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## Deere making face shields in fight against Covid-19

BY DOUG GRAVES  
Ohio Correspondent

MOLINE, Ill. — Newly appointed Director of the Illinois Department of Agriculture Jerry Costello II recently called agriculture the “backbone of America”.

John Deere, an Illinois-based agricultural giant, gave credence to Costello’s words as the company is in the process of making 25,000 protective face shields, with supplies being ordered for the production of an additional 200,000 to be made at its Moline factory.

Deere acted in a response to a nationwide call for more personal protective equipment (PPE) amid the Covid-19 pandemic. The face shields will be distributed by factories in Deere’s network to meet the immediate needs of health care workers in local communities. The Moline factory normally manufactures planting equipment and precision agriculture solutions.

“We knew that we needed to do more to help the true heroes in the fight against this virus, and those are the front-line health care workers,” said David Ottavianelli, Deere director of strategic projections and

labor relations. “Our employees wanted to do more for the local community, and we could not be prouder of their actions. They are the real stars.”

Currently, 15-20 employees are assembling the face shields. That number is expected to increase as the company acquires more raw materials.

The first 25,000 face shields will be delivered to 17 Deere factories in eight states as well as the company’s U.S. Deere-Hitachi factor for local distribution.

“We recognize this won’t meet all the need,” Ottavianelli said, “but we have additional orders in place to produce up to 200,000 more, and we continue to work on getting more material beyond that. Material is the key element in this entire process.”

The work began at the John Deere factory in Quad Cities. There factory manager Brad Russman started the manufacture process using a design from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Each face shield will incorporate a piece of clear plastic, a foam pad for one’s forehead and an elastic headband.

“We will be handling distribution centrally out of Moline to the facto-

**(Masks continued on page 9)**

**Below:** Jose Martinez assembles protective face shields for health care workers at the John Deere Seedling factory in Moline, Illinois. (Photo courtesy John Deere)



**Above:** Sheep await the coming of spring on a farm in northern Indiana. Photo by Leonida Walchle.

## U.S. House members request coronavirus aid for specialty crop producers

BY DOUG SCHMITZ  
Iowa Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D.C. — In an April 7 bipartisan letter to USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue, 108 members of the U.S. House Representatives asked the Trump Administration to provide direct support to specialty crop producers as the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act is implemented.

“As you work to implement provisions in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, we respectfully request that you provide direct support to the specialty crop producers across our nation that are facing immediate and substantial financial challenges,” the members told Perdue.

Representatives Jimmy Panetta, D-California; Fred Upton, R-Michigan; Jim Costa, D-California; and Doug LaMalfa, R-California, spearheaded the congressional support in the letter.

“Such relief will not only assist producers who are struggling to make ends meet during this unprecedented time but also help ensure our most vulnerable communities continue to

have access to fresh produce,” the members added.

Under the CARES Act, \$14 billion would be provided for the replenishment of the Commodity Credit Corp., and an additional \$9.5 billion for agricultural producers impacted by COVID-19, including specialty crop producers, producers that supply local food systems, and livestock producers.

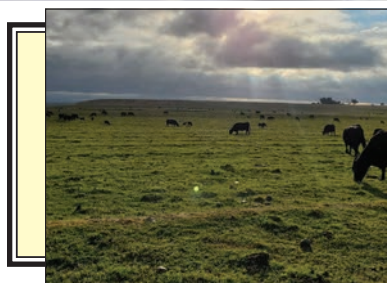
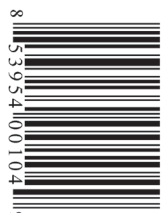
“We are very pleased that specialty crop producers have been specifically included in this relief package,” the members continued. “These producers are experiencing significant losses, with more losses expected in the coming days, weeks, and potentially months.”

“Now, as you make decisions regarding how best to allocate CARES Act funding, we request that you reserve funding to develop and execute a recovery and relief plan for the specialty crop industry,” they added.

The members are asking this plan include the following three key components:

1. Fresh Produce Purchases: We ask that this plan include funding and guidance for USDA purchases of fresh fruits and vegetables, including pur-

**(Crops continued on page 9)**



**CATTLE FARMERS STILL BATTLING FOR ‘MADE IN USA’ LABELS - PAGE 1B**



### IN THIS FARM WORLD:

- A menu fit for family mornings . . . . . Page 14B
- Coronavirus and its impact on dairy . . . . . Page 2

# Coronavirus and its impact on dairy

**BY SUSAN MYKRANTZ**  
Ohio Correspondent

WOOSTER, Ohio— The Coronavirus has turned the world upside down, wreaking havoc on the health and economy worldwide, and impact on the dairy industry in particular.

Before the virus began spreading across the globe, about half of the cheese sold in the United States was consumed outside the home in restaurants, take-out sales and institutions, according to Dr. Mark Stephenson, Extension Dairy Policy Specialist and Director of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension and Center for Dairy Profitability. Stephenson was a presenter in a webinar hosted by the University of Wisconsin-Madison's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Department of Extension and Nutrient Pest Management program.

Stephenson said that sales of American Processed Cheese which is sold on burgers or served on a plate of nachos dropped almost immediately as restaurants closed due to social distancing. At the same time, pizza sales are mostly take-out and reports show that those sales have surged. Total cheese sales are up at the retail level as consumers are buying cheese in the grocery store to take it home, but it is down at foodservice and institutions, so there is a net loss in cheese sales of five to ten percent.

Cheese plants aren't taking any more milk than they need and milk is moving to meet consumer demand, according to Stephenson.

"About two-thirds of fluid milk is consumed in the home," he said. "Those sales are up and we are seeing

some empty shelves and limits on purchases, which reverses a long-standing trend of less consumption of beverage milk. But foodservice and institution sales still account for the other third of fluid milk sales and those sales are way down. So the total fluid milk consumption is a negative five to ten percent."

Butter sales have also seen a decline, according to Stephenson, as more than half of the butter is consumed outside the home in restaurants and institutional settings. Butter sales are up in retail but not enough to offset the decline in out of home use. Butter sales are down by ten to twenty percent.

"If you look at all of these products, we are clearly down in demand for dairy products," he said. "But at the same time demand was declining, we were beginning to build up milk production by 1.7 percent and cow numbers were up as well."

Excess milk production is keeping a lid on milk prices, according to Stephenson. Also, there is adequate storage of dairy products so buyers aren't rushing to buy products until they need them.

Another challenge, according to Stephenson, is the disruption in the export market with orders down in several countries due to the Coronavirus. Mexico and Canada are also dealing with Coronavirus issues so that has had an impact on demand for dairy products from those countries.

Service at ports has been shut down so ships aren't being loaded out to move the product overseas.

Finally, the disruption in the supply chains in a variety of industries could

lead to a tailspin into a worldwide recession, presenting a new set of problems for dairy demand and export sales fell.

The prices on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange have seen a \$5 to \$6 decline in May futures from price projections in mid-January as export sales were disrupted beginning in January due to the Coronavirus outbreak in China.

Looking at the Dairy Margin Coverage levels, during the December sign-up period, projections for 2020 were for margins at \$10 or above. We could see margins to fall below \$6 during the May and June period.

"The good news is that corn prices have fallen as well but not by enough to offset milk prices," he said.

"We have several other concerns in the dairy industry," he said. "It is bad enough for any farm operator or labor on the farm to contract the virus. That can disrupt the activities on the farm, but it could be worse if it happens further downstream with milk haulers or processors."

But Stephenson doesn't see Coronavirus impacting processors due to their hypervigilant sanitation practices, so the plants probably wouldn't close. However, if it is a key employee such as lab or testing personnel it might slow down normal operations.

"We have seen some cooperatives and dairy plants who have sent out letters to their patrons asking for a voluntary reduction in milk production," he said. "If you look at the collapsed demand and relatively big milk supply across the country, we need to reduce milk supply. That is the only way out of this. We can't just buy the product and stick it in cold storage, there is just too much."

Some of these co-ops have also reminded members that they have supply management protocols in place which could be invoked. Milk is being dumped in some areas, according to reports. There is also milk that is not dumped but it is being sold at distressed prices. In this case, milk is being sold at less than minimum milk price levels, but processors might take an extra load if the price is right.

All in all, Stephenson projects that 2020 to be another brutal year and possibly the lowest prices in the last five years. But there are some things producers should do.

"Meet with your banker to discuss whether you will need additional credit or restructure your loans," he said. "Some farms may want to ask themselves whether this is time to exit the industry on their terms, and milk prices will decline enough to operate barns at below capacity."

Stephenson said producers may also want to consider their feeding strategy and not push production as hard, to lower purchased feed costs to reduce the milk supply and help prices recover.

"We could see some help at the federal level," said Stephenson. "The CARES Act was passed and signed into law with about 2.2 trillion dollars, some of it was identified for agriculture."

Stephenson said of the money set aside for agriculture, 14 billion would go to CCC replenishment to cover deficit spending on the market facilitation payments in 2019. There is also 9.5 billion that the Secretary of Agriculture can use to help agriculture, including the dairy industry. 15.8 billion dollars

(Coronavirus on page 9)

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2012 Freightliner Cascadia, Cummins ISX 450 HP, UltraShift Automatic, Air Ride Susp., Jake, Cruise, A/C, AM/FM, PDL, Susp. Dump Valve, Power Windows, Locks & Mirrors, 40K RA, 12K FA, 193" WB, 3.58 RR, (10) Alum. Wheels On 295/75R22.5's, 503,310 Mi., W-2463. \$30,500



\*1) 2013 Freightliner Cascadia, Cummins ISX 450 HP, Fuller 10 Speed, Air Ride Susp., Jake, Cruise, A/C, AM/FM, Power Windows, Locks And Mirrors, 3.55 RR, 190" WB, (10) Alum. Whls On LP 22.5's, 445,582 Miles, W-2470. . . . CALL



2013 Freightliner Cascadia 125, Cummins ISX 500 HP, Smart Shift Auto., Air Ride Susp., Jake, Cruise, A/C, AM/FM, PDL, Power Windows, Locks & Mirrors, A/S 5th Wheel, (6) Alum./4 Steel Whls On LP 22.5's, 3.58 RR, 178" WB, 799,611 Miles, W-2456. \$27,950



2013 Freightliner Cascadia, Cummins ISX 450 HP, Fuller 10 Sp., Air Ride Susp., Jake, Cruise, A/C, AM/FM, PDL, Susp. Dump Valve, Power Windows, Locks & Mirrors, 40K RA, 12K FA, 193" WB, 3.55 RR, (10) Alum. Wheels On 295/75R22.5's, 506,882 Miles, W-2486. . . . CALL



2013 Volvo VNL64T, Volvo D13 425 HP, I-Shift(12) Automatic, Air Ride Susp., Trans Brake, Cruise, A/C, AM/FM, Susp. Dump Valve, 40K RA, 12K FA, 2.64 RR, 185" WB, (10) Alum. Wheels On 295/75R22.5's, 842,308 Miles, W-2460. . . . \$25,950



2012 Volvo VNL64T, Volvo D13 405 HP, Fuller 10 Speed, Air Ride Susp., Trans Brake, Cruise A/C, AM/FM, Susp. Dump Valve, 40K RA, 12,350 FA, 3.42 RR, 170" WB, (6) Alum./4 Steel Wheels On 275/60R22.5's, 619,893 Miles, W-2435. . . . CALL



2014 Volvo VNL64T, Volvo D13 455 HP, Fuller 10 Speed, Air Ride Suspension, Trans Brake, Cruise, A/C, AM/FM, PDL, Power Windows, Locks And Mirrors, 40K RA, 12K FA, 185" WB, 3.42 RR, (6) Aluminum Wheels (Super Single Drives), 544,934 Miles, W-2484. . . Call



2014 Volvo VNL64T, Volvo D13 455 HP, Fuller 10 Speed, Air Ride Suspension, Trans Brake, Cruise, A/C, AM/FM, PDL, Power Windows, Locks And Mirrors, 40K RA, 12K FA, 185" WB, 3.42 RR, (6) Aluminum Wheels (Super Single Drives) 552,928 Miles, W-2488, (Rep Photo) . . . . Call



2014 Volvo VNL64T, Volvo D13 455 HP, Fuller 10 Speed, Air Ride Suspension, Trans Brake, Cruise, A/C, AM/FM, PDL, Power Windows, Locks And Mirrors, 40K RA, 12K FA, 185" WB, 3.42 RR, (6) Aluminum Wheels (Super Single Drives) 552,928 Miles, W-2488, (Rep Photo) . . . . Call



2007 Freightliner M2, CAT C7 250 HP, Allison Automatic, Air Ride Suspension, Cruise, A/C, AM/FM, CD Player, Power Windows, Locks & Mirrors, Susp. Dump Valve, 21K Rear Axle, 10K Front Axle, 150" WB, 5.29 RR, (6) Steel Whls On 295/75R22.5's, 247,373 Miles, W-2494. . . . CALL



2012 Freightliner M2, DD13 370 HP, Air Ride Susp., Fuller 10 Speed, Jake, Cruise, A/C, AM/FM, Power Windows & Mirrors/Heat, 20K RA, 12K FA, 158" WB, 10" 6" x 36" Crysteel Dump Bed, Air Tailgate, Cab Controls, (6) Steel Wheels On 295/75R22.5's, 339,654 Miles, W-2379. . . . \$41,750



2021 Stoughton Platinum Series Grain Hopper, 40'x96"x66", Air Ride Susp., Aluminum Sub-Frame, F-R Catwalks & Ladders, Stainless Front Corners And Rear Panels, White Nose & Sides, (2) Rows of (7) LED's, Ag Hoppers, Dump Valve/Load Gauge, Shur-Lok Manual Roll Top. . . . CALL



2013 Freightliner M2, Cummins ISL 370 HP, Fuller 10 Sp., Jake, Cruise, A/C, AM/FM, Power Windows & Mirrors, 20K RA, 12K FA, 158" Wheel Base, 10'6" Crysteel Dump Bed, Air Tail Gate, Cab Controls, (6) Steel Wheels On 295/75R22.5's, 541,776 Miles, W-2378. . . . \$42,750



2014 International 4300, MFDT 260 HP, Allison Auto., Spring Ride Susp., 216" WB, 5.29 RR, A/C, Cruise, AM/FM, Power Windows, Locks & Mirrors, (6) Steel Wheels On LP 22.5's, 16'x96"x14" Crysteel Contractor Bed, Sub-Frame Hoist, Air Tailgate, Rear Hitch Plate, 195,285 Miles, W-2366. . . . \$36,950



1992 Kenworth T600, 60 Series Detroit, Fuller 13 Speed, Air Ride Susp., Jake, Cruise, AM/FM, Susp. Dump Valve, PDL, Manual Windows & Locks, 40K Rear Axle, 12K Front Axle, 60" Sleeper w/Storage, (6) Alum./4 Steel Wheels On 11R22.5's, 1,232,020 Miles, W-2489. . . . CALL



2015 Kenworth T680, Paccar MX13 455 HP, Fuller 10 Speed, Jake, Cruise, A/C, AM/FM, PDL, 76" Sleeper, NITE System, A/S 5th Wheel, Power Windows, Locks And Mirrors, 3.25 RR, 243" WB, (6) Alum./4 Steel Whls On LP 22.5's, 573,523 Miles, W-2372. \$31,950



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**2013 John Deere 8260R**

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# Pork farmers donate 500 pounds of pork, 50 hams

INDIANAPOLIS — While meat has been in high demand during the current pandemic, farmers know there is a plentiful supply of pork and are making sure it gets to the Hoosiers who need a helping hand and a free meal.

Indiana Pork, representing the state's nearly 3,000 pig farmers, is continuing the pattern of giving to those in need by donating 500 pounds of ground pork and over 50 hams to Wheeler Mission, an Indianapolis-based homeless shelter.

"The idea for the donation came after talking to Indianapolis chefs who have been working to feed their neighbors," said Jeanette Merritt, Director of Checkoff Programs for Indiana Pork. "Ross Katz, the chef/owner of Roosters Kitchen, told me that he and his kitchen staff wanted to help at Wheeler Mission by making a day's worth of meals for the over 1,000 people the Mission serves at their men's facility. Donating ground pork for Chef Katz to make biscuits and gravy was a no-brainer. But when I heard the Mission didn't receive any ham donations for their Easter celebration, I knew our pig farmers would want hams donated too."

"We are thrilled to see this community partnership come together. Here at Wheeler Mission, the daily demand for meals from people experiencing homelessness has risen by 20 percent - 60 percent," said Brian Crispin, Director of Marketing and Corporate Engagement for Wheeler Mission. "People are hurting during this pandemic, and the Pacers Foundation, Roosters Kitchen and Indiana Pork are not only helping us with the added stress on our resources, but they will also be giving our front-line kitchen

staff a much needed break. All of us at Wheeler Mission are very grateful to everyone in the community who is rallying around us during this very difficult time."

The ground pork and hams were delivered to Wheeler Mission on April 8. This donation is part of an on-going effort by Indiana pig farmers to give back to their communities and to help feed their neighbors.

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- 2015 Bobcat S630 skid loader/78" bucket ..... \$28,500
- New Idea 486 (5x6) round baler, twine tie, field ready. .... \$5,500
- Unverferth 530 grain wagon, 550 bu. roll tarp, brakes, lights. \$9,500
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- 2004 Tye 2015 soybean special no-till drill, 8" spacing, markers, single basket rolling harrow on rear ..... \$6,500
- JD 328 sq. baler w/42 thrower joystick control. .... \$6,800
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# Farm animal veterinarians deemed 'essential' by DHS

**BY DOUG GRAVES**  
Ohio Correspondent

SCHAUMBURG, Ill. — When it was announced on March 15 that just 15 states had officially deemed veterinarians as essential workers, those in the rural sector might have gone into panic mode.

However, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) deemed farming as an essential business and any livestock animals (cattle, sheep, pigs, goats, horses, donkeys, mules, buffalo, oxen, llamas and others) are part of that

essential business. The DHS went on to classify agricultural veterinarians as "workers who are essential to the infrastructure of farming."

"Many bovine veterinarians across the country continue to make on-farm calls to treat livestock, given the challenges involved in trying to diagnose health issues and treat large animals remotely," said Michael San Filippo, senior media relations specialist for the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA).

So it's perfectly legal for, say, a large animal vet to come to a farm to check

up on any type of animal. There are guidelines just the same, such as remaining six feet away from other people, limit the number of people in the barn at any one time, and encouraging sick people to stay at home. Modifying barn hours to allow for disinfecting of feed buckets, stall handles, grooming supplies and more is suggested.

According to the AVMA, there have been on documented cases of Covid-19 infections in horses or livestock species, and there is no evidence to date that humans represent a risk of this infection to farm animals.

However, there are many corona viruses of veterinary importance, such as transmissible gastroenteritis virus (TGEV) and porcine respiratory coronavirus of swine, infectious bronchitis virus of poultry and equine and bovine coronavirus. While these are generally very contagious diseases within a group of animals, they are not often transmitted between species and are quite host-restricted.

"It could be very upsetting to hear your veterinarian talk about coronavirus

in your herd, flock or barn at any time," Filippo said. "Livestock coronavirus diseases represent a very low risk for human infection and disease, and are not Covid-19."

Other infectious disease of livestock are zoonotic, or diseases that can be transmitted between humans and animals. These include salmonellosis, brucellosis, ringworm, rabies, tuberculosis, cryptosporidiosis. These infections still remain important considerations when interacting with horses and livestock, and emphasize the importance of rigorous hand hygiene after any contact with animals.

The fact sheets from the AVMA, humans are not at risk for passing Covid-19 to their horses or livestock and there is no reason to believe animals can transmit the disease to humans. However, the virus is very contagious between people, and circumstances where animals or their products bring people together can create a real risk of infection and disease during this pandemic.

**Below:** Amid the dilemma of the coronavirus, large animal vets have been deemed "essential" and still make house (or farm) calls as needed. Pictured are large animal vet technicians from Iowa Community College (photo submitted)





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# VIEWS AND OPINIONS

## Don't cry over dumped milk



HOOSIER AG TODAY  
By Gary Truitt

The non-stop, media coverage of the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in a lot of new faces showing up in news reports. Celebrities, big business CEOs, sports figures, and elected officials have been replaced with medical experts, doctors, healthcare workers, first responders, small businessmen, retail cashiers, Amazon delivery guys, and teachers. These are the people on the front lines of the battle to slow the spread of the virus and who are keeping our economy moving while the rest of us shelter in place. Farmers have also found themselves in this spotlight as the availability of food is a concern.

Dairy farmers were among the first to make headlines when retail stores started running out of milk and people assumed it was due to a milk shortage. This was not the case as it was a logistical problem resulting from sudden panic buying of milk. Within a few weeks, news stories started focusing on the millions of gallons of milk that was being dumped because the market had collapsed and there was literally no place to take it. The fact that the shutdown of schools and the restaurant industry would drastically cut the demand for milk never occurred to most consumers or to the reporters covering the story.

Egg producers faced a similar situation. Just as there is no off switch on a cow's milk production, there is no overdrive switch on a chicken's egg production system. The sudden surge in demand for eggs caught the industry by surprise, and a shortage in the retail chain resulted. At the same time, the demand from the food service sector collapsed but simply switching those eggs into stores came with a whole host of logistical, packaging, and regulatory problems. Again consumers got mixed messages with limits on retail egg sales and with news stories of eggs being thrown away.

Fruit and vegetable growers came in for criticism when the media showed crops rotting in the field or being plowed under, while food banks were trying to serve people who had lost their jobs. Again logistics and regulations make this easier to say than to do. There were also several news and social media posts that claimed the virus could be transmitted on the surface of fruits and vegetables - a claim rejected by scientists.

Unfortunately, two stories that did not get reported as much as they should involved the charity of farmers and the contribution of biotechnology to the search for the cure. Not only did commodity groups including the American Dairy Association of Indiana arrange for milk to be provided to child care and adult care facilities and the pork producers arrange for pork meals to be sent to food banks, but individual farmers made contributions in their own community.

Keep in mind that this all comes at a time when farm income is down and farmers face a good deal of uncertainty about their operations. Yet, many stepped up and made donations of a variety of materials to local hospitals. One such case was Marshall County Farm Bureau President Charlie Houin who donated a number of masks that he uses on his farm for dust to Marshall County hospitals.

Corn and soybean checkoff funds are being used to help teachers and parents struggling with e-learning. "The Checkoff's focus in our charter is education, promotion, and research," said the CEO of Indiana Corn and Soybean, Courtney Kingery. With education relegated to the home for students and educators and even parents, Checkoff online teaching resources are proving timely and valuable. "Nourishthefuture.org contains virtual classroom work on things like plant breeding, plant science, energy," she explained. "It's got lesson plans and activities targeted really toward middle and high schoolers. So, if families, if teachers can visit Nourish the Future they will have access to all of those resources free of charge."

In the past few weeks, there have been countless news stories on finding the cure. What too often gets lost in the simplification of the science is the fact that biotechnology is playing a key role in this

(Hoosier Ag Today continued on page 8)



## Hey, didn't rural America invent 'social distancing'?

There's a brittle beauty to this year's spring. Amid the swaying daffodils, cotton clouds, and already roaring tractors and dust-shaking planters hides a deadly virus with a special fondness for those of us in rural America.

In fact, rural America is perfectly primed for Covid-19, according to any epidemiologist worth their student loans. The virus finds its weakest, best targets in elderly Americans with "co-morbidity" factors like diabetes or heart disease.

That's us.

"Less than 14 percent of the nation's population is over 65 years," noted Megan L. Srinivas in the April 7 Des Moines Register, "but this group represents over 18% of the population in rural areas."

Those numbers, explains Srinivas, "an infectious disease doctor living in rural Iowa," have her "terrified... and shaken." The reason is simple; she knows the dark math behind them.

For example, if rural Iowa or rural anywhere gets hit by Covid-19 as hard as New York or Chicago, it will be more lethal because while rural America is home to 20 percent of all Americans, it contains only nine percent of the nation's hospitals, two percent of its intensive care beds.

And that's the good news.

The bad news is the numbers get worse. Iowa, for example, "has only 280 ventilators for its more than 3 million residents." If current predictions hold, "... up to 150,000 Iowans may need those mere 280 ventilators over the next 18 months."

Note she said months, not weeks.



FARM AND FOOD FILE  
By Alan Guebert

Age isn't the only sweet spot in rural America for Covid-19. We country dwellers are poorer than our metro counterparts and many of our jobs—whether well-paying, average or minimum wage in schools, pubs, restaurants, or grain elevators—are now gone, going, or facing cutbacks in paid hours.

That means a higher percentage of rural Americans will face difficult months, even years, ahead in paying for housing, food, and, Lord have mercy, life-and-death health care choices.

And don't believe the blowhards who claim our open spaces and thin population will provide a protective buffer to keep farm and ranch communities safe. It won't.

In fact, "8 in 10 U.S. counties "are under lockdown orders," the Wall Street Journal reported April 6. "They represent nearly 96% of the national output."

A day later, the New York Times reported that America's countryside was on the same path the newspaper's hometown was a month ago: "This week, the case rate in rural areas was more than double it was six days before."

Equally troubling is that as this snowball rolls into rural America, its growing size will minimize news of other critically important choices that require rural input and monitoring. For instance, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture (USDA) Sonny Perdue is sitting on a \$50-billion mountain of bailout money for... whom? How? When?

Now would be a good time to have the

(Farm and Food continued on page 7)

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# MARKETS

## Weekly National Sheep Summary For the Week Ending Friday, April 10, 2020

Weekly Trends: Compared to last week slaughter lambs sharply higher. Slaughter ewes steady to 20.00 higher. Feeder lambs not well tested. Receipts greatly curtailed by the COVID-19 virus. At San Angelo, TX 2474 head sold. No sales in Equity Electronic Auction. In direct trading slaughter ewes and feeder lambs were not tested. Confidential head of negotiated sales of slaughter lambs were confidential. 934 lamb carcasses sold with all weights no trend due to confidentiality. All sheep sold per hundred weight (CWT) unless otherwise specified.

Slaughter Lambs: Choice and Prime 2-3 90-160 lbs: woolled and shorn 113 lbs 176.00; 160 lbs 148.00.  
 San Angelo: woolled and shorn 100-115 lbs no report.  
 PA: woolled and shorn 100-120 lbs 132.550-141.00.  
 Ft. Collins, CO: woolled and shorn 142 lbs 115.00.  
 South Dakota: woolled and shorn 100-145 lbs no test.  
 Kalona, IA: no test.  
 Billings, MT: woolled and shorn 168 lbs 110.00.  
 Missouri: no sales.  
 Equity Elec:

Slaughter Lambs: Choice and Prime 1-2: hair 40-60 lbs 220.00-242.00; 60-70 lbs 214.00-238.00, few 240.00-246.00; 70-80 lbs 204.00-224.00; 80-90 lbs 206.00-218.00, few 226.00; 90-110 lbs 204.00-220.00. woolled and shorn no test.  
 Pennsylvania: no report.  
 Kalona, IA: no test.  
 Ft. Collins: woolled and shorn no test. hair 56 lbs 192.50.  
 Missouri: woolled and shorn 50-60 lbs 162.50-185.00; 60-70 lbs 165.00-220.00; 70-80 lbs 175.00-190.00. hair 50-60 lbs 165.00-175.00.  
 South Dakota: woolled and shorn no test.  
 Billings, MT: no test.  
 Direct Trading: (lambs fob with 3-4 percent shrink or equivalent)  
 Slaughter Lambs woolled and shorn 140-162 lbs - (wtd avg).

Slaughter Ewes: Good 3-4 (very fleshy) no test; Good 2-3 (fleshy) 82.00-94.00; Utility and Good 1-3 (medium flesh) 130.00-190.00, late 112.00-124.00; Utility 1-2 (thin) 90.00-104.00; Cull and Utility 1-2 (very thin) 70.00; Cull 1 (extremely thin) 50.00.  
 Pennsylvania: Good 3-4 (very fleshy) no test;

Ft. Collins: Good 2-3 (fleshy) no report; Utility 1-2 (thin) no report; Cull 1 no test. Good 3-5 (very fleshy) 58.00-73.00; Good 2-3 (fleshy) 60.00-75.00; Utility 1-2 (thin) no test.  
 Billings, MT: Good 3-4 (very fleshy) no test; Good 2-3 (fleshy) no test; Utility 1-2 (thin) no test; Cull 1 no test. Good 3-4 (very fleshy) 56.00-65.00; Good 2-3 (fleshy) 56.00-76.00; Utility 1-2 (thin) 36.00-55.00; Cull 1 21.00.  
 So Dakota: Good 3-5 (very fleshy) no test; Good 2-3 (fleshy) 55.00-65.00; Utility and Good 1-3 (medium flesh) 55.00-80.00; Utility 1-2 (thin) 62.50-72.50; Cull 1 40.00-57.50.  
 Kalona: Good 3-4 (very fleshy) no test; Good 2-3 (fleshy) no test; Utility and Good 1-3 (medium flesh) no test; Utility 1-2 (thin) no test. Medium and Large 1-2: no test.  
 San Angelo: 46 lbs 192.50; 60-70 lbs 171.00-177.00.  
 Billings: no test.  
 Kalona: no test.  
 So. Dakota: 44 lbs 220.00; 73 lbs 140.00.  
 Missouri: no test.  
 Replacement Ewes: Medium and Large 1-2: mixed age hair ewes 95-120 lbs 130.00-136.00 cwt.  
 San Angelo: no test.  
 Ft. Collins: no test.  
 Billings: no test.  
 So Dakota: no test.  
 Kalona, IA: no test.  
 Missouri: hair ewes with lambs 175.00 per family.

Feeder Lambs: San Angelo: 46 lbs 192.50; 60-70 lbs 171.00-177.00.  
 Billings: no test.  
 Kalona: no test.  
 So. Dakota: 44 lbs 220.00; 73 lbs 140.00.  
 Missouri: no test.  
 Replacement Ewes: Medium and Large 1-2: mixed age hair ewes 95-120 lbs 130.00-136.00 cwt.  
 San Angelo: no test.  
 Ft. Collins: no test.  
 Billings: no test.  
 So Dakota: no test.  
 Kalona, IA: no test.  
 Missouri: hair ewes with lambs 175.00 per family.

National Weekly Lamb Carcass Choice and Prime 1-4: Weight Head Wt Avg  
 45 lbs down Price not reported due to confidentiality  
 45-55 lbs Price not reported due to confidentiality  
 55-65 lbs Price not reported due to confidentiality  
 65-75 lbs Price not reported due to confidentiality  
 75-85 lbs Price not reported due to confidentiality  
 85 lbs up Price not reported due to confidentiality  
 Sheep and lamb slaughter under federal inspection for the week to date totaled 29,000 compared with 30,000 last week and 47,000 last year.  
 Source: USDA Market News Service, San Angelo, Texas  
 Rebecca Sauder 325-653-1778  
 www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SA\_LS850  
 www.ams.usda.gov/LSMarketNews

## Estimated Daily Livestock Slaughter Under Federal Inspection

	Friday, April 10, 2020			
	CATTLE	CALVES	HOGS	SHEEP
Friday 04/10/2020 (est)	88,000	2,000	428,000	5,000
Week ago (est)	107,000	2,000	483,000	5,000
Year ago (act)	115,000	2,000	434,000	10,000
Week to date (est)	505,000	10,000	2,337,000	29,000
Same Period Last Week (est)	574,000	11,000	2,431,000	30,000
Same Period Last Year (act)	590,000	10,000	2,299,000	46,000
Saturday 04/11/2020 (est)	31,000	0	70,000	0
Week ago (est)	52,000	0	134,000	0
Year ago (act)	48,000	0	94,000	1,000
Week to date (est)	536,000	10,000	2,407,000	29,000
Same Period Last Week (est)	626,000	11,000	2,565,000	30,000
Same Period Last Year* (act)	638,000	10,000	2,393,000	47,000
2020 Year to Date	9,190,000	149,000	38,295,000	516,000
2019 *Year to Date	9,074,000	165,000	36,557,000	573,000
Percent change	1.3%	-9.9%	4.8%	-10.0%
2020 *Totals subject to revision				
2019 *Totals adjusted to reflect NASS revisions				
Yearly totals may not add due to rounding				
Previous day estimated	Steer and Heifer 75,000	Cow and Bull 24,000		
Thursday				

Source: USDA Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News Division, St Joseph, MO  
 816-676-7000 e-mail: stjoe.lpgmn@ams.usda.gov  
 www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SJ\_LS710.txt  
 www.ams.usda.gov/market-news/livestock-poultry-grain

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## Farm and Food

FROM PAGE 6

expert advice from the more than 200 ag economists who left USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS) after Perdue ordered most out of Washington, D.C. in 2019. Since then, according to Politico, "only 41 out of 233 [ERS] positions" vacated under Perdue's purge had been filled by mid-January.

Given its recent history, there's little evidence to believe USDA will

do better with fewer experts as one of the most wide-sweeping, most deadly health and economic calamities slices through rural America like a scythe.

And, of course, all of this is doubly harsh and demoralizing as it hits farms, ranches, and rural communities at the height of planting, calving, and school field trips, proms, and graduations.

But we rural Americans know how to defeat this. We must stay smart, stay safe, and stay home. In short, social distancing.

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**Market Report 4/7\* 373 Total Head Sold**

DAIRY		SLAUGHTER	
Springers	13 Top of \$1360	Cows	98 Top of \$55 Overall avg (\$36.79 avg)
Dairy Cows	7 Top of \$1225		Top 10 \$49-\$55 (\$51.80 avg)
Heifer Calves	19 Top of \$ 70		Top 25 \$45-\$55 (\$48.83 avg)
Breeder Bulls	6 Top of \$1060		Top 50 \$39-\$55 (\$45.67 avg)
			Bottom 25 \$10-\$29 (\$20.32 avg)
FEEDERS & DAIRY FEEDERS		BULL CALVES	
Dairy Feeders	57 Top of \$660	Bull Calves	47 \$ .15-\$1.35 (\$1.15 overall avg)
Feeder Cattle	20 Top of \$ .75/lb		Top 10 \$1.09-\$1.15/lb. (\$1.19/lb. avg)
			Top 25 \$1.05-\$1.15/lb. (\$1.14/lb. avg)
SHEEP/GOATS/HOGS		HAY & STRAW	
Sheep	44 \$5-\$175	Hay	30 loads \$50-\$310/ton
Goats	17 \$20-\$230/Head		8 loads \$200-\$310 avg \$241/ton
Hogs	3 \$3-\$29		9 loads \$150-\$200 avg \$1766/ton
			13 loads \$ 50-\$150 avg \$108/ton
			Straw 2 load \$50-\$60/ton

**A Note from Rick:** A tough week for markets this week at TLA. Our numbers were also down a little with all the uncertainty right now. It's difficult to know what to say in a time like this. Our economy has come to a screeching halt and the impact of that is far reaching. Every person and every business has had to do their best to just get through this pandemic. Agriculture has been hit hard and from multiple directions. We are all in the same boat and the good news is we all have the same captain. Thank God our farmers will be able to get in the fields, gardens will be able to be planted, the grass is green and growing and sunshine has just gotta help. I know it's hard, but I'm going to choose to stay positive. It is going to take a while for our lives to get back to normal, but we have to have faith that it'll come. In the mean time, let's all stay strong and continue to do our part in this very difficult time. We can't wait to get back to selling horses and hope it happens as soon as possible. Can't wait til we can see you at TLA!

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2015 R4030, 2408 hrs., SS tank, 100" . . . . .		\$124,500

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# Market supply and demand update

As expected, the USDA raised domestic carryout totals in the April WASDE report. This was most noted in corn where demand was cut 375 million bu due to the loss of ethanol manufacturing. A portion of this was negated by a 150 million bu increase in feed usage, but ending stocks still increased to 2.09 billion bu compared to 1.89 bu in March. Global corn reserves were increased to 303.2 million metric tons from the 297.3 mmt projection in March, mainly from the increase in US carryout.

The US soybean carryover number also increased from March to April. The domestic crush number was raised 20 mbu from a projected decline in distiller grain competition, but this was negated by a 50 mbu decrease in exports and a 20 mbu decrease in residual usage. This caused ending stocks to increase 55 mbu from March to a 480 mbu total. The global soybean reserve forecast decreased from 102.4 mmt to 100.5 mmt though as reductions were made to South American production.

We also had some noticeable changes to wheat balance sheets. Both feed and exports were lowered 15 mbu on the domestic side to elevate ending stocks to 970 mbu. Several other countries lowered their wheat consumption forecasts, which pushed global wheat ending stocks to a record 292.8 mmt.

The Farm Credit Administration is asking farm lenders to show leniency when it comes to farm loans in the current economic situation. The Administration is asking lenders to extend loan payments and restructure farm debt when possible to help support farmers until the current market correction ends. For 2020 US farm debt is expected to reach \$425 billion with the widest debt to asset ratio in over fifteen years.

Congestion at Chinese ports is starting to clear following the Coronavirus outbreak and unloading times for grains is getting back to normal. There are hopes this may finally bring the US some additional export trade. The same is not true for China's meat imports though as refrigerated containers are still back logged and may be for several more weeks. At the present time there are a reported 18,000 refrigerated containers in Chinese ports waiting to be unloaded.

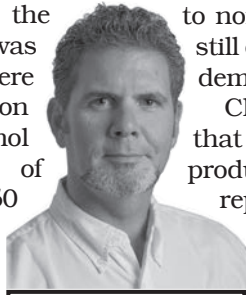
While it has not been in the news lately, new cases of African Swine Fever are still being reported in China. While China continues to see new cases of the disease, they are coming in at a slower rate, showing improved testing methods and production improvements are working. It will still be several months

before hog production in China is back to normal though, and exporters are still expecting to see a rise in Chinese demand.

China has announced plans that may alter the way the country produces its pork. China is reportedly looking for countries that would be willing to partner with them to produce their hogs. By doing this, China feels it would be able to limit its exposure to disease such as ASF and maintain a steady supply of pork. China is reportedly approaching countries it already has strong trade relations with for this partnership, as well as ones with strict animal production guidelines.

We are seeing mixed data out of Brazil when it comes to soybean sales and movement. Farmers in Brazil have been heavy sellers of soybeans as the US dollar rallies to record highs and the Real drops to record lows, giving Brazilian soybean farmers the highest return on soybeans in years. This does not necessarily mean soybeans are making their way directly into the supply line though, and in fact, many are not being moved at all given worries over the spread of the Coronavirus.

The country with the most limitations to movement right now is Argentina. Even though the Argentine government has declared commodity movement as an essential business, local governments are not allowing movement to take place. This is causing major disruptions at Argentine crushers with some only reporting 50 percent of their normal soybean inventory. This is obviously impacting the country's crush ability, as well as its ability to satisfy global soy meal demand.



MARKET ANALYSIS  
By Karl Setzer

## Hoosier Ag Today

FROM PAGE 6

search. When a vaccine is eventually discovered, it is likely that some gene editing or biological manipulation will be part of it. Will people refuse to take it because it is "GMO"? This will not eliminate bioitechaphobia overnight, but it may begin to lessen the fear of this perfectly safe science.

As Indiana State Department of Agriculture Director Bruce Kettle recently observed in an op-ed piece, stress and uncertainty is not new to agriculture, "There is always a sense of stress about what is happening on the farm and where the economy is headed. This constant sense of uncertainty makes agriculture one of the most stressful jobs. But, you remain resilient. You look ahead, global pandemic or not, you're still going to order feed, seed and supplies. Widespread disease or not, you're still going to prepare the planter and equipment."

So let us take heart and hope in each new day. Let the promise of a new crop or a new calf renew our spirits and calm our hearts.

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### AG FUTURES

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	Delivery Month	Friday's Last Close	Last Change		Delivery Month	Friday's Last Close	Last Change
Soybean	May 20	\$ 8.63	+ \$ 8.6	Soybean Meal	May 20	\$ 293.0	+ \$ 0.2
	July 20	\$ 8.71	+ \$ 9.0		July 20	\$ 298.3	+ \$ 0.5
	Aug 20	\$ 8.73	+ \$ 8.4		Aug 20	\$ 298.6	+ \$ 0.8
	Sep 20	\$ 8.73	+ \$ 9.2		Sep 20	\$ 299.3	+ \$ 1.3
	Nov 20	\$ 8.76	+ \$ 7.6		Oats	May 20	\$ 2.74
Wheat	May 20	\$ 5.58	+ \$ 10.0	July 20		\$ 2.68	- \$ 1.0
	July 20	\$ 5.59	+ \$ 10.6	Sep 20		-----	-----
	Sep 20	\$ 5.63	+ \$ 10.0	Dec 20		\$ 2.55	+ \$ 1.0
	Dec 20	\$ 5.69	+ \$ 9.0	Mar 21		-----	-----
Corn	May 20	\$ 3.32	+ \$ 2.2	Cattle	Apr 20	\$ 94.28	+ \$ 1.5
	July 20	\$ 3.37	+ \$ 2.0		Jun 20	\$ 84.58	- \$ 2.1
	Sep 20	\$ 3.42	+ \$ 1.4		Aug 20	\$ 90.78	- \$ 1.4
	Dec 20	\$ 3.51	+ \$ 1.6		Oct 20	\$ 96.33	- \$ 1.5
	Mar 21	\$ 3.62	+ \$ 2.0		Dec 20	\$ 99.80	- \$ 1.7
Soybean Oil	May 20	\$ 27.41	+ \$ 0.23	Hogs	Apr 20	\$ 42.90	- \$ 0.23
	July 20	\$ 27.76	+ \$ 0.23		May 20	\$ 43.78	- \$ 2.13
	Aug 20	\$ 27.92	+ \$ 0.23		Jun 20	\$ 49.18	- \$ 2.28
	Sep 20	\$ 28.08	+ \$ 0.22		July 20	\$ 55.13	- \$ 1.73
	Oct 20	\$ 28.25	+ \$ 0.21				

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Lot 281/920 (Barstow Atlas x son of Summitcrest Complete) ... calving ease; hi MB; 5.19% IMF  
Bull videos are available on our website: [www.wtrangus.com](http://www.wtrangus.com)

3 Bulls ... Iowa Cattlemen's Test/Werner Feed Efficiency Test: Sale May 1, Knoxville, IA on DVAuction  
Lot 276/934 (SVF Bandler x Connealy Onward)... big frame bull; 13.9" RE; F:G #44 of 106 bulls  
Lot 274/959 (KCF Bennett Fortress x son of Summitcrest Complete) ... F:G #15/106 bulls; 14.2" RE  
Lot 277/981 (B/R Destination 7222-476 x son of Connealy Forward) ... F:G #6/106 bulls; ADG 5.11; 15.4" RE; 4.7% IMF

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## Crops

FROM PAGE 1

chases for federal nutrition programs. We are aware the USDA is working with schools across the country to ensure the continuity of school meal service during school closures. Nevertheless, large volumes of product previously contracted to schools are being left unsold. We ask the USDA take over these contracts in the short-term to provide much-needed certainty to specialty crop producers and children who rely on school meals. With a steep decline in purchases in the food service sector, we also ask the USDA to swiftly develop a purchase program, in addition to the existing purchase programs, that would quickly provide stability to all impacted fresh produce growers through the duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

2. Direct Payments to Specialty Crop Producers: We request the USDA provide direct payments to specialty crop producers impacted by lost sales or other financial losses due to the COVID-19 emergency. In 2019, the USDA provided direct payments through the Market Facilitation Program to farmers impacted by market losses due to trade volatility. Today, specialty crop producers who rely on the food service industry are experiencing similar challenges with respect to lost markets. Any USDA effort to provide direct payments to farmers as part of its pandemic relief programming should therefore include the fruit and vegetable sector; and

3. Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act: We request that the USDA's plan consider the reality that, throughout this pandemic, growers and shippers may struggle to meet contractual obligations under the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act (PACA). We ask that the USDA provide assistance and flexibility in light of the

unprecedented consequences of COVID-19.

"As this global crisis continues to evolve, we recognize that additional programs and flexibilities may need to be considered and implemented to keep fresh produce moving through the food supply chain," the members wrote.

"We hope that you will use all resources at the USDA's discretion, including funding from the CARES Act and carry-over funding from the previous fiscal year, to address the immediate needs of the specialty crop industry," they concluded.

In a March 25 letter to Perdue, Dave Puglia, president and CEO of the Western Growers Assoc. (WGA), in Irvine, Calif., called on the USDA to guarantee the payment of all PACA trust claims.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has already caused severe disruptions in our industry, from foodservice market evaporations and workforce strains, to transportation challenges and sanitary equipment shortages," he told Perdue.

"In this crisis, an issue that is of a growing concern is that, given the extremely volatile environment currently in the food supply chain, the likelihood of delayed payments or non-payments and the drain on cash flow will be much greater than could have ever been forecasted," he added.

Puglia said many WGA members are already facing repeated requests from their buyers for payment extensions beyond the standard 30 days, a concern, he added, "is especially acute within the foodservice sector."

"While PACA has for decades served our members well in safeguarding them from credit risks and lost inventory, we fear the existing process may not be enough to withstand the unprecedented financial losses our growers stand to experience," he wrote.

"As such, we request that the USDA take action to guarantee the payment of all legitimate PACA Trust claims, to the

extent these claims are not satisfied by the available PACA Trust assets," he added.

On April 8, the United Fresh Produce Assoc. (UFPA), and a number of industry partners presented a comprehensive Produce Market Stabilization Program to the USDA to immediately support critical financial needs in the produce supply chain.

"Since the beginning of this crisis, our association has worked to help our industry keep produce moving to consumers," said Michael Muzyk, president of Baldor Specialty Foods in the Bronx, N.Y., who chairs the UFPA.

"And, we've worked to help our members actually survive following the devastating financial impact of this crisis," he added. "Today is an important day on

## Masks

FROM PAGE 1

ries across the country and then they will distribute locally to their health care providers and networks of their choice," Russman said.

A company noted for its precision agricultural products has switched gears. Those in the ag field have certainly taken notice.

"Our supply management professionals searched and found new sources to acquire the material," said Jen

## Coronavirus

FROM PAGE 2

was set aside for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program which can be helpful to people who are food insecure as well as keeping food lines moving toward people in need.

Another component of the CARES Act was the 350 billion dollars made available from Small Business Administration and through Farm

a path toward some stability for our industry to be able to serve consumers when we're finally past this terrible time."

Tom Stenzel, UFPA president and CEO, said, "There is a long road still ahead."

"But this is a critical step – our industry has come together to support a consensus proposal to the USDA, and Congress has come together to let our national decision-makers know how important this is across the country and every sector of our business," he said.

"Most organizations represent specific sectors and members who are suffering, but we've set aside competitive interests to support a common approach that gets us the best chance of securing real relief for our industry."

Hartmann, John Deere Director of Public Relations. "Our team members have been able to execute process in a day that would normally take months.

For the project, Deere consulted with the UAW, the Iowa Department of Homeland Security, and the Illinois Manufacturers' Association.

"By working closely with the communities where our employees live and work, we can help support the needs we've identified close to home and, as the project expands, address additional, urgent needs across the country," Deere CEO John May said in a release.

Credit. It is available to farmers and if they maintain employees, there is the possibility of zero interest and loan forgiveness. Agriculture was deemed as an essential industry, so transportation will keep food moving from farms to consumers.

National Milk Producers Federation along with the IDFA, the dairy processors association asked for several things to assist producers and could see those requests implemented by the USDA.

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# Apple growers are donating fruit to children out of school

**BY KEVIN WALKER**  
Michigan Correspondent

LANSING, Mich. — A number of apple growers and others in the industry in Michigan have gotten together to provide apples to school children in this time of disruption.

Diane Smith of the Michigan Apple Committee (MAC) hatched the idea and it wasn't long before quite a few local growers, along with Gleaner's and the Food Bank Council of Michigan, were distributing three truckloads of apples to kids all over the state. Three truckloads of apples as in 346,000 fresh apples and 726,000 sliced apple packages to kids who are currently out of school due to the COVID-19 crisis. MAC also worked with apple shipping, processing and sales organizations across the state to make the donation happen.

"I was talking with somebody in the industry about all the news we've been having about school kids not in school being able to keep getting the food that they would normally get," said Smith, who is executive director of MAC. "We approached some growers and everyone said 'yes, yes, yes.' Kids love apples, they're a great snack."

Smith went on to explain that the main issue was the logistics of getting all the apples trucked and delivered to where they needed to go.

"We worked with a number of food banks and even some shipping companies donated their services," she added. "They were able to get them delivered to pretty much all over the state, including Detroit, Battle Creek, Lansing, Flint and

elsewhere."

As part of the same overall effort, Peterson Farms of west-central Michigan donated a large number of apple slices for school children in its own territory. Peterson Farms is based in Oceana County, Mich. Michigan apple shippers and processors donating apples include Applewood Fresh Growers of Sparta; Belle Harvest Sales, Inc./Michigan Fresh Marketing of Belding and Comstock Park; Jack Brown Produce, Inc. of Sparta; North Bay Produce, Inc. of Traverse City; Rasch Brothers Apple Storage of Grand Rapids; and Riveridge Produce Marketing, Inc. of Sparta.

"We were fortunate to be able to provide apples when the Michigan Apple Committee made the call out," said Dan Schwallier of Rasch Brothers Packing. "One of our growers had a newer variety that doesn't have much volume yet, so it was destined for processing; but it is a great eating apple. The grower stepped right up and we were able to provide for the cause."

"Recent weeks have been as brisk as fall with apple orders so this was a nice pause for us to help out our community," said Kari Soldaat of Riveridge Produce Marketing. "Apples are such a versatile fruit and we were fortunate that they found their way into so many homes in need."

Three trucking companies donated services as well: those were SFL Companies of Rochester, which donated their services completely free of charge; Burns Produce LLC of Grandville and Destin Logistics LLC of Coopersville made partial trucking donations, with the Michigan Apple

**Right:** Two school children in Michigan enjoy apples donated by Michigan apple growers.



Committee covering the remainder of the costs.

Michigan ranks third in the country in apple production, behind only Washington and New York, with 28 million bushels harvested in 2018. There are more than 14.9 million apple trees in commercial production, covering 34,500 acres on 775 family-run farms in Michigan.

Michigan Apple Committee is a

grower funded nonprofit organization devoted to marketing, education and research activities to distinguish the Michigan apple and encourage its consumption in Michigan and around the country, and world. For more information, visit [www.michiganapples.com](http://www.michiganapples.com).



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# Online meat sales, shipping discussed during webinar

BY DOUG GRAVES  
Ohio Correspondent

CORVALLIS, Ore. — While fruit and vegetable producers have sought out avenues for their fresh picks, producers of meat are searching as well.

Earlier this month, the Niche Meat Processor Assistance Network (NMPAN) at Oregon State University held a Webinar to address the logistics of online sales and shipping of meat. NMPAN is a national community of practice focused on the long-term viability of the small and mid-sized processors who are essential to the local and regional meat and poultry sectors.

Panelists included Matthew Lawrence of Marble Creek Farmstead and Marble City Meats in Alabama; Adrienne Larrew of Corner Post Meats in Colorado; and Brian Brozovic of Painted Hills Natural Beef in Oregon. The moderator was Rebecca Thistlethwaite, Director of NMPAN. Thistlethwaite is author of two farming books: "Farms with a Future" and "The New Livestock Farmer."

"At a time with this Covid-19 pandemic we see this as an opportunity to connect our niche meats to hungry consumers," Thistlethwaite said. "This pandemic is showing us the importance of diversified, decentralized, dispersed food production and processing. There is a growing number of U.S. grassfed and pasture-raised livestock and poultry producers who sell direct to consumer by either shipping or front door delivery. It's a win-win for everyone."

Questions were aplenty during this informal, 70-minute Webinar and most listeners were concerned about the physical sale of their meats and

the time it gets to the consumers.

"You can ship or mail meats out of the state if your meats are processed in a federally-inspected plant," one panelist recommended, "but you cannot ship or mail meats outside the state if your meats are processed at a state-inspected facility."

When selling frozen, farm-raised meat directly from a farm one must obtain a Food Processing Plant License. Those can be obtained from one's local health department.

Frozen meats, they said, can be safely shipped by U.S. Mail, UPS, FedEx or other private carriers using overnight or second-day shipping. They recommend packing meat in a Styrofoam cooler (two inches thick) to keep meats frozen, and packed with dry ice to keep the shipment cold. The package is to be labeled "Perishable" and "Keep Frozen". Shipping unfrozen meat or meat products is never recommended.

"And do not send packages at the end of the week," Brozovic said. "Send them at the beginning of the week so they do not sit in the post office or mailing facility over the weekend."

Online sales was another hot topic. The design of one's online store was discussed and most agreed that the styles are endless and preferences can vary. The digital marketplace offers another opportunity for livestock and poultry farmers to turn a profit.

"Consumers are always looking to get food from farms to their tables, but they don't all have access," says Mike Salguero, founder of online meat retailer ButcherBox, based in Cambridge, Massachusetts. "E-commerce can play a vital role in helping consumers get back to nature while showcasing farms that are doing really great things."

Designing webpages was foremost in the minds of many callers. The panelists agreed that such webpages can be very simplistic or very elaborate. Regardless, they said, the webpage should be attention-getting and detail-oriented.

"Webpages must have exceptional photos and clear weights to customers know exactly how much product they are ordering for the posted price," Larrew said. "Home delivery of dairy products seems like a return to the past, but home delivery is now part of the marketing strategies for most major retailers. Using local advertising, word-of-mouth, promotions at the farmers market and the on-farm stand, producers are spreading the word that home delivery is not a thing of the past."

Also discussed that day were: setting up an online store, accepting payments, updating inventory, meat selection, subscriptions versus ala-carte orders and costs.

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# Farmland holds value despite disruptions

**BY JORDAN STRICKLER**  
Kentucky Correspondent

Amid a myriad of pressures, average farmland values are still holding their value, at least for now. Prices for farmland declined between 2014-16 in many areas of the nation before plateauing in 2017 and early 2018. In the past couple of years, however, farmland values have been under pressure due to reduced crop yields, the ongoing trade war with China, low commodity prices and reduced farm profitability. And now, fate has thrown another wrench into the works with Covid-19, which have some worried what could be around the corner.

Despite these disruptions which have plagued the industry recently, overall land values have remained fairly stable due to relatively low long-term interest rates, a limited supply of land being offered for sale and relatively strong buyer interest.

"We saw some bump up in values over this winter, and then you get into this period where all of a sudden the coronavirus becomes an issue," says RD Schrader of Schrader Real Estate and Auction Company. "However, I think it is too early to say what will happen right now. In this economy, a lot of people will see land as a safe investment, especially when they see investments in the stock market deteriorating, and then you've got the people who don't really want to make decisions during this period."

According to the USDA National Agriculture Statistic Service, United States farm real estate value, a measurement of the value of all land and buildings on farms, averaged \$3,160 per acre for 2019, up \$60 per acre (1.9 percent) from 2018. The United States cropland value averaged \$4,100 per acre, an increase of \$50 per acre (1.2 percent)

from the previous year. The United States pasture value averaged \$1,400 per acre, up \$30 (2.2 percent) from 2018. U.S. farmland value remained high in 2019, averaging \$3,160 per acre (a modest increase of 0.2 percent over 2018). Farm income was forecast to increase nationwide in 2019 (see Farm Income and Wealth Statistics for details.) This increase, combined with historically low interest rates, contributes to the ability of the farm sector to support higher farmland values. The figure below shows nominal and real (inflation-adjusted) national average farmland real estate values since 1969. While nominal farmland values have increased modestly since 2016, real farmland values have remained flat since 2014.

Vince Bailey, Executive Vice President and Chief Credit Officer at Farm Credit Mid-America agrees that now might be too early to have any concrete idea of which way the scales might tip, or if they would at all. "I think it's too early to really tell right now what will happen with farmland values. Another thing to remember is that thanks to the MFP (Market Facilitation Program), 2019 net farm income was the highest since 2013."

The Midwest comes off a strong year, both in land values and farm income, thanks to the MFP payments. According to the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, farmland values increased slightly in the fourth quarter of 2019, with cash rents remaining stable. Nonirrigated farmland values trended higher at a modest pace in 2019 and increased four percent in the last quarter. The demand for farmland remained strong, which also could have played a part in supporting farmland values. The share of farmland purchased by farmers since 2014 has declined from 81 percent to

74 percent but remains elevated by historical standards.

The KC Fed believed that strong demand and lower interest rates may have contributed to higher expectations for farmland values in 2020 and for the first time since 2014, more bankers expected farmland values either to remain steady or increase compared with those that expected farmland values to decline. Although 37 percent of bankers expected farmland values to decline somewhat, half expected no change, and 14 percent expected farmland values to increase moderately in 2020.

In an Illinois Land Values Webinar, David Klein, vice president with First Mid Ag Services, says that current stock market conditions could be beneficial. "(Last year) will be a year most farmers will never forget," Klein states. "Crop

planting challenges across the state left the most unplanted acres since the spring of 1974. Most farm incomes were protected by crop insurance proceeds and USDA market facilitation payments. As we begin, 2020 farmland values seem to be holding firm as farmland owners and investors continue to seek the safety and security of this tightly-held asset class with its unique investment characteristics in Illinois and other Midwestern states. Individual micro-markets of strength and weakness do exist, and this can create opportunities for sellers and buyers."

So while the specific effect may be cloudy currently, Schrader says that we will see soon enough how things play out. "While it's a little tough to see at this stage," says Schrader, "land values usually shake out in the end."



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# Victoria Spatz seeking nomination for U.S House of Representatives

**BY MICHELE F. MIHALJEVICH**  
Indiana Correspondent

NOBLESVILLE, Ind. — Indiana Sen. Victoria Spatz (R-20<sup>th</sup>) grew up around farm animals in her native Ukraine and now owns a large row crop operation with her husband. She is one of 16 Republicans seeking their party's nomination for U.S. Representative from the state's 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District.

The district consists of Grant, Hamilton, Madison and Tipton counties and parts of Blackford, Boone, Howard and Marion counties. It includes sections of northern Indianapolis and also rural areas. Five people are running in the Democratic Party primary. The incumbent, Rep. Susan Brooks, also a Republican, said last year she would not seek re-election. Indiana's primary is June 2.

Spatz is focusing in part on things that will "empower" agriculture: rural broadband and good infrastructure. "I can run my business from anywhere if we have a good internet," she noted. "The (COVID-19) crisis could bring some innovation on remote abilities. That will help Indiana. Whether you're in Elwood or Indianapolis, if you have good internet, you can run your world-class operation."

Access to broadband also gives patients the opportunity to use telehealth services from their doctors or medical professionals nationwide, Spatz said. "It allows access to people and information. Information is gold. It's the biggest asset we have right now. It can empower people to learn and succeed."

She hopes to see improvement

in such infrastructure as roads and rails. Indiana can be helped by the creation of more value-added agricultural products in the state, Spatz added.

Her family has a long history of farming in the Ukraine. At one time, the family owned quite a bit of land, she said, before Communists came into power and took it away.

"That's the first thing Communists do," Spatz explained. "If you want to make people dependent, you take their land. They pushed everyone to collective farming. As I was growing up, my family did have a little land - maybe half an acre - and had four-five cows at a time. I grew up with the cows and the land."

She met her husband Jason on a train in Europe. He was there visiting relatives and she had an internship in Poland. "After I graduated, we decided to get married. I was young and adventurous and decided to move to another country."

Victoria and Jason have been married 20 years and have two daughters - Lilianna and Ingrid.

Spatz has bachelor's and master's degrees from the National University of Economics in Ukraine, and a Master of Professional Accountancy from the Indiana University Kelley School of Business.

After her marriage, she became a U.S. citizen. She and Jason have a 3,000-acre commercial farm where



Above: photo of Victoria Spatz (from her website)

they primarily grow soybeans along with some wheat. She was previously CFO of the Indiana Attorney General's office.

Spatz has served as state senator since 2017, when she was elected by caucus to replace Luke Kenley, who retired.

"I was just sick and tired of what's happening in our country," Spatz pointed out. "No one wants to work on policy. There are a lot of politics. Everything is out of control and everyone tries to blame someone else. Politicians don't get things done. I feel I can contribute some of my skills. It's important to our country - we have to fix the problems."

The coronavirus has made some

aspects of running for Congress more difficult, she said. "It's challenging. I love meeting with people, having debates and looking people in the eye. There will be more digital advertising, more TV advertising, more mail-ins. I call people, use video calls. We just have to do our best."

If elected to Congress, Spatz plans to work to fix health care, education and immigration. "I bring leadership to be able to get things done. They've been procrastinating and playing politics. We need to have a much better work visa policy. It should be a much easier process. We need to have higher expectations for Congress. We have such low expectations."

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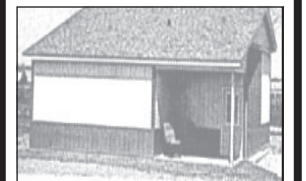
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• 1-3/0x 7/0 walk door  
**\$110,850** Erected

**POLE BUILDINGS**

<p><b>30'x40'x12'</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1-16'x11' split slider door</li> <li>• 1-36" walk door</li> <li>• Truss 4' on center</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>\$12,850</b> Erected</p>	<p><b>40'x64'x14'</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1-20'x14' split slider door</li> <li>• 1-36" walk door</li> <li>• Truss 4' on center</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>\$21,400</b> Erected</p>
<p><b>48'x80'x14'</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1-20'x14' split slider door</li> <li>• 1-20'x12'6" split slider door</li> <li>• 1-36" walk door</li> <li>• Truss 4' on center</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>\$34,200</b> Erected</p>	<p><b>60'x120'x16'</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2-30'x16' split doors</li> <li>• 1-3' walk-in door</li> <li>• Engineered truss</li> <li>• 4' on center</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>\$51,950</b> Erected (50-June 24)</p>

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2014 34' Gerorgetown RV, 2 slides, gas, 6500 mi., automatic, \$63,500. 859-498-6427 Mt. Sterling, KY.

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**80 TRUCKS**

(3) 2004 school buses, (1) 72 passenger Bluebird, All American, CAT motor, hyd. brakes; (1) 66 passenger Freightliner Thomas, Mercedes motor, air ride & air brakes; (1) 66 passenger IC, 444 motor, hyd. brakes. 765-525-6420 St. Paul, IN.

1700 Int., 1987, w/New Leader hyd. spreader, for fert. or ag lime, spreader bed has some rust, dsl., 5+2 spd. rear end, one owner. 1 m retiring. Will sell cheap. 270-828-2343 Vine Grove, KY.

1959 F-500 Ford, restored, 12' bed w/hoist, \$1995. 317-462-4989 Greenfield, IN.

1969 Dodge 600 tandem, 450 bu. hoist bed w/seed auger, \$5000. 502-296-5176 Nabb, IN.

1997 F350 Ford diesel, 4X4, one owner, always inside, 87k mi., \$10,900 obo. 810-516-9104 Millington, MI.

1997 Ford F250, 7.3 diesel, 8' bed, regular cab, 4WD, \$4000. 937-603-2043 Laura, OH.

1999 F350 Ford diesel 7.3, 2WD, dbl. cab w/topper, \$7000. 765-564-2883 Delphi, IN.

2004 Freightliner, MB motor & 2004 Int. 466 busses, passed inspection, no problems. 812-560-5577, 812-662-6557.

2016 Bluebird 71 passenger, Cummins, air ride hyd. brakes, avail. in June. 765-299-6622 Covington, IN.

New Chevy, Dodge & Ford 8' truck beds. 317-512-2129.

New takeoffs, Chevy, Ford and Dodge, pickup beds, tailgates and step bumpers. 317-422-5815 Franklin, IN.

Reman 6.7 & 5.9 common rail, Cummins motor, warranty 6 mos., 10K, from \$3200. 270-427-4588 Tompkinsville, KY.

**90 TRAILERS**

1976 Trinity 10,500 gal. anhydrous ammonia or propane trailer, beautiful new paint, tubes, fenders, upper coupler, MC331, test current (vk & hydro), brakes & tires 80%, 4' Blackmere pump. Pictures avail. 330-242-9968 Spencer, OH.

1990 Eager Beaver high tensile 46' step deck. 317-697-8206 Wilkinon, IN.

1997 Wilson Pacesetter 39' hopper btm. trailer, model DWH-200, roll tarp, tires 60%, brakes 85%, clean, well maintained trailer, \$12,500. 260-414-0426 Decatur, IN.

2010 Hillsboro 30' flat, 3x7K axles, load ramps, shedded, \$4700. 812-254-8188 Elnora, IN.

2010 Kaufman drop deck, 35T, tri-axle trailer, set up w/(2) 2000 gal. tanks on lower deck w/300 gal. on upper deck, new Honda, 5HP, 2" pump, never used, inductor, trailer used very little, always shedded when not in use, wood floor, great shape overall, \$17,500. 317-691-1554 Morristown, IN.

American 45' alum. pot, w/3rd deck for hogs, purchased new in 1977 for farm use only, exc. cond. Owner is retiring. 270-668-3176, 270-828-2343 Vine Grove, KY.

Lo-Boy no title \$3000; 40' flat \$1200; Tankers: 62 AL 7500 gal., \$5000; 66 AL 8300 gal., \$6200; 84 Walker SS 5600 gal., \$10,500. 937-869-4818.

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580 Super L Case, 4x4, Extend-A-Hoe, new tires, glass cab, heat & air, \$24,500. Delivery available. 317-695-0787 Clayton, IN.

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Toyota LP pro lift forklift w/forks, 18 bale hay grabber. Hay grabber can be optional, 7500 lb. capacity, gd. cond. 270-668-3176 or 270-828-2343 Vine Grove, KY.

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(10) feeder steers, all black, 300-375 lbs., \$1.35 per lb. 937-336-1123 Eaton, OH.

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(15) black, (1) Charolais cross, first calve heifers, now calving by easy calving reg. Angus bull, \$1500 ea. 859-760-5356

(17) Hereford cows, calving now, gentle, (9) calves on ground now. 219-863-0158 Mt. Ayr, IN.

(18) cow/calf pairs; (5) bred cows, black, mostly young. 937-213-0621

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**210 CATTLE**

(38) Black Black/white face steers, calves, weight 750-825 lbs., med. flesh. 419-629-2522 New Bremen, OH.

(4) beautiful black cross bred heifers, ready to breed. 812-525-9748 Brownstown, IN.

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Bred and open black commercial cows for sale, 1300 lb. average. 317-446-8589 Mooreland, IN.

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Herd of grade cows, all stages of lactation. 765-874-1071 Wayne Co., IN.

Maine Anjou bull, DOB 9/18. Irish Whiskey x I-80, semen checked, \$2000. 765-653-8581 Greencastle, IN.

Milking Shorthorn bulls, breeding age & ready to work. High type, dams offer high milk production & great udders. 937-564-8861 Arcanum, OH.

Purebred Angus bulls can be reg. Bob Butler: 502-593-1260 Nabb, IN.

Reg. Angus bull, 18 mos. old, gentle, gd. growth & moderate frame size, semen tested & ready to go. 812-662-4336 Greensburg, IN.

Reg. Angus bull, Northern Improvement X Style. DOB 2/14/19, breeding soundness checked, gd. disposition. Storms Angus. 309-696-8023, 765-237-1917 Romney, IN.

Reg. Jersey cows & heifers, spring calving, certified organic, most A2A2, some polled. 812-599-3930 Vevay, IN.

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**(3) 6 mo.** old ICA reg. Pomsky pups, UTD on shots. 812-689-6013 Versailles, IN.  
**English Shepherd/Blue** Heeler pups, tri color, great pets or farm dogs, both parents on site, born 2/24/20, \$150. 937-336-8344 Lewisburg, OH  
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**1994 NH** 2115 forage harvester, 10' HH, 630N CH; (3) H&S 7+4 tadem axle forage wagons. 419-852-4079, 419-852-4078 Maria Stein, OH.  
**2017 Brandt** grain deck, hyd. drive, exc. cond., \$14,000. 765-585-1306 Attica, IN.

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**3000 gal.** Dairy Kool bulk tank, 2 compressors; Double 10 rapid exit herringbone parlor; 2 Sutorbilt vacuum pumps; (15) calf huts. 419-852-8289 Ft. Recovery, OH.  
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**(11) Rd.** bales grass hay 4x5, \$40 ea. 937-533-2923 New Paris, OH.  
**(120) 3x3x8** third cut clover hay, \$185/ton; (100) 3x3x7 Teff grass, \$195/ton; (225) 3x3x8 clean, dry wheat straw, \$165/ton. 937-604-2334 Versailles, OH.

**(200) net** wrapped straw, round bales, 4x5, stored inside, \$35 ea. 317-440-2064 Zionsville, IN.

**(40) round** bales red clover hay, net wrapped, \$25 ea. 419-785-5007 Napoleon, OH.

**(50) bales** 3x3x8 bedding mix. 419-618-4961 Tiffin, OH.

**(900) bales** wheat straw, \$4.50/bale. 765-312-2893 Hagerstown, IN.

**1st cut** mixed grass hay, 3x4x8 bales, Timothy, orchard grass & Brome, stored inside. Delivery avail. Jones Farms. 812-267-0712 Palmyra, IN.

**1st cutting** orchard grass, red clover, alfalfa, 4x5 round bales, \$60 ea. 937-776-8407 Brookville, OH.

**1st cutting** alfalfa & alfalfa/orchardgrass, 3'x3'x8' & 3'x4'x8' & small compressed squares. Good quality, dry, no mold. Also 2nd cutting 3'x4'x8' & small compressed premium alfalfa, small bales are palletized & net wrapped. Delivery avail. Call Steve 260-568-1585. Visit us at www.flackfarms.com

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**4x4 corn** fodder bales, \$25 ea. 419-852-9067 Fort Recovery, OH.

**4x5 Rd.** bales 1st cutting hay, \$35 ea. 765-874-1532 Ext. 2 Williamsburg, IN.

**5x4 net** wrapped corn fodder, cow feed or bedding, \$22 each; small square mixed hay, \$6 each. 812-667-5522 Cross Plains, IN.

**5x5 round** bale wheat straw, net wrapped, \$35 ea. 765-265-1539 Connersville, IN.

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**Clean wheat** straw. All bales 3'x4'x8', roughly 950 lbs. Call John Benschoter 419-265-0017. Visit BenschoterHayand-Straw.com

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**Oat straw** big squares, 3x3. 567-279-4544 Versailles, OH.

**Round bales** of hay, 4x5 bales of grass, net wrapped. 937-456-2512 or 765-914-2996 Liberty, IN.

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**Unverferth 3750** 2012 seed tender, 8x18 conveyor, scales, bumper hitch, very gd. shape, \$19,000. 260-609-0956 Piercetown, IN.

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**11R 28%** applicator, coulter w/ knife behind, front tool bar, w/ 1000 gal. tank & John Blue SS double piston ground driven pump, Dalton brand, 380-90-R46 tires & hand rinse tank. Used for 5 years, well maintained, \$17,000. Matt 937-538-6684 Sidney, OH.

**1965 Rodgers** 35', 40 ton detach, pony motor, gd. floor, new tires, w/3200 gal. water tank, set up to load sprayers, \$11,000. 937-673-0169 Jamestown, OH.

**1992 F350** Ag Chem sprayer, 60' hyd. booms, 500 gal. tank, \$7000. 502-296-5176 Nabb, IN.

**1994 6500** JD sprayer, 3500 hrs., 420 gal. poly tank, 65' hyd. fold booms, Raven control, light bar guidance system, \$12,500 obo. 216-406-3152 Grafton, OH.

**1995 Behnke** sprayer trailer, 14,000#, pintle hitch, used to haul spr coil on 120", \$3000. 937-408-0493 South Vienna, OH.

**2007 RoGator** 1074, 1000 gal. SS tank, 90' boom, new tires, exc. cond., field ready. 269-782-5350 Decatur, MI.

**2010 25** ton Kaufman trailer, 4000 gl. SS tank, 5HP Honda motor electric start, retractable reel, induction tank, exc. cond., \$23,000. 765-914-6824 Connersville, IN.

**2012 RoGator** 1100, 100 foot booms, Accu-Boom, auto steer, w/lightbar, floaters, 1800 hrs., \$95,000 obo. 765-623-4688 Elwood, IN.

**2016 Stoltzfus** 5 ton wet line/fert. spreader, \$13,000; 2017 F50-8 ton Stoltzfus, \$16,000; 2010 15 ton litter special Stoltzfus, \$17,500; (8) new models in stock 859-608-9745 www.redbarnandassociates.com Lexington, KY.

**60' pickup** sprayer, \$2500; 50' pickup sprayer, \$1500; 45' pull sprayer, ground drive, \$1200. 937-869-4818 Urbana, OH.

**9T BBI** Magna Spread variable rate fert./lime spreader, high clearance frame have both flotation & narrow tires. JD rate controller, tarp, \$27,000. 740-819-2973 Nashport, OH.

**Blu-Jet 17** knife or 13 knife anhydrous bar, pull type, gd. coulters & knives, flow meter & valve replaced 350 ac. ago, cooler gd. Older bar but plenty of life left in it. Asking \$3750 or make me an offer. 937-725-3420 Wilmington, OH.

**Blu-Jet NH3** applicator, 17 knife, w/closing disc, Raven monitor, gd. cond., \$8500 obo. 765-623-4688 Elwood, IN.

**Case IH** 5300, 19 knives, ammonia bar, Raven controller, double cooler, double disc sealers, walking tandems, never used Nserve, always inside, looks and works like new, \$35,000. 317-402-3939 Manilla, IN.

**DMI Case** Nutri-Placer 9000, 12R, strip till w/markers, (4) new motors, (2) 4500 lb. fert. compartments, variable rate conforms to PHOS-H2O program, \$39,000. 419-367-2747 Elmore, OH.

**Gregson field** sprayer, 60' hyd. booms, big wheel, hyd. centrifugal pump w/monitor. 937-696-2229 GERMANTOWN, OH.

**Hardi 3000** Navigator sprayer, 800 gal., 60' four section boom, induction tank, rinse tank, adjustable axle, 12.4x42 tires, 363 pump, 2500 controller, needs nothing, field ready, \$14,900. 419-569-0131 Galion, OH.

**JD 4710** sprayer, poly tank, 90' booms, inductor, guidance ready, 2833 hrs. 317-697-8206 Wilkerson, IN.

**John Blue** sprayer, 500 gal. SS tank, ground drive pump, 40' spray boom, w/tool bar conversion kit, would make a great 28 applicator, \$2500. 765-945-7919 Windfall, IN.

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**1970 JD** 4020, dsl., side console, 2 remotes, restored, \$14,000. 937-620-1590 Eaton, OH.

**1972 JD** 4320, duals, weights, 6630 hrs., rebuilt eng., turbo, hyd. pump, power steering, lots of new parts, full fenders, very gd. cond., \$15,750. 765-278-4483, 260-543-2457

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**1986 Ford** TW25, 156 HP, MFWD, 2975 hrs., 3 hyd. remotes, 540/1000 PTO, 14.9x28 frnts., 18.4x38 rears, always stored inside, \$24,750. 765-894-1991 Jamestown, IN.

**1998 Case** IH 8920, 5819 hrs., 2WD, runs great, 540/1000 PTO, 5 weights, \$42,000. 937-423-0994 Versailles, OH.

**2009 JD** 6430 Premium w/673 self-leveling loader, MFWD, rack & pinion rear axle, 3 outlets, 6200 hrs., \$53,000. 812-521-1746 Seymour, IN.

**2013 CAT** Challenger MT755D, auto steer, 24" tracks, 1003 hrs. 419-306-6237 Bluffton, OH.

**2014 JD** 6140M, MFWD, 3372 hrs., power quad plus, left hand reverser, 380/85-28 fronts, 460/85-38 rear, 3 remotes, \$52,500. 765-404-0846 Kentland, IN.

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JD 4320, front pad weights, \$14,800. 419-305-3464 Celina, OH.

JD 4640, 9200 hrs., 10 bolt duals & hubs, inside & outside rear weights, 2 remotes, front weights, quick hitch, steps, air works, runs gd., used as back up on drill, \$15,000. 937-670-9179 West Milton, OH.

JD 4955 mechanical front, exc. cond., 18442 on tread, power shift, 3 remotes, \$36,500 obo. 937-336-0503 West Alexandria, OH.

JD 5083 4WD, cab, loader ready, \$24,500; JD 7230 premium, 8000 hrs., 4WD, cab, loader, \$52,500; JD 6400, 2WD, cab, loader, \$30,000; JD 2440, 3000 hrs., 2WD, \$12,000. 859-608-9745 www.redbarnandassociates.com

JD 6715 tractor, 120HP, MFD, power quad trans., loader ready package, tires 80%, 900 orig. hrs., \$57,500. 937-597-6368 Quincy, OH.

JD 7820 MFWD, power quad, 380x46 duals, recent overhaul, 13,000 hrs., \$32,500. 574-248-2660 Nappanee, IN.

JD 8285R 2012 model, 5300 hrs., 18.4x46, \$89,500. 419-294-7138 Upper Sandusky, OH.

MF 180, 52HP, eng. runs gd., (4) gd. tires, gd. sheet metal, has bad hyd. pump, \$3500. Call Dave 513-385-8444 Cincinnati, OH.

MF 4880 4WD; 1999 JD 8110 MFD. 320-760-1634 Osakis, MN.

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IH 490 24' disc w/leveling bar & rear hitch, 7.5" spacing, 19" blades, \$5200. 419-235-5602 Ot-tawa, OH.

IH 720 6 btm. plow, gd. shape, \$950. 765-744-2385 Hartford City, IN.

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Kongskilde 21' Triple K field cult. w/basket, field ready, \$1500. 812-243-1239 Terre Haute, IN.

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(8) Yetter Viper, gd., no-till fert. openers, \$650. Text photos. 419-203-6449 Ohio City, OH.

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**2011 JD 1770**, 16-30, 2020 air force, RowFlow, hyd. drive, no-till, row cleaners w/CleanSweep, 600 gl. liquid w/InSite out back both sides, Dawn curve tines w/chains, eSets, WaveVision tubes, Keetons m/Mojo wires, Valion seed tube guards, \$69,000. 937-459-0227 Arcanum, OH.

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**Kinze 3500** planter, 8/16R, 2012, w/corn fert. attachment, \$45,000. 502-296-5176 Nabb, IN.

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# Webinar: Cares Act benefits U.S. farmers, ranchers

By TIM ALEXANDER  
Illinois Correspondent

URBANA, Ill. — Some \$48 million has been allocated to the USDA through the \$2 trillion CARES, or Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act, to aid U.S. farmers and ranchers. Where that “discretionary” basis money assigned to USDA will and ought to go was the topic of a webinar discussion hosted by the University of Illinois farmdoc team on Friday, April 3.

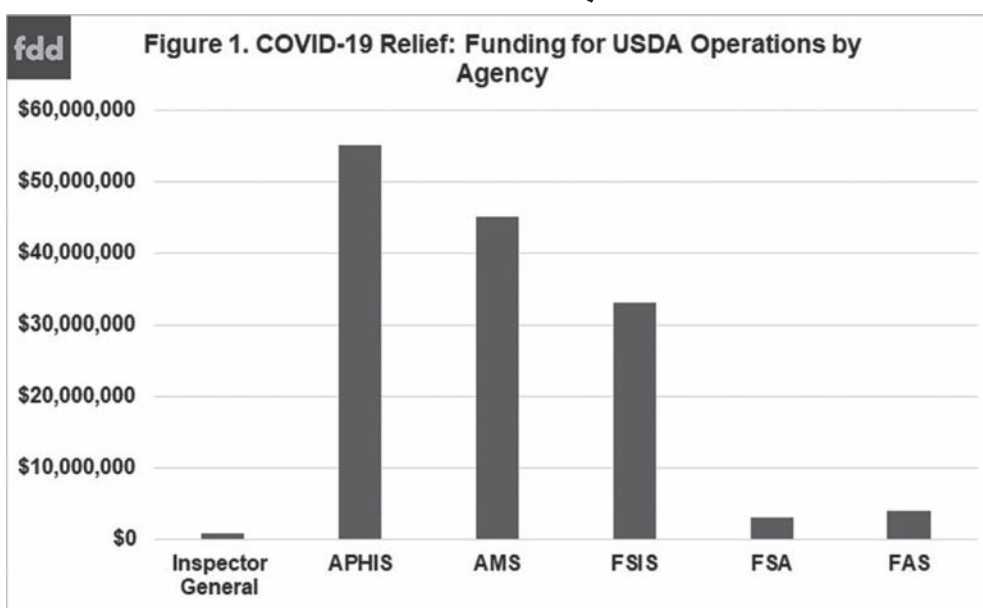
U of I agricultural economist Jonathan Coppess said CARES Act COVID-19 relief funding is intended for USDA agencies and programs for distribution among rural businesses, farmers and food assistance programs. While the lion’s share of the funding will go to bolster the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), millions will remain to benefit farmers and ranchers affected by COVID-19 ramifications, Coppess explained.

“How to balance the various needs out there is going to be no small challenge,” he said, before detailing the benefits to agricultural producers. The coronavirus relief bill contains two divisions, according to an article posted by Coppess and the farmdoc team on April 2. The article states the CARES Act addresses assistance to employees and businesses, as well as assistance to the health care system and providers. It also includes economic stabilization provisions for

severely distressed sectors of the U.S. economy.

According to Coppess’ report, Reviewing USDA Funding in the CARES Act, Division B of the bill includes emergency supplemental appropriations provisions for various accounts or to agencies for use in response. The funding for the USDA accounts are in this Division, with the bill providing a total of \$48.4 billion. Funds can be divided into two basic categories: (1) operational funding for salaries and other expenses to cover costs for response efforts or usual operating efforts that have required additional costs; and (2) direct relief funding or reimbursement for funds previously spent in direct assistance.

The farmdoc team reports the bill provides \$140.75 million to USDA agencies for helping with salaries and expenses in light of the coronavirus pandemic. USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is appropriated an additional \$55 million to “prevent, prepare for, and respond to” the pandemic, including costs for the Agriculture Quarantine and Inspection Program. The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is also appropriated additional amounts (\$45 million) for prevention, preparation and response, including additional costs for grading, inspecting and audit activities for commodities. In addition, the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) received an additional \$33 million for its efforts, including support-



ing temporary workers or relocating inspectors, as well as overtime for inspectors under the Federal Meat Inspection Act, the Poultry Products Inspection Act, and the Egg Products Inspection Act.

“Another major component of the Act is on the food assistance side,” said Coppess. “There was an additional \$15 billion contingency fund built in there. \$8.8 billion went toward the child nutrition program.” Coppess noted that the current crisis, like during the Great Recession of a decade ago, illustrates the counter cyclical nature of the SNAP program. “This is a reminder of what happened as people lost jobs and

lost income, and fell below the poverty line. A whole lot more people became eligible for the program, and the cost certainly increased,” Coppess said, adding that the food assistance program was “vital” to more Americans than ever at this time in history.

“I think we’ve seen far too much of a political fight over this program given how important it is, and I am concerned about the news reports I’ve read about this \$2 trillion negotiation that there is a partisan fight about this program. Next to health care, I’m not sure what’s more important right now than getting food to people who need it,” said Coppess.

# U.S Grain stocks noticeably down across the board

BY STAN MADDUX  
Indiana Correspondent

WASHINGTON D.C. —Grain stocks ending March 1 in the U.S. were noticeably down from the same point last year.

That’s according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service under USDA.

The amount of corn in storage on farms, mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors totaled 7.95 billion bushels nationwide or 8-percent less than a year ago, NASS said.

Total soybean stocks at 2.25 billion

bushels were down 17-percent. There was an 11-percent drop in wheat stocks totaling 1.41 billion bushels.

Marty Saffell, a statistician specialist for NASS at the Great Lakes Office in East Lansing, Michigan, blamed decline in production from last year’s wet spring for reducing the amount of U.S. grain in reserve. “That’s probably the principal reason for it,” he said.

Saffell said any benefit in pricing for corn was lost from the recent drop in demand for ethanol because of declining gasoline consumption stemming from the nationwide coronavirus lockdown.

Grain stocks differ by state. Indi-

ana, for example, had 491 million bushels of corn in storage or 18-percent below the previous year.

Soybean stocks in the state at 174 million bushels fell by 13-percent while the 13.5 million bushels of wheat in storage represented a 48-percent drop.

In Ohio, corn stocks at 304 million bushels were down 20-percent while soybeans in storage at 152 million bushels dropped by 11-percent.

Wheat in storage across the state at 36.4 million bushels was 35-percent less than a year ago.

Corn stocks in Michigan at 133 million bushels were down 24-percent

while soybeans in storage were down 21-percent at 53.8 million bushels, according to NASS.

Total wheat stocks in Michigan stood at 30.3 million bushels, a 36-percent decline from March of 2019.

The amount of corn in storage just on farms in each state ranged from 57-percent to 61-percent, NASS said.

Soybean stocks strictly on farms were 91 million bushels in Indiana, 74 million bushels in Ohio and 18 million bushels in Michigan.

At least 97-percent of the wheat stocks in each state were in commercial storage, NASS said.

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## Cattle farmers still battling for 'made in USA' labels

**BY RACHEL LANE**  
DC Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Cattle farmers still face international competition to claim the "Made in the USA" label.

Country of Origin Labeling, COOL, was overturned in 2015 after it faced challenges from Canada and Mexico. The two countries challenged the labeling requirements at the WTO in 2008 and 2009, arguing that it put imported meat at a disadvantage. In 2015, the USDA stopped enforcing the COOL requirements for beef and pork products.

Since then, the beef industry has been fighting back. Since Brazilian beef is now allowed into the country, closing the loopholes has become more important, said Lia Biondo, with the US Cattlemen's Association, USCA.

After COOL was repealed, the food industry reverted to the rules on the books that state any product that comes in to the country and has significant changes can have the label "Made in the US", Biondo said.

Her organization petitioned the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service, FSIS, to close the loophole, and received a response at the end of March.

Significant changes can be considered changing the packaging. "You can just stick a knife into it

and it's said to be American made," she said.

The USCA wants to define "Made in America" as cattle born, raised and slaughtered within the country.

At the end of March, the FSIS responded to the petition, indicating the organization knows beef is being mislabeled and that it is a problem, but in making a decision, they consider all the comments on the petition. Some of these unsupportive comments came from processor trade associations, Canadian and Mexican livestock producer trade associations and governments, and other cattle producer trade associations.

"FSIS has concluded that its current labeling policy, which permits meat and poultry products ... raised and slaughtered in another country but processed in the United States to be labeled as 'Product of USA,' may be causing confusion in the marketplace," the response states.

Now, the FSIS will consider a second rule to limit "product of the USA" and other voluntary US origin

**(Cattle continued on page 2B)**

**Right:** Angus cattle graze on USCA Executive Vice President Kelly Fogarty's generational ranch in Oakdale, CA. The

USCA works to have the "Made in the USA" and similar labels apply only to cattle born, raised and slaughtered on US soil.

Photoprovided by the USCA



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# Cattle

FROM PAGE 1B

statements to meat products from livestock that were slaughtered and processed in the US, the response reads.

Biondo said the move helps, but not enough. It is expensive to ship living animals from one country to another, which would limit the labeling of Brazil beef as US beef, but it is still a problem.

If there is a health issue with Brazilian beef, consumers in the US won't know to pay attention because they think their beef is from the US, she said.

"Once it has that product of the US label, it gets pretty hard to keep track of it," she said.

She doesn't know how much beef is packaged in the US with the labeling. No one keeps track of the labels, but the FSIS investigation did indicate that it is happening, she said.

"Since the repeal of (COOL)... there has been no official definition of U.S. beef, nor any specific 'Made in USA' labeling requirements for beef products that are so labeled," the petition states.

Many cattle from Canada and Mexico enter the US every year and are slaughtered in US packing facilities. As a result, the possibility that the label "Product of the USA" or some such other claim of U.S. origin is very real, the petition continued.

The petition concludes that there are no current beef labeling requirements mandated by law and existing voluntary labeling practices can cause consumer confusion.

"The way they're attempting to remedy it isn't really going to fix the problem down the line," Biondo said of the FSIS response.

But the fight isn't over. There are two bills in Congress right now that would

close the loophole. The US Beef Integrity Act, Senate Bill 2744, and House Bill 4481 would require all beef to be born, raised and slaughtered in the US.

"We plan to continue to push until we close the loophole," she said.

The Washington State House passed a bill in February. If it passes the senate, it would allow a cow to spend up to 60 days of its life outside the US and still qualify.

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**HOOSIER  
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"Getting udders ready to accept volumes of milk."

— Keith Beer



BEER CATTLE CO, BERNE, INDIANA, Max and Karen and sons Keith (right) and Craig Beer Calving 200 to 250 two-year-olds monthly, milking only fresh heifers, SCC 150,000



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"Dairies continue to get more milk per cow, and we find ways to supply them with heifers that continue to get more milk. Udder Comfort is part of that. With the Udder Comfort Spray Gun and Backpack Sprayer, it's easy to get the job done.

"The Udder Comfort Backpack is a great tool to do groups of pre-fresh heifers in headlocks 1x/day 7 days before calving. Our results were similar to applying it post-fresh in the parlor with the Spray Gun.

# State park histories and baby pelicans

## DNR Naturalists on the Job

In these times of mandatory social isolation, Indiana's DNR interpretive naturalists are dedicated to sharing virtual tours of the outdoors to keep you engaged and uplifted.

DNR staff are normally on the frontline providing park visitors with in-person nature hikes and programs, but now they are working ONLINE to provide at-home park visitors with virtual hikes, presentations, and live streaming programs.

Topics include wildflower walks, nature talks, live critter feedings, history programs, craft tutorials, pre-school programs, property tours, and more, ranging from 5 to 50 minutes.

Virtual programs can be found on individual park Facebook pages or a listing can be found on the Indiana DNR calendar [www.calendar.dnr.IN.gov](http://www.calendar.dnr.IN.gov). You can find the programs by using the Advanced Search feature and choosing the "Virtual" category or typing "Virtual" in the Keyword Search.

## Story of a State Park

Mounds State Park has been made available to all of us today because one family loved the land and its history. The Bronnberg Home stands as a stately reminder of the family's commitment to preserving the prehistoric mounds on their farm.

Frederick Bronnberg Sr. arrived in the United States from Germany around 1800. The family was originally destined for Illinois, but settled in Madison County, Indiana, in a log home not far from what is now known as the Great Mound. Frederick and Barbara had 12 children, nine of whom survived and prospered.

Their third child, Frederick Jr., built the Federal style, brick, two-story home around 1850. He and his wife, Hulda Free, raised six children in the home. Frederick Sr. ran a tannery, saw mill and grist mill. Frederick Jr. farmed the large family homestead. The ventures made the Bronnbergs wealthy and well known in local circles.

The house is the only surviving structure from the Bronnberg Farm. In 1905, Ransom, Frederick Jr.'s son, leased approximately 40 acres of land to The Indiana Union Traction Company with the option to buy in five years. The company built an amusement park called Mounds Park which ran successfully until 1929, then the company sold the land to the Madison County Historical Society. The historical society promptly donated the land to the Indiana Department of Conservation, and Mounds State Park was established on October 7, 1930.

## The American White Pelican

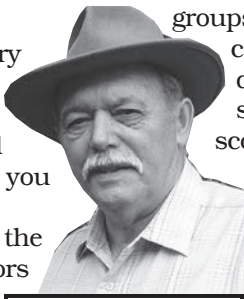
For some, pelicans bring to mind Nigel, a cartoon character in the movie "Finding Nemo", or vacations along seashores and coastal regions, but not floating on a lake in Indiana.

The beautiful, large, white-plumed birds weigh almost 30 pounds and have wingspans exceeding 9 feet. Seeing a large bird with white wings and black tips sometimes leads to misidentification as a snow goose, another Indiana migrator.

Don't miss your chance to see one here in Indiana. They stay around just long enough to rest in our waters and eat a lot of fish before moving on to their breeding grounds.

Regular sightings of pelicans occur at Mississinewa Lake, Salamonie Lake, Summit Lake State Park, Raccoon SRA, and Goose Pond Fish & Wildlife Area. Discover the properties at [stateparks.IN.gov](http://stateparks.IN.gov).

American White Pelicans cooperate when feeding. Sometimes, large



SPAULDING OUTDOORS  
By Jack Spaulding

groups will gather in wetlands. They coordinate their swimming to drive schooling fish toward the shallows. The pelicans easily scoop up the corralled fish from the water.

American White Pelicans must provide roughly 150 pounds of food to nourish a chick from its birth to the time it's ready to forage on its own.

Contrary to cartoon portrayals and common misconceptions, pelicans never carry food in their bill pouches. They use them to scoop up food but swallow their catch before flying off.

Pelicans are skillful food thieves. They steal from other pelicans trying to swallow large fish and are successful about one-third of the time. They also try to steal prey from Double-crested Cormorants bringing fish to the surface. In their dense nesting colonies, some birds even steal the food a parent on an adjacent nest has disgorged for its young.

Pelican chicks can crawl by 1 to 2 weeks of age. By 3 weeks they can walk with their bodies off the ground and can swim as soon as they can get to water. Older chicks move up to running, then running with flapping their wings, and by the age of 9 to 10 weeks, they can fly.

White Pelicans forage almost exclusively by day on their wintering grounds; but during breeding season, they commonly forage at night. Even though it's hard to see, nighttime foraging tends to result in larger fish being caught than during the daytime.

American White Pelicans and Double-crested Cormorants are often found together. They sometimes forage together (though they mainly hunt different fish and at different depths).

Cormorants even nest individually or in groups within pelican colonies.

Pelicans are big birds prone to overheat when they're out in the hot sun. They shed heat by facing away from the sun and fluttering their bill pouches—which contain many blood vessels to let body heat escape. Incubating parents may also stretch their wings wide to aid cooling.

American White Pelican embryos squawk before hatching to express discomfort if conditions get too hot or cold.

The oldest known American White Pelican lived to at least 23 years, 6 months old and was banded in North Dakota in 1983.

In 1910, Dixon Lanier Merritt penned his longstanding limerick about the pelican:

*A funny old bird is a pelican.  
His beak can hold more than his belican.  
Food for a week  
He can hold in his beak,  
But I don't know how the helican.*

'till next time,  
Jack  
Readers can contact the author by writing to this publication, or e-mail at [jackspaulding@hughes.net](mailto:jackspaulding@hughes.net)



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# Live stream concerts during the pandemic

BITTERSWEET, Ky. — I have noticed over the last few weeks, how many of our favorite musical artists are bringing their talents to social media in order to help their fans, and the public in general, cope with social distancing and being home for so long.



RURAL ROUTE MUSIC  
Bluegrass Johnson

But it's not just the mega stars that are doing this. Local musicians all over the place are linking up via video conferencing and playing mini concerts as a way to help alleviate the anxiety that has come along with this terrible pandemic.

One particular posting that featured a local bluegrass group from my hometown who delivered great harmonies, as well as solid instrumentals, all from the comfort of their individual homes. I was amazed to say the least.

Modern technology has enabled us to stay connected in a way we could have only dreamed of in the past. In fact, the ability to connect may be the one thing that helps us cope through all of this.

One of the biggest stars on the planet, Garth Brooks, has been delivering weekly posting of music from his studio to the world and it has been nothing short of fantastic. These video offerings showcase what a talent this guy and wife Trisha Yearwood really are.

When you strip down an artist of the big stage shows with multiple backup musicians and all the elements that create an exciting

stage presence, you can really see the talent they possess. And Brooks is one of the best ever.

He and Yearwood recently brought their weekly social media show to the CBS network to benefit all the frontline medical workers helping us through this time. It was so very good and took my mind away from all that is going on in the world for a short time.

But all of the major television networks are also finding new ways to bring news and entertainment to their viewers. Most of these anchors and reporters are coming to us from their living rooms. And while much of the news they are bringing us isn't good, we do get a glimpse of these media folks in a different light.

In bringing us their information, they also have invited artists of all genres onto their shows, once again, via video technology, to make a very abnormal situation, a little more like normal. The morning news shows are especially taking this type of broadcasting on.

It is different but it has been a gift of sorts, as we all face uncertain times together. I expect many of the ways we are communicating now will become mainstream even after we get past this point in our lives.

So, until that happens, please follow the rules of social distancing, be kind to each other, pray for one another, and let's remember those who are sick and suffering. Please stay safe.

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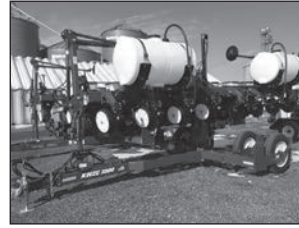
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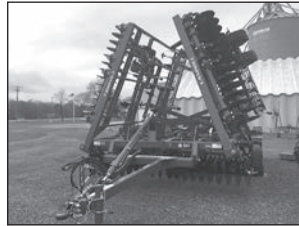
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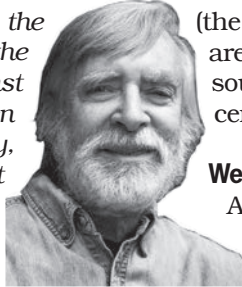
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# Get ready for a major increase in sunlight and garden greens

Mid April already, and the wild plums bloom at the roadside, a lacy white against the exuberant, jubilant green of new grass and the dusty, fading black of burned-out ditches. No leaves, not yet, only the delicate, star-petaled blossoms, sweet with their timeless perfume. Ted Kooser, "Mother"



POOR WILL'S ALMANACK  
By Bill Felker

(the two outside stars of the dipper) are positioned almost exactly north-south before midnight, marking the center of Middle Spring.

### Weather Trends

After the high-pressure system that arrives near April 16 passes through, a major increase in the average daily amount of sunlight occurs: a rise from early April's 50/50 chance of sun or clouds up to a brighter 70 percent chance of clear to partly cloudy conditions. Chances of highs in the 80s continue to climb across the nation's center, reaching the same frequency as in mid-October by April 18. The steady advance of the year's cold waves slows now, and relatively long periods of stable weather encourage the advent of full spring growth. However, the second major tornado period of April begins this week, lasting in most years until the 27th.

### Countdown to Spring

One week until the first rhubarb pie  
Two weeks until the first cricket song of Late Spring  
Three weeks to the great warbler migration through the Lower Midwest  
Four weeks until the first roses and orange ditch lilies open and until all

tender vegetables and flowers can be set out in the garden

Five weeks until the high canopy begins shades the garden

Six weeks until mulberries are sweet and cottonwood cotton drifts in the wind

### NOTES ON THE PROGRESS OF THE YEAR

Cross-Quarter Day, the day on which the sun reaches halfway to solstice, occurs at the end of April's third week. This is the time the first parsnips rise through the wetlands, and all major garden weeds are sprouting. Honeysuckles and spice bushes have developed enough to turn the undergrowth pale green, and color rises through the tree line as rose of Sharon, ginkgo, elm, tree of heaven, black walnut, pussy willow, box elder, sweet gum, ash, locust, and mulberry foliage appears.

Early daffodils continue to hold, but the seasons of grape hyacinths and scilla are ending. Some of the earliest Middle Spring wild flowers still bloom in this mild April: bloodroot, purple cress, twinleaf, toothwort, periwinkle, and dead nettle.

The redbuds are open all along the 40th Parallel. More and more crab apples are flowering, and the great dandelion bloom of 2020 is at its peak, tulips pacing their yellow with red and orange.

### In the Field and Garden

In the vegetable garden, you might find fresh asparagus, new herbs for seasoning, lettuce leaves long enough for salad.

Grub worms come to the surface of the lawn. Destroy tent caterpillars as they hatch in trees on your property

When the tree line starts to turn green, weevils appear in alfalfa, cabbage worms are taking over the cabbage.

### Almanack Literature

#### The Man in the Cellar

A Ghost Story by Fanny Mae Lindsey  
New Haven, Ohio

I moved to New Haven in 1973. Not once did I think my house would be haunted. But one night around about 10:00 p.m., all that changed. I had just got into bed. My son and two cousins were up in the kitchen.

They yelled out that a man was in my cellar and had come up the stairs.

I jumped up, and there I saw him going out the door. I ran after him, but he disappeared right in front of my eyes. I never thought he would come back again.

But he did. I was looking out my bedroom window one night, and then there he was, dressed like back in the 1930s, looking like a doctor. I tried to scream, but I couldn't.

Finally I got sort of used to him, and I decided to name him George.

And, well, he still walks up and down my stairway. Right to this very day everyone that comes to my house knows that Gorge lives here.

So one day my uncle and his son and wife came up from Kentucky. They were going to spend the night. Well, you know George just had to walk. The relatives got so scared that they left in the middle of the night. Well, right to this very day no one wants to spend the night all night at my house.

Another time, our daughter and our son-in-law were sleeping upstairs. Well, around about two in the morning, down came the mattress. They both were scared so bad, you should have seen their faces, all white.

I could tell many more stories about George, but I'd better stop for now....

### Answers To Last Week's Sckrambler

In order to estimate your Sckrambler IQ, award yourself 15 points for each word unscrambled, adding a 50-point bonus for getting all of them correct. If you find a typo, add another 15 points to your IQ.

- |          |          |
|----------|----------|
| WESET    | SWEET    |
| KEETS    | SKEET    |
| AETT     | TEAT     |
| EAPT     | PEAT     |
| ATEF     | FEAT     |
| TALB     | BLEAT    |
| AEETLHT  | ATHLETE  |
| ETEHTSAE | AESTHETE |
| BBRWTOEA | BROWBEAT |
| TLEES    | SLEET    |

### This Week's Rhyming Sckrambler

- TELCA
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- EMTE
- ELPAT
- ETWET
- EETSRT
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# Dairy farmers are feeling the effects of COVID-19

Farmers continue to feel the effects of COVID-19 even though they may not have it, and are dumping thousands of gallons of precious milk while others destroy their crops because the restaurants that used to purchase them are shuttered.

The National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF) and the International Dairy Foods Association (IDFA) announced in a joint press release this week that they have submitted a request for assistance to Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue, concerning the devastation to dairy producers and dairy processors from the COVID-19 outbreak. The plan will be presented to Congressional Ag Committee leaders, Secretary Perdue and leadership at USDA and the White House.

NMPF President and CEO Jim Mulhern stated; "As most of the country shelters in place and large swaths of the foodservice sector come to a standstill, dairy sales outside retail channels have plummeted. Market prices have fallen rapidly, creating a crushing economic outlook for producers of nutritious, and necessary, milk and dairy products."

"The goal is to help offset the steep decline in farm milk prices and encourage producers to reduce excess supply resulting from demand disappearance," the statement says, by paying producers \$3 per hundredweight on 90 percent of their production, if they cut production by 10 percent from a March 2020 baseline.

The proposal also calls for a loan program for processors as well as a dairy product donation program with the government purchasing \$525 million worth of butter, cheese,



**MIELKE MARKET WEEKLY**  
By Lee Mielke

fresh and powdered milk to give away. There are also proposals to loosen packaging requirements for the Women's, Infant's, and Children's (WIC) programs and re-opening Dairy Margin Coverage for dairy farmers.

IDFA President and CEO Michael Dykes, said "The COVID-19 crisis has hit the dairy industry with a unique set of challenges that impact our dairy farmers and processors equally hard. As the impact deepens across our economy, the federal government must go above and beyond traditional programs and solutions to bring balance and certainty to the dairy industry."

HighGround Dairy emphasized the necessity for USDA to move quickly, arguing that "In 2009, government assistance did not arrive until after several months of depressed milk prices. It is important to remember this is just a proposal, but some of the actions would support prices if implemented, including the milk supply reduction provision and the direct purchases of dairy products. Market volatility will persist until details become clear, but these actions to reduce supply and drive demand could prevent milk prices from declining further as the COVID-19 crisis continues to evolve."

Meanwhile, butter greased the gears in Tuesday's Global Dairy Trade (GDT) auction, resulting in its first positive move in five sessions. The weighted average of products offered inched up 1.2 percent on the smallest volume since June 4, 2019, but follows the 3.9 percent plunge on March 17 and 1.2 percent drop on March 3.

Butter led the gains, up 4.5 percent,

after inching 0.3 percent higher last time. Whole milk powder was up 2.1 percent, after it fell 4.2 percent last time. Anhydrous milkfat inched 0.4 percent higher, after a 1.0 percent loss and Cheddar was up 0.2 percent, following a 2.6 percent jump.

Buttermilk powder led the losses, down 11.9 percent. Rennet casein was down 2.6 percent and skim milk powder slipped 0.8 percent, following its 8.1 percent plunge last time.

FC Stone equated the GDT 80 percent butterfat butter price to \$1.8864 per pound US, up 5.2 cents from the last event. CME butter closed Thursday at a bargain \$1.2475. GDT Cheddar cheese equated to \$1.9937 per pound and compares to Thursday's CME block Cheddar at a pathetic \$1.0550. GDT skim milk powder averaged \$1.1403 per pound and compares to \$1.1462 last time. Whole milk powder averaged \$1.2793, up from \$1.2687. CME Grade A nonfat dry milk closed Friday at 89.75 cents per pound.

2020 milk production and marketings were estimated at 222.2 and 221.2 billion pounds respectively, down 100 million pounds on production. The marketings estimate was unchanged. If realized, 2020 production would be up 3.8 billion pounds or 1.7 percent from 2019.

Butter saw a little strength Tuesday and Wednesday but it was short lived and finished Thursday at \$1.2475 per pound, down 3.25 cents on the week and \$1.01 below a year ago, with 17 cars sold on the week.

Cream is full for currently operating butter plants which are running hard. Some plant closures in other regions have butter churning going hard in the Midwest. Food service reports are dim. Contacts say whether directly or

indirectly, food service slowdowns are creating a glut in the milkfat market but bulk butter offers are not increasing drastically. Butter is moving to storage as inventories grow.

Western churning is active and butter makers are doing everything possible to avoid discarding cream but it is becoming more challenging as cream supplies are increasing above processing capacities. Many local storage facilities are full so several manufacturers are looking outside of their localities. After a heavy blast of sales, retail demand for butter has backed down and orders from food service are almost nonexistent, which has led to more bulk butter in storage.

Grade A nonfat dry milk climbed to 90.5 cents per pound by Wednesday but closed Thursday at 89.75 cents, up 3.5 cents on the week but 9 cents below a year ago, on 12 sales.

Dry whey held at 33 cents per pound for 13 consecutive sessions, then gained a penny Wednesday and Thursday, to close 2 cents higher at 35 cents per pound, 0.75 cents below a year ago, with 2 sales reported.

Checking the export front; the US Dairy Export Council (USDEC) reports that US dairy export volumes tracked above year-earlier levels in February, despite early indications of shipping disruptions resulting from the COVID-19 outbreak, and was the sixth straight month of positive growth. But it warned that the break in global demand in March will likely mean lower volumes in the months ahead.

US suppliers shipped 37.6 million pounds of milk powders, cheese, whey products, lactose and butterfat in the month, up 3 percent from 2019. The value of all exports was \$529.0 million, up 9 percent, adjusted for leap day.

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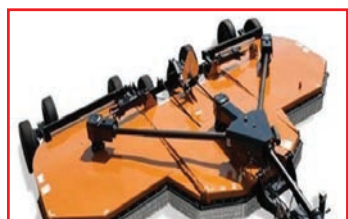
2014 Int'l. 4400 - DT570, 330 HP, Allison 3000 RDSP, 5.29 ratio, air ride, 276" WB, Idealease return . . . . . \$28,900



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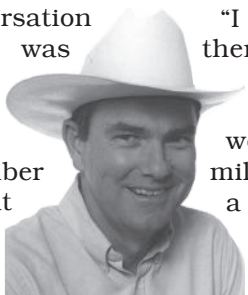





2004 JD 980 - 24.5' field cultivator with 3 bar coil time harrow, rear hitch and hydraulics. . . . . \$19,500

# Computer cowboys and the technology takeover

I had an interesting conversation with a guy who said he was an "emerging technology specialist." Or, was it "emerging technology officer?" Anyway, I do remember him specifically telling me that I'd better start getting in line for welfare and food stamps because I'd soon be replaced by a computer.



It's THE PITTS  
By Lee Pitts

"Really?" I replied. "You think a computer can write a semi-humorous humor column?"

"Trust me," he said, "if they can make a computer that will drive a car, steer a rocket into space or vacuum your carpet they can make one to replace the senseless dribble you write. You do know that already there are computer linguistic engineering programs to correct your spelling and grammar and rewrite poorly written sentences?"

"Yeah, I know. I once ran a column I wrote through one of those computer programs and it said I was writing for an audience at the eighth grade level!" With my knees knocking and my heart palpitating I asked the emerging technology specialist, "How long do you think I have?"

"A year, at most. You're already on life support," he said. "I just read a book, for example, that was written entirely by a computer."

"You're kidding me? Was it any good?" I asked.

"No. But that's not the point. Neither is most of the stuff in bookstores now. The point is, no industry is safe from the computers and robots."

"I know. I never thought that there'd be a machine to pick wine grapes or mow a person's lawn. And I never would have ever believed in a million years they could make a computer-driven robot to milk a cow!"

"Any farmer or rancher," he said, "that is having a hard time finding labor now will either buy a computer/robot to do the job, or cease to produce that crop. It's that simple."

"Wow. You're really smart. I bet your services must be very much in demand. But I know one occupation that's safe: the cowboy. You can't tell me," I said, "that a computer will ever pull a calf, build fence, castrate bulls, get into the mind of a colt, fix a spur strap, shoe a horse, out think a cow, train a cow dog, give a vaccination or put a prolapse back in and sew it up with a needle, leather punch and some whang leather. And I doubt that calves will voluntarily load themselves on a cattle truck or sit down on a hot iron to brand themselves."

"I wouldn't be so sure if I were you," said the emerging technology specialist. "You do know that computers are already grading carcasses? I've no doubt the scientists will come up with water troughs that tell a manager back at headquarters when a ball valve is broken, or there is no water in the tank. Just as helicopters are now

(It's The Pitts continued on page 10B)

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## CHAMPION SEEDS

# Updating your collection from home during Covid -19

Virден, Ill. — These days collectors are at home during the COVID-19 and what better time to update your collection. Many collectors have a tendency to enjoy the hunt and put their treasures away without really updating the information about what they have. In fact, how many really even remember what all they have collected over the years? If there was ever a perfect time to find out what exactly is in the files or in the barn now is a perfect time!



**WRENCHING TALES**  
By Cindy Ladage

change that out if you buy and sell. We can give our customers blank forms and they can send it to us once a year.”

Steve added that visual proof is also great in case of fire or theft. “We recommend any type of proof that it is in your possession such as pictures of tractor and photos of serial numbers. Keeping a digital copy is even better.”

Kurt Aumann, of Aumann Auctions in Nokomis,

Illinois said during this downtime that auctions are still booming although he added that the auction industry has shifted to online only. “People have been sorting out tractors they want to sell and asking about things they are looking for,” Kurt said. “It’s not that people aren’t still buying, they still are, but it is only online.”

With a bit of time on our hands he advised, “Take the time to see if you want to sell, clean and rearrange your sheds, sell what you don’t want and look for you really want.”

“Now is a great time to be doing any service that needs to be done,” Kurt added. “Tweak things that need tweaked and get things running. It is perfect timing for doing all those little projects you never have time to do.”

Round out your collection. Now is the time to find the manuals and items that go with your equipment. “It is the ideal times to get into the list of those things that need to be done that you

The first step in this daunting task will be to record the details of your antique equipment, literature or memorabilia. Updating your collection can be done in a number of ways. Steve O’Dell, a Country Companies agent in Virден, Illinois said, “The biggest thing I guess is to keep up on the values of the property because they go up and down. Keep a tab on them what you expect to get for them, if you have them insured have you updated your records?”

There are two big questions right there and how you answer them will probably depend on how much you have invested in your treasures. Are your antiques insured? If they are insured, is the list you gave your adjuster up to date? Steve O’Dell advises, “Keep a log of pertinent information and have it in one place in your house where you keep records every time you buy or sell.”

He advised that you update that list at least once annually. “Be prepared, have that information organized and



**Above:** This beautiful tractor is an example of a collector enjoying themselves in a parade at the Florida Flywheelers swap meet this past January.

never have time for,” Kurt added saying he had been organizing literature that he had never worked on in the past.

One of the things that really make a tractor special come auction time is one that has the history behind it. It is also fun just for your own benefit as well. This is the perfect time to try to dig in and research and find out the history behind the tractor whether you are talking about researching the archives, or talking to Great Aunt Betty that bought the tractor new from the dealership.

As far as value come auction time Kurt said, “Make sure the tractor is in good shape, the better it runs and the better it looks is always a plus.”

When asked what is trending right now in sales he added, “Real super nice originals are trending right now.”

So if you have something original, you may just want to clean it up if planning to sell.

Like tractors, Kurt said that literature and memorabilia also seem to be doing well and they too are all selling online as well.

So, update your inventory lists, make sure your insurance and information is up to date. Check to see if you need any new parts, decals etc. Check on values of tractors, make decisions about your collection, and get what you plan on keeping in tip top shape!

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# It's The Pitts

FROM PAGE 8

being used to gather cattle in some instances, I'm sure there will be drones that will do the same thing. It's quite easy to imagine a computer system where computers open and close gates to sort cattle."

"You sure are intelligent," I said. "What was it you said you do?"

"I'm an emerging technology specialist."

"You must make a lot of money and have a corner office in a tall building somewhere."

"I do all right," said the blushing emerging technology specialist."

"I guess I'd better start looking for another job," I said, downhearted.

We parted ways and I spent a lot of time thinking about what the emerging technology specialist said. That is, until we accidentally ran into the smart guy recently when we were shopping in a big chain drugstore that shall go nameless. There standing by the self-checkout lines was the emerging technology specialist.

"Hey, how are you doing? Remember me?" I asked. "What are you doing here?"

"This is where I work," he mumbled and looked dejectedly at the ground as if he'd been caught stealing money from the plate in church. "I help people if they have trouble in the self checkout line."

And sure enough, that's what it said on his name tag, "Emerging Technology Specialist."

"Wow, this is not what I imagined. Tell me, do you like your job?"

"It's all right. I get minimum wage and it's part time, but it does leave me plenty of time to play video games."

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# USDA grants \$600,000 for ISA and ISDA programs

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana Soybean Alliance (ISA), in partnership with the Indiana Corn Marketing Council (ICMC) and Indiana State Department of Agriculture, (ISDA) received a \$600,000 grant for the Infield Advantage program through the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Infield Advantage is a proactive, collaborative opportunity for farmers to collect and understand personalized, on-farm data to optimize their management practices to ultimately improve their farm profitability and benefit the environment. This program is a partnership between ISA, the Indiana Corn Marketing Council, the Indiana State Department of Agriculture, Purdue Extension county offices and

local Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The USDA grant will allow the program to expand partnerships to include certified crop advisors, co-ops and ag retailers.

“The Infield Advantage program shows how great partnerships can be in agriculture, and this program is something we are very proud to work on with our partners and Indiana farmers,” said ISDA Director Bruce Kettler. “This funding will ensure that our Hoosier farmers are able to connect, learn more about their farms and receive personalized and field-specific data.”

This funding will be used to provide farmer participants with soil health assessments, soil chemical tests, and tissue samples in the fields enrolled in tillage, cover crop

or nutrient management trials. Funding will provide enrollment into sustainability benchmarking tools such as Land O’Lakes, Truterra. Agronomic technical assistance and incentive payments to farmer participants is available, too.

“Indiana’s soybean and corn checkoffs are charged with conducting research and educating farmers about the best practices for producing a crop,” said ISA Board Chairman David Rodibaugh, who is a soybean farmer from Rensselaer, Ind. “Our Infield Advantage program provides very good information that farmers can apply to their own farms to improve their bottom line in a more earth-friendly manner.”

These partnerships between state agencies, federal partners

and Indiana farmers are crucial for improving Indiana agriculture and increasing soil conservation. For more information or to sign up for the Infield Advantage program, visit [www.infieldadvantage.org](http://www.infieldadvantage.org) or contact ISA Production and Environment Manager Ariel Kittle at [akittle@indianasoybean.com](mailto:akittle@indianasoybean.com)

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1-21

# SALE CALENDAR

The Sale Calendar lists dates, nearest town or location, owner, auctioneer and type of sale. The page numbers refer to ads in this week's paper. Listings without page numbers either had ads in previous issues, or will have ads in a future issue of Farm World. Auction listings are only made available to those who have placed a paid ad in Farm World. Ads will only be published two times in the Sale Calendar: The week of the actual auction and the week prior if the auction ad is received in time to include in the Sale Calendar.

**APR 15 PREBLE COUNTY, INDIANA: BROWN REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST — HALDERMAN REAL ESTATE.** ONLINE ONLY - real estate.. no time given

**APR 15 WARREN COUNTY, INDIANA: MICHELL D. JOHNSON ESTATE — HALDERMAN REAL ESTATE.** ONLINE ONLY, real estate.. 8 am EST

**APR 16 ALBANY, INDIANA: MULTI FARM AUCTION — FREIJE AUCTIONEERS.** Real estate.. 6:30 pm

**APR 16 BEDFORD, INDIANA: BULL SALE — IBEP.** 95 bulls sell. - ONLINE ONLY. 6 pm

**APR 16 MUNCIE, INDIANA: HORTON LIVING TRUST — HALDERMAN REAL ESTATE.** Real estate.. 6:30 pm

**APR 17 ZANESVILLE, OHIO: BACK 2 THE FARM — PRIMETIME AGRIMARKETING NETWORK.** Bull sale.. 7 pm SEE AD ON PAGE 15B

**APR 18 BROOKVILLE, INDIANA: SPRING CONSIGNMENT — WHITE'S AUCTIONS.** Farm machinery.. 9 am

**APR 18 VEVAY, INDIANA: REAL ESTATE & EQUIPMENT AUCTION — LEVI BEILER.** 12868 Peelman Rd.. 10am S

**APR 21 BROOKVILLE, INDIANA: JOHN J. HEYOB TRUST — SCHRADER REAL ESTATE & AUCTION CO., INC..** Real estate.. 6 pm

**APR 21 DECATUR COUNTY, INDIANA: WEBB ESTATE FARM — HALDERMAN REAL ESTATE.** ONLINE ONLY, Real estate.. 8 am EST

**APR 21 KOKOMO, INDIANA: SILVER DAWN FARMS, INC. — HALDERMAN REAL ESTATE.** Real estate.. 6:30 pm

**APR 22 MIDDLETOWN, INDIANA: TRENNEPOHL FARMS — PRIMETIME AGRIMARKETING NETWORK. CATTLE SALE..** no time given SEE AD ON PAGE 15B

**APR 22 TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA: CLOMEYER FARM, LLC — JOHNNY SWALLS AUCTION.** Real estate.. 2 pm

**APR 22 UNION CITY, INDIANA: RICHARD & JUDITH KELTNER — HALDERMAN REAL ESTATE.** Real estate.. 6:30 am

**APR 27 TAYLOR RIDGE, ILLINOIS: RANDY BROWN — SULLIVAN AUCTIONEERS.** On line only, farm equipment.. 10 am SEE AD ON PAGE 12B

**MAY 6 WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO: RICHARD G. GILHOUSE ESTATE — SCHRADER REAL ESTATE & AUCTION CO., INC..** Real estate.. 6 pm SEE AD ON PAGE 13B

**MAY 7 ALBANY, INDIANA: DEBBIE TAYLOR, HEATHER BURRIS POA — SCHRADER REAL ESTATE & AUCTION CO., INC..** Real estate.. 11 am SEE AD ON PAGE 13B

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**MONDAY, APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup> AT 10 A.M.**

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Physical Address: 10606 98<sup>th</sup> Street W, Taylor Ridge, IL

**HIGHLIGHTS:** '02 AGCO RT115 MFWD tractor w/FL500 loader, 3,775 hrs; '01 AGCO RT115 MFWD tractor, 3,118 hrs; '68 Ford 5000 2wd row crop tractor; MF 35 2wd tractor w/Freeman 3000 loader; Vermeer 605 XL round baler; AGCO 3312 12' mower conditioner; Vermeer R2300 hyd. hay rake; Kuhn SR110 GII 10-wheel hay rake; Kuhn GF5202 THA 4-basket hay tedder; John Deere 224T small square baler; JD 350 9' sickle-bar mower; Ferguson 9' 3-pt. hay rake; (2) 20' hay racks; Apache 8-bale gooseneck hay trailer; Roto Grind 760 bale processor; Meyer M390 manure spreader; Farm Hand 810 grinder mixer; Heider auger wagon; Schuler 120B feed wagon; (6) Forever Feeders 20' feed bunks; Forever Feeders portable hay/silage feeder trailers; Hardi 160 3-pt. sprayer; JD B 10' grain drill; Flow E-Z 250 bu. gravity wagon; Ford 785A 7' 3-pt. blade; Krause 9' 3-pt. chisel; JD 10' cultimulcher; Krause 14' disk; Ferguson 3-bottom 3-pt. plow; 14' harrowgator; 2015 Featherlite 7'x24' alum. gooseneck livestock trailer; 2008 PJ 24' tilt-deck flatbed trailer.



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*Saturday, April 18th*




*at 10 AM*

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**UPCOMING AUCTIONS**




**Saturday, May 2nd, 1:00 PM**  
Drive-Thru Ring

**Saturday, May 9th, 1 PM - Guns**

**Monday, May 18th, 6:30 PM - Real Estate**

**AUCTION 1: Saturday, May 2nd, 1:00 PM**  
Freije Auction Center consisting of our drive-thru Auction Ring Mowers, SxS's, Cars, Trucks, SUV's, Tractors, & anything else that drives or has a title  
**Online Bidding at [www.proxibid.com/freije](http://www.proxibid.com/freije)**

**AUCTION 2: Saturday, May 9th, 1:00 PM**  
Freije Auction Center Sportsmen & Personal Defense Guns & Ammo and Acc.  
**Online Bidding at [www.proxibid.com/freije](http://www.proxibid.com/freije)**

**AUCTION 3: Monday, May 18th, 6:30 PM - On-Site Real Estate**  
304 Avon Avenue Plainfield, IN 46168 2BD, 1BA 1,275 SQ FT

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# A history of insulting presidents in Battistella's book



**THE BOOKWORM SEZ**  
Terri Schlichenmeyer

"*Dangerous Crooked Scoundrels: Insulting the President, from Washington to Trump*" by Edwin L. Battistella c.2020, Oxford University Press, \$14.95, 228 pages

You've got a few things to say about that guy in the White House.

If not now, well, you've said a few things about other guys in the White House over the years - much of it civil, but some of it was inappropriate for polite society. And in "Dangerous Crooked Scoundrels" by Edwin L. Battistella, you're in good company.

Was there ever a time when people didn't verbally poke one another?

Probably not. Says Battistella, in times past, insulting was a combat sport of lips and minds, like a Greek-and-Roman "Yo Mama" war of

words. With that history of zingers and arrows in mind, it's no surprise that American Presidents have heard their share.

Insults, says Battistella, take many forms but for all of them, disrespect and demeaning are key. In politics, especially, neutral words can take on a tone of deep insult, some names practically scream to be zinged, flaws (real or perceived) could be highlighted, and insulters should get bonus points for alliteration. Old language can also resurface as a brand-new burn, when words just come back around to insult anew.

"Dotard," anyone?

Sticks, stones, and snowflakes aside, then, does an insult matter?

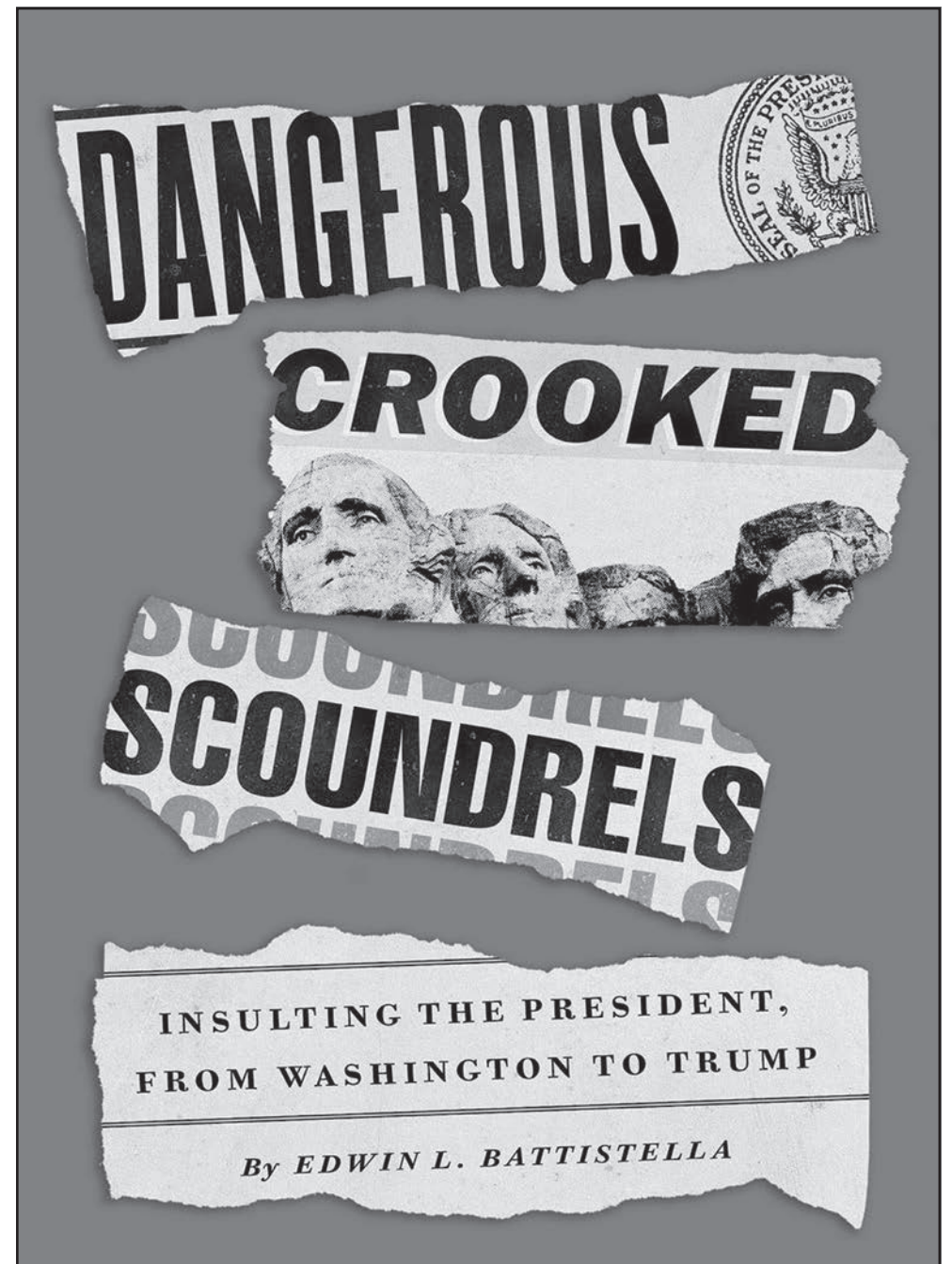
Yes, says Battistella: "How we insult presidents tells us about the presidents, but it also tells us about the American nation's anxieties and aspirations."

And that White House guy gets it on the chin.

Though he was really quite

popular, for example, George Washington took his share of insults, and he took them to heart. Abraham Lincoln, beloved now, was called an "imbecile" in his day. Alice Roosevelt

Longworth had very little good to say about her cousin-in-law, Franklin. Harry Truman was infamously rankled by an insult to his daughter; JFK and



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Property Location, Auction Held Onsite: 5990 N CR 650 E, Albany, IN 47320

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INSPECTION: Monday, April 20 from 4-6 PM ET CASE LOADER/ BACKHOES: 2007 Case 580 Super M Series II 4x4 loader/backhoe, Extendahoe, 1237 hrs, CHA; 1988 Case 580K 4x4 loader/backhoe, Extendahoe; (4) Case backhoe buckets EXCAVATORS: CAT 320L excavator, 4396 hrs, enclosed cab; John Deere 50D mini excavator, 1135 hrs; excavator buckets BULLDOZERS: Case 850D bulldozer, 5134 hrs, 6-way blade; CAT D8 bulldozer, 12.5' blade TRACTORS/3-PT EQUIPMENT: 2014 JD 1023E 4x4 tractor, hrs: 312, 60" belly mower (SHARP); 2007 NH TT75A 4x4 tractor, hrs: 230, HP: 75, diesel, open; Land Pride RB3596 8' blade; KK 6' blade; Land Pride 84" pulverizer/leveler; 84" box blade; Int 6' disc; 6' rotary mower; post hole digger; Brave 22-ton wood splitter; Lesco LSB 2600 snow blower DUMP TRUCKS/TRAILERS: 2000 Chevy C6500 single axle, miles: 70K, CAT 3126 engine, Heil 10' bed; (2) 1978 International S2600 tri-axle dump trucks, 428K/453K miles, Cummins engines; 1995 Belshe T9 18+5 pintle 24K flatbed trailer; 1988 Interstate 20DTA 19+5 pintle 24K flatbed trailer CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT: Vermeer V-4750 trencher with backhoe; Wagner WC-430 compactor; Ingersoll-Rand 185 air compressor; Tailgate mulcher/straw blower; (2) hyd hoe rams; 1000 gal diesel tank on skids; Richmond horizontal boring machine; (2) walk-behind concrete saws; Case walk-behind compactor; (2) gas-powered tampers; road construction signage SHOP EQUIPMENT/TOOLS/MATERIAL: JET HVBS-7M metal band saw; Victor acetylene torch set with tanks; English 140 lb anvil; Coats 850 wheel balancer; Coats 5065AX tire changer; Ridgid pipe threaders; Ridgid pipe cutters (up to 12"); (2) large Lawson bolt/hardware bins; steel shop tables; ¾" socket sets; 300 psi hydro-static test pump; (3) trash pumps with Honda engines; Snap-On 15-drawer tool cabinet; construction levels; chain & binders; large amount of PVC fittings/ductwork/etc; new large water valves/hardware; large selection new/used tires OWNER: Estate of Danny Kemple

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INSPECTION DATE: Wednesday, April 29 • 3-5pm or call for a private showing. Meet a Schrader Rep on Tract 1

Owner: The Estate of Richard G. Gillhouse Auction Manager: RD Schrader OH #63198513759, #2012000041

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# A Menu Fit for Family Mornings

(Family Features) Many spring celebrations call for fabulous food, specifically dishes fit for brunch, even if your “crowd” is simply your nearest loved ones gathered at the family table. A wide variety of recipes may fit the festivities, but a combination of comforting bites with sweet and savory flavors is perfect for appeasing all appetites.

This menu of morning recipes includes Chive and Orange Blossom Honey Waffles and Spicy Garlic Honey Chicken as a filling option to base the meal around with Breakfast Casserole as a more traditional dish. For a sweet sendoff, this Brown Sugar Bundt Cake is best served warm as a midday dessert or can be added to your plate as a simple side.

## A Sweet Morning Eat

Add flavor to your brunch with the sweet taste of honey as part of a remade rendition of a breakfast favorite: chicken and waffles.

This recipe for Chive and Orange Blossom Honey Waffles and Spicy Garlic Chicken combines sweet with savory to shine as the main course for your gathering.

Find more recipe ideas at honey.com.

**Chive and Orange Blossom Honey Waffles and Spicy Garlic Honey Chicken**  
Recipe courtesy of chef Jenny Dorsey on behalf of the National Honey Board  
Servings: 4

### Chicken:

8 boneless, skinless chicken thighs  
2 cups buttermilk  
2 tablespoons kosher salt, divided  
3/4 teaspoon ground black pepper, divided  
1/4 teaspoon rosemary, chopped  
2 tablespoons orange blossom honey  
2 cups all-purpose flour  
2 teaspoons cayenne pepper  
1 teaspoon garlic powder  
1 teaspoon onion powder  
2 teaspoons paprika  
1/2 teaspoon ancho chile powder  
vegetable oil, as needed

### Waffles:

1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour  
2 teaspoons orange blossom honey  
1 teaspoon orange zest  
1 teaspoon kosher salt  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
1 1/4 cups whole milk  
2 large eggs  
1/4 cup fresh chives, chopped  
3/4 cup sharp cheddar cheese, shredded  
honey

To make chicken: Rinse chicken thighs and pat dry with paper towels; place in large bowl.

In separate bowl, combine buttermilk, 1 tablespoon salt, 1/4 teaspoon black pepper, rosemary and honey. Pour

buttermilk mixture over chicken; cover and let marinate 8 hours or overnight.

In separate mixing bowl, combine flour, remaining salt, remaining pepper, cayenne, garlic powder, onion powder, paprika and ancho chile powder; stir.

Remove each piece of chicken from buttermilk, shake to remove excess liquid and dredge in flour mixture. Shake off excess.

In deep fryer, heat oil to 375 F. Fry chicken until internal temperature reaches 175 F or juices run clear, approximately 5 minutes per thigh.

Drain on paper towels.

To make waffles: In large mixing bowl, mix flour, honey, orange zest, salt, baking powder, milk, eggs, chives and cheese until combined.

Use waffle maker to cook four waffles in batches.

Place chicken on waffles and drizzle with honey.

## A Dairy-Fueled Brunch Dish

Whether it's just part of a brunch spread or the focus of your meal, an egg-based casserole is a perfect way to appease a morning crowd.

This version of Breakfast Casserole calls for potatoes, ham, eggs, milk and cheese for a simple dish that requires little preparation before popping in the oven.

## Breakfast Casserole

Recipe courtesy of Marcia Stanley, MS, RDN, on behalf of Milk Means More  
Prep time: 25 minutes  
Cook time: 45 minutes  
Servings: 6

1 pound red or white potatoes, scrubbed and cut into 1/2-inch pieces  
1/2 small onion, coarsely chopped (about 1/2 cup)  
nonstick cooking spray  
1/2 teaspoon salt, divided  
1/4 teaspoon pepper  
1 cup reduced-fat and reduced-sodium, chopped, cooked ham (about 4 ounces)  
1 cup (4 ounces) shredded Swiss or cheddar cheese

4 eggs  
1 1/2 cups skim milk  
tablespoon mustard  
Heat oven to 350 F.

In large saucepan, cover potato pieces with enough water to just submerge. Bring to boil. Reduce heat; simmer, covered, 5 minutes. Add onion. Return to simmer, covered, about 5 minutes, or until potatoes are just tender. Drain well. Cool slightly.

Coat 8-by-8-by-2-inch baking dish with nonstick cooking spray. Place potato-onion mixture in baking dish. Sprinkle with 1/4 teaspoon salt and pepper. Gently stir to combine. Sprinkle ham and cheese on top.

In medium bowl, lightly beat eggs. Whisk in milk, mustard and remaining salt. Pour over layers in baking dish. Bake, uncovered, 40-45 minutes, or until knife inserted near center comes out clean. Let stand 5 minutes before serving.

## A Bundt Cake for Brunch

Many brunch festivities may center around classic breakfast foods like quiches and fresh fruits, but you can take your gathering to the next level with a treat to pair with nearly any dish.

This Brown Sugar Bundt Cake can be the simple, sweet side your guests crave as a complement to the savory recipes on the table. Made using just a handful of household ingredients, including the flavor-boosting addition of C&H sugars, it can be created in about an hour and served warm during your next at-home brunch gathering.



**Brown Sugar Bundt Cake**  
Recipe courtesy of “Browned Butter Blondie” on behalf of C&H  
Prep time: 15 minutes  
Cook time: 50 minutes

Nonstick cooking spray  
2 cups all-purpose flour, spooned and leveled  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
1/2 teaspoon baking soda  
1 teaspoon kosher salt  
10 tablespoons unsalted butter, at room temperature  
1 3/4 cups packed C&H Golden Brown Sugar  
1/4 cup C&H Granulated Sugar  
2 large eggs, at room temperature  
1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla  
1 cup full-fat Greek yogurt  
C&H Confectioners' Sugar, for dusting

Heat oven to 350 F.  
Grease 10-cup bundt pan with nonstick cooking spray. Set aside.  
In medium bowl, whisk flour, baking

powder, baking soda and salt.

In bowl of stand mixer fitted with paddle attachment, beat butter, brown sugar and granulated sugar until light and fluffy. Add eggs, one at a time, mixing well after each addition. Add vanilla and mix on low speed.

With mixer on low, add flour mixture in three additions, alternating with yogurt. Begin and end with flour mixture. Mix until just combined.

Pour batter into prepared bundt pan and use offset spatula to level batter.

Bake 50-55 minutes, or until cake is golden brown and toothpick inserted in center of cake comes out clean. If cake browns too quickly while baking, cover with foil after 35 minutes.

Remove from oven and cool on baking rack 20 minutes. Invert pan onto baking rack and gently tap bottom of pan to release cake.

Cool completely before dusting with confectioners' sugar.

Photos courtesy of Getty Images (Chive and Orange Blossom Honey Waffles and Spicy Garlic Honey Chicken)

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Contact: Chris Peacock 765.546.0592 or Lauren Peacock 765.546.7359

**Decatur County, IN (Online): April 21-22 • 79.5<sup>+</sup> Acres - 2 Tracts**  
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**FEATURED LISTINGS**

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**Marshall County, IN: 31.72<sup>+</sup> Acres** • Contact: Julie Matthys 574.310.5189

**Bartholomew County, IN: 60.25<sup>+</sup> Acres**  
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**Delaware County, IN: 295.51<sup>+</sup> Acres** • Contact: Chris Peacock 765.546.0592 or Lauren Peacock 765.546.7359

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# Farmers markets remain open and farms are still producing

**BY MICHELE F. MIHALJEVICH**  
Indiana Correspondent

FORT WAYNE, Ind. —The Fort Wayne Farmers Market has remained open during the coronavirus pandemic to allow vendors to continue to sell their products, a market official said.

"Things don't stop on the farm," explained Bridget Musser, market master. "Animals and plants keep producing. Our vendors were concerned about offering farm pickup because they didn't want the exposure to their farms (for health reasons). We're offering a space for small businesses to continue to sell."

Billed as northeast Indiana's only year-round producer market, the market normally has more than 40 vendors. During the pandemic, market officials are limiting vendors to those selling food or hygiene products. The remaining vendors will return once the outbreak is over, she said. Current available food products include bakery, meats and canned goods.

The market operates indoors from October to May at Parkview Field, home of the city's minor league baseball team. It is scheduled to begin its outdoor season this year in downtown Fort Wayne on May 16. It's open 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

Market officials are taking steps to try to protect customers and vendors. The staff is limiting the number of people inside at one time and hand sanitizer is available. Vendors may wear gloves and masks. Entrance, exit and restroom doors are sprayed with Microban, a product designed to protect surfaces for 24 hours, Musser said.

It may be harder to limit access for customers once the market moves outdoors, she noted. "The goal is to be outside on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Outside, people go behind the vendor areas. We can really control that better inside. If we have to, we'll just extend our season there. But as it gets warmer, more people are going to want to be outside. We are a community and we get used to seeing our community there."

The market normally averages about 850 adult customers weekly, Musser said. In March, they averaged about 400. There were 350 April 4.

"When things started to happen (with the coronavirus) the first couple weeks of March, we had numbers in the 900s," she stated. "Farmers were going home to get more items to bring to the market. A lot of people were stocking up with meats and vegetables. I think people are now truly limiting their exposure as much as possible. Some are probably contacting vendors directly."

The market opened in Oc. 2012 at Parkview Field and moved outdoors for the first time the following spring. It started as a monthly event before going weekly four years ago. The site provides restrooms, heat and ample parking, Musser said.

"A lot of farmers growing vegetables or with animals didn't have the means to do a working market," she noted. "No one had done an indoor market successfully in Fort Wayne. The market has grown every year."

Right: Customers and vendors inside the Fort Wayne Farmers Market last month. Market officials are limiting the number of customers at one time to try to keep them and vendors safe during the pandemic.

Photo was provided by the Fort Wayne Farmers Market



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2016 Kubota M6-131, 1337 Hrs., 24 Spd. w/LH Rev., 2 Rem., **\$59,800**



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2013 Challenger MT655D, 2573 Hrs., CVT Trans., 5 Rem., **\$115,000**



2007 MF 6465, 298 1-owner Act Hrs., Dyna 6 Trans., 540/1000 PTO, **\$69,800**



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1999 MF 4255, 12x12 w/LH Power Rev. Trans., 3896 Hrs., 2 Rem., 1 Owner, **\$31,500**



1998 NH 8260, 18 Spd., PS w/LH Rev., 653 1 Owner Hrs., 6 Cyl., **\$59,500**



1986 Ford 4610, Ser. II, 4460 Hrs., 2 Rem., **\$10,900**



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2007 JD 850J, 175 Hrs., 1 Owner, Hydrostat Trans, 10'8" Blade w/Sgl Cyl Tilt, 24" Pads, **\$169,500**



2016 Rayco C200, 1516 Hrs., 20" Tracks, 70" Mulcher w/Winch, **\$139,500**



2011 Case 580 Super N, WT, 2254 Hrs., PS, Pilot Controls, Extend-A-Hoe, **\$49,500**



2012 Komatsu PC290LC, 4232 Hrs., 32" Pads, 44" Bkt, Manual Thumb, **\$98,500**



2018 Kobelco SK350LC-10, 2995 Hrs., 2 Spd., Aux Hyd, Strickland QA, 52" Bkt, 1 Owner, **\$159,500**



2013 Wacker Neuson 9503-2, 797 Hrs., AWD, 2 Spd. Hydro. Trans. w/LH Rev., 15" Bkt, **\$58,500**



2009 Hyster H60FT, 7874 Hrs., Cab w/Heat, 60" Forks, **\$12,900**



2012 Volvo G940B, 2282 Hrs., 1883 Grader Blade Hrs., 14' Blade, **\$98,500**



2016 JD 672G, 3607 Hrs., 6WD, Mowboard, Mid Scarfire, **\$142,500**



2004 Case 865, DHP, 1674 Hrs. CHA, Frt Scarifier, **\$69,500**



2006 Genie GTH 1056, 2895 Hrs., 10,000 Lb. Lift, 56' Boom Reach, **\$52,800**



2014 Genie 5519, 2434 Hrs., Cab Heat & Air, Forks, **\$43,800**



Kubota DMC8028R, 9'2" Cut **\$18,500**



2014 NH H7230, 540 PTO, CAT 2 Pt Hitch, Swivell 10'4" Cut Width, 8 Disc, **\$15,800**



2012 WG MFG Fuel Trailer, 475 Gal. Diamond Plate fuel Tank, **\$6,500**



2002 MF 6255, 2809 Hrs., Dynashift, 32 Fwd/Rev Gears, LH Rev., Little & Co. Side Arm Mowers w/20' Boom, **\$39,500**