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Planting wrapping up despite some continued wet conditions

By DOUG SCHMITZ
Iowa Correspondent

BOGGSTOWN, Ind. – As spring planting wraps up across the country, Boggstown farmer Chris Eck said the weather in his area continues to be wet, but with the needed warmth, the crops are growing quickly.

He also had a good planting window that helped him finish all but one field on June 4: “Unfortunately, we still have a river bottom field that has never been dry. It looks like we may get to plant it on June 23.

“The rains have been very constant, but it appears after Wednesday night (June 18), we could have a few sunny, hot and dry days to finish spring work,” he added. “The wheat is a couple weeks behind last year, but with 90-degree days in the forecast, I think it will move fast. This has been a tough spring for most in the area. Hopefully, it creates a decent crop.”

According to the USDA’s June 16



Above: As farmers wrap up spring planting, short-term outlooks through the end of June show a warm front from the central Corn Belt through the Appalachians, where there’s a much higher chance of unseasonably warm temperatures, said Justin Glisan, State of Iowa climatologist. (photo by Joclyn Bushman, Iowa Soybean Association)

U.S. Crop Progress and Conditions Report, Louisiana and Minnesota were the top two states to finish spring planting, with North Carolina being the first to complete corn planting at 100 percent emergence as of June 15.

The agency said 72 percent of U.S. corn was good to excellent, with 94 percent of the crop emerged. Sixty-six percent of soybeans were in good to excellent condition, with 93 percent of the crop planted, and 84 percent emerged.

The USDA said 52 percent of the nation’s winter wheat was in good to excellent condition, with 93 percent headed, and 10 percent harvested. Fifty-seven percent of spring wheat was good to excellent, with 89 percent planted, and 4 percent emerged.

The USDA added that 48 percent of U.S. cotton was rated good to excellent, and 85 percent was planted, 19 percent was squaring (developing the first flower buds), and 3 percent of the crop was setting (cotton) bolls. Forty-six percent of U.S. pastures and rangelands were good to excellent.

In Indiana, as of June 15, the USDA said 89 percent of corn had emerged. Ninety-three percent of soybeans had been planted, with 85 percent emerging. Ninety-four percent of winter wheat had headed, but none were yet harvested.

In Illinois, 93 percent of corn had emerged. The state had 93 percent of soybeans planted, and 83 percent emerging. Ninety-nine percent of winter wheat had headed, but only 1 percent had been harvested. In Kentucky, 84 percent of corn had emerged. The state had 75 percent of soybeans planted, and 62 percent emerging.

In Michigan, 92 percent of corn had emerged. The state had 95 percent of soybeans planted, and 82 percent emerging. Eighty-eight percent of winter wheat had headed, but only 1 percent had been harvested. In Ohio, 86 percent of corn had emerged. The state had 92 percent of soybeans planted, and 79 percent emerging. Ninety-nine percent of winter wheat had headed, but none were yet harvested.

In Tennessee, 92 percent of corn had emerged. The state had 78 percent of soybeans planted, and 66 percent emerging. Eighty-seven percent of cotton had been planted, with

(See Planting on page 2)



Above: The 48th annual North Judson Mint Festival was held June 13-15 in North Judson, Ind. . The area has a high water table, loose soil, and northern latitude, which makes it ideal for growing peppermint and spearmint. Farmers grow mint primarily for the oil that is steam-distilled from both the leaves and stems. Some leaves may also be used in teas or culinary products. Photo by Leondia Walchle

Cellulose can be extracted from manure using pressurized spinning

By Hayley Lalchand,
Ohio Correspondent

LONDON, UK — A new technique known as horizontal nozzle-pressurized spinning can extract cellulose from cow manure.

Mohan Edirisinghe, professor and chair of the Mechanical Engineering Department at University College London, invented pressurized gyration, or spinning, about 10 years ago.

“[Pressurized gyration] basically takes a polymeric solution and then it spins it in a very simple vessel under pressure, so we apply pressure and rotation simultaneously,” he said. “The perforations on the circumference of the vessel then eject fibers. These fibers can be aligned by changing the processing parameters, and what we do then is make them for different functional purposes.”

In the case of extracting cellulose from manure, researchers dry the dung and use mild chemical reactions and homogenization to extract the small cellulose fragments present in the manure. The liquid solution containing these cellulose fragments is then placed into a vessel, where it is pressurized and spun, aiming to transform the fragments into fibers, a usable form of cellulose. After trial and error, Edirisinghe and his group found a configuration of the vessel that allowed them to create usable forms of cellulose from cow manure.

“Cow manure contains a very nice proportion of cellulose, and we have been able to get films, fibers, and actual ribbons of it,” Edirisinghe said.

The composition of untreated cow manure is between 14.2 and 32.3

percent cellulose, researchers estimate.


Cellulose is widely used in manufacturing across various industries, including paper and cardboard, textiles, and pharmaceuticals. It’s a main component of surgical masks and cellophane and provides texture and controls viscosity in products like toothpastes and lotions. In a powdered form, cellulose is added to shredded cheese to prevent clumping. Cellulose can also be chemically modified and mixed with other additives to form celluloid, a transparent plastic, although it isn’t in wide use today due to its flammability.

Simply put, cellulose is a critical component of our everyday lives and the products that we use. While cellulose is often sourced from trees, the demand for the polymer can lead to increased tree logging for many industries, significantly impacting the environment. Sourcing cellulose from cow manure would reduce strain on natural plant resources. The technology invented by Edirisinghe uses less harsh processing than other techniques to extract cellulose, making it an eco-friendlier option. Additionally, the process is low-energy and doesn’t require high heat or electricity-intensive processes.

Additionally, sourcing cellulose from cow manure makes the waste valuable.

“Cow dung is something [farmers] have to dispose of, and it isn’t environmentally friendly,” Edirisinghe said. “If we can convert [manure] into something that is economically


(See Cellulose page 2)

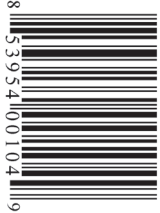


Tennessee farming couple turns to tulips and tourism . .
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Cellulose

FROM PAGE 1

of value, that's a big bonus for the farming community and everyone else."

A single dairy cow can produce between 80 to 150 pounds of manure per day, researchers estimate. While waste can be repurposed as fertilizer, farms are often left with more waste than they can use. Sometimes animal waste can end up in waterways, posing health risks to nearby human and animal communities. If manure could be repurposed as a source of cellulose, farmers would not only be able to make money, but they could also help prevent waste overflow.

There are still many processes to

refine before the technology becomes widespread.

"We are dependent on having a sufficient stock of dung, and we haven't taken [the technology] to the level of making it a commercial process yet," Edirisinghe said. "The only drawback is that we've got to scale it up."

Next, the group is working to put numbers to the process – if the team has 10 kilograms of dung, what is the output of cellulose? Additionally, they are working to transition the pressurized spinning technology from battery-powered to solar-powered.

The lab is also working on other projects in the realm of pharmaceuticals and medicine. The group has a project with the School of Pharmacy at the university in creating fibers that can assist in drug delivery. The

team is also creating antimicrobial filters, using natural materials like cinnamon and garlic, and exploiting other materials like alginate.

"If you can do good things with materials like cellulose and alginate, say for example seaweed, I think we are helping our environment, which

we must be doing to a very great extent," Edirisinghe said. "I think synthetic materials that are made using a lot of chemical processing are not the future. We've got to try and exploit our natural materials, and that will be less harmful to the human community."

Planting

FROM PAGE 1

10 percent squaring. In Iowa, 97 percent of the corn crop had emerged. Ninety-three percent of soybeans had emerged. Iowa's oat crop reached 69 percent headed. Eighty-eight percent of the first cutting of alfalfa hay had been completed, with the second cutting reaching 16 percent complete.

Justin Glisan, State of Iowa clima-

tologist, told Farm World, "Short-term outlooks through the end of June show a warm front from the central Corn Belt through the Appalachians, where there's a much higher chance of unseasonably warm temperatures.

"There is also a wetter pattern through the eastern Corn Belt, with near-normal chances in the Appalachians," he said. "The three-to-four-week outlooks continue to show better chances of warmer temperatures for the entire region, with no clear signal on the precipitation side."

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June WSAD report for corn shows production unchanged

As expected, the USDA left U.S. corn production unchanged in the June World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates, keeping the crop at 15.82 billion bu. The only change to corn demand this month was a 50 million bu increase to old crop exports. This was slightly larger than expected and cut old crop carryout to 1.365 bbu. This carried through and reduced new crop ending stocks an equal amount, taking it to 1.75 bbu. This equates to a stocks-to-use ratio of 11.3 percent and an average cash value of \$4.20 per bushel.

No changes were made to either old or new crop U.S. soybean balance sheets this month. This held old crop ending stocks at 350 mbu. New crop production remains at 4.34 bbu and carryout at 295 mbu. The new crop stocks to use is 6.7 percent, and still points to an average cash value of \$10.25 per bushel.

On wheat, the final old crop ending stocks number held at 841 mbu. New crop production also held at 1.921 bbu. Exports were bumped up 25 mbu this month, cutting ending stocks to 898 mbu, while trade had been expecting a slight increase. This is a 45.3 percent stocks to use, and equates to a cash value of \$5.40 per bushel, a 10 cent increase from May.

Global balance sheets changes were mixed. This year's world corn ending stocks are forecast at 285 million metric tons, 2.2 mmt less than in May and 2.7 mmt less than trade was expecting. The world soybean carryout is

now estimated at 124.2 mmt for this year, 1 mmt more than last month, and 500,000 mt more than trade expected. This year's world wheat ending stocks were trimmed to 263.98 mmt, 1 mmt less than expected.

New crop balance sheets also favored the grains. World corn stocks at the end of the 2025/26 marketing year are forecast at 275.24 mmt, nearly 10 mmt less than this year, and 3.6 mmt less than trade was expecting.

The world wheat supply is forecast to tighten 1.2 mmt next year, dipping to 262.76 mmt. This was 2.4 mmt under the average trade guess. The global soybean supply is expected to increase 1.1 mmt year to year, taking it to 125.3 mmt, 1 mmt more than expected.

Only minimal changes were made to U.S. beef production this month. For 2025 production was cut 70 million pounds to total 26.36 billion pounds. Production for 2026 was raised to 25.28 billion pounds, an increase of 140 million pounds. This year's beef exports are now forecast at 2.7 billion pounds, up 450 million from last month, and next year's at 2.47 billion pounds, a 250-million-pound reduction. Average steer values are now \$221.51 per hundredweight for this year and \$228.50 per cwt for 2026.

Beef imports are forecast at 5.2 billion pounds for 2025 and 5.03 billion pounds for 2026. These are mostly select grade cattle for ground beef to meet growing U.S. demand for that product.

No changes were made to pork production this month. This held 2025



MARKET ANALYSIS
By Karl Setzer

(Setzer continued on page 6)

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Number of duststorms in U.S. has doubled; cover crops may help

By **TIM ALEXANDER**
Illinois Correspondent

CHICAGO, Ill. — The May 16 dust storm that impacted Illinois, Indiana and Michigan was part of a larger storm system that resulted in several deaths and scores of injuries in Missouri.

A report issued by the National Weather Service (NWS) found that a complex of thunderstorms moved through an environment “favorable for efficient thunderstorm downdraft production,” triggering an outflow of straight-line winds in the upper Midwest. Visibility was significantly reduced across the area from about a half-hour to nearly two hours, resulting in multiple car crashes in central Illinois, according to the report’s author, W. Scott Lincoln, senior service hydrologist for NWS Chicago in Romeoville, Ill.

“These gusty winds moved across rural, agricultural areas that were recently tilled and planted for the spring, with soil moisture values below average for May. A significant amount of dirt and dust was lofted, leading to a rare dust storm for the area. A multi-county area experienced visibilities less than 1 mile, and the minimum observed visibility was 0.25 miles and near 0 miles at official weather stations and from unofficial reports, respectively,” said Lincoln.

Dust and dirt events with minimum visibilities of 0.63 miles or less are indicated as a “dust storm,” with minimum visibilities below 0.31 miles indicated as “severe dust

storm,” as defined by the American Meteorological Society’s Glossary of Meteorology. Severe dust storms associated with a wall of dust, along with a rapid onset of reduced visibilities and gusty winds, such as what NWS observed on May 16, are referred to as haboobs, based upon the Arabic word for ‘to blow.’

“Severe dust storms or haboobs are uncommon in the Midwest, and much more frequently observed in the Desert Southwest and Great Plains of the United States or in arid regions of the Middle East, Sahara Desert, or Central Australia,” Lincoln noted.

The storms were part of a larger system that caused deaths, dozens of injuries and property damage in St. Louis and other areas of Missouri, spawned tornadoes in Wisconsin, left hundreds of thousands without power in the Great Lakes region and brought a punishing heat wave to Texas, National Public Radio (NPR) reported.

The number of dust storms recorded annually across the U.S. doubled in just over a decade. Between 1996 and 2010, 512 dust storms were recorded across the U.S., averaging 34 per year. From 2011 to 2024, the total number of dust storms reached 1,223, for an annual average of 87. This is according to the National Centers for Environmental Information, a federal agency, which has stated that climate change has contributed to an increase in the frequency and intensity of dust storms, derechos

(Dust Storms continued on page 5



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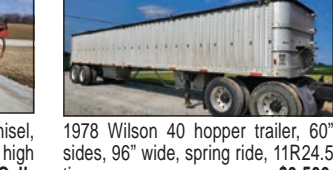
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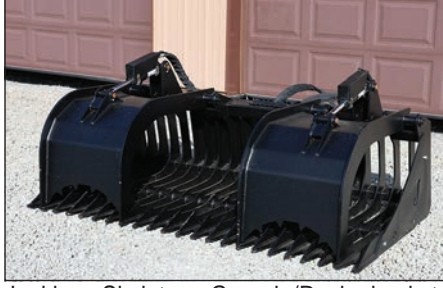
Jenkins brush mower, 3/4" deck, 14-25 gpm, heavy grass to 4" material
5'..... **\$5,400**
6'..... **\$5,600**
7'..... **\$6,100**



Jenkins 5500 LBS pallet forks, walk through frame,
4' frame x 4' forks (standard)..... **\$1,300**
5' frame x 4' forks **\$1,400**
5' frame x 5' forks **\$1,500**



Jenkins Brush Grapple, 3/4" tines, dual hydraulic cylinders.
86" **\$3,400**
76" **\$3,300**
66" **\$3,200**



Jenkins Skeleton Grapple/Rock bucket, cylinder covers, 3/8" tines
84" **\$3,300**
74" **\$3,200**
68" **\$3,100**



Jenkins Heavy Duty Dirt Buckets. 3/4" bolt on edge
68" **\$1,650**
74" **\$1,700**
84" **\$1,800**



Jenkins Split Top Brush Grapple, 3/4" tines, dual hyd. cylinders
86" **\$4,300**
76" **\$4,000**
66" **\$3,900**



Jenkins double bale spear, 49" spears spaced 34"..... **\$1,200**



Jenkins posthole digger, 2" hex drive, 9" & 18" augers..... **\$3,100**



Jenkins wood splitter, 5" 30-ton cylinder, 36" bite..... **\$3,200**



Jenkins Super Duty Tree Puller, pull, cut, dig & carry with one machine, 1" steel jaws..... **\$3,600**

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Dust Storms

FROM PAGE 4

and haboobs.

Kevin Brooks, commercial agriculture educator for the University of Illinois Extension, said some are citing the removal of hedge rows from farm field borders as a contributor to pop-up dust storms, such as the one that caused a 72-vehicle pileup and took the lives of seven motorists on Interstate 55 in central Illinois on May 10, 2023. Rather than requiring farmers to plant hedgerows — whose roots can choke nearby commercial crops and shade can hamper crop development — Brooks recommends stronger conservation programs that encourage more farmers to embrace conservation practices as a way to cut down on field dust.

“No-till and strip-till greatly reduce the likelihood of blowing soils. The newer and popular tillage equipment slices and dices the top several inches of soil into a powder, and at the same time, has sped up the speed of farming. That is what is causing the current dust storms when conditions are warm, dry, and the soils are bare or nearly so,” Brooks stated, in a recent article published by Extension and College of ACES. “Cover crops are very effective in preventing wind erosion, but they are not widely used. Cover crops add expenses and lost time, but in the long run, they can improve profitability, but that takes time, which is costly in the short run.”

Brooks is calling for a combination of changes in USDA conservation programs for farmers and lease requirements for farmland. “Currently, the United States Department of Agriculture’s farmer subsidies could be better clarified. The programs encourage increasing yields while not adequately solving environmental issues,” he said. “Furthermore, most farmland in Illinois is not owned by farmers but is owned by families that left farming years ago. Landowners need to provide incentives in lease structures to incentivize farmers to protect the land.”

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FROM PAGE 3

output at 28 billion pounds, and 2026 production at 28.37 billion pounds. The USDA cut 2025 pork exports by 110 million pounds to 6.95 billion, and lowered 2026 exports by 140 million pounds, putting them at an even 7 billion pounds. Average hog values are \$67.40 per cwt for this year and \$64.00 a cwt for 2026.

Prior to this data being released, the Brazilian firm CONAB put out its balance sheets for that country’s crops. CONAB puts Brazil’s soybean crop at 169.6 mmt, up from last month’s 168.3 mmt. Brazil’s soybean export forecast was raised 240,000 mt to a total of 106.24 mmt. Soybean carryout was projected at 4.83 mmt. CONAB put the Brazil corn crop at 128.25 mmt, up from May’s 126.9 mmt. Corn exports were held at 34 mmt as the country’s domestic corn demand increases. Corn carryout was cut to just 1.85 mmt.

A big story for the U.S. renewable

fuel industry was the release of the proposed renewable energy volume obligations for blending. The U.S. EPA is proposing a total RVO of 24.02 billion gallons for 2026. This includes 15 billion gallons of ethanol and 9 billion gallons of advanced biofuels, including 5.61 billion gallons of biodiesel. The previous proposal was for 5.2 billion gallons, but in recent weeks there have been concerns that the actual volume of biodiesel blending would fall short of that level. Biodiesel blending for 2025 is projected at 3.35 billion gallons.

An even greater benefit for the U.S. soy complex was reports that incentives for biofuel manufacturing made with raw stock from outside the U.S. would be less than on domestic stocks. This is a great benefit for soy oil, especially with tariffs placed on competing products such as used cooking oil from China.

The blow up between Israel and Iran caused crude oil to spike higher immediately following the initial attacks, but since then, crude oil has softened. The primary reason for this is there has not been a disruption to oil supply from the region. All eyes are on the

Jury awards money to men who say they were exploited working on Michigan farm

DETROIT (AP) – A jury has awarded more than \$500,000 to five men from Guatemala who said they were exploited and underpaid by a labor contractor that brought them to Michigan to plant and harvest fruit and vegetables.

Much of the verdict last week – \$450,000 – was in the form of punitive damages against Purpose Point Harvesting for violating an anti-trafficking law.

The five men testified in U.S. District Court in Grand Rapids. They recalled three seasons as laborers, handling asparagus, apples, cherries and other crops in Oceana and Newaygo counties, from 2017-19.

They sometimes worked 100 hours a week but never got paid for more than 60, wore headlights to pick asparagus after midnight and slept on couches, attorney Teresa Hendricks said June 11.

“They’re some of the bravest men I know,” Hendricks added. “They had to come to this country to stand up for their values and speak the truth in a strange courtroom, in a town they’re not familiar with, in front of a jury and lay it out bare.”

An attorney for Purpose Point said other workers contradicted the claims.

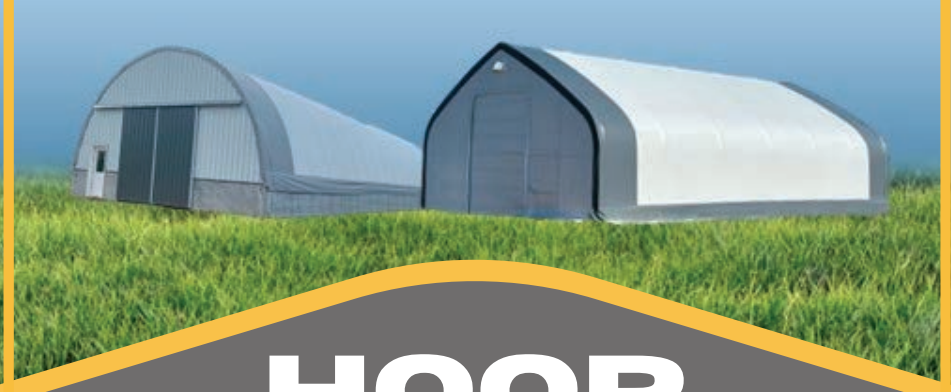
“Ultimately the jury makes a decision based on the facts they’re allowed to see. We still deny the allegations and look forward to the appeals,” Robert Alvarez said.

The men entered the U.S. under a federal program, known as H-2A, that allows farms to use foreign labor if they can’t find domestic workers. Purpose Point serves as a middleman, recruiting people to fill jobs at Michigan farms and handling payroll.

Strait of Hormuz, the main outlet for the region. If anything threatens passage through the strait, market reaction will be much different. OPEC is also monitoring the situation and has stated they will adjust production accordingly.

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to lose more than the full value of your account. All funds committed should be risk capital. Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results. The information contained in this report is collected from a variety of sources and is believed to be reliable but is not guaranteed to be accurate. This report is provided for informational purposes only and is not furnished for the purpose of, nor is it intended to be relied upon for specific trading in commodities herein named.



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50x100x23	18x16 door
50x120x23	18x16 door
50x200x23	18x16 door
60x80x25	18x16 door
60x100x25	18x16 door
60x120x25	18x16 door
60x150x25	18x16 door

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Purdue develops rapid detection test for highly pathogenic avian influenza

By DOUG SCHMITZ
Iowa Correspondent

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. – Purdue University researchers have developed a rapid detection test that could help U.S. poultry producers combat highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) faster.

According to Mohamed Kamel, a Purdue postdoctoral research associate, this test is suitable for use in field settings and addresses the urgent need for an efficient and cost-effective surveillance tool to combat the global threat posed by avian influenza viruses.

In 2022, avian influenza outbreaks affected 67 countries and resulted in the loss of 131 million domestic poultry. U.S. losses totaled 40 million birds, and \$2.5 to \$3 billion, he said.

“Such large-scale losses in poultry directly reduce the supply of eggs, which can drive up prices due to decreased availability,” said Kamel, who is also a faculty member at Cairo University in Egypt.

Kamel and four co-authors published the details of their new assay (a collection of probes, often arranged on a microarray or a similar platform, used to detect and identify different

subtypes of the avian influenza virus) in the journal, Scientific Reports.

Mohit Verma, Purdue associate professor of agricultural and biological engineering and lead author, said a key advantage of the test is its potential use across a variety of species: “It works by using an oral or nasal swab from an animal or human, and then transferring the sample to the paper-based devices.”

He told Farm World, “The rapid detection test builds on technology that my lab at Purdue University has been developing since 2018. It has previously been applied to challenges such as bovine respiratory disease, COVID-19, and food safety risk assessment. When we heard about the HPAI outbreak in 2022, we used the existing technology and started developing a new assay to detect HPAI. It took several months to get that assay ready, and then several more months to get it published.”

Kamel said the test should work across different livestock (i.e., poultry, dairy) and wildlife (i.e., birds, rodents), as well as humans: “The role of avian flu, particularly highly pathogenic avian influenza, in contributing to the high cost of eggs now and in the future, can be understood through its impact on the poultry industry.”

He said key features of the paper-based assay, which uses LAMP (loop-mediated isothermal amplification, which is a single-tube technique for the amplification of DNA for diagnostic purposes and a low-cost alternative to detect certain diseases) are its simplicity and accessibility: “Unlike conventional laboratory tests, it requires minimal training and only a water bath for incubation, enabling it to deliver results visible to the naked eye.”

He said the LAMP assay specifically targets the H5 hemagglutinin gene of the avian influenza virus. This assay offers important advantages over traditional diagnostic methods. He added that the test detects the ribonucleic acid (or RNA, which is a molecule that is present in the majority of living organisms and viruses) from H5N1 strain of the avian influenza virus with 100 percent analytical sensitivity and specificity in test samples.

He said the potential applications of the new technology extend beyond its current capabilities. He added that such enhancements could offer a practical solution to improve future global surveillance and control of avian influenza outbreaks.

The technology behind the assay is owned by the Purdue Research Foundation, and is exclusively licensed to Krishi, Inc., a startup company where Verma serves as chief technology officer: “In order to make (the test) available as a commercial product for farmers and veterinarians, it requires additional resources to get it through regulatory approval.

“If appropriate resources and accelerated regulatory approval were available, the technology would be commercialized through my startup company, Krishi, Inc., to conduct the additional validation studies, and obtain regulatory approval. This work could potentially be completed in a few months but requires additional support (from funding and regulatory agencies).”

 <p>Massey Ferguson 1105 CAH, Loader, Dsl., 3 Pt., PTO, Runs & Drives Well... \$8,750</p>	 <p>1979 John Deere 4240 OROPS, Quad Range, 3 Pt. Dual PTO, Good Tires, New Roof Ordered... \$16,500</p>	 <p>Case IH 445 Square Baler, 540 PTO, Good Knotters & Pickup, All Orig... \$4,750</p>	 <p>2022 JD 324G CAH, Pilot Controls, Aux Hyd Quick Tach, 72" Bkt, 1300 Hrs. w/Warranty Till Sept... \$36,500</p>	 <p>2015 Snorkel TB60 Kubota Dsl., 4X4, Good Tires Work Ready ... \$17,500</p>	 <p>2010 John Deere 8345RT, CAH, IVT, 3 Pt., 4 Remotes, 24" Tracks, 4300 Hrs., Very Nice ... \$119,500</p>
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 <p>1977 AC185 Dsl Power, 18.4x30 Tires, New Inj Pump, Work Ready... \$7,250</p>	 <p>2013 John Deere 9560RT, CAH, PS, Drawbar, 4 Remotes, 30" Tracks, 5200 Hrs... \$99,500</p>	 <p>2014 CAT 287D CAH, Hi-Flow, 2 Spd. Hyd. Q Tach VG Tracks, 2760 Hrs... \$39,500</p>	 <p>2005 JD 956 Moco 14'6" Cut, Impeller Conditioner, Good Knives, Gone Through, Ready to Mow... \$9,750</p>	 <p>New Idea 4865 540PTO, VG Belts, Monitor, Always Shredded, Sharp... \$5,750</p>	 <p>Ford 139 Soil Saver Chisel, 15 Shank, Used Very Little, From a Collector, Like New... \$17,500</p>



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Blue Grass Stockyards Lexington, KY

Livestock Weighted Average Report for 6/16/2025 - Final AUCTION			
	This Week	Last Reported 6/9/2025	Last Year
Total Receipts:	901	888	719
Feeder Cattle:	843(93.6%)	771(86.8%)	646(89.8%)
Slaughter Cattle:	52(5.8%)	98(11.0%)	64(8.9%)
Replacement Cattle:	6(0.7%)	19(2.1%)	9(1.3%)

Compared to last Monday feeder steers sold steady with good demand; few featherweights noticeably higher with very good demand. Feeder heifers sold 3.00 to 6.00 higher with very good demand. Yearling steers sold steady with very good demand. Yearling heifers good demand in a limited comparison. Slaughter cows and slaughter bulls sold 2.00 to 4.00 higher with very good demand. Supply included: 94% Feeder Cattle (57% Steers, 35% Heifers, 7% Bulls); 6% Slaughter Cattle (2% Heifers, 72% Cows, 17% Bulls, 9% Dairy Cows); 1% Replacement Cattle (50% Stock Cows, 25% Bred Cows, 25% Cow-Calf Pairs). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 69%.

Groups of 20 head or more:

Steers
26 hd 632 lbs 371.00 Blk Value-Added
69 hd 864 lbs 317.00 Blk Fancy
51 hd 913 lbs 290.00 Blk
63 hd 947 lbs 295.25 Blk Fancy
60 hd 1001 lbs 286.75 Blk Fancy

Heifers
60 hd 765 lbs 301.85 Blk Value-Added

FEEDER CATTLE					
STEERS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	275	275	487.50	487.50 Fancy	
1	305	305	445.00	445.00	
4	393	393	437.00	437.00	
3	443	443	405.00	405.00	
5	427	427	445.00	445.00 Fancy	
12	465-495	472	392.00-407.00	404.01	
8	457-486	479	419.00-421.00	419.48 Value Added	
19	507-530	519	399.00-414.00	410.59 Value Added	
28	551-593	576	372.00-399.00	381.74 Value Added	
3	625-645	633	321.00-350.00	340.46	
48	615-642	631	353.00-371.00	365.57 Value Added	
14	650-690	687	338.00-345.00	339.12	
9	700-745	723	289.00-315.00	304.54	
14	701-748	718	321.00-329.00	325.57 Fancy	
11	783-796	790	292.00-304.00	298.51	
14	788	788	329.50	329.50 Fancy	
1	840	840	288.00	288.00	
69	864	864	317.00	317.00 Fancy	
51	913	913	290.00	290.00	
63	947	947	295.25	295.25 Fancy	
1	1035	1035	221.00	221.00	
60	1001	1001	286.75	286.75 Fancy	

STEERS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	265	265	397.50	397.50	
1	355	355	400.00	400.00	
3	452-495	466	337.50-370.00	349.00	
3	500-547	531	322.00-335.00	330.92	
1	580	580	362.50	362.50	
2	687	687	310.00	310.00	
1	775	775	270.00	270.00	
8	975-980	979	254.00-255.00	254.88	

STEERS - Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	670	670	340.00	340.00	
1	700	700	306.00	306.00	
1	850	850	286.00	286.00	

HEIFERS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	275	275	422.50	422.50 Fancy	
2	320-340	330	382.50-402.50	392.80	
1	350	350	405.00	405.00 Fancy	
5	425-442	435	355.00-380.00	369.08	
6	420	420	405.00	405.00 Value Added	
2	450-495	473	352.50	352.50	
33	456-493	473	367.50-381.00	375.85 Value Added	
4	500-545	525	339.00-347.50	342.48	
20	500-547	518	349.00-365.00	355.60 Value Added	
2	565	565	324.00	324.00	
30	550-585	565	330.00-363.00	344.98 Value Added	
5	607-620	614	300.00-320.00	312.97	
42	601-642	620	323.00-339.00	334.11 Value Added	
15	655-694	682	295.00-319.00	303.40	
14	668-678	675	323.00-327.00	324.28 Value Added	
9	705-731	721	277.50-300.00	292.20 Value Added	
60	765	765	301.85	301.85 Value Added	
2	815-825	820	249.00-257.00	252.98	
1	915	915	265.00	265.00	
1	970	970	227.50	227.50	

HEIFERS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	305	305	315.00	315.00	
2	365	365	365.00	365.00	
3	437-445	440	325.00-347.50	332.59	
3	475-485	480	289.00-357.00	326.92	
6	515-545	537	300.00-322.50	311.28	
10	560-595	580	282.50-317.50	303.24	

1	690	690	280.00	280.00
1	745	745	232.50	232.50
1	815	815	220.00	220.00

BULLS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	245	245	472.50	472.50 Fancy	
2	275	275	460.00	460.00 Fancy	
1	355	355	422.50	422.50	
2	410-435	423	382.00-395.00	388.69	
4	455-480	465	362.00-366.00	363.78	
2	510-515	513	344.00-355.00	349.53	
7	555-595	578	343.00-370.00	356.42	
10	600-646	622	320.00-350.00	338.83	
1	690	690	327.00	327.00	
1	705	705	304.00	304.00	
10	750-780	772	240.00-260.00	248.40	
2	810-835	823	210.00-219.00	214.43	
2	905-945	925	188.00-205.00	196.32	
1	1010	1010	216.00	216.00	
1	1125	1125	201.00	201.00	

BULLS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	375	375	330.00	330.00	
2	525	525	330.00	330.00	
3	565-590	582	321.00-328.00	324.72	
1	630	630	315.00	315.00	
1	685	685	312.50	312.50	
2	777	777	224.00	224.00	

BULLS - Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)"					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	465	465	350.00	350.00	
1	505	505	330.00	330.00	

SLAUGHTER CATTLE						
HEIFERS - Choice 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing	
1	1170	1170	190.00	190.00	Average	
COWS - Breaker 75-80% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing	
3	1185-1350	1283	155.00-162.00	158.48	Average	
8	1290-1805	1538	168.00-176.00	170.84	High	
COWS - Boner 80-85% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing	
3	1035-1350	1192	156.00-163.00	158.40	Average	
10	1150-1650	1334	165.00-193.00	178.35	High	
COWS - Lean 85-90% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing	
1	840	840	141.00	141.00	Average	
4	925-1255	1108	155.00-171.00	163.24	High	
4	755-1155	978	125.00-137.00	130.87	Low	
DAIRY COWS - Breaker 75-80% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing	
1	1825	1825	169.00	169.00	High	
DAIRY COWS - Boner 80-85% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing	
3	1240-1445	1355	137.00-146.00	142.33	Low	
BULLS - 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing	
1	1360	1360	188.00	188.00	Average	
7	1480-1780	1623	215.00-237.00	224.40	High	

REPLACEMENT CATTLE						
STOCK COWS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-8	O	1	895	895	183.00	183.00
STOCK COWS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-8	O	3	800-985	862	161.00-163.00	162.24
BRED COWS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-8	T2	2	960-1080	1020	1700.00-1725.00	1713.24
COW-CALF PAIRS - Medium and Large 2-3 w/<150 lbs calf (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-8	O	2	885-905	895	1600.00-2325.00	1966.55
O	1	895	895	183.00	183.00	
STOCK COWS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-8	O	3	800-985	862	161.00-163.00	162.24
BRED COWS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-8	T2	2	960-1080	1020	1700.00-1725.00	1713.24
COW-CALF PAIRS - Medium and Large 2-3 w/<150 lbs calf (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-8	O	2	885-905	895	1600.00-2325.00	1966.55

Please Note: The above USDA LPGMN price report is reflective of the majority of classes and grades of livestock offered for sale. There may be instances where some sales do not fit within reporting guidelines and therefore will not be included in the report. Prices are reported on an FOB basis, unless otherwise noted.

Explanatory Notes:
Stage (Cattle) - Represents pregnancy stage (O = open; T1 =

MARKETS

Weekly National Sheep Summary For Week Ending Friday, June 13, 2025

Weekly Trends: Compared to last week Slaughter lambs 50-90 lbs. 11.00-20.00 lower and feeder lambs not well tested and slaughter ewes evenly steady.

All sheep sold per hundred weight (CWT) unless otherwise specified.

Slaughter Lambs: Choice and Prime 1-3	
San Angelo:	Wooled and shorn 50-60 lbs 255.00-265.00 60-70 lbs 252.00.00-260.00; 70-80 lbs 250.00-266.00.
New Holland:	80-90 lbs 295.00; 100-110 lbs 300.00; 110-120 lbs 270.00-275.00; 120-130 lbs 260.00-275.00.
Billings:	No test.
Ft. Collins:	Wooled and shorn 70-80 lbs 235.00-250.00; 80-90 lbs 220.00-250.00; 90-100 lbs 300.00; 100-110 lbs 235.00; 110-120 lbs 220.00-300.00.
Kalona:	Wooled and shorn 40-50 lbs 250.00-280.00; 50-60 lbs 245.00-280.00; 60-70 lbs 240.00-290.00; 70-80 lbs 225.00-270.00; 80-90 lbs 230.00-280.00; 90-100 lbs 227.50.
Equity Coop:	No test.
	70-80 lbs 250.00-285.00; 80-90 lbs 260.00-305.00; 90-100 lbs 265.00-280.00.
Sioux Falls:	60-70 lbs 225.00-240.00; 70-80 lbs 225.00-250.00; 80-90 lbs 225.00-245.00; 90-100 lbs 236.00-246.00; 100-110 lbs 222.00-238.00; 120-130 lbs 195.00-225.00; 130-140 lbs 210.00-228.00; 140-150 lbs 210.00-225.00.
Buffalo, MO:	No test.
Missouri:	Wooled and shorn 50-60 lbs 200.00; 60-70 lbs 205.00-212.50; 70-80 lbs 217.50; 80-90 lbs 222.50; 90-100 lbs 202.50-232.50.
Arkansas:	No test.
Equity Coop:	No test.

Slaughter Ewes:	
San Angelo:	Good 2-3 90.00-130.00.
New Holland:	Good 2-3 105.00-135.00; Utility 1-2 90.00-100.00.
Billings:	No test.
Ft. Collins:	Good 2-3 80.00-130.00; Good 4-5 80.00-120.00.
Kalona:	Good 2-3 95.00-115.00; Utility 1-2 67.50-85.00.
Sioux Falls:	Good 2-3 85.00-100.00; Good 4-5 60.00-100.00; Utility 1-2 55.00-135.00.
Buffalo, MO:	No test.
Missouri:	Good 2-3 130.00.
Feeder Lambs:	Medium and Large 1:
San Angelo:	40-50 lbs 212.00-240.00.
Billings:	No test.
Sioux Falls:	40-50 lbs 287.50-300.00; 50-55 lbs 285.00-290.00; 60-70 lbs 256.00-275.00.
Buffalo, MO:	No test.
Equity Coop:	90-100 lbs 223.50.
Missouri:	30-40 lbs 182.50; 40-50 lbs 197.50.
Ft. Collins:	No test.
Kalona:	30-40 lbs 270.00-285.00.
Arkansas:	No test.
Replacement Ewes: Medium and Large 1-2:	
San Angelo:	No test.
Ft. Collins:	No test.
South Dakota:	No test.
Kalona:	No test.
Billings:	No test.
Missouri:	150-160 lbs young/exposed 125.00.
Arkansas:	No test.
Buffalo, MO:	No test.
Sheep and lamb slaughter under federal inspection for the week to date totaled 37,000 compared to 38,000 last week and 43,000 last year.	
Source: USDA Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News	
General inquiries, please call: (202) 720-1990 email: mymarketnews@usda.gov	

Kentucky Daily Grain Bids

Grain Report for Thursday, June 18, 2025 - Final

FUTURE SETTLEMENTS								
Exchange	Commodity	Closing Settlement Prices (¢/bu) as of 6/18/2025						
CBOT	Corn	433.50 (Jul 25)	429.00 (Sep 25)	444.00 (Dec 25)	459.25 (Mar 26)	468.75 (May 26)	474.75 (Jul 26)	465.25 (Sep 26)
CBOT	Soybeans	1074.75 (Jul 25)	1076.75 (Aug 25)	1061.25 (Sep 25)	1068.25 (Nov 25)	1081.50 (Jan 26)	1091.00 (Mar 26)	1099.75 (May 26)
CBOT	Wheat	574.25 (Jul 25)	590.50 (Sep 25)	612.25 (Dec 25)	631.00 (Mar 26)	641.25 (May 26)	646.00 (Jul 26)	657.00 (Sep 26)
CBOT	White Oats	363.25 (Jul 25)	362.50 (Sep 25)	363.25 (Dec 25)	368.00 (Mar 26)	374.00 (May 26)	358.00 (Jul 26)	373.75 (Sep 26)
KCBT	Wheat	571.25 (Jul 25)	586.50 (Sep 25)	608.50 (Dec 25)	627.75 (Mar 26)	638.25 (May 26)	644.00 (Jul 26)	654.25 (Sep 26)
MGE	Wheat	646.25 (Jul 25)	661.50 (Sep 25)	678.75 (Dec 25)	694.25 (Mar 26)	700.00 (May 26)	701.50 (Jul 26)	688.00 (Sep 26)
US #2 WHITE CORN (BULK)								
Country Elevators - Conventional								
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average			
Pennyrile	75.00N to 150.00N	UNCH	5.0850-5.8350	UP 0.0200	5.4600			
Pennyrile	80.00Z	UNCH	5.2400	UP 0.0525	5.2400			
Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional								
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average			
Ohio River - Lower KY	80.00Z	UNCH	5.2400	UP 0.0525	5.2400			
Purchase	145.00N	UNCH	5.7850	UP 0.0200	5.7850			
Purchase	80.00Z	UP 10.00	5.2400	UP 0.1525	5.2400			
US #2 YELLOW CORN (BULK)								
Country Elevators - Conventional								
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average			
Purchase	20.00N	UNCH	4.5350	UP 0.0200	4.5350			
Purchase	-25.00Z	UNCH	4.1900	UP 0.0525	4.1900			
Green River	20.00N	UNCH	4.5350	UP 0.0200	4.5350			
Green River	-20.00Z	UNCH	4.2400	UP 0.0525	4.2400			
Pennyrile	-5.00N to 20.00N	UNCH	4.2850-4.5350	UP 0.0200	4.3900			
Pennyrile	-25.00Z to -10.00Z	UNCH	4.1900-4.3400	UP 0.0525	4.2500			
Louisville	4.00N to 6.00N	UNCH-UP 1.00	4.3750-4.3950	UP 0.0200-UP 0.0300	4.3850			
Louisville	-30.00Z	4.1400	DN 0.2250	4.1400				
Bluegrass	8.00N	UNCH	4.4150	UP 0.0200	4.4150			
Bluegrass	-40.00Z	UNCH	4.0400	UP 0.0525	4.0400			
Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional								
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average			
Ohio River - Upper KY	10.00N to 12.00N	UP 1.00-UP 2.00	4.4350-4.4550	UP 0.0300-UP 0.0400	4.4450			
Ohio River - Upper KY	-29.00Z to -26.00Z	UNCH	4.1500-4.1800	UP 0.0525	4.1650			
Ohio River - Lower KY	14.00N to 25.00N	UP 1.00-UNCH	4.4750-4.5850	UP 0.0300-UP 0.0200	4.5167			
Ohio River - Lower KY	-27.00Z to -16.00Z	UNCH	4.1700-4.2800	UP 0.0525	4.2267			
Purchase	14.00N to 15.00N	UP 1.00-UNCH	4.4750-4.4850	UP 0.0300-UP 0.0200	4.4800			
Purchase	-15.00U to -25.00Z	UNCH	4.1400-4.1900	UP 0.0525	4.1725			
US #1 SOYBEANS (BULK)								
Country Elevators - Conventional								
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average			
Purchase	5.00N	UNCH	10.7975	UP 0.0075	10.7975			
Purchase	-30.00X	UNCH	10.3825	UP 0.0050	10.3825			
Green River	-25.00N	DN 5.00	10.4975	DN 0.0425	10.4975			
Green River	-50.00X	UNCH	10.1825	UP 0.0050	10.1825			
Pennyrile	-35.00N to 11.00N	UNCH-DN 2.00	10.3975-10.8575	UP 0.0075-DN 0.0125	10.4989			
Pennyrile	-60.00X to -27.00X	UNCH	10.0825-10.4125	UP 0.0050	10.1868			
Louisville	-5.00N	UP 43.00	10.6975	UP 0.4375	10.6975			
Louisville	-89.00X	9.7925	DN 0.4675	9.7925				
Bluegrass	-45.00N	UNCH	10.2975	UP 0.0075	10.2975			
Bluegrass	-95.00X	UNCH	9.7325	UP 0.0050	9.7325			
Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional								
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average			
Ohio River - Upper KY	-1.00N	DN 2.00	10.7375	DN 0.0125	10.7375			
Ohio River - Upper KY	-36.00X to -32.00X	UP 1.00-UNCH	10.3225-10.3625	UP 0.0150-UP 0.0050	10.3425			
Ohio River - Lower KY	2.00N to 24.00N	DN 5.00-DN 2.00	10.7675-10.9875	DN 0.0425-DN 0.0125	10.8635			
Ohio River - Lower KY	-32.00X to -10.00X	UNCH-UP 1.00	10.3625-10.5825	UP 0.0050-UP 0.0150	10.4775			
Purchase	2.00N to 5.00N	DN 3.00-DN 2.00	10.7675-10.7975	DN 0.0225-DN 0.0125	10.7808			
Purchase	-32.00X to -18.00X	UNCH	10.3625-10.5025	UP 0.0050	10.4425			
US #1 MILLING SOFT RED WINTER WHEAT (BULK)								
Country Elevators - Conventional								
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average			
Pennyrile	10.00N	UNCH	5.8425	UP 0.2525	5.8425			
Pennyrile	10.00N	UNCH	5.8425	UP 0.2525	5.8425			

Explanatory Notes: Price & Basis Values quoted are for Current Delivery, unless otherwise noted.
CBOT/KCBT/MGETrade month symbols: F January; G February; H March; J April; K May; M June; N July; Q August; U September; V October; X November; Z December. FOB: Freight On Board. CIF: Cost, Insurance, and Freight. T: Truck, R: Rail, B: Barge, T/R: Truck/Rail, R/B: Rail/Barge, T/R/B: Truck/Rail/Barge, OV: Ocean Vessel

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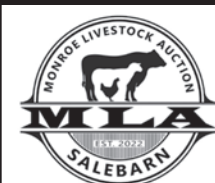
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Chickens	\$2-\$19	Ewes	Cull Cows
Bantys	\$4-\$11	40-60# Lambs	Bulls
Ducks	\$5-\$17	61-80# Lambs	
Pigeons	\$4.25-\$6	81-100# Lambs	
Eggs	\$1-\$4.50		
Rooster	\$2-\$17		
Turkey	\$30	Goats	Fat Cattle
Peacock	\$57	Billys	Holstein Open Heifers
Rabbits	\$4-\$20	Nannies	Colored
	1089	Kids	
Veal Calves			
Holstein	\$750-\$1100	Feeder Cattle Dairy and Beef	Pigs
Beef Cross	\$1050-\$1380	200-500#	Fat Hogs
	375	501-800#	Sows
			Boars

American Corn Belt is a barrier for migrating landbirds

By Hayley Lalchand
Ohio Correspondent

ITHACA, N.Y. — America’s Corn Belt is a barrier for migrating landbirds, causing them to adjust their flight behaviors, research from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology shows.

“Our definition of barrier is any kind of landscape with a lack of stopover sites, which are basically the resting and refueling points for birds when they’re migrating,” Fengyi (Freda) Guo, a postdoctoral scholar in the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, said. “Birds then need to negotiate [the barrier] through changes in their behaviors.”

For example, parts of the ocean and deserts have few or no stopover sites, making them natural barriers. The Corn Belt is an anthropogenic, or human-made, barrier; 76.4 percent of precolonial vegetation in the Midwestern US has been replaced by agricultural and urban areas and the landscape is primarily composed of corn fields.

Guo and her colleagues used five years of data from 47 weather radar stations in the United States to compare flight patterns of migrating landbirds crossing the Corn Belt and the forested landscapes south and north of the Corn Belt in spring and fall. Compared to forested landscapes,

birds crossing the Corn Belt fly faster and are more selective about flying with favorable tailwinds. Guo added that birds carefully adjust their flight time and height to take advantage of tailwinds.

This changed flight pattern is similar to the flight pattern of birds crossing the Gulf of Mexico, a natural barrier that birds must make a nonstop flight across. However, radar data shows that birds that do not make a nonstop flight over the Corn Belt are more likely to make stops in the scattered forested areas still present in the landscape. Guo emphasized that these forest fragments still present within the Corn Belt are extremely important because birds are making heavy use of them during migration.

“These forest fragments are the only available habitats for the billions of birds migrating through, as a lot of the forest species cannot make use of cornfields,” she said. “It would be great if all of these forest fragments could be protected or restored. Or even restoring more habitat for migrating birds to create what we call stepping stones throughout this area.”

While the Corn Belt is still a weaker barrier than other natural barriers, if the remaining stepping stones or forest areas continue to disappear,

the landscape will become significantly more challenging for birds to cross. The forests surrounding and bordering the Corn Belt are also critical, Guo added, because birds tend to pile up in those areas after crossing barriers to rest and refuel.

According to the 2025 State of the Birds report, published by Cornell University, birds across most habitats have suffered major losses since 1970; airland and grassland species have both lost over 40 percent of their total populations over the past 55 years. The report also determined that around one-third of US bird species are of high or moderate conservation concern, meaning the species are at a greater risk of extinction or degradation. The North American bird population is down nearly three billion birds since 1970, the vast majority being migratory birds.

Habitat loss and degradation are two of the leading causes of bird declines. Climate change has also impacted the timing of migration, sometimes leading to a lack of food sources for birds as they migrate. Migratory barriers could lead to some species becoming locally extinct or a

species “reshuffle” as some species disappear and others become the majority, Guo added. Declining bird populations also impact human society, as birds provide pest control and seed dispersal.

Currently, Guo and her research group are collaborating with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service on an incentive-based conservation program, centering on habitat protection and restoration on private working lands.

“Specifically, we are helping to design a new conservation framework that includes part of the Midwest Corn Belt,” Guo said. “We are working on providing maps to help identify priority areas for this new conservation framework for land that is identified as stopover hotspots.”

The group is hopeful that the framework will be implemented in the next few years to provide financial and technical assistance to farmers. Guo and her colleagues are also continuing to investigate the factors driving declining bird populations, examining stopover habitats, and quantifying the impact of climate change.



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North Carolina governor forms council to recommend cannabis regulations

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) – North Carolina Gov. Josh Stein says a panel he’s tasked with recommending cannabis sale regulations – including potential legalization of adult use of marijuana – should aim to provide a structure in a state where products now from otherwise lawful hemp are unregulated and leave young people unprotected.

The Democratic governor recently signed an executive order creating a State Advisory Council on Cannabis. North Carolina is among a small number of states whose laws prohibit marijuana for both medicinal use or adult recreational use. The General Assembly would have to enact any law legalizing marijuana. The council’s findings could add pressure

upon lawmakers to place regulations on products, many of which can be obtained at vape and convenience stores.

The order directs the 24-member council to offer preliminary recommendations for a “comprehensive cannabis policy” and any proposed legislation by next March 15, with final recommendations by the end of 2026.

Council members include representatives of state agencies, law enforcement, legislators and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, whose dispensary on tribal land has sold since last year marijuana and cannabis products to any adult over 21.

“Let’s work together on a thoughtful, comprehensive solution that allows sales to adults and that is grounded in public safety and health,” Stein said June 4 in a news release. “We can work together and get this right.”

Hemp is a lawful form of cannabis in the state based on its low levels of THC, the chemical that in larger amounts makes people high. Consumable products made from hemp promote CBD, the non-psychoactive chemical within it.

But Stein, the former attorney general, says some in the hemp product industry have found ways to extract enough THC from hemp so that their offerings also provide the high of marijuana. He said this has led to an unregulated “Wild West” cannabis market in which anyone, including children, can purchase products with “intoxicating THC.”

In an interview with WRAL-TV, Stein said that he personally supports legalizing adult recreational use of marijuana and other intoxicating THC products, and believes a

structure can be put in place that simultaneously keeps them away from children.

“I believe adults should be able to choose what they want to do, but they need to have information,” Stein said. “They need to be protected.”

Legislation that would authorize medical marijuana have cleared the Senate in the past, but have failed to pass the House.

Council members include Republican state Sen. Bill Rabon and GOP Rep. John Bell. Rabon has championed medical marijuana legalization at the General Assembly, while Bell is an executive at a manufacturer of CBD and hemp-based products and who has called for stricter industry regulation.

Stein said the council should propose developing a regulatory system that “allows adult sales, ensures public safety, promotes public health, supports North Carolina agriculture, expunges past convictions of simple THC possession, and invests the revenues in resources for addiction, mental health, and drugged driving detection.” The order says recommendations also should consider taxation.

For now, Stein said, the General Assembly should pass laws prohibiting sales of products with intoxicating THC to anyone under 2021 and set packaging standards.

Thirty-nine states and the District of Columbia allow the medical use of cannabis products, while about half of the states and D.C. have legalized small amounts of cannabis for adult recreational use, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.



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Beck’s, National Tractor Pullers Association extend partnership

By Michele F. Mihaljevich
Indiana Correspondent

ATLANTA, Ind. – Beck’s and the National Tractor Pullers Association (NTPA) have extended a partnership that includes financial awards for competitors and advertising, according to an NTPA official.

“In our universe, the patrons for both Beck’s and the NTPA match up well,” said Gregg Randall, NTPA executive director. “Agriculture is the main component in this rural derived sport, and fans share commonality with needing seed and other services that Beck’s supplies at a world-class level. The Beck’s involvement allows (them) to educate and inform the fans as well as the opportunity to meet representatives at the events.”

Last year was the first year of the partnership. The extension, announced in late May, calls for Beck’s to be the official seed of the NTPA through the 2027 season.

In addition to the financial component that awards competitors with end-of-season winnings, Randall said the extension also includes a relationship component to which Beck’s attended over 50 of the 80 NTPA national events. At those events, Beck’s interacted with pullers and fans – customers and potential customers – and spread the word about Beck’s, he noted.

“At the events, attendees are educated by public address announcements regarding Beck’s, flags and signage, as well as the NTPA jumbotron at most NTPA Grand National

Events,” Randall said. “The pulling vehicles are required to display a pair of decals as well.”

Beck’s commercials are shown during the weekly broadcast of the NTPA Championship Pulling presented by Case IH TV show on RFD-TV.

Beck’s is the first official circuit sponsor for the NTPA, Randall said. The idea of a partnership began during a meeting at the 2023 Farm Science Review in London, Ohio, he said. The collaboration has exceeded everyone’s expectations, Randall added.

“What started as a simple conversation quickly turned into a natural fit,” said Hannah Rayl, Beck’s media and industry relations coordinator. “The more we learned about the NTPA and the people behind it, the more it felt like opportunity we could not pass up. Tractor pulling brings together the same kind of grit, family values and community spirit that we see in our customers every day. It just made sense to team up and support a sport that reflects so much of who we are and who we serve.”

The NTPA’s events are primarily in the Great Lakes region – Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin – and specifically in the eastern half of the U.S., Randall said.

“The NTPA is very proud to have such a respected and top tier company as Beck’s as one of its major sponsors, and is very excited to see this

relationship continue to grow and prosper for a very long time,” he said.

“The NTPA was proud to be part of a December program at the Beck’s Atlanta, Ind.-based headquarters as a guest. Many of the NTPA competitors were also in attendance and were impressed by the history of the company and their honest approach to their business model. We look forward to being involved in future programs with our NTPA members.”

Beck’s, founded in 1937, is the largest family owned retail seed company and the third-largest seed brand in the U.S. The NTPA was created in 1969 and is the sport’s oldest truck and tractor pulling sanctioning organization.



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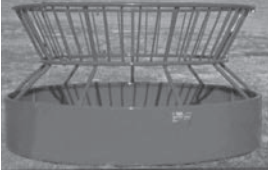
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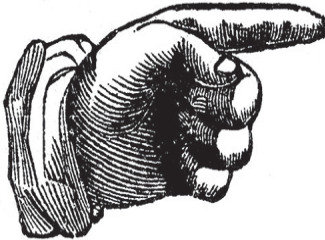
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By William Flood
Ohio Correspondent

The image shows a red Lincoln Electric AC 225 AMP Linxwelder power source. The unit is a large, rectangular, red-painted metal box. On the front panel, there is a control panel with a voltage selector knob. The knob is currently set to 175V. The control panel also features a 'CAUTION' label and a 'WARNING' label. The unit is mounted on a wooden base. The Lincoln Electric logo is visible on the front panel.

A blue metal rolling cabinet with six drawers and a top tray. The cabinet is on wheels and has a label '0723' on the top right drawer. The top tray is open, and the cabinet is in a workshop setting.

A red Ferris riding lawn mower is shown from a side-rear perspective, parked on a green lawn. The mower features a yellow fuel tank, a black engine, and a black battery. The brand name 'FERRIS' is visible on the rear frame, and 'DualDrive 52' is printed on the side of the deck. The mower has large, treaded tires and a smaller front wheel.

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Adding colorful tulips to an established farm

By DOUG GRAVES
Ohio Correspondent

COOKEVILLE, Tenn. – Many farmers who get bitten by the flower farming bug turn their beds into a wide array of plants, such as sunflowers, amaranth, dahlias, zinnias, marigolds



Above: After picking tulips of their choice, customers get their flowers wrapped and packaged before heading home. (photo submitted)

and celosia statice.

Paul and Stacey Sharp, of Little Creek Flowers in Cookeville, opted to stick to just one flower variety – the tulip.

"This farm has been in my family for over 50 years, and it's always been a working farm," Stacey said. "The past few years, I've really been wanting to expand it into agritourism, and this spring I finally talked everyone into doing tulips."

Yeah, 50,000 tulips.

"I think agritourism is the new generation of farming," Stacey said. "It gets people outdoors and they can learn and, in this case, see beautiful flowers and even take some home as well."

Tulips typically bloom in spring ranging from late March to mid-May depending on the variety and weather conditions. The Sharp's tulips didn't disappoint and were large, showy and brightly colored: red, orange, pink, yellow and white.

Stacey's father, Wayne Moss, has operated a produce stand on the farm for many years. His was called Little Creek Produce. He gave the idea of tulips his blessing as the thought of adding tulips to attract folks to the farm and keeping it alive sounded like a good idea.

And while Stacy's farming roots run deep, Paul's don't.

"I didn't grow up on a farm, but I did grow up working on some farms when I was in high school back in Virgin-



Above: Paul and Stacey of Cookeville, Tenn., decided to dedicate an acre to tulips and agritourism. (photo submitted)

ia," Paul said. "But when I met Stacy, it was all over after that. I've been involved for the past four years or so and I don't really see us stopping. It's been awesome."

The Sharp's farm is in proximity to Tennessee Tech and attracts college students and faculty, but also families in and around Putnam County. Any motorist will tell you 50,000 tulips are

hard to miss from the roadside.

"Paul called me one day and said, 'I just ordered 50,000 bulbs.' And I said, 'Alright, so we're in it,'" Stacey said. "We worked closely with our provider for the bulbs. That, and my dad's knowledge of farming for decades, has

(Tulips continued on page 2B)

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Tulips

FROM PAGE 1B

been huge. We feel good about what we accomplished this first time around.”

Paul said, “We talked to a lot of different tulip farmers and a lot of it came down to taking a risk and seeing what worked for us and this farm. We had to change and alter quite a bit of the ex-

isting farm to accommodate a parking lot and some other things, but it really worked out well.”

The couple (who were married March 20) planted the bulbs, hoping they would bloom right before their wedding. They did just that.

“Getting these bulbs to stay in the ground for as long as possible was huge for us,” Paul said. “When we think back to what we did when it was freezing cold in December, wearing

three layers and riding behind a tractor and dropping bulbs in the ground. Everything has been such a blessing.”

Stacey said, “If you really want to test a relationship to see if it’s the right one, do a big project like this. He knew when he met me this was it for me, and he’s always had a great work ethic, too. We both just know we’re going to put 100 percent into anything we do, and that’s been huge.”

And huge it was. This past spring the Sharps were able to offer two-and-a-half acres of U-pick tulips, which ended up being roughly three miles of actual rows of flowers. With a flat \$5 entry fee at the gate, visitors were able to enjoy the scenery and flowers. For those wanting to take some flowers home, the Sharps charged either by the stem or per dozen, whichever the customer preferred. After picking the tulips, customers got their flowers wrapped and packaged for transport

home.

“We still want to grow a little bit more,” Stacey said. “We want to do more bulbs next year and keep them healthy and keep the varieties really pretty. I’m a quality over quantity kind of person and Paul is too.”

The Sharps plan to offer sunflowers in the fall, adding a rotational crop and striving to keep the agritourism part of the farm alive.

Tulips are typically planted in the fall for spring blooms. The plants prefer well-drained soil with a slightly acidic to neutral pH. Tulips thrive in full sun in the northern regions and partial shade in the south.

Tulips should be dug up and divided every three to four years if planted in the ground, or they can be left in pots for multiple years.

Growers will tell you that tulip farming requires significant investment in labor, infrastructure and marketing.

Pennsylvania suing USDA over cutting a \$1 billion food aid program for states

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) – Pennsylvania sued the USDA on June 4, saying the agency, under President Donald Trump, had illegally cut off funding to it through a program designed to distribute more than \$1 billion in aid to states to purchase food from farms for schools, child care centers, and food banks.

The lawsuit in federal court, announced by Gov. Josh Shapiro, a Democrat, comes three months after the USDA advised states that it was ending the pandemic-era assistance program because it no longer reflected agency priorities.

“I don’t get what the hell their priorities are if not feeding people and taking care of our farmers,” Shapiro said at a news conference at a food bank warehouse in Philadelphia.

The USDA declined comment.

The lawsuit, filed in federal court in Harrisburg, asks the court to reverse the USDA’s decision to end the reimbursement program.

Shapiro’s administration, in the lawsuit, said the USDA’s termination

of the contract was illegal, saying the USDA didn’t explain why it no longer reflected agency priorities and that the contract didn’t expressly allow the USDA to terminate it for those reasons.

Shapiro said he was confident that Pennsylvania would win the lawsuit.

“A deal is a deal,” Shapiro told the news conference. “They made a deal with our farmers ... they made a deal with Pennsylvania and they illegally broke it.”

The loss to Pennsylvania is \$13 million under a three-year contract, money that the state planned to use to buy food from farms to stock food banks. States also use the money to buy food from farms for school nutrition programs and childcare centers. Purchases include commodities such as cheese, eggs, meat, fruits and vegetables.

The department, under then-President Joe Biden, announced a second round of funding through the program last year.

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Indiana Pork announces fair sandwich

INDIANAPOLIS - Indiana Pork is proud to announce the official "Taste of the Fair" of the 2025 Indiana State Fair: the Hog and Slaw - a mouthwatering pulled pork sandwich topped with creamy coleslaw and served on a soft bun.

Created to showcase the versatility of pork, the Hog and Slaw combines tender, slow-cooked pulled pork with the crunch and tang of fresh coleslaw. The result is a flavor-packed, fair-ready sandwich that's equal parts comfort food and delicious.



"This sandwich is a delicious addition to our menu of popular pork items," said Jeanette Merritt, director of communications at Indiana Pork. "We wanted to create something simple, hearty, and fun. The Hog and Slaw delivers on all fronts."

The Hog and Slaw will be available exclusively at the Indiana Pork Tents throughout the 2025 Indiana State Fair, running Aug. 1-17 (closed on Mondays) at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis.

Known for serving up crowd favorites like pork burgers, pulled pork and boneless pork loin sandwiches, the Indiana Pork Tent is a must-visit destination for fairgoers seeking savory flavors and a connection to Indiana agriculture.

To learn more about Indiana Pork and its commitment to promoting pork and supporting Indiana's farming community, visit www.indianapork.org.



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As drones become more commonplace some people forget safety

By **TIM ALEXANDER**
Illinois Correspondent

URBANA, Ill. — With the threat of tariffs on overseas products looming, more Americans are purchasing drones for commercial and first responder use than ever before. The “Drones for First Responders Act” (HR 8416) currently before the House Subcommittee on Trade, proposes steep new tariffs on Chinese-made drones, starting at 30 percent and rising. It also reportedly creates federal grant programs to help farmers, first responders and infrastructure operators transition to secure, domestically produced drone technology.

To help farmers who may be interested in keeping an eye on their crops and cattle with an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), or drone, University of Illinois Farm Business Management and Marketing Educator Kevin Brooks issued a news release offering several tips to help farmers carry out tasks efficiently and effectively after proper preparation.

Brooks’ tips for farmers before going into the field with a drone include:

- Ensure you are FAA-certified (Federal Aviation Administration). To scout or complete any farm business purposes, the pilot must have acquired FAA Part 107 certification. The certification is valid for two years and is easy to renew.
- If your drone has no controller with a built-in flight screen, use an approved device such as an iPad instead of your phone. The larger screen will be much easier to see on bright and sunny days.
- Verify with your insurance professional that your farm has adequate insurance for mishaps caused by drone operations.
- Plan your scouting flights before going to the field to anticipate needs and potential problems with the drone and the growing crops. Use your sectional maps, apps, and FAA information (NOTAM Notice to Airmen) to check for restrictions or warnings. Record your search in your flight log. Many farm

tracts are near airports and military operations areas. Apply for flight restriction clearances in advance where you have good data signals.

- Update your drone, device (cell phone or iPad) and controller per the manufacturer’s instructions to prevent flight delays at the field.

In addition, Brooks issued tips for farmers taking drones to the field. They include:

- Record the weather, locations, challenges, and other details in your flight log. Use your weather app to record wind speed and gusts, cloud coverage, and cloud ceilings, and check for flight restrictions that might come up in advance at the office. If you have an accident, proving you acted responsibly is essential.
- Determine if you need to avoid obstacles on your flight controller. Drone obstacle avoidance features are perfect for safety. However, some drones have been known to avoid a huge orange ball in the sky known as the sun, which can disrupt your flight.
- Check for other aircraft, such as aerial sprayers, drones, and machinery in the field or nearby fields. Military operations areas exist in Illinois and so be aware. As a drone pilot, you may need to receive permission to fly above fields located in these areas.

“There are many other considerations when making your first scout flight of the year or even other flights as the growing season progresses. As drone pilots, getting complacent and skipping over essential details is easy. Problems and collisions can and do occur, but careful planning helps to avoid these situations,” said Brooks. “If you are fully prepared for your flight, field scouting with drones can be very beneficial to your farm operation.”

In a followup to the news release, Brooks explained to Farm World readers that anything one is doing with a drone on a farm that is for farm purposes requires a Part 107 Commercial Drone Pilot Certification. “Take the time (such as a course) to learn what you need to know

about Part 107 Certification. The certification exam would be hard to pass for most people without taking a good class. The exam I am told covers over half or more of what the written part of a basic pilot’s exam (not remote, you are going to actually be flying),” he said, in an email.

Brooks went on to highlight the common mistakes new agricultural drone operators might typically make:

- Not being fully aware of legalities and flying in violation. The fines can be very steep.
- Not fully going through what you will need or need to do prior to leaving the office. In other words, not having a plan.
- No doing recent and nearby calibrations
- Software updates for your drone, controller, and device.
- Being in a hurry, not emotional-

ly engaged.

By the end of 2024 around 400,000 DJI agricultural drones were in use globally, according to DJI Agriculture’s fourth annual Agricultural Drone Industry Insight Report, unveiled at Brazil’s Agrishow 2025 a few weeks ago. This represents a 90 percent increase in global agricultural drone usage since 2020.

Prices for agricultural drones are dropping, making them more affordable for farmers. DJI’s Agras MG-1 crop spraying drone, for example, fell from around \$15,000 to \$5,000 in just a couple of years. Connectivity and infrastructure limitations, however, remain impediments to the widespread adaption of precision agriculture and drone usage, according to the DJI white paper.

To read Brooks’ entire article, visit extension.illinois.edu/news-releases/how-prepare-field-scout-your-farm-drone.



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Victory over a mouse in the house

Early last week, I smugly remarked to my wife, “You know, we’ve only had three mice in our house in 25 years. According to my calculations, we’re averaging over eight years per mouse.”

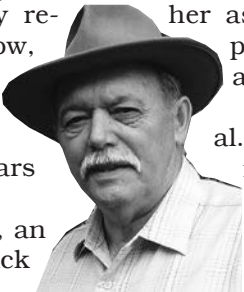
The recent warm evenings, an open door and the large crack at the bottom of the screen door and door frame were about to upset the current occurrences of our critter-encounters.

The very next evening... I’m saying THE VERY NEXT EVENING, I looked in amazement as a mouse went whizzing by the TV, along the living room wall, and shot under the closet door and into the wine storage area.

When I saw the rodent rascal, I was going to leap from the couch like a Ninja to intercept the speeding rodent! Thankfully at the precise moment, I remembered my Ninja leaping days are far behind me. At my age, a Ninja leap from the couch to quickly dispatch a mongrel mouse might bring a visit from the EMT guys.

I hollered for the assistance of my faithful companion and “critter co-wrangler” – “Chris where are the mouse traps?”

My wife went out to the garage and soon came back with two mouse traps she had stored away about eight years ago. I thank the Lord for



SPAULDING OUTDOORS
By Jack Spaulding

her as I can’t remember where I put something eight minutes ago.

I had two traps at my disposal... one very modern self-cocking all contained plastic one and an old style, simple spring-wire on a small wood plank.

After choosing my preferred bait “du jour,” peanut butter, I put a small dab of the irresistible concoction on the trigger of both traps.

I quickly learned the only thing in danger of being caught by the new ultra-modern trap was my finger. It quickly took a one-way trip to the trash can. Luckily, the only thing injured by the newfangled trap’s hair-trigger trap was my pride.

Left with the single trap, I confidently told Chris, “One trap is all I need.”

Calling on my many years of outdoor experiences and my ability to read “sign,” and how to determine critter trails of travel, I put the trap at the intersection of the floor molding and the corner of the wine closet. Perfect!

I lay awake in bed for a couple hours waiting to hear the satisfying sound of “SNAP” signifying a quick end to the rodent’s reign of terror. No snap... so I finally dozed off.

The next morning, I walked into the living room fully assured there would be a mouse carcass in the trap.

What? No mouse!

Later in the day, I hit the couch for an afternoon nap. Just as I was about to doze off, the mouse came streaking out of the wine closet and tucked in behind the TV cabinet.

Getting up from the couch, I walked to the corner and picked up my heavy

walking stick. It is oak, about four feet long and an excellent choice for battling even the largest mouse.

I dared the mouse to come out and go one-on-one with me and my hill-billy shillelagh. I’d even give the rodent his choice of an appropriately sized toothpick.

My intent was to use the oak staff as a makeshift pool cue and pin the mouse against the floor trim. However, the plan also had a very distinct drawback. It would require me to get down on the floor to assume the pool-shooting position. My getting down would probably require a visit by the EMTs to get me back up again.

Intently watching the mouse, I didn’t notice my wife now entering the fray armed with her trusty fly swatter. The mouse made a dash for the kitchen and barely escaped a first-rate swatting from my wife. The mouse now decided to hide under our two raised front kitchen cabinets.

From her elevated view, Chris couldn’t see the mouse, but from my lower perspective from the couch. I could plainly see the varmint. I immediately became the spotter, not so unlike the artillery spotters of World War II.

There was an open area at both ends of the cabinets and in the middle. I’d call out the rodent’s position and Chris would respond with a fly swatter assault.

After 15 minutes of vigorous exercise and no success playing whack-a-mole with the mouse, my wife decided to break our association with the Geneva Convention and bring gas warfare into play. She armed herself with a can of fly spray.

Now, when I called out the mouse’s location, she would give it a shot ev-

ery time it was in one of the open spaces. The spray was having its effect. The fly spray on the ceramic tile floor was slowing the mouse down ... its little feet couldn’t get any traction. I thought I could almost hear its tiny feet and toenails going clickity, clickity, click. Chris’s gas attack also resulted in the mouse being drenched by the spray and consequently, making bad decisions.

Suddenly, the rodent ran into the stairway and into an open corner. For the mouse... it was one, two, three strikes you’re out... and a well-aimed swat from Chris knocked the varmint semi-senseless.

Chris then flipped the stunned mouse out of the corner, and in a smooth move even baseball’s great Joe DiMaggio would envy, she shoved the screen door open and snatched up the mouse on the end of the fly-swatter like a ground ball and sent it spiraling away towards the driveway.

Victory was ours among the stench of fly spray!

Later, as we started through the garage to go to town for bird seed and suet, Chris calmly said, “Jack, there’s another snake in the garage.”

Shaking my head in disbelief, I went to retrieve my heavy gloves.

‘till next time,

Jack

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

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NAMA hosts 66th annual Corn Dry Milling Conference in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS — Nearly 100 corn industry stakeholders attended the 66th annual Corn Dry Milling Conference (CDMC) held in St. Louis on May 28-29. The CDMC has provided a forum for the entire value chain to share the latest research since 1959. The event is hosted by the North American Millers' Association (NAMA).

New for this year, the event was hosted at the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, the world's largest independent nonprofit dedicated to plant science. CDMC was held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the NC-1183, a multi-state group of university and USDA scientists that covers a broad range of topics encompassing the disciplinary breadth of mycotoxicology. Also new for 2025, attendees had the opportunity to connect with exhibitors across the corn milling supply chain.

"The 66th annual Corn Dry Milling Conference featured speakers on the cutting edge of science impacting mycotoxin prevention, food safety, and much more," said NAMA President Jane DeMarchi. "This event put a spotlight on topics ranging from AI to gene editing and sustainability throughout the supply chain."

The CDMC featured 11 speakers from USDA, universities, and the private sector. Ohio State University scientists presented a poster session to highlight current research.

A selection of the featured topics and speakers included:

- Health Effects of Mycotoxins - Martha Vaughan (USDA)
- Predicting DON Contamination in Corn for Management and Marketing Decision-making - Pierce Paul (Ohio State University)
- Opportunities for GM Disease Resistance in Corn to Prevent Mycotoxins - Josiah Mutuku (2Blades)
- Current Applications of AI in Agriculture - Nicolas Martin (University of Illinois)
- Pest Management for Corn Mills - Pete Mueller (FSS, Inc.)
- Recyclable Packaging - Jeff Chalabi (Central Bag Company)

"The CDMC underscores how everyone from the farm to the mill relies on research being conducted by USDA, universities, and technology companies," said Eric Rasgorshek (Bunge Milling), CDMC Planning Committee Chair. "Farmers, millers, and food manufacturers will continue to rely on scientific breakthroughs like these to deliver safe products to consumers today and into the future."

For more information about upcoming NAMA events, visit namamillers.org/our-events.

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Bob Emery's impressive collection in Illinois

CARLINVILLE, Ill. - Bob Emery collects many things, with well pumps being one of the most notable. Growing up on a farm in Macoupin County, Ill., Emery followed in his father Orville's footsteps. Orville was an avid collector of Indian artifacts. Today Emery has an award-winning collection of arrowheads, axes and more.



WRENCHING TALES
By Cindy Ladage

Graduating from Carlenville high school in 1960, Emery farmed briefly with his dad before joining the army. After the army, he worked in a print shop. He met his future wife Sharlyne on a blind date. They married and had two kids, Scott and Tammy. Emery went to work selling steel for KS Steel, and as a carpenter before retiring on to the farm.

Emery started collecting pump jacks around 1995 and has amassed an amazing collection since then. This is a family affair; besides Orville, Emery's son Scott also collects. The family collection is profiled in a book created by his sister Tammy Bolino showcasing each family member's well pumps. The book is a cherished item today. The book provides a complete inventory of the family collections. Besides the book, Bolino also painted one of the large ornate pumps in a variety of colors, making it one of the family favorites.

Over the years Emery bought pumps mostly in pieces, then restored them. He gives away duplicates, keeping his collection updated. The collection includes small pumps along with large ones. His first well pump was a Peters Co. two-cylinder pump. The collection represents a variety of companies including Blue Star, Wistrand, Hayes, Planter, F.E. Meyers Brothers along with Red Jack-ets and some without company names being identified. His collection includes force pumps, full body pumps, and small pitcher pumps.

One of the ornate pumps has leaves and a frog on the spout. The company hasn't been identified, but this pump is Emery's favorite. "I found it at a flea market. I have about 100 well pumps in all," he said.

His collection includes a rare salesman sample, and a Meyers water pump used for steam engines. "This pumped water from a water wagon or creek or pond to the steam tractor."

Emery said his oldest pump, dating to the 1800s, is a post pump made



Above: Bob Emery beside one of his cabinets filled with Indian artifacts.

from a hollowed-out post. Found in an antique store, the pump's handle and spout are made of metal. "This was originally used by pioneers on the prairie," Emery added.

Another unusual pump is the Arkansas bucket, which was used in the rocky terrain.

Besides flea markets and antique stores, several pumps have been gifts from friends or people that knew he collected them.

Emery's collections extend to tools, cans, key chains, and the collection of native artifacts. At first Emery said he wasn't really interested in what he considered his father's hobby. He caught the bug during a squirrel hunting trip where he found his first artifact. The collection isn't identified by Indian tribes, it is by time periods, the paleo, archaic and Woodland. "That is how you categorize them," Emery said.

He found most of his artifacts near his home. Many by Beaver Dam, and in nearby creeks and creek banks that landowners allowed him to hunt on. "I have found mostly arrow heads and knives for shooting game and axes. Axes Emery explained changed over time. "The older axes have grooved surfaces all the way around, then they learned that a three-quarter groove works just as well."

Eventually, the axes changed to smaller sharper, no grooved shapes. Not all stone artifacts were used for work. Emery also has a Dissedial stone

(Wrenching continued on page 13B)



Above: Scott Emery shares the oldest pump that Emery owns, a pioneer pump made from a hollowed post.

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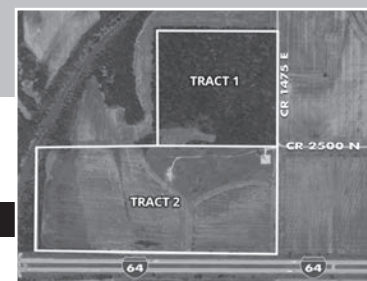
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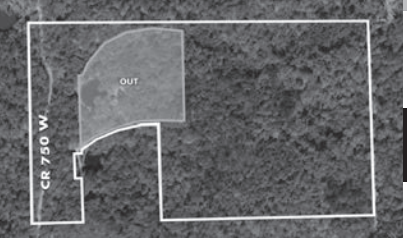
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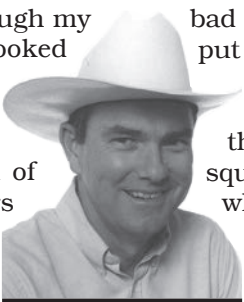
Pinkeye can cause problems when trying to sell cattle

When pinkeye raged through my kindergarten class, we all looked like a bunch of crybabies who'd been ballin' our eyes out because our class hamster, Hieronymus, died of suspicious causes. Mothers back then were pulling their kids out of class faster than an Arizona road-runner with its tail-feathers on fire and pretty soon the weepy-eyed teacher and I were the only ones who showed up for school. So, I know what the pinkeye calves are experiencing right now in my neck of the woods.

We had a weird year of rainfall. We didn't get very much but what we did get was timed perfectly so now the rye grass is as tall as I've ever seen it and the seeds and chaff are eye-high to the calves. The face flies are also thicker than bedbugs in a bunkhouse so I'm starting to see little white spots in my eyes everywhere I look.

I've tried everything in the book to rid my herd of the peeper-problem from buying goggle-eyed Hereford bulls to actually injecting milk into a calf's eye according to the theory that the antibody police would rush to the scene of the crime. This last solution was recommended to me by an old cowboy and his idea seemed to work but I always got a little squeamish performing the procedure. I've used dust bags, pour-ons, fly control, vaccines, etc. but the only thing that worked 100 percent of the time was to catch the pinkeye early, dust the calves' eyes with magic powders from my vet and then cover the eye with a Levi or Wrangler patch.

I glued the eye patches on with the back-tag glue they use at auction markets. I'm sure you've seen 20 or 30 head enter an auction ring and a savvy buyer will indicate that he wants one head taken off, usually because he spotted a calf with a little round spot of white in its eye. In that case the female clerk – it's always a female – who is writing down the price and the buyer as she counts the number of head in the ring while also checking for a



It's THE PITTS
By Lee Pitts

bad eye, will reach for a back tag, put a glomp of glue on the back which gives it weight for better aerodynamics and then she'll throw it 20 feet and it will land squarely on the right calf's back where it will stay for 100 years.

I've seen plenty of yearlings headed for the feedlot with a big circle of dried glue around one or both eyes long after the patch has rotted away dooming the cattle to buyer's scorn and a lower price. The worst case I ever saw was a pen of stockers that had been on carrots, as is custom in my part of the world. Besides giving them an orange butt, 50 percent of those calves had the distinctive circle of glue around one or both eyes. So much for the theory that carrots are good for your eyesight.

Another problem with patches is that some men and women are such good cattle persons that they don't use up all their old jeans making patches while others, like myself, have a big problem because my wife will only buy me two pair of Wranglers per year which doesn't come close to meeting my herd's pinkeye needs. This is a dead giveaway when comparing yourself to your fellow cattlemen. If they are wearing new, or nearly new jeans to work cows or build fence it means they have a pinkeye problem and are trying to catch up by having to buy way more jeans per year that they can hardly afford.

In my research I've found that a good cattlemen should wear out two pair of jeans per year for every 100 cows he or she owns. This is what I famously named the "jeans-to-pinkeye ratio." Wrangler and Levi's could save as all a fortune if they'd just come out with a new product... fairly priced packages of pinkeye patches that don't leave any residue. But they probably won't because they'd probably sell a lot fewer jeans as a result.

I'm currently attempting to get a million-dollar grant from either Wrangler or Levi's to do further research to determine which brand of jeans works better than the other.



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Cheese demand, production up in April

The world’s eyes are once again on the Middle East where war is raging between Israel and Iran. Lots of angst in the U.S. as we await how or if the U.S. will respond.

Meanwhile, the USDA’s latest Dairy Supply and Utilization report had good news for the dairy industry. April cheese utilization hit 1.2 billion pounds, up 1.5 percent from April 2024, an all-time high on a 30-day adjusted basis, says HighGround Dairy.

Speaking in the June 23 Dairy Radio Now broadcast, HighGround’s Curtis Bosma said it was a good thing that demand was so strong because April cheese production was the highest as well. Domestic demand was up 1 percent and characteristically makes up 90 percent of the usage, but exports were up a strong 6.8 percent, totaling 108.9 million pounds.

Butter disappearance, at 209.9 million pounds, was up 24.4 percent, a record high for the month of April as the Easter holiday drove domestic consumption up 36.3 million pounds, up 22.3 percent, compared to a year ago. Exports remain elevated due to the substantially discounted U.S. prices compared to the rest of the world. They were down from the high observed in March, but still up 87.5 percent from a year ago.

Nonfat and skim milk powder use totaled 189.3 million pounds, down 2.7 percent, but that was the smallest year over year loss since January 2023, according to HGD. “Greater domestic utilization helped to partially offset the decline in exports,” says HGD, “which marked the lowest April since 2016.”

Dry whey utilization, at 70.7 million pounds, was down 21.4 percent from a strong 2024, says HGD. Exports were down 2.9 percent. “Increased trade tensions with China in 2025 resulted in a barrage of new tariffs on U.S. goods,” explains HGD. “Although China and the U.S. announced a trade truce in June, lowering tariffs, the back and forth in April saw less whey moving to China, the top destination country, and thus reduced exports overall.”

The USDA’s latest Livestock Slaughter report showed an estimated 196,700 dairy cows were slaughtered under federal inspection in May, down 10,500 head from April, and 19,300 head or 8.9 percent below May 2024. Total to date, 1.1

million head had been culled, down 181,700 or 15.1 percent from 2024.

The USDA’s latest Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Outlook, issued June 18, mirrored milk price and production projections in the June 12 World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates report. The Outlook stated “With favorable farm margins and low dairy cow slaughter rates, the national dairy herd continued to expand in April despite tight numbers of replacement heifers and lingering highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) concerns.”

April was the seventh consecutive month of year-over-year growth in dairy livestock inventory.” The recent Milk Production report showed the average number of cows in April was 9.425 million, up 89,000 from a year ago, and 5,000 more than March. The milk-per-cow estimate was 2,055 pounds, up 0.5 percent from April 2024. Driven by both a higher number of cows and higher productivity, April milk output was estimated at 19.37 billion pounds, up 1.5 percent from a year ago.

The year-over-year increase in the numbers of dairy cows and milk per cow was unevenly distributed among the top 24 states, according to the Outlook. “Texas, Idaho, Kansas, and South Dakota led the expansion by adding a total of 110,000 head. Additional milk processing capacity has been added and/or is expected to come online in some of these states. Milk per cow per day increased across most of the 24 states. Exceptions included Iowa, Oregon, Washington and California. California registered the largest decline on a percentage basis. California is the state with the highest number of dairy herds impacted by HPAI from September through December 2024. Since then, the monthly number of reported outbreaks has declined significantly both in California and elsewhere. However, as of June 16, the majority of 2025 outbreaks (139 out of 156 nationwide) were in California and Idaho,” the Outlook reported.

Cheese prices fell in the June-teenth-holiday shortened week. The markets were closed Thursday but CME block Cheddar had fallen to \$1.69 per pound Wednesday, lowest price since April 7, as traders were anticipating Friday afternoon’s May Milk Production report. The barrels were also trading at \$1.69 Wednes-

day, lowest since April 24. The cheese closed Friday at \$1.8375 and \$1.8350 per pound respectively.

StoneX warned “U.S. domestic Cheddar consumption, our largest cheese market, has been the worry this month on top of waning export demand. Nonetheless as U.S. cheese markets have been weaker, EU mozzarella prices are only down 3-5 cents this month to about \$2.25 per pound. So, the gap between these two markets is widening again with a U.S. dollar that is still weak, we can’t discount another wave of export demand in the short term that could tighten spot supplies”

Warmer weather is contributing to lighter milk output in much of the Central region, according to Dairy Market News, but cheesemakers say unplanned downtime at some plants left plenty of milk available. Spot loads traded \$7-under to flat this week. Cheese production remains strong in the region, though the plant down time contributed to lighter output overall. Domestically produced cheese is priced competitively in international markets and contributing to strong exports. Domestic demand is mixed. Retail demand is steady, but food service sales are declining, says DMN, and more cheese made its way to the CME.

Class III milk demand from western cheese manufacturers is strong, says DMN. Availability varies. Cheese production is steady and some producers say inventories for spot buyers are extremely tight, however, are available. Domestic demand is steady. Export demand is stronger. Butter climbed to \$2.5925 per

pound Monday, highest since Jan. 13, 2025, but it closed Wednesday morning at \$2.5275. Its Friday finish was at \$2.57 per pound.

Cream output is declining in the Central region as warmer temperatures negatively impact milk components. Components are down week-to-week but fat content is up from a year ago, leaving plenty of cream available. Ice cream makers continue to pull on available cream and butter makers are actively churning as they work to stock butter for use later in the year. Domestic butter demand is steady to lighter. High prices for butter produced internationally are contributing to strong exports. Some plants are increasing their 82 percent butterfat product to meet this export demand and reducing 80 percent output, says DMN.

Western butter makers convey cream is being received, but spot load availability is tighter in some parts of the region. Butter output varies from steady to strong. In a few cases cream availability is limiting stronger churning. Butter manufacturers are seasonally building stock.

StoneX predicts May milk production will be up 1.7 percent from last year and possibly stronger. “Production continues to improve in California and it doesn’t seem like there is any shortage of milk in other parts of the country and we are going to be lapping over weak production last year as the first wave of bird flu was depressing production.” Additionally, “Fat and protein in the milk pooled in May was up from last year, but the gains in fat were a little slower than recent months,” says StoneX.

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Above: Dom Tye stands in front of Sprout, Black Soil KY’s “Mobile Farmacy Market.” which was launched last year to increase access to fresh produce across Lexington. (photo submitted)

Groups reach out to help people of color get into ag industries

By DOUG GRAVES
Ohio Correspondent

WILBERFORCE, Ohio – The United States needs more farmers to replace those aging out in the nation’s top industry. According to the USDA, only one in 10 American farmers is under the age of 35. Between 2017 and 2022, the number of farmers 65 or older increased by 12 percent.

Facing this rapidly aging workforce, some in Ohio and other states are recruiting an underrepresented population in agriculture – Black people.

In 2022, Black farmers comprised approximately 1.4 percent of all farmers in the U.S. This represents a decrease from a high of around 14 percent in 1920.

Some, like Sharifa Tomlinson, are out to get more people of color involved in agriculture, even if on a small scale.

In 2017, Tomlinson founded a 12-acre urban sanctuary (LLC) near Dayton that she calls Arrowrock Farm. She became a full-time farmer in 2023. Arrowrock Farm is also a cooperative with seven or eight other local farmers par-

ticipating. She is building it into a cooperative urban market for farmers of color and a demonstration farm, complete with housing for those learning about regenerative farming on the property.

“I always wanted to be a farmer from an early age,” Tomlinson said. “I wasn’t raised on a farm but did grow some vegetables at an early age. When I purchased this property, I had the goal of being a regenerative farmer with the idea of raising lots of chickens and growing food for the community. A lot of times we got into the rural areas, especially in Ohio, and you might be the only person of color there.”

Arrowrock is in the small city of Riverside, east of Dayton and quite close to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

Tomlinson started with just 30 chickens. Last year she raised about 1,000 chickens for The Foodbank and grows vegetables for herself and her family on the farm. She works closely with Central State University, Ohio State University, University of Dayton and others to do research on the property. Last summer, she worked with recent immigrants from Rwanda who were growing beans. She also teaches people how to cook.

Tomlinson’s farm is another way that people can learn and research farming practices, in addition to helping people learn how to grow their own food.

“This research has given me the confidence I know I can succeed,” Tomlinson said.

Many Black farmers are drawn to small-scale, urban farming such as Arrowrock.

“We’re trying to just make people at little bit healthier,” Tomlinson said. “We’re also trying to find young people who want to learn to farm, and that’s really difficult.”

Tomlinson is a registered nurse and still works one day a week. She came to farming later in life. She said she kept seeing Black patients come in with diseases related to the food they were eating and knew they did not have good access to fresh foods. She purchased this

(Groups continued on page 12B)



Above: Sharifa Tomlinson runs Arrowrock Farm, a 12-acre urban sanctuary east of Dayton, Ohio. There Tomlinson teaches others how to produce poultry, eggs and vegetables. These items are also provided to the community through food banks and farmers markets. (photo submitted)

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Groups

FROM PAGE 11B

12-acre with a vision of helping those learn about the importance of fresh, health foods. She has done just that.

“In five years, I want to retire from farming, live on this very property, and watch other people farm,” Tomlinson said. “I’d like to teach classes like canning, processing, growing – I want to be that instructor. And in 10 years I want this property to be totally self-sufficient.”

Patricia Allen, executive director of the Black Indigenous People of Color Food and Farming Network based in Yellow Springs, Ohio, did come from a background of farmers. While Allen grew up in Dayton, her family founded an Illinois farming collective in the 1860s for Black farmers called Stringtown. Some of her earliest memories are of gardening in the summer with her parents and brother.

“That used to be a part of our DNA and our culture...growing tomatoes, growing the collards in the backyard and whatnot,” Allen said. “And I really feel like that’s a lost art.”

Allen grew up growing food and began to realize, as they got further into careers in different fields, that not many people understood how to garden, especially people who looked like them. Teaching people to grow their own food was a way to help others.

Allen said she wants to change that mindset and gain recognition for those working on smaller plots of land.

“I wanted to be a part of changing that mindset,” she said, “that if you’re producing food and you’re feeding your community, that’s what it means to farm.”

Similar efforts are taking place in the Bluegrass State, only on a larger scale. Black Soil KY of Lexington is a one-of-a-kind Black woman-founded and led 501c(3) nonprofit agribusiness established in 2017. It has invested over \$1 million into Black farming operations, culinary businesses, creators, craftspeople, and makers through grants, strategic partnerships, sales and agritourism activities.

For Black Soil KY, part of the solution lies in reconnecting Black Kentuckians to their agricultural heritage.

“We’ve always been focused on bringing rural farm products to our urban communities,” said Ashley Smith, founder and CEO of Black Soil KY. She said her work is inspired by Lexington’s Black hamlets, rural settlements within Fayette County which were hubs of Black life and community.

“Black Soil KY brings the increased population of those living in urban communities back into what often is a two-to-three generation removed connection to the land and agriculture,” she said.

The organization aims to address both rural and urban food insecurity by empowering Black farmers, who face significant barriers in the agriculture sector.

“Oftentimes, farmers or folks desiring to farm become discouraged because the information is just so convoluted,” Smith said.

The agriculture industry’s regulatory hoops, while powerful tools to protect the public and enforce good practices, can often be hard to navigate for newcomers without pre-established connections to the industry. But Smith sees a future where the loss of generational knowledge can be bridged with horizontal knowledge sharing.



Above: Travis Cleaver and Heather Cooper, of Cleav’s Family Market in Lexington, partner with Black Soil KY to get their produce, meat and eggs in restaurants. (Nathan Lam-brecht photo)



Above: Sharifa Tomlinson and her farm partner Judy Bobier tend to their chickens. What started as 30 chickens has grown to roughly 1,000 in any given week. (photo submitted)

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Above: Perfect arrowhead found in southern Illinois.

Wrenching

FROM PAGE 8B

used for a gambling game that he found close to home. "The stone was thrown or rolled like a bowling ball, then the Native Americans would shoot arrows or spears."

Other stones were used as pendants that identified the tribe, and the rank of the tribal member. Emery said you can tell an original one if it was drilled on both sides rather than all the way through for the hole placement.

One of the most unusual items he has is a Banner stone. Banner stones he said, "Could have served three purposes: as counterweights on atlatls, as ceremonial pieces, or as a combination of the two."

Another very cool artifact Emery called the "flying goose drill" that was used to cut holes in leather. This was made from knife river flint and came from North Dakota. Other stones show grooves where axes, etc., were sharpened on sandstone.

Above: Bob Emery looks on as his son Scott demonstrates this rare salesman sample pump.

Kenny Farnsworth, a retired state of Illinois archaeologist, convinced Emery and his son Scott to bring their collection to a show. He didn't realize they were being judged. At the end of the day, they received an award of excellence. A proud moment that he displays in the cases that this carpenter created to hold his collection. Some of the items in Emery's collection have changed history like the arrowhead that came from Southern Illinois, an area not identified in the past as a collection area.

Rounding out his collection is a farm toy and truck exhibit housed in two cabinets with two very special sentimental items. One is a Willy's jeep that an uncle brought back from the Korean War, and the other is another jeep a different uncle brought back from World War II.

These days Emery's health doesn't allow him to go and hunt new items for his amazing collection; however, he loves to share his collection with friends and family and pour over the items that have brought him and his family so much joy.



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Lawmakers propose federal bill to curb black vulture attacks

By DOUG SCHMITZ
Iowa Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D.C – Black vulture attacks on livestock increased 25 percent from 2020 to 2025 according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Wildlife Services.

A group of lawmakers hopes to help farmers out with the introduction of the Black Vultures Relief Act of 2025 which is designed to cut through some of the red tape currently in place if a farmer or rancher wants to kill or remove a black vulture. The birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

U.S. Sen. Markwayne Mullin, R-Oklahoma, along with Sens. Tommy Tuberville, R-Alabama, Eric Schmitt, R-Missouri, and John Cornyn, R-Texas, said the Black Vultures Relief Act of 2025 would remove the requirement for a depredation permit, which allows farmers and ranchers to kill black vultures anytime the birds threaten their livestock.

“America’s cattlemen work hard to feed our communities, and shouldn’t have to jump through a bunch of hoops just to protect their herds,” Tuberville said. “Adjusting these sub-permit (which authorizes individuals to assist a main permit holder with specific wildlife-related activities) requirements that are based on outdated data is just one more commonsense way we can support our cattlemen, and help them keep more of their hard-earned dollars.”

The senators said this bill preserves annual reporting requiring livestock producers and their employees to report the taking of black vultures to the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). The bill will also prohibit the use of poison as a means of killing the birds.

The senators added that this, in turn, allows FWS to continue monitoring black vulture population numbers.

According to the U.S. Geological Survey’s Breeding Bird Survey, the black vulture population has increased by approximately 468 percent, to more than 190 million birds since 1990.

Mullin’s office said black vultures have become a growing problem, especially in Illinois, Indiana, and Missouri, as their population and range continue to expand northward.

Currently, the Black Vulture Relief Act is endorsed by the National Cattleman’s Beef Association (NCBA), the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF), the U.S. Cattlemen’s Association, the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife and Conservation, the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association, and Wyoming Stock Growers, Mullin’s office said.

The bill has also been endorsed by multiple cattlemen’s associations.

Brian Shuter, Indiana Beef Cattle Association executive vice president, told Farm World, “We are seeing an expansion of (the black vultures’) territory into southern Indiana. Tim Schwab, who manages Kopp Land and Livestock near Batesville, has shared his personal experience with black vultures with me. Tim said that one day, one of the neighbors stopped up at the barn to tell Tim that there seemed to be some commotion going on down at Tim’s calving pasture.

“When Tim got there, he found that a flock of the black-headed vultures had worked as a pack and had sorted off one newborn calf from the rest of the herd,” he said. “The flock of birds had surrounded the newborn calf and were taking turns trying to reach in and attack the calf, while the momma cow was trying to fight to hold off the attack. Luckily, Tim arrived on the scene in time to scare off the birds before they could complete their attack.

“We have heard of other producers



Above: If passed, the Black Vultures Relief Act of 2025 would remove the requirement for a depredation permit, which allows farmers and ranchers to kill black vultures anytime the birds threaten their livestock. (Photo courtesy of the Ohio Farm Bureau)

experiencing attacks from those birds in which the vultures would attack the eyes and face of a calf during the calving process, before the calf could even be born and before the cow was able to defend herself,” he added. “With the current price of all classes of cattle as high as it is, losing just one calf to predation by these birds can be a significant financial hardship for any beef producer.”

He said, “During trips to Washington, D.C., over the last two years, we have lobbied our representatives to support this measure to allow Indiana beef producers to protect their herds from this growing threat. Many of our producers in southern Indiana have witnessed firsthand how destructive and predatory these birds can be.

“When a flock of black-headed vultures descends upon their calving pasture, obtaining a sub-permit through the Indiana Farm Bureau to take just a couple of the birds is not a feasible option,” he added. “The damage is done

before the paperwork can get processed and only being allowed to take one or two of the birds under that permit is not enough to save animals’ lives due to the pack nature that they hunt in.”

Kaitlynn Glover, Public Lands Council (PLC) and NCBA Natural Resources executive director, told Farm World, “Currently, black vulture populations in the south and Midwest are skyrocketing, and it is a success story of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

“Now is the time to recognize that success and allow cattle producers to effectively manage this abundant predator species through commonsense increases in take permits, as well as a faster permitting process,” she said. “NCBA and PLC appreciate Congress taking action to fix this problem, and giving producers the management tools to protect their livelihoods.”

Black vultures should not be confused with turkey vultures. Both will be around an animal carcass

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Tuesday, July 8, 2025

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