Subject:	Storing Carbon to Reduce Greenhouse Gases
Story summary:	One way to reduce carbon dioxide, a major source of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, is to store it in the soil. An Illinois farmer and soil scientist thinks carbon could become a new source of the revenue.
TRT:	1:59
Suggested lead:	Farmers may have a crop sitting in the ground that could play a role in reducing atmospheric greenhouse gases. Stewart Truelsen reports from Lexington, Illinois.
Suggested supers:	McLean County, IL @ :08 Jim Kinsella Illinois farmer @ :26 Stewart Truelsen reporting @ 1:24 Jon Doggett American Farm Bureau Federation @ 1:37

Storing Carbon to Reduce Greenhouse Gases
Reporter Stewart Truelsen
August 24, 2000

Jim Kinsella walking along edge of soybean field, Jim coming out of corn field and pausing to look at ear of corn, **Locator—McLean County, IL**	VO/ ILLINOIS FARMER JIM KINSELLA IS LOOKING AT NEARLY 60 BUSHELS OF SOYBEANS TO THE ACRE. HIS CORN CROP IS AROUND 200 BUSHELS. AND HE'S GOT ANOTHER CROP IN THE SAME FIELDS—CARBON.
Split audio/video Pan of corn plants/	SOT/ WE SEQUESTERED A LOT OF CARBON THIS YEAR. THERE IS JUST A LOT CARBON OUT THERE.
Jim Kinsella doing a soil demonstration,	VO/ KINSELLA ALSO IS A SOIL SCIENTIST. HE CAN EXPLAIN ALL ABOUT SOIL AND HOW IT STORES CARBON FROM PLANT MATERIAL.
Jim Kinsella **Illinois farmer**	SOT/ SO WHAT THESE PLANTS ARE DOING IS THEY'RE TAKING CO2 OUT OF THE ATMOSPHERE. THEY'RE TAKING NUTRIENTS AND WATER OUT OF THE SOIL, AND THROUGH THE ENERGY OF THE SUN AND PHOTOSYNTHESIS, THEY'RE DEVELOPING A TISSUE, AND THIS TISSUE WHETHER IT BE LEAVES, STEMS OR PODS ARE ABOUT 45 TO 50 PERCENT CARBON.
Line of traffic on expressway with heat waves, Airplane taking off at O'Hare/ No tiller planter/	VO/ SCIENTISTS BELIEVE CARBON DIOXIDE IN THE ATMOSPHERE, A MAJOR SOURCE OF GREENHOUSE GASES, CAN BE REDUCED BY STORING CARBON IN THE SOIL. CONSERVATION TILLAGE IS ONE WAY TO DO IT BECAUSE IT INCREASES THE ORGANIC MATTER IN THE SOIL.

Walkthrough corn field with camera, Soil#2:27:35	ONE IDEA IS TO PAY FARMERS TO STORE THE ADDITIONAL CARBON IN COMPENSATION FOR THE FARMING PRACTICES REQUIRED.
Jim Kinsella	SOT/ I THINK A FAIR VALUE WOULD BE—WE WILL SEQUESTER THE CARBON FROM THE ATMOSPHERE AND LAY IT IN OUR SOIL FOR 5 CENTS A POUND OR $100 A TON. AND THAT WOULD MEAN 150 BUSHEL CORN CROP AT 5 CENTS A POUND FOR CARBON, IT LOOKS LIKE IT WOULD RETAIN IN THE SOIL AS HUMUS, WOULD BE WORTH ABOUT $35 SUBSIDY FROM THE GOVERNMENT.
Soybean row at edge of field/ Tops of corn plants/ Wider of plants/ Baling alfalfa hay/ Pan of cotton field/	VO/ THE AMOUNT OF CARBON SEQUESTERED VARIES WITH THE PLANT. KINSELLA SAYS CORN, ALFALFA, WHEAT AND COTTON ARE GOOD. BUT FARMERS ARE ADVISED NOT TO COUNT THEIR CARBON DOLLARS JUST YET.
Jon Doggett **American Farm Bureau Federation**	SOT/ I THINK WE ARE A LONG WAY AWAY FROM HAVING CARBON TRADING WORKING FOR AGRICULTURE. WE'VE GOT A LOT OF QUESTIONS THAT NEED TO BE ANSWERED. THERE'S A LOT OF THINGS THAT NEED TO BE DEALT WITH, PARTICULARLY THE SCIENCE BEHIND ALL OF THIS AND HOW THAT WORKS, SO WE'VE GOT A LONG WAYS TO GO.
Kinsella taking ear of corn off plant/ Close-up/ Farm beauty shot/	VO/ AND IT WON'T WORK FOR ALL TYPES OF FARMS, BUT FOR SOME FARMERS, CARBON COULD BE A NEW CROP. IN LEXINGTON, ILLINOIS, I'M STEWART TRUELSEN.
