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Form **990-EZ****Short Form**
Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

OMB No 1545-1150

2009Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except black lung benefit trust or private foundation)

▶ Sponsoring organizations of donor advised funds and controlling organizations as defined in section 512(b)(13) must file Form 990. All other organizations with gross receipts less than \$500,000 and total assets less than \$1,250,000 at the end of the year may use this form.

▶ The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements.

Open to Public Inspection**A** For the 2009 calendar year, or tax year beginning 4/01, 2009, and ending 3/31, 2010

B Check if applicable:

☐ Address change

☐ Name change

☐ Initial return

☐ Termination

☐ Amended return

☐ Application pending

Please use IRS label or print or type. See Specific Instructions

C

ILLINOIS SPECIALTY GROWERS ASSOCIATION

1701 TOWANDA AVENUE

BLOOMINGTON, IL 61702-2901

D Employer identification number

37-1142742

E Telephone number

309-557-3662

F Group Exemption Number

• Section 501(c)(3) organizations and 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must attach a completed Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ).

G Accounting method. ☐ Cash ☒ Accrual
Other (specify) ▶**I** Website: ▶ N/A**H** Check ☒ if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).**J** Tax-exempt status (check only one) — ☒ 501(c) (5) (insert no.) ☐ 4947(a)(1) or ☐ 527**K** Check ☐ if the organization is not a section 509(a)(3) supporting organization and its gross receipts are normally not more than \$25,000. A Form 990-EZ or Form 990 return is not required, but if the organization chooses to file a return, be sure to file a complete return.**L** Add lines 5b, 6b, and 7b, to line 9 to determine gross receipts, if \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ. ▶ \$ 104,381.**Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances** (See the instructions for Part I.)

REVENUE	1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received	1	24,275.
	2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts	2	1,611.
	3	Membership dues and assessments	3	12,133.
	4	Investment income	4	1,343.
	5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory	5a	
	5b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses	5b	
	5c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a)	5c	
	6	Special events and activities (complete applicable parts of Schedule G). If any amount is from gaming, check here ☐		
	6a	Gross revenue (not including \$ _____ of contributions reported on line 1)	6a	65,019.
6b	Less: direct expenses other than fundraising expenses	6b	56,240.	
6c	Net income or (loss) from special events and activities (Subtract line 6b from line 6a)	6c	8,779.	
7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	7a		
7b	Less: cost of goods sold	7b		
7c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a)	7c		
8	Other revenue (describe ▶ _____)	8		
9	Total revenue. Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6c, 7c, and 8	9	48,141.	
EXPENSES	10	Grants and similar amounts paid (attach schedule)	10	
	11	Benefits paid to or for members	11	
	12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits	12	
	13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors	13	12,000.
	14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance	14	
	15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping	15	6,654.
	16	Other expenses (describe ▶ <u>SEE STATEMENT 1</u>)	16	10,929.
	17	Total expenses. Add lines 10 through 16	17	29,583.
ASSETS	18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9)	18	18,558.
	19	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	19	138,805.
	20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (attach explanation)	20	
	21	Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 18 through 20	21	157,363.

Part II Balance Sheets. If Total assets on line 25, column (B) are \$1,250,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ.

(See the instructions for Part II.)

	(A) Beginning of year	(B) End of year
22 Cash, savings, and investments	146,428.	163,497.
23 Land and buildings		
24 Other assets (describe ▶ <u>SEE STATEMENT 2</u>)	16,342.	15,612.
25 Total assets	162,770.	179,109.
26 Total liabilities (describe ▶ <u>SEE STATEMENT 3</u>)	23,965.	21,746.
27 Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21)	138,805.	157,363.

BAA For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see separate instructions.

Form 990-EZ (2009)

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SCANNED AUG 04 2010

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments (See the instructions.)**Expenses**What is the organization's primary exempt purpose? SEE STATEMENT 4

Describe what was achieved in carrying out the organization's exempt purposes. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, or other relevant information for each program title.

(Required for section 501(c)(3) and (4) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) trusts, optional for others.)

28 <u>PROMOTION AND SUPPORT OF SPECIALTY CROP RELATED ACTIVITIES - ACTIVITIES AND PROMOTIONS ARE CONDUCTED PRIMARILY FOR THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP WITH SPECIFIC ACTIVITY INTEREST.</u>		
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐	28a	45,366.
29 <u>CROPS CONFERENCE - TO PROVIDE AN ANNUAL CROPS CONFERENCE FOR ITS MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER INTERESTD PARTIES</u>		
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐	29a	42,385.
30 <u>GENERAL MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES - TO PROVIDE ADMINISTRATIVE AND FACILITY SUPPORT SERVICES FOR APPROXIMATE MEMBERSHIP OF 250.</u>		
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐	30a	
31 Other program services (attach schedule) <u>SEE STATEMENT 5</u>		
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐	31a	
32 Total program service expenses (add lines 28a through 31a)	32	87,751.

Part IV List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees. List each one even if not compensated. (See the instrs.)

(a) Name and address	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation (If not paid, enter -0-.)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account and other allowances
HARRY ALTEN 3603 ISLAND ROAD HARVARD, IL	CHAIRMAN 0	0.	0.	0.
CHRIS ECKERT 951 SOUTH GREENMOUNT ROAD BELLEVILLE, IL 62200	DIRECTOR 0	0.	0.	0.
DEAN PFEIFFER 11994 E CO RD 600 N BATH, IL 62617	DIRECTOR 0	0.	0.	0.
DON KNOBLETT 16187 E 1375TH AVENUE PALESTINE, IL 62451	SECRETARY 0	0.	0.	0.
DAN FOURNIE 901 FOURNIE LANE COLLINSVILLE, IL 62234	DIRECTOR 0	0.	0.	0.
CARL DUEWER PO BOX 72 MASON CITY, IL 62664	DIRECTOR 0	0.	0.	0.
DEBORAH LEE 3729 N 36TH ST QUINCY, IL 62301	TREASURER 0	0.	0.	0.
CRAIG TANNER 740 STATE RTE 40 SPEER, IL 61479	DIRECTOR 0	0.	0.	0.
SCOTT HALPIN 8675 S HALPIN ROAD GARDNER, IL 60424	DIRECTOR 0	0.	0.	0.
KAY CARNES 646 E 1700 N ROAD MONTICELLO, IL 61856	DIRECTOR 0	0.	0.	0.

Part V Other Information (Note the statement requirements in the instrs for Part V.)

	Yes	No
33 Did the organization engage in any activity not previously reported to the IRS? If 'Yes,' attach a detailed description of each activity		X
34 Were any changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If 'Yes,' attach a conformed copy of the changes	X	
35 If the organization had income from business activities, such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a (among others), but not reported on Form 990-T, attach a statement explaining why the organization did not report the income on Form 990-T.		
a Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more or was it subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements?		X
b If 'Yes,' has it filed a tax return on Form 990-T for this year?		
36 Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If 'Yes,' complete applicable parts of Schedule N		X
37a Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions . ▶ 37a 0.		
b Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?		X
38a Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the period covered by this return?		X
b If 'Yes,' complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved	38b N/A	
39 Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter		
a Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9	39a N/A	
b Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities	39b N/A	
40a Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under: section 4911 ▶ <u>N/A</u> , section 4912 ▶ <u>N/A</u> , section 4955 ▶ <u>N/A</u>		
b Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year or is it aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization's prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If 'Yes,' complete Schedule L, Part I	40b	
c Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958 ▶ 0.		
d Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization ▶ 0.		
e All organizations. At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If 'Yes,' complete Form 8886-T	40e	X
41 List the states with which a copy of this return is filed ▶ <u>NONE</u>		

42a The organization's books are in care of ▶ DIANE L. HANDLEY Telephone no ▶ 309-557-3619
 Located at ▶ 1701 TOWANDA AVENUE BLOOMINGTON IL ZIP + 4 ▶ 61702

b At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?
 If 'Yes,' enter the name of the foreign country: ▶ _____

	Yes	No
42b		X
42c		X

See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for **Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of a Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts**.

c At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside of the U S ?
 If 'Yes,' enter the name of the foreign country: ▶ _____

43 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of **Form 1041** — Check here and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year

▶ ☐ **43** N/A
 N/A

44 Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds? If 'Yes,' Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ

	Yes	No
44		X
45		X

45 Is any related organization a controlled entity of the organization within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If 'Yes,' Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ

Part VI Section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts only. All section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must answer questions 46-49b and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51.**46** Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If 'Yes,' complete Schedule C, Part I

	Yes	No
46		
47		
48		
49a		
49b		

47 Did the organization engage in lobbying activities? If 'Yes,' complete Schedule C, Part II**48** Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If 'Yes,' complete Schedule E**49a** Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?**b** If 'Yes,' was the related organization a section 527 organization?**50** Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter 'None.'

(a) Name and address of each employee paid more than \$100,000	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account and other allowances

f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000 ▶**51** Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter 'None.'

(a) Name and address of each independent contractor paid more than \$100,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation

d Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000 ▶

Sign Here	Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.	
	Signature of officer <i>Diane Handley</i>	Date <i>6-30-10</i>
	Type or print name and title <i>Diane Handley, Manager</i>	

Paid Preparer's Use Only	Preparer's signature <i>Thomas M. Hirsch CPA</i>	Date <i>5/3/10</i>	Check if self employed ☐	Preparer's Identifying Number (See instructions) P00040282
	Firm's name (or yours if self employed), address, and ZIP + 4 ILLINOIS AGRICULTURAL AUDITING ASSOCIATION 318 SUSAN DR NORMAL, IL 61761-6206		EIN ▶ 36-1252710	
			Phone no ▶ (309) 862-3870	

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**

BAA

Form 990-EZ (2009)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' to Form 990, Part IV, lines 17, 18, or 19, or if the organization entered more than \$15,000 on Form 990-EZ, line 6a.
▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. ▶ See separate instructions.

2009

Open to Public Inspection

ILLINOIS SPECIALTY GROWERS ASSOCIATION

37-1142742

Fundraising Activities. Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' to Form 990, Part IV, line 17. Form 990EZ filers are not required to complete this part.

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ☐ | Mail solicitations | ☐ | Solicitation of non-government grants |
| ☐ | Internet and email solicitations | ☐ | Solicitation of government grants |
| ☐ | Phone solicitations | ☐ | Special fundraising events |
| ☐ | In-person solicitations | | |

- ☐
- Yes
- ☐
- No

- | (i) Name of individual or entity (fundraiser) | (ii) Activity | (iii) Did fundraiser have custody or control of contributions? | | (iv) Gross receipts from activity | (v) Amount paid to (or retained by) fundraiser listed in col (i) | (vi) Amount paid to (or retained by) organization |
|---|---------------|--|----|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| | | Yes | No | | | |
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| | | | | | | |
| Total | | | | | | |

- 3 List all states in which the organization is registered or licensed to solicit funds or has been notified it is exempt from registration or licensing

Part II Fundraising Events. Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' to Form 990, Part IV, line 18, or reported more than \$15,000 on Form 990-EZ, line 6a. List events with gross receipts greater than \$5,000.

REVENUE		(a) Event #1 CROPS CONFEREN (event type)	(b) Event #2 IL STATE FAIR (event type)	(c) Other Events (total number)	(d) Total Events (Add col. (a) through col (c))
	1 Gross receipts	39,890.	23,092.		62,982.
	2 Less. Charitable contributions				
	3 Gross income (line 1 minus line 2)	39,890.	23,092.		62,982.
DIRECT EXPENSES	4 Cash prizes				
	5 Noncash prizes				
	6 Rent/facility costs				
	7 Food and beverages				
	8 Entertainment				
	9 Other direct expenses	42,981.	13,259.		56,240.
	10 Direct expense summary. Add lines 4- through 9 in column (d)				56,240.
	11 Net income summary. Combine lines 3, column (d) and line 10				6,742.

Part III Gaming. Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' to Form 990, Part IV, line 19, or reported more than \$15,000 on Form 990-EZ, line 6a.

REVENUE		(a) Bingo	(b) Pull tabs/Instant bingo/progressive bingo	(c) Other gaming	(d) Total gaming (Add col (a) through col (c))
DIRECT EXPENSES	1 Gross revenue				
	2 Cash prizes				
	3 Non-cash prizes				
	4 Rent/facility costs				
	5 Other direct expenses				
	6 Volunteer labor	☐ Yes _____ % ☐ No	☐ Yes _____ % ☐ No	☐ Yes _____ % ☐ No	
	7 Direct expense summary. Add lines 2 through 5 in column (d)				
	8 Net gaming income summary. Combine lines 1, column (d) and line 7				

9 Enter the state(s) in which the organization operates gaming activities. _____

a Is the organization licensed to operate gaming activities in each of these states?

b If 'No,' explain

	YES	NO
9a		
10a		
11		
12		

10a Were any of the organization's gaming licenses revoked, suspended or terminated during the tax year?

b If 'Yes,' explain.

11 Does the organization operate gaming activities with nonmembers?

12 Is the organization a grantor, beneficiary or trustee of a trust or a member of a partnership or other entity formed to administer charitable gaming?

13 Indicate the percentage of gaming activity operated in.**a** The organization's facility**13a** %**b** An outside facility**13b** %**14** Enter the name and address of the person who prepares the organization's gaming/special events books and records.

Name ▶ _____

Address ▶ _____

15a Does the organization have a contact with a third party from whom the organization receives gaming revenue?**15a****b** If 'Yes,' enter the amount of gaming revenue received by the organization \$ _____ and the amount of gaming revenue retained by the third party \$ _____**c** If 'Yes,' enter name and address of the third party.

Name. ▶ _____

Address ▶ _____

16 Gaming manager information

Name ▶ _____

Gaming manager compensation ▶ \$ _____

Description of services provided. ▶ _____

☐ Director/officer☐ Employee☐ Independent contractor**17** Mandatory distributions**a** Is the organization required under state law to make charitable distributions from the gaming proceeds to retain the state gaming license?**17a****b** Enter the amount of distributions required under state law to be distributed to other exempt organizations or spent in the organization's own exempt activities during the tax year ▶ \$ _____

2009

FEDERAL STATEMENTS

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CLIENT 11063

ILLINOIS SPECIALTY GROWERS ASSOCIATION

37-1142742

5/03/10

04 23PM

STATEMENT 1
FORM 990-EZ, PART I, LINE 16
OTHER EXPENSES

ACTIVITIES	\$	3,547.
CONFERENCES, CONVENTIONS, AND MEETINGS		382.
CONTRIBUTIONS		115.
DEPRECIATION		1,888.
INSURANCE		358.
MISCELLANEOUS		1,797.
NEWSLETTER		2,200.
OFFICE EXPENSES		642.
TOTAL	\$	10,929.

STATEMENT 2
FORM 990-EZ, PART II, LINE 24
OTHER ASSETS

	<u>BEGINNING</u>	<u>ENDING</u>
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	\$ 326.	\$ 1,629.
DEFERRED DUES REBATES	3,019.	2,861.
MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT	12,800.	10,912.
PREPAID EXPENSES AND DEFERRED CHARGES	197.	210.
TOTAL	\$ 16,342.	\$ 15,612.

STATEMENT 3
FORM 990-EZ, PART II, LINE 26
TOTAL LIABILITIES

	<u>BEGINNING</u>	<u>ENDING</u>
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED EXPENSES	\$ 4,812.	\$ 4,241.
DEFERRED REVENUE	11,803.	10,035.
FUNDS HELD IN TRUST	7,350.	7,470.
TOTAL	\$ 23,965.	\$ 21,746.

STATEMENT 4
FORM 990-EZ, PART III
ORGANIZATION'S PRIMARY EXEMPT PURPOSE

THE PURPOSES OF THE ORGANIZATION ARE TO COOPERATE IN THE DISSEMINATION OF KNOWLEDGE AMONG PERSONS INTERESTED IN FRUITS, VEGETABLES, HERBS, AND IRRIGATION; TO ENCOURAGE RESEARCH ON FRUITS, VEGETABLES, HERBS, AND IRRIGATION IN ILLINOIS, AND TO PROMOTE OR ENCOURAGE ANY SPECIALTY CROP PURPOSE OR ACTIVITY.

2009

FEDERAL STATEMENTS

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CLIENT 11063

ILLINOIS SPECIALTY GROWERS ASSOCIATION

37-1142742

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STATEMENT 5
FORM 990-EZ, PART III, LINE 31
STATEMENT OF PROGRAM SERVICE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

DESCRIPTION	GRANTS	PROGRAM SERVICE EXPENSES
INCLUDES FOREIGN GRANTS: NO		
TOTAL \$		\$
0.		0.

BYLAWS
of
THE ILLINOIS SPECIALTY GROWERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
as amended November 20, 2009

WP 20-3 PBC smb 4/21/2010 - Updated by-laws referenced in board minutes.

Article I. NAME

The name of the organization is: The Illinois Specialty Growers Association, Inc., hereafter called the Association.

Article II. LOCATION

The registered office of the Association shall be located in the City of Bloomington, McLean County, State of Illinois. The Association may have such other offices within the state of Illinois as the Executive Committee may from time to time determine.

Article III. PURPOSES

Section 1.

This organization is incorporated under the laws of the state of Illinois as not-for-profit corporation.

Section 2.

The purposes of the organization are to cooperate in the dissemination of knowledge among persons interested in fruit, vegetables, herbs, and irrigation; to encourage research on fruits, vegetables, herbs, and irrigation in Illinois, and to promote or encourage any specialty crop purpose or activity.

Article IV. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1.

Members of the Association shall be considered in the following manner:

- a. All producer members and officers of the Illinois State Horticultural Society, hereafter referred to as ISHS. Producer membership provides full benefits including the right to vote.
- b. All producer members and officers of the Illinois Vegetable Growers Association, hereafter referred to as IVGA. Producer membership provides full benefits including the right to vote.
- c. All producer members and officers of the Illinois Irrigation Association, hereafter referred to as IIA. Producer membership provides full benefits including the right to vote.
- d. All producer members and officers of the Illinois Herb Association, hereafter referred to as IHA. Producer membership provides full benefits including the right to vote.

- e. All agri-industry members – includes all companies manufacturing equipment and supplies for the specialty crop industry or some agri-business that is related to the specialty crop industry. Agri-industry membership provides full benefits of membership including the right to vote.
- f. All associate members – an individual representative of a manufacturer or a professional with an interest in the promotion and development of the Illinois specialty crop industry. Associate membership allows full benefits of membership except the opportunity to vote.

Section 2.

The membership fee in the association is determined as follows:

All members must choose a category of membership (i.e., producer, associate, or agri-industry), and the within that category are required to join ISGA and affiliate with one or more of the affiliated associations.

	Producer	Associate	Agri- Industry	Student
Illinois Specialty Growers Association (ISGA)	\$40	\$40	\$80	\$15

Affiliated Associations:

Illinois Herb Association (IHA)	10	10	10	5
Illinois Irrigation Association (IIA)	5	5	5	5
Illinois State Horticulture Society (ISHS)	30	30	30	5
Illinois Vegetable Growers Association (IVGA)	10	10	10	5

Article V. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND DUTIES

Section 1.

The business and affairs of this Association shall be governed by an Executive Committee composed of 10 voting members. It shall consist of the President and Vice President of the ISHS, the IVGA, the IIA, the IHA, one IAA director, and a Chairman whom should come from the ISGA membership and shall be elected for a period of three years, renewed annually, at the meeting following the annual Convention. A non-voting Secretary-Treasurer of the Association shall be appointed by the Executive Committee on an annual basis. Such person shall be covered by suitable fidelity bond for the benefit of the Association. Five non-voting advisory members shall be appointed, one to represent the Illinois Department of Agriculture and four to represent the University of Illinois. They may be appointed or removed at any time by the consent of the majority of the voting members of the Executive Committee. Further, when circumstances exist that make it desirable to include additional Executive committee members, then at the discretion of the majority of the voting members of the Committee, additional members may be appointed for a specified period of time.

Section 2.

- a. The Chairman of the Executive Committee shall be the Chairman of the Association. The senior most person (longest tenure) in attendance at a meeting will assume the position of Chair in the absence of the Chairman.
- b. If for any reason, the appointed Chairman is unable to fulfill the term of the office, the voting members of the Executive Committee may appoint a new Chairman.

Section 3.

A quorum of the Executive Committee shall consist of 50% of present members with voting privileges. This may include voting members participating by phone.

Section 4.

The Chairman of each affiliated association may appoint a replacement for any board member that is absent from a board meeting (replacement needs to be a member in good standing), and in addition, all board members need to RSVP the office regarding their participation in each board meeting.

Section 5.

The Executive Committee shall have general supervision and control of the business affairs of the Association. They shall make all rules and regulations for the guidance of the members, officers, employees, and agents of the Association.

Article VI. MEETINGS

Section 1.

The annual meeting of this Association shall be held at a date and place to be selected by the Executive Committee.

Section 2.

- a. A meeting of the Executive Committee shall be held whenever called by the majority of the voting members of the Executive Committee or by the Association Chairman.
- b. A conference call qualifies as a meeting as outlined in Section 2A.
- c. Notice shall be mailed to the members at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting date.

Section 3.

- a. Special meetings of the members may be called anytime by a majority of the voting members of the Executive Committee or by the Association Chairman.
- b. Notice shall be mailed to the members at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting. Announcements by fliers, etc. shall be sufficient for this purpose.

Section 4

- a. Thirty (30) days preceding the date meeting of the members is hereby fixed as the record date for the determination of members entitled to vote at such meetings.
- b. Any registered member or entity having paid current dues shall have one vote. Only one representative per membership unit can hold office.

- c. Those present at any announced meeting of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

Article VII. SUNDRY PROVISIONS

Section 1. Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the Association shall begin on the first day of April and shall end on the last day of March.

Section 2. Order of business

The order of business at all meetings, so far as possible, shall be as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Reading of Minutes
4. Report of Treasurer
5. Membership Report
6. Report of Affiliated Associations
7. Unfinished Business
8. New Business
9. Other Business
10. Adjournment

Article VIII. AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended, revised, or repealed by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present in quorum at any regular or special meeting of the Executive Committee providing that notice of such proposed amendment, repeal, or change shall have been given in the call of such meeting.

Article IV. DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution of this Association, all assets shall be assigned according to the decision of the voting members of the Executive Committee.