



## Missouri farmers star in documentary

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EAST PRAIRIE, MO. • Three farmers from southeastern Missouri are helping to tell the story of agriculture through a documentary.

"Against the Grain: The Year Mother Nature Struck Back" will air at 4 p.m. Sunday on ABC affiliate WSIL 3 in Southern Illinois. Produced by an Emmy award-winning team, Weller/Grossman, and agriculture industry experts, the documentary focuses on a number of farm families as they battle the forces of weather that are "against the grain." The families tell their own stories in their own words.

Among farmers featured is Kevin Mainord of East Prairie.

"I'm excited that the program gives an urban audience — because most of the stations it's going to be on are in the metropolitan area — a chance to see what farmers do for a living and where their food comes from," said Mainord, who has been involved in agriculture for 30 years and also serves as East Prairie's mayor.

Mainord said his involvement with the documentary came about last spring when Avatar Studios of St. Louis came to southeastern Missouri to cover the breach of the Bird's Point-New Madrid Floodway and talk to those affected by the flooding.

"Many people think their food is manufactured somewhere in a plant and just shows up there, and they have no idea what a grower goes through to produce a bushel of corn and/or soybeans," Mainord said. "I think they'll have a better idea after watching this program."

Against the Grain Productions LLC was formed two years ago to bring awareness of U.S. farm and ranch communities to the general public through programming on broadcast TV, the Internet, digital distribution and DVD.

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