

**From the Decatur Herald & Review  
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## **Business Achievements**

BLUE MOUND - Pete Pistorius of Blue Mound, Illinois has completed The Executive Program for Agricultural Producers in Austin, Texas. Pistorius was one of 125 participants selected to participate in the program for a week of training in early January.

TEPAP is sponsored by the Farm Credit system, John Deere, DTN, and is administered by Texas AgriLife Extension and Texas A & M University. In its 17th year, the Executive Program has taught nearly 1000 participants on agribusiness topics such as strategic management, international business development, niche market evaluation, analyzing financial performance, as well as personnel management and negotiation strategies.

Pistorius spent an intensive week in classroom sessions with some of the nation's more prominent faculty members, many of whom also own, manage or participate in commercial farming and ranching operations. After the daily class sessions, Pete took part in individual study and roundtable discussions with his classmates.

"The best thing about the program was being surrounded by the some of the country's top producers," Pistorius said. "There were producers of all sizes and it was good exposure for me to a variety of crops and farming operations."

TEPAP past participants have include farmers from 42 states, six Canadian provinces, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Mexico and Paraguay.

Pete operates Pistorius Farms, LLP near Blue Mound with Tim Pistorius and Craig Paulek.