

2013 GLOBAL AGRIBUSINESS SUMMIT ANNOUNCED

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Source: Global Agribusiness Summit news release

The 2013 Global Agribusiness Summit will be held on March 13, 2013 at Millikin University's Kirkland Fine Arts Center. The event is the result of a partnership between Tate & Lyle, the Illinois Department of Agriculture, the Illinois Farm Bureau, and Millikin University. The summit will feature an outlook of the agriculture industry for the next decade including technology, genetic research, equipment, government policies, and more.

Speakers will include Monsanto President Brett Begemann, the U.S. Department of Agriculture Director of Rural Development (Illinois) Colleen Callahan, Harvard Business School Agribusiness Program Director Mary Shelman and John Deere Vice President of Global Marketing Services Cory Reed.

"The world population is growing at a staggering rate. Seven billion today, and as we look ahead to eight billion, the agriculture industry is heavily responsible for providing food and other essential goods and services to the masses," Tate and Lyle General Manager Bulk Ingredients for the Americas, Don Copeland said. "The summit is a great opportunity for industry leaders to share their goals and plans on how we as an industry are preparing to meet future demands."

"The discussion on where the agriculture industry is headed is critical to all of our futures and the future of our global economy," said Mary Shelman, Harvard Business School Agribusiness Program Director. "The world has changed gears. Demand is increasing faster than supply which makes prices volatile. We expect less financial support from government programs in the future and sustainability has gone from fashion to staple.

"It is important industry leaders are on the same page and I am excited to be a part of the upcoming Summit."

"With more than 2,500 food companies and nearly 27 million acres of farmland, Illinois has a major economic stake in the future of the agriculture industry," Illinois Department of Agriculture Director Bob Flider said. "Nearly a quarter of our state's jobs are agriculture-related, with food processing serving as our state's top industry.

For agriculture, these are exciting times, and indeed, every Illinois citizen has a stake in ensuring that agriculture in our state is positioned for a brighter economic future."

The Global Agriculture Summit will be held on March 13, 2013 from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. at the Kirkland Fine Arts Center at Millikin University in Decatur, IL. Tickets to the Summit are \$10 and can be reserved by calling the box office at 217-424-6318 or going to Global Ag Summit website. Net proceeds from the Summit will go towards Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom.

For more information on the summit, visit www.globalagsummit.com, like the event on [facebook.com/GlobalAgribusinessSummit](https://www.facebook.com/GlobalAgribusinessSummit) or follow on twitter@AgBiz_Summit.

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