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Form **990-EZ**

Short Form Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

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, organizations that operate one or more hospital facilities, and certain controlling organizations as defined in section 512(b)(13) must file Form 990 (see instructions)
All other organizations with gross receipts less than \$200,000 and total assets less than \$500,000 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

OMB No 1545-1150

2011

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

A For the 2011 calendar year, or tax year beginning **04/01/11**, and ending **03/31/12**

B Check if applicable

- ☐ Address change
☐ Name change
☐ Initial return
☐ Terminated
☐ Amended return
☐ Application pending

C Name of organization

**ILLINOIS SPECIALTY GROWERS
ASSOCIATION**

Number and street (or P O box, if mail is not delivered to street address)

1701 TOWANDA AVENUE

City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4

BLOOMINGTON

IL 61702

Room/suite

D Employer identification number

37-1142742

E Telephone number

309-557-3619

F Group Exemption

Number **►**

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)(3) ☒ 501(c) (**5**) (insert no) ☐ 4947(a)(1) or ☐ 527

K Check ☐ if the organization is not a section 509(a)(3) supporting organization or a section 527 organization and its gross receipts are normally not more than \$50,000. A Form 990-EZ or Form 990 return is not required though Form 990-N (e-postcard) may be required (see instructions). But if the organization chooses to file a return, be sure to file a complete return.

L Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b, to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II, line 25, column (B) below) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ.

► \$ 130,154

Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (see the instructions for Part I.)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I ☒

Revenue	1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received	1	31,450
	2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts	2	7,313
	3	Membership dues and assessments	3	12,414
	4	Investment income	4	1,101
	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	Gaming and fundraising events		
	6a	Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000)	6a	
	6b	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ of contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) (attach Schedule G if the sum of such gross income and contributions exceeds \$15,000)	6b	77,876
	6c	Less: direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events	6c	73,757
	6d	Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c)	6d	4,119
	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 in Schedule O)	8	
	9	Total revenue. Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8	9	56,397
Expenses	10	Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O)	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	12,250
	14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance	14	
	15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping	15	2,177
	16	Other expenses (describe in Schedule O)	16	15,169
	17	Total expenses. Add lines 10 through 16	17	29,596
	18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9)	18	26,801
	Net Assets	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
20		Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	20	
21		Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 18 through 20	21	214,497

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

DAA

Form **990-EZ** (2011)

18 JS

Part II Balance Sheets. (see the instructions for Part II)Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part II ☒

	(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
22 Cash, savings, and investments	203,792	22	219,479
23 Land and buildings	0	23	
24 Other assets (describe in Schedule O)	10,198	24	21,201
25 Total assets	213,990	25	240,680
26 Total liabilities (describe in Schedule O)	26,294	26	26,183
27 Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21)	187,696	27	214,497

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments (see the instructions for Part III.)Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part III ☒

What is the organization's primary exempt purpose?

SEE SCHEDULE O

Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title.

Expenses
 (Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) trusts; optional for others.)
28 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES - TO PROVIDE ADMINISTRATIVE AND FACILITY SUPPORT SERVICES FOR APPROXIMATE MEMBERSHIP OF 280.(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐**28a****29 PROMOTION AND SUPPORT OF SPECIALTY CROP RELATED ACTIVITIES - ACTIVITIES AND PROMOTIONS ARE CONDUCTED PRIMARILY FOR THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP WITH SPECIFIC ACTIVITY INTEREST.**(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐**29a****30 CROPS CONFERENCE - TO PROVIDE AN ANNUAL CROPS CONFERENCE FOR ITS MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER INTERESTD PARTIES.**(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐**30a****31 Other program services (describe in Schedule O)**(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here ☐**31a****32 Total program service expenses (add lines 28a through 31a)****32****Part IV List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees.** List each one even if not compensated (see the instructions for Part IV)Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part IV ☐

(a) Name and address	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC) (If not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
HARRY ALTEN HARVARD IL	CHAIRMAN 0.00	0	0	0
DON KNOBLETT PALESTINE IL	SECRETARY 0.00	0	0	0
DENISE BOGGIO GRANVILLE IL	 0.00	0	0	0
KAY CARNES MONTICELLO IL	DIRECTOR 0.00	0	0	0
CHRIS ECKERT BELLEVILLE IL	DIRECTOR 0.00	0	0	0
DAN FOURNIE COLLINSVILLE IL	DIRECTOR 0.00	0	0	0
WILLIAM AWE ST. CHARLES IL	DIRECTOR 0.00	0	0	0
CLIFF INGERSOLL WALWORTH WI	DIRECTOR 0.00	0	0	0
DEBORAH NIEMANN-BOEHLE CORNELL IL	DIRECTOR 0.00	0	0	0
RANDY POSKIN ASHKUM IL	DIRECTOR 0.00	0	0	0

Part V Other Information (Note the Schedule A and personal benefit contract statement requirements in the instructions for Part V.) Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part V ☐

	Yes	No
33 Did the organization engage in any significant activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," provide a detailed description of each activity in Schedule O		X
34 Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the amended documents if they reflect a change to the organization's name. Otherwise, explain the change on Schedule O (see instructions)		X
35a Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year from business activities (such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a, among others)?		X
b If "Yes," to line 35a, has the organization filed a Form 990-T for the year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O		
c Was the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III		X
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		
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 tax year covered by this return?		X
b If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved 38b		
39 Section 501(c)(7) organizations Enter 39a		
a Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9 39a		
b Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities 39b		
40a Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under section 4911 ▶ _____, section 4912 ▶ _____, section 4955 ▶ _____		
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 did it engage in an excess benefit transaction in a prior year that has not been reported on any of its prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I		
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 ▶ _____		
d Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization ▶ _____		
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		X
41 List the states with which a copy of this return is filed ▶ NONE		
42a The organization's books are in care of ▶ DIANE HANDLEY Telephone no ▶ 309-557-3619 1701 TOWANDA AVENUE Located at ▶ 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. ▶ _____ See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of 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		
44a Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ		X
b Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ		X
c Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year?		X
d If "Yes" to line 44c, has the organization filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O		
45a Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?		X
45b Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," Form 990 and Schedule R may need to be completed instead of Form 990-EZ (see instructions)		X

- 46** Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I

	Yes	No
46		X

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 47-49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51.

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI ☐

- 47** Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II

	Yes	No
47		

- 48** Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E

48		
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- 49a** Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?

49a		
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- b** If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization?

49b		
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- 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) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation

- 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 **▶** _____

- 52** Did the organization complete Schedule A? **Note** All section 501(c)(3) organizations and 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must attach a completed Schedule A **▶** ☐ Yes ☐ No

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.

Sign Here	Signature of officer <u>Diane Handley</u>		Date <u>7-9-12</u>		
	Type or print name and title <u>Diane Handley</u>				
Paid Preparer Use Only	Print/Type preparer's name	Preparer's signature <u>Thomas M. Husek CPA</u>	Date <u>07/03/12</u>	Check ☐ if self-employed	PTIN <u>P00040282</u>
	Firm's name ▶ <u>ILLINOIS AG AUDITING ASSOC</u>	Firm's EIN ▶ <u>36-1252710</u>			
	Firm's address ▶ <u>318 SUSAN DR NORMAL, IL 61761</u>	Phone no <u>309-862-3870</u>			

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions **▶** ☒ Yes ☐ No

SCHEDULE G
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**Supplemental Information Regarding**
Fundraising or Gaming Activities

OMB No 1545-0047

2011Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue ServiceComplete 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 8a
▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. ▶ See separate instructions.Open To Public
Inspection

Name of the organization

ILLINOIS SPECIALTY GROWERS
ASSOCIATION

Employer identification number

37-1142742**Part I****Fundraising Activities.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 17.
Form 990-EZ filers are not required to complete this part.**1** Indicate whether the organization raised funds through any of the following activities. Check all that apply.

- a** ☐ Mail solicitations **e** ☐ Solicitation of non-government grants
- b** ☐ Internet and email solicitations **f** ☐ Solicitation of government grants
- c** ☐ Phone solicitations **g** ☐ Special fundraising events
- d** ☐ In-person solicitations

2a Did the organization have a written or oral agreement with any individual (including officers, directors, trustees
or key employees listed in Form 990, Part VII) or entity in connection with professional fundraising services?☐ Yes ☐ No**b** If "Yes," list the ten highest paid individuals or entities (fundraisers) pursuant to agreements under which the fundraiser is to be
compensated at least \$5,000 by the organization

(i) Name and address 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			
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
Total						

3 List all states in which the organization is registered or licensed to solicit contributions 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 of fundraising event contributions and gross income on Form 990-EZ, lines 1 and 6b. List events with gross receipts greater than \$5,000.

		(a) Event #1 CROPS CONFERENC (event type)	(b) Event #2 STATE FAIR (event type)	(c) Other events NONE (total number)	(d) Total events (add col (a) through col (c))
Revenue	1 Gross receipts	49,863	25,600		75,463
	2 Less Charitable contributions				
	3 Gross income (line 1 minus line 2)	49,863	25,600		75,463
Direct Expenses	4 Cash prizes				
	5 Noncash prizes				
	6 Rent/facility costs				
	7 Food and beverages				
	8 Entertainment				
	9 Other direct expenses	59,805	13,952		73,757
	10 Direct expense summary. Add lines 4 through 9 in column (d)				73,757
11 Net income summary. Combine line 3, column (d), and line 10					1,706

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.

		(a) Bingo	(b) Pull tabs/instant bingo/progressive bingo	(c) Other gaming	(d) Total gaming (add col (a) through col (c))
Revenue	1 Gross revenue				
Direct Expenses	2 Cash prizes				
	3 Noncash 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 line 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?

9a ☐ Yes ☐ No

b If "No," explain.

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

10a ☐ Yes ☐ No

b If "Yes," explain

- 11 Does the organization operate gaming activities with nonmembers? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- 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? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- 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 contract with a third party from whom the organization receives gaming revenue? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- 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? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- 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 ► \$

Part IV Supplemental Information. Complete this part to provide the explanations required by Part I, line 2b, columns (iii) and (v), and Part III, lines 9, 9b, 10b, 15b, 15c, 16, and 17b, as applicable. Also complete this part to provide any additional information (see instructions).

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service**Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ**Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

OMB No 1545-0047

2011Open to Public
Inspection

Name of the organization

**ILLINOIS SPECIALTY GROWERS
ASSOCIATION**

Employer identification number

37-1142742**FORM 990-EZ, PART I, LINE 16 - OTHER EXPENSES**

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
EXPENSES	
OFFICE	\$ 6,954
CONFERENCES/MEETINGS	\$ 388
INSURANCE	\$ 788
PROGRAMS	\$ 4,217
MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 934
NON-INVESTMENT DEPRECIATION	\$ 1,888
TOTAL	\$ 15,169

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

DESCRIPTION	BEG. OF YEAR	END OF YEAR
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	\$ 86	\$ 13,114
PREPAID EXPENSES AND DEFERRED CHARGES	\$ 1,088	\$ 951
EQUIPMENT	\$ 18,879	\$ 18,879
LESS ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	\$ 9,855	\$ 11,743
TOTAL	\$ 10,198	\$ 21,201

FORM 990-EZ, PART II, LINE 26 - OTHER LIABILITIES

DESCRIPTION	BEG. OF YEAR	END OF YEAR
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED EXPENSES	\$ 5,236	\$ 7,137
DEFERRED REVENUE	\$ 13,455	\$ 12,313
FUNDS HELD IN TRUST	\$ 7,603	\$ 6,733

Name of the organization

ILLINOIS SPECIALTY GROWERS

Employer identification number

37-1142742

FORM 990-EZ, PART III - 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.

11063 Illinois Specialty Growers

37-1142742

FYE: 3/31/2012

Federal Statements

Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 3 - Membership Dues and Assessments

<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$ 12,414
TOTAL	<u>\$ 12,414</u>