**March 17, 2020**

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>

**Costello’s goal: Grow understanding of ag’s impact in state**

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

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

Use the article titled:

**Costello’s goal: Grow understand of ag’s impact in state**

1. Name the new appointee for the Director of the Illinois Department of Agriculture.
2. To become the Director what legislative body must act?
3. What memories of agriculture does the appointee bring with him to the job?
4. List 3 unique characteristics that Illinois has in agriculture.
5. Name the Illinois House of Representatives Agriculture Committee Chairperson.
6. What is a priority of the House Ag Chair?
7. How might the challenge of providing fresh produce to urban areas be a challenge to Illinois agriculture?

Answer Key

1. Jerry Costello II
2. The Senate of the State of Illinois must confirm any appointee of the Governor.
3. Costello’s grandfather farmed near Sesser in Franklin County in southern Illinois. Costello spent the weekends on that farm as a child.
4. Answers will vary, but from the article: Illinois is the nation’s leading food processor, Illinois has more than 2,600 food processing companies, has miles of infrastructure including rail, highway and rivers for transport and the unique challenge of urban vs. rural.
5. Sonya Harper (D) Chicago
6. “A real need for fresh food, especially produce, in urban area.”
7. Answers will vary, but should include the climate of the state. While Illinois farmers can provide some fresh produce, our weather will play a key role. Our seasons and short growing seasons limits our ability to provide some produce (lettuce, strawberries, etc) due to our seasons. Students might discuss greenhouses or small gardens and how that might impact produce in a large urban area.