

Dear Jennifer Kiel,

The high point to your letter was your comments about your two daughters. They are a credit to your family and to America. We need more people of their caliber.

I am sending you an article composed by Keith Kronenweldt, the owner of Carleton Farm Supply. He has an engineering degree from U-of-M, Ann Arbor. Unlike these Johnny-come-latelies that have jumped on the bandwagon in the last five years, I have been an ardent climate change advocate for 70 years. These newcomers believe that up until 10 years ago everything was static and did not change. Bull Huckey. The climate has always been changing and will continue to change. This area here has been through at least four glacial periods and once was an inland sea.

One observation I have made over the last 65 years has to do with the coming of spring. In raising sweet corn, your most profitable corn is what is ready early – usually the 4-10 July period. To get it early you have to plant it early. Year in and year out, the earliest the ground will be ready to work is April 10. The soil is not warm enough for germination, but you plant it anyway.

There was one year we planted the last day of March, but year in and year out, it will be April 10. These are not scientific observations or documented, but just experience. Here is the clinker – again not scientific just the rantings of a clodhopper. I can remember having a killing frost as early as Labor Day. Through the years, the trend has been to have a killing frost later through the years.

Last Oct. 15 we had a frost that killed sensitive plants and on Oct. 22 we had a really hard frost. Nothing scientific, but it seems to be a trend we are having later falls but not earlier springs.

Last spring we had a dry period that climate change advocates were yipping about – we have had dry springs before and will again.

It started raining about June 10 – modest showers of maybe ½ inch and one heavy rain in August, probably 2 inches. All in all, it was the best year ever.

The driest year I can remember was in 1988. I have never had crop insurance, but that year I went over my records to see if I should have crop insurance. Even that year I would not have received a payment.

When I was a little kid, my dad planted the first sweet corn on June 7. Very wet spring. The point I want to get across is weather changes and will continue to change. This climate change initiative is nothing but a bogeyman to channel people's energy away from things that do matter and can be fixed. Read Animal Farm, 1984, or Brave New World to see what is happening and what is in store for us.

By now you are either praying for my redemption or arranging a padded cell at the local mental institution. I am a contrarian and don't necessarily run with the herd. My next letter will concentrate on my 70 years experience with cover crops – facts and myths.

Adios Amigo,

Bob Schultz

The article he referenced:

Fact's About Earth's Atmosphere That You Might Not Be Aware Of:

The Earth's atmosphere is composed of the following:

Nitrogen 79%, Oxygen 20.4%, Trace Elements .6%

One of the trace elements is carbon dioxide, which as a component of the total atmosphere is .04%, or 400 parts per million. The human activity component of the atmospheric CO2 is 3%. Methane composes .00019% of the atmosphere.

To make this easier to visualize, picture the Big House in Ann Arbor as the atmosphere. Approximately 100,000 seats.

- 79,000 of the seats would be nitrogen
- 20,600 of the seats would oxygen
- 400 of the seats would be everything else, argon, neon, xenon, water vapor, methane, carbon dioxide, ozone, nitrous oxide, etc.
- 40 of those seats would be carbon dioxide
- The human activity component (3%) of those 40 seats would be 1.2 seats

If you believe that 1.2 seats are capable of affecting the temperature of the remaining 99,998.9 seats, I have a lot of things that I would like to sell you.

Don't trust my facts, do your own research!