**January 19, 2021**

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](mailto:kdaugherty@ilfb.org).

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

<https://www.farmweeknow.com/eedition/>

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>

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

**Directions:** Please use the online version of *FarmWeek.*  <https://www.farmweeknow.com/eedition/>

Use the article titled:

**Will farmers plant fencerow to fencerow this spring?**

1. When was the phrase ‘fencerow to fencerow’ popularized?
2. Explain what ‘fencerow to fencerow’ means to farmers.
3. What reasons does China need more grain crops?
4. Why is it unusual that China might import record amounts of soybeans in 2021?
5. What are the projections for the acres of soy, corn, wheat, cotton and Conservation Reserve Programs?
6. Conservation Reserve Programs provide payment for not planting crops but instead using acres for conservation purposes. What issues might a drop in acres cause?

Answers:

1. The 1970’s
2. The phrase means planting all available land in crops.
3. There is a demand for more protein (mainly from livestock that eat crops) and China is battling African swine fever that has impacted the number of hogs they have, and they are rebuilding the herd.
4. Tariffs (or taxes) could be a deterrent but are not.
5. Soy will jump 6 million acres, corn will drop 1 million acres, Wheat will increase 4%, cotton will decrease 6% and Conservation Reserve Acres will be at the lowest level since 1988.
6. Answers will vary, but could include less acreage for pollinators that have seen their native habitat increase in the last couple of year.