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Iowa State University to construct nation's first turkey research facility

By DOUG SCHMITZ
Iowa Correspondent

AMES, Iowa – Iowa State University's department of animal science recently broke ground on the nation's first turkey teaching and research facility, receiving commitments of more than \$2 million in private donations for the new construction, according to university officials.

"This tremendous new turkey research, teaching and extension facility, with support from industry partners and private donors, will ensure we are providing the best hands-on education for students, and the infrastructure to drive new scientific discoveries across the turkey industry," said Dan Thomson, DVM, who chairs Iowa State University's animal science department.

"Adding this to our recently opened Hamilton Poultry Teaching and Research Farm will complete our cutting-edge facilities to write the next great chapter of Iowa State poultry science history," he added.

The new facility plans to be a hands-on learning facility for modern production practices, flexible space, and state-of-the-art equipment for research, according to university officials.

The new facility also plans to have outreach, continuing education, peer-to-peer opportunities for professionals in the industry and observation areas where visitors can view examples of turkey production systems, making it the only, one-of-its-kind facility focused on turkey production at a major university, university officials said.

A lead gift was provided by Jim and Julie Balloun of Atlanta, Ga. Jim received his bachelor's degree in industrial engineering from Iowa State, and is the retired chairman and chief executive officer of Acuity Brands Inc., a lighting and building management firm headquartered in Atlanta. His father, Stanley L. Balloun, served as an Iowa State University professor in animal science, and was an international expert and leader in the science of turkey feed.

In addition, West Liberty Foods, headquartered in West Liberty, Iowa, and the Iowa Turkey Federation, headquartered in Ames, also made donations.

(Iowa State continued on page 2)

Below: Iowa State University's department of animal science recently broke ground on the only, first-of-its-kind turkey teaching and research facility at a major university, receiving commitments of more than \$2 million in private donations for the new construction, according to university officials (photo courtesy of Iowa State University).



Above: The folks at Schlemmer Farms in Convoy, Ohio, are getting their fields ready to plant. Photo by Leondia Walchle

Farm equipment sales up; industry dealing with supply chain concerns

By Michele F. Mihaljevich
Indiana Correspondent

MILWAUKEE, Wis. – Farm equipment sales were solid to end 2020, and 2021 has started with double-digit increases for tractors and self-propelled combines, according to first quarter numbers from the Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM).

Last year, total farm tractor sales were up 17.9 percent over 2019; combines increased 5.5 percent, AEM reported. For the first quarter of 2021, purchases of two-wheel-drive tractors under 40 HP were up 64.3 percent over the same period in 2020. Two-wheel-drive tractors of 40-100 HP were up 35.7 percent and those with 100 HP or more increased 18.2 percent. Four-wheel-drive tractors rose 10.3 percent while combines were up 16.5 percent.

"There's a general optimism in the farm community right now," explained Curt Blades, AEM senior vice president of agricultural services. "Commodity prices are really good. The uncertainty in trade and biofuels is waning. There are indications the ag economy will be strong for the next couple of years. Farmers feel confident enough to invest in capital. For a farmer to invest in heavy duty equipment, that shows they are optimistic about the next five years or so."

People buying smaller tractors have some acreage or are suburban landowners, he noted. "Last year during the pandemic, anything to do with a home has done well. The small tractor market has been on fire for the past 12 months. A 64-percent increase is pretty good. I'm not going to lie – we love it."

Kim Rominger, president and CEO of the Equipment Dealers Association, said last year was remarkably good and the first quarter of 2021 has been "absolutely fantastic. We're ahead of last year. People are out, ready to go

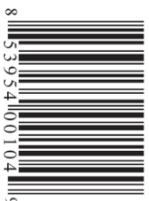


Above: Farm equipment sales are up double digits for the start of 2021 according to AEM information. (Photo by Leondia Walchle)

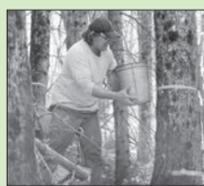
back to work. Yields have gone up. Farmers had the money, even last year, to upgrade equipment. Maybe they did just one or two pieces of equipment. Now they're coming back for something else. They held onto their equipment a little longer and now they're ready to upgrade. They also want the new technologies. Overall, the dealers are set up to have a fantastic year if they can get the equipment."

The ability of manufacturers to get equipment to dealers has been a problem, Blades and Rominger said. The industry – like many others – is dealing with supply chain issues.

(Farm Equipment continued on page 2)



Owners of forested lands should be aware of timber
Page 1B



IN THIS FARM WORLD:

• Indiana governor signs bill removing some protections from wetlands Page 3

• Ohio Maple Syrup producers get 'sweet' deal from USDA Page 9B

Iowa State

FROM PAGE 1

"Iowa's turkey farmers have a continuous desire to learn new information on how to better care for their turkeys, and the environment," said Gretta Irwin, executive director of the Iowa Turkey Federation.

"We are delighted to partner with Iowa State on an exceptional new facility that will serve its excellent faculty and students, and help provide industry and farmers with the resources and information they need to move in the right direction with their operations."

According to Iowa State University, Iowa's turkey industry is one of the largest in the United States, ranking seventh in turkey production, raising approximately 12 million turkeys annually.

In fact, for the first time, Iowa State University served as the home of the official National Thanksgiving Turkey at the 2020 National Thanksgiving Turkey Presentation when President Donald Trump was in the White House.

Moreover, Iowa's turkey industry supports over 38,000 jobs, and is responsible for more than \$10 billion annually in economic activity throughout Iowa.

Irwin said the new facility was an industry-lead project, with members of the Iowa Turkey Federation expressing "the need for turkey research, and the lack of facilities in the U.S., and

globally to do turkey trials and research."

"The (federation) approached Iowa State University, (which) is the right partner," she said. "They have an exceptional team of staff to conduct a variety of turkey research - from hatchery, growing to processing, and segments of turkey production such as manure utilization.

"The existing facilities for turkey research are over 50 years old, so it is definitely time to update them to today's production standards," she added. "The (federation) formed the (Iowa State University) Turkey Research Barn committee to work with the university. Brad Moline from Manson, and Ron Kardel from Walcott co-chair the committee."

Irwin and the committee worked with Iowa State University leadership to fundraise the money for the barn, and provide contacts for donations.

"The committee also provides technical advice and oversight of the construction," she said. "The vision for the project is to 'operate a premier turkey program that supports education, research and training,'" she said.

Richard Gates, Iowa State University professor and acting chair of animal science, and the director of the Egg Industry Center, said, "Iowa turkey farmers and their state organization, the Iowa Turkey Federation, pushed forward this idea several years ago."

"These farmers wanted to see Iowa-specific research for their unique production needs, and they strongly pro-

Rominger, also executive vice president and CEO of the United Equipment Dealers Association.

"Dealers see a huge year in front of them but they're running out of equipment," he noted. "Or they're running out of parts. People have been holding on to older equipment and now need repairs and parts.

"The supply chain is having a hiccup. Components are made around the world. If you can't get all the parts, you need you can't finish a piece of equipment. Manufacturers weren't working that far ahead to begin with. They just can't snap their fingers and have the equipment there. I know everybody's doing what they can do."

Used equipment is also tight on dealer lots, Rominger said. "Dealer inventories - new and used - are low right now. Dealers are looking to replace inventory. It'll be interesting to see how they do it."

Blades said he sees the rest of the year continuing on the path it's on. "I'm optimistic because farmers are optimistic. Small equipment is very solid; it will probably find a level at some point. The ag economy is looking solid for the next several years."

noted that this be done with Iowa State University," he said. "Their leadership and vision resulted in substantial donations by Iowa farmers to fund the design and construction of this wonderful facility.

"In addition, they had the clear and far-sighted vision to continue developing a fund for directed research on turkey production," he said. "We at Iowa State are very lucky, and honored to have such strong and committed farmer support."

Gates added, "Our caring and excellent faculty and staff, and top-notch facilities earn us a place among the best in the world."

"Just recently, our agricultural programs were again named to the top 4 percent worldwide, according to Quacquarelli Symonds World University Rankings," he said. "This is our eighth year among the top 4 per-

cent. (We ranked 14 among 401 institutions worldwide.)"

He said the new turkey teaching and research facility will not only help Iowa State University attract the best and brightest students, but also world-class faculty driven to discover the next great advancement in turkey production.

"The impact of this facility extends far beyond poultry science," he said. "Students and researchers across the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and the College of Veterinary Medicine will use this facility to gain hands-on experience, and complete innovative research studies in the areas of ventilation, genetics, nutrition, veterinary medicine, and water quality, to name a few."

He said the new facility is officially under construction, with completion anticipated by the end of this year.

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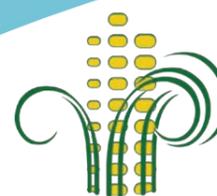
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Farm Equipment

FROM PAGE 1

"The entire supply chain of manufacturing has major disruptions," Blades pointed out. "You drive by a car lot and there aren't many cars. You go into an electronics store and inventory is low. There's a global shortage of semiconductors. There's a global shortage of shipping containers, of steel, of transportation. Some of that is because of, and despite, the pandemic. Because equipment manufacturing was deemed essential, plants were able to stay open during this critical production time.

"It's kind of a perfect storm. The supply chain issues, coupled with demand being through the roof, have led to a very tight supply (of equipment)."

Blades said a priority for manufacturers is to make parts available for farmers to get through the planting season.

Dealers are concerned about running out of equipment and not being able to get resupplied, stated

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Indiana governor signs bill removing some protections from wetlands

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — A bill removing some protections from Indiana's already diminished wetlands was signed into law by Gov. Eric Holcomb in late April despite widespread criticism that it could damage waterways, wildlife and vegetation.

The wetlands measure passed out of the Legislature April 14 and has sparked bipartisan opposition within the Republican-dominated Legislature. Retroactive as of Jan. 1, it eliminates a 2003 law that requires the Indiana Department of Environmental Management to issue permits for construction and development in state-regulated wetlands and end enforcement proceedings against landowners accused of violating current law.

Holcomb's signature followed his own reservations earlier in the Legislative session, when he said that the wetlands repeal was a cause for "concern." He further allowed staff at the natural resources and environmental management departments to oppose the bill in hearings in January, where state regulatory officials argued that the wetlands must be protected because they purify water, provide habitat for wildlife and reduce flood risks.

Months-long pushback against the bill prompted lawmakers to scale back the intended repeal earlier this month, reducing wetland permitting regulations for croplands and temporary streams, rather than for all wetlands.

Holcomb said he "appreciated" those changes to the bill and cited the continued protections as "critical" to his decision to sign the bill.

"Even still, I felt compelled to carefully and deliberately weigh the bill's intent to protect property rights against its new limitations on land protections," Holcomb said in a statement. "Under this new regulatory

scheme, I believe Hoosier farmers and landowners will continue to be careful stewards of the land."

All Democratic members of the General Assembly, as well as a member of the Senate Republican Caucus, urged the Republican governor to veto the bill last week, citing "long term consequences" and a need for "more in-depth study than what was accomplished in limited committee times during a legislative session in a pandemic."

In a separate letter delivered to Holcomb's office, more than 100 organizations called on the governor to veto the bill they claimed will "cost the state dearly," when accounting for increased flooding and erosion expenses, loss of groundwater recharge, fewer tourism opportunities and loss of diverse wildlife "that makes Indiana special."

"This bill opens the door to irrevocable impacts on our rich natural history and puts the wellbeing of millions of Hoosiers at risk, now and well into the future," the letter said. "Indiana needs a thorough, inclusive, and deliberative approach to changing the law on such a vital natural resource."

Republican bill author Sen. Chris Garten and other sponsors argued throughout the Legislative session that vague language in the current state law, over-enforcement by state regulators and high mitigation fees that drive up housing costs prompted the drafting. They contend removal of state protections would help developers and grow the housing market.

The proposal comes as President Joe Biden's administration reviews the previous administration's rules such as the Navigable Waters Protection Rule, which narrowed the definition of waterways that fall under federal protection.

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Court orders EPA to decide if chlorpyrifos should be banned

WASHINGTON (AP)— A federal appeals court ordered the Environmental Protection Agency to quickly determine whether a pesticide linked to brain damage in children should be banned, saying the agency had delayed acting on the widely used bug-killer chlorpyrifos for nearly 14 years.

In a 2-1 decision, the San Francisco-based 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ordered the EPA to act on a possible ban within 60 days.

"The EPA has spent more than a decade assembling a record of chlorpyrifos's ill effects," U.S. District Judge Jed S. Rakoff wrote. "Yet, rather than ban the pesticide or reduce the tolerances to levels that the EPA can find are reasonably certain to cause no harm, the EPA has sought to evade, through one delaying tactic after another, its plain statutory duties."

Rakoff and U.S. Circuit Judge Jacqueline H. Nguyen ordered the EPA to decide within 60 days whether the pesticide is safe, including for infants and children, or ban it.

U.S. Circuit Judge Jay S. Bybee, in dissent, said 60 days was too short, "likely predetermining EPA's option" and forcing a ban.

"This is a vast overreach, a clear abuse of our discretion," Bybee wrote.

The decision comes after a years long battle over the pesticide, which is widely used on oranges, soybeans, almonds and other crops.

During the Obama administration, the EPA had initiated a ban, but the agency reversed that decision shortly after President Donald Trump took office in 2017. The EPA rejected a legal challenge in 2019, saying environmental groups had failed to prove a ban was warranted.

A spokesman said the EPA is reviewing the court decision. President Joe Biden signed an executive order this year to review the Trump EPA's decision to keep chlorpyrifos on the market.

"As the agency pursues its mission to protect human health, including that of children and the environment, EPA is committed to ensuring the safety of pesticides and other chemicals," spokesman Nick Conger said. "The agency is committed to helping support and protect farmworkers and their families while ensuring pesticides are used safely."

Environmental groups said a ban of chlorpyrifos is long overdue.

Jennifer Sass, a senior scientist at the Natural Resources Defense Council, a group involved in the litigation, said the appeals court "ruled in favor of science, which has clearly shown that chlorpyrifos is too dangerous to be used to grow our food."

The ruling — and EPA action expected by the end of June — "will ensure that kids can eat fruits and vegetables free of this neurotoxin," Sass said.

Corteva Inc., which had been the world's largest manufacturer of the pesticide, stopped producing it last year. The company, created after a merger of Dow Chemical and Dupont, said declining sales drove its decision and that officials continue to believe chlorpyrifos is safe.

A spokeswoman said in an email the company was disappointed at the appeals court ruling, "which threatens to effectively remove an important tool for farmers."

Teresa Romero, president of the United Farm Workers union, called the court ruling a "huge victory" for farmworkers and their families.

"The men and women who harvest our food have waited too long for a ban on this pesticide," she said. She urged quick action "no longer have to worry about the myriad of ways this pesticide could impact their lives."



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MARKETS

Blue Grass Stockyards Lexington, KY

Livestock Weighted Average Report for 4/26/2021 - Final AUCTION

	This Week	Last Reported 4/19/2021	Last Year
Total Receipts:	1,019	1,373	578
Feeder Cattle:	822(80.7%)	1,136(82.7%)	488(84.4%)
Slaughter Cattle:	126(12.4%)	217(15.8%)	85(14.7%)
Replacement Cattle:	71(7.0%)	20(1.5%)	5(0.9%)

Compared to last Monday feeder steers sold mostly 2.00 to 5.00 lower with most decline on calves over 600 lbs. Feeder heifers sold 1.00 to 3.00 lower with moderate demand. Slaughter cows and slaughter bulls sold 1.00 to 3.00 lower with moderate demand. Supply included: 81% Feeder Cattle (39% Steers, 0% Dairy Steers, 43% Heifers, 18% Bulls); 12% Slaughter Cattle (81% Cows, 19% Bulls); 7% Replacement Cattle (12% Stock Cows, 40% Bred Cows, 8% Bred Heifers, 40% Cow-Calf Pairs). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 36%.

Groups of 20 head or more:

Steers
26 head 400 lbs 172.00 Chax Value-Added
27 head 518 lbs 165.75 Chax Value-Added

Heifers
37 head 421 lbs 155.50 Chax Value-Added
21 head 498 lbs 143.50 Chax Value-Added

FEEDER CATTLE

STEERS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
3	200-230	220	160.00-164.00	162.79
1	280	280	161.00	161.00
4	310-335	325	161.00-166.00	164.25
6	309	309	179.00	179.00 Value Added
6	365-395	380	153.00-166.00	160.89
3	395	395	168.00	168.00 Value Added
5	430-445	436	151.00-155.00	154.18
29	400-435	402	160.00-172.00	170.95 Value Added
6	450-495	462	152.00-153.00	152.67
18	460-480	478	154.00-163.00	162.51 Value Added
4	508-530	514	145.00-146.00	145.26 Fleshy
35	518-548	524	154.00-165.75	164.20 Value Added
5	570-575	572	146.00-150.00	149.20
16	555-585	566	152.00-160.00	157.47 Value Added
7	610-625	617	125.00-135.00	132.16
36	600-649	630	135.00-153.00	142.70 Value Added
2	665-685	675	130.00-131.00	130.51
7	671	671	139.50	139.50 Value Added
1	710	710	124.00	124.00
33	700-746	728	129.00-136.00	130.53 Value Added
1	790	790	126.00	126.00
11	754-755	755	129.00-133.00	131.18 Value Added
20	800-843	830	124.00-128.00	126.00
5	880-886	885	120.00-123.00	122.40
11	926-940	930	110.00-118.25	115.25
1	1015	1015	101.00	101.00

STEERS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	405	405	130.00	130.00
3	467-480	471	137.00-147.00	140.39
5	515-535	525	126.00-141.00	135.27
3	600-640	625	120.00-126.00	123.27
3	661	661	129.00	129.00
1	700	700	120.00	120.00

STEERS - Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	530	530	146.00	146.00

DAIRY STEERS - Large 3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	725	725	96.00	96.00

HEIFERS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2	220	220	150.00	150.00 Value Added
1	315	315	140.00	140.00
7	300-335	305	149.00-157.00	155.74 Value Added
2	360-385	373	143.00-145.00	144.03
13	353-380	357	146.00-154.00	152.03 Value Added

10	400-445	413	134.00-142.00	137.57
62	405-449	427	142.00-155.50	152.96 Value Added
5	455-490	473	134.00-139.00	136.01
46	456-498	481	139.00-151.00	144.90 Value Added
6	535-543	539	124.00-132.00	126.81
22	500-537	522	133.00-143.00	137.37 Value Added
4	590-595	591	120.00-130.00	125.00
20	555-585	572	128.00-140.00	135.98 Value Added
2	620-645	633	112.00	112.00
8	615-635	632	117.00-122.00	120.24 Guaranteed Open
12	600-640	622	127.00-130.00	128.00 Value Added
2	665	665	112.00	112.00
1	665	665	120.00	120.00 Guaranteed Open
4	720-725	721	103.00-105.00	103.50
24	700-730	724	107.00-117.50	115.15 Guaranteed Open
1	780	780	90.00	90.00
13	752-791	766	105.50-114.00	110.28 Guaranteed Open
3	800-815	807	90.00-95.00	91.99
2	825	825	97.00-104.00	100.50 Guaranteed Open
4	850-867	860	92.00-106.00	96.96 Guaranteed Open
1	915	915	100.00	100.00 Guaranteed Open
3	1050	1050	90.00	90.00 Guaranteed Open

HEIFERS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	280	280	116.00	116.00
1	310	310	132.00	132.00
3	350-390	373	121.00-132.00	127.96
2	400-430	415	117.00-128.00	122.70
10	461-493	478	122.00-131.00	124.27
8	500-535	518	118.00-129.00	122.59
6	565-576	574	120.00-128.00	125.68
3	630-645	637	92.00-109.00	101.93
5	660-690	676	100.00-107.00	104.80
4	700-740	721	95.00-101.00	97.52
1	910	910	86.00	86.00

BULLS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2	210	210	173.00	173.00 Fancy
2	250-255	253	160.00-161.00	160.50
3	305-330	313	151.00-159.00	154.89
8	365-390	383	153.00-167.00	162.08
11	410-440	433	145.00-155.00	151.06
3	402-420	408	152.00-161.00	157.91 Value Added
15	450-485	471	145.00-152.00	148.97
8	510-547	532	140.00-152.00	144.06
10	505-538	525	152.00-158.00	155.35 Value Added
20	555-595	580	136.00-149.00	142.96
2	600-610	605	126.00-130.00	127.98
9	602-641	619	130.00-136.00	134.36 Value Added
7	660-680	672	120.00-129.00	123.66
3	705-740	717	117.00-126.00	122.90
3	783	783	111.00	111.00
2	835	835	100.00-112.00	106.00
1	1120	1120	86.00	86.00

BULLS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	375	375	130.00	130.00
3	425-445	435	135.00-137.00	136.32
1	460	460	129.00	129.00
4	505-520	513	127.00-135.00	131.51
3	655-675	668	110.00	110.00
3	700-740	713	105.00-110.00	108.27
2	775-780	778	106.00-107.00	106.50
1	935	935	79.00	79.00

BULLS - Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	525	525	130.00	130.00
3	575-595	588	136.00-139.00	136.98

BULLS - Small and Medium 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	545	545	110.00	110.00

SLAUGHTER CATTLE

COWS - Breaker 75-80% (Per Cwt/Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
6	1145-1650	1458	61.00-64.50	63.24	Average

19	1185-1875	1533	65.00-71.00	67.09	High
1	1485	1485	55.00	55.00	Low

COWS - Boner 80-85% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
11	1045-1390	1223	59.00-65.00	62.74	Average
18	990-1635	1309	65.00-74.00	68.97	High
5	1190-1420	1342	54.00-58.00	57.02	Low

COWS - Lean 85-90% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
15	930-1275	1085	54.00-61.00	58.70	Average
9	915-1275	1087	62.00-66.50	65.07	High
4	965-1115	1023	50.00-53.50	51.94	Low

BULLS - 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
8	1015-1765	1344	80.00-88.00	84.95	Average
6	1490-1995	1768	92.00-103.00	97.84	High
6	985-1340	1145	67.00-80.00	73.29	Low

REPLACEMENT CATTLE

STOCK COWS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Head / Actual Wt)

Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-4	O	3	820-910	880	76.00-82.00	79.31

STOCK COWS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-4	O	3	995-1150	1060	65.00-68.00	66.41

BRED COWS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Head / Actual Wt)

Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-4	T3	1	1245	1245	1000.00	1000.00
2-8	T2	9	850-1645	1356	785.00-1150.00	969.69
2-8	T3	3	1085-1210	1147	875.00-1100.00	982.58

BRED COWS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Head / Actual Wt)

Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-8	T2	5	815-1280	1102	625.00-725.00	683.66
2-8	T3	2	895-930	913	625.00-650.00	637.74

BRED HEIFERS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Head / Actual Wt)

Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-4	T2	2	1067	1067	1200.00	1200.00
2-4	T3	1	1115	1115	1125.00	1125.00

BRED HEIFERS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Head / Actual Wt)

Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
<2	T2	1	870	870	775.00	775.00

COW-CALF PAIRS - Medium and Large 1-2 w/150-300 lbs calf (Per Family / Actual Wt)

Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-4	O	2	1190-1250	1220	1100.00-1185.00	1143.55
2-8	O	11	1125-1785	1450	1085.00-1375.00	1189.35

COW-CALF PAIRS - Medium and Large 2-3 w/150-300 lbs calf (Per Family / Actual Wt)

Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-4	O	3	912-1260	1028	975.00-1025.00	1004.57</

MARKETS

Kentucky Daily Grain Bids

Grain Report for Friday, April 30, 2021

FUTURE SETTLEMENTS Closing Settlement Prices (¢/bu) as of 2/19/2021

Exchange	Commodity	Price	Change
CBOT	Corn	740.00 (May 21) 673.25 (Jul 21) 592.25 (Sep 21) 563.75 (Dec 21) 568.50 (Mar 22) 571.00 (May 22) 570.75 (Jul 22)	
CBOT	Soybeans	1571.00 (May 21) 1534.25 (Jul 21) 1471.25 (Sep 21) 1381.25 (Dec 21) 1339.75 (Nov 21) 1338.50 (Jan 22) 1318.50 (Mar 22)	
CBOT	Wheat	742.50 (May 21) 734.75 (Jul 21) 732.25 (Sep 21) 732.75 (Dec 21) 736.00 (Mar 22) 727.75 (May 22) 688.25 (Jul 22)	
CBOT	White Oats	401.00 (May 21) 405.75 (Jul 21) 382.75 (Sep 21) 375.00 (Dec 21) 378.50 (Mar 22) 376.75 (May 22) 376.75 (Jul 22)	
KCBT	Wheat	698.25 (May 21) 703.50 (Jul 21) 707.25 (Sep 21) 713.25 (Dec 21) 720.00 (Mar 22) 714.50 (May 22) 678.00 (Jul 22)	
MGE	Wheat	763.25 (May 21) 763.75 (Jul 21) 768.25 (Sep 21) 771.00 (Dec 21) 773.75 (Mar 22) 774.75 (May 22) 770.25 (Jul 22)	

US #2 WHITE CORN (BULK)

Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Lower KY	40.00N	UNCH	7.1325	UP 0.2500	7.1325
Ohio River - Lower KY	15.00Z	UNCH	5.7875	UP 0.1750	5.7875
Purchase	57.00N	UP 3.00	7.3025	UP 0.2800	7.3025
Purchase	5.00Z to 20.00Z	UNCH	5.6875-5.8375	UP 0.1750	5.7625

US #2 YELLOW CORN (BULK)

Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Purchase	30.00N to 40.00N	UP 10.00-UNCH	7.0325-7.1325	UP 0.3500-UP 0.2500	7.0825
Purchase	-15.00Z to -2.00Z	UNCH	5.4875-5.6175	UP 0.1750	5.5525
Green River	55.00N	UP 3.00	7.2825	UP 0.2800	7.2825
Green River	5.00Z	UNCH	5.6875	UP 0.1750	5.6875
Pennyrile	50.00N to 55.00N	UP 15.00-UP 5.00	7.2325-7.2825	UP 0.4000-UP 0.3000	7.2575
Pennyrile	-10.00Z to 0.00Z	UNCH	5.5375-5.6375	UP 0.1750	5.5875
Louisville	11.00K	UNCH	7.5100	UP 0.3800	7.5100
Louisville	-10.00Z	UNCH	5.5375	UP 0.1750	5.5375
Bluegrass	10.00N	UNCH	6.8325	UP 0.2500	6.8325
Bluegrass	-25.00Z	UNCH	5.3875	UP 0.1750	5.3875

Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional

Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Upper KY	15.00K	UNCH	7.5500	UP 0.3800	7.5500
Ohio River - Upper KY	1.00Z	UNCH	5.6475	UP 0.1750	5.6475
Ohio River - Lower KY	60.00N to 70.00N	UP 10.00-UP 8.00	7.3325-7.4325	UP 0.3500-UP 0.3300	7.3625
Ohio River - Lower KY	6.00Z to 11.00Z	DN 2.00-UP 1.00	5.6975-5.7475	UP 0.1550-UP 0.1850	5.7225
Purchase	33.00N to 67.00N	UNCH-UP 4.00	7.0625-7.4025	UP 0.2500-UP 0.2900	7.2758
Purchase	-8.00Z to 23.00Z	UNCH-DN 1.00	5.5575-6.0025	UP 0.1750-UP 0.2175	5.7813

Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional

Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Lower KY	180.00N	UNCH	8.5325	UP 0.2500	8.5325
Ohio River - Lower KY	75.00Z	UNCH	6.3875	UP 0.1750	6.3875
Purchase	94.00Z	UNCH	6.5775	UP 0.1750	6.5775

US #1 SOYBEANS (BULK)

Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Purchase	22.00K to 40.00N	UNCH	15.6425-15.9300	UP 0.3200-UP 0.2850	15.7717
Purchase	5.00X	UNCH	13.4475	UP 0.2100	13.4475
Green River	40.00N	UNCH	15.7425	UP 0.3200	15.7425
Green River	-15.00X	UNCH	13.2475	UP 0.2100	13.2475
Pennyrile	15.00N to 30.00N	UP 20.00-UP 15.00	15.4925-15.6425	UP 0.5200-UP 0.4700	15.5675
Pennyrile	-25.00X to -10.00X	UNCH	13.1475-13.2975	UP 0.2100	13.2225
Louisville	-34.00K	UNCH	15.3700	UP 0.2850	15.3700
Louisville	-55.00X	UNCH	12.8475	UP 0.2100	12.8475
Bluegrass	0.00N	UNCH	15.3425	UP 0.3200	15.3425
Bluegrass	-45.00X	UNCH	12.9475	UP 0.2100	12.9475

Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional

Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Upper KY	19.00K	UNCH	15.9000	UP 0.2850	15.9000
Ohio River - Upper KY	-1.00X	UNCH	13.3875	UP 0.2100	13.3875
Ohio River - Lower KY	50.00N to 67.00N	UNCH	15.8425-16.0125	UP 0.3200	15.9558
Ohio River - Lower KY	10.00X to 15.00X	UNCH	13.4975-13.5475	UP 0.2100	13.5225
Purchase	23.00K to 59.00N	UNCH-UP 3.00	15.9325-16.0000	UP 0.3500-UP 0.2750	15.9656
Purchase	3.00X to 23.00X	UNCH	13.4275-13.6275	UP 0.2100	13.5650

US #1 MILLING SOFT RED WINTER WHEAT FOOD GRADE (BULK)

Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Pennyrile	35.00K	UNCH	7.7750	UP 0.0500	7.7750
Pennyrile	10.00N	UNCH	7.4475	UP 0.0575	7.4475

US #2 SOFT RED WINTER WHEAT (BULK)

Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Purchase	0.00N to 10.00N	UNCH	7.3475-7.4475	UP 0.0575	7.3975
Green River	-15.00N	UNCH	7.1975	UP 0.0575	7.1975
Pennyrile	0.00N	UNCH	7.3475	UP 0.0575	7.3475
Pennyrile	-35.00N to -10.00N	UNCH	6.9975-7.2475	UP 0.0575	7.1225
Louisville	-43.00N	UNCH	6.9175	UP 0.0575	6.9175
Bluegrass	-25.00N	UNCH	7.0975	UP 0.0575	7.0975

Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional

Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Upper KY	8.00N	UNCH	7.4275	UP 0.0575	7.4275
Ohio River - Lower KY	12.00N to 20.00N	UNCH	7.4675-7.5475	UP 0.0575	7.4975
Purchase	15.00N to 20.00N	UNCH-DN 2.00	7.4975-7.5475	UP 0.0575-UP 0.0375	7.5350

Source: USDA-AMS Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News
KY Dept. of Ag Market News-Kevin Bowling, Market Reporter
Frankfort, KY - (502) 782-4139
www.ams.usda.gov/lpgmn

<https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/> | <https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/viewReports/2892>

Daily Livestock Slaughter Under Federal Inspection

Friday, April 30, 2021

	CATTLE	CALVES	HOGS	SHEEP
Friday 04/30/2021	115,000	1,000	470,000	6,000
Week ago	113,000	1,000	474,000	6,000
Year ago (act)	81,000	2,000	275,000	7,000
Week to date	592,000	8,000	2,403,000	37,000
Same Period Last Week	591,000	8,000	2,410,000	36,000
Same Period Last Year (act)	391,000	8,000	1,414,000	37,000

	CATTLE	CALVES	HOGS	SHEEP
Saturday 05/01/2021	57,000	0	51,000	0
Week ago	74,000	0	63,000	0
Year ago (act)	48,000	0	127,000	0
Week to date	649,000	8,000	2,454,000	37,000
Same Period Last Week	665,000	8,000	2,473,000	36,000
Same Period Last Year* (act)	439,000	8,000	1,540,000	37,000
2021 Year to Date	10,954,000	126,000	44,061,000	644,000
2020 *Year to Date	10,583,000	166,000	44,058,000	630,000
Percent change	3.5%	-24.0%	0.0%	2.3%

2021 *Totals subject to revision

2020 *Totals adjusted to reflect NASS revisions

Yearly totals may not add due to rounding

Previous day	Steer and Heifer	Cow and Bull
Thursday	94,000	25,000

Revised Thursday Sheep Slaughter...7,000 New Week to Date...31,000

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

Weekly National Sheep Summary

For the Week Ending Friday, April 30, 2021

Weekly Trends: Compared to last week slaughter lambs steady to 30.00 lower, mostly 10.00-20.00 lower. Slaughter ewes mostly steady to 10.00 higher, except at San Angelo weak to 5.00 lower. Feeder lambs not well tested. San Angelo, TX sold 12,852 head this week in a two day sale. No sales in Equity Cooperative Auction this week. In direct trading slaughter ewes and feeder lambs not tested. 6,343 lamb carcasses sold with no trend due to confidentiality. All sheep sold per hundred weight (CWT) unless otherwise specified.

Slaughter Lambs: Choice and Prime 2-3:

San Angelo: woolled and shorn 110-190 lbs 152.00-174.00, few 196.00-202.00.

New Holland, PA: woolled and shorn 100-140 lbs 275.00-330.00; 165-175 lbs 195.00-227.00.

Ft. Collins, CO: woolled and shorn 100-130 lbs 235.00-310.00.

Kalona, IA: woolled and shorn 100-110 lbs 245.00-269.00.

SD: woolled and shorn 110-150 lbs 203.00-229.00; 154 lbs 20.00.

Billings, MT: woolled and shorn no test.

MO: woolled and shorn no test.

Equity Coop: no sales.

Slaughter Lambs: Choice and Prime 1-2:

San Angelo: hair 40-60 lbs 273.00-296.00, few 300.00; 60-70 lbs 268.00-288.00, few 290.00-298; 70-80 lbs 242.00-276.00; 80-90 lbs 240.00-270.00; 90-105 lbs 230.00-258.00. woolled and shorn 40-50 lbs 278.00-284.00; 68 lbs 268.00; 80-90 lbs 248.00-254.00; 90-100 lbs 256.00-258.00.

New Holland: woolled and shorn 40-50 lbs 320.00-345.00; 50-60 lbs 302.00-330.00. 60-70 lbs 270.00-320.00; 70-80 lbs 280.00-315.00; 80-90 lbs 280.00-325.00; 90-100 lbs 292.00-335.00. hair 40-50 lbs 355.00-365.00; 50-60 lbs 317.00-325.00; 60-70 lbs 270.00-320.00; 70-80 lbs 275.00.

Ft. Collins: woolled and shorn 45 lbs 280.00; 50-60 lbs 275.00-290.00; 60-70 lbs 265.00-300.00; 70-80 lbs 285.00-290.00; 80-90 lbs 275.00-300.00; 90-100 lbs 290.00-295.00. hair 40-50 lbs 300.00-310.00; 50-60 lbs 270.00-335.00; 60-70 lbs 290.00-315.00; 71 lbs 275.00; 82 lbs 285.00.

Kalona: woolled and shorn 40-50 lbs 287.50-335.00; 50-60 lbs 287.50-340.00; 60-70 lbs 282.00-335.00; 70-80 lbs 273.00-305.00; 80-90 lbs 270.00-282.00; 90-100 lbs 260.00-282.50. hair 40-50 lbs 300.00-315.00; 62 lbs 313.00; 77 lbs 267.50; 90 lbs 254.00.

SD: woolled and shorn 50-60 lbs 270.00-295.00; 60-70 lbs 245.00-295.00; 70-80 lbs 250.00-285.00; 90-100 lbs 250.00-260.00.

Billings: no test.

MO: hair 40-50 lbs 267.50-310.00; 50-60 lbs 265.00-297.50; 60-70 lbs 270.00-295.00; 70-80 lbs 280.00-285.00;

80-90 lbs 275.00-295.00; 90-100 lbs 265.00-270.00. woolled and shorn 58 lbs 302.50; 68 lbs 280.00.

Slaughter Ewes:

San Angelo: Good 3-4 (very fleshy) 90.00-92.00; Good 2-3 (fleshy) 94.00-118.00; Utility and Good 1-3 (medium flesh) 120.00-140.00; Utility 1-2 (thin) 112.00-124.00; Cull and Utility 1-2 (very thin) 92.00-112.00; Cull 1 88.00-90.00.

New Holland:

Good 3-4 (very fleshy) no test; Good 2-3 (fleshy) 110.00-160.00; Utility 1-2 (thin) no test.

Ft. Collins:

Good 3-4 (very fleshy) no test; Good 2-3 (fleshy) 115.00-150.00; Utility 1-2 (thin) 70.00-127.00; Cull 1 67.50-72.50.

Kalona:

Good 3-4 (very fleshy) no test; Good 2-3 (fleshy) 92.00-115.00, hair 112.50-132.00; Utility and Good 1-3 (medium flesh) no test; Utility 1-2 (thin) 87.00-107.50.

SD:

Good 3-4 (very fleshy) 80.00-100.00; Good 2-3 (fleshy) 90.00-115.00; Utility 1-2 (thin) 84.00-115.00; Cull 1 65.00-77.50.

Billings:

Good 3-4 (very fleshy) no test; Good 2-3 (fleshy) no test; Utility 1-2 (thin) no test; Cull 1 no test.

MO:

Good 2-3 (fleshy) 130.00-235.00; Utility and Good 1-3 (medium flesh) 107.00-130.00; Cull and Utility 1-2 (very thin) 105.00; Cull 1 no test.

Direct Trade:

no sales.

More farmers than normal say they will double crop this year

We are starting to see a shift in market attention from soybean balance sheets to corn figures. Given the lower acreage numbers being predicted by the USDA and concerns over yields have some new crop carryout estimates down to 1.2 million bu. Even this may be too high if acres shift to soybeans as the market has indicated may happen. Some models indicate the new crop stocks to use ratio on corn could drop to 5% by the end of the 2021/22 marketing year. This possibility is keeping an elevated volume of risk premium in the corn market.

The US economy continues to improve as Covid restrictions are lifted, and as it does, travel is increasing. This obviously brings elevated energy product demand, including for ethanol. As a result, US ethanol reserves are now just 75% of a year ago. We have to remember that ethanol stocks were rapidly building last year as travel restrictions were placed on US travelers. This is still the lowest US ethanol inventory



MARKET ANALYSIS
By Karl Setzer

since 2013 and is being closely monitored by trade. The most attention now is if ethanol plants can find enough corn to raise production and prevent further declines.

Soybean values continue to be supported by soy oil, and more importantly, the entire vegetable oil complex. Soy oil from the United States is currently being offered at 60 cents per pound. While this is more costly than palm oil which is at 50 cents per pound, it is cheaper than sun seed oil offers at 75 cents per pound. This has kept buyers coming to the US, although we are now starting to see more pressure from South America.

China remains the world's leading source of commodity demand, but we are seeing mixed signals on their usage. China is crushing fewer soybeans domestically and their overall demand was lowered by 2 million metric tons in the last WASDE report. Crush margins are deep in the red which is limiting

China's processing. China is also importing a larger volume of meal, further reducing their need to crush domestic soybeans. China's overall feed demand is being questioned as African Swine Fever cases remain high, despite reports the disease was under control.

One uncertainty in this year's acreage estimates that may have a significant impact on crop size is double cropping. A larger than normal number of producers across the US claim they will double crop soybeans after winter wheat this year, especially if soybean values hold at current levels. Weather improvements across the Wheat Belt may add to this practice. It is not out of the question this could raise US soybean production, even if main crop production is down.

US drought conditions have greatly improved in recent weeks. This has been most notable in the states of Kansas, Nebraska, and Iowa. While improved, these states are still reporting drought conditions ranging from 40% to 80% of area which will need to be monitored,

although further improvement is expected. One states that has seen drought conditions worsen is North Dakota where 16% of the state is reporting drought.

South American weather remains a factor in the market, especially for the winter corn crop. The Safrinha corn crop was planted later than normal which in turn means a later maturity. The concern with this is that corn will be maturing during the dry season in Brazil and this impact yields, especially if pollination is affected. Late maturity also sets the crop up to be impacted by frost. While it is questionable as to if these factors will influence yields, any factor that will cause crop loss in South America will receive market reaction, same as in the United States.

Retail meat values in the United States continue to rally. US beef values in March were 107% of a year ago at a record \$6.48 per pound. Pork values were 108% of a year ago and poultry was 4% higher than last March. These costs are fueling inflation worries in the United States.

Investors are once again showing elevated interest in commodity futures. This is being brought on by the concerns that commodity inventories will remain tight for the next marketing year and possibly beyond, but from other factors as well. One of the primary ones is the faltering US dollar and how it is not a favorable place for returns. Long-term forecasts for favorable commodity returns is also drawing the interest of investors. Commodities are also being used as a hedge against potential inflation as the US economy continues to recover.

Crush margins remain incredibly high in the United States, and as they do, demand for soybeans is not slowing. Crush margins across the United States are currently averaging between \$2.00 and \$2.50 per bushel. This is why buyers are willing to pay a significant basis to secure coverage, with bids of \$1.00 over Chicago futures being posted. Not only is immediate demand supporting soybeans, but so are concerns over available stocks later this summer.

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Information

Beef and pork exports are looking strong for 2021

By **DOUG SCHMITZ**
Iowa Correspondent

Despite low February beef and pork numbers, U.S. beef exports will surpass 2020 numbers, with U.S. pork exports expected to narrowly top last year's record-setting numbers, according to data released by the USDA, and compiled by the U.S. Meat Export Federation.

"While February exports were in line with expectations, the results don't fully reflect global demand for U.S. red meat," said Dan Halstrom, U.S. Meat Export Federation president and CEO.

"Logistical challenges, including congestion at some U.S. ports, are still a significant headwind, and tight labor supplies at the plant level continue to impact export volumes for certain products - including some variety meat items, and labor-intensive muscle cuts," he added.

However, the report said exports were consistent with February projections, and the federation still expects 2021 beef exports to increase substantially year-over-year, while pork exports are projected to narrowly surpass the 2020 record.

The report said beef exports totaled 103,493 metric tons in February, down 8 percent from a year ago, valued at \$669.5 million (down 2 percent).

"This was due mainly to a decline in variety meat exports, as beef muscle cuts were steady with last year in value at \$597.9 million on a volume of 82,530 metric tons (down 3 percent)," the report read.

Through February, beef exports were 5 percent below last year's pace at 208,540 metric tons, valued at \$1.32 billion (down 2 percent), the report said. Beef muscle cut exports were down 1 percent to 163,928 metric tons, and steady in value at \$1.18 billion.

Moreover, February pork exports were down 12 percent from a year ago at 239,240 metric tons, valued at \$629.4 million (down 13 percent).

Halstrom said the flow of exports through U.S. ports is showing some gradual improvement as COVID-19-impacted crews move closer to full strength, but remains a serious concern for the U.S. agricultural sector.

"The U.S. Meat Export Federation greatly appreciates the members of Congress and ag industry representatives who have worked to bring more attention to this situation, and the efforts of maritime regulators to address shipping practices," he said.

The report said export demand has remained solid, despite logistical challenges, and other pandemic-related obstacles.

"Continued international demand, along with robust domestic business, contributed to stronger cutout values in the first quarter, which were up an average of 27 percent year-over-year for pork (nearly \$90/hundredweight), and 4 percent for Choice beef (\$224/hundredweight)," the report said.

The report said there was also strong momentum for beef exports to China, and Korea.

"The surge in beef exports to China continued in February, reaching 8,644 metric tons valued at \$66 million - far above the minimal levels posted a year ago, and making it the fourth largest destination for U.S. beef," the report said.

"Through February, exports were more than 1,000 percent above last year's pace in both volume (16,506 metric tons), and value (\$124.1 million)," the report added. "Beef

exports to China already exceed the full-year totals reached in 2019, prior to the U.S. securing expanded beef access through the Phase One Economic and Trade Agreement.

The report said February beef exports to South Korea were slightly above last year's strong totals.

"Korea surpassed perennial value leader Japan, where exports felt the impact of an annual import safeguard established in the U.S.-Japan Trade Agreement," the report said.

On March 8, Japan imposed the higher tariff rate, which remained in effect for 30 days, when the rate declined to 25 percent - the same rate that now applies to beef cuts imported from Japan's other major suppliers.

"As prescribed in the trade agreement, trade officials from the U.S. and Japan have begun consultations on possible adjustments to the

safeguard," the report said.

The report said February pork exports equated to \$60.34 per head slaughtered, down 11 percent from a year ago. The January-February

average was down 10 percent to \$58.68. February pork exports accounted for 29.4 percent of total

(Beef & Pork Exports continued on page 9)

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3,000 chickens die in fire at poultry barn

JOHNSTON, R.I. (AP) — An estimated 3,000 chickens were killed in a fire at a poultry farm in Johnston, the farm's owners said.

Fire crews were called to Baffoni's Poultry Farm on Greenville Avenue around 5 a.m. after a building housing 8,000 chickens caught fire, according to WPRI-TV.

The fire killed about 3,000 chickens in the first-floor coup, but crews were able to contain it before it spread to the building's three other coops. No one was reported injured in the fire.

Paul Baffoni said the firefighters did a remarkable job getting the blaze under control. The farm has about 20,000 chickens, and its store was expected to open as usual on Wednesday.

Authorities are investigating the cause of the fire.

Beef & Pork Exports

FROM PAGE 8

production, and 26.9 percent for muscle cuts, down from nearly 33 percent and 30 percent, respectively, a year ago.

Through February, exports accounted for 28.6 percent of total pork production (down from 31.3 percent), and 26 percent for muscle cuts (down from 28.6 percent), the report said.

In the Philippines, where pork production has also been greatly impacted by African swine fever, the report said exports through February more than doubled last year's pace in both volume (11,532 metric tons, up 114 percent), and value (\$28.5 million, up 129 percent).

In Central America, following a record year in 2020, demand for U.S. pork continues, the report said.

"February exports were record-large to Guatemala for the second consecutive month, and set new highs in El Salvador and Costa Rica, while exports to Honduras were the fourth highest on record," the report said.

Through February, exports to Central America increased 46 percent from a year ago to 21,658 metric tons, valued at \$53.3 million (up 38 percent), the report added.

"While most pork shipped to Central America is used for further processing, the U.S. industry has been successful in expanding U.S. pork's presence in the region's retail and foodservice sectors."

To read the full report, visit: www.usmef.org

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Working farm brings tiny slice of agriculture to an industrialized county

By Doug Graves
Ohio Correspondent

EVENDALE, Ohio - Evendale is about 13 miles north of downtown Cincinnati. The small village is not exactly an agricultural setting as it is home to GE Aviation, the largest manufacturer in Ohio, Indiana or Kentucky. It is also home to Formica Corporation, Gold Medal Products and 20 other large-scale businesses.

Nestled in the heart of this business metropolis in Hamilton County rests Gorman Heritage Farm, a working farm museum on 122 acres that includes 30 tillable acres, a farmyard, gardens, five miles of hiking trails and a wildflower preserve. The farm raises livestock, grows produce and flowers, and produces biochar.

"This farm is just what this urban area needs," said Anita Barr, an Evendale resident who grew up on an Indiana farm. "My two young daughters are pre-schoolers and I want them to know about farming and what goes on at a farm. We live 20 miles from the closest farm so this works for our family because there's so much for the 'city slicker' to do."

In a county with the fewest farms in the state, Gorman Heritage Farm offers many educational programs, such as school field trips, summer day camps, summer farm tours, farm-to-school programs, scout programs, preschool story hour and family programs.

Gorman Heritage Farm is a significant example of historic agricultural production and farming practices that spanned 160 years in Hamilton County and embodies the era of diversified family farms.

The property consists of the original 99-acre farm, which was owned and managed by five generations of the Brown and Gorman families from 1835 until 1996, when it was deeded to the Cincinnati Nature Center to preserve it from encroaching residential, commercial and industrial development.

Agricultural records show that the Gorman Farm was exceptionally productive as a family-owned farm. The national average of implements on U.S. farms of a comparable size was \$150 in 1860. The value of implements on the Gorman farm was reportedly twice that amount, over \$300. During the same time period, the



Above: Sitting on a hillside and amidst much industry is Gorman Heritage Farm in Evendale, Ohio. (photo submitted)



Above: Garden space is for rent at Gorman Heritage Farm in Evendale, Ohio. Plots are 8.5' x 25' and are used to encourage knowledge about gardening and all types of plants. (photo submitted)

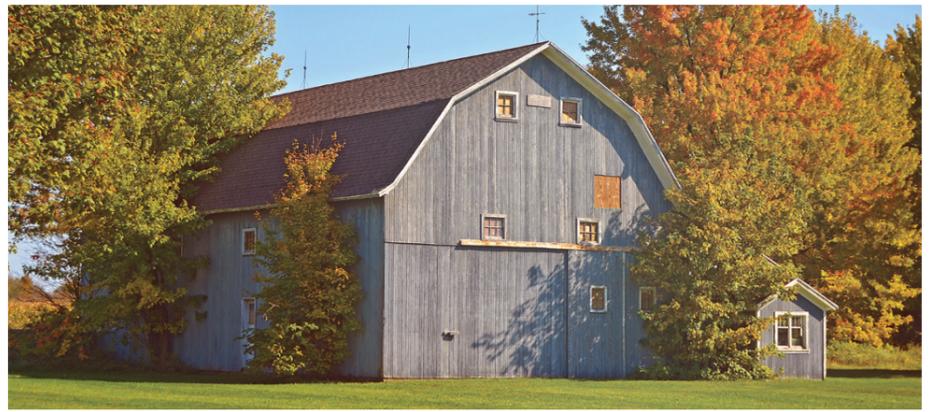


Above: Two 19th-century springhouses stand on the property, just as they did more than 100 years ago. (photo submitted)

farm also exceeded the state average output for livestock volume and crop production.

A significant contributor to southwest Ohio's early corn, wheat and swine economy, Gorman Farm endured development pressures that all but eliminated the

(Working Farm continued on page 11)



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Working Farm

FROM PAGE 10

working farms that once characterized the rural landscape of northern Hamilton County.

During the 19th and early 20th century, Hamilton County had among the most diverse, productive and valuable agricultural land in Ohio. Between 1850 and 1900, the cash value of the county's farms ranked in the top three for the state.

From a peak in 1880, when there were 4,064 farms in Hamilton County, there has been a steep attrition of the county's agricultural land, such that by the turn of the 21st century there were a scant number of remaining farms - and Gorman Farm was among those.

Visitors to this day are treated to the landscape at it was nearly 170 years ago. The original farm dwelling is an early version of a "pre-classic I house" type. The four-bay, two-story, stone house was constructed in 1835 and banked into a slope at the rear. Around 1858, a stone kitchen ell was added to one corner of the house and by the early 1900s the limestone bearing exterior walls and walnut lintels were stuccoed.

The Brown-Gorman farmstead represents a central courtyard farmstead

plan, with the house and barn at opposite ends and outbuildings defining the perimeter of the courtyard. The large Pennsylvania-type barn was built concurrently with the stone house and was constructed on a rubble limestone foundation. The heavy timber oak framing of the barn is the original.

Barn scholars have traced this building tradition to central Europe, knowing that German and Swiss immigrants were the influence of bi-level barns of that time.

In addition to the barn, the farmstead retains two 19th-century stone spring-houses, one built in 1835, the second one in 1890. Also remaining is an early-20th century alfalfa barn, a 1920 limestone smokehouse and a 1930s rabbit house.

Jim and Dorothy Gorman deeded 98 acres of the farm to the Cincinnati Nature Center in 1995, retaining the house and one acre as a life estate. In 2003, the deed of the property was transferred to the Village of Evendale. Since that time the farm has been operated by the Gorman Heritage Farm Foundation. Today the National Register-listed farm and adjoining property serve the community as an agricultural educational center open to the public.

The farm is open to the public Monday through Saturday. It is located at 10052 Reading Road in Evendale.



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Above: These fellas are just fine in their mud bath. Visitors to this working farm can get up close to any farm animal imaginable. (photo submitted)



Left: Gorman Heritage Farm allows visitors a close encounter with most of the animals that roam the premise. (photo submitted)

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CommoditAg partners with Superior Ag in Evansville for better coverage

**By Stan Maddux
Indiana Correspondent**

BROWNSBURG, Ind. - More farmers purchasing supplies online will be able to pick up products more quickly thanks to a partnership between CommoditAg, a leading online marketplace of agriculture products and Superior Ag to extend their reach to farmers in southern regions of Indiana, Illinois and the western half of Kentucky.

Purchases on the CommoditAg website will be available for pick-up at a Superior Ag warehouse in Evansville.

CommoditAg outside Indianapolis has over 50 warehouses mostly in the Midwest for its online marketplace customers to receive their orders as an option instead of delivery and paying the cost of shipping.

The latest warehouse provides the same choice to marketplace customers within roughly a 60 to 80 mile radius of the facility.

"It's about convenience," said John Demerly, Chief Executive Officer of CommoditAg.

Superior Ag is a Huntingburg, Ind., based member-owned and controlled cooperative offering agriculture products and services to farmers in the same region.

The partnership also gives Superior Ag the ability to offer their farm products on the CommoditAg website.

"We are excited to partner with CommoditAg in order to explore new avenues to grow our business and serve growers," said P.J. Peter, Agronomy Division Manager at Superior Ag.

Founded in 2017, CommoditAg offers farm products online in areas like seed, crop protection and machine lubricants from various retailers and suppliers.

The company partners with over a dozen retailers and cooperatives to provide warehouses for customers opting for pick up in states from Colorado to Ohio and from Texas to Minnesota.

Demerly said more fulfillment centers are in the process of being established in the northeast, southeast and into Montana.

Eventually, the goal is to have a warehouse within a relatively short reach of every customer wanting pick-up over delivery.

"We want to get to a point where a farmer doesn't have to drive more than one hour to pick up product," he said.

One of its existing partners, Premiere Ag, provides fulfillment centers in Indiana at Shelbyville and Salem.

Demerly said CommoditAg will also be growing the amount of products offered on

its website in the near future.

For example, he said the company is teaming up with a retailer to provide tarp systems and other equipment.

"We just continue to expand the number of categories that we're offering for sale online," Demerly said.

Demerly said Commodit Ag reaches out to suppliers and retailers to provide more online exposure for their products.

He said farmers also benefit from the ability to find what they're looking for on a single website instead of searching the online pages of each individual provider.

"We're trying to build a one stop shop,"

he said.

Demerly said purchases on the website are following the trend of growing online sales for other consumer products.

He said one factor in first time customers returning is the assistance provided in navigating the website for users not very skilled yet at surfing the internet or familiar with shopping online.

Help is also extended for customers who want to know exactly what they're buying.

"It takes time to build their trust. Typically, once a farmer buys from us, they're very willing to come back because they have a great experience," Demerly said.

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Watermelon industry seeks changes to grade standards

**By Michele F. Mihaljevich
Indiana Correspondent**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The USDA has proposed changes to watermelon grade standards based on recommendations from the National Watermelon Association (NWA). The public comment period on the revisions ends May 10.

If approved by the agency's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), new standards would go into effect for tolerances, size and various defects. The revisions would ensure the standards align with current marketing trends and provide a common language for trade of watermelons, AMS said. As a part of the process, AMS has also issued four new watermelon visual aids.

The NWA petitioned USDA to make the changes in October 2019. In November 2020, the organization approved the proposed revisions. They were published in the Federal Register March 11.

Watermelon grade standards haven't

been updated since 2006, said Jordan Carter, who chaired the NWA's grade standards committee. She is also director of sales and marketing for Leger & Son, Inc., a watermelon grower in Cordele, Ga. The visual library was last updated in the 1990s.

"The standards needed to be modernized," Carter explained. "In looking at the standards and the visual library, they were outdated. We needed to help the industry and help ourselves."

Over the years, varieties have changed, as have sizes purchased by consumers, she said. In the 2000s, watermelons averaged about 25 pounds. Today, most major chain stores are requesting watermelons of 15-18 pounds.

The current standards aren't helping growers, Carter noted. "Growers were suffering because of rejections (at the retail level) because the standards weren't representative of today's varieties and sizes. These changes can only help the grower. They're only going

to make the industry better."

After watermelons are delivered to distribution centers for retail outlets, they're examined by trained inspectors, she said. "The current standards didn't fully represent what we saw in the fields, what was being rejected. That was our fault. If we're going to help ourselves, the inspectors need to have the best information."

Among the revisions proposed by AMS is the removal of the separate tolerance for Anthracnose, a fungal disease. It would be included in the decay tolerance in U.S. No. 1 and No. 2 grades. The current 3 percent tolerance for Anthracnose at shipping point would be removed, as would the 5 percent tolerance for Anthracnose en route or at destination. The tolerance for decay would be changed to a total tolerance of 1 percent at shipping point and 2 percent for en route or at destination for Anthracnose and decay.

For size standards, AMS has proposed lowering the average weights of watermelons to 10-34 pounds from

the current 20-42 pounds.

The agency also seeks to make sunburn a permanent defect. "The current standard lists sunburn as a condition defect, primarily based on the past practice of shipping watermelons in open top trailers," AMS said. "Today, watermelons are generally shipped in enclosed trailers. Melons generally only have sunburn due to exposure in the field."

AMS has proposed basing the scoring guides for sunburn, hail, rind worm injury, scars and transit rubs on a 15-pound watermelon rather than a 25 pound. It wants to base the scoring guide for hollow heart on any size melon rather than one of 25 pounds. The agency wants to limit the scoring of rind worm injury on the ground spot.

Carter said she expects the revisions to be approved. The changes, if approved, could become effective by late summer, according to the NWA.

To comment on the proposed revisions, visit <https://www.federalregister.gov/>

Iowa farmer killed in farming accident

WAVERLY, Iowa (AP) — A Waverly man was killed in an apparent farming accident north of Waverly, law enforcement officials said.

Bremer County Sheriff's deputies said deputies were called to a field north of Waverly for a medical emergency. They found Dale Clewell, 63, dead at the scene.

Deputies said Clewell was working on a field planter when a jack lifting it up moved, causing the equipment to fall on him and kill him.

An autopsy was scheduled at the State Medical Examiner's office.

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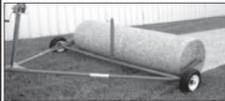
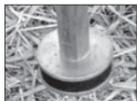
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Livestock guardian donkeys. (2) standard jacks & (1) dwarf/mini jack, handled & in gd. health, feet just trimmed & wormed. Ready to go to work protecting your sheep & goats. 859-473-2821 Paris, KY.

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AKC Australian Shepard puppies, all puppy shots, well puppy visit, tri-colored, \$800/each. 270-991-8475 Bowling Green, KY.

290 HORSES

9 gaited (broke broke) 1,000-2,500, each choice. 765-521-9490 New Castle, IN.

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Percheron horses. Coming 3 yr. old gelding, not started yet, halter broke, trims without stocks, wormed & vaccinated w/long trail, 2 white socks & a star, \$3200; aged Percheron gelding, would make gd. produce horse, \$2650; Friesian Percheron cross coming 2, \$6500; Percheron Morgan driving horse, late teens, \$2000; stunning 10 yr. old Percheron gelding, full tail, huge star, white sock, 18H, broke to work but would be amazing riding or carriage horse, \$9500; also a coming 2 Belgian quarter horse geldings, ready to be started. 859-473-2821 Paris, KY.

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410 D JD backhoe, 2WD, extend-a-hoe, 24" bucket. 765-265-1046. Connersville, IN.

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Small square straw bales, plastic twine, \$2.40 per bale. 937-548-7288 Greenville, OH.

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1997 Wilmar 7400 sprayer, 60/80 boom, 5.9 Cummins eng., SS tank & plumbing, foamer, guide bar, Mid-Tech controller, 3000+ hrs., field ready, \$24,000. 317-441-2329 Shelbyville, IN.

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Blue Jet AT6010 anhydrous applicator, 2008, 12.4/38 tires, exc. cond., always stored inside, 16 row, new knives, cutters and double disc sealers, \$30,000. 330-704-3564.

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1937 HD7 AC bulldozer, 2400 actual hrs., 2nd owner, 371 Detroit dsl. eng., complete rebuild, orig. manuals complete, exc. cond., \$8850. 502-641-8669 Taylorsville, KY.

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1989 Case IH 7110, (1) owner, 6700 hrs., \$20,000; 1978 1070 Case tractor, air/heat, 2nd owner, 5700 hrs., \$5,000. 765-647-5616. Brookville, IN.

1997 JD 8300, 3826 hrs., 46" rear tires & duals, power shift, (4) SCV, 30" front tires, 3 pt. hitch, 1000 PTO, field ready, \$82,500. 765-525-9755 Waldron, IN.

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Agco LT90A tractor, clean, very gd. cond. 812-623-4232 Sunman, IN.

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JD 655 zero turn. 765-265-1046. Connersville, IN.

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9 bolt dual rims for 18.4x38's, gd. cond., \$400 pr. 765-513-0610 Russiaville, IN.

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2007 Bobcat T300, 4500 hrs., gd. cond., no bucket, \$19,000; Bobcat 84", 4 in 1 bucket, w/teeth, like new, \$3500. 812-371-8461 Hope, IN.

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2004 Kinze 3600 16-32R, mechanical drive, asking \$42,000. 812-216-6218 Greensburg, IN.

2009 Great Plains 10' 1006NT no-till drill, has standard box & small grains box. This no-till drill is being sold as is & has approx. 5200 acres. Franklin County SWCD is the only owner & it was purchased new. Closed bids will be accepted until COB (4:00 p.m.) on May 19th. There is a minimum bid of \$5000. Those bids can be mailed to the Franklin County SWCD office at 10165 Oxford Pike, Brookville, IN. 47012. For more info. please contact the Franklin County SWCD office 765-647-2651, ext. 3.

2012 3600 Kinze planter, 16R, center fill, no-till, liq. fert., finger pickup, 5500 ac. since new, \$65,000. 317-691-1554 Morristown, IN.

46 Kinze cast iron press wheels & other Kinze 3600 parts, w/ precision corn units; (6) Martin UMO openers, like new. 765-265-1046 Connersville, IN.

JD 7000 2 row mounted planter, has transmission, \$2500. 765-538-2000 Lafayette, IN.

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JD FB-B drill, 17 hole w/double disc, brand new tires, comes w/ grass seeder box, grain boxes & fertilizer boxes, never had fertilizer in it, super exc. cond., \$2000 obo. 765-432-1391 Peru, IN.

Kinze 2600 12/23 planter w/ monitor, new seed discs, coulters, firmers, etc. 419-559-5294 Fremont, OH.

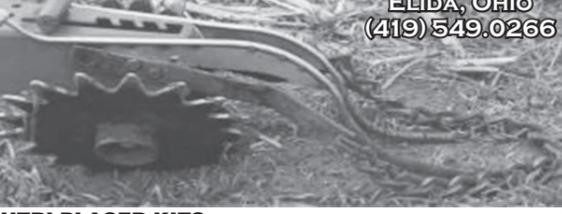
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Retired OSU professor reflects on 30 years of changes in dairy nutrition

By Michele F. Mihaljevich
Indiana Correspondent

FORT WAYNE, Ind. – During the recent Tri-State Dairy Nutrition Conference, Dr. Bill Weiss reflected on advancements and changes in cow nutrition over his more than 30 years in dairy education.

Weiss retired from the department of animal sciences at The Ohio State University in January 2021 after 33 years with the university. He also previously served on the faculty of North Dakota State University. Weiss received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Purdue University and his doctorate from Ohio State. He has participated in about 75 percent of the 29 nutrition conferences since they began in 1992.

This year's conference was April 19-21 and was presented virtually. Last year's event was canceled due to the pandemic. The conference is normally held in Fort Wayne.

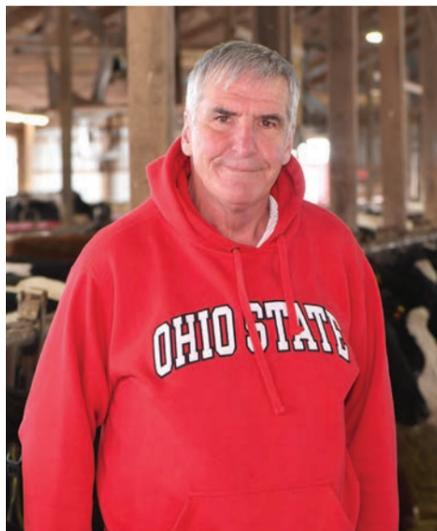
In the past 30 years, essentially all aspects of dairy cattle nutrition have improved, Weiss noted. There are

more milk components, more milk and healthier cows, but the industry still has a lot to learn and apply, he said.

The average dairy cow produced nearly 24,000 pounds of milk annually in 2019, up from 14,300 pounds in 1989, Weiss stated. There's no evidence milk production per cow is plateauing, he said. "We couldn't get this without genetics but also couldn't get this without good nutrition," Weiss pointed out.

Producers are feeding more concentrate than they were 30 years ago, and less but better forage, he said. They're also feeding – especially in the Midwest – more corn silage and less hay crop forage. Diets have become more complex, he said, as cows are fed multiple byproducts.

There has been an increased nutritional emphasis on cow health and milk components. "As we've gone away from a fluid milk market and into products, (we've seen) much more emphasis on components. We don't talk so much about milk yield. We talk how many pounds of fat and how many pounds of protein are we getting



Above: Bill Weiss. Photo by Ken Chamberlain, OSU/CFAES

from these herds."

The past 30 years have also seen the development of a robust commercial laboratory industry and of more complex formulation models, Weiss said.

In 1990, rations were formulated for crude protein, energy, calcium,

phosphorus and minimum fiber. Today, a ration printout may have multiple pages of outputs, he said.

For a diet to work, producers need good input data and good total mixed ration (TMR) management, Weiss said. In the last 30 years, there has been increased appreciation (more samples, better protocols) of variation in composition and increased understanding (pen variation, response functions) of group versus cow feeding. There has been more appreciation of TMR quality, he added.

Even with the advances in feeding, producers need to pay attention to what their animals are being fed, Weiss said.

"I want to point out I think too many people spend too much time on a computer and ignoring what our job is. Our job is to feed a cow and not a computer. We need to get away from our computer a little bit more and start looking at what's actually delivered to the cow."

A diet that appears to be perfect on paper could be a very bad diet in reality, he said.

Michigan brings awareness to invasive species in state

By Kevin Walker
Michigan Correspondent

LANSING, Mich. – According to USDA, damage caused by invasive tree and plant pests, coupled with the cost of control and eradication efforts, can reach \$40 billion annually. These pests impact agriculture, forest products and even residential landscapes. Staff at the Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) are constantly on the lookout for invasive species, said Rob Miller, MDARD's invasive species specialist. "This is really a campaign to raise awareness amongst the public," Miller said. "We rely on the public to make us aware when they see an invasive species."

According to Miller, some non-native, exotic pests made it to the United States on goods and materials from other countries, or even on ships, planes and trains that transport them. Once they reach a new place, plant pests can be unintentionally moved to new areas by hitching rides on outdoor gear, vehicles and untreated firewood. That is what happened with emerald ash borer, which in the space of only a few years destroyed much of the state's ash trees. Pests can also hide in or on fresh produce, soil, seeds and plants. The public can do a lot to prevent the movement of exotic pests, Miller emphasized.

Of special concern right now to MDARD is the Spotted Lanternfly. Miller said this is the single biggest immediate concern for Michigan farmers. Although it is not yet in the state, it has been found as close as the Pennsylvania-Ohio border. Spotted Lanternfly is a leafhopper that appeared in Pennsylvania in 2014. "For grape growers, it will pose a challenge to them, because they feed on grapevines right around harvest time, late summer and fall," Miller stated. "We've seen in areas of heavy infestation increased budgets to control Spotted Lanternfly." A

disturbing phenomenon with the pest is that even after grapevines have been treated, it is often the case that other Spotted Lanternfly will come and infest the recently treated vines. Spotted Lanternfly feed on over 70 species of plant. Anything with a Spotted Lanternfly infestation can become fouled with honeydew and black sooty mold.

Miller is also concerned about European cherry fruit fly. "We're concerned that it might show up in Michigan, but as far as I know it's not in the state right now," he said. He also said he spends a lot of time on Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA), a tiny, aphid-like insect that has been in Michigan since as early as 2006. After it has infested a Hemlock, HWA can kill the tree in about 4 to 10 years. It probably got into the state through infested nursery stock. Early on, it was controlled, however, MDARD has since discovered out of control infestations in western Michigan.

MDARD recommends that members of the public take some simple steps to help stop invasive pests from spreading, including learning about invasive pests and reporting possible infestations to MDARD at (800)-292-3939; and not moving untreated firewood. The department recommends that members of the public only move heat treated firewood or buy untreated firewood near to where it's going to be used. The department also says that international travelers need to declare food, plants and other agricultural items with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection to make sure the items are pest-free. MDARD also recommends that consumers check with MDARD before buying plants and seeds from out of state vendors.

Farmers and other residents can learn about pest quarantines and limits on interstate movement of invasive species at www.michigan.gov/mdard and at the USDA-APHIS Pest Tracker at usda.gov.

Tips for successful herbs

URBANA, Ill. – Culinary herbs can add variety and splashes of color to any deck, balcony, or patio. This makes them an excellent option for many small space gardeners.

"My favorite group of plants to grow is culinary herbs," said Jennifer Fishburn, a University of Illinois Extension horticulture educator based in Sangamon County. "These plants are good fillers in perennial and herb gardens, and many are a source of pollen and nectar for pollinating insects."

The same herbs that add flavor to your favorite food dishes do well in containers, she said. The herbs used in container gardening can be planted either alone or mixed with annual flowers or vegetables. They will need to receive full sun.

Creative gardeners can use containers made out of most anything that holds growing media and has drainage holes. The latter prevent root rot. Be sure to plant the appropriate number of plants in the right-sized vessel.

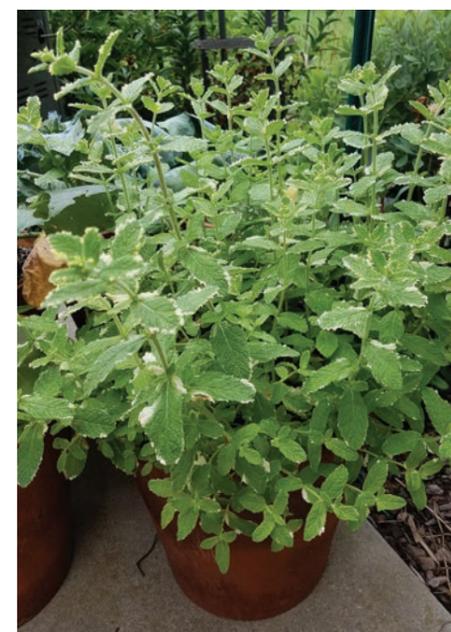
"Select a container large enough to allow space for root growth," Fishburn said. "For good root growth, most herb plants will need a soil depth of 6 to 8 inches. Taller plants, such as dill and fennel, need at least a depth of 10 inches to thrive."

A 12-inch container will hold about three or four herb plants, while a 15-inch container can support about five or six of them.

Gardeners can also choose plants based on a theme. For example, pair chocolate mint with a strawberry plant for a take on chocolate-covered strawberries. Design a pizza garden with a container filled with oregano, sage, thyme, marjoram and winter savory. Or create a "lemon drop" using lemon basil, lemongrass and lemon verbena.

Every container must contain a good quality potting media that is sterile, retains moisture and allows for aeration. And since container-grown plants will need fertilizer throughout the growing season, purchase a potting media with slow-release fertilizer. A soluble complete fertilizer added after planting is also a good solution.

"Apply soluble fertilizers at a low application rate," she said. "Too much fertilizer will cause herb plants to grow quickly, reducing flavor and



Above: Culinary herbs can add variety and splashes of color to any deck, balcony or patio, making them an excellent option for many small space gardeners. Some gardeners choose plants based on a theme, such as this container planted with strawberries and a chocolate mint plant, a playful nod to chocolate covered strawberries. (photo by Jennifer Fishburn)

aroma."

Drought-tolerant herbs do particularly well in containers. Tender, perennial herbs such as rosemary are good choices as well. Plants with a trailing habit look nice cascading over the edge of a pot.

Container gardens must be carefully watered; their most common problem is under- or over-watering. Over-watering may cause root rot, fungal problems or fungus gnats. Symptoms of over-watering include wilting and reduced growth. Under-watering symptoms include wilting and scorching. As with over-watering, repeated wilting will stunt growth.

To water correctly, apply water until it runs out the drainage holes. Containers dry out quickly so check containers at least twice a day on hot, dry, windy days.

Harvest herbs regularly to keep the plant growth compact and bushy. Herb plants are easy to maintain and can grow in almost any full sun location. Most importantly, they give gardeners the satisfaction of eating the fruits of their labor.

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Owners of forested lands should be aware of timber theft

By Michele F. Mihaljevich
Indiana Correspondent

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Officials in Tennessee and Iowa are alerting woodland owners of increased incidents of timber theft in their states.

In Tennessee, the state's agricultural crime unit has seen a rise in the number of cases it's investigating, said David Arnold, state forester with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture. White oak, required by state law to be used in barrels to store and cure Kentucky bourbon and Tennessee whiskey, is a popular target for thieves in the state.

Timber thieves in Iowa are focusing on black walnut trees, used to make veneer, said Capt. Brian Smith, district supervisor with the state's Department of Natural Resources. Thieves are also interested in silver maple and cottonwood, which are used to make pallets.

The timber market in Tennessee is pretty active right now, Arnold noted, adding it has improved over the last couple of months. He said he was made aware earlier this year of the increase in timber thefts but said the trend could have started last year.

"The increase in cases opened our eyes that we needed to get the word out," Arnold explained. "Anytime something has value, it presents an opportunity for rascals to come out.

We are seeing a spike (in thefts). But I don't want to give people the impression there are timber thieves behind every tree."

Most theft cases in the state appear to be carried out by local residents, but it's possible some thieves are from out of state, Arnold noted. The cases he's aware of were on private land but theft can also occur on public lands, he said.

The remoteness of parts of the state and the number of absentee landowners contribute to the problem of timber theft, Arnold said. It is illegal in the state to steal timber, which is defined as someone harvesting timber that isn't theirs, he said.

Sometimes, someone may accidentally harvest timber over the property boundary, Arnold noted. The civil penalty for that is two times the value of the timber. If it's done on purpose and the person knew the timber wasn't theirs, the civil penalty is three times the value.

The most proactive thing landowners can do is develop a relationship with a private forestry consultant, he said. "A forester can help you put in place a long-term plan for forest management. They can also act as an agent for timber sales and if there is a timber theft, can act as an agent then as well."

Landowners should be sure property boundaries are well marked. Absentee landowners should try to



Above: Rural areas are often targets of timber theft. Ask neighbors to help keep an eye on property and take the time to look over forested land on a regular basis to ensure timber is not being illegally harvested. (Photo by Connie Swaim)

have eyes on the property as much as possible, either through visits or relying on a trusted neighbor to monitor it. Owners should have a timber inventory and know the value of what they have.

Iowa officials have seen a dramatic uptick in timber theft during the last five years, Smith noted. Most of the black walnut timber stolen

in the state ends up overseas, more specifically in China, he said.

The increase in timber theft might be related in part to a decrease in metal prices, Smith noted. In the past, people looking for money might have stolen copper from abandoned homes and buildings, but when those

(Timber continued on page 2B)

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Timber

FROM PAGE 1B

prices fell, they may have switched over to timber, he explained.

Some of the theft may be from those looking for money to feed a drug habit, he said. "They may be in a pickup with a homemade trailer and take two-three walnut logs at a time. They steal just enough to be able to buy drugs."

Others may be associated with actual timber buying companies, Smith said. "They have skidders, contract cutters to cut the trees, logging trucks and log hauling semis. They're very sophisticated and have specific equipment. It's a small percentage (of companies) doing things illegally. But there are some commercial ventures that just don't play by the rules."

The rules include that anyone buying or selling timber in the state must be a bonded timber buyer, Smith stated. While sawmills aren't required to check if a seller is bonded, the ethical mills have turned away those wanting to sell just a few logs, he said.

Those who are bonded and insured "have a vested interest in the industry," he said. "When they see someone they don't think should be there, they've called and turned them in."

Those caught stealing could face criminal charges for trespassing, theft and a violation of the bonded timber law. They could also be required to pay triple the amount of the value of the timber stolen to the landowner.

The loss of a landowner's property isn't the only concern if timber is stolen, Smith explained. "There's also the ecological loss. These trees are 50, 100, 150 years old. If you take those trees out, you've removed those genetics. It goes far beyond the monetary aspect."

Other states in the region report varying degrees of problems with timber theft.

In Indiana, the volume of timber stolen when at its worst is less than 1 percent of the total volume harvested

in the state, making it a minor issue when looking at the whole, said Duane McCoy, timber buyer licensing forester with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry. "However, it is a significant issue to the people whose timber has been taken, and that significance can take different and many forms, both economic and intrinsic. Timber being wrongfully harvested happens on a regular basis for various reasons, but commonly can occur due to property lines being incorrectly identified. In Indiana, it can be common to see increases in 'timber theft' in times when the economy is not favorable and when specific tree species grow in value, which makes them desirable to people who are looking for quick money."

Timber theft on publicly managed lands in Michigan is an ongoing issue, but an official with the state's Department of Natural Resources said he wouldn't characterize it as a big problem. "The state forest is about 4 million acres and the three national forests in Michigan total about 2.8 million acres," said Doug Heym, unit manager, timber sales and utilization, in the department's forest resources division. "As you can imagine, the forests are in remote areas. It is not uncommon to find stumps next to the road where no cutting has been authorized."

Thieves in the state are looking for larger sawtimber trees, primarily hardwoods, such as northern red oak and sugar maple, he said.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development (MDARD) sometimes hears about theft or fraud from private forest owners, said Jessie J. Sielski, the department's deputy public information officer. MDARD encourages private forest owners to be present, active managers of their forests, he said. "When forest owners work with public agencies like MDARD and their local conservation district, they know we are working in their best interest. And we can help them avoid many of the scenarios in which theft or fraud can occur, such as faulty contracts, disreputable harvesters and other opportunists."

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Things you'll never hear on a working cow ranch

Here's some dialogue you'll never hear on a real working cow ranch.

• "Well boys, shall we retire to the plush confines of the bunkhouse and partake of a bottle or two of Dom Pérignon? I find the red summer fruit excites the palate, expresses the fruit, finesse, poise and mineralogy like no other champagne."

• "Why don't you drive and I'll open all the gates?"

• "Oh boy, I just got promoted to be on the fencing crew. Who knows, if I perform well there in 20 years or so I might be promoted to the windmill team."

• "I suppose you have a valid point," said the husband to the wife.

• "Remind me to send a thank-you note to all the Big Four packers for not bidding on my over-ripe steers in the feedlot once again this week. They seem like such nice people."

• Ranch owner talking to a new hire: "The job comes with a new pick-up, a 72-inch television and your choice of either a new Lazy Boy or sectional sofa for the media room in your 3,000 square foot personal bunkhouse."

• "I don't care what our calves sell for at the auction this week as long as they go to a nice person."

• "Great news honey, our banker just called and said they're making so much



It's THE PITTS
By Lee Pitts

money this year buying Bitcoin stock they aren't going to charge interest on our loans for the rest of the year."

• "Honey, you've worked so hard on the ranch this year, single handedly raising the kids, keeping house along with your full time job in town. Why don't we spend our stimulus money from Uncle Joe and take a two month vacation to Monaco and Paris."

• Ranch owner to possible buyer: "We're selling because this ranch never made any money, we've spent all my wife's inheritance and a cow has to graze 30 miles per hour just to survive."

• "Thank you Lord for this beef we're about to eat and the neighbor who unknowingly provided it."

• "Sure, I'll give you a 4 percent shrink, keep them off of feed and water and put a hard work on them before we weigh my calves. And I trust you to read the scale as I bring them up the alley."

• "I'd be glad to pay for all the fencing costs to fix the broken down fence between us."

• "That \$400 a ton hay sure is a lot better than I thought it would be and is a real bargain."

• "That knothead of a horse may look as harmless as a pet rabbit but he is a real man-killer. Why the heck do you

think we're selling it?"

• "I'd never knowingly put too much weight on your cattle truck. Should we take a couple off so you won't get an overload ticket?"

• "I've already got enough free hats and jackets. Why don't you give these to someone else?"

• "Range bulls sure are cheap this year. I think I'll buy a few extra just to be on the safe side."

• "I'm thinking about trading my trusty 4 X 4 Cummins for one of them new Tesla triangle truck thingies."

• "Our new BLM gal says we'll be able to run more cows this year than we ever have."

• "There's nothing quite as thrilling as the howl of wolves in the calving pasture."

• "I'm sure you'll like the calves out of our main herd sire. He has the distinction of being the only bull in history to finish dead last in his class in Denver, Fort Worth, Houston, Rapid City and San Antonio."

• "Dear, I know I forgot your birthday yesterday and also our anniversary last month. To make up for it why don't you take the rest of the afternoon off and I'll cook dinner and wash the dishes. Just show me where the kitchen is."

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• "I sure wish it would stop raining."
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New apple for hard cider is now under development

By Stan Maddux
Indiana Correspondent

EAST LANSING, Mich. – Turning water into wine is not quite the goal but juice from apples one day might produce a hard cider more appealing to craft beverage drinkers.

A researcher at Michigan State University has already succeeded in developing an apple giving the desired red juice. Steve van Nocker is now shifting his genetic engineering gears to try and give the juice from his new line of apples a much better taste.

"It'll stain your fingers it's so red," he said. Van Nocker, a professor at MSU's Department of Horticulture, has been working on the project for about 10 years.

The cost of his research is being partially funded by the Michigan Craft Beverage Council (MCBC) looking to tap into a growing consumer trend.

MCBC Director Jenelle Jagmin said a rose color in wine and other craft beverages has become increasing popular in recent years but hard cider is pretty much restricted to the light gold color of the commercial juice from apples.

"We're definitely interested in what the market is interested in," she said.

Right now, Van Nocker said the juice from his newly developed line of red fleshed apples tastes bitter and biting into one of the apples is also out of the question.

The challenge is discovering the genetic combination for unlocking in his

apples the natural ability of fruit to produce their own sugar.

"You can't eat it. It dries up your tongue," he said.

He's confident of finding the right key, though, because of how far he's already come and the time often involved in developing new varieties of produce.

"Some breeds have been 15 to 20 years in the making. It's a long term commitment," Van Nocker said.

He also wants to increase the size of his apples which are too small for processing machines to squeeze out the juice. He wants the size more appealing for grocery stores to carry because of how consumers prefer biting into larger apples.

"The best highly colored fruit we have now is only about the size of an egg," he said.

He plans to place his new line of apples – once they're commercially acceptable – into the hands of farmers to raise and profit from the sales to hard cider makers and grocery store buyers.

Currently, some hard cider makers are churning out their own rose colored brands.

However, they're using blueberries, vegetables and flowers like hibiscus in small amounts to achieve the desired color while preserving the taste as much as possible.

Van Nocker said some of his red fleshed apples are used already by a craft brewer in northern Michigan which adds just a slight percentage of the red juice to attain a "hard pink" colored hard cider.

He's also striving to find a way of making his new line of apples disease resistant.

MCBC, an extension of Rural Development under USDA, awarded nine grants worth nearly \$275,000 this year to support research as it related to craft beer, spirits, wine and hard cider. The grant is helping to further the development of a new apple line was for about \$35,000.

Similar grants for the apple research were awarded by MCBC in previous years.

"The results have been promising, so far," Jagmin said.

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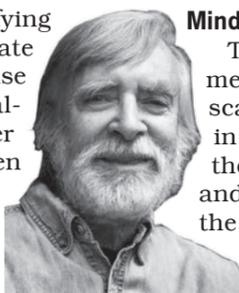
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Meteor shower peaks May 5-6

Perhaps the most satisfying aspect of the turn from late April to early May is the sense of reassurance. It is essentially an inner feeling of order and rightness in this green and growing world in which we live. - Hal Borland



POOR WILL'S ALMANACK
By Bill Felker

The Moon, the Shooting Stars and the Planets

The Cows Switching Their Tails Moon entered its final quarter at 2:50 p.m. on May 3. It wanes throughout the week, becoming the new Cottonwood Cotton Moon at 2 p.m. on May 11. Rising in the morning and setting in the evening, this moon passes overhead in the middle of the day. Lunar position is most favorable for fish and animal activity around noon. And watch the barometer fall prior to the arrival of the May 7 and May 12 cold fronts; fish should definitely be biting with the moon above you at that time.

Venus moves retrograde into Taurus, barely visible in the east before sunrise. Mars also travels retrograde, leaving Taurus for Gemini, where it remains the Evening Star. Saturn rises in Capricorn after midnight, and Jupiter follows well before dawn in Aquarius.

The Eta Aquarid meteor shower began in the third week of April and runs through May 28. Its peak will be on the night of May 5-6, when you may be able to see up to 30 shooting stars in an hour low in the eastern sky after midnight.

Weather Trends

With the arrival of the second major high pressure system of the month on May 7, there is a slight possibility of a Lilac Winter cold spell. New moon on the 11th is likely to threaten a freeze on bedding plants and new tomato plants. Although the day after the passage of this system is one of the brightest of the week, the period of May 8 through 14 historically brings more storms to this area than any other period except the days between the 17th and 24th.

Zeitgebers

(Events in Nature that Tell the Time of Year)

Peonies are budding. Cattails have grown up past your waist. Maples are leafing out. Cliff swallows migrate as buckeyes come into full bloom and carp mate.

The first cycle of cabbage butterflies reaches its peak. About three out of every 10 goslings have hatched by this date. The best spring fishing period for bluegills and bullheads gets underway.

From May 7-13, the second major wave of migrating songbirds usually reaches the Lake Erie shore. It includes white-throated sparrows, ruby-crowned kinglets, yellow-rumped warblers, magnolia warblers, tanagers, grosbeaks and orioles.

Mayflies appear near the rivers. Fragrant locusts flowers open above poppies, daisies, sweet Cicely and the sweet mock orange blossoms.

Countdown to Spring

- One week until the first orange day lily comes into bloom.
- Two weeks until roses blossom and thistles bud.
- Three weeks until the first strawberry shortcake.
- Four weeks until cottonwoods bloom and send their cotton through the air.
- Five weeks to the first mulberry pie.

Mind and Body

The S.A.D. Index, which measures seasonal stress on a scale from 1 to 100, remains in the gentle 30s throughout the week. Chilly temperatures and showers associated with the new moon, however, could spark S.A.D. in some people.

In the Field and Garden

Soil temperatures reach 60 degrees in milder years, and the last of the region's livestock moves to pasture.

Farmers in the region have ordinarily planted a third of the field corn by now. Soybean seeding has begun, three out of 10 commercial potatoes are in the ground, and weevils are often building up in the alfalfa.

Cabbage planting is underway in northern counties. Cutworms are moving through the fields all across the Midwest. Farmers have usually planted all the oats when nettles are waist high along the fencerows.

Under the new dark moon plant every single flower and vegetable you want. By the time your seeds sprout, the danger of frost should be past.

Almanack Literature A Tough but Wiser Rooster

When I was a young man living at home, my dad always told a rooster story. He remembered when he was a young man living on their family farm. Their neighbor at the time was Norm Zimmer, who had chickens, calves and hogs. One of Norm's chickens was a rooster that liked to attack visitors who visited Norm's barn lot. Norm thought it was funny and got a big kick out of it.

One summer day, Norm stopped in for a visit at my grandpa's farm, and he asked my dad if he would take care of feeding his farm animals and do the chores for a week while he and wife went on vacation.

On the first day that he went down to do Norm's chores, my dad came prepared with a three-foot 2 x 4.

As Dad walked across the barn lot, here came the rooster, which was planning on landing on Dad's shoulder. My dad turned and swatted that rooster with the 2 x 4, which knocked the bird right to the ground.

My dad was afraid he might have killed him and was not sure what he would tell Norm. But after he finished chores, Dad saw that the rooster had gotten up and looked fine. The rooster was alive and well, but after that, Dad never had a problem with it again!

Poor Will Needs Your Stories

Poor Will pays \$4 for unusual and true farm, garden, animal and even love stories used in this almanac. Send yours to wlfelker@gmail.com or to the address below.

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S SCRAMBLER

In order to estimate your SCRAMBLER 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.

- | | |
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| SSUMOOP | OPOSSUM |
| LACCMUI | CALCIUM |
| YASMUL | ASYLUM |
| LAUUMMNI | ALUMINUM |
| MUNGERRETNI | INTERREGNUM |
| IMMAGNES | MAGNESIUM |
| MUINOLOP | POLONIUM |
| SHPGANUM | SPHAGNUM |
| MMMUTOEN | MOMENTUM |

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- TETRLUSP
- TRSUTETR

Poor Will's Almanack for 2021 (with the S.A.D. Index) is still available. For your autographed copy, send \$20 (includes shipping and handling) to Poor Will, P.O. Box 431, Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387.

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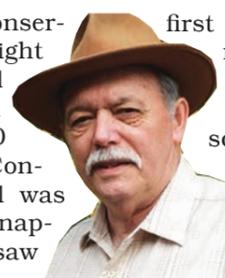
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Off-duty conservation officer a life saver

An off-duty Indiana conservation officer was in the right place at the right time and helped save a Highland man's life. Shortly after 4:30 p.m. on April 27, Indiana Conservation Officer Alex Neel was near Ridge Road and Indianapolis Boulevard when he saw several people starting to perform CPR on a male who had been removed from a vehicle.



SPAULDING OUTDOORS
By Jack Spaulding

first responders, Grider was pronounced dead by the Fountain County Coroner.

An autopsy has been scheduled to determine the exact cause of death. Grider was not wearing a full body harness or any other climbing safety gear at the time of the incident.

Indiana conservation officers would like to remind Hoosiers the most common

Neel stopped to help and saw the person attempting CPR was struggling to properly perform the procedure. After confirming the Highland man was not breathing and did not have a pulse, Neel took over and performed chest compressions for several minutes with the help of an unidentified nurse who also stopped to help.

Within minutes, officers with Highland Police Department arrived and helped Neel until medics with Superior Ambulance arrived. An AED was then used and a pulse was located.

The individual was transported to Community Hospital where the 66 year old is reported to be doing well.

Neel is a four-year veteran of DNR Law Enforcement assigned to Lake County. He was assisted by Highland Police Sgt. Randy Stewart, Officer Tyler Dills and Officer Tiffany Perez.

Parasites found in deer death investigation

Lab results have confirmed the presence of parasites in wild white-tailed deer found on a private property in Newton County in late February and early March. About 40 deer were found dead on the property soon after heavy snow melted.

According to Moriah Boggess, deer biologist for the Indiana DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife, the deer may have died days or weeks before being discovered.

Lab results from diagnostic testing conducted at the Indiana Animal Disease Diagnostic Lab at Purdue University identified the parasites as lung worm, which Boggess said commonly occurs throughout the range of the white-tailed deer species. He said it is likely high parasite loads, combined with heavy snowfall, poor nutrition and a prolonged cold snap in mid-February were contributing factors to the deer deaths. All deer sampled tested negative for chronic wasting disease.

The Indiana DNR reminds hunters and their families' meat from animals known or suspected to be ill should not be consumed.

People who see sick wildlife or wildlife appearing to have died from illness are encouraged to report it to the DNR using the online reporting tool at on.IN.gov/sickwildlife. The reports help DNR biologists monitor potential wildlife disease outbreaks and track trends in wildlife health over time.

Hunter dies in fall from elevated stand

Indiana conservation officers are investigating a fall from an elevated hunting blind that resulted the death of a hunter on April 21.

At 11 a.m., Fountain County Dispatch received a 911 call reporting a hunter had fallen from an elevated hunting blind near the 2000 block of West Snoddy Road.

After hunting during the morning, Jimmy Grider, 69, of Arcadia fell approximately 8 feet from the elevated blind. Despite life-saving efforts by

hunting related injuries are accidents involving tree stands and elevated platforms. All Hoosiers are urged to wear a full body safety harness when ascending and descending elevated platforms. For more information, see hunting.IN.gov.

Assisting agencies included the Fountain County Sheriff's Department, Fountain County EMS, Covington Fire Department, Perrysville Fire Department, Fountain County Coroner and Fountain County 911 Dispatch.

Camping reservation website gets new look

The website for making camping reservations at DNR properties has a new look and features to make booking your next getaway a snap. Check it out at www.camp.IN.gov.

You now have more options to search for camping, cabins or day-use facilities by filtering your search results to look at park activities, specific site types, accessibility needs and your desired date range.

Other features allow you to:

- Discover available sites for the upcoming weekend for last-minute trips.

- Save favorite campsites, cabins and facilities for quicker access to making future reservations at those locations.

- Shop for a variety of Indiana State Parks products, including gift cards, park passes, clothing and gifts galore.

- Check the balance of a DNR camping gift card.

- Donate to support Indiana State Parks.

Now is a great time to book your next trip at camp.IN.gov. If you have not already done so, be sure to create an account to track your reservations, favorite campsites and opt in to receive news, information and special offers from DNR.

Readers can contact the author by writing to this publication, or e-mail to jackspaulding@hughes.net. Spaulding's books, "The Best of Spaulding Outdoors," and his latest, "The Coon Hunter And The Kid," are available from Amazon.com.

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Rising feed costs putting squeeze on dairy farmers

U.S. dairy farmers are feeling the squeeze. Average feed costs are up more than \$5 per hundredweight compared to a year earlier, according to the April 23 Dairy and Food Market Analyst (DFMA). "A low-cost dairy farmer that broke-even at \$15 per cwt milk in 2020 will now need \$20 to make money," the DFMA stated. "That means many milk producers, especially those that are buying spot feed and are receiving a milk price that is close to Class IV, are deep in the red."

We talked about it in the May 3 Dairy Radio Now broadcast with StoneX dairy broker Dave Kurzawski who said the Class III milk price was keeping up "so far" and butter, and nonfat dry milk particularly, are helping the Class IV market.

"Milk is liquid corn at some point," he said, "and it's going to matter that corn prices, as we speak, are over \$7 on the old crop May contract and we haven't even gotten into the growing season yet. We have weather ahead of us as well as other demand issues, anything can come out of the woodwork and change the market tempo and tenor at any given time. It's going to be a challenging year for dairy producers on the feed side," he warned, "and I think that's going to mean less milk in the second half of the year."

The other unknown is dairy demand and, while demand looks good as COVID restrictions allow more restaurants to return to normal, there's a lot of uncertainty as to what government purchases will be.

Kurzawski said that's "the dark cloud in the market right now," with the Food Box program ending May 31. Those purchases will end in Mid-May, he said, and will leave a bit of a hole in the market, but he sees continued strong growth in restaurant demand. The Administration however is looking at increases in the SNAP and WICK programs and that could mean a weakening for dairy product demand as we enter the second half, according to Kurzawski.

CME cash dairy prices ended April stronger for the most part. The Cheddar blocks finished at \$1.80 per pound, up 0.75 cents on the week, 2.50 cents above their April 1

posting. The barrels closed Friday at \$1.8350, up 3 cents on the week, 32.25 cents above the April 1 perch, 64.50 cents above a year ago, and 3.5 cents above the blocks. Sales totaled 24 of block on the week and 87 for the month, up from 31 in March. Barrels totaled 12 for the week, with 85 for the month, up from 28 in March.

Cheese market tones are remaining solid, according to Dairy Market News, and Midwestern producers are running active schedules. The spot milk price range ticked higher the previous week and seemed to hold this week, though most contacts suggest there's enough milk to go around. Demand remains strong but buyers are more hesitant regarding how much cheese they take. Customers are buying on a necessity basis and don't want to get caught holding extra loads if markets shift, although inventories are "generally moving out the door."

Western retail cheese demand held steady this week. Food service demand is still shifting higher, though some contacts report sales are beginning to level off. Asian export demands have shifted higher in recent weeks. Plenty of milk is available in the region, as producers continue to run full schedules.

The StoneX Group wrote in the April 26 Early Morning Update: "It was surprising to see the spot strength following the bearish milk production and cold storage reports but looking at how well food service sales performed in March, a solid 10% above 2019 levels, it seems as though cheese makers lean on the side of optimism on their cheese sales and are no longer afraid to restrict production."

Cash butter closed Friday at \$1.7525, down 1.75 cents on the week, 9.25 cents lower on the month, but 56.50 cents above a year ago. There were 21 CME sales on the week and 108 for the month, up from 73 in March.

Food service butter demand has ebbed somewhat from a few weeks ago when upticks due to easing of COVID-19 restrictions were boosting demand. Retail demand is lackluster. Butter inventories are generally balanced. Plant managers report that cream was a little tighter but butter market tones are "uncertain."

Cream abounds in the West but availability may be tightening slightly as ice cream makers pull increasing large volumes of cream. Butter inventories are fairly stable. DMN says food service butter orders "remain on an upward trajectory overall as dine-in restrictions have been relaxing however some contacts expect bulk butter demand to waver a little as some counties are now heightening public activity restrictions in response to rising COVID cases and hospitalizations. Retail butter demand is termed steady, says DMN.

Grade A nonfat dry milk climbed to the highest level it has seen since Oct. 17, 2014, up 7.25 cents on the week and 53.25 cents above a year ago. There were 16 sales on the week, 62 for the month, down from 72 in March.

CME dry whey, after setting the highest price ever the week before, fell back to 64.50 cents per pound Monday, then pushed higher. It ended the week and the month at 66 cents per pound, up 4 cents on the week and 26.50 cents above a year ago. There were 6 sales on the week and 17 on the month, up from 14 in

March. African Swine Fever in China is still a concern many market participants have and what that will mean for feed demand, according to StoneX, "but the Chinese government continues to not acknowledge it."

Speaking of China, the April 23 Daily Dairy Report delved into its growing dairy demand, pointing out that, with 1.4 billion people, it is the world's most populous country. But China has been a minimal consumer of dairy products because many people in the that country are lactose intolerant.

The DDR stated that China consumed 77 billion pounds of milk in 2020, which equates to about four month's worth of U.S. milk production, according to a recent USDA Global Agricultural Information Network report. Last year, China's consumption increased 3% over 2019, with a similar gain expected in 2021.

"Government initiatives helped drive this remarkable jump in demand," according to the DDR. "The government promoted milk as a healthy food necessary for growth as well as an excellent source of protein," but China will have to rely on imports. The DDR says "China's land base is limited, and most of its milk is produced in the northern part of the country, also home to the Gobi Desert, the fastest growing desert in the world. Domestically grown feedstocks are also limited, with grains and alfalfa imported, which increases the cost of production."

Writing in the April 23rd Milk Producers Council newsletter, the DDR's Sarina Sharp, stated: "China's aggressive purchases have largely cleaned up New Zealand's dairy product stockpile. In Europe, slower milk output has tightened their exportable inventories, particularly for milk powders. January and February European SMP production was 7% lower than the prior year, adjusted for leap day. As long as we can secure the containers and ships needed to send product abroad, the U.S. is well-positioned to capture a greater share of the burgeoning market, welcome news because we have a lot of milk to move," says Sharp.

Back on the home front; U.S. milk production totaled 223.2 billion pounds in 2020, up a hefty 2.2% from 2019, or 1.9% factoring the extra Leap Day. This week's annual Dairy Products Summary shows where the milk went.

Cheese output totaled a record 13.3 billion pounds in 2020, 0.9% above 2019. Wisconsin remained the biggest cheese producer, accounting for 25.6% of total cheese production.

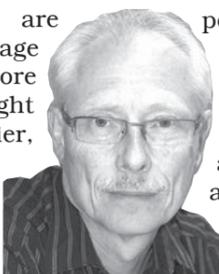
U.S. butter production totaled 2.15 billion pounds, up 7.6% from 2019 and topped 2 billion pounds for the first time. California was the Number 1 butter producer, with 31.1% of total output.

Nonfat dry milk for human consumption totaled 1.99 billion pounds, up 7.6%, while skim milk powder amounted to 695 million pounds, up 21.4% from 2019. And dry whey totaled 951 million pounds, down 2.7% from 2019.

In dairy politics, the National Milk Producers Federation requested an emergency USDA hearing on a Federal Milk Marketing Order proposal to "restore fairness for farmers in the Class I fluid milk price mover."

An NMPF press release stated "The plan would ensure that farmers

(Mielke continued on page 8)



MIELKE MARKET WEEKLY
By Lee Mielke

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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.

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MAY 6 COVINGTON, INDIANA: Lewsader — Clingan Auction. Real estate.. 11 am EST

MAY 6 LIMA, OHIO: Cain Estate — Oak Ridge Realty & Auction Co.. Real estate.. 1 pm

MAY 8 AUSTIN, INDIANA: Ron Samples — Jody Bargier Auctioneer. Personal property.. 10 am SEE AD ON PAGE 7B

MAY 8 CHARLESTOWN, INDIANA: Charlestown — Hell's Auction Service. Surplus vehicles and equipment.. 9:30 am SEE AD ON PAGE 9B

MAY 8 FANCY FARM, KENTUCKY: Real Estate Auction — Harris Real Estate & Auction. Real estate, farm equipment, tools, personal property.. 10 am SEE AD ON PAGE 11B

MAY 8 WYANDOTTE, MICHIGAN: Murray & Robbins — Juckette & Neuhart Auctioneers. Industrial equipment, personal property.. 9 am

MAY 10 WASHINGTON C.H., OHIO: Minshall — Weade Realtors & Auctioneers. Real estate.. 6 pm

MAY 12 MARION, INDIANA: Consignment — Price-Leffler Auctioneers. Personal property.. 5:30 pm SEE AD ON PAGE 9B

MAY 13 OSTRANDER, OHIO: Grener Farms, LLC — Wilson National Real Estate. Real estate.. 6 pm SEE AD ON PAGE 7B

MAY 15 GENEVA, INDIANA: Consignment — Mahlon Shetler. Farm machinery, tack, tools, other.. 8:30 am SEE AD ON PAGE 10B

MAY 20 GREENVILLE, ILLINOIS: Oliver Schaefer Trust — Polk Auction. Tractors, equipment, signs, toys.. 9 am CST SEE AD ON PAGE 9B

MAY 21 GREENVILLE, ILLINOIS: Oliver Schaefer Trust — Polk Auction Co.. Tractors, equipment, signs, toys.. 9 am CST SEE AD ON PAGE 9B

MAY 25 BLUFFTON, INDIANA: Harris Family — Stefan Group. Real estate.. 6 pm SEE AD ON PAGE 11B

MAY 25 KENDALLVILLE, INDIANA: Antonides 162 — Schrader Real Estate & Auction Co., Inc.. Real estate.. 6 pm SEE AD ON PAGE 9B

MAY 27 LAWRENCE COUNTY, ILLINOIS: Cassil, Cupp, Ridgley Heirs — Parrott SELLAFFARM. Real estate.. 5 pm Central SEE AD ON PAGE 7B

Mielke

FROM PAGE 7

recover lost revenue and establish more equitable distribution of risk among farmers and processors. The current mover was adopted in the 2018 farm bill and intended to be revenue neutral while facilitating increased price risk management by fluid milk bottlers. But the new Class I mover contributed to disorderly marketing conditions last year during the height of the pandemic and cost dairy farmers over \$725 million in lost income. NMPF's proposal would help recoup the lost revenue and ensure that neither farmers nor processors are disproportionately harmed by future significant price disruptions," NMPF says.

"While the current Class I mover was designed to improve the ability of fluid milk handlers to hedge milk prices using the futures market, it was also expected to be revenue-neutral compared to the formula it replaced," NMPF charged. "That has not been the case. The significant gaps between Class III and IV prices that developed during the pandemic exposed dairy farmers to losses that were not experienced by processors, showing the need for a formula that better accounts for disorderly market conditions."

NMPF's proposal would modify the current Class I mover, which adds 74 cents per cwt. to the monthly average of Classes III and IV, by adjusting this amount every two years based on conditions over the prior 24 months, with the current mover remaining the floor.

Meanwhile, four Midwestern dairy

groups have joined in support of a proposal: the Dairy Business Association (DBA), Edge Dairy Farmer Cooperative, Minnesota Milk, and Nebraska State Dairy Association.

A joint press release states that their plan is "aimed at creating long-term stability in fluid milk pricing and reducing the likelihood of negative producer price differentials that cut into farmers' revenue last year during the pandemic," and came about after they studied options early this year.

Referred to as 'Class III Plus,' the plan "aims to build upon the current pricing system, recent proposals by dairy cooperatives, and dairy farmer petitions to define a better Class I pricing system," the group stated.

"Our proposal looks to the future. It would make lasting changes to the milk pricing system that will limit negative PPDs in the future and the possible negative effects from future crises," DBA President Amy Penterman, a Wisconsin dairy farmer, said.

"The Class III Plus proposal would, among other things, tie the Class I (fluid) skim milk price to the Class III (cheese) skim milk price plus an adjuster and do away with advanced pricing, a cause of the negative PPDs last year. The proposal is also revenue-neutral, therefore more equitable among farmers, processors and customers."

"The recent call by cooperatives within the National Milk Producers Federation for an emergency FMMO hearing includes a proposal that improves a few components of the current pricing structure, but largely focuses on the short term and revenue that farmers did not earn in 2020," the four groups said.

Online Only 2 Auctions

#1 April 23rd-May 6th, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m.
Preview: April 30th, 4-6:00 p.m. Pick up: May 7th, 2:00-6:00 p.m.

Auctioneer's Note: This is an online auction for the Gowen Estate. Mr. Gowen was a longtime resident of Hamilton County and has lot of great treasures to offer at auction; including 2 low mileage trucks! Bidding will start on April 23rd, 2021 @ 8:00 a.m. w/bidding starting to close at 6:30 p.m. on May 6th, 2021. Visit www.harmeyerauction.net for complete details & bidding.

Selling: Low Mile Trucks: 2013 Chevy 2500 Diesel, 2013 GMC 1500 Diesel. Fifth Wheel Camper, Honda Scooter, Coins, Furniture, Kitchen & Household Items, Few Misc Tools

#2 April 29th-May 7th, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m.
Preview: May 6th, 4-6:00 p.m.
Pick up: May 8th, 10:00-2:00 p.m. & May 10th, 10:00-3:00 p.m.

Auctioneer's Note: Larry Turner, a longtime resident of Hancock County, has sold his property and downsizing. Larry was a mechanic and operated a repair shop most of his career. We will be selling most of Larry's shop equipment, tools and machinery. Bidding will start on April 29th, 2021 @ 8:00 a.m. w/bidding starting to close at 6:30 p.m. on May 7th, 2021. Visit www.harmeyerauction.net for complete details & bidding.

Selling: Cat D-6 Dozer, Wheel Loader, Dump Truck, Lawn & Garden Equipment, Older Autos, Trucks & SUV, Shop Equipment & Toolboxes, Large Selection of Heavy Scrap & Engines

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Contact: Rick Johnloz 260.827.8181

Hamilton County, IN: 164.48+/- Acres • 6 Tracts

Country Estate Lots | Secluded Farm | Recreational Land

Tract 1: 96.78+/- Acres for **\$798,400** - pending

Tract 2: 10.1+/- Tillable Acres for **\$181,800** - pending

Tract 3: 10.1+/- Tillable Acres for **\$181,800** - pending

Tract 4: 17.5+/- Acres (mostly tillable) for **\$315,000**

Tract 5: 15+/- Acres (mostly tillable) for **\$270,000**

Tract 6: 15+/- Acres (mostly tillable) for **\$270,000**

Contact: Sam Clark 317.442.0251, Jaret Wicker 765.561.1737, or Jim Clark 765.659.4841

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DAY #2 - Friday, May 21st
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Above: The USDA will now offer technical expertise and financial assistance to help Ohio maple producers fund their operations, conserve natural resources and recover from natural disasters. (USDA photo)

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www.farmworldonline.com



Ohio maple syrup producers get 'sweet' deal from USDA

By Doug Graves
 Ohio Correspondent

only benefit Ohio maple producers but conserve natural resources as well."

COLUMBUS, Ohio - Tapping maple trees is a tough task for the 900-plus producers in Ohio. Thanks to the USDA, life for them is going to get a lot easier.

The USDA will now offer technical expertise and financial assistance to help Ohio maple producers fund their operations, conserve natural resources and recover from natural disasters.

"We know this is a busy time for our maple producers," said Mark VanHoose, acting state executive director for USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) in Ohio. "Whether you've been a producer in our state for years or are just getting started, we encourage you to contact your local USDA Service Center to learn about programs and services to fit your business needs."

FSA offers funding opportunities to help maple producers start, expand and maintain their operations.

"I encourage maple producers, especially operations interested in organic certification, to reach out to NRCS," said John Wilson, acting state conservationist for USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service. "Our local offices offer one-on-one technical assistance and financial support to help strengthen your operation. We offer programs and services that not

Producers in Ohio may also qualify for NCRS programs that support conservation efforts across maple operations. The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) provides financial assistance and technical support to help maple producers address natural resource concerns through voluntary conservation practices. Multiple conservation practices for qualifying maple producers may be available through EQIP, including those to improve energy efficiency, filter sap and improve evaporation rates.

In addition, FSA and USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) offer programs to help maple producers prepare for and recover from the impacts of natural disasters.

FSA's Farm Storage Facility Loan Program provides low-interest financing so producers can build or upgrade facilities to store certain commodities.

Maple sap and maple syrup are both eligible, and equipment and facilities such as sap tanks, certain hauling trucks and storage space for maple syrup qualify. Eligible facilities and equipment may be new or used, permanently affixed or portable.

Additionally, there are several types (Ohio Syrup continued on page 11B)

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ABSOLUTE AUCTION
 CITY OF CHARLESTOWN SURPLUS AUCTION

LOCATION: 200 Landing Rd. Charlestown, In. (just off Hwy. 62)
 SAT. MAY 8, 2021 • 9:30 a.m.

VEHICLES

2014 Ford Edge SE 41,750 miles-nice; 3-2014 Dodge Police Chargers 1-w/82,000 mi. 2-w/92,000 mi.; 3-2013 Dodge Police Chargers 106,000-119,000 miles; 2-2011 Chevy Tahoes (police) 138,000 & 151,000 mi.; 2008 Ford Explorer 154,000 mi.-nice; 2006 Ford Crown Vic 134,000 mi.; 2005 H2 Hummer-runs good; 2-1998 2006 Ford F-250 crew cab trucks power stroke, 4 w.d.-not running; 2005 Ford F-250; 1998 Ford F-150 reg. cab, long bed 141,000 mi; 1990 Ford Ranger w/flatbed 48,000 mi; 1995 Ford Club Wagon Passenger van; 1994 B-250 Ram Wagon Passenger van 68,000 mi;

BULL DOZER, TRUCKS, TRAILERS, GRADALL, TRACTOR, EQUIP.

Cat D7F dozer w/Hyster D7K winch, hyd. blade, good undercarriage, low hrs. (U.S. Army machine); 1992 Int. 4900 semi-truck DT-466, 360 h.p., 10 spd. live tandem 91,000 miles; 1986 Int. S-1900 tandem axle dump truck DT-466, 15 spd. 15 ft. bed; 1986 Wisconsin Low Boy tandem axle semi-trailer; 1964 Anthony 25 ton Low Boy semi-trailer hyd, dollies, tandem axle; 2001 Gradall XL-4100 6 w.d., 9,137 miles, 1483 digging hrs-nice; J.D. 2355 tractor cab, spin-out wheels, 4,516 hrs.; 2-large diesel 10kw generators on trailers; Miller Trailblazer 44D gen./welder on trailer; Bobcat post hole digger for skid steer; N.I. 5406 3 pt. disc mower; 8 ft. h-duty pull type bushhog; 3 ft. dipper bucket, 18 in. & 2-3 ft. backhoe buckets; Also Selling: Lg. amount of tools & misc. items ~Go to heilauction.com for pictures~

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NOBLE COUNTY RANCH AUCTION

Personal Property to Sell on Tue, May 11th!

25.5± acres in 3 Tracts

Tuesday, May 25th @ 6pm | Kendallville, IN

Auction Site: Noble County Fairgrounds Log Cabin
 Property Location: 1819 E Waits Rd Kendallville, IN

Tract 1 - 6.5± acres w/ gentle roll, providing great potential building site. Frontage on Waits Rd. Tract 2 - 7.5± acres includes unique recently redecored 1 1/2 story, 3 bed, 1 bath home. 1986 sq. ft. on basement. Includes 2 out-buildings. Mostly Miami loam soil w/ frontage on Waits Rd. Tract 3 (Swing Parcel) - 11.5± acres, presently a hay field mostly Miami loam soil. Must be purchased by an adjoining land owner that has road frontage or combined w/ Tracts 1 or 2.

Inspection Dates: Sat, May 8 • 9-11am & Wed, May 19 • 4-6pm. Meet a Schrader Rep at Tract 2. House, land & personal items will all be available for viewing.

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Agriculture brings us together as a big family

In 1989, when I found out I was going to have to write a weekly column, I started to sweat wondering what on earth I could possibly offer on a weekly basis. Thirty-two years later, minus the eight years I took off to have children, I'm still here asking myself, what on earth do I have to say this week?

One of the earliest columns I wrote was about the benefits of being on the livestock judging team in college. I was fresh off the team, so I had plenty to say about it. The ability to make a decision and defend myself, the challenge of speaking clearly while standing in front of an expert and the quickness with which we had to place a class of Duroc gilts that all looked the same and wouldn't stand still, were just a few of the outtakes from judging that would help me in life.

Little did I know in 1986 that I would meet a complete stranger 35 years later in Stillwater, Okla., and know his pedigree well enough to give him a big hug. Two weeks ago, as we were packing up to head home from the Southern National Holstein and Jersey shows at the Payne County Fairgrounds in Stillwater, a big truck pulled up next to our car. A dark-haired young man jumped out and Bobby said, "You missed the show, it's all over."

The young man dressed in a suit coat



TRUTH IN THE TRENCHES
By Melissa Hart

and a pale orange dress shirt said, "I'm here for a livestock judging team reunion." As soon as I heard that I popped back out of the car and said, "Did you say livestock judging team reunion?"

He and his friend began to explain what it was all about and then I said, "Livestock judging is the best, I was on the team at Michigan State, and in fact, my mom was the first woman on the MSU team back in the 50s." Then he looked and said, "You know, my mom was on a team at Michigan State too."

And all at once I knew exactly who he was. I said, "Your Lynne Hachigian's boy!" And as soon as he confirmed it, I walked over and gave him a big hug as if I was his long-lost aunt and said, "She was on my team!"

I had seen Cale on Lynne's social media pages as he had grown up on their cattle ranch in Kansas. Lynne grew up in Detroit and as she always clarified, not in the suburbs, downtown Detroit. Soon after college she married Ron Hinrichsen, they moved to Kansas, had two children and both are at Oklahoma State University.

We took a selfie and then I posted it on Facebook so Lynne could see that while we may live hundreds of miles apart, agriculture continues to bind us together as one big family.

God never forgets our labors of love

Hebrews 6:10 "For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints."



VERSES FROM MAMA
By Sandra Sheridan

One of my greatest frustrations occurs when I have spent a lot of time working on something only to have my efforts thwarted in some way. Perhaps you can identify with my feelings. You labor over a school paper only to have the computer shut down so you lose the whole document. Or maybe when you've mopped the kitchen floor only to have someone track in grass and dirt. These kinds of frustrations happen regularly in life. They can even happen in our relationships. But when you spend time investing in a person even if they don't seem to care, it is encouraging to know that God notices and doesn't forget.

eyes. Those who are truly His children continue to embrace love and kindness even when the efforts seem unproductive. The writer of Hebrews says that this diligence is the fruit of our salvation. And all these works and good deeds coming from unconditional love do not go unrewarded. Our heavenly Father does not forget this work and love you offer to Him by helping His children.

As I thought about the little bird I deeply felt her frustration. All of her hard work was for naught. But a warm sense of confidence also filled me as I realized that despite frustration God's children don't have to despair. Our heavenly Father notices and doesn't forget any of our labors of love to those around us. In fact, this very diligence in difficult times proves that our love for Him is real.

Recently, I felt second hand frustration for someone. It wasn't a family member, a friend, or even a person. It was a little bird. Luke, who was working at our office last week, parked his car in our lot. During the few hours he did business, a tiny sparrow worked diligently building a nest. One by one she carried the twigs and grass to her new home on top of his car's back tire. Imagine how she must have felt after all that effort when Luke left for the evening and had to discard all her work. My heart went out to this feathered mama.

There are many times when we continue to give of ourselves although it seems like our labor is in vain. A mom of young children wonders if her family recognizes her sacrifices. A schoolteacher faithfully teaches unruly middle school students without a word of thanks. And a pastor faithfully keeps preaching God's word week after week without any noticeable fruit.

Yet diligence is a virtue in God's

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Directions: Hwy. 27 N. to **GENEVA, INDIANA** then east at intersection on 116 (flashing light) go 2 1/2 mi. to CR 150E, then North 2 1/2 mi. OR Hwy. 27 S. South edge of Berne, IN to CR 700S then east 2 1/2 mi. to CR 150E then South 1 1/2 mi. to 8343S.

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All out-of-state horses must be Coggins tested. Consignment entry fee is \$25.00, nonrefundable
NOTICE: No pay-off checks will be written for less than \$5.00
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All recommendations are between buyer and seller.

NOTICE: NO SHOEING FRIDAY, MAY 14 OR SATURDAY, MAY 15, 2021
NO FIREARMS OR DOGS PLEASE. No outside sales prior to auction
DEADLINE FOR LINE-UP SATURDAY, MAY 8, 2021

\$.00 - \$ 50.00 - 20% \$ 50.01 - \$ 250.00 - 15% \$ 250.01 - \$ 500.00 - 10% \$ 500.01 & Up - 8% No Sale - 5%	Horses 6% (Minimum \$25.00) Maximum \$150.00 No Sales \$25.00 Saddles 10%	TERMS: Cash Or Check with proper ID LUNCH & BENEFIT BAKE SALE
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FARM EQUIPMENT & PERSONAL PROPERTY

MAY

11 PERSONAL PROPERTY - TIMED ONLINE ONLY. Kendallville, IN. Contact Phil Wolfe 260-248-1191.

15 PERSONAL PROPERTY - TIMED ONLINE ONLY. Columbia City, IN. Contact Phil Wolfe 260-248-1191.

19 PERSONAL PROPERTY - TIMED ONLINE ONLY. South Whitley, IN. Contact Phil Wolfe 260-248-1191.

19 FARM EQUIPMENT - TIMED ONLINE ONLY. Hillsdale, MI. Contact Robert Mishler 260-336-9750.

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Ohio Syrup

FROM PAGE 9B

of farm loans available to help maple producers finance their businesses. These loans are administered through FSA and offer access to funding for a wide range of agricultural needs, from securing land and constructing buildings to financing the purchase of equipment.

Through its Tree Assistance Program, FSA offers financial assistance to eligible orchardists and nursery tree growers to replant or rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes and vines lost due to natural disasters. This includes eligible maple trees from which an annual crop is produced for commercial purposes.

Maple producers in Ohio are encouraged to contact their local USDA Service Center to learn about resources to support their operations both during the harvest season and throughout the year. Producers can also visit www.farmers.gov/fund for more information.

In addition to Ohio, the USDA is offering those in New York with similar

technical expertise and financial assistance.

Nationwide, the U.S. maple syrup production totaled 4.24 million gallons in 2019, an increase of 1 percent from the previous year. The number of taps is estimated at 13.3 million. The average price per gallon was \$33.80.

According to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Michigan is tops in maple syrup production in the Farm World readership area, having a total of 875 farms with a combined 664,289 taps. There are 448 farms in Ohio engaged in syrup production with 465,934 taps. Indiana has 288 farms working in syrup with 80,730 taps. Others in the region are Kentucky (87 farms, 12,466 taps), Illinois (60 farms, 10,008 taps), Iowa (53 farms, 13,808 taps) and Tennessee (15 farms, 992 taps).

The top three maple syrup producing states are Vermont (2.02 million gallons), Maine (717,000) and New York (714,000 gallons). The rest of the top 10 are Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Wisconsin, Massachusetts and Connecticut.

MCGA submits comments on E15 labeling

The Michigan Corn Growers Association (MCGA) submitted comments to the Environmental Protection Agency on the proposed rule to update fuel pump labeling for E15 and improve the process for retailers to demonstrate compatibility of their equipment so they can offer higher ethanol blends.

"As producers of the primary feedstock for ethanol, Michigan's corn growers support expanding availability of higher ethanol blends," MCGA Executive Director Jim Zook wrote in the organization's comments. "Increasing access to E15 will give consumers more choices at the pump and help decrease greenhouse gas emissions from our vehicle fleet using existing infrastructure. We urge EPA to move forward with removing these unnecessary barriers for retailers."

Read MCGA's full submitted comments at www.micorn.org.

MCGA directed the EPA to reference detailed technical comments submitted by the National Corn Growers Association. Those comments are available at www.ncga.com.

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Out of mind

Don't let this happen to you!

Advertise with **FarmWorld**

REAL ESTATE AUCTION
SATURDAY MAY 8TH, AT 10:00 AM CDT
11009 ST RT WEST, FANCY FARM, KY 42039

THE ROBB FARM
HIGH STATE OF CULTIVATION!

TRACT 1:	Four Bedroom Three Bath Ranch Style Brick Home Features a Spacious Master Bedroom, Family Room, Formal Living Room, Formal Dining Room, Eat-In Kitchen, Laundry Room & Walk-Out Basement. Home Features Hardwood, Tile, Carpet Flooring. Exterior features include Covered Front Porch & One Car Attached Garage. Also located on the property is a 30' x 30' Two Car Detached Garage with Concrete Floor, 30' x 36' Workshop with Concrete Floor, 25' x 30' Stock Barn, and a 22' x 54' Machinery Shed with Concrete Floor. All Situated on 2.23 Acres.
TRACT 2:	1.75 Acres with a 42' x 60' Morton Building
TRACT 3:	6.22 Acres
TRACT 4:	2.51 Acres
TRACT 5:	42.71 Acres with a 8 Acre Water Shed
TRACT 6:	5.06 Acres
TRACT 7:	1.80 Acres with a 40' x 50' Pole Barn & Block Building
TRACT 8:	9.34 Acres
TRACT 9:	8.62 Acres
TRACT 10:	45.56 Acres
TRACT 11:	7.43 Acres

197 ACRES
IN 16 TRACTS & COMBINATIONS

167 TILLABLE ACRES
Fancy Farm, Ky

REGARDLESS OF WEATHER!

VEHICLES - TRACTOR - APPLIANCES - COLLECTIBLES - FURNITURE - FARM EQUIPMENT - TOOLS

VEHICLES: 2009 White Cadillac CTS 29,196 Miles VIN: 1G6DF577290167413, 2006 2.8L Chevrolet Colorado Truck with Topper 65,852 Miles VIN: 1GCCS148668136673. **TRACTOR:** McCormick Farmal H Tricycle Tractor. **APPLIANCES:** Whirlpool Refrigerator, Hamilton Beach Microwave, Hot Point Washer, Roper Dryer, White Westinghouse Refrigerator, Frigidaire Chest Freezer, Sears Coldspot Chest Freezer, GE Stove. **FIREARMS:** Remington Game Master Model 760 30-06 Pump, Harrington and Richardson Topper Model 410 Single Shot, Remington Model 500 .22 Long Rifle Made in Mayfield Kentucky, Remington Sporting 12 1100 Automatic 12 Gauge Shotgun, JC Higgins Model 20-12 Gauge Pump Shotgun. **GLASSWARE & HOUSEHOLD ITEMS:** Knowles Fine China, Everyday Kitchenware, Pyrex Bowls, Noritake Greenbay 12 PC Setting, Crystal Water Glasses-Sherberts-Juice Glasses & Misc Crystal Pieces Noritake Nippon Toki Kaisha Teapot, Cups, 6 Servers, Creamer & Sugar, Wood Dough Bowl, Pro Form 635 Treadmill, Exercise Bike, AB Lounge Sport, Gas Grill, Pearl Cooler, Cast Iron, Fruit Jars, Antique Singer Sewing Machine, Leather Suite Cases. **FURNITURE:** 2 Wood Servers, Oak Dining Table with 6 Chairs, Kitchen Table with 4 Chairs, China Cabinet Leather Lift Chair, Breakfast Server, Coffee Table, 2 Wood Buffets, Leather Couch, End Table, What-Not Shelves, Matching Cloth Couch & Love Seat, 2 Brass Top End Tables, Several Lamps, Lowery Magic Genie 88 Organ, Floor Lamp, Wood Rocker, Ornate Leather Top Coffee Table, 3 Piece Set with Twin Size Maple Bed, Dresser with Mirror & Night Stand, 3 Drawer Chest Living Room Chest with Open Shelves, Oak Desk, Filing Cabinet with Safe, 4 Piece American Drew Bedroom Suite, 3 Piece Oak Book Case Bedroom Suite, Blue Lift Chair, 5 Drawer Chest, Heavily Carved Round Wood End table, 7 Drawer Chest, Jewelry Case, King Size Bed with Brass Head Board, 3 Piece Set with Maple Dresser, Chest of Drawers & Night Stand, Small Desk & Chair, Recliner, 2 Door Wardrobe, 4 Leg Wood Stereo, Lathe Bench, Magazine Nightstand, Bookshelf, Oak Computer Desk, Lockers, Slate Top Pool Table, Ladder Back Chairs, Lawn Furniture, Picnic Table. **COLLECTIBLES:** W.S. George Fine China Decorative Art Plates, Hand Carved Wood Elephant, Man, Woman & Horses, Enamel Salt & Pepper Shakers, Several Figurines, Numerous Oil Paintings including Janet Powell, Reeves H. Peters, Hanlon, L Cooper, Balsamo & R. Warden, Several needlepoint Pieces, Charlie's Cookies Tin, Charlie's Chip Tin. **TOOLS & SHOP ITEMS:** Shop Smith Saw, 8 Inch Craftsman Drill Press, Vice on Metal Table, Stihl 021 and 028 Chainsaws, Welder, Battery Charger, 3 Rolling Stack Toolboxes, Lyon Stack Organizer, Chains, Hoist, Hand Saws, Garden Tools, Tire Changer, Like New Craftsman 850/17" Rear Tone Tiller, Jari Monarch Cycle Cutter, Toro 6.5 HP Push Mower with Bagger, 15 Gal. Utility Sprayer, Ladders. **MOWER FARM EQUIPMENT:** Husqvarna Zero Turn Mower with Kohler Motor, 6 Ft Rotary Cutter, 7 Ft Finish Mower, 12 Ft Hydraulic Disc, 7 Ft 3 Point Hitch Tuffline Disc, 10 Ft Hydraulic Cultipacker, 10 Ft Ford Pull Type Disc, Ford 4 Bottom Plow, 3 PT International 55 Chisel Plow, 3 PT 7 Ft Box Blade, 4' x 7' Utility Trailer.

REAL ESTATE OFFERED AT 10:00 AM - AUCTION HELD ON-SITE

REAL ESTATE TERMS: A 5% Buyer's Premium Will Be Added To The Final Bid Price & Included In Contract Price. 15% Down Day Of Auction, Balance Due In 30 Days.
PERSONAL PROPERTY TERMS: A 5% Buyer's Premium will be added to the final bid and included in the sale price. Full settlement day of sale. Cash or check accepted.

MICHAEL HARRIS
PRINCIPAL BROKER / AUCTIONEER
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KL# 252972 | KY BROKER# 198374
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OUTSTANDING WELLS COUNTY
LAND AUCTION
298.5 ± ACRES OFFERED IN 7 TRACTS
WELLS COUNTY - UNION TOWNSHIP - SECTION 25, 26 & 35

TUESDAY, MAY 25TH - 6:00 PM

AUCTION LOCATION: WELLS COUNTY 4-H COMMUNITY BUILDING • 1245 4-H PARK RD, BLUFFTON, IN

INDIVIDUAL TRACT SIZES RANGING FROM 3.18 - 75.19 ± ACRES

BID ON AN INDIVIDUAL TRACT, COMBINATION, OR THE ENTIRE PROPERTY

VIEW TRACT DETAILS & DOWNLOAD COMPLETE INFORMATION BOOKLET AT STEFFENGRP.COM

WALKOVER INSPECTIONS AVAILABLE - PLEASE CONTACT SALE MANAGER

SELLER: THE ROBERT E. HARRIS FAMILY LAND TRUST | ATTORNEY: ANTHONY CROWELL

An online live stream of the sale will be made available at STEFFENGRP.COM • Phone bidding available - Contact sale manager for information.

STEFFEN GROUP

SALE MANAGER:
BRANDON STEFFEN 260.413.3515
BRANDON.STEFFEN@STEFFENGRP.COM



TIMED ONLINE • NO-RESERVE DEALER & FARMER AUCTION

BIDDING CLOSES: MONDAY, JUNE 21 & TUESDAY, JUNE 22
STARTING AT 8:30 A.M. CDT BOTH DAYS

AUCTION MANAGER:

Zach Hiner
(260) 437-2771



HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE: Tractors, Combines & Heads, Planters & Drills, Tillage Equipment, Hay & Forage Equipment, Livestock Equipment, Construction Equipment, Trucks & Trailers, ATV's & Mowers, & more!



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ITEMS WILL BE LOCATED AT SULLIVAN AUCTIONEERS' FACILITIES IN INDIANA, ILLINOIS, IOWA AND OTHER OFFSITE LOCATIONS

TO CONSIGN, CALL (844) 847-2161 OR EMAIL: Sold@SullivanAuctioneers.com
EARLY ADVERTISING DEADLINE: Tuesday, June 1st
LAST DAY TO CONSIGN AND DELIVER ITEMS: Friday, June 11th



VIRTUAL ONLINE • WASHINGTON CO. IOWA REAL ESTATE AUCTION

TUESDAY, JUNE 1 AT 10:00 A.M. CDT



GRAIN ELEVATOR ON 2 ACRES± | LOCATED IN WASHINGTON, IOWA

UNLIMITED POSSIBILITIES!

Attorney: Sarah Haas • Burlington, IA • (319) 754-6587 | Auction Managers: Jim Huff (319) 931-9292 & Jeff Hoyer (319) 759-4320

AGRI-WAY PARTNERS, LLC

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Contact us for a no-obligation consultation to see what Sullivan Auctioneers can do for you!

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RECENT AUCTION TESTIMONIALS!



“When I decided to retire, which was a painstaking decision after 50 years of farming, in early October of 2020, I contacted some auction companies in the midwest and ultimately decided to go with Sullivan Auctioneers. Dan Sullivan rode in the combine with me on October 15 and we hit it off right away. He left me with a proposal and to ponder on it for a while and in our combine ride, he laid out what his company could offer with setting up the sale and the staff he could supply to help with all stages of preparing. As farmers, we see and talk to a lot of salesmen. And I knew if he provided on half of what he said, it would be great. So, after a week of pondering I called him back and told him to proceed with my auction on December 3, 2020. From start to finish, Sullivans went above and beyond the call of duty for my auction. From the beginning stages to the end result, I couldn't have been happier. They covered all areas from the details of washing, prepping, lining up equipment for preview, advertising and mailing sale bills, it was a tremendous job done by the entire company. They went way beyond my expectations of what my auction should be. High marks to Dan Sullivan, Matt Sullivan, Luke Sullivan, and the entire staff of Sullivan Auctioneers for making an emotional time in my life very comfortable and pleasurable.

BEHR FAMILY PARTNERSHIP • SWALEDALE, IOWA

“We would like to thank the entire crew at Sullivan Auctioneers for the wonderful auction they did for us. We started planning for this auction nearly a year in advance and signed a contract with Sullivans for a live onsite auction and by summertime they recommended we move it to an online only event. I conferred with the other owners of the corporation and we all agreed to go with an online auction. The end result was higher than our expectations. From the very start the sale managers, Cody Holst & Kyle Ferguson, were wonderful to work with and we would recommend their firm to anyone!

HENDRICH FARMS • AKRON, COLORADO

“As we made the big decision to retire and close our business after 41 years, we had a visit from Dan Sullivan for our sale. This was one of the best decisions we have made! Their advertising coverage was above and beyond our expectations. They were always there to help us with this major process and a pleasure to work with. The “on-line” sale worked out great for all! Their crew was very professional and helpful before and after the sale. We feel we got true value from the items sold and would Highly recommend them!

STANERSON IMPLEMENT, INC. • CONROY, IOWA



RECENT AUCTION RESULTS!

2016 John Deere F4365 self-propelled spreader \$ 212,000	2013 John Deere 6125M MFWD tractor \$ 78,500
2015 John Deere R4045 self-propelled sprayer \$ 231,000	2007 John Deere 9620 4WD tractor \$ 270,000
2017 John Deere 9620RX track tractor \$ 390,000	2014 John Deere 8270R MFWD tractor \$ 230,000
2018 John Deere 8320R MFWD tractor \$ 276,000	2012 John Deere 8235R MFWD tractor \$ 171,000
2001 John Deere 8110 MFWD tractor \$ 93,000	2012 Caterpillar D6T XL dozer \$ 143,000
2006 John Deere 7720 2wd tractor \$ 87,500	2014 John Deere 6150R MFWD tractor \$ 123,000
2014 John Deere 1760 12 row 30" planter \$ 46,000	Kinze 3660 ASD 16/31 planter \$ 90,000
2016 GMC 2500HD 4wd pickup \$ 42,500	2012 Case-IH 950 Nutri Tiller 24 row NH3 applicator . . \$ 88,000
2006 John Deere 7420 2wd tractor \$ 47,500	1997 Case-IH 8950 MFWD tractor \$ 60,500
2013 Kenworth T800 semi \$ 85,500	2017 John Deere S670 4WD combine \$ 253,000
2011 John Deere 8285R MFWD tractor \$ 147,000	2013 John Deere 8285R MFWD tractor \$ 178,000
1989 John Deere 4455 2WD tractor \$ 50,500	2012 International 4400 DuraStar grain truck \$ 65,500
1990 John Deere 4455 MFWD tractor \$ 60,500	1990 John Deere 4255 2WD tractor \$ 50,500



WHAT SETS APART A SULLIVAN AUCTIONEERS AUCTION?

- ✓ ATTENTION TO DETAIL
- ✓ PRODUCT KNOWLEDGE
- ✓ NO RESERVE PRICES
- ✓ BUYER CONVENIENCE
- ✓ INDUSTRY CONTACTS
- ✓ AGGRESSIVE MARKETING



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