article titled:

**Harvest delays linger; IFB plans meeting to address concerns**

1. Given the title; what type of concerns could be addressed about harvest?
2. 8% of the corn crop is still in the field, approximately how many bushels of corn does that equal?
3. Rank the following states in order from most corn harvest competed to least corn harvest completed: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin.
4. What percentage of the Illinois soybean crop is still in the field?
5. What do you think farmer Brent Pollard means when he says ‘There’s good sized docks on them. It’s so wet.”?
6. Because the crop is still wet it needs to be dried, in addition to many bushels needing to be dried, what other problems have been encountered?
7. The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) releases crop reports throughout the year. What impacts do you see these crop reports having on agriculture?

Answer Key

1. Answers will vary, but the concerns are not with the harvest delays caused by weather, but instead the reporting system that impacts markets.
2. 8% of the corn crop is more than 1 billion bushels of corn still in the field.
3. Illinois 96%

Indiana 96%

Iowa 95%

South Dakota 83%

Michigan 74%

Wisconsin 74%

North Dakota 43%

1. As of December 2, 4% or 137 million bushels.
2. Elevators ‘dock’ or reduce the amount paid to farmers for the product because they are wet.
3. The propane shortage is also causing problems allowing drying to occur at elevators and on the farm.
4. Answers will vary, but should include impact on prices and the market. Impacts on localized conditions being reported that seem to cover an entire area that impact markets and plans for farmers among other topics.