

Commercial Agriculture

Serving Jo Daviess, Stephenson, & Winnebago Counties



Phillip Alberti
Commercial Agriculture
Educator

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Phillip Alberti works in commercial crop production, assisting growers and producers by providing resources for row crop production. His area of expertise includes soil fertility, corn and soybean management practices, cover crops, and no-till systems.

Alberti determines production needs and assists local producers to improve productivity and integrate new practices via impact programming and consultations. Phillip also assists the Illinois Pest Monitoring Network by monitoring pest activity throughout the growing season to provide information to local growers in NW Illinois.

During the year, Alberti provides consultation and assistance to area growers and producers related to their management practices.

Resources of Current Interest

- Unit 1 Ag News
go.illinois.edu/agnewsletter
- Midwestern Hemp Database
go.illinois.edu/HempDatabase
- Midwestern Hemp Database Research Report
go.illinois.edu/MHDRReport



Midwest Hemp Study Helps Local Producers

Industrial hemp. It's one of the fastest growing agriculture industries, and arguably the most misunderstood. "While the plant and production practices may be similar, we are focusing on hemp, not marijuana-cannabis," clarifies Commercial Agriculture Educator Phillip Alberti.



"Growers were coming to me with questions about how to grow hemp in the Midwest, but we did not have any university research to point them to" explains Alberti. "We needed to collect as much information as possible, as quickly as possible, in order to make recommendations to growers for compliant, profitable hemp."

The industrial hemp project was created to supplement the Midwestern Hemp Database, an extensive network of growers and collaborators to provide research-based information for one of the most highly demanded crops in the Midwest. The original project started in 2020 to determine the best production practices and which varieties would grow best. Data from the project has been used to impact the USDA's policies regarding hemp production.

"It's a very small-scale and very restricted study that is being replicated across many sites in the Midwest," notes Alberti. The project is a collaboration of University of Illinois, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Michigan State University, Purdue University, Ohio State University, and University of Kentucky along with Michael Fields Agricultural Institute, Rock River Laboratory Inc., Pride Analytics & Consulting, and ACT Laboratories. For more information about the Midwestern Hemp Database, visit go.illinois.edu/HempDatabase.



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