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National FFA officers visit Japan, tour farms, and bamboo forest

By Michele F. Mihaljevich
Indiana Correspondent

TOKYO, Japan – When the FFA’s six-member national officer team traveled to Japan earlier this year, they met with farmers and students, and toured such sights as a bamboo forest and Japanese garden. They also learned some of the similarities – and differences – between agriculture in the island country and the United States.

The officers were in Japan Jan. 25-Feb. 5. The National FFA Officers International Experience Program provides the officers the chance to experience firsthand how agriculture transcends geographical boundaries and to strengthen a partnership that dates back to 1950, according to FFA.

Three officers who went on the tour shared their experiences with Farm World. One of their stops was at the Miyajima Cattle Farm, described as an F1 Hybrid facility with more than 1,000 F1 cows.

“(The farm) had lots of similarities with many beef farms here in the U.S.,”



Above: National FFA officers, left to right, Thaddeus Bergschneider (president), Luke Jennings (secretary) and Jack Lingenfelder (southern region vice president) in front of Sakurajima, a volcano in the Kagoshima Prefecture of Japan. (courtesy of Luke Jennings)

explained Luke Jennings, FFA national secretary from Ohio. “They, too, had to strategically think through input costs, profitability of their cattle, and opportunities to market their product. As a feedlot, they innovatively cooperate with local dairies to create Wagyu-cross offspring which produced higher quality meat cuts compared to other beef breeds but at a more affordable price for the average consumer.

“They also take a unique and sustainable approach to the feedstuffs they use by purchasing ‘waste’ products from food manufacturing companies, and study the impact of untraditional energy sources on meat quality. This means excess foods like Kit Kats, seaweed paper, and much more, (are) purchased and mixed into the cattle’s standard ration instead of being thrown away. Not only is this feed input much cheaper than normal feeds, but it also reduces the waste of food production companies.”

Caroline Groth, eastern region vice president from Kentucky, said the meal served to the officers at the farm was her favorite of the trip.

“We started off by visiting the restaurant that the farmer’s family owns where they serve their own Wagyu beef,” she said. “We then traveled to the farm where we got a tour and learned about their unique feedstuffs. The feedstuffs were the biggest difference from American cattle production. At this farm, they feed factory and restaurant byproducts such as wafers from Kit Kats, and pineapple, to their cattle.”

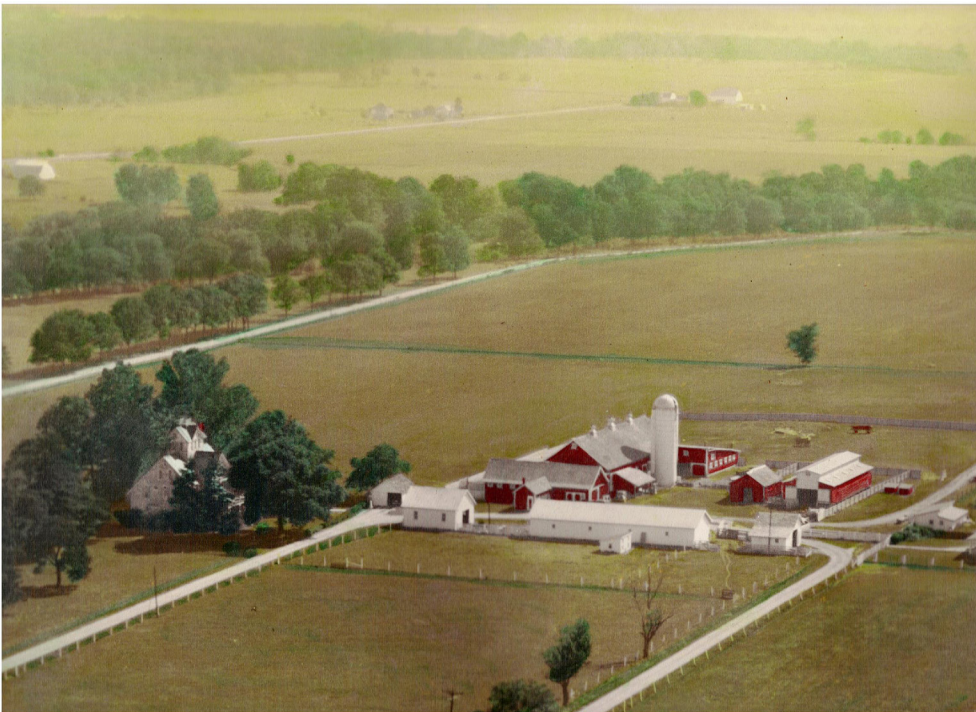
Thaddeus Bergschneider, FFA president from Illinois, said the farm – a cross between Holstein and Wagyu – uses products from local manufacturers to feed their cows cheaply, to save money and to be efficient.

“So, they have loads of wafers and kelp and other kind of random food stuffs,” he said. “And in the pile of wafers, I found matcha Kit Kats that they were feeding the cattle, so maybe a little different than something you’d see in the U.S. Overall, the whole Japan experience, something that was super consistent was farmers always finding the right way to innovate for where they are.”

Groth said the officers also visited a 90-year-old radish farmer who has been growing radishes since he was 15.

“These weren’t just any radishes, they were 40-pound radishes,” she said. “He was so passionate about his work. From letting us pick radishes in the field, to drawing little smiley faces

(See Japan on page 2)



Above: This photo was taken in 1952. The farm is located in northwestern Randolph County, Ind. The house on the farm was built in 1870. Joel Flesher’s great-grandfather and grandfather purchased the farm in 1936. In 1940, they traded the farm for property in Warren County owned by the Ball Family of Muncie, Ind. After selling the property in Warren County in 1945, Joel’s grandfather then purchased the farm back from Arthur Ball, and since that time it has remained in the Flesher family. Photo submitted by Joel and Jane Flesher

USDA Market Outlook shows red meat, poultry production to rise

By TIM ALEXANDER
Illinois Correspondent

ARLINGTON, VA. — USDA’s 2025 Market Outlook for the livestock and poultry sectors was announced at the 101st Ag Outlook Forum by Michael McConnell, chair of the Livestock, Dairy and Poultry Committee for USDA’s World Agricultural Outlook Board. Higher livestock and poultry prices paid to farmers are expected during the coming market year, according to McConnell, who works for the office of the chief economist for USDA.

“We expect corn and soybean meal prices to fall in the 2024-25 marketing year, and we expect that decline to continue into the 2025-26 marketing year. Overall, we see downward pressure on both these feed markets. Hay markets continue to move lower on improving growing conditions and recovering supplies,” McConnell said of the drivers behind USDA’s current projections for livestock.

The projections include a total red meat and poultry production increase in 2025. Tight beef supplies are expected to reduce exports and raise imports, and an increase in broiler and pork per capita disappearance is expected to drive higher total domestic

use, according to USDA.

Specifically, fed steers are expected to gain in value by 7.3 percent to \$201 per cwt. Feeder steers will gain 8.6 percent to \$274, while lean hogs will increase by 3.2 percent to \$64. Composite broilers, at 132 cents per pound, will rise by 1.8 percent in value. Turkey hens, at 97 cents per pound, will gain 3 percent, while wholesale eggs, projected at 444 cents per dozen, will increase by 4.6 percent in 2025, USDA predicts.

“There are several factors driving the (livestock) forecast that will continue to be important in 2025,” said McConnell, noting that drought patterns affecting pastureland have shifted but remain improved from 2023. “While there are some areas starting to see concerns, the overall picture is fairly good as many regions are seeing their pasture and forage conditions improve greatly after consecutive drought years.

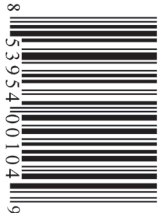
“That provides some context as we look at the overall cattle inventory,” he continued. “The herd is still in a contractionary stage, and the current herd size is the smallest we have seen since 1951. This contraction has been underway since its most recent peak in 2019, however we did see the rate of

(See USDA page 2)



Free show cattle clinic draws larger than Page 1B

Industry expert: U.S. beef cattle industry has long history Page 5B





Above: The national FFA officer team visited a bamboo forest during a recent trip to Japan. Left to right are Luke Jennings (secretary), Abigale Jacobsen (western region vice president), Jack Lingenfelter (southern region vice president), Mary Schrieber (central region vice president), Caroline Groth (eastern region vice president) and Thaddeus Bergschneider (president). (courtesy of Thaddeus Bergschneider)

Japan

FROM PAGE 1

for us on a couple of the radishes, to him and his wife preparing traditional radish dishes for us to try. It was a wonderful learning experience.”

In talking to Japanese farmers, Groth said many were familiar with American agriculture. The farmers continuously pointed out the size of American farms is much larger than many in Japan, she said.

A couple farmers asked the officers about the Trump administration’s recent tariffs, Bergschneider said. “(That) did surprise me, but if you’re in agriculture and you’re from another country, (you’re) kind of wondering what the U.S. is going to be, and honestly, if you’re in the U.S., looking forward to the future of agriculture, that’s obviously something you’re going to be concerned about.”

They were also curious about passing land on to the next generation and the continuity of family farms, he said. Japan is also struggling with older farmers and then not having a next generation to pass their farms to. They wanted to know what American farm families do when there isn’t someone to pass the land to, and who buys the land in a situation like that, Bergschneider recalled.

Jennings said with the country’s population and size, farmers grow large amounts of food in less space. Smaller operations are encouraged to thrive with local farm-to-fork initiatives.

The FFA officers spent time with

Future Farmers of Japan (FFJ) members. At an agricultural high school, they toured greenhouses and their school farm, where they have a rice cultivation and drying system, Bergschneider said. The students spent time bonding, he noted.

“They showed pathways, and they showed how students grow their flowers and they use these flowers to dye clothes or dye items that they then sell to the community,” Bergschneider said. “I’d say that felt so similar to FFA. Hands on learning and the power of hands on learning, especially in agriculture, that’s exactly the pattern that FFA falls into.”

Groth said she was initially nervous about the language barrier. “But with tools such as Google Translate, non-verbal communication, and smiling, we were able to communicate and interact with the students. The FFJ students taught me the power of having joy as a shared language. I would say that the biggest difference between FFA and FFJ is the size. FFJ has fewer members overall, but they still bring the same excitement and enthusiasm that FFA members bring for the agricultural industry.”

Jennings said he was amazed to see many similarities between FFA and FFJ. The FFJ members “are helping grow the agriculture industry and create a stable food supply just like FFA members are. Even through a large and discouraging language barrier, we were able to connect and bond through fun activities, similar music and pop culture interests, and a shared passion for agriculture.”

USDA

FROM PAGE 1

contraction slow in 2024. That may indicate that we are starting to see the beginnings of a turn. While the herd has been getting smaller, feedlots are accounting for a larger share of the herd, resulting in a lower share of the herd available for breeding and placement.”

This means feedlots have been leaving cattle on feed for longer and marketing at heavier weights. Despite the relatively smaller herd size, placements into feedlots have held up as strong feeder cattle prices have incentivized cow-calf producers to bring their cattle to market, McConnell explained.

“Additionally, feedlot inventories came into the year relatively well stocked,” he said. “The current market setup raises the question: will feedlots be able to maintain the throughput and find available steers and heifers in the feeder market? At some point replacement feeders will become too tight and too expensive, especially considering the recent constraints on imported cattle from Mexico.”

Strong retail prices for beef are expected to continue to support stable prices for livestock producers in the coming market year (given no further major trade policy events or other events), according to McConnell.

As for USDA’s hog forecast, growth in the litter rate is driving domestic hog supplies, fueling increased production and swift movement to market. For 2025-26, exports will be an important component of the demand structure.

“In contrast to cattle, hog supplies have been increasing over the past year; that is expected to continue in 2025, supporting production growth,” McConnell said. “Pork use has been keeping up with production, though,

benefitting from the relatively tight beef market both domestically and abroad. In 2024, the U.S. pig crop increased nearly 2 percent. That, along with heavier dress weights, support much of the 1.8 percent growth we saw in pork production. The growth in the pig crop was almost entirely due to higher litter rates.”

While pork prices did not realize their typical seasonal peaks and valleys in pricing during 2024, there was a strong surge in prices during the holiday season. This resulted in hog prices finishing nearly 5 percent higher than in 2023.

“Thus far in 2025 pork prices have continued to be above (2024) levels. This is in large part what’s driving the 2025 hog price forecast, which we expect to be higher, especially in the first three-quarters of the year,” said McConnell.

USDA’s livestock and poultry outlooks were formed using data from the current WASDE report, and assumes “normal” weather patterns, current farm policies remain in place and no additional animal disease outbreaks occur.

“Currently we expect hog prices to reflect (2024) wholesale price trends and carry over into much of 2025,” McConnell said. “The current forecast is that we will continue to see the export market be a steadily important component of the pork industry’s demand structure.”

McConnell also explained USDA projections for broilers and turkeys, which can be accessed via the full USDA Market Outlook for Livestock and Poultry at <https://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/pub-details?pubid=110971>.

Access the latest USDA-WASDE report at <http://www.usda.gov/oce/commodity/wasde/index.htm>.

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Iowa State study explores how early diet options impact beef-dairy crossbred calves

By DOUG SCHMITZ
Iowa Correspondent

AMES, Iowa – A two-year study by Iowa State University researchers closely examined diet effects on Angus and Holstein crossbred calves, specifically evaluating early calf diet options and their long-term impacts on animal health and carcass characteristics.

Garland Dahlke, Iowa State University's Iowa Beef Center research scientist, said the study focused on short- and longer-term effects of different diets in the first five months of life. He shared information from the project with attendees at the 2025 Feedlot Forum, Jan. 14, in Sioux Center, Iowa.

"We primarily looked at calf starter and the level of non-structural carbohydrate concentration (or NCS; non-structural carbohydrates contain a reduced amount of easily-digestible sugars and starches) and the effect this may have on the rest of the calf's life and subsequent carcass composition," he said. "Three groups of Angus x Holstein (crossbred) steer calves were followed during the two-year project."

For the first stage, from birth to weaning at approximately two months of age, the calves were divided into two calf starter treatments: one fed a higher NSC (30 percent), and one fed a moderate level (17 percent), he said.

From age two through five months, calves from each of the initial two groups were split into a similar pelleted diet to the initial 30 percent NSC diet versus a total mixed ration.



Above: Andrew P. Griffith, University of Tennessee professor of agricultural and resource economics, told Farm World, "The Holstein steer has always been known for its consistency as far as beef production. With the beef on dairy cross, there is now added value to each carcass as it better fits the box most consumers are looking to consume from." (Photo courtesy of Iowa State University's Iowa Beef Center)

All calves in this stage were in group housing at the Iowa State University Dairy, and then at the Iowa State University Beef Nutrition farm near Ames, he added.

After completing the wean-to-grower phase at approximately 850 pounds, calves were moved to the Iowa State University Armstrong Research Farm near Lewis. All received

the same ration from five months of age until finish, he said.

He said these early diet treatments had a significant impact on the incidence of liver abscess. Those calves receiving the moderate NSC starter, followed by a fairly energy-and-protein-dense total mixed ration, had a significantly lower incidence of both liver abscesses, as well as rumen and gastrointestinal lesions (a region in an organ or tissue which has suffered damage through injury or disease, such as a wound, ulcer, abscess or tumor) when compared to calves on the higher NSC level.

He said these calves also maintained on this NSC level beyond the calf starter phase, or even those moved to the total mixed ration after the calf starter phase.

"Feedlot performance and carcass results were not significant between treatments when calves were fed to 1,450 pounds of final live weight," he said. "There was a trend beginning to appear where those animals receiving the moderate NSC and transitioned to the total mixed ration were performing better later in life, and some significance may appear if these calves were fed until 1,600 pounds.

"The young age of these calves would tend to indicate that rumen development is rudimentary, and may be enhanced by the diet composition," he added. "Based on these results and the impact early nutrition has over

the long run, a next logical step would be to focus attention on composition of the initial calf starter, intentionally including more digestible fiber sources, and better profile of amino acids."

Andrew P. Griffith, University of Tennessee professor of agricultural and resource economics, said this research is much-needed. "With the advent of beef on dairy cross the past several years, this study looked to evaluate a major issue influencing the profitability of these animals," he said.

"I cannot say it is the most economically important issue as something else may come to the forefront, but liver abscesses have been one of the hitches in this production model," he added. "I guess I am wishing they would have carried these animals to heavier weights, given the comment they were starting to see some difference in feed efficiency."

He said, "The pros of this (study) are primarily to the dairy producer who is now turning their male calves into a profit center instead of just breeding the cow to produce a calf so they can get another fresh cow to be milked. The Holstein steer has always been known for its consistency as far as beef production. With the beef on dairy cross, there is now added value to each carcass as it better fits the box most consumers are looking to consume from.

"From the liver abscess standpoint, there is a tremendous cost to liver abscesses as an abscessed liver must be discarded generally results in trim losses on the carcass, and as was noted in the study, animals may become less efficient from a feed conversion standpoint," he added. "In this study, they cannot say there was a difference in feed efficiency and growth, but one could surmise that damage to organs will likely have an impact on an animal's growth at some point."

Grant Dewell, Iowa State beef extension veterinarian, said, "Genetic identification of sires that are compatible with dairy cattle has led to calves with enhanced growth and carcass traits that are more desirable. Traditional calf starter programs did not perform as well as expected, and initially increased levels of liver abscesses were observed in these beef-dairy cross steers.

"Overall, starting calves with a more moderate in terms of carbohydrate composition resulted in decreased incidence of liver abscesses and gastrointestinal lesions," he added. "This project demonstrates the importance of starting calves to appropriately develop their gastrointestinal system, and what the long-term impact of that development is throughout the life of the calf."

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Gramco Feed has seen region evolve in over 100 years

By Celeste Baumgartner
Ohio Correspondent

HAMILTON, Ohio – Gramco Feed Co. has been in business since 1919. Back then, the now-busy city road that fronts it was a country road meandering past farmland. Gramco is kind of like an old general store and holds a lot of history.

“The business was started in 1919 by Arthur Graham,” said Tim Gillespie, who runs the family-owned business with his brother, John. “Graham owned the (nearby) Oxford Milling Co. at the time. This facility became available, and he purchased it to market the flour that he produced in Oxford. He also had an electric hatchery.”

After Graham’s death, his wife continued to run the store until 1929, during the Depression, when Gillespie’s grandfather, Roscoe Bisplinghoff, bought it. The name was simplified to Gramco and the chicks were sold as Gramco chicks. Bisplinghoff added feed and various farm-related products.

“It was pretty rural. Our business at that time was about 98 percent agriculture,” Gillespie said. “We called on dairy farmers, poultry, turkey farmers, and a mixed bag of each. Farmers in those days did a little bit of everything.”

Gillespie’s father, John, known as Jack, took over the store in the fall of 1946 when he married Ann Bisplinghoff.

“My father started in the fall of 1946 and raised our family (three children) out of this business. It was still pretty rural then. Urbanization did not happen until maybe the mid-1950s. Big poultry came in; people raised fewer turkeys and chickens because it became corporate. Corporations started mass producing food

rather than the local farmers.”

Gramco evolved in the mid-to-late 1950s to homeowner-type products, Gillespie said. Backyard gardening was popular. Many people came from other parts of the country to work in Hamilton factories. Gramco still carried a tradition of home gardening and raising a few cows, hogs and chickens.

“That continued until the subdivisions started coming in and then people became interested in lawn making; we kind of went that direction, as well as pet food and supplies,” Gillespie said. “A lot of people had dogs and cats and they still do. It was all gradual, just as we lost the farms here, gradually.”

Gillespie worked in the store his whole life. He started full-time after graduating from high school in 1977. He went on to study business in night school. His brother, John, went back to school and then on to a career in research. Since John’s retirement, he has been back working at the store.

They are still heavy in lawn and garden supplies, pet food, and wildlife products – bird seed, and corn for deer. A few farmers still come in for straw and corn but “farmers are few and far between in Butler County; the land is getting plowed up with subdivisions,” Gillespie said.

The balance and weight scales, still in use, add to the old-timey feel. The county auditor was in to inspect them last week, Gillespie said. They are just as accurate as digital scales and a lot less expensive to maintain.

Gramco also stocks hummingbird feeders and bird feeders of all kinds, including locally handmade feeders and bird houses.

“I am looking for someone to build some feeders for me,” Gillespie said.

(Gramco continued on page 10)



Above: Gramco has been in business since 1919. Back then, the busy city road that fronts it was a country road meandering past farmland.



Above: When people finish their shopping, they often wander to the adjoining room which Tim Gillespie calls the history and research room. It houses local history records of every kind. The city directories are there and a record of all the patents created in Hamilton.

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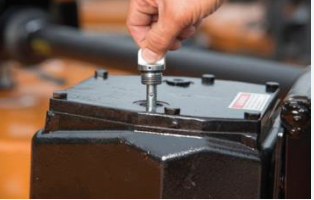
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Bayer backs broadened effort to shield popular weedkiller

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) – A renewed and expanded effort from chemical giant Bayer to shield itself from lawsuits that claim its popular weedkiller Roundup causes cancer brought dozens of protesters to the Iowa Capitol building Feb. 10 begging lawmakers to reject it.

The legislation, pending in Iowa and at least seven other states, would protect pesticide companies from claims they failed to warn that their product causes cancer if the product label otherwise complies with the U.S. EPA’s regulations.

Similar efforts failed during 2024 legislative sessions in Iowa, Missouri and Idaho. But this year, Bayer and a coalition of agricultural groups are doubling down. A broader media campaign is highlighting the importance of glyphosate-based Roundup for American agriculture. And they are getting help from a group that ran a Super Bowl ad in Missouri asserting the legislation is necessary to combat Chinese influence over the U.S. food supply.

Opponents, including those who rallied in Des Moines, say the bills would limit the rights of people to hold companies accountable if their products cause harm. Speakers took turns telling stories of family members throughout the state who have been diagnosed with cancers and shouted out to lawmakers that Iowa’s people are more important than corporate profits.

“I feel like we need accountability here in Iowa,” said Nick Schutt, a part-time farmer whose mother, father, aunt and two siblings have all had cancer diagnoses. “At the end of the day, multinational chemical companies like Bayer should be held accountable.”

Bayer disputes the claims that Roundup causes cancer, but the company has been hit with about 177,000 lawsuits involving the weedkiller and has set aside \$16 billion to settle cases. It contends those legal costs are “not sustainable” and is looking for relief from lawmakers concerned about the possibility that Roundup could be pulled from the U.S. market.

For crops including corn, soybeans and cotton, Roundup is designed to work with genetically modified seeds that resist the weedkiller’s deadly effect. It allows farmers to produce more crops while conserving the soil by tilling it less.

“It is the most important product in global agriculture,” Liza Lockwood, Bayer’s medical affairs lead in its crop science division, said during a recent Missouri Senate committee hearing.

Some farmers have echoed that assertion. If lawsuits force Roundup off the U.S. market, they contend that Chinese-made products may be the only alternative.

“Losing access to this one safe and effective tool will set off a domino effect that will threaten family farmers and our state’s economy,” Kevin Ross, a farmer from southwest Iowa, said to Iowa lawmakers. Ross detailed how, for 50 years, the American-made product has increased soil quality, decreased water runoff and helped struggling farmers turn a profit.

Last year, Bayer focused its lobbying efforts on Missouri, Iowa and Idaho – home, respectively, to its North America crop science division, a Roundup manufacturing facility and the phosphate mines from which its key ingredient is derived. Though bills passed at least one chamber in Iowa and Missouri, they ultimately

failed in all three states.

This year, legislation providing legal protection against failure-to-warn claims already has passed the North Dakota House without any opposition. Similar bills have cleared initial committees in Iowa, Mississippi and Missouri and are pending in legislative committees in Florida, Oklahoma and Tennessee. A bill failed to get out of a Wyoming committee by a deadline.

Bayer officials said Feb. 10 that legislative efforts also are in the works in Georgia, Idaho and the U.S. Congress. A promotional campaign from the Modern Ag Alliance, a coalition that Bayer supports, has targeted an even wider array of states.

New to the cause this year is the Protecting America Initiative, an organization concerned about China’s influence on the U.S. economy and tied to Richard Grenell, President Donald Trump’s envoy for special missions and former acting director of national intelligence. The group ran a television ad in central Missouri during the Super Bowl urging support for the legislation. It said it has invested six figures to run the 30-second spot more broadly across Missouri and Iowa.

It also parked a truck containing a portable billboard outside the Iowa Capitol on Feb. 10, encouraging support of the bill to stop Chinese-made chemicals from “infiltrating American farms.”

Ads supporting legislation that could limit Bayer’s legal liability have emphasized the importance of its weed-control products to agriculture. “Farming’s hard,” one Facebook advertisement says. “But it’s a little easier with glyphosate.”

That ad offended Kim Hagemann, a suburban Des Moines resident who showed up to a crowded subcommit-

tee meeting to share her opposition with lawmakers.

“Bayer is right, farming’s hard, but dealing with cancer is even harder,” said Hagemann, a member of one of the groups that organized the protest.

Though some studies associate Roundup’s key ingredient glyphosate with cancer, the EPA has said it is not likely to be carcinogenic to humans when used as directed. Yet the numerous lawsuits against Bayer allege glyphosate does cause a cancer called non-Hodgkin lymphoma.

One of the many attorneys involved in the lawsuits against Bayer is Robert F. Kennedy Jr., Trump’s nominee to serve as secretary of Health and Human Services. Though the health agency oversees the Food and Drug Administration, it does not control the EPA and its labeling requirements.

The legislation supported by Bayer would provide a defense against failure-to-warn claims not only for Roundup but for other pesticide products that follow EPA labeling guidelines.

Richard Deming, a cancer physician in Des Moines, said it often takes decades to determine a cause-and-effect connection between cancer and long-term exposure to low levels of chemicals. He said public policy should focus on mitigating that risk, not providing “immunity from responsibility.”

“I don’t think that ag chemicals cause as much cancer as cigarette smoking,” Deming told the AP after speaking to lawmakers. But studies suggest “there’s clear association between ag chemical exposure in the state of Iowa and cancer incidence.”



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InsectNet app helps farmers identify pests

By Hayley Laichand
Ohio correspondent

AMES, Iowa – It isn't always easy to know what insect you're looking at. An app called InsectNet is hoping to eliminate those challenges, providing farmers with an easy way to identify pests in the field.

InsectNet is simple to use. Like other apps that identify plants, animals, or insects, users are asked to upload a photo of what they're observing, and the app will provide an identification or prediction for what the species may be. The global model has insects of all backgrounds: pests, predators, pollinators, indicator species and more.

InsectNet is backed by a dataset of 12 million insect images and can identify and predict more than 2,500 insect species. The app is a product of machine learning and artificial intelligence; with training, the app "learns" what certain species look like so that when it's presented with an image, it can predict what the insect is.

The current model runs at 96 percent accuracy; when the model is unsure of the species, it provides users with the likelihood of several identifications. For example, it might say it's 80 percent sure the insect in the photo is a western conifer seed bug,

but it's 20 percent sure the insect is a brown marmorated stinkbug. The app can also be fine-tuned to a particular local region.

The team collected around 30,000 images of different kinds of insects that impact corn, soy, alfalfa and vegetable crops. The app also sources some of its data and images from iNaturalist, a popular application used to identify flora and fauna worldwide.

What makes InsectNet unique is the focus on agriculture and farmers.

"There are tools that can identify insects, but those are mostly for your garden or when you're out for a hike – they're not specifically agronomically relevant," Baskar Ganapathysubramanian, professor of mechanical engineering at Iowa State University, said. "(InsectNet) is a robust tool that farmers, breeders, growers, and general enthusiasts can use to rapidly identify insects and figure out if it's a pest or a predator or whatever its role is in the agricultural system."

Ganapathysubramanian also added that when gardeners and hobbyists use apps like iNaturalist, making a misidentification isn't a big deal. For farmers, misidentifying an insect can be a costly mistake, especially in regions like the Midwest that only have one growing season.

Arti Singh, associate professor in the department of agronomy at ISU, said that she was originally interested in using AI and machine learning to predict plant diseases. She wanted to know if machine learning could identify, classify, quantify, or predict plant stress ahead of time. Unfortunately, there was insufficient data to train the model at the time.

"But then in 2020, I was working on a lot of new crops, and my crops were hit hard by insects," Singh said. "I kept thinking (the crop was suffering from) high heat stress or flower drop, but by the time I came to know (it was insects), it was too late, and the crop was lost. I said to Baskar, 'I think we have to work on insects at this point.'"

Singh believes that InsectNet could be an important tool in pest management strategies, especially with the addition of a chatbot. A chatbot component would provide farmers with information about the insect they identified and what steps can be taken to manage it. Additionally, the team is working on making the model more robust so that it can identify insects in various stages of life, including egg and larval stages.

Identifying insects at an egg stage can be useful for curbing the spread of invasive species like the spotted lanternfly, which hasn't established in Iowa. InsectNet could also be useful for officials working at ports of entry where invasive species often cross borders undetected. Authorities could potentially use InsectNet for any suspicious insects on products.

Ganapathysubramanian said that the team is working on making changes to the model's architecture to improve accuracy. Additionally, researchers want to make the app available on phones for easier accessibility and potentially add the technology to drones.

"What we would like to do is deploy (InsectNet) on robotic platforms or drones that can fly through fields and create hotspots where it's seeing insects," he said. "So, it's not about whether you find an insect or not, but about an action threshold. This is potentially transformative for growers because if you are able to identify hotspots, a farmer can choose to only spray in those hotspots instead of spraying the entire field."

The app is currently publicly available at <https://insectapp.las.iastate.edu/>

New research shows cross-bred beef-dairy calves have hearty constitution

By Hayley Lalchand
Ohio Correspondent

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. – New research from Penn State University suggests cross-bred beef-dairy calves may have heartier constitutions than purebreds.

Cross-bred beef-dairy calves are the result of using artificial insemination to crossbreed dairy cows with beef bulls. Some dairy farms have adopted the practice to develop an additional revenue stream, producing hybrid calves that typically have improved meat quality and higher market value compared to purebred dairy calves.

The practice had a pocket of early adopters in 2014, and the popularity of the practice has only increased with ongoing droughts in the beef industry driving the price of heifers. Melissa Cantor, assistant professor of precision dairy science in the College of Agricultural Sciences at Penn State, said that almost every dairy farm she visits has a program for beef because hybrid calves create a positive cash flow source.

Cantor’s research focuses on how diseases impact the health, performance and welfare of cattle. When her colleagues were funded to study the genetic impact of crosses at the feedlot, she joined the project to study how pneumonia impacted hybrid calves.

The study followed 143 beef-dairy calves sourced from two commercial dairy farms, with sire breeds including Simmental, Angus and Red Angus. The calves were raised in three consecutive cohorts and all cohorts were transported to a grower facility within six days postweaning and raised in one pen inside of a bedded single hoop barn until the study was completed.

“We made sure (the studied calves) had the same amount of colostrum that we would give a purebred Holstein. So, in that way, from an immune standpoint, they’re just as vulnerable to a respiratory disease event as a purebred Holstein would be,” Cantor said.

Researchers evaluated the calves for pneumonia at weaning, finding that about a quarter of the study animals had the disease. Calf weights were assessed soon after birth, at weaning or about 14 days, postweaning at about 21 days, and at about eight months.

Results of the study showed that by the age of eight months on average, hybrid calves that recovered from pneumonia achieved similar average dairy growth rate as compared to calves that never had pneumonia.

“For some reason, a lot of these calves cured themselves,” Cantor added. “I don’t understand why, but most of them didn’t need antibiotics.”

Now, Cantor and her colleagues say that the biggest research question is understanding why hybrid calves were able to recover from pneumonia without antibiotics, something that isn’t observed in purebred calves. One potential explanation is that all calves in the study were assessed for pneumonia using ultrasound. Most animals look clinically healthy but are sick. Cantor said this could be happening in Holsteins all the time, and producers are unaware. Still,

she emphasized the importance of more research because it remains unclear how hybrid calves compare to purebred calves recovering from pneumonia.

The team also observed microbiome differences between calves that had pneumonia and those that did not. The differences were observed at slaughter, and researchers are still analyzing the data to understand and confirm the differences. Cantor said it’s strange to see such differences resulting from a respiratory disease that occurred at weaning.

Partnerships with other researchers have shown that early-life disease events in cattle may negatively impact other attributes than growth, Cantor noted.

“Our next step in this research is (asking questions like) are these liver abscesses we see in beef on dairy cattle linked at all to early-life disease events like pneumonia? What carcass characteristics are compromised by early life pneumonia?” she said. “We’re doing a lot more digging, and we have a grant with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture to answer some of those questions.”



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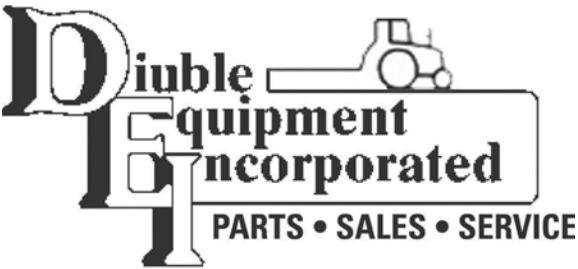


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Farmers, rural businesses wonder if federal rebates for improvements will arrive

A freeze on federal loans and grants is creating turmoil for some rural U.S. business owners who fear they won't get reimbursed for new, cleaner irrigation equipment or solar panels they purchased with the promise of a rebate.

In Cherryville, Maine, Hugh Lassen and his wife and two teenagers grow organic, wild blueberries on their Intervale Farm. Last year they purchased solar panels to run their home, a blueberry sorter and 14 freezers. They did it thinking they'd get an \$8,000 grant through the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP).

"It's never the right time to spend \$25,700," Lassen said. "It's a huge amount of money for us because we're pretty small ... you also have college expenses looming."

President Donald Trump ordered a freeze on giving out these funds, but federal judges have said departments can disburse them. Yet many departments have not resumed writing checks, so questions remain for some business owners who spent years making plans for improvements they could afford only with grants.

"We'll just have to suck it up if somehow the funding doesn't come through," Lassen said.

REAP, offered through the USDA, is

one of the many initiatives rocked by the funding freeze. It provides grants to small businesses in rural areas so they can generate clean energy or improve their energy efficiency. Besides solar, it has helped fund wind turbines, electric irrigation pumps to replace diesel ones, and corn ethanol.

Once a business gets approved for REAP, it purchases the technology and operates it for at least 30 days. Then a USDA agent comes out personally for verification and barring any problem, the check gets issued.

Some people have spent months on their applications.

Deanna and Christopher Boettcher run Mar Vista Farm and Cottages in Gualala, Calif., and began their REAP application in 2023. They put in time going over plans with contractors and filling out paperwork for 48 solar panels to cover about 80 percent of their electricity needs.

The day they received approval to buy the panels, the funding freeze was announced.

"I am speechless," Deanna Boettcher said. "Absolutely this will change my plans. There is no way we can build the solar system without the funds ... So many obstacles and hurdles they put in the way, and to finally get there and then this."

Their solar system cost \$82,600. REAP is supposed to cover half. "We're not going to even think about starting it unless we know that it's not frozen ... so we're back to where I was two years ago."

Lassen stressed that lower energy costs make farm products cheaper to make, allowing them to be priced lower. Solar and wind are appealing to remote communities because they can be cheaper than traditional energy sources, such as diesel generators and irrigation pumps.

Grants have proven to be a major driver of new clean energy projects in rural areas because they lower the price tag.

But the Trump administration believes the role of government should be far more limited. Rather than solar power or energy efficiency, Trump has spoken often about his support for oil and gas, erasing environmental and climate policies created under the Biden administration. His key advisor, billionaire Elon Musk, has said the government should scrap all federal tax credits and subsidies.

Russell Vought, the newly confirmed White House budget director, co-authored the conservative agenda for Trump's second term, Project 2025, which criticized renewables

like wind and solar and encouraged more oil and gas usage.

USDA leaders "have been directed to assess whether grants, loans, contracts, and other disbursements align with the new administration's policies," according to a statement from a department spokesperson who noted that Brooke Rollins, recently confirmed as USDA secretary, "will have the opportunity to review the programs and work with the White House to make determinations as quickly as possible."

The Lassens' solar system has a Tesla inverter, which converts direct current from the panels to the alternating current used on the property. Hugh said this puts him in a "funny place where we're benefiting from the brainpower," but could also suffer from Elon Musk's "slash and burn cost-cutting" efforts.

"Farmers and small business owners throughout Appalachia and rural America are struggling to stay afloat," said Chelsea Barnes, director of government affairs and strategy at Appalachian Voices, a nonprofit focused on sustainability. For people who have been awarded REAP funding and made purchases but haven't been reimbursed, "that will cause significant financial harm."

REAP originated with the 2002 Farm Bill and has long enjoyed strong bipartisan support for energy self-reliance, with money flowing in via farm bill legislation and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). The program has spent \$2.4 billion total since it was created and about half of that came from the Biden administration IRA, passed in 2022.

"It's really counterproductive to go after a program that does so much to help farmers bring down their costs. This is something that everybody agrees on. It primarily benefits Republican districts," said Andy Olsen, a senior policy advocate at the Environmental Law and Policy Center.

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FROM PAGE 4

“Over the years I have had retired people with time on their hands who did it. They like to create new things.”

When people finish their shopping, they often wander to the adjoining room which Gillespie calls the history and research room. It houses local history records of every kind as well as a collection of Doran radios, some of the earliest radios built in America. The city directories are there and a record of all the patents created in Hamilton. Local Historian Carl Ruthers spends a lot of time there and is always ready to share his knowledge.

Much of Hamilton’s manufacturing grew out of its agriculture. Horse-drawn equipment, Fordson Tractors, and other Hamilton agricultural manufacturing came about because of local farming needs.

“We share this history with customers,” Gillespie said. “Rather than a library setting, we do it in a retail way. A lot of my customer base had relatives that worked in these areas and they’re anxious to learn, to know. There is a rebirth of interest. The baby boomers are moving into retirement and they are very fascinated with what happened during and after WW II, where their parents or grandparents lived.”

Debbie Hyde has been a customer at Gramco for 40 years. She likes that she has a house account there and can walk in, tell Gillespie what she picked up, and he sends her a bill. She



Above: As the farming industry declined in the area, Gramco went into lawn and garden supplies and pet foods.

likes that he advises her on bird feeding and always tells her when the local bird count is happening.

“My daughter Amy loves him because when she had toddlers, she would pack them into the store and get dog food and bird seed and Tim would pack all of her food up and put it in the car for her. Tim is always friendly and his brother Johnny is great.”

That is definitely part of Gramco’s success. Tim admits to being a “people” person.

“I like the people,” he said. “I have always enjoyed networking with people. I like that rather than being confined to a laboratory or shop.”

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Bourbon County, Ky., charts two new FFA Chapters

By DOUG GRAVES
Ohio Correspondent

PARIS, Ky. – Two new FFA chapters were charged in Kentucky this year. Bourbon County Middle School and St. Mary School (both in Paris, Ky.) were chartered.

Bourbon County Middle School has offered agricultural education classes off and on while St. Mary School, a private Catholic school with pre-school through middle school students, now offers agricultural education.

Jenna Thompson, Bourbon County Middle School agriculture teacher and FFA advisor, was among those spearheading an effort to get an FFA chapter up and running at her school.

“Kentucky has had an abundance of middle school FFA chapters chartered in the last five years and I definitely believe each one needs more career and technical programs at this grade level,” Thompson said. “FFA builds character, communication skills and leaders. At the middle school age, they’re discovering more of who they are, their interests, and soon they’ll be in high school. Providing them with skills ahead of time will help them be more successful in their high school endeavors.”

Thompson’s own roots are well embedded in FFA. Being involved in FFA is a family tradition with Thompson and she often donned her father’s FFA



Above: Bourbon County Middle School FFA members attended the National Farm Machinery Show in February. This excursion is one of many scheduled for this first-year FFA chapter. (photo submitted)

jacket when she was growing up. She longed to wear the famous corduroy jacket once she reached high school. She fondly remembers her senior year when she walked across the stage at the National FFA Convention to receive her American FFA Degree.

“I was blessed to come from an agriculture program and FFA chapter where we had three amazing teachers and advisors,” Thompson said. “They made sure we had everything we needed to succeed. Each student deserves the same opportunity to have someone go above and beyond for them, too.”

With the addition of these new chapters, Bourbon County now has four FFA chapters, making FFA a huge part of the county community.

“Agriculture is the backbone of society,” Thompson said. “This industry provides us with food, clothes, medicine, goods, electricity and so much more. We need to know how to take care of ourselves and make smart choices about foods we put into our bodies. I also want the student to see that when they graduate from high school they realize there are so many opportunities in the industry besides

production agriculture.”

Thompson entered her advisory role with three goals: to make students feel welcome into the program, provide them with the tools to be successful, and become more involved in the community.

“The community is the big thing,” she said. “These students one day will be the future leaders and help make Bourbon County even more successful. I want the members to be a part of great causes and give back.”

Maranda Chaplin is the principal of St. Mary School. She also serves as an agriculture teacher and FFA advisor. Chaplin welcomes the new FFA chapter with open arms.

“The idea of starting a middle school FFA chapter was sparked during a St. Mary Middle School Steering Committee meeting,” she said. “More than half of St Mary School families work directly in agriculture. Our parents saw the value of the three-circle model (classroom instruction, FFA and SAE) and the unique leadership opportunities it provides to our students. I’m glad to use my experience from the agricultural education profession and my teach-

ing certification to provide these opportunities for our students.

“I attended a Catholic high school that unfortunately didn’t have an agricultural education program and FFA chapter. However, I was very active in 4-H as a kid and grew up on a fourth-generation cattle farm. I was exposed to FFA by many of my friends. I joined the FFA Alumni as a high school student and volunteer as a supporter of FFA, even though I did not wear a blue jacket myself.”

Chaplin has a degree in agriculture education. Once she obtained her degree and teaching certificate, she worked for a decade for the National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE) and traveled across the country working with agriculture teachers.

“Working with agriculture teachers from across the nation allowed me to see the incredible impact agriculture teachers have on their students and community on a daily basis,” she said. “I honestly didn’t see myself heading into the classroom to teach agriculture. After NAAE, God led me to be principal of St. Mary School. Through expanding this school to offer a middle school agricultural education program, I’m excited to open new opportunities through premier leadership and personal growth for our students.”

Chaplin says she’s excited to share diverse learning experiences and hands-on STEM applications through agriculture with her students.

“Our goals for our chapter are to grow membership and provide students with priceless opportunities to grow as leaders,” Chaplin said. “We are excited to attend the Kentucky FFA Association’s middle school FFA camp this summer and elect officers for next school year.”

The Kentucky FFA Association has 156 chapters, 144 of those at the high school level and 12 middle school chapters. More than 2,400 youth in grades 7-12 participate in FFA in Kentucky.



Above: Shown are tobacco stick Christmas tree ornaments made by members of the St. Mary School FFA. (photo submitted)

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Above: St. Mary School FFA members wasted no time in getting involved with their community. Members of this newly launched FFA chapter used their wood-working skills to make and sell tobacco stick Christmas ornaments at the Paris Bourbon County Farmers’ Market as part of their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). (photo submitted)

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MARKETS

Blue Grass Stockyards Lexington, KY

Livestock Weighted Average Report for 3/10/2025 - Final AUCTION			
	This Week	Last Reported 3/3/2025	Last Year
Total Receipts:	1,240	2,212	8704
Feeder Cattle:	1,045(84.3%)	1,906(86.2%)	739(84.9%)
Slaughter Cattle:	176(14.2%)	217(9.8%)	125(14.4%)
Replacement Cattle:	19(1.5%)	89(4.0%)	6(0.7%)

Special Note: Baby Calves: 350.00-500.00 per head.

Compared to last Monday feeder steers under 500 lbs sold sharply higher; 500-600 lbs 5.00 to 10.00 higher and yearlings traded 2.00 to 5.00 higher in a limited comparison. Very good demand for weaned thin-fleshed packages suitable for grass. Feeder heifers sold mostly 5.00 to 10.00 higher with instances sharply higher with very good demand for weaned thin-fleshed packages suitable for grass. Slaughter cows sold steady to 2.00 lower with good demand under heavy supply. Slaughter bulls sold steady with good demand. Supply included: 84% Feeder Cattle (33% Steers, 1% Dairy Steers, 44% Heifers, 21% Bulls, 1% Dairy Heifers); 14% Slaughter Cattle (1% Heifers, 78% Cows, 20% Bulls, 1% Dairy Cows); 2% Replacement Cattle (53% Stock Cows, 47% Bred Cows). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 44%.

Groups of 20 head or more:

Steers
60 hd 863 lbs 261.75 Blk-Mixed Value-Added

Heifers
44 hd 556 lbs 317.00 Blk Value-Added
76 hd 714 lbs 266.10 Blk-Mixed Value-Added

FEEDER CATTLE					
STEERS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	275	275	417.50	417.50 Fancy	
10	350-380	357	377.50-399.00	390.41	
3	388	388	430.00	430.00 Value Added	
5	410-445	426	360.00-385.00	375.67	
30	400-447	426	395.00-432.50	401.69 Value Added	
5	450-475	461	350.00-382.50	368.01	
7	450-490	462	353.00-415.00	375.10 Value Added	
10	500-538	518	327.50-330.00	329.74	
16	500-540	516	346.00-372.00	361.65 Value Added	
8	550-590	579	327.50-337.50	329.62	
13	563-591	574	345.00-361.00	355.43 Value Added	
3	626	626	260.00	260.00	
31	600-640	621	290.00-330.00	313.60 Value Added	
29	652-670	659	278.50-300.00	290.56 Value Added	
3	717-720	718	250.00-261.00	253.68	
21	703-730	707	279.00-292.00	289.58 Value Added	
2	775	775	251.00	251.00	
11	755	755	244.00	244.00 Fleshy	
7	790	790	255.50	255.50 Value Added	
2	840-845	843	253.00-261.00	256.99	
1	800	800	240.00	240.00 Fleshy	
8	801	801	268.00	268.00 Thin Fleshed	
60	863	863	261.75	261.75 Value Added	
5	921-940	926	220.00-254.00	239.93	
2	997	997	220.00	220.00	
4	1001	1001	216.00	216.00	
4	1060-1075	1064	210.00-219.00	212.27	
STEERS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
8	452-485	476	330.00-349.00	344.35	
3	500-530	510	297.00-305.00	302.23	
2	790	790	225.00	225.00	
1	930	930	210.00	210.00	

DAIRY STEERS - Large 3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)				
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2	255-280	268	239.00-240.00	239.48
3	711	711	181.00	181.00
HEIFERS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)				
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	210	210	330.00	330.00
4	215-235	225	407.50-415.00	411.42 Value Added
5	265-295	278	360.00-400.00	384.19 Value Added
5	300-335	315	310.00-335.00	327.23
4	305-335	326	345.00-422.00	382.52 Value Added
6	365-392	381	310.00-323.00	317.32
38	360-392	377	332.00-413.00	385.65 Value Added
5	400-440	420	283.00-310.00	292.31
31	400-445	424	305.00-389.00	358.51 Value Added
11	450-495	472	289.00-305.00	295.29
17	450-498	485	305.00-337.00	316.10 Value Added
11	502-547	512	279.00-290.00	288.22
17	500-545	512	291.00-319.00	304.50 Value Added
4	550-580	564	275.00-279.00	277.24
72	550-595	559	285.00-317.00	309.55 Value Added
4	622	622	264.00	264.00
13	600-637	622	285.00-312.00	298.60 Value Added
15	657-661	660	287.00-290.00	289.60 Value Added
2	745	745	240.00	240.00
76	714	714	266.10	266.10 Value Added
3	820	820	229.00	229.00
1	870	870	213.00	213.00
6	913	913	192.00	192.00
1	975	975	209.00	209.00
2	1090	1090	203.00	203.00

HEIFERS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	220	220	305.00	305.00	
1	275	275	303.00	303.00	
6	317-330	320	282.50-297.50	285.86	
5	360-370	362	280.00-295.00	288.95	
3	415-422	420	257.50-280.00	264.92	
6	465-490	479	234.00-262.50	253.88	
10	510-535	520	245.00-263.00	255.76	
8	575-593	586	250.00-267.50	258.59	
2	600-615	608	237.50-242.00	239.72	
5	650-692	683	202.50-230.00	217.15	
4	726-740	730	214.00-230.00	218.06	
2	755-765	760	177.50-190.00	183.71	
2	905-915	910	145.00-161.00	153.04	
1	960	960	172.50	172.50	

HEIFERS - Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)				
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	375	375	285.00	285.00 Value Added
1	565	565	271.00	271.00
1	645	645	243.00	243.00
6	700	700	235.00	235.00

HEIFERS - Small and Medium 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)				
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	405	405	232.00	232.00
1	620	620	212.00	212.00
1	655	655	205.00	205.00

DAIRY HEIFERS - Large 3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
2	832	832	172.50	172.50	
7	886	886	189.00	189.00	
2	1005	1005	157.50	157.50	
BULLS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
3	225-245	238	402.50-422.50	416.21 Value Added	
8	336-337	337	362.50-390.00	376.27	
7	325-345	328	390.00-400.00	398.50 Value Added	
2	350	350	360.00	360.00	
6	355-395	375	385.00-389.00	386.89 Value Added	
3	400-415	407	325.00-357.50	341.53	
16	410-446	436	357.50-400.00	386.13 Value Added	
8	465-490	473	299.00-343.00	320.44	
13	455-485	466	355.00-387.50	375.42 Value Added	
11	515-535	522	307.00-327.50	312.22	
6	505-510	508	335.00-347.00	339.81 Value Added	
15	550-595	574	285.00-312.50	300.20	
14	550-586	567	312.50-330.00	321.13 Value Added	
8	603-640	617	250.00-280.00	264.14	
3	615	615	284.00-325.00	311.33 Value Added	
6	670-695	683	240.00-263.00	253.27	
3	650-675	660	267.50-282.00	274.17 Value Added	
5	710-745	727	231.00-263.00	253.38	
3	731	731	260.00	260.00 Value Added	
1	755	755	246.00	246.00	
5	810-845	828	196.00-238.00	217.21	
1	860	860	235.00	235.00	
3	900-945	920	186.00-190.00	188.36	
1	955	955	182.00	182.00	
2	1010-1025	1018	174.00-180.00	177.02	
2	1080-1090	1085	175.00-198.00	186.45	
3	1175-1190	1183	159.00-170.00	163.98	

BULLS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	290	290	352.50	352.50	
9	310-345	328	272.50-340.00	312.28	
3	370-392	385	322.50-359.00	347.30	
4	450-465	454	272.50-310.00	283.72	
1	545	545	231.00	231.00	
3	550-595	575	260.00-275.00	268.58	
4	606-625	611	235.00-240.00	236.28	
1	680	680	250.00	250.00	
3	710-722	718	221.00-230.00	223.97	
1	850	850	180.00	180.00	
2	925-940	933	180.00-182.00	180.99	

BULLS - Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	575	575	301.00	301.00	
3	650-685	673	241.00-243.00	241.64	
1	760	760	235.00	235.00	

BULLS - Small and Medium 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	340	340	265.00	265.00	
1	360	360	255.00	255.00	
1	575	575	210.00	210.00	
1	705	705	202.50	202.50	

SLAUGHTER CATTLE						
HEIFERS - Choice 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing	
1	1385	1385	165.00	165.00	Average	
HEIFERS - Select and Choice 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing	
1	1485	1485	154.00	154.00	Average	
COWS - Breaker 75-80% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing	
13	1105-1690	1406	133.00-139.00	135.69	Average	
14	1250-1775	1543	140.00-149.00	143.01	High	
6	1205-1280	1243	121.00-132.00	129.72	Low	
COWS - Boner 80-85% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing	
15	885-1580	1210	133.00-139.00	135.01	Average	
6	1355-1515	1418	140.00-151.00	144.14	High	
14	1040-1495	1234	124.00-132.00	128.44	Low	
COWS - Lean 85-90% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing	
20	860-1480	1036	113.00-124.00	119.32	Average	
23	850-1430	1098	124.00-137.00	130.66	High	
3	705-1080	930	107.00-111.00	109.63	Low	
1	860	860	98.00	98.00	Very Low	
DAIRY COWS - Lean 85-90% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing	
2	1385-1665	1525	116.00-120.00	117.82	Average	
BULLS - 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing	
8	1230-1690	1423	160.00-169.00	165.40	Average	
12	1410-2055	1781	170.00-194.00	179.31	High	
9	1125-1385	1221	124.00-149.00	136.76	Low	

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California almond growers grapple with uncertainty as new tariffs could hit exports

NEWMAN, Calif. (AP) – California almond growers are used to dealing with swings in the weather and water supply. Now they must also grapple with the uncertainty of trade battles as the Trump administration levies tariffs on goods from several countries and weighs adding more to the list.

With more than three-quarters of California's almond crop headed for export, tariffs could impact where the nut is headed and send ripple effects throughout the state's economy, experts said. The state is the biggest producer of the world's almonds, accounting for about 80 percent of the global supply.

Already, China has responded to Trump's move by raising tariffs on U.S. almonds – and that's on top of tariffs levied on the nut in the last Trump administration.

"If we start a trade war with, you know, India, the European Union, parts of the Middle East, then the almond industry in California is going to suffer dramatically," said Colin Carter, agricultural economist and professor emeritus at University of California, Davis. "The price will fall even further and you'll see orchards being ripped out, farms being lost. There'd be farms for sale up and down the Valley."

Just weeks into his second term, President Donald Trump has slapped 10 percent tariffs on China and threatened, then delayed for 30 days, 25 percent taxes on goods from Canada and Mexico. He has also threatened to expand the trade war by levying reciprocal tariffs on a number of products to match what other countries charge on U.S. goods, which economists say is creating a tough environment for already-challenged farmers trying to plan.

Meanwhile, Trump's moves have drawn retaliation from U.S. trading partners. China, for example, has said U.S.-grown chicken, wheat, corn and cotton will face an extra 15 percent tariff while sorghum, soybeans, pork, beef, seafood, fruit, vegetables and dairy products will face an additional 10 percent – and so will almonds.

Almonds are California's biggest agricultural export. The state reeled in \$4.7 billion from almond exports in 2022 with

about half going to the European Union and India, state farm data shows.

Almond experts said the key for California will be continuing to pursue a range of export markets. "While China continues to be an important market, California almonds are shipped to more than 100 destinations, therefore maintaining a diverse export program is essential," said Rick Kushman, spokesperson for the Almond Board of California.

Many California farmers in the crop-rich Central Valley have welcomed some of Trump's other policies, specifically aimed at getting more water to their fields. The area – which grows much of the country's fresh produce including citrus fruit and almonds – is largely Republican in a widely Democratic state.

But California's almonds will now face a total tariff of 35 percent in China. That's because Beijing placed tariffs on almonds during Trump's first administration in response to tariffs he levied on Chinese products. The move made California's almonds relatively more expensive than nuts from Australia, which as a result gained market share in China while California's almond experts to China declined, experts said.

Since then, many California almond exporters have shifted their focus to other markets, said Zachary Williams, sales director for Stewart & Jasper Orchards in Newman. He said Canadian buyers currently are scooping up California almonds ahead of tariffs potentially taking effect since the state grows so much of the world's supply. He said any attempt by India to raise tariffs could spark concern the nut might grow too pricey for consumers there.

The tariffs are a challenge, he said, but an even bigger one is the lack of certainty for almond growers who don't expect to harvest a new orchard for at least three years and then plan to grow it for two decades.

"The uncertainty is probably more of a problem than the tariff itself," Williams said. "Uncertainty about whether there will be, or won't be, is a little harder to plan around."

Research finds colostrum yield is influenced by many factors

By Hayley Lalchand
Ohio Correspondent

DURHAM, N.H. – Recent research shows that 73 percent of cows at their first calving and 61 percent of multiparous cows do not produce enough colostrum to feed their calves. Farmers and researchers have long understood the importance of colostrum for the health and survival of newborn calves, making the lack of colostrum production (CP) a critical challenge.

Peter Erickson, a professor and extension dairy specialist at the University

of New Hampshire, said he has noticed a lack of CP at dairy farms in the last few years. Erickson and his colleagues reviewed published research about colostrum yield in dairy cattle, and the review was published in the academic journal Applied Animal Science.

The key results of the review found that low or no colostrum yield can be attributed to various factors, including nutrition, genetics, environment, the mammary system and farm management.

(Colostrum continued on page 17)



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Opportunity knocking for farmers wanting to serve on Indiana corn checkoff board

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indiana Corn Marketing Council (ICMC), the state's corn checkoff program, is seeking candidates to serve on its board of directors. Four veteran board directors will finish nine years of service to the state's corn farmers in 2025, which creates an opportunity for new farmer-leaders to influence the management of checkoff funds.

Hoosier farmers interested in directing Indiana's corn checkoff investments may now petition to run for one of the five seats up for election. ICMC manages the corn checkoff investments with the goal of supporting and growing Indiana's corn industry.

"Since the Indiana corn checkoff was created, Hoosier corn growers have benefited from the volunteer leadership of those who have served on the ICMC board," said ICMC President Tim Gauck, a Greensburg, Ind., farmer. "The corn checkoff relies on farmers to fill these leadership positions to help the Indiana corn industry remain strong and effective. New perspectives and ideas will help our corn research and promotion efforts."

Board members direct the promotional, educational and research activities funded by the corn checkoff. Some of the board's priorities include increased ethanol use, improved transportation in-

frastructure, on-farm research, livestock promotion and expanding international exports.

To run for an ICMC director seat, Indiana corn farmers must be at least 18 years old, a registered Indiana voter and a resident in the appropriate district. All farmers who submit a valid petition by June 1, 2025, will be listed as a candidate on the election ballot. Farmers seeking a board position must show proof of paying a corn assessment within the past two years. All petitions should be sent to Amber Myers, ICMC board leadership manager, at amyers@indianacorn.org, or by mail to 8425 Keystone Crossing, Suite 200, Indianapolis, IN 46240.

Voting takes place at Purdue Cooperative Extension Service county offices from Aug. 11-15 or by absentee ballot, which will be made available in July.

Here is the breakdown of each district:

District 1 – The counties of Lake, Porter, LaPorte, Starke, Pulaski, Jasper, White, Benton and Newton. (Open Seat)


District 4 – The counties of Warren, Tippecanoe, Montgomery, Putnam, Owen, Clay, Vigo, Parke, Vermillion and Fountain. (Open Seat)

District 7 – The counties of Sullivan, Greene, Daviess, Martin, Knox, Dubois, Pike, Gibson, Warrick, Spencer, Vanderburgh and Posey. (Open Seat)

Two statewide At-Large seats, representing all Indiana counties, are up for election.

Farmers can access all necessary forms at www.incornandsoy.org/ICMClection or by calling the ICMC office at 1-800-735-0195. Forms are also available at all county Purdue University Extension offices.

Newly elected directors will begin a three-year term Oct. 1. ICMC directors can serve three consecutive full terms or a total of nine consecutive years. For more information about Indiana Corn Marketing Council, visit www.incornandsoy.org.




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Colostrum

FROM PAGE 16

Erickson said that one of the key factors with the greatest impact on CP is dry period length. Research shows that cows with shorter dry periods produce significantly less colostrum than those with longer dry periods. A minimum dry period of 60 days is recommended for optimal CP.

"Dry period length seems to be the main driver in the amount of colostrum produced. For instance, the data would say that in the summer, spring and fall, if you have a longer dry period, you will tend to have more colostrum production," he said. "Of interest, the opposite thing happens in the winter, at least in the northern environments."

Some research shows that increasing dry period length in winter has little impact on CP, pointing toward an environmental influence. Erickson's hypothesis is that CP is highly influenced by temperature.

"(New Hampshire University) has two research dairies. We have a conventional Holstein tie stall barn, and we have an organic Jersey barn. (Low colostrum production) is not really an issue with our Holsteins, but it is an issue with our Jerseys in our organic barn," he said. "Well, organic cows need to have access to the outside, and it gets cold. This is just my hypothesis, but I think that the reduction of colostrum has to do with environmental temperature. When it gets cold, it seems like the production of colostrum shuts down."

Cold stress may reduce levels of prolactin, a hormone critical to produce milk and colostrum, Erickson added. Still, more research is needed to confirm the impacts of temperature on CP.

Research regarding nutrition is not conclusive, Erickson said. Some studies show that feeding a pre-fresh diet containing more sugar in the weeks leading up to calving tends to increase colostrum yield. Choline supplementation and lipid supplementation using sunflower seeds have also shown the potential to increase colostrum yield, although more research is needed.

Protein intake had no significant effect on colostrum yield, though high-protein diets may enhance IgG uptake in calves. Nicotinic acid, or vitamin B3, has also been associated with an increase in IgG concentration but does not significantly impact CP. Studies using probiotic supplementation also demonstrated no impact on colostrum yield or IgG concentration.

Other factors that influence CP are mastitis, which decreases yield; calf size, with larger calves and male calves linked to higher yield; and genetic components, with one study demonstrating that low CP in dairy cows had a 3.9 percent inbreeding coefficient, and other studies finding specific sections of genes related to CP. Erickson noted that new research from across the globe suggests that perhaps colostrum is present but isn't liquid enough to be released from the gland.

Increasing CP will likely require a multifactorial solution.

"I think that if we calve inside and not in a cold environment, less than 41°F, that would be one thing that would increase colostrum yield," Erickson said. "If you're running into a problem with (colostrum) production, try increasing your dry period length by ten or 20 days, not in the winter but in other times of the year."

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‘Perfect Storm’ may be forming in agriculture today

I’ve seen some really hard times in my life – the late ‘70s and ‘80s were devastating to the entire agricultural industry, especially grain and dairy farms. From my perspective what we’re facing today is yet another “Perfect Storm.” With rising prices for grain, inputs, equipment, land and labor, grain farmers cannot anticipate a profit this year or for the next two years. Add to this the cost of operating money at high interest rates, and the stress levels individually and within farm families are going to be tested.

Unlike my generation, we have a labor force that isn’t focused on the trades but on “clean” jobs that allow workers to go home after they punch off the clock. Even equipment companies are having difficulty in keeping experienced service techs on the job. The problem is that the men and women that come out of agriculture are valued by the blue-collar employers because of the work ethic and honesty inherent of farm families. As I see it, lack of loyalty to the labor force by business administrators transfers to lack of loyalty to the brand. It was recently pointed out to me that a brand dealership in northern Michigan was paying their mechanics \$45 an hour while charging over \$250 an hour.

To save costs, we should increase our in-house equipment repairs. Paying dealerships thousands of real dollars to change the oil and diagnose simple breakdowns is something every farm can do for themselves. The challenge is to look at your expenses last year and objectively look at what you could have done yourself and use that number to determine if doing more of these jobs can put enough money in your bottom line to make it a viable option.

55 YEARS AND
COUNTING FROM THE
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BY BILL WHITMAN

I can also see a couple of intangible benefits. Getting intimate with your equipment can pay dividends as you can assess for yourself when equipment/parts need replacement. No one has more invested in your equipment than you do so you need to take as much on yourself as possible. The second benefit that I can see is that turning wrenches can have a therapeutic effect on your mental health. When economic stressors are constantly bombarding you day after day, working on your equipment can give you a sense of accomplishment as you complete even the most basic of jobs. Emotionally, accomplishing projects daily, successfully, helps maintain a balanced mental attitude as you approach other economic challenges that do not have easy answers.

With the USDA itself predicting that one in four farms will be gone at the end of this year, you can easily see that the stress involved will unfortunately lead to a rise in mental health crises’ on the farm. In an industry that already has high numbers compared to others, we can only imagine what an increase will do to our communities. I personally have known three farmers over the years that have chosen suicide as their way out. I’m betting that most of you have similar experiences.

What can we do to help ease the stress driving our neighbors to such extremes? I suggest that we will see a period of time before us that will require that we support each other, as I’m pretty sure the days of making money are on the shelf for a couple more years. What I am sure of is that they will return because the country and the world still need to eat.

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Free show cattle clinic draws larger than expected crowd

By Mike Tanchevski
Ohio Correspondent

KIRTLAND, Ohio – Kelsey Bezdek had no idea what attendance would look like for Lake County Farm Bureau's first Show Cattle Clinic in late February.

On the day of the event, the organization's vice president received a pleasant surprise.

"We were very pleased," Bezdek said after 71 participants showed up for the free clinic at the Lake Metroparks Farmpark. "When we started, we weren't sure if anyone was going to come. We had about 48 people sign up within 24 hours of launching it, then we gave it about a month and a half of sign up. So, we're very happy with 71."

Those in attendance came from seven counties and two states and ranged in age from 5 to 80 with an array of experience. "We had first-timers in the show world up to adults that wanted to improve themselves," Bezdek said.

The clinic opened with a general session hosted by Taylor and Tatumn Poff – sisters who serve as Ohio Beef Youth Council officers and are accomplished in the show ring at the state and national levels.

Following the general session, attendees rotated among three small-group breakout sessions focused on the daily care of show cattle, clipping and fitting, and showmanship.

Each breakout session featured

discussion, demonstrations, and question-and-answer opportunities. Daily care spotlighted grooming and tools, washing and drying, and creating a hair routine.

Clipping and fitting demonstrated Show Day Do's/Don'ts, Clipping 101 and Sculpting a Champion. Showmanship focused on attire and equipment, setting up in the ring, and show-ring etiquette.

Each session lasted 45 minutes.

In addition, attendees were treated to a lunch provided by a local 4-H club. "Legacy Livestock donated locally raised beef, and we had sloppy joe's and one of the other moms made 100 cow shaped cookies," Bezdek said. "Lake County Farm Bureau provided the chips, plates, cups and water. It was definitely a group effort."

Bezdek was searching for a local program that could help those interested in showing cattle learn basic skills or take their showing careers to the next level. "I didn't grow up participating in 4-H, but I wanted to help my 11-year-old son, a member of Legacy Livestock, learn more about showing cattle," she said.

Once she discovered no such program existed locally, she looked out of state. "I found a clinic in Texas, and in October, my son and I flew to Texas to attend a clinic there," she said. "It really made me realize there's a definite need for this."

Bezdek worked with two local partners, Ryan Wheeler and Steve

(Cattle Clinic continued on page 2B)



Above: Discussing Clipping & Fitting



Above: Discussing Clipping & Fitting



Above: Knot Tying Practice for Participants

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Federal farm grant could be in jeopardy from spending cuts

By Stan Maddux
Indiana Correspondent

INDIANAPOLIS – A desire to drastically cut federal spending by the Trump administration could threaten a program helping farmers in Indiana and other states interested in planting cover crops.

A pause has been placed on a \$500,000 grant utilized by the Indiana Agriculture Nutrient Alliance (IANA).

Ben Wicker, executive director of IANA, said a hold was placed on those dollars in mid-February as a result of the ongoing review of federal spending undertaken by the new administration.

Wicker said IANA has three years left on the five-year grant, which provides \$100,000 annually toward the program.

“We’re waiting to see what the results of those reviews will be,” he said.

The grant, funded by USDA, is administered through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

Wicker said IANA uses the grant to help agronomists assist farmers inter-

ested in planting cover crops in deciding what to grow during the offseason, and in navigating the process involved in getting started.

He said farmers are also lined up with potential customers in the private sector like utility companies willing to compensate them for the greenhouse gas emissions their cover crops absorb from their generators.

In addition, Wicker said the grant helps offset the operating expenses of planting cover crops by \$25 per acre the first year; \$15 per acre the second year and \$10 per acre for the third and final year of the cost-share agreement with farmers.

Wicker said federal dollars have also been paused on programs directly offered by other agriculture agencies with help from the support provided by IANA.

“There’s uncertainty right now as far as what the ultimate fate of those programs will be,” he said.

The funds provided by the cover crop incentive grant represent about one-third of the annual operating budget of IANA, formed as an independent

agency in 2017 through a partnership with a number of major farm-related organizations and funds from their check-off programs.

The groups affiliated with IANA represent producers of corn, soybeans, pork, beef, poultry and milk. Indiana Farm Bureau and the Agri-business Council of Indiana also played roles behind the founding of IANA.

Wicker said about 50 percent of their IANA’s funding is from USDA and the Natural Resources Conservation Service under USDA.

“We’re not a government agency ourselves but we work with many of the different agency partners and the private industry folks as well,” he said.

Wicker said he’s not sure how long it will take to complete the federal spending review but expects to know more about the future of the cover crop incentive grant within the next 30 days.

Regardless of the outcome, he anticipates IANA will continue with its mission of making sure farmers have the best information possible for making decisions to help the future viability

of their operations and improve water quality.

He said the group’s efforts, though, could be scaled back or shift with any reductions in federal funding.

“We’re kind of in a holding pattern of seeing where things shake out. It’s way too early at this point in my estimation for me to say what that long term outlook really looks like,” he said.

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Cattle Clinic

FROM PAGE 1B

Ohmes, to develop the clinic’s structure and agenda.

“Ryan Wheeler grew up showing cattle. He started when he was 12 and lived and breathed the whole process,” Bezdek said. Steve Ohmes is the assistant administrator at Lake Metroparks Farmpark.

“Between the three of us, we brainstormed topics, and Ryan and I ironed them out and broke them down into sections,” Bezdek said. “The three we highlighted are the ones we felt kids would get the most information from based on the level most kids in our area are showing at.”

Lake Metroparks Farmpark is a 235-acre working farm and education center in Kirtland, and it served as the clinic site. The farm features a variety of livestock, fields, gardens, and farm buildings. Daily activities include demonstrations and educational programs related to farm-

ing and gardening. Farmpark hosts thousands of students from area schools each year.

“It’s a working farm education center, and I don’t think nationally, there’s a ton of spaces like Farmpark,” Bezdek said. “We feel very blessed to have it in our area.”

The Show Cattle Clinics’ success spawned the idea for more livestock clinics down the road. “We’re looking at doing a lamb clinic in the next couple of months,” Bezdek said. “We’ll have other guest presenters for that. We’re looking at breaking this into a series next winter so we can have a session for different components of the show cattle series.”

Bezdek hasn’t had the opportunity to share this program with other county Farm Bureaus.

“We all get together as a farm bureau and share ideas, then tailor them to whatever’s going on in our county,” she said. “We haven’t reached out to the state with this. We wanted to see how it would go, but I think the sky is the limit from here.”



Above: Showmanship Breakout Session



Above: Equipment Info in the Showman's Breakout Session



Above: Daily Hair Care Breakout Session



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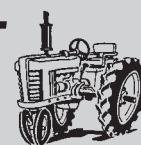
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ALL ABOUT TRACTORS

BY PAUL WALLEM



Ron Shank, Morrison, Ill., spent 50 years servicing farm equipment in the shops of different

Others will pay close attention to oil changes but ignore belt conditions on a combine until downtime occurs. Proper greasing of all zerks requires close attention, and often, bearings need replacement because of missed attention.

Proper tire pressure is often overlooked by owners. If improperly inflated, the large tires on both tractors and combine can damage quickly. We found this often.

Shank noted that trade-ins from a steady customer were easier to evaluate. The salesman would often come to the shop to review maintenance records from that owner. Those who brought equipment in for annual inspections received the best trade prices.

He also commented that chore tractors often receive poorer maintenance. They get used more often, and owners put off maintenance. Larger field equipment gets looked over during off seasons.

In his opinion, the operator who prac-


(Tractor continued on page 17B)

Outward appearance influenced our first impression as we tried to decide the resale value. If it had a recent wash job or was waxed, our first impression was that it had been well-maintained. However, that was not always the case. It could look good but not have been adequately greased. Even though the engine oil looked fresh, replacing rear-end and hydraulic fluids often gets overlooked.

In the evaluation of a combine, belts are often worn even if the outside appearance is good. Straw walkers in older combines were often damaged.

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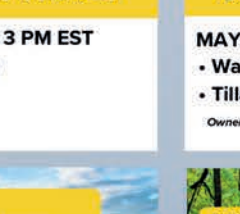
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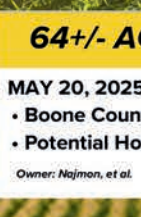
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Industry expert: U.S. beef cattle industry has long history of regular inventory, price cycles

By DOUG SCHMITZ
Iowa Correspondent

STILLWATER, Okla. – “The current cattle inventory is the smallest since 1951, with the beef cow herd also the smallest since 1961,” said Derrell Peel, Oklahoma State University extension specialist for livestock marketing.

“The cattle cycle is often described as a 10-year cycle, though cycles have varied from nine to 14 years in length, with only one exactly 10 years,” he said. “Current record prices are heading to cyclically high prices that will likely happen after 2025.”

Grant Dewell, Iowa State University beef extension veterinarian, said when cattle numbers are low, prices increase due to the low supply of calves.

“Normally, after a year or two of increased calf prices, we see an expansion of cattle numbers as cow-producers respond to price signals and increase herd size,” he said. “Eventually, the number of calves produced exceeds demand, and prices start to come back down.”

“Since there is a two-year lag from when a heifer is retained until her calves hit the market, equilibrium in supply and demand is overshot, so we typically see rapid price drop, which leads to culling of females and very little retention of heifers, starting us back down to a low point in cattle numbers again,” he added.

When asked why the current inventory is so low, compared to other cycles, he said, “The number of beef cows in the U.S. steadily increased from the early 1900s until the 1970s when we reached the peak inventory for beef cattle. Since the 1970s, each cattle cycle has resulted in a lower inventory of cows, compared to the previous one. Currently, we have about the same number of beef cows as there were in the 1950s.”

“Remarkably, even though there are



Above: When asked why the current inventory is so low, compared to other cycles, Grant Dewell, Iowa State University beef extension veterinarian, said, “Since the 1970s, each cattle cycle has resulted in a lower inventory of cows, compared to the previous one. Currently, we have about the same number of beef cows as there were in the 1950s.” (Photo courtesy of the University of Tennessee Beef and Forage Center)

about 30 million less cows today than in the 1970s, the amount of beef production is about the same,” he added. “Improved genetics and management allow U.S. beef producers to produce a much larger carcass more efficiently than ever before, keeping beef production stable.”

He said, “Competition from other protein sources is also a factor. We also don’t see near the fluctuations in cattle numbers now that we did between the 1950 to 2000s. The cattle cycle is a lot flatter than it used to be. This particular cycle we are in seems to be dragging on as we wait to hit bottom, and see any meaningful retention of heifers to start expansion. Although we have had price signals for a couple years, cow-calf producers have been reluctant to start expansion.”

Andrew P. Griffith, University of Tennessee professor of agricultural and resource economics, said there are several reasons inventory is low.

“Several years of drought in key cat-

tle-producing states and low cattle prices prior to 2024 did not encourage retention of heifers to grow the cow herd, and would be the primary culprits,” he said. “There are certainly some regions of the country where urban sprawl and row crops are stealing acres from cattle production.”

When asked what impact the current low inventory will have on farmers, processors and consumers, he said, “The impact on farmers is higher cattle prices, which should begin to encourage heifer retention. As far as margin operators go, they are going to have a higher investment on every head, which means it is more expensive to do business and an increase in risk.”

“Processors are going to be tight on supply the next few years, which means strong competition to purchase cattle,” he added. “This may result in some going out of business by closing up shop, or being bought out. Consumers are going

to continue paying high prices for beef.”

Peel said, “Cow-calf producers are seeing record-high calf prices and strong returns as an incentive to rebuild the herd. Retaining heifers to do that will make the current tight supply even tighter for a year or two until the heifers are in production in the herd. The supply of heifers is very limited now, and the rebuilding process will take more time than historically.”

“Industry sectors above the cow-calf level are experiencing challenging margins as the price increases from the bottom up are squeezing margins,” he said. “This is generally the situation for stockers, feedlots, packers and retailers. Margin compression happens at all levels above the cow-calf.”

“Thus, while consumers are seeing higher beef prices and will for many months to come, retail prices will not increase as much or as fast as calf prices, and every intermediate sector will share part of the margin compression,” he added. “The beginning of herd rebuilding is slow thus far, meaning that high prices are expected to persist for two or three years, at least before significant increases in beef production can be realized.”

Dewell said, “The low inventory should keep calf prices strong in the short term until we see significant expansion. Feedlot margins have remained positive. However, packing plants have had negative margins for a while, leading to potential shake ups. Tyson announced last December that they would close their Emporia, Kan., plant (in February), which caused a readjustment in the industry.”

However, he added, “Consumers are relatively unaffected right now as inflation costs are playing more of a role in the increased price of beef, but demand for beef has remained fairly strong.”



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Kentucky goat owners make good use of milk, mohair from their herd

By **DOUG GRAVES**
Ohio Correspondent

JACKSON, Ky. – Kentucky ranks sixth nationally for goat inventory, totaling nearly 59,000 head. Market goat numbers in the Bluegrass State are up 5.4 percent from 2023. Annually the state's goat industry adds more than \$3.5 million in revenue to Kentucky's agricultural receipts. It's no wonder, then, that April has been designated Kentucky Goat Month.

The versatile aspects of the Kentucky goat industry are many. Goats provide mohair, meat, milk and forage control just to name a few. Goat owners across the state are making use of their animals in an assortment of ways.

Brian and Jennifer Hall, of Rustic Charm Farm in Jackson, have turned their dream of owning a farm and raising a few Nigerian Dwarf goats into a reality – and a business.

"The Nigerian Dwarf goat is a small breed that doesn't take up a lot of space, nor do they require a lot of feed,"

Brian said. "We run a closed herd and all our goats come from a disease-free herd. As responsible farmers, we take the health and well-being of our goats very seriously."

Not only do they raise and sell their goats but they make goat milk soap, lotions and shaving products, and gift baskets with goat milk items.

"We take the fresh milk from our goats twice daily and turn what they give us into skin care products," Jennifer said. "Their milk has a lot of beneficial nutrients in it, which makes it good for use in skin care products. There are a lot of good amino acids and vitamins in goat milk that are beneficial for your skin. It's been proven that goat milk products are excellent for relief from eczema and other dry skin issues. It's also been known to help people with neuropathy and diabetes."

Nigerian Dwarf goats are beneficial due to their compact size and friendly, gentle nature. They're suitable as pets. These goats often produce multiple kids per birth, increasing poten-

(Kentucky Goat Owners continued on page 7)



Above: Bars of goat soap at Kentucky Soaps & Such are cut into hand-sized bars. (photo submitted)



Above: At Kentucky Soaps & Such, the first step in making goat milk soap is to mix a combination of rainwater captured in a rain barrel with lye. They then add sustainable palm oil, olive oil and coconut oil to create a base. Goat milk is then added to the mixing drum, delivered from local farmers and frozen until ready for use in the mixture. (photo submitted)

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Kentucky Goat Owners

FROM PAGE 6

tial milk production. Their manure is considered odorless and can be used as natural compost.

Deborah Cook, owner of Oak Haven Fiber Farm in Bath County, Ky., regularly attends the Kentucky Sheep and Fiber Festival in Lexington the third weekend in May. At that festival she sells raw and washed wool, along with some handmade items such as crocheted hats and clothes made from her goats' mohair. She also takes a few of her Angora goats to the festival to keep her company.

"I bought a little property near Owensville, Ky., and I like to process my own fiber from my Angora goats," Cook said. "I check on my goats twice a day and shear them twice a year. I work fulltime at Morehead State University and in the afternoons, I like to spend my time with my goats."

Angora goats are raised primarily for their mohair, a specialty hair fiber used in clothing and upholstery. Angora goats are also cost-efficient to raise, producing twice as much fiber as sheep while eating a similar amount. Unlike the goats raised by the Halls, Angora goats are not good milk animals.

Angela Correll, of Stanford, Ky., turned her love of goats into a busi-



Above: Deborah Cook, of Bath County, Ky., crafts clothing with the mohair she shears from her Angora goat herd. (photo submitted)



Above: Jennifer Hall, of Rustic Charm Farm in Jackson, Ky., milks her Nigerian Dwarf goats twice a day. She uses the milk in the soaps and other skin products she sells from her farm. (photo submitted)

ness – Kentucky Soaps & Such.

Correll once had a backyard pasture full of pet goats. Though Correll was content to let the goats live a life of leisure on her farm, her husband, Jess, a businessman and part-time farmers, wanted the animals to produce something of value or retire elsewhere.

Unwilling to part with them, Angela began to research goats and discovered a host of benefits their nutrient-rich milk could offer. She decided to make goat milk soap as a way for her pets to earn their keep, and in 2003 Angela's niece, Lea Ann, made the first successful batch of soap. That day, the Pla-

inview Farm product line, named after Jess and Angela's farm, was born.

To this day, Plainview Farm products are made on-site at a store in Stanford.

"We make our soaps, scrubs and salts form scratch and mix our creams and liquid soaps with high-quality oils," Angela said. "We're passionate about making products that support local farmers and provide healing benefits for our customers."

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Wishing to know more about food could cause a case of TMI

We are told that consumers want to know everything about the food they eat, from the time it was planted or impregnated until the time it reaches their plate. I think we have to be very careful in how we meet the consumer's wishes, or it could backfire on us.

Follow along with me now as we join the Wilson family as they are gathered around the dinner table to enjoy a scrumptious prime rib. Instead of saying grace before dinner, Mrs. Wilson scanned a bar code on the beef package so they could put a face to the food they were about to enjoy.

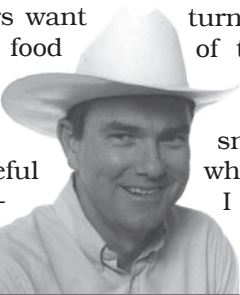
A computer screen came to life and as music faded away there appeared on the screen a black-faced calf that said, "Hi, I'm Blizzard and I was born in North Dakota in the middle of a blizzard. I survived but my mother didn't."

The youngest Wilson girl dabbed her eyes with a napkin and said, "Oh, the poor thing. He's so cute."

Blizzard continued, "I never knew my father and my mother didn't either because she got raped repeatedly by several brutish thugs at the time of my conception. I'd have given anything to have known my father, to have him explain the birds and the bees, or show me where to hide when the cowboys came to gather us all up. But like many modern American males these days, he skipped town wanted nothing to do with his offspring."

Suddenly what was a joyous Wilson family dinner now turned into a soap opera. As they were about to dig into the prime rib, one by one the family members put their forks down and sat in rapt attention as Blizzard continued with his autobiography.

"Here I am in the bathtub of the family that owned the ranch I was born on. They are pouring hot water on me to warm me up. For the first weeks of my life, I lived in close proximity with this kind family of five who bottle fed me at all hours of the night. There I am curled up in front of their fireplace. I lived in the barn until I was



It's THE PITTS
By Lee Pitts

turned out with the herd. The rest of the calves called me names like "dogie" and I felt lonely a lot. Occasionally I'd try to sneak a drink off the other cows when they weren't looking but I grew tired of being kicked in the head. Then the rest of the calves were weaned off their mothers and it was their turn to cry. But I had no mother to cry for and I had long ago lost the urge to suckle."

Mr. Wilson looked at his prime rib and wondered if this wasn't a case of TMI... too much information.

"For the most part," Blizzard continued, "I was treated well except when they gave me shots, branded and castrated me. There's a photo of me sprawled on the ground as some cowboy took away my manhood. It didn't hurt as much as you'd think but I did lose all interest in heifers from then on.

"Here I am being loaded on a truck with the other calves, bound for a feedlot in Nebraska. Life at the feedlot was like living in a commune with a cafeteria that was open 24 hours a day and we could eat all we wanted. Being the runt of the litter I had few friends in my pen, except for the cowboy who rode through the pen on frequent checks to make sure we were all okay. There was lots of gossip about where we were going next, some cattle concentration camp it was rumored, but I didn't believe them. If you are eating me now, I guess the rumors were true."

As Blizzard's story came to a close, the Wilson's turned their attention back to the prime rib but they'd lost their appetite for beef so someone in the family called and ordered a take-out pizza. A vegetarian pizza! And the next day someone removed all the packages of Blizzard's beef from the freezer figuring the poor calf had enough cold weather for one lifetime. From then on, whenever Mrs. Wilson bought beef, if she bought it at all, she made sure it was from Uruguay or Australia that she knew absolutely nothing about.

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JD 1350-1450 plow 5x16" w/leveler; JD 4 btm plow; Brillian cultimulchger 15'; 15' spike tooth harrow, transport, wings; JD pull type sickle mower, 7'; Bush hog 6' mower; Allis Chalmers 200 15' field cultivator; JD 3pt 6' scraper blade, adjustable; JD manure spreader, double beater; (2) set 18.4-34 snap-on duals; 15' + 2' utility trailer, ball hitch; flatbed wagon (2) JD 68 auger feed wagons

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Gibson 16' sheep alley complete w/sort gate; Clay collapsible sheep feeder; several wooden folding sheep gates; Bahlen auto cattle waterer; 3pt hay fork; 3pt bale spear (fits loader); Bush Hog 3pt post digger 9" auger; (3) 12.5 - 16 flotation wagon tires on rims; Craftsman table saw; acetylene torch set; air compressor; Lincoln welder; Knipco heater; bolt bin; Kennedy tool chest; large shop vise; welding table; (2) Stihl chain saws; Stihl FS-56-RC weed eater (like new); old livestock bells (3 brass); antique JD metal kids wagon, pull type; antique hand pull kids wagon; (2) metal milk cans; antique small 2 wheel childs bicycle; JD pedal tractor; primitives; Wrenches, sockets, tools, parts and many misc items.


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LARRY HARPER
2017 JD S680 Combine, 2022 JD C16F Corn Head, 2023 Kinze 3665 16/32 Bean Planter; 2021 Kinze 4905 16-Row Blue Drive Corn Planter; 2024 J&M LC290 Seed Tender, (2) 2023 Brent 757 Grain Train Gravity Wagons; Sunflower 1434-33 Disk, JD 2320 Tractor w/ 62" Mid-Mount Mower Deck; AcrEase 60" Pull-Type Finish Mower, Hiniker Big Ox HB10 Terracing Blade; JD 7000 4-Row 30" 3-pt Planter, Katolight 25KW Generator; 4' Woods 3-pt Rotary Cutter, Kinze 500-Gallon Liquid Tank.

JACK COOPER ESTATE
2015 16' Premier Livestock Trailer, 1973 Chevrolet 2-Ton Grain Truck, NH 256 Hay Rake; JD 7000-6-Row 30" Planter, J&M Gravity Wagons, Hay Wagons, JD 8300 Grain Drill w/ Grass Seeder; IH Disk, 7' JD Grader Blade, 3-pt. JD 3-Bottom Moldboard Plow, NH 144 Inverter; NH Hayliner 276 Square Baler, NH 328 Manure Spreader, New Idea 325 2-Row Corn Picker; 1985 JD Turbo 7720 Combine, JD 643 Corn

Head, JD 918 Bean Head; JD Row-Crop Cultivator, 16' Dunham Cultipacker; Filson Squeeze Cattle Chute, Bunk Cattle Feeder, Steer Stuffer Feeder, Gates, Dog Kennel.

ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT
JD 2840 Diesel Tractor, Hay Wagons, Batco 1314 Conveyor & 1365-8 Grain Conveyor; 15' JD 750 No-Till Drill, 24' Hiniker 1224 Fld. Cult., 18-1/2' JD 220 Disk, 15' Brillion Cultimulcher; 300-Gal Fr. Mount Tank off 8000-Series Tractor, 1000-Gal Water Wagon on Gear w/ Pump; 1996 JD 510 7-Shank Ripper, 1995 DMI 730 13-Shank Ripper, Koyker Mfg FLEXSTORE Bag Unloader; Brant Drive-Over Grain Deck, JD #38 Sickle Bar Mower, 200-bu Gravity Wagon/Seed Tender w/ Roll Tarp; Clay Belt Conveyor, Killbros 350 Wagon on Kewanee 47 Gear; Best Way Pro 2 1000-Gal Sprayer (60' Booms, 440 Raven Monitor w/ Radar); 2011 International ProStar Semi, 1964 Lowboy 39' Detach Trailer w/ Pony Motor; 2013 JD 5085M Tractor w/ JD H260 Loader.

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Tariff talk focuses on dairy products

The Trump tariff Tit-for-Tat has morphed and dairy became front and center. President Donald Trump stated, "Canada has been ripping us off for years on lumber and on dairy products," and he cited Canada's 250 percent tariff on U.S. dairy exports, warning that the U.S. would match those tariffs. Canada's supply management program has long been a bone of contention for the U.S. but it remains a "sacred cow" among Canadian dairy farmers.

Meanwhile, China lifted its ban on milk and dairy products from Germany, which could hurt U.S. dairy exports to that country, especially on whey protein concentrate. Reuters reported, "China announced tariffs on over \$2.6 billion worth of Canadian agricultural and food products on Saturday, retaliating against levies Ottawa introduced in October."

Becky Rasdall Vargas, senior vice president of trade and workforce policy at the International Dairy Foods Association (IDFA), stated, "It is accurate that Canada imposes a tariff of approximately 250 percent on U.S. exports of certain dairy products into Canada, and even more with Canada's 25 percent retaliatory tariffs in place. However, that tariff would only apply if we were able to reach and exceed the quota on U.S. dairy exports agreed to under the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). Frustratingly, the U.S. has never gotten close to exceeding our USMCA quotas because Canada has erected various protectionist measures that



MIELKE MARKET WEEKLY
By Lee Mielke

fly in the face of their trade obligations made under USMCA."

"U.S. dairy is grateful for the Trump Administration's efforts to hold Canada accountable on these protectionist measures. At the same time, a prolonged tariff war with our top trading partners will continue to create uncertainty and additional costs for American dairy farmers, processors, and our rural communities. We urge Canada and the United States to negotiate a resolution to these issues, both Canada's trade barriers to U.S. dairy exports and the tariffs, as expeditiously as possible," the IDFA stated.

The overall U.S. economy is showing signs of strength despite the tariff fervor. Unemployment on March 7 showed job growth in most major sectors and CPI data was weaker than expected, although still well above the 2 percent federal mandate.

Checking demand, the USDA's latest Dairy Supply and Utilization report showed that domestic cheese demand slipped about 1 percent in January from a year ago. Exports, however, helped pick up some of the slack, so overall disappearance was up 0.7 percent, according to High-Ground Dairy's Curtis Bosma in the March 17 Dairy Radio Now broadcast.

He added that the U.S. is not typically a major cheese exporter but there was enough exported in January to offset lower domestic demand.

Butter production has been running high, thanks to an abundant cream supply, according to Bosma. Butter demand domestically was

(Mielke continued on page 14B)

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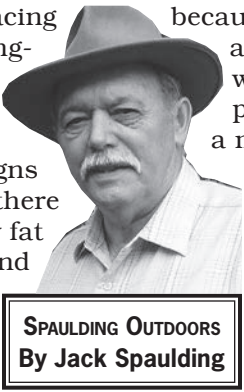
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It's not over 'till the little fat bird leaves

People are readily embracing the sudden burst of spring-like weather. Praise God! Suddenly, the bitter Arctic weather seems to be behind us. Undeniably, the signs of spring are everywhere... there are buzzards overhead, a few fat Robins have been spotted, and kids and a few older adults are running around in shorts and tee shirts working on their tans.



I hate to throw a wet, wintry blanket on everyone's great expectations of an early spring and end of winter, but I see we still have the dreaded "snow birds," the dark-eyed juncos with us. The little precursors to winter only retreat to their northern, snowy climates when the threat of snow and cold weather are truly gone. Until they leave, I'll not be putting away the snow shovel.

I'll maintain my lack of optimism on the indisputable arrival of spring until I see the first nice harvest of morel mushrooms.

Boyhood need for fire

When I was a youngster, every boy in town carried a Zippo lighter, including yours truly. It seemed to be standard issue for every guy in town

because you always wanted to be able to start a campfire. Along with our standard issue Zippos, some of the guys carried a match safe as a backup.

A match safe is a small, water-tight container holding 10-15 strike-anywhere, kitchen matches. Carrying strike-anywhere matches in a match safe was highly recommended. Nothing illustrated the need for a match safe more than having a bunch of loose matches in your pocket unexpectedly ignite. When this happens, you can expect the individual to scream, and undergo writhing dance moves quickly leading to partial nudity. Nothing gets your attention faster than having your pants pocket go up in flames!

As soon as school was out and the weather warmed, camping along the river was part of our routine every weekend the weather was fit. Lacking tents, we avoided any possibility of rainy weather outings. We always waited for the weatherman's assurance of forecasting clear skies and a dry night.

The importance of a campfire cannot be denied. We wouldn't think of having an overnight stay along the

river without the all-important campfire! We needed light, warmth and possible protection from any beasts of the field!

We always planned to arrive at our campsite several hours before dark. An early start allowed us to gather all the downed tree limbs to be found over several surrounding acres. Our piles of campfire wood were awesome in size putting some homesteader's wintertime wood piles to shame.

Being campfire aficionados, we learned many things. One thing we learned was dead, dry sycamore limbs would burn brightly and with little or no smoke. They were our premium, go-to fuel.

Sitting at night at a distance around our huge glowing campfire, we exchanged stories, repeated lies, and retold local myths and legends; while puffing away on five cent Home-made brand cigars from the General Store. The one thing I remember most is the bonding and camaraderie we developed talking and poking the campfire with the rest of the gang. Lasting campfire friends forever.

DNR recreation and fishing regulations guides

The latest guides to exploring Indiana's great outdoors are now avail-

able at your fingertips online and will soon be available at a Department of Natural Resources (DNR) property near you.

The 2025 DNR Indiana Recreation Guide is available now at on.IN.gov/recguide. And the 2025-2026 guide to Indiana fishing, the DNR Indiana Fishing Regulations Guide, is available at on.IN.gov/fishingguide.

The Recreation Guide is the source for information on state parks, state forests, lakes, fish & wildlife areas, nature preserves, state park inns, and other DNR properties. The guide includes a detailed facilities chart and information about accessibility and fees.

Annual entrance passes for state park properties can be purchased in person at the gatehouse or offices of state park properties during business hours or at shopINstateparks.com any time.

Indiana resident state park annual entrance passes cost \$50. For individuals 65 years old or older, the price is \$25. Annual entrance passes for vehicles with out-of-state license plates are \$70. The daily gate fee at most state park properties is \$7 per in-state vehicle. More information is at on.IN.gov/stateparks.

The Fishing Regulations Guide contains all rules and regulations for anglers looking to fish in Indiana, along with helpful information on individual species and public waters available to all Hoosiers. This year's guide highlights the exceptional catches in the Record Fish and Fish of the Year programs, as well as a great new recipe for fish tacos.

Fishing and hunting licenses can be purchased at INHuntFish.com. They can also be purchased at retailers, county clerk offices, and most DNR properties throughout the state.

'till next time,
Jack

Readers can contact the author by writing to this publication or e-mail Jack at jackspaulding1971@outlook.com

Spaulding's books, "The Best Of Spaulding Outdoors" and "The Coon Hunter And The Kid," are available from Amazon.com as a paperback or Kindle download.

TRIPLE H FARM EQUIPMENT

IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR AGAIN!

ANNUAL SPRING CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

DATE: APRIL 5, 2025, STARTS AT 9:00 AM

5054 ST RT 49 SOUTH, GREENVILLE OH 45331

JASON 937-248-1818 / MELINDA 937-417-8919

TRACTORS: MF 451, Diesel, 4WD, P/S, 1385 Hrs. Ford 6610 1 Owner, 2677 Hrs., All New Tires, Diesel, 2WD, P/S, Nice Orig. Ford 4630 Diesel, 2WD, P/S, 1884 Orig Hours. New Rear Rubber. JD 5045D, Diesel, w/Loader, 1411 Hrs. Ford 600 P/S, Live Hyd. 5 Speed Trans. IH 606 Utility Gas Tractor. JD 4520 Cab Tractor. P/S, Diesel, 6130 Hrs. Sells w/Hubs And Duals. 6 Remotes. JD 1025R Compact Tractor, Diesel, 4WD w/Loader, 455 Hrs. IH 574 Gas w/Bush Hog Loader. Kioti CK-30, 4WD, w/Loader, 1000 Hrs. IH 684 Diesel w/IH 2250 Loader, Nice. MH 33 Pulling Tractor. Farmall 460 Pulling Tractor. JD 302E w/Loader, 500 Hrs, 4WD, P/S, Diesel. A.C. Tractor, Model C. 2016 JD 3025E w/Loader, 500 Hrs.

CONSTRUCTION: Toro Dingo Walk Behind Skid steer, Has Kubota Diesel Engine w/2671 Hours. NH L-170 Skid Steer Has Cab, Heat/Air, 5000 Hrs. Unused Skid Steer Attach Grapples, Multiple Sizes. Unused Skid steer Attach Smooth Buckets, Multiple Sizes. Unused Kivel Skid Steer Attach Bale Sear. Unused Skid Steer Attach Trencher. 2014 Bobcat S-450 Cab, Heat, 900 Hrs, Good Machine.

PLANTERS/DRILLS: JD 8300 Grain Drill w/18x7 No Grass Seed. Case IH 955, 12 Row Planter. IH 5400, 15' Drill w/Cart, 15" Spacings. Nice. Yetter 6 Row Planter On Blue Jet Cart, No-Till. Kinze No-Till, 15 Row Bean Planter On 15" Spacings. JD 7000, 3PT, 4 Row Planter, No-Till, Bean Cups, Corn Meters, Liquid Fert. Openers, Squeeze Pump. (3) JD 7000 Complete Row Units, No-Till Bean Cups, Corn Meters. JD Vans Brunt Single Disc Grain Drill.

TILLAGE: Sunflower 5034, 26' Field Cultivator w/3 Bar Harrow. Wallace 1 Bottom Plow. Ford 142, 3 Bottom Plow Auto Reset. IH 46 Disc. Bush Hog Brand 6' 3PT Adjustable Gains w/Notched Disc Blades. Frontier 3PT, 6' Danish Tines Field Cultivator, Like New. Tuffline 40" Cut Disc, 3PT. J&M 12' Rolling Basket, No Wings, Baskets Are Good. (12' Without Wings). Case IH P/T Grumbler 15' Good Baskets, Light Kit. JD 400 Rotary Hoe 15' Good Spoons, Orig Paint, Nice Shape. A.C. 2300, 16' Hyd. Fold Wing Disc. IH 37, 18' Wheel Disc. A.C. 16' Wing Disc. IH 37, 10' Wheel Disc. IH 540, 3 Bottom Semi Mount Plow. IH 4500, 18' Field Cultivator w/3 Bar Harrow. White 508, 4 Bottom Plow. Melroe 911, 4 Bottom Pull Type Plow. IH 470, 20' Disc. IH 12 Row Flat Fold Cultivator, Row Crop. 25' Field Cultivator, Hyd. Fold. A.C. 10' Pull Type Field Cultivator. White 508, 4 Bottom ARS Plow. 18' Hydraulic Fold Harrowgator. JD 3100, 6 Bottom Pull Type Plow. MF 3 Bottom, 3PT Plow. Great Plains 20' Rolling Basket. Ferguson 2 Bottom, 3PT Plow. Case 20' Rock Flex Hydraulic Fold Disc. Yetter 15' Rotary Hoe, Nice. Brillion 7

Stilank V Ripper. 7 Shank, 3PT Chisel Plow. Brady 12' Pull Type Field Cultivator. JD 2350-2450, 7 Bottom On-Land Plow. JD 4'. 400 Rotary Hoe. Noble 7 Shank Disc Chisel. IH 420, 2 Bottom, 3PT Plow. Ford 1 Bottom, 3PT Plow. IH 420, 2 Bottom, 3PT Plow, Very Nice And Original. MF 2 Bottom, 3PT Plow, Very Nice And Original. Hiniker 24' Flat Fold Field. Cult. Kewanee 20' Disc. 7' Pull Type Bush Hog.

3 PT EQUIPMENT: Frontier Rear Blade 7'. Unused Iron Craft 4' Aerator, 3PT. Unused Iron Craft Extreme Duty VH90 3PT, CAT 2, 90" Rotary Tiller w/Slip Clutch. Cosmo Broadcast Seeder, 3PT. Like New. Fimco Sprayer w/Booms, 3PT, Like New. Ford 8' Grader Blade. Titan 3PT Backhoe Attachment, Nice.

LAWN AND GARDEN: Unused Earthquake front tine tillers and rear tine tillers. 2005 Simplicity Conquest 54" Deck, 22HP, 868 Hrs, Rebuilt Trans.

WAGONS AND GRAIN CARTS: David Bradley Flair box wagon w/Hoist On David Bradley Running Gear, Nice Original. Electric Wheel CO. Flair box Wagon w/Hoist On JD Runnir:ig Gear. Nice Original. Kory Running Gear. Water Wagon w/Tank And Pump On JD Running Gear. J&M Gravity Box On J&M Running Gear. Gehl Silage Wagon. Flatbed Wagon 8X16' On JD 10 Ton Running Gear. Parker Grain Cart Nice. G24T Tandem Axle Running Gear. Killbros Gravity Wagon on JD 1065A Running Gear.

HAY EQUIPMENT: N.H. 310 Square Baler w/Kicker. N.H. 469 Haybine, Good Rollers. Maxilator Bale Grapple. Avco NI Dolly Wheel Hay Rake. NI 32' Double Chain Elevator w/ Electric Motor. Durabuilt 3Pt Sickle Bar Mower. NH 450, 3PT Sicklebar Mower. Unused Emossi Sickle Bar Mower. N.I. Wheel Rake. 2014-2015 Vermeer 604 Super M Round Baler w/Monitor, Moisture Tester, Auto Chain Oiler, And Manuals. Makes 4'Wx6'D Bales.

MANURE EQUIPMENT: IH 530 Manure Spreader, PTO Drive. Nice Original. MF Ground Driven Manure Spreader, Nice. Badger Tandem Axle Manure Spreader (For Parts, Or Repair). NI PTO Spreader, Nice Original.

TRUCK AND TRAILERS: Semi Trailer Single Axle w/ Spray Rig On It. Rear Tank 1700 Gal, Front Tank 700 Gal. No Title. New Tires. 1998 C-7500 Dump Truck, Single Axle, Tuned Up, New Brakes, New Front Tires, Good Rear Tires, Everything Works, Automatic, Gas, 8.1 Litter. Low Miles. Has Title. 2009, Chevrolet 1500. 4X4. Gas Truck w/Approx 270,00 Miles. Daily Driver

MISCELLANEOUS: Bush Hog 2426 Quick Attach Loader w/Ford Mounting Brackets. NI Lime Spreader, With Grass Seeder. 100 Gallon Propane Tank With Pump.

***Accepting Consignments Now!! This is a Very Small Listing, Many More Items Yet To Come, Check Aliction Zip And Equipment Facts For Incoming Consignments. The last Consignment will be accepted up until April 2nd at Noon, no exceptions please. Inventory is subject to change, Glue to daily retail sales up until March 24th**

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Iowa high school ag teacher, FFA adviser wins Golden Owl Award

By DOUG SCHMITZ
Iowa Correspondent

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa – When Laura Brecht walked into Prairie High School’s theater to receive the Golden Owl Award for her many contributions in agricultural education during a special ceremony in mid-February, she was surprised to see so many familiar faces in the crowd who came out to honor her.

“I was in total shock when all my students, administrators and family were there to award the Golden Owl Award,” Brecht, an agriculture teacher and FFA adviser at the rural Cedar Rapids school, told Farm World. “I was brought to tears and overwhelmed with joy during the recognition.”

Brecht is one of seven honorees across the state who received the award, as well as a check for \$500, and an engraved plaque. These seven will be finalists for Iowa Ag Teacher of the Year and recognized on stage at the State FFA Convention in April in Ames, Iowa.

Presented by the Iowa FFA Foundation and Nationwide Mutual Insurance Co., the Golden Owl Award recognizes agricultural educators across Iowa (as well as nationally) for their tremendous contributions to helping the next generation of agricultural leaders.

During her short tenure at Prairie High School, Brecht has been instrumental in the growth of Prairie’s agriculture program, which has become the 4th largest FFA chapter in Iowa in less than five years, said Kristy Thomann, Prairie High School 9th grade agriculture teacher and FFA adviser.

In fact, Thomann said Brecht has helped grow agriculture student enrollment from roughly 146 students to

250 students.

“Laura is always finding ways to support her students and their passions,” Thomann said. “She consistently stays late to work with students on (FFA) degrees, contests, and helps provide internship opportunities and work experiences for students to prepare them for life outside of high school.”

Brecht grew up on an acreage outside of Columbus Junction, Iowa, and her parents owned the grain elevator in town.

“My dad, Tim Mincks, managed it, and my mom, Lois Mincks, was the family and consumer science teacher at Columbus Junction for 36 years,” Brecht said. “They encouraged me to get involved in organizations and the community. With my mom being an active teacher in the school district, I grew up around the career and technical education world, and I loved how many hands-on, relevant experiences it brought to students.

“I was an active nine-year member of the Cloverleaf 4-H Club in Louisa County,” she said. “I enjoyed completing sewing, baking, home improvement projects, along with showing sheep and broiler chickens. I was the 2016 4-H Queen and 2016 Louisa County Fair Queen. I was a four-year member of the Columbus Junction FFA Chapter in high school. I served as chapter reporter, vice president and president.”

Brecht attended Iowa State University from 2016 to 2020, majoring in agriculture and life sciences education, and completed her master’s degree in agricultural education, also from Iowa State, in 2023.

“I truly believe I was born to be a teacher,” she said. “I grew up in a fam-



Above: Laura Brecht, an agriculture teacher and FFA adviser at Prairie High School in rural Cedar Rapids, Iowa, received the FFA’s Golden Owl Award in mid-February. (Courtesy of College Community School District)

PRODUCTIVE CROPLAND • FARMHOUSE • OUTBUILDINGS
179.5+/- ACRES • 8 TRACTS • GILEAD TWP, MORROW CO, OH

Tuesday, April 15th, 6:30 pm ET

AUCTION

AUCTION LOCATION
MORROW CO FAIRGROUNDS
195 S Main Street,
Mount Gilead, OH 43338

PROPERTY LOCATION:
4419 CR 115, Mount Gilead, OH 43338

OPEN HOUSES: Wed., March 26 | 4 pm - 6 pm ET
and Sun., April 6 | 2 pm - 6 pm ET

HALDERMAN
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800.424.2324 | halderman.com

CONTACT: Brett Salyers: 419.806.5643
Emily Wildermuth: 937.631.5047
Auctioneer: H. John Kramer, HLS#BJS-13103, Farm: The Higgins Farm

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UPCOMING AUCTIONS

CASS COUNTY, IN: March 26 (ONLINE) 111.975+/- Acres
2 Tracts • Productive Cropland • Woods
Contact: AJ Jordan: 317.697.3086 or Larry Jordan: 765.473.5849

MIAMI COUNTY, IN: March 31 (ONLINE) 107+/- Acres
Productive Farmland • Tillable Contact: Larry Jordan: 765.473.5849
or AJ Jordan: 317.697.3086

FAYETTE COUNTY, IN: April 1 (ONLINE) 43.16+/- Acres
Tillable Acreage • Home • Outbuildings • River Frontage
Contact: Rusty Harmeyer: 765.570.8118

BENTON COUNTY, IN: April 2 (ONLINE) 232.17+/- Acres
3 Tracts • Quality Tillable Land Contact: John Bechman: 765.404.0396

MORROW COUNTY, OH: April 15 (LIVE) 179.5+/- Acres
8 Tracts • Productive Cropland • Farmhouse • Outbuildings
Contact: Brett Salyers: 419.806.5643 or Emily Wildermuth: 937.631.5047
or AJ Jordan: 317.697.3086

NEW! RANDOLPH COUNTY, IN: April 15 (ONLINE)
137.04+/- Acres • 5 Tracts • Cropland • Woods • Recreation
Contact: Chris Peacock: 765.546.0592 or Lauren Peacock: 765.546.7359

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HRES IN Auct. Lic. #AC69200019, IL Lic. #417.013288 MI Lic. #6505264076. AUCTIONEER: RUSSELL D. HARMEYER, IN Auct. Lic. #AU10000277, IL Auct. Lic #441.002337 & OH Auct. Lic. #2001014575

New Salem Lion's Club
2025 Harmeyer Auction
Virtual Spring Consignment Sale
Bidding March 26-27th, 2025

Vehicles

- 2004 VW Touareg 4dr
- 2004 Nissan Murano
- 2000 Vantage C1000A Mini Work Van
- Brinks Truck

Trucks & Utility Vehicles

- 1978 Chevrolet 6500 Service Truck
- Toro Workman 3200
- John Deere 855D Gator (x2)
- Mad Vac 101D

Tractors

- Massey Ferguson 175
- Massey Ferguson 165
- Massey Ferguson 210-4
- Oliver 88 with Loader
- Allis Chalmers WD 45 with Loader
- Ford 8N
- Ford 3000 with Loader
- International 574 with Loader
- Case 1370
- Case VAC with Loader

Telehandlers & Loaders

- Gehl 883 Telehandler
- Lull 844TT Telehandler
- Caterpillar 922 Loader
- Caterpillar 904B Loader
- Michigan 125B Loader
- Bush Hog 2846QT Loader (JD Brackets)
- John Deere 175 Loader

Manlifts & Aerial Equipment

- Grove MZ 66B Manlift
- Grove 44ft Manlift

Trailers & Related Equipment

- 16ft Car Trailer
- 2 - 5000 lb Trailer Axles
- 5th Wheel Trailer Hitch

Farm Equipment

- Antique Oliver Grain Drill
- John Deere 7ft Grain Drill with Grass Seed
- International 7ft Sickle Bar Mower
- Snow Way 6-Way Front Snow Plow
- 500-Gallon Pull-Type Sprayer
- Jacobsen Pull-Type Lawn Sweeper
- New Idea 3pt Disc Mower
- Claas 3pt Disc Mower
- John Deere 4-Bottom Pull-Type Plow
- McCormick 2-Bottom Pull-Type Plow
- 5-Shank 3pt Manure Applicator
- 1-Bottom Antique Plow
- Minneapolis Moline Manure Spreader
- Shultz 8-Row Cultivator

Mowers & Lawn Equipment

- Woods L306 Belly Mower
- John Deere 400 Lawn Mower

Snow & Ice Equipment

- McKee 3pt Snow Blower
- Badger 3pt Snow Blower
- Western Salt Spreader

Air Compressors & Industrial Equipment

- Ingersoll Rand Portable Air Compressor
- Pull-Type Air Compressor
- 60-Gallon Shop Air Compressor

Miscellaneous Equipment

- Antique Hay Wagon
- MB Pull-Type Street Sweeper
- 100-Gallon Fuel Tank
- 3pt Backhoe Attachment
- Ski Loader Fork
- Demo Saddle Tanks
- Caterpillar Pallet Jack
- Running Boards for 2500HD
- Keg-a-rator
- Several Used Tractor Tires (Check website for sizes)

Auctioneer’s Note: Harmeyer Auction is currently accepting good quality consignments for our Virtual Spring Consignment Auction. Bidding will run March 26-27th @ 6:30 p.m. Check website often for updated auction lots & make sure to pay attention to the descriptions as to where these things are located as it is the buyers responsibility to pick their winning items up. Call the office with all questions and con-signments at 765-561-1671. www.harmeyerauction.net

Currently accepting good quality consignments!
No consignments accepted after March 20th

For information or to consign: Harmeyer Auction & Appraisal Co. 765-561-1671

Auction day announcements take precedence over printed material.

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2006 JD 8320 MFWD TRACTOR 9,125 2002 JD 9120 4X4 ARTICULATE TRACTOR, 9,700 HRS 2009 JD 6430 PREMIUM MFWD TRACTOR, W/ JD 673 HYD. LOADER 1993 JD 6300 MFWD TRACTOR 7,510 HRS JD 5200 MFWD DSL. TRACTOR, 2,800 HRS 1979 IH 1486 DSL. TRACTOR, 8,700 IH BN GAS TRACTOR MF 60H 2WD DSL. LOADER/BACKHOE COMBINE & HEADS 1995 CASE/IH 2166 RWA AXIAL FLOW COMBINE, 3348S/4834E HRS 2010 CASE/IH 1020 25' GRAIN PLATFORM 2007 CASE/IH 2206 6X30 POLY CORN HEAD	*2005 IH 4400 LIVE TANDEM GRAIN/SILAGE TRUCK 2014 EBY 53' ALUMINUM CATTLE POT TRAILER, 9X9 SPEED *1988 FRUHAUF 5000G. ALUMINUM TANK TRAILER *2015 FREIGHTLINER COLUMBIA DAY CAB ROAD TRACTOR *1987 GMC TOP KICK 7000 LIVE TANDEM DSL. TRUCK PLANTING/HANDLING JD 1770 NT 12/30 MAXEMERGE XP LIQUID PLANTER, CENTRAL FILL AGCO/WHITE 6180 12/30 LIQUID PLANTER FRIESEN TITAN 4SE SEED TENDER TRAILER	PARKAN 225 SEED TENDER UNVERFERTH 8250 GRAIN CART WHEATHART SA-100-71' HYD. GRAIN AUGER W/ SIDEARM, HYD. LIFT, SHARPI JD GUIDANCE HAY & FORAGE 2013 NEW HOLLAND 340 LG. SQUARE HAY BALER, 45K BALES NEW HOLLAND H 7460 DISCBINE MOWER CONDITIONER, FIELD READY KUHN MM-300 HYD. HAY MERGER, HYD EXT TILLAGE STRIP/INH3 TANKS/SPRAYER 1600G & 125G DAIRY BULK TANKS/MILKING & LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT UTILITY FARM ITEMS TOO. NUMEROUS TO MENTION! Jered Litwiller & Mark Seiler Sale Site @ 11740 S. Bliss Rd., Hubbardston, MI 48845

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Iowa

FROM PAGE 12B

ily of teachers – my mom, grandma, aunts and sister were and are all teachers. I truly enjoyed my time in 4-H and then FFA in high school. It was clear to me during my sophomore year of high school at the State FFA Convention that I wanted to pursue a degree in agriculture from Iowa State University. I just wasn't sure in what area.

"I contemplated dietetics, then agricultural communications," she added. "After one semester, I knew something was missing. I talked with Dr. Scott Smalley, an academic adviser for ag ed, and he shared what I would need to complete to change my major. After meeting with him, I knew ag education was for me."

When asked what it means to her to win the award, she said, "I love being an ag educator. My students continue to amaze me by finding new solutions, ways to engage in agriculture, and passion for making our community a better place through agriculture education. I am very fortunate to work with another fantastic teacher, Ms. Kristy Thomann, to lead all students in our agriculture program.

"Our goal for our students is for each of them to find a place within agriculture, no matter what their personal experience entails," she said. "We hope to foster an interest in the agriculture program for students to continue to engage in our plant or animal pathways after completing Intro to Agriculture.

"I believe our program does a really good job of offering a wide variety of opportunities for students to engage in agriculture, leadership and service," she added. "As students continue through the program, they start to define their interests. Through their

Supervised Agriculture Experience projects, class projects, and capstone classes, they truly get to practice the skills they hope to refine and pursue."

She said as she thinks about the future of Prairie High School's agriculture program, she envisions even more opportunities for community partnerships, student-led discoveries and all seniors completing the senior capstone, the Ag in Industry Internship course.

"Inspiring students comes down to building relationships and listening to them," she said. "Each year as I learn more and more about each student, I can incorporate that into my daily lessons and opportunities I provide. Sometimes it takes an extra nudge for students to take advantage of the opportunity, but when they do and their eyes light up with pride, it is so worth it.

"In order to inspire future ag educators, I think it is important to be a good teacher first," she added. "Your students will look to you as a leader as they plan for their future classroom. I'm in the middle of my fifth-year teaching and four former students are pursuing their degree in agriculture education."

Jessica Tuttle, now a senior at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa, said, "I was inspired by Mrs. Brecht to become an ag teacher because her determined personality and unwavering belief in me and my classmates set the bar for what it means to be a true mentor. She taught us to never settle for less, to push through adversity, and to find the strength within ourselves to overcome any challenge.

"She didn't just teach agriculture, she taught us how to live it, how to love it, and how to make a difference," she added. "I was truly inspired by her love for agriculture, FFA and her students, and that is why I became an ag teacher just like my mentor (Brecht) that I hope to be as good as someday."

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26TH
BIDDING BEGINS: 8:00 am ET / 7:00 am CT
VISIT **HARMEYER AUCTION. NET** OR **AUCTIONTIME.COM** FOR MORE INFO

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: Harmeyer Auction is partnering with Halderman Real Estate Services and Moore & Warner Farm Real Estate, LLC to bring the Adwell Corp. equipment to the market. We value our long term relationship between the firms and Halderman and Moore & Warner handled the farm real estate sale for Adwell Corp.

COMBINES: 2023 JD S780 Combine PRWD Drive 638 hrs | 2020 JD S780 Combine 1,417 hrs
HEAD & HEAD CARTS: 2020 JD 712C 12 Row Corn Head | 2023 JD C12F Folding 12 Row Corn Head 2023 | JD RD40F Hydroflex Grain Table w/ Frontier HT1242 Head Cart | 2020 JD 740FD Grain Table w/ J&M TB6000A Head Cart
GRAIN CARTS: 2015 J&M 1010-20S Grain Cart | 2012 J&M 1000-20 Grain Cart
TRACTORS: 2023 Case IH Magnum 380 CVT duals front & rear MFWD w/ 615 hrs 6 remotes bit 1000 pto | 1976 JD 4430 5,164 hrs 540 & 1000 pto | 1997 JD 8300 6,416 hrs | 2020 Case IH Steiger 580 Quadtrac 1,258 hrs | 2020 Case IH Magnum 380 AFS Connect CVX 1,679 hrs | 2017 New Holland Boomer 47 Tractor 450.9 hrs w/ New Holland 260TLA loader | 2020 Case IH Steiger 580 Quadtrac AFS Connect 859 hrs 36 in tracts | 2018 Case IH Steiger 500 Quadtrac 1,168 hrs 1000 PTO
TRUCKS: 1994 International 9400 Aluminum Sided Bed
TILLAGE: 2014 Kuhn Krause 6200 Landsman | Torex PTO Ditcher | Amco AD20-18 Ditcher 20 in 3 pt mount | Amco AD1000V 10 in ditcher 3 pt mount | Case IH True Tandem 330 Turbo, JD 400 Rotary Hoe | 2019 Kuhn Krause 8005 Exhilarator
GENERATOR: JD Diesel Generator
MOWERS: Diamond Mowers Inc Side Arm Mower | JD HX20 Rotary Mower | Bush Hog 12815 Rotary Mower | Bush Hog BH16-2 Rotary Mower w/ 3 pt 540 pto
PLANTERS: 2010 JD DB60 PLANTER 36R20 | JD 1790 16/31 Planter w/ 15" & 30" row spacings | 2014 JD DB90 36 Row Planter
RIPPERS: DMI Ecolo-Tiger 730 Ripper | 2014 Case IH Ecolo-Tiger 875 Disk Ripper | 2018 Case IH Ecolo-Tiger 875 Disk Ripper
SPRAYERS: 2022 JD 412R Sprayer w/ 1250 gal stainless tank 120 ft 220 hrs | 2017 JD R4038 Sprayer
TRAILER: Woodworth Flatbed 1000 gal fuel Trailer
WAGON: Parker 555 Gravity Wagon
CULTIVATORS: JD 845 12 Row Cultivator w/ 3 pt mount, JD 2210 Field Cultivator | 2004 JD 2210 Field Cultivator w/ 24 ft 5 bar harrow
MISC: 2000 Bush Hog 176 Grader Blade Hydraulic Angle & Tilt w/ 8 ft rear mount blade | Orthman Soilmoover FE8120 | 2013 J&M 375ST Seed Tender w/ tri axel trailer | Friesen Seed Titan 4 box Seed Tender | Fiatallis FR 12 Wheel Loader w/ 5890 hrs | Elsass Fabrication LTD 1635 1500 Gallon Nurse Tank | Komatsu FG25 Forklift | 2019 JD Gator XUV 835M w/ 386 hours

Equipment Questions? Contact Rusty Harmeyer: 765.561.1671

Harmeyer AUCTION & APPRAISAL CO. **HALDERMAN REAL ESTATE & FARM MANAGEMENT** **Moore & Warner FARM REAL ESTATE, LLC**

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Mielke

FROM PAGE 9B

down 3.3 percent from a year ago, however exports were up so overall usage was down 2 percent. Again, Bosma stated that we are not typically a major butter exporter but actually a net importer, however cheap U.S. prices on cheese and butter have made us competitive.

That said, Bosma pointed out there are different spec issues in terms of what kinds of butter and cheese is made in the U.S., versus what global buyers are looking for, so price is not the only factor. He also cited the tariff issues dominating the news right now as a factor. Mexico is a very important market for U.S. cheese, he said, and represents 35-40 percent of U.S. cheese exports.

Nonfat dry milk was the “dog” of this report, he said. Powder demand has been struggling the past year or so as production is significantly outpacing demand. Both domestic and global demand was hurting, making overall utilization down just over 20 percent from a year ago. This is causing stocks to swell, he concluded, and they were up 42 percent from a year ago at the end of January.

And, while fluid milk sales saw a nice 2.6 percent rise in December from a year ago, January sales tipped back a bit. The USDA’s January data shows packaged sales at just under 3.9 billion pounds, down 0.5 percent from January 2024. Conventional product sales amounted to 3.6 billion for the month, down 1.0 percent from a year ago. Organic sales, at 276 million pounds, were up 6.5 percent from a year ago, and represented 7.2 percent of total milk sales in the month.

Whole milk sales totaled 1.4 billion pounds, up 1.4 percent from a year ago. Whole milk represented 35.8 percent of total milk sales for the month. Skim milk totaled 161 million pounds, down 5.3 percent from a year ago.

The figures represent consumption in Federal market orders which account for about 92 percent of total fluid sales in the U.S.

The Agriculture Department again lowered its milk production forecast in its latest World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) report, citing lower expected output per cow more than offsetting slightly higher cow inventories.

2025 production and marketings were projected at 226.2 and 225.2

billion pounds respectively, down 700 million on both. If realized, both would still be up 300 million pounds or 0.1 percent from 2024.

Imports were unchanged on a fat basis and reduced on a skim-solids basis. Exports were lowered on a fat basis, primarily due to lower cheese exports. On a skim-solids basis, exports were lowered due to lower expected shipments of cheese, dry skim milk products, and lactose.

Cheese, butter, nonfat dry milk (NDM), and whey price forecasts were all lowered, based on recent prices. The Class III milk price was lowered on the lower price expectations for cheese and whey. It was projected at \$17.95 per hundredweight, down from last month’s estimate of \$19.10, and compares to the 2024 average of \$18.89 and \$17.02 in 2023.

The Class IV price was also reduced due to lower butter and NDM prices. It is projected to average \$18.80, down from \$19.70 a month ago, and compares to \$20.75 in 2024 and \$19.12 in 2023.

This month’s corn outlook was unchanged from last month, but the report stated, “U.S. tariffs on Canada and Mexico have been suspended until April 2 for all products covered under USMCA which include most agricultural products in the WASDE. Reciprocal tariffs are also scheduled to begin on April 2. However, until these are in effect, WASDE does not incorporate them into commodity forecasts.”

The season-average corn price was also unchanged at \$4.35 per bushel. Global production was forecast 3.2 million tons higher to 1.496 billion. This month’s foreign coarse grain outlook is for larger production, reduced trade, and smaller ending stocks relative to last month. Foreign corn production is higher as increases for India, Russia and Ukraine are partly offset by declines for South Africa and Mexico.

Soybean supply and use projections were unchanged this month but include higher exports and lower soybean oil used for biofuel. The season-average soybean price was projected at \$9.95 per bushel, down 15 cents from last month. Soybean meal and oil prices were unchanged at \$310 per short ton and 43 cents per pound, respectively.

Global soybean supply and use forecasts include nearly unchanged production, higher crush, and lower ending stocks. Higher production for Ukraine, Mexico and Australia is offset by lower production for South Africa.

40th ANNUAL CONSIGNMENT SALE

SATURDAY, MARCH 22nd 2025, 9:30 AM

1354 Lippincott Rd., URBANA, OHIO 43078

TRACTORS & TRUCKS: Massey Ferguson 1150; Massey Ferguson 1080 diesel w/duals; 1998 KW T800 tractor; Massey Harris 44; Farmall C; Allis Chalmers WD; John Deere 850; Farmall H; Ferguson TO; Bobcat 632 skid steer (needs repair); Case 1070 powershift rear end only; International 404; Case 430 diesel; IH 706 gas wf w/loader; IH 966; Farmall M; Ford 640 converted to 12 volt; IH loadstar grain truck w/hoist (no title); Ford 800; Case 580 backhoe.

EQUIPMENT: John Deere 7000 12 Row wing fold; White 435 disc chisel; John Deere 825 6 row cultivators; Kubota DMC8032R discbine; Black Hawk 2 row 3 pt. planter; John Deere 290 2 row 3 pt. planter; 2 Sickle bar mowers; Buzz saw; 3 pt. boom; 3 pt. box blade; 3 pt. Ford flail mower; Pull type 6' rotary mower; Hydraulic rock cutter; 3 pt. Bale fork; Used Blue Diamond rock bucket; Small PTO manure spreader; Fill auger

for JD 1690 air seeder; DMI Quic'n Easy hitch for 2018 & older Chevy; Front straddle spacers for 8900 Series Magnum; JD 400 15' rotary hoe; JD RM 6 row cultivator; Donahue 20' planter trailer; Ferguson 3 pt. hay rake; 500 gal poly tank; 6" elect. Auger; (2) McCormick tandem axle packers; Ford slip scoop; 30' bin sweep; Case IH 8330 haybine; Westfield MK13-71 auger; DMI 32' NH3 bar; Post hole digger; Super single tires & wheels; 10 UHF radios w/base station; 1993 Wheeler single hopper.

LAWN GARDEN & TOOLS: 2000 Polaris Ranger electric dump bed 805 hrs. (not running); Single axle trailer; Parts bins; 1/2 ton chain hoist; Drill press; Thompson Type F grinder 3 phase; Many lawn mowers and other lawn & garden items to come.

Several wagon loads of tools and small farm items too many to list!

MORE CONSIGNMENTS BEING ADDED EVERY DAY!

Food Available

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TERMS: Cash Check or Credit Card w/4% Fee

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Pictures will soon be online at www.auctionzip.com • Auctioneer ID: 1459

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FARM MACHINERY AUCTION

LOCATION: HOOVER FEED MILL - 23591 ST. RD. 119 • GOSHEN, IN
Saturday, March 22, 2025 • 10:00 a.m.



HAY EQUIPMENT • FEED SEMI • TRAILERS • STEINER TRACTORS

2008 Challenger SP115C Windrower Tractor w/14' head & 837 hours, sn:HU93322
2016 PJ Gooseneck Trailer, 25' Deck w/5' Beaver Tail, 20,000 lb. Axles
2013 Claas 375 Rollant, net and plastic wrap w/hay cutter, 9,552 bales, was used in 2024
2022 Claas 2700 Liner Hay Rake
2005 International 4300 DT466 Box Truck, 24'x8' Hercules box, 6-speed manual transmission w/315,000 miles
2015 Ford F150 XLT 4x4 V6 EcoBoost w/194,000 miles, 6.5' bed w/bed cover, rebuilt title, VIN: 1FTTEX1EPXFFB94104
2012 Hensley Feed Semi Trailer w/9 compartments and bag box, air lids and air hand railings, 30' auger

2008 Hensley Fabricating Feed Semi Trailer w/8 compartments and bag box, manual lids only and no railing, 30' auger
Takeuchi Model TB Excavator
Gehl Grinder/Mixer
6' 3 pt. Bush-Hog Mower – Lawn Mowers
Jon boat w/6 hp Evinrude outboard motor
Dohrman applicator
Tennant Model 830 Sweeper for parts only
2.5 Ton Gehl Grinder/Mixer
200 Bu. Gravity Wagon
Case IH DX33 Mower with 72" Deck, approx. 1000 hrs.
Steiner Model 440 Diesel Tractor w/572 hrs., no attachments
Steiner Gas Model 420 w/Honda Gas Engine
Walinga Grain Vac Agrifab on Cart Model 3510 with Kohler Command Pro 30 Engine
Powder River Longhorn Chute
Stronghold Crowding Tub
(6) 10' Stronghold Crowding Gates

Auction Note: This is very nice equipment but this auction will not last long. Don't be late!

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Saturday, March 29, 2025 • 10:00 a.m.



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FARMLAND AUCTION

WESTERN CHAMPAIGN COUNTY OHIO FARM
114 Acres ♦ 104 Tillable Acres ♦ 4,064' Rd Frontage
Wed ♦ March 26 ♦ 1:00 PM

Farm Location: Corner of SR 560 & Woodville Pike (Concord Twp), Urbana, OH
Auction Location: Champaign County Fairgrounds, Urbana, OH

Quality 114 acre farm in western Champaign County, Ohio, with 104 tillable acres & 4,064' of road frontage selling in 2 tracts. Tract 1 (101+ acres) w/93+ tillable acres. Tract 2 (13+ acres) w/2 acres of woods. Great investment opportunity w/excellent lot split potential. Located NW of Urbana.



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Annual Tri-State Dairy Nutrition Conference

By Michele F. Mihaljevich
Indiana Correspondent

FORT WAYNE, Ind. – Speakers at this year's Tri-State Dairy Nutrition Conference will focus on past and future research; calf and heifer development; and optimizing cow performance and the management system. The conference, in its 33rd year, is April 14-16 at the Grand Wayne Center in downtown Fort Wayne.

The goal of the conference is to share current information on the feeding of dairy cattle, primarily to those who provide nutritional advice to dairy farmers, according to organizers. The intended audience includes feed industry personnel, nutrition consultants, dairy producers and veterinarians.

Last year, 372 people attended, said Maurice Eastridge, a professor of animal sciences at Ohio State University. Ohio State, Purdue University and Michigan State University are among the organizers.

During the conference's first full day on the 15th, a presentation will look at the impacts of changes in milk component pricing on dairy farm revenue. So far, Eastridge noted, those price changes have not been a big burden, "but some influence will occur. A greater concern at the moment within the dairy industry is the tariffs being placed on dairy products in the trade war underway."

On the 16th, a discussion will cover the impacts of heat stress on the dry cow and her fetus.

"Mitigation of heat stress is very important for dry and lactating cows and calves," he explained. "Ventilation in barns is key to this and misters in conjunction with fans are placed in barns to cool cows. They are commonly placed over the feed alley and then additional fans over the freestalls where the cows are lying."

Another presentation on the 16th will look at feeding in automatic milking systems.

"Automatic milking systems are increasing in use, especially in response to the labor shortage on dairy farms," Eastridge pointed out. "Our speakers will be

focusing on the feeding systems within these facilities and how animal behavior has to be taken into consideration."

Other topics include the impacts of genetics on methane production in dairy cattle, practical steps to improve diet digestibility, and feeding corn distillers grains to lactating cows.

Feedworks USA will host a mini-symposium on the evening of the 14th on aiming for success in the calf raising program. On the morning of the 15th, Kemin will present a pre-conference program on improving performance among the challenges through transition cow management. Elanco will offer a program the next morning titled Bovaer: What is it and what have we learned?


The conference includes a daily undergraduate program. It offers opportunities for students to network with students from other universities and professional members of the dairy industry, according to organizers. Program events include an undergraduate ice cream social and get together on the 14th and an industry and producer round table session on the 15th. Undergraduates are also welcome to attend the conference.

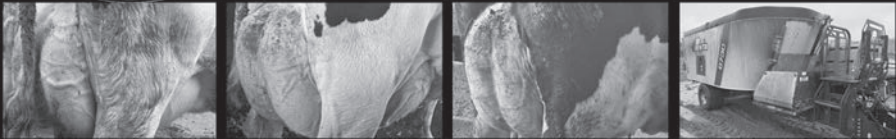
"I think it's always important to acknowledge the number of undergraduate and graduate students from several states that participate in this conference every year," Eastridge said. "Training the next generation for pursuing careers that support the dairy industry is one of our key objectives, whether that career is in research, teaching, providing goods and services to dairy farms, or working on dairy farms."

Conference attendees will have the opportunity to attend a minor league baseball game featuring the Fort Wayne TinCaps on the 15th, and a networking session later that evening.

The cost for the conference is \$225 per person until April 1; it will be \$255 after. Undergraduate and graduate students may attend for free. For more information, including a complete agenda and registration form, visit <http://tri-statedairy.org>.

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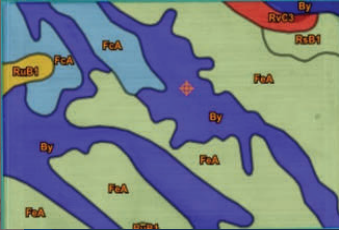
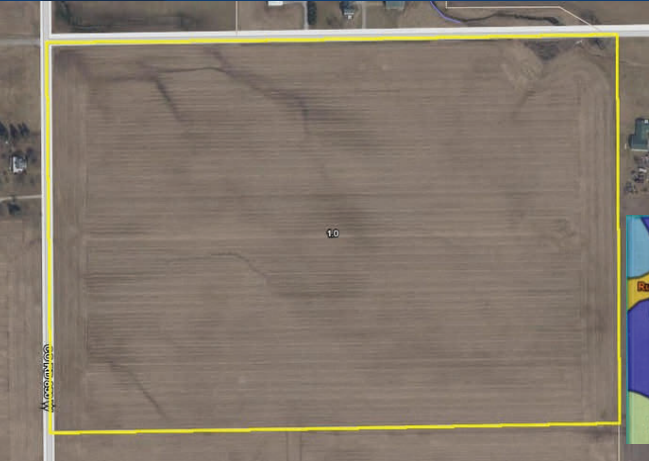
**MARCH 29TH**
10AM

PUBLIC AUCTION

60 ACRES PRIME FARMLAND - 1 TRACT

1 Mile north of Falmouth, IN

Approximate Address: 8301 W County Rd 500 N, Falmouth, IN



Tables — Yields of Non-Irrigated Crops (Component): Corn (Bu) — Summary By Map Unit

Summary by Map Unit — Fayette County, Indiana (IN041)

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
By	Brookston silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	173.25	21.3	35.7%
FcA	Fincastle silt loam, New Castle Till Plain, 0 to 2 percent slopes	166.25	6.4	10.7%
FeA	Fincastle-Crosby silt loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	156.00	27.8	46.7%
RsB1	Russell silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	155.90	1.8	3.0%
RuB1	Russell and Miami silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes, slightly eroded	150.10	1.1	1.9%
RvC3	Russell and Miami soils, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded	130.10	1.2	2.1%
Totals for Area of Interest			59.6	100.0%

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**MARCH 29TH**
11 AM

PUBLIC AUCTION

104 ACRES IN 5 TRACTS TILLABLE & RECREATIONAL



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Rushville, IN 46173

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AUCTION TO BE HELD AT FALMOUTH FARM SUPPLY
4378 N CO ROAD 850 W, FALMOUTH, IN



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CONSTRUCTION
& AG EQUIP. AUCTION**
APRIL 3RD @ 9 AM ET



FREIJE & FREIJE
A Jeff Martin Auctioneers, Inc. Partner

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FEATURING: HEAVY CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT, TRUCKS, TRAILERS, FARM TRACTORS, CARS, TRUCKS, MOWERS, SIDE BY SIDES AND MISC ITEMS FROM SEVERAL ESTATES

RING 1: LIVE & ONLINE 9AM ET FEATURING HEAVY CONSTRUCTION & AG EQUIP., MOWERS, VEHICLES, TRAILERS

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RING 3: ONLINE ONLY BIDDING AT BUYFREIJE.COM FEATURING OVERSTOCK & SURPLUS ITEMS LOTS BEGIN CLOSING AT 1 PM ET

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PREMIUM IS NOT CAPPED.

ONLINE BIDDING DEPOSIT: \$1000 DEPOSIT TO BID ONLINE

CONSIGNMENT DEADLINE: THURSDAY 03/27/2025 @ 4 PM

INSPECTION DATES: MONDAY - FRIDAY 9AM – 4PM

ALL ITEMS MUST BE REMOVED BY FRIDAY, 04/18/2025 @ 4PM

ITEMS LEFT AFTER THIS DATE ARE SUBJECT TO STORAGE FEES UP TO \$100 PER ITEM PER DAY.

CREDIT CARDS OVER \$2,500 WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

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(6) JOHN DEERE TRACTORS: 2020 JD 5100ML MFWD w/JD 540M loader, hrs: 4316 (one-owner), HP: 100, open station, rear weights, hyd: 3 sets; 2014 JD 6115M MFWD w/JD620R loader, hrs: 9262, HP: 115, CHA, rear weights, hyd: 3 sets; 1993 JD 7600, hrs: 7027, CHA, front weights, hyd: 3 sets, long axles w/duals; 1992 JD 4455, hrs: 5058, HP: 140, trans: PS, CHA, hyd: 3 sets, axle mount duals, rears: 18.4R42, front weights; 1990 JD 4455, hrs: 8112, HP: 140, trans: QR, CHA, hyd: 3 sets, axle mount duals, rears: 18.4R38, front weights; 1998 JD 5210 w/JD 521 loader, hrs: 3521, HP: 53, open station

JOHN DEERE COMBINE & HEADS: JD 9570 STS Combine, hrs: 3411/2269, 2WD, lateral tilt, Greenstar ready, grain ext, tires: 38" w/duals; JD 630 Hydraflex 30" grain head w/Unverferth HT25 cart; JD 843 corn head w/Unverferth HT25 cart

GRAIN TRUCKS: 1999 Sterling grain truck, engine: Detroit 60-series 430HP, trans: 10-speed, bed: Kann 18' alum, tandem axle, tires: 22.5"; 1998 Int 9100 grain truck, engine: Cummins M-11 330HP, trans: 10-speed, bed: Kann 20' alum, tandem axle, tires: 22.5"

FARM/TILLAGE EQUIPMENT: 2018 JD 1590 grain drill, width: 15', spacing: 7.5", total acres: 4000, grass seed, row markers, JD monitor; Woods BW1800 15' rotary mower, one-owner, PTO: 1000, chains, airplane tires, new blades; IH 720 5x16 plow, sharp, one-owner; Miller 12' offset disc; JD 1000 3-pt 18' field cult; JD RM85 3-pt 8x30 cult; JD 400 3-pt 15' rotary hoe; JD 750 harrow attachment; Bobcat 15C hyd post hole digger; Kelly 40 3-pt backhoe; Gruse 3-pt mast forklift attachment; (3) flatbed wagons

HAY EQUIPMENT: 2023 JD 460M round baler, one-owner, bales: 2485, PTO: 540, net/twine, extra wide sweep, kicker, monitor; JD 630 MoCo disc conditioner, one-owner, width: 9'9", PTO: 540, impeller, new blades; H&S high capacity 12-wheel V-rake, one-owner, max width: 30', center kicker

ARTSWAY GRINDER MIXER: 2019 ArtsWay 6140, one-owner, PTO: 540, scales, hyd swing augers

GRAVITY WAGONS: (2) 2012 Killbros 387 gravity boxes on Killbros 1396 gears, one-owner, cap: 400, light kits; 2011 J&M gravity box on Killbros 385 gear, one-owner, light kit; 2000 EZ-Trail 3400 gravity box on Killbros 385 gear, one-owner, light kit; older gravity wagons

SILAGE CHOPPER/WAGONS: 1998 NH 790H chopper w/heads, barn kept, used Fall 2024; (2) Gehl BU910 wagon; Freeman wagon; Kasten wagon

OWNER: K&B Kremer Farms



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Above: The Farmall 806 and John Deere 4010 broke the 100 HP barrier

Tractor

FROM PAGE 3B

ticed good maintenance won two ways. He incurred less downtime in season and received a better price when it came time to trade.

On a personal note, after farming for 36 years, my older brother sold out and retired. I attended his sale, and it was a huge crowd. My brother had been very particular about taking care of the equipment. Before the sale, one of our neighbors that I grew up with told me everyone knew how well the equipment had been maintained, and he said that’s why the crowd was large. The sale went well.

1963 – first year over 100 horsepower

A landmark change occurred in 1963 when American farm tractors exceeded 100 HP for the first time.

That year, International Harvester announced its 806, and John Deere put the 4010 on the market. These were the first two to provide 100 HP. They quickly became market leaders and were highly successful for both companies.

I was with International Harvester

and, that year was responsible for the announcement of the 706 and 806 at the Farm Progress Show in Illinois. We went all out to draw attention, created an arena tractor square dance, and hired the WGN Sage Riders trio to entertain the crown, and it was an exciting time. We were overdue for a replacement of the 560, and some customers called their dealers immediately to place orders.

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USDA issues grain and oilseed outlook

By **TIM ALEXANDER**
Illinois Correspondent

ARLINGTON, VA. – Aaron Ates, Ph.D, senior feed grains analyst for the USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS) offered a rundown of the agency's 2025-2026 Grain and Oilseed Outlook as part of the 101st USDA Ag Outlook Forum. Ates told those assembled in Arlington, Va., and a worldwide virtual audience that data points indicate U.S. producers will plant more corn this year, and corn will be more profitable than soybeans.

“Our forecast for 2025-2026 calls for corn acres to be up by about 3.5 million acres to 94 million acres. Soybean acres are down about 3 million acres from 87 to 84 (million acres), and total wheat acres are up about 1 million acres from 46 to 47 (million acres),” he said. “Given the decrease in soybean area some expansion of wheat plantings are expected as we head into 25-26, with the three-crop total sitting at about 225 million acres, just above last year's total and the 10-year average.”

The ERS forecast was developed assuming “normal” weather patterns and growing conditions, a normal planting-to-harvest ratio and an assumption that current farm policies would remain in place. Global GDP growth is expected to be “flat” over the coming year for the purpose of the projection, and the value of the U.S. dollar, as determined by the St. Louis Federal Bank, is expected to remain strong compared to that of most U.S. trade partners.

“Although (Brazil and Argentina) have made some significant strides in recent years in terms of (corn) output, it still pales in comparison to the output here in the U.S. The opposite is true for soybeans; the U.S. once held the title of the largest producer among world exporters but relinquished this title to Brazil. Going forward I think it will be interesting to see what the output is in Brazil and Argentina for soybeans as they do have the potential to impact planting decisions here in the U.S. via price reactions,” Ates said.

With total U.S. and global corn stocks down year-over-year and China's corn stocks rising, the U.S. is in a “unique position whether it's related to trade or domestic use,” according to Ates. “The opposite can be said for (global) soybeans, which are up year-over-year. The U.S. doesn't constitute

as large a share of global soybean stocks as we do corn, though U.S. soybean stocks do seem to be rising year-over-year.”

Another data point examined by ERS in determining projections is the soy-corn price ratio, which indicates more favorable economics for planting corn in 2025. “Typically, if the ratio between these prices is less than 2.3, we take that as a signal that the market is demanding or calling for more corn and less soybeans. There has been some variation in the past few months, but the line has stayed below 2.3 (rather consistently),” said Ates, while presenting a graph illustrating the current price ratio as of Feb. 27 at approximately 2.10.

“We also utilize a weather-adjusted trend model giving us a boost in yield to 181 bushels per acre. This is partially offset by a reduction in beginning stocks, but ultimately leads to an increase in supply of about half a billion bushels for '25-'26,” he said. “This increase in supply is expected to place downward pressure on prices and incentivize feed and residual use of corn in '25-'26.”

ERS projects that food, seed and industrial use of corn will fall by about 5 million bushels as high fructose corn syrup demand decreases. A decline in exports of corn is expected to reach 50 million bushels on the expectation of stiffer competition from Brazil and Argentina. The ethanol forecast, which has been flat at around 5.5 million bushels, is expected to remain relatively stable with the expectation that demand for gasoline will remain stable, according to the ERS analyst.

With the expected increase in corn planted area, “if these forecasts are realized we will have record supplies of corn in 2025-26,” said Ates, adding, “Our balance sheets do have supply outpacing demand and as a result our ending stocks are expected to grow.”

Soybean yields are expected to increase, assuming normal weather and growth, to 52.5 bushels per acre in 2025, reflecting a yield bump of nearly 2 bushels per acre over the past two years, according to ERS projections.

“When combined with the higher carry-in from '24-'25, it ultimately lifts our supply estimate by 40 million bushels,” Ates said. “Our competition in the soybean market is expected to be tight with South America. In Brazil, their supply gains in the coming months are expected to outpace de-

mand gains. As a result, as we enter harvest in '25 here in the U.S. their stock levels are anticipated to be higher than they normally are. These market dynamics, in which global supply is rising, places downward pressure on prices and is also expected to increase demand, opening the door and increasing opportunities for the U.S. to increase our export volumes.”

Accordingly, export demand for U.S. soybeans is expected to rise by 40 million bushels year-over-year for 2025-2026. Crush volume is expected to increase by 65 million bushels, largely driven by anticipated demand for oil for use in domestic biofuels and the export market.

An increase in production of soybean meal by around 1.4 million tons

is also anticipated by ERS, with increased domestic demand the primary driver and the remainder allocated for export.

The ERS forecast presented at the Ag Outlook Forum will serve as USDA's official 2025-2026 balance sheet until the late-March Prospective Plantings report is issued, at which time projections may be updated. Further forecast guidance will come from the May USDA World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates report, according to Ates, who works out of the USDA's Kansas City ERS office.

To access the full USDA-ERS 2025 Grains and Oilseeds Outlook, visit www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2025AOF-grains-oilseeds-outlook.pdf.

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AUCTION

Monday
March 31st
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm ET

PROPERTY LOCATION:
11 miles north of Peru, IN at the intersection of SR 19 and E 1100 N in Perry Township, Miami County.

107 +/- ACRES

98.07 +/- Tillable
6.26 +/- Non-Tillable
2.67 +/- Other

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Tuesday, April 1st
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm ET

PROPERTY LOCATION:
1493 N CR 150 E
Connersville, IN 47331

OPEN HOUSES:
March 10th, 5 pm - 6 pm
March 22nd, 12 pm - 1 pm

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Tract 1: 41 +/- Acres (40 +/- Tillable)
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AJ Jordan: 317.697.3086 • Larry Jordan: 765.473.5849

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AUCTION

Wednesday
April 2nd
4 pm - 6 pm ET

232.17 +/- ACRES

PROPERTY LOCATION:
TRACT 1: 80 +/- Acres at CR 200 S and CR 100 W in Center Twp, Benton Co.
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TRACT 3: 80 +/- Acres on the south side of CR 750 S and CR 200 W in Grant Twp, Benton Co.

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ART SCHERER COUNTRY ESTATE

ESTATE FARM AUCTION

SATURDAY - MARCH 29 @ 10:00 A.M.

Located at 640 S. M-140 - Watervliet, MI
(South of I-94 or North of M-62 on M-140)

TRACTORS: FORD 6610 Cab Tractor w/3,531 Hours; FORD 3000; Farmall 140 w/Snow Blade; Farmall Super "A".
FORKLIFT: John's BN-Turn Around Forklift.
FARM IMPLEMENTS: JD 1008 Offset Brush Chopper; FMC Orchard Sprayer w/500 Gal. Metal Tank; Ford 2 Bottom Plow; Dettson 2084 Snow Blower Attachment; Brillion Seeder; Vicon Spreader; 10 Ft. Field Drag; Edwards 3 Wheel Pruning Tower; JD 11 Ft. Transport Disk; Wood Apple Boxes.
TRAILERS: Aluma-Lite 5' X 10' Single Axle Trailer; Cornelius 6-1/2' X 16' Tandem Axle Trailer; Steel Bed Farm Trailer.
SHOP TOOLS: Torch Set; Welder; Generator; 2-Ton Hoist "A" Frame; Table Saw; Nuts & Bolts.
PLAYHOUSE: Art Scherer Shop Made Playhouse (4-1/2' X 8' X 8' Tall); Art Scherer Made Children Appliances;
OLD & COLLECTOR ITEMS: Line of Walk Behind Farm Tools (Walking Plow, Seeder, Cultivator, Tiller, Etc.); Old Country Sleigh; Old Signs; Advertising Signs; Round Oak Duplex Stove; Woodsman Wood Burner.

Pre-View Fri. March 28 from 11 A.M. -1:00 P.M.

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I made a home in an empty aquarium for the largest little mouse, and the other two I set free to live their lives on the farm. I called the one I kept, "Little M," and he became my friend and pet for over nine years.

**75th Semi-Annual
MILROY AMISH SCHOOL AUCTION**
SATURDAY, APRIL 26th – 9:00 AM
At Milroy Amish School, 2101 W. 900 S., Milroy, IN 46156
Contact: Norman Troyer - 765-561-9824 • Daniel Wagler - 765-629-2345

CONSIGNMENTS WANTED:
Firearms – All FFL Laws Applied – Need guns by August 29th if possible
No guns after 4:00 PM, Friday, August 30th
All other consignments including all types of Farm Equipment, Shop Tools, Power Tools,
Tractors, Lawn & Garden Equip., Lawn Furniture, Flowers, Trees & Shrubbery, Good Antiques
& Collectibles, Small Animals, Tack, Horses & Ponies (Must Furnish Halter & Lead Rope).
We do not accept fabric upholstery furniture, computers, rubber tires off rims, TVs or small animals.
There will be a \$5.00 disposal charge per unsold wheel w/rubber.
Not Responsible For Accidents Or Items After Sold

**Consignments accepted Thursday & Friday Prior to Sale – 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM;
Horses accepted on Saturday until 10:00 AM.**
We reserve the right to reject any consignments of little value.



812.346.4268

470 S. Co. Rd. 575 W.
North Vernon, IN 47265

3RD ANNUAL AUCTION

Online & Onsite

9AM
Friday
March 28th
2025

Visit BinghamFarmMachinery.com
or Call 812.346.4268 For More Details



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Featured Items View Full Listing Online



CONSTRUCTION

- 2020 Deere 310SL Backhoe - 1,007hrs, Cab, Powershift, 4WD, Extend A Hoe
- 2012 Deere 410K Backhoe - 13,359hrs, Cab, Powershift, 4WD, Extend A Hoe
- 2012 Deere 650K Dozer - 6,151hrs, Cab, 6 Way Blade, New Undercarriage
- 1988 Deere 550G Crawler Dozer - 16,758hrs, ROPS, Powershift, 6 Way Blade
- 2021 Bobcat E35 Excavator - 2,613hrs, Cab, Long Arm, Hyd X Change, Extra Bucket
- 2021 Caterpillar 304E2 Excavator - 1,806hrs, Cab, Hyd Thumb
- 2019 Kubota KX040-4 Excavator - 2,347hrs, Cab, 2 Speed, Hyd Thumb
- 2023 Deere 35P Excavator - 5hrs, Cab, Hyd Thumb - Warranty
- 2014 Bobcat T590 Skid Steer - 4,254hrs, Cab, Hand & Foot Controls, 2 Spd, 6ft Bucket
- 2014 Bobcat T590 Skid Steer - 5,095hrs, Hand & Foot Controls, 2 Speed, 6.5ft Bucket
- 2021 Bobcat T450 Skid Steer - 933hrs, Cab, 2 Speed, 55in Bucket
- 2003 Bobcat 463 Skid Steer - 1,600hrs, ROPS, 43in Bucket
- 1983 Bobcat 743 Skid Steer - 2,949hrs, ROPS, 5ft Bucket
- 2018 Bobcat MT55 Mini Track Loader - 956hrs, Ride On, 3ft Bucket
- 2017 Bobcat MT85 Mini Track Loader - 1,391hrs, Ride On, 43.5in Bucket & 3ft Forks
- 2019 Taylor T1035 Wheel Loader - 4,785hrs, Powershift, 4 Spd, 4wd, Cummins Engine
- 2014 Lull 1044C-54 II Telehandler - 7,087hrs, Cab, 4WD, 4ft Forks
- 2015 Magnum MLT3060 Light Tower - 6,211hrs, Kubota Diesel Engine

APPLICATORS/SPREADERS

- New Holland 306 Manure Spreader - 540 PTO, Tandem Axle, 1400 gal, Side Sling
- New Holland 520 Manure Spreader - 540 PTO, Single Beater, Single Axle, Slop Gate
- New Idea 3732 Manure Spreader - 540 PTO, 2 Beaters, Tandem Axle, Slop Gate
- Gehl 325 Manure Spreader - 540 PTO, 1 Beater, Tandem Axle, Slop Gate
- Top Air 750 Sprayer - Pull Type, 700 gal, 38ft Booms
- King Kutter 5500 Cone Seeder - 3pt, 540 PTO
- International Machinery Corp 610 Cone Seeder - 3pt, 540 PTO

CULTI-GANG

- Brillion X108 Cultipacker - Pull Type - Multiple Sizes Available
- Brillion XXL-184 Cultipacker - Pull Type, 37ft
- Brillion P12 Cultipacker - Pull Type, 12ft
- Brillion 4 Cultipacker - Pull Type, 7.9ft
- International 315 Cultimulcher - Pull Type, 13ft
- John Deere 11 Cultivator - 3pt, 12.5ft



HEADS (CORN/BEAN)

- Case IH 1020 Bean Head - 20ft, Dual Shaft
- Case IH 1020 Bean Head - 15ft, Single Shaft
- Case IH 1020 Bean Head - 20ft, Single Shaft
- John Deere 920 Bean Head - 20ft, Dual Shaft
- John Deere 925 Bean Head - 25ft, Dual Shaft
- John Deere 925 Bean Head - 25ft, Dual Shaft
- John Deere 643 Corn Head - 6 Row, 30in, Dual Shaft, Hi Tin
- John Deere 643 Corn Head - 6 Row, 30in, Dual Shaft, Stock Rolls, Low Tin Oil Bath
- John Deere 893 Corn Head - 8 Row, 30in, Dual Shaft, Stock Rolls
- Case IH 1083 Corn Head - 8 Row, 30in, Dual Shaft, Knife Rolls

HEAD CARTS/ RUNNING GEAR

- EZ Trail 672 Head Cart - 31ft
- EZ Trail 880 Head Cart - 26ft
- Killbros 20 Head Cart - 20ft
- Killbros 20 Head Cart - 20ft
- Killbros 27 Head Cart - 27ft
- Unverferth HT25 Head Cart - 30ft
- Unverferth HT25 Head Cart 25ft
- Unverferth AWS42 Head Cart - 42ft
- J&M HT8 Head Cart - 35ft
- J&M HT8 Head Cart - 27ft
- Parker 320 Head Cart - 24ft
- Knowles 400 Running Gear - 16ft Bar

And More!

GRAIN CARTS/WAGONS

- Brent 420 Grain Cart - L Side Auger, 1000 PTO, Tarp, Light Kit
- Brent 772 Grain Cart - Corner Auger, 1000 PTO, Scales
- EZ Trail 475 Grain Cart - L Side Auger, 1000 PTO
- EZ Trail 500 Grain Cart - L Side Auger, 1000 PTO
- Ficklin CA14000 Grain Cart - L Side Auger, 1000 PTO
- J&M 750-14 Grain Cart - Corner Auger, 1000 PTO
- John Deere 650 Grain Cart - Corner Auger, 1000 PTO
- Killbros 490 Grain Cart - L Side Auger, 1000 PTO
- Killbros 800 Grain Cart - Corner Auger
- Killbros 1400 Grain Cart - Corner Auger, 1000 PTO
- Parker 510 Grain Cart - Corner Auger, 1000 PTO
- Brent 440 Gravity Wagon - R Side Dump, 8 Hole Wheel

And More!

BUCKETS/GRAPPLE

- Construction Implement Grapple Bucket - Skid Steer QA, 80in, Light Duty
- HLA Buckets - Skid Steer QA, - Multiple Sizes Available

UTVS/LAWN MOWERS

- 2009 Kubota RTV1140CPX UTV - 1,221hrs, 4 Seater, Power Steering, Hyd Dump Bed, 4WD -No Title
- Polaris Ranger UTV - 1,075hrs, 4WD
- Yamaha Golf Cart - Gas
- 2014 Kubota Z724 Zero Turn - 571hrs, 54in Deck, Gas
- John Deere Z525E Zero Turn - 235hrs, 54in Deck, Gas
- John Deere Z425 Zero Turn - 364hrs, 48in Deck, Gas

MISC.

- Carry On Trailer - 76in x 10ft -No Title
- 2024 Industrias America Fuel Trailer - Pump, Tandem Axle -Cert Of Origin
- Custom Built Trailer - 60.5in x 8ft -Title
- Corn Pro Flatbed Trailer - 18ft x 6.5ft, Tandem Axle -Title
- DMC 84 Grain Cleaner - Electric Motor, Double Screen

- Shop Made Fuel Tank - 4ft Long, 28in Diameter
- Diamond Ditcher - 3pt, 540 PTO, 16in Wheel
- Schweiss Snow Blower - 3pt, 540 PTO, 8ft
- John BM MFG Cattleman's 24 Feed Trough - 7ft x 24ft, 6 Hole Wheel
- Bobcat 607 Backhoe Attachment
- John Deere Weight Box - 3pt, 23.5in Long, 18in Deep

PALLET FORKS/BALE SPEARS

- HLA HD09B0500 Pallet Forks - Skid Steer QA, 900lbs, - Multiple Available
- John Deere Pallet Forks - Pin On, 2,000lb, 42in Forks
- John Deere Worksite Pro Pallet Forks - Fits To JD 310SL Backhoe, 5ft Forks
- Vermeer Bale Fork - 3pt
- New Holland 80 Double Prong Bale Spear - 3pt
- HLA Double and Single Prong Bale Spears

BE ON TIME - NO SMALL ITEMS

This is NOT a consignment auction. All sale items are current inventory items being sold at the integrity of Bingham Farm Machinery. Pre-Approval required ahead of sale for financed equipment: Call for pre-approval
*Items must be picked-up by Saturday, April 12th, 2025.
Loading hours are M-F 8am-4pm & Sat 8am-11am.

Online Bidding Information: Register online with **Equipment Facts & Proxibid**. 5% Buyer's Premium on all online sales (cap at \$1,250).



On-Site Bidding Information: Customer will register with Ted Everett Auctioneers on site. There will be NO Buyer's Premium on-site.
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