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MSU debuts dairy cattle teaching, research center

By **DOUG SCHMITZ**
Iowa Correspondent

EAST LANSING, Mich. – Michigan State University (MSU) has debuted its new \$75-million Dairy Cattle Teaching and Research Center to more than 250 guests who saw firsthand the modern technology and expanded capacity of the MSU dairy farm, according to officials.

The July 17 opening and tour of the state-of-the-art farm on MSU's south campus served as a preview of the university's expanded operations and commitment to the state's dairy and agricultural industries, officials said.

"The new facility was made possible by a foundational \$30 million funding investment from the State of Michigan, which was made possible through proactive support and advocacy from the entire Michigan agricultural community," George Smith, MSU AgBioResearch director, told Farm World. "We are working to secure the necessary additional funding from the corporate sector, non-governmental organizations, philanthropically minded alumni, and individuals vested in the mission."

Officials said continued support from alumni, donors, the corporate sector and stakeholders in the dairy industry remains essential to fully realize the farm's long-term vision for programming and research.

"The new facility is a testament to the commitment of the State of Michigan to agriculture, and to the number one contributor to Michigan's agricultural economy: the dairy industry," Smith said. "Their investment in facilities at MSU will facilitate work by faculty, staff and students in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR) and the College of Veterinary Medicine."

He added that the previous 1960s-era

facility lacked the capacity to facilitate 21st century research and to train the workforce of the future, adding that the new facility brings MSU in line with industry standards and will allow researchers to utilize the latest technology in dairy science: "Input from the industry directly guides the focus of our research efforts, ensuring that Michigan producers' most urgent needs are addressed through applied research and outreach."

He said, "The new facility will increase research capacity by 2.5-fold, due to an increase in herd size from around 250 to 680 animals; contain new infrastructure to facilitate advanced studies of nutrition, reproduction, animal health and utilization of data-driven decision-making on farms; and be a beacon for attracting students to careers in animal agriculture and to the dairy industry at all levels.

"CANR offers a two-year ag tech program, undergraduate degrees, graduate degrees and DVMs," he added. "It will be a conduit for the first exposure to animal agriculture for a growing population of students who come from urban environments or have no previous exposure and experience in agriculture."

"The new facility also contains a visitor center that will serve as a hub for outreach: events to educate the public about the dairy industry, environmental sustainability, where milk comes from and the role dairy products play in a healthy diet," he said.

Officials said in a July 17 media statement the two-year construction project is nearing its end, and by the end of August, the nearly 700 cows will populate the farm, adding that subsequent, on-going research "will hit full pace, and a new generation of students will enter the MSU Dairy Cattle Teaching and Research Center this fall, eager to learn all the facility's bells and whistles."

Smith said, "We purchased our additional animals from one commercial herd here in Michigan," adding that "the dairy farm has nine full-time employees, eight part-time employees and almost 30 students working at the farm. There is a veterinarian who works at the farm one-two days a week."

Matthew Daum, MSU College of Agriculture and Natural Resources dean, said, "It has been amazing to see the anticipation and response from the Michigan dairy community. There is nothing like this facility, at this scale, anywhere in the world. This farm is in-



Above: Not only do farmers have to worry about the weather, but they also have to worry about other animals coming into the field and snacking on the crop. Photo by Leondia Walchle

Spotty rain in parts of Indiana lead to pollination issues for corn

By **Stan Maddux**
Indiana Correspondent

LAPORTE COUNTY, Ind. – Some corn growers in northern Indiana could see a noticeable reduction in yields from cobs lacking kernels due to poor pollination.

Ears with as little as 20 percent of their maximum kernels are blamed on extended periods of extremely dry, hot weather early in the summer, killing some of the pollen in corn tassels the plants use to self-pollinate and fill out their ears during the growing season.

Farmer Jeff Mitzner, of Wanatah in LaPorte County, expects as much as a 50 percent reduction in his corn yields from poor pollination and continued dry conditions during the soon-to-be-expired grain fill period.

Farmer Matt Schafer in nearby Wanatah reported similar findings in some of his corn fields.

"I've checked some ears and they're less than stellar in spots," he said.

Brianna Slonaker, the agriculture and natural resources educator at Purdue University Extension in Marshall County, said the problem is spotty and rests in pocket areas too dry and hot leading up to pollination.

Rain showers were often scattered enough during the growing season for just a few miles to make the difference between having adequate rainfall or drought-like conditions.

"There are some fields that are completely fine and some that aren't," Slonaker said.

Mark Parkman, from Westville, received adequate rain for his corn despite living within a short drive from areas struggling with drought.

"I really have nothing to complain about. It looks like we're doing OK right now," he said.



Above: Corn cobs missing kernels like these from the farm of Mark Parkman are blamed on poor weather-related pollination.

Mitzner said he wouldn't be surprised if corn yields on farms in his region varied from as high as 250 to as low as 100 bushels per acre.


Schafer also expects yields to greatly differ from having areas that consistently received noticeably less rain than other nearby locations despite the clouds being from the same storm systems.

"It's going to depend what rain clouds you were fortunate enough to be under, especially with corn," he said.

Recent heavy showers have raised the hopes of drought-stricken farmers, especially for soybeans, which have a few more weeks for their pods to fully

(See Dairy on page 2)


(See Corn on page 2)

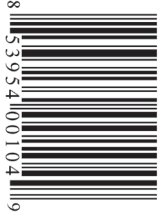


Rendleman's Orchard an example of ag tourism at its best **Page 1B**

In this Farm World:

Tennessee rice farmers looking for international market **Page 12**





Dairy

FROM PAGE 1

dicative of MSU’s position as a global leader in dairy research and education, and serves as a showcase facility for MSU’s land-grant mission.”

Officials said visitors toured the 165,000-square-foot cattle barn, which will house the nearly 700 cows, with the capacity to facilitate cutting-edge research, adding that expansion and modernization will allow MSU faculty to increase research output, while providing students a learning environment comparable to commercial farms across the state.

“As a dairy farmer, I’m unbelievably excited,” said Glenn Preston, a fourth-generation farmer who owns Preston Farms in Quincy, Mich., and a representative on the MSU Council for Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching. “Our goal is to perpetuate the opportunity for the next generation,

and this generation coming into this place has got an unbelievable opportunity to have an experience that previous generations didn’t have at Michigan State.”

In addition, officials said the MSU Dairy Cattle Teaching and Research Center serves as a hands-on learning center for students enrolled in the Department of Animal Science, the College of Veterinary Medicine, and the MSU Institute of Agricultural Technology’s Dairy Management Program.

Mikayla Bowen, a 2023 MSU animal science-dairy concentration alumnus, who now serves as communications coordinator for the Michigan Milk Producers Association, said, “When I was a student, we had to travel to off-site farms for cow work. Now, with the facility being so accessible, students will have more frequent and meaningful hands-on interactions, something that’s critical in agricultural education. The new farm will undoubtedly attract more students and researchers.”



Above: Visitors toured Michigan State University’s new Dairy Cattle Teaching and Research Center’s 165,000-square-foot barn, which will house nearly 700 cows. (courtesy of Michigan State University)

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Corn

FROM PAGE 1

develop.

Corn, on the other hand, has pretty much reached maturity.

Mitzner said the condition of his soybeans was also hurt from below-average pollination that comes from the buds of those plants.

He believes his soybean yields could be 10 to 20 percent less than last year depending on the amount of rainfall leading up to and after Labor Day.

“It won’t be as good of a crop as we’ve had in the past few years,” he said.

Despite rain lately, Mitzner said it’s still dry enough in his area for the water table to be low enough to make it difficult for irrigation systems to draw enough water from ditches and wells.

“There’s still places that are plenty dry,” he said.

Parts of Michigan are also experiencing problems, especially with corn, stemming from poor pollination related to weather.

According to USDA, the condition of 10 percent of corn in Indiana on Aug. 17 was rated excellent; 51 percent good; 29 percent fair and 11 percent poor to very poor.

In Michigan, 5 percent of corn was rated excellent while 80 percent was evenly split between good and fair with 12 percent rated as poor to very poor.

The ratings for soybeans in Indiana were very similar while Michigan differed slightly with 5 percent of soybeans in excellent condition; 50 percent good; 30 percent fair with the remainder in poor to very poor condition, according to USDA.

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TONY GREGORY, Publisher, ext. 321
E-mail: tgregory@midcountrymedia.com

MELISSA PEGGS, Advertising Director, ext. 222
Cent./South. Indiana, Kentucky/W. Central Ohio
E-mail: mpeggs@farmworldonline.com

CONNIE SWAIM, Managing Editor, ext. 131
E-mail: connie@farmworldonline.com

ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT

DEBBIE PEIFFER, 269-358-4221
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Advocate for Purdue, Hoosier ag receives Friend of Farmer award

By Michele F. Mihaljevich
Indiana Correspondent

LEBANON, Ind. – John Baugh, Purdue University’s director of agricultural services and regulations, graduated from the university in 1972 and returned 30 years ago to assume his current role. In between his years at Purdue – and since his return – Baugh has advocated for the school and for agriculture in the state.

In late July, Baugh was given the 2025 Friend of Farmer award by the Indiana Soybean Alliance (ISA) and the Indiana Corn Growers Association. The award was presented during the Indiana Ag Policy Summit at the Boone County Fairgrounds in Lebanon.

“I was genuinely surprised when I learned that I had received the award,” he told Farm World. “It was an unexpected and great honor. While I’d love to say it was all due to my good looks, I suspect the award had more to do with years I’ve spent advocating for agriculture.”

“I’ve been fortunate to work alongside many wonderful people to contribute to causes I’m passionate about, especially promoting the importance of agriculture in our community. Still, I like to think a sense of humor doesn’t hurt either!”

The Friend of Farmer award is presented to someone who has promoted policies that support Indiana’s corn and soybean farmers through a specific project or a career of support, according to a spokesman for the Indiana corn and soybean organizations. Baugh’s connection with Purdue and the university’s connection to agriculture has allowed our organizations and Purdue to work together on many policy goals during the past few decades, the spokesman added.

Past winners include Ted McKinney, CEO of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture; Indiana Sen. Jean Leising (R-District 42); and former U.S. Sen. Joe Donnelly (D-Ind.)

Baugh started lobbying in the late 1980s while working for Indiana Farm Bureau.

“Over the years, I found my passion for representing agriculture and Purdue grow as I saw firsthand the positive impact that thoughtful, science-based policy and strong support can make,” he explained. “I’ve truly enjoyed the opportunity to work closely with both state leaders and stakeholders in the ag community.”

“Building relationships, explaining the real-world needs of our producers, and helping decision-makers understand the importance of agriculture has been both challenging and incredibly rewarding.”

He said he’s enjoyed seeing how collaborative efforts can lead to meaningful change – especially watching Purdue agriculture initiatives come to life.

“I’ve advocated for increased funding for research and extension, as well as key capital projects like the Food

Right: John Baugh (center) receives the 2025 Friend of Farmer award from Brian Warpup (left), Indiana Soybean Alliance membership and policy committee chair, and Chris Cherry, Indiana Corn Growers Association president. (courtesy ISA/ICGA)

Science and Animal Sciences buildings and the Animal Disease and Diagnostic Laboratory. Knowing that my efforts have helped secure greater stability and more opportunities for agricultural producers, as well as College of Agriculture students, faculty and staff, to be successful is deeply gratifying.”

Baugh, who graduated from Purdue with a degree in animal sciences, said the thing he enjoys most about his current role is the opportunity to work alongside a dedicated and passionate group of people who share a commitment to excellence.

As a lobbyist and advocate, Baugh has worked with some legislators without farm backgrounds. For those lawmakers, he said it’s important to give real-life examples and emphasize that decisions made far from the farm gate can have meaningful, sometimes unintended, consequences.

“I want them to see the challenges and opportunities that farmers face every day, and to recognize the value agriculture brings not just to rural areas, but to the entire state and nation,” he said.

Baugh received the Frederick L. Hovde Award of Excellence in Educational Service in 2022 from Purdue, and the AgriVision Award – Indiana’s highest agricultural award – in 2024 from the Indiana State Department of Agriculture.

Brian Warpup, ISA membership and policy committee chair, said Baugh was critical in establishing the Indiana Grain Indemnity Fund, expanding rural broadband access, modernizing chemical applicator licensing and supporting sustainable agronomic practices.

“Baugh has been a steady presence at the Indiana Statehouse for more than three decades,” he said in a release. “He has helped shape critical legislation affecting farmers and rural communities.”



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Market uncertainty at all-time high mainly due to tariffs

The greatest hindrance to the market right now remains uncertainty. Uncertainty in the market is not uncommon, but when levels become elevated, traders start to exit positions. Market uncertainty right now is at an all-time high, mainly from President Donald Trump's tariff policy. Trade negotiations continue to take place, but trade is now at the point where it wants results, not just policy framework.

More than anything, trade wants to see export sales take place. This is especially the case with China, which has no U.S. corn, soybean, or wheat purchases on the books. All importers are hesitant to extend coverage from the U.S. right as they do not know if tariff fees will be added later or not.

China's ag minister has published data showing the country's pork production from January through June 2025 totaled 30.2 million tons. This was a 1.3 percent increase from the same period in 2024. Hog slaughter in China was up 0.6 percent in the first half of 2025 to 366.2 million head, pushing production up. Chinese feeders are also raising more efficient hogs, adding to pork yields per hog. China also reported a hog herd

of 424.47 million head, 2.2 percent more than a year ago. China has stated it wants to streamline its hog industry to make it more profitable, but also to make it less reliant on imports.

Chinese officials indicate the country's soybean demand will not be as strong to finish the year as earlier expected. China overbought soybeans to start 2025 which has caused an over-supply of not just soybeans but products as well, mainly meal. China has been working to streamline the country's livestock industry, and this has led to a reduction in total feed consumption. China has also recently established soy meal trade with Argentina, further limiting soybean demand from both the U.S. and Brazil. This is causing concern in the soy complex, especially with China having no U.S. purchases on the books.

Australia revised its wheat balance sheets, trimming its projected demand. Production was left unchanged this month at 34.1 million metric tons, but projected exports were lowered by 3 mmt. This is mainly from a lack of Chinese imports, same as all other global markets are suffering from. Australia's wheat carryout is

projected at 6.2 mmt, well above last year. The 2025/26 Australian crop is estimated at 31 mmt, so this carryin will be needed to cover demand.

The global wheat market is also monitoring the Russian crop quite closely. Russia is seeing its wheat offers firm even as new crop bushels become available. IKAR raised its offers by \$3 a metric ton in the past week, and SovEcon raised its offers by \$10 per ton. This is sending a signal to the market that drought has likely impacted the crop more than expected. Trade is also monitoring drought in the Canadian Prairies that is likely impacting production there as well.

More attention is starting to fall on the U.S. cattle market. Cattle are not only overbought technically, but starting to become overvalued. The average price of retail ground beef is now above the minimum wage in the United States, and this getting consumer attention. There is a need to ration beef demand given current U.S. cattle numbers, but we are now seeing concerns that if beef prices remain at today's levels, we will see demand destruction. The loss of Mexican live cattle imports and tariffs on Brazilian beef imports are further tightening U.S. beef supplies, and elevating values.

The Federal Reserve left its interest rates unchanged in the July meeting, which was not that surprising. The vote was not unanimous though, giving the indication we are closer to a cut taking place. The next Fed meeting is Sept. 17, and the current odds of a rate cut are 44 percent. This is actually down from the prior 68 percent chance as tariffs are having more of an impact on global trade. The odds of a cut in October are up to

63 percent though, which economists feel is when we will see a cut.

The National Corn Growers Association has released a statement that members are growing concerned with high input costs. The NCGA, along with dozens of other groups, have sent letters to Trump's administration voicing concern over rising input costs, mainly for fertilizer. Industry officials are pointing out how rising input costs and falling commodity values will impact U.S. production. They feel trade disputes have only made the situation worse.

These groups claim 2025 fertilizer costs will make up 36 percent of the entire cost of production this coming year. They point out how some input costs have risen 60 percent from a year ago, while corn values have declined 14 percent. There are legitimate concerns that these costs will impact both plantings and production if they do not improve.

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MARKET ANALYSIS
By Karl Setzer

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Illinois FFA provides ‘spark’ at state fair

By TIM ALEXANDER
Illinois Correspondent

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. – The enterprising teen spirit that defines Illinois’ FFA and 4-H programs was evident during Agriculture Day and the annual Ag Breakfast on the Governor’s Lawn at the 2025 Illinois State Fair. State and district leaders representing both organizations were highly visible during the Aug. 8 breakfast, with each organization promoting their 2025-26 agendas.

“We’ve chosen the theme ‘Spark’ because we believe Illinois FFA plays a huge role in sparking your interest, sparking your curiosity and sparking your future,” said Natalie Pratt, 2025-26 Illinois State FFA president, who addressed hundreds of Ag Day Breakfast attendees after being introduced by Illinois Ag Director Jerry Costello II. “We believe that FFA and the agriculture industry can really serve that place in our FFA members’ hearts, and we want to inspire them over this next year by having our theme be ‘Spark.’”

Pratt, who hails from the Amboy FFA Chapter (led by advisers Joe Heavner and Lexi Hilliker), is looking forward to carrying the spirit of the Spark theme with her during September chapter visits, which are sub-titled “Sparking Our Interest” in order to emphasize the key role of agriculture in FFA. “Our state convention theme next year is going to be ‘Sparking Your Future’ because we believe the state convention is the kick-off point for most of our members’ futures,” she said.

Pratt noted that it’s been a proud year for Illinois FFA, which is riding a wave of increased enrollment and national recognition for several of its members. Many of those members were present for



Above: Natalie Pratt, Illinois State FFA 2025-26 president, said the FFA “Spark” theme is intended to ignite students’ passion for FFA. (T. Alexander photos)

the Ag Day Breakfast, helping to serve plates of steaming scrambled eggs, ham, biscuits and gravy and potatoes to those in attendance.

“Delana Erbsen is one of our state stars, as is Nevin Erbsen and Blake Twenhafel. Thaddeus Bergschneider is our past state president from the Franklin FFA Chapter, and is currently serving as our national president, which is incredible for the state of Illinois. We have an amazing group of people who are being recognized, as well as our honorary FFA American Degree recipients like Mr. Jerry Costello and (Illinois Corn executive director) Mr. Rod Weinzierl,” Pratt said.

Twenhafel, of the Wesclin FFA Chapter (Clinton County), along with cousins Nevin and Delana Erbsen, of the Eastland FFA Chapter (Carroll County), will



Above: Natalie Pratt, Illinois State FFA 2025-26 president, is pictured speaking at the 2025 Illinois State Fair Ag Breakfast on Ag Day, Aug. 8.

be recognized for their accomplishments at the 98th National FFA Convention, Oct. 29-Nov. 1 in Indianapolis.

Illinois Lt. Governor Julianna Stratton, who will leave her post to run for the U.S. Senate in 2026, took to the Ag Day podium to recognize the importance of investing in youth agricultural education. She noted that since Illinois lawmakers voted to include FFA membership dues in the state budget, Illinois FFA membership has nearly doubled. This has opened the doors for more students to explore careers in farming, agribusiness and ag science, Stratton said.


“With the help of (Gov.) JB Pritzker and (Lt. Gov.) Stratton, we have managed to affiliate our entire state, which means our dues have been paid by the government for the FFA organization, which has jumped from 23,000 to al-

most 43,000 agricultural education students,” Pratt said. “This is incredible for our membership, as with more members we become more of a national powerhouse FFA. We’re open to opportunities and we’re giving kids more opportunities to move forward in this industry because of more students in our association. We are currently the ninth-largest FFA organization in the nation, and we are incredibly proud about that.”

With increased enrollment and participation in Illinois FFA and agricultural education comes the need for additional qualified ag instructors and advisers, according to Pratt. “It’s not just new teachers we are in need of, we have new programs that we need teachers for. We always have the need for ag teachers and good agricultural leaders, and I think that in terms of pressure on our ag teachers, I think that with increased enrollment comes new opportunities for them,” she said.

“By having a larger membership, we’re open to more opportunities around the nation that we can send our students to such as the Washington Leadership Conference or the Next Gen Conference in the Midwest.”

The 2025-26 Illinois State FFA president advises potential FFA members to seek out their special interest within the organization because there is “literally something for everyone” with disciplines as diverse as parliamentary procedure, agricultural sales, mechanics and fabrication, and public speaking. “As the lieutenant governor said, ag truly connects us all. If you want to be involved in the next generation of our country and our world, then you need to be involved with the agricultural industry,” Pratt said.



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40x60x21	13x13 door
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40x100x21	13x13 door
40x120x21	13x13 door
50x80x23	18x16 door
50x100x23	18x16 door
50x120x23	18x16 door
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Above: The landscape at Gorman Heritage Farm in Evendale, Ohio, appears as it did in the late 1880s. (photo submitted)

Heritage farms offer glimpse of rural past

By DOUG GRAVES
Ohio Correspondent

HUBER HEIGHTS, Ohio – Ohio offers a treasure trove of historical farms that can transport the visitor back to a simpler time. With echoes of a bygone era at every turn, these farms not only tell stories of agriculture and perseverance but also weave together the fabric of Ohio's rich history.

The heritage farms of Ohio are more than just agricultural spaces, they're living museums that preserve rural traditions. Walking through them gives folks a rare glimpse into the life of early settlers.

Carriage Hill Farm & MetroPark in Huber Heights in the southwestern part of the state is one example of a historical farm that recreates the life of a typical conservative farm family of the 1880s. Period farming and domestic activities are demonstrated throughout the year by both staff and volunteers.

According to Lauren Lemons, Five Rivers marketing director, the thrust

is to show farm life as it was in the late 1880s.

"From heirloom vegetables to period breeds of animals, the late 19th century is brought to life here at Carriage Hill Farm," Lemons said.

Staff and volunteers dress in attire that was commonly worn during that period, making the experience even more authentic. These presenters perform regular demonstrations of heritage skills and crafts, like blacksmithing, woodworking, cooking, quilting and canning. Household chores and farming are demonstrated as they were more than 140 years ago as well.

The structures at the site, such as the old farmhouse and barn, are authentic and have only been restored with coats of paint to preserve the wood.

Goats, sheep, pigs, horses and a donkey roam the grounds to give it a real-life experience.

"The historical farm at Carriage Hill tells important stories that celebrate our agricultural heritage in the Miami Valley," Lemons said. "Visitors to Carriage Hill Historical Farm will be immersed in 19th-century farm life, at a time when the sustainable farm, home and craft practices were simply practical."

(Heritage continued on page 13)



Above: Schoenbrunn Village in New Philadelphia is one of many Ohio historical farms that utilize volunteers to help tell the story of life on Ohio farms in the 1800s. (photo submitted)

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MARKETS

Blue Grass Stockyards Lexington, KY

Livestock Weighted Average Report for 8/18/2025 - Final AUCTION			
	This Week	Last Reported 8/11/2025	Last Year
Total Receipts:	632	534	1,006
Feeder Cattle:	574(90.8%)	427(80.0%)	864(85.9%)
Slaughter Cattle:	48(7.6%)	93(17.4%)	126(12.5%)
Replacement Cattle:	10(1.6%)	14(2.6%)	16(1.6%)

Compared to last Monday the feeder market was stronger with a good quality offering. Good quality feeder steers and heifers were 3.00 to 8.00 higher or greater in several spots with an average supply and strong demand for quality feeder cattle. Yearling steers and heifers appeared sharply higher as well but with limited comparisons. Increased gains in the feeder cattle futures market coupled with limited cattle movement is increasing the premiums buyers are willing to pay for quality cattle, while discounting plain-er and off colored cattle more severely and increasing the price spread in most class breaks. Slaughter cows were steady to 2.00 lower with a moderate supply and slaughter bulls were steady with good demand. Supply included: 91% Feeder Cattle (21% Steers, 5% Dairy Steers, 61% Heifers, 12% Bulls, 0% Dairy Heifers); 8% Slaughter Cattle (2% Heifers, 74% Cows, 19% Bulls, 5% Dairy Cows); 2% Replacement Cattle (43% Bred Cows, 29% Bred Heifers, 29% Cow-Calf Pairs). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 59%.

Groups of 20 Head or More

HEIFERS			
26 Hd Black/BWF	552 lbs	362.50	
74 Hd Black/BWF	620 lbs	370.25	
80 Hd Black/BWF	660 lbs	375.25	
42 Hd Color/XBRED	763 lbs	326.00	

FEEDER CATTLE

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

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	270	270	362.50	362.50
5	365	365	492.50-497.50	495.50 Fancy
1	430	430	405.00	405.00
3	421	421	481.00	481.00 Fancy
8	450-485	470	400.00-439.00	419.18
2	465	465	472.50	472.50 Value Added
2	530-535	533	361.00-367.50	364.27
11	517-525	520	385.00-400.00	393.52 Value Added
3	550-590	568	377.00-383.00	378.94
2	550	550	387.00	387.00 Value Added
3	610-640	625	335.00-353.00	345.81
15	619-630	623	367.00-385.00	374.81 Value Added
1	685	685	347.00	347.00
12	705-742	732	318.00-341.50	331.97
4	755-767	762	310.00-324.00	313.49
11	760	760	332.50-351.00	349.32 Value Added
4	805-835	816	330.00-335.00	332.25
5	865-890	885	321.00-327.00	322.17
1	935	935	301.00	301.00

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

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2	447	447	380.00	380.00
6	455-490	479	360.00-391.00	374.02
2	550-595	573	330.00-338.00	333.84
3	620-637	631	305.00-321.00	310.24
2	695	695	300.00	300.00
1	855	855	291.00	291.00

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

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	460	460	330.00	330.00
1	595	595	261.00	261.00
1	600	600	275.00	275.00

STEERS - Large 2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	670	670	282.50	282.50
1	765	765	283.00	283.00

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

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	530	530	267.50	267.50

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

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
18	592	592	334.00	334.00 Value Added
10	722	722	325.00	325.00 Value Added

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

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2	320-325	323	413.00-422.50	417.71
8	327-340	335	430.00-450.00	436.23 Fancy
5	365-375	367	397.00-412.50	403.27
1	355	355	450.00	450.00 Fancy
9	400-447	430	367.50-387.00	376.48
6	420-430	426	395.00-412.50	405.01 Fancy
12	450-490	474	359.00-378.00	371.99
6	455-467	465	385.00-390.00	385.82 Value Added
2	527	527	346.00	346.00
6	502-540	521	357.50-370.00	365.98 Value Added
6	565-595	578	320.00-337.50	330.39
5	595	595	344.00	344.00 Guaranteed Open
26	552	552	362.50	362.50 Value Added
2	625	625	315.00	315.00
74	620	620	370.25	370.25 Value Added
13	677-690	680	303.00-317.00	307.56
80	660	660	375.25	375.25 Value Added
6	705-748	737	291.00-297.00	292.66
2	755	755	269.00	269.00
42	763	763	326.00	326.00 Value Added
1	805	805	271.00	271.00 Fleшы
7	805-821	819	289.00-304.00	301.89 Guaranteed Open
2	902	902	259.00	259.00

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

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2	405-445	425	352.50-360.00	356.43
3	460-490	477	340.00-350.00	346.57
2	510-535	523	308.00-310.00	308.98

1	575	575	300.00	300.00
1	670	670	284.00	284.00

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

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	290	290	292.50	292.50
1	655	655	260.00	260.00

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

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	590	590	209.00	209.00

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

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	260	260	505.00	505.00
1	345	345	490.00	490.00
1	395	395	441.00	441.00
2	380-390	385	497.50-500.00	498.73 Fancy
1	400	400	400.00	400.00
11	400-437	428	482.50-500.00	492.12 Fancy
5	450-495	475	375.00-410.00	390.67
1	455	455	447.50	447.50 Fancy
6	500-530	519	372.50-375.00	373.75
3	502-505	503	387.00-395.00	389.68 Fancy
5	580-595	585	345.00-355.00	352.97
2	550-575	563	380.00-392.50	386.11 Fancy
1	615	615	315.00	315.00
1	650	650	319.00	319.00
8	710-730	718	250.00-264.00	256.97
2	765	765	252.00-260.00	256.00
1	905	905	238.00	238.00

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

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2	370-380	375	362.00-387.50	374.58
1	490	490	364.00	364.00
3	510-535	525	331.00-337.50	334.50
1	590	590	289.00	289.00
2	600	600	280.00	280.00
6	656-685	669	255.00-271.00	264.54

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

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	580	580	300.00	300.00

SLAUGHTER CATTLE

HEIFERS - Select and Choice 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
1	1135	1135	211.00	211.00	Average

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

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
7	1345-1675	1476	164.00-173.00	169.54	Average
3	1360-1750	1512	178.00-181.00	179.16	High

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

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
2	1190-1251	1221	156.00-171.00	163.31	Average
4	1190-1290	1231	177.00-182.00	180.26	High

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

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
5	1095-1380	1214	138.00-156.00	149.34	Average
3	830-915	872	164.00-168.00	166.03	High
1	885	885	210.00	210.00	High

Return to Feed

6	685-1175	874	121.00-133.00	127.99	Low
1	1060	1060	107.50	107.50	Very Low

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

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
2	1095-1220	1158	143.00-145.00	144.05	Average

BULLS - 1 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
2	1800-1920	1860	217.00-222.00	219.42	Average

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

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
1	1965	1965	192.00	192.00	Average
4	1310-2290	1738	207.00-211.00	209.80	High
1	1835	1835	180.00	180.00	Low

REPLACEMENT CATTLE

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

Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
>5	T1	1	1335	1335	2100.00	2100.00
>5	T2	1	1385	1385	2100.00	2100.00
>5	T3	1	1545	1545	2675.00	2675.00

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

Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
<2	T2	2	775-835	805	2000.00-2075.00	2038.90

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

Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
>8	O	1	1175	1175	1775.00	1775.00

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

Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
>5	O	1	1155	1155	3275.00	3275.00

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 = 1st Trimester, 1 to 3 months; T1-2 = 1st/2nd trimester, 1 to 6 months; T2 = 2nd Trimester, 4 to 6 months; T2-3 = 2nd/3rd Trimester, 4 to 9 months; T3 = 3rd Trimester, 7 to 9 months; T1-3 = all trimesters, 1 to 9 months)

Age - Numerical representation of age in years.

Source: USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News
KY Dept of Ag Market News Matt VonGruenigen
Frankfort, KY |(502) 782-4138 | www.ams.usda.gov/lpgmn
https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/
https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/viewReport/2127

Weekly National Sheep Summary For Week Ending Friday, August 15, 2025

Compared to last week Ft. Collins: Feeder lambs had no test and slaughter lambs traded 5.00-10.00 higher and ewes traded too lightly tested to develop trend.

Kalona: Slaughter lambs 15.00-20.00 lower, slaughter ewes stronger.

Slaughter Lambs: Choice and Prime 1-3
San Angelo: 60-70 lbs 230.00; 70-80 lbs 226.00-246.00.

New Holland: 80-90 lbs 270.00-280.00; 100-110 lbs 270.00-280.00; 150-160 lbs 210.00-230.00.

Billings: No test.
Ft. Collins: 50-60 lbs 210.00; 60-70 lbs 210.00-215.00; 80-90 lbs 202.50-220.00; 90-100 lbs 205.00-210.00; 110-120 lbs 220.00; 120-130 lbs 186.00-190.00; 130-140 lbs 187.50-195.00.

Kalona: 50-60 lbs 295.00-335.00; 60-70 lbs 285.00-350.00; 70-80 lbs 230.00-295.00; 80-90 lbs 220.00-247.50. 130-140 lbs 224.50.

Equity Coop: 50-60 lbs 255.00-280.00; 60-70 lbs 220.00-230.00; 70-80 lbs 220.00-225.00; 80-90 lbs 220.00-240.00; 90-100 lbs 210.00-245.00; 100-110 lbs 220.00-227.00; 110-120 lbs 120-130 lbs 220.00-226.00; 130-140 lbs 219.00-233.00; 140-150 lbs 230.00-235.00.

Sioux Falls: 50-60 lbs 255.00-280.00; 60-70 lbs 220.00-230.00; 70-80 lbs 220.00-225.00; 80-90 lbs 220.00-240.00; 90-100 lbs 210.00-245.00; 100-110 lbs 220.00-227.00; 110-120 lbs 120-130 lbs 220.00-226.00; 130-140 lbs 219.00-233.00; 140-150 lbs 230.00-235.00.

Buffalo, MO: No test.

Missouri: Woolled and shorn 60-70 lbs 225.00; 70-80 lbs 190.00-230.00; 100-110 lbs 165.00; 120-130 lbs 152.50; 130-140 lbs 132.50.

Arkansas: No test.

MARKETS

Daily Livestock and Poultry Slaughter

Report for Thursday, August 21, 2025 - Final									
Current Day Slaughter									
Thurs., Aug. 21, 2025	Week Ago	Year Ago	WTD	Prev Week WTD	Last Year WTD	2025 YTD	2024 YTD	YTD % Change	
Calves 1,000	1,000	355	4,000	4,000	2,798	83,975	137,110	-38.8%	
Cattle 116,000	113,000	122,457	450,000	446,000	483,773	18,798,398	20,165,434	-6.8%	
Hogs 468,000	473,000	483,604	1,906,000	1,913,000	1,933,129	80,318,665	82,236,526	-2.3%	
Sheep 6,000	6,000	7,070	29,000	30,000	30,450	1,238,724	1,226,975	1.0%	
Chicken (Young) 35,451,000	35,427,000	34,975,000	142,271,000	140,505,000	134,489,000	5,996,643,000	6,051,437,000	-0.9%	
Previous Daily Slaughter									
Wed., Aug. 20, 2025	Week Ago	Year Ago	WTD	Prev Week WTD	Last Year WTD	2025 YTD	2024 YTD	YTD % Change	
Calves 1,000	1,000	890	3,000	3,000	2,443	82,975	136,755	-39.3%	
Cattle 118,000	116,000	121,260	334,000	333,000	361,316	18,682,398	20,042,977	-6.8%	
Hogs 480,000	478,000	481,728	1,438,000	1,440,000	1,449,525	79,850,665	81,752,922	-2.3%	
Sheep 6,000	7,000	5,814	23,000	24,000	23,380	1,232,724	1,219,905	1.1%	
Chicken (Young) 35,434,000	34,744,000	35,102,000	106,820,000	105,078,000	99,514,000	5,961,192,000	6,016,462,000	-0.9%	
Previous Day Breakdown									
Wed., Aug. 20, 2025									
Cattle			Steers/Heifers ...98,000			Cows/Bulls ...20,000			
Explanatory Notes:Livestock Species listed consists of young and mature animals. Poultry references young only. Year to Date calculation is based on week 1 of calendar year R = Revision WTD = Week to Date YTD = Year to Date USDAAMS Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News Washington, DC (202) 720-1990 https://ams.usda.gov/lpgmn https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/ https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/viewReport/3208									

Missouri Direct Hay Report

Direct Hay Weighted Average Report for week ending 8/22/2025

Lack of rain over most of southern half of the state has resulted in just over 50 percent of the state showing on the latest drought monitor. Pasture conditions for the state are still well above normal but there is a lot more yellow in the south than green now. There has been scattered showers this week but nothing widespread. At this point conditions aren't bad enough to require any feeding. Cooler temperatures in the forecast will help but more moisture to get pastures back to growing would be very welcomed. There continues to be several reports of army worms scattered around which are extremely unwelcome and doing a lot of damage in areas where they show up. Hay movement has been slow, prices are steady to weak, supplies are heavy, and demand is light. The Missouri Department of Agriculture has a hay directory at https://apps.mda.mo.gov/haydirectory or visit the University of Missouri Extension feed stuff finder at https://feed-stufffinder.org

HAY (Conventional)

Alfalfa - Supreme (Ask/Per Ton)	
Medium Square 3x3	250.00-300.00
Alfalfa - Supreme (Ask/Per Bale)	
Small Square	10.00-15.00
Alfalfa - Premium (Ask/Per Ton)	
Medium Square 3x3	175.00-225.00
Alfalfa - Good (Ask/Per Ton)	
Large Round	150.00-175.00
Alfalfa - Good (Ask/Per Bale)	
Small Square	6.00-10.00
Alfalfa - Fair (Ask/Per Ton)	
Large Round	125.00-150.00
Mixed Grass - Premium/Supreme (Ask/Per Ton)	
Medium Square 3x3	150.00-200.00
Mixed Grass - Good/Premium (Ask/Per Ton)	
Large Round	100.00-150.00
Mixed Grass - Fair/Good (Ask/Per Ton)	
Large Round	75.00-125.00
Mixed Grass - Fair/Good (Ask/Per Bale)	
Small Square	3.00-7.00
Mixed Grass - Fair (Ask/Per Bale)	
Large Round	20.00-50.00

STRAW (Conventional)

Wheat - (Ask/Per Bale)	
Small Square	4.00-7.00

Source: USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News
https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov
https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/viewReport/2929

Weekly Combined Regional Shell Egg Report

Report for: 08/10/2025 - 08/16/2025					
National Shell Eggs - Caged					
Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen					
Class	Price Range	Average Price	Price Change	Last Reported (8/8/2025)	
Extra Large	249.00 - 290.00	272.75	-22.50	295.25	
Large	248.00 - 275.00	261.69	-25.00	286.69	
Medium	136.00 - 161.00	149.00	0.00	149.00	
Midwest Shell Eggs - Caged					
Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen					
Class	Price Range	Average Price	Price Change	Last Reported (8/8/2025)	
Extra Large	249.00 - 258.00	253.50	-25.00	278.50	
Large	248.00 - 257.00	252.50	-25.00	277.50	
Medium	136.00 - 145.00	140.50	0.00	140.50	
Delivered Store Door, White, Cents Per Dozen					
Class	Price Range	Average Price	Price Change	Last Reported (8/8/2025)	
Extra Large	256.00 - 264.00	260.00	-25.00	285.00	
Large	254.00 - 262.00	258.00	-25.00	283.00	
Medium	142.00 - 150.00	146.00	0.00	146.00	
Paid to Producers - FOB, White, Cents Per Dozen					
Class	Price Range	Average Price	Price Change	Last Reported (8/8/2025)	
Large	230.00 - 240.00	235.00	-25.00	260.00	
Medium	118.00 - 122.00	120.00	0.00	120.00	
Small	77.00 - 83.00	80.00	0.00	80.00	
Northeast Shell Eggs - Caged					
Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen					
Class	Price Range	Average Price	Price Change	Last Reported (8/8/2025)	
Extra Large	256.00 - 281.00	268.50	-23.00	291.50	
Large	250.00 - 264.00	257.00	-25.00	282.00	
Medium	138.00 - 151.00	144.50	0.00	144.50	
South Central Shell Eggs - Caged					
Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen					
Class	Price Range	Average Price	Price Change	Last Reported (8/8/2025)	
Extra Large	281.50 - 290.00	285.75	-21.00	306.75	
Large	266.50 - 275.00	270.75	-25.00	295.75	
Medium	152.50 - 161.00	156.75	0.00	156.75	
Southeast Shell Eggs - Caged					
Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen					
Class	Price Range	Average Price	Price Change	Last Reported (8/8/2025)	
Extra Large	279.50 - 287.00	283.25	-21.00	304.25	
Large	263.00 - 270.00	266.50	-25.00	291.50	
Medium	150.50 - 158.00	154.25	0.00	154.25	
Explanatory Notes: Prices to retailers, sales to volume buyers, white eggs in cartons. Regional Breakdown: Midwest: IA, IL, IN, KY, MI, MN, OH, NE, ND, SD, WI, WV, Western NY, and Western PA. Northeast: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, Eastern NJ, Eastern NY, Eastern PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT South Central: AR, AZ, CO, KS, LA, MO, NM, OK, and TX. Southeast: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, Eastern TN, and Southern VA.					
Source: USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News General inquiries, please call: (202) 720-1990 or email: mymarketnews@usda.gov https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/viewReport/2848 https://www.ams.usda.gov/lpgmn					

Kentucky Daily Grain Bids

Grain Report for Thursday, August 21, 2025 - Final									
FUTURE SETTLEMENTS									
Closing Settlement Prices (¢/bu) as of 8/21/2025									
Exchange	Commodity	387.25 (Sep 25)	411.75 (Dec 25)	429.75 (Mar 26)	440.00 (May 26)	446.75 (Jul 26)	446.00 (Sep 26)	454.25 (Dec 26)	
CBOT	Corn	1034.50 (Sep 25)	1056.00 (Nov 25)	1073.75 (Jan 26)	1087.75 (Mar 26)	1098.75 (May 26)	1106.25 (Jul 26)	1100.50 (Aug 26)	
CBOT	Soybeans	507.00 (Sep 25)	529.75 (Dec 25)	547.25 (Mar 26)	557.75 (May 26)	566.25 (Jul 26)	579.50 (Sep 26)	597.00 (Dec 26)	
CBOT	Wheat	323.25 (Sep 25)	330.75 (Dec 25)	336.75 (Mar 26)	340.50 (May 26)	342.50 (Jul 26)	358.25 (Sep 26)	358.75 (Dec 26)	
KCBT	Wheat	503.25 (Sep 25)	526.00 (Dec 25)	544.25 (Mar 26)	556.75 (May 26)	567.00 (Jul 26)	580.50 (Sep 26)	598.50 (Dec 26)	
MGE	Wheat	569.25 (Sep 25)	590.00 (Dec 25)	609.00 (Mar 26)	622.00 (May 26)	632.50 (Jul 26)	641.25 (Sep 26)	655.00 (Dec 26)	
US #2 WHITE CORN (BULK)									
Country Elevators - Conventional									
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average				
Pennyrile	90.00Z	UNCH	5.0175	UP 0.0775	5.0175				
Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional									
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average				
Ohio River - Lower KY	100.00Z	UNCH	5.1175	UP 0.0775	5.1175				
Purchase	100.00U	UNCH	4.8725	UP 0.0725	4.8725				
Purchase	100.00Z	UNCH	5.1175	UP 0.0775	5.1175				
US #2 YELLOW CORN (BULK)									
Country Elevators - Conventional									
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average				
Purchase	0.00U	UNCH	3.8725	UP 0.0725	3.8725				
Purchase	-20.00Z	UNCH	3.9175	UP 0.0775	3.9175				
Green River	25.00U	UNCH	4.1225	UP 0.0725	4.1225				
Green River	-10.00Z	UNCH	4.0175	UP 0.0775	4.0175				
Pennyrile	-25.00Z to -10.00Z	UNCH	3.8675-4.0175	UP 0.0775	3.9245				
Pennyrile	-55.00Z to -15.00Z	UNCH	3.5675-3.9675	UP 0.0775	3.6775				
Louisville	-6.00U to -4.00U	UNCH	3.8125-3.8325	UP 0.0725	3.8225				
Louisville	-33.00Z	UNCH	3.7875	UP 0.0775	3.7875				
Bluegrass	0.00U	UNCH	3.8725	UP 0.0725	3.8725				
Bluegrass	-40.00Z	UNCH	3.7175	UP 0.0775	3.7175				
Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional									
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average				
Ohio River - Upper KY	-7.00U to 0.00U	UNCH-UP 1.00	3.8025-3.8725	UP 0.0725-UP 0.0825	3.8375				
Ohio River - Upper KY	-32.00Z	UNCH	3.7975	UP 0.0775	3.7975				
Ohio River - Lower KY	0.00U to 12.00U	UNCH	3.8725-3.9925	UP 0.0725	3.9392				
Ohio River - Lower KY	-30.00Z to -12.00Z	UNCH	3.8175-3.9975	UP 0.0775	3.9325				
Purchase	5.00U to 8.00U	UNCH	3.9225-3.9525	UP 0.0725	3.9325				
Purchase	-18.00Z to -15.00Z	UNCH	3.9375-3.9675	UP 0.0775	3.9475				
US #1 SOYBEANS (BULK)									
Country Elevators - Conventional									
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average				
Purchase	-40.00X	UNCH	10.1600	UP 0.2000	10.1600				
Purchase	-30.00X	UNCH	10.2600	UP 0.2000	10.2600				
Green River	-50.00X	UNCH	10.0600	UP 0.2000	10.0600				
Green River	-50.00X	UNCH	10.0600	UP 0.2000	10.0600				
Pennyrile	-70.00X to -23.00X	UNCH-UP 7.00	9.8600-10.3300	UP 0.2000-UP 0.2700	10.0057				
Pennyrile	-85.00X to -45.00X	UNCH-UP 5.00	9.7100-10.1100	UP 0.2000-UP 0.2500	9.8386				
Louisville	-123.00X	UNCH	9.3300	UP 0.2000	9.3300				
Bluegrass	-50.00U	UNCH	9.8450	UP 0.1950	9.8450				
Bluegrass	-100.00X	UNCH	9.5600	UP 0.2000	9.5600				
Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional									
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average				
Ohio River - Upper KY	-35.00X	UP 7.00	10.2100	UP 0.2700	10.2100				
Ohio River - Upper KY	-66.00X to -62.00X	UP 3.00-UP 6.00	9.9000-9.9400	UP 0.2300-UP 0.2600	9.9200				
Ohio River - Lower KY	-45.00X to -15.00X	UNCH	10.1100-10.4100	UP 0.2000	10.2460				
Ohio River - Lower KY	-55.00X to -4.00X	UNCH-UP 3.00	10.0100-10.5200	UP 0.2000-UP 0.2300	10.1433				
Purchase	-40.00X	UNCH	10.1600	UP 0.2000	10.1600				
Purchase	-55.00X to -50.00X	UNCH	10.0100-10.0600	UP 0.2000	10.0225				
US #1 MILLING SOFT RED WINTER WHEAT (BULK)									
Country Elevators - Conventional									
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average				
Pennyrile	-25.00U	UNCH	4.8200	UP 0.0150	4.8200				
Pennyrile	10.00N	UNCH	5.7625	DN 0.0050	5.7625				
US #2 SOFT RED WINTER WHEAT (BULK)									
Country Elevators - Conventional									
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average				
Green River	-75.00N	UNCH	4.9125	DN 0.0050	4.9125				
Pennyrile	-80.00U to -30.00U	UNCH	4.2700-4.7700	UP 0.0150	4.4000				
Pennyrile	-60.00N to -55.00N	UNCH	5.0625-5.1125	DN 0.0050	5.1000				
Louisville	-103.00U to -40.00U	UNCH	4.0400-4.6700	UP 0.0150	4.3550				
Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional									
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average				
Ohio River - Upper KY	-20.00U	UNCH	4.8700	UP 0.0150	4.8700				
Ohio River - Lower KY	-50.00Z	UNCH	4.7975	UP 0.0150	4.7975				
Ohio River - Lower KY	-35.00N to -15.00N	UNCH	5.3125-5.5125	DN 0.0050	5.4458				
Purchase	-40.00U	UNCH	4.6700	UP 0.0150	4.6700				
Explanatory Notes: Price & Basis Values quoted are for Current Delivery, unless otherwise noted.									
CBOT/KCBT/MGE Trade 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									
USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News									
KY Dept of Ag Market News-Kevin Bowling, Market Reporter Frankfort, KY (502) 782-4139									
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Tennessee rice farmers look to gain access to international markets

By Celeste Baumgartner
Ohio Correspondent

DYERSBURG, Tenn. – In the United States, most rice is grown in Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, California and Missouri, according to the University of Tennessee (UT). However, row crop producers in West Tennessee have begun adopting this small grain into their farm operations, gaining access to new international markets.

Schultz Family Farms in Dyersburg is now in its second year growing rice, thanks to support from UT Extension.

“We decided to expand financial opportunities by not necessarily adding acres, but by trying to diversify crops,” John Schultz said. “With corn and soybeans, we’re making record yields but still just breaking even. We couldn’t seem to find a window to make a good profit off normal crops within our current economic system.”

There is a lot of rice production just across the Mississippi River in Arkansas and Missouri, said Terrell Davis, county director of UT-Tennessee State University Extension. Tennessee has had rice production for about the last 10 years.

It is necessary to build levees and have an irrigation system for growing rice. Making rice patties involves a good-sized investment. While most row-crop acres can be adapted for rice cultivation, production is especially effective in Northwest Tennessee thanks to abundant underground water near the Mississippi and Obion Rivers.

“We have natural geographical advantages compared to inland regions of the state, as well as close proximity to well-established rice-producing communities in Arkansas,” Davis said. “However, rice is still a relatively new crop in Tennessee, so there are few mills or drying facilities on this side of the Mississippi River. But for many farmers, the benefits of participating in this global industry still outweigh the challenges.”

Rice is planted in the spring, around May, and then sometime in June, up to the 4th of July, it is flooded, Davis explained. Rice does need a lot of moisture, but it doesn’t have to have flooded fields to grow. Flooding is simply the best way to control weeds; it’s a crop management tool.

“Harvest is not that different from soybeans,” Davis said. “We will harvest our rice in October with a combine. They’ll break the levee and



Above: Steve Rickman, county director of UT Extension, Chester County, inspects rice in the field. Row crop producers in West Tennessee have begun adopting this small grain into their farm operations.

drain out the water back to the river.

“A limiting factor for rice acres is that it is the most expensive crop to grow. It is going to be twice as expensive to grow rice over corn. So, if you already have a market in corn and, as a farmer, you feel confident in growing corn, that’s where you’re staying. Rice has to go with those risk-takers, the innovative guys that want to try something else.”

Typically rice prices are much higher than the corn and beans although just like everything else there has been a decline in price, Davis said.

John Schultz, who farms with his dad, Carl, and cousins Joseph and William Schultz, admits that it takes thinking outside the box in how to make something work. It was “a snowball” of things that led them to rice production. In 2023, the Tennessee Department of Agriculture had a special grant period for larger grants. The Schultz family applied for and received a grant to build a rice mill in Dyer County.

“It’s not a huge mill, but they do have a drying bin,” Davis said. “They can store it and then they mill their own rice and package it under the name of Tennomo Rice.”

John Schultz spent seven years in Arkansas, which helped him learn about growing rice.

“But I figured out quickly that growing rice and just telling somebody what to do are totally different things,” he said. “I spent more hours last year than I would care to say



Above: At harvest, the grain is removed from the stalk and dried to reduce moisture levels. Then, the milling process removes the outer husk to produce brown rice and the underlying bran layer to produce white rice.



Above: Rice does need a lot of moisture, but it doesn't require flooded fields to grow. Flooding is simply the best way to control weeds.

on our first rice crop, just watching and tweaking things, learning how to manage the water. We just this past week put our rice crop to flood for this year and it went much smoother than last year.”

However, this spring, the weather did not cooperate. The family was able to plant only 120 of their 250 available rice acres.

“We had a day and a half to put that in,” said. “We struggled with that this year between floods and rain. Rice does like saturated soil, but you still have to have a good seedbed to get that put in right.”

Rice is grown from spring through fall when temperatures are warm and precipitation is plentiful. At harvest, the grain is removed from the stalk and dried to reduce moisture levels that could cause spoilage. Then,

the milling process removes the outer husk to produce brown rice and the underlying bran layer to produce white rice. The USDA estimates that more than 40 percent of the United States’ total yield enters the international supply chain.

“We know market prices are always changing, so anytime you can diversify your farm, you’re better off. Tennessee might not ever be a top-producing rice state, but this commodity could open a lot of doors for farmers in these economically trying times,” Davis said.

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Above: Laura Supinger prepares food in the winter kitchen of the John Johnston Farm in Piqua, Ohio. Supinger is a volunteer at this farm in west central Ohio. It is one of several farms in the state where re-enactments take place. (photo submitted)

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Heritage

FROM PAGE 7

In Evendale, just 13 miles north of downtown Cincinnati, rests Gorman Heritage Farm. The small village of Evendale isn't exactly an agricultural setting as it is home to GE Aviation, Formica Corp. and Gold Medal Products. Still, it is home to the 122-acre Gorman Heritage Farm, in existence since 1835. It includes 30 tillable acres, farmyard gardens, five miles of hiking trails and a wildflower preserve. The farm raises livestock, grows vegetables and flowers.

In a county with the fewest farms in the state, Gorman Heritage Farm offers many educational programs, such as school field trips, summer day camps, summer farm tours, farm-to-school programs and family programs. And the structures on the premises will take visitors back in time as they've been in place since the farm was established.

"Gorman Heritage Farm is a significant example of historic agricultural production and farming practices that spanned 160 years in Hamilton County and embodies the era of diversified family farms," said Sandra Murphy, volunteer and former executive director at Gorman Farms.

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

"Visitors to this day are treated to the landscape at it was nearly 170 years ago," Murphy said. "The origi-

nal farm dwelling is an early version of a 'pre-classic I house' type. The four-bay, two-story, stone house was constructed in 1835 and banked into a slope at the rear. Around 1858, a stone kitchen was added to one corner of the house and by the early 1900s the limestone bearing exterior walls and walnut lintels were stuccoed."

And there's more, such as two 19th-century stone springhouses, one built in 1835, the second one in 1890. Also still standing is an early 20th century alfalfa barn, a 1920 limestone smokehouse and a 1930s rabbit house.

Just south of Columbus, Ohio, sits Slate Run Historical Farm, offering an authentic recreation of 19th-century farm life. This working farm feels like a time machine, complete with open tractors, restored barns and heirloom crops. The living history staff brings the 1800s to life, allowing visitors to witness daily chores like churning butter or harvesting crops with vintage tools. Families with kids will relish the chance to see farm animals up close and play old-fashioned games, just as they did in the 1800s.

Johnston Farm and Indian Agency in Piqua, Ohio, goes a bit further than other heritage farms in Ohio as it offers a look at 2,000 years of Ohio history including everything from Native American history to Ohio's canals.

This 200-acre farm once belonged to John and Rachel Johnston. Johnston was a U.S. Indian Agent in western Ohio from 1812 to 1829 as well as a local farmer. Today, volunteers provide a hands-on living model of life on the farm in the 1800s, observing things such as fabric dyeing, beekeeping, historic cow milking and cheese making and basket weaving.



Above: Carriage rides are offered at Malabar Farm State Park in Lucas, Ohio, taking visitors to see re-enactments of farm life as it was in the late 1880s. (photo submitted)

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Ohio Soybean Council launches first Soy-based Asphalt Sealant Grant Program

By DOUG SCHMITZ
Iowa Correspondent

WORTHINGTON, Ohio – The Ohio Soybean Council recently launched its first Soy-based Asphalt Sealant Grant Program to promote sustainable road maintenance using soy-derived products.

Funded by soybean checkoff dollars, the grant helps counties and townships in Ohio adopt soy-based asphalt sealants, with the goal of increasing soybean demand, while supporting local infrastructure, according to officials.

“We had done a similar project in 2021 in Hancock County, lead by the Soy Transportation Coalition, with funds from the Ohio Soybean Council,” Julia Brown, Ohio Soybean Council director of communications, told Farm World.

“This time, we brought the program in-house and worked directly with the applicants,” she said. “This program was started to incentivize the use of soy-based road sealants by counties and townships in Ohio.

“When looking at the projects that the council invests in, especially in the infrastructure space, our board makes funding decisions that benefit the entire soybean supply chain,” she added. “This project checks two boxes at one time: the marketing of these new bio-based products, as well as investing in reliable infrastructure in areas where we see a lot of soybean movement.”

According to the Ohio Soybean Council, Ohio soybean farmers and their checkoff are promoting soy-based technologies and improved transportation infrastructure by offering grant funding for counties to apply up to \$10,000 worth of soy-based



Above: In 2021, the Soy Transportation Coalition and Hancock County, Ohio, partnered on a pilot project in which RePlay, a soy-based asphalt sealant produced by BioSpan Technologies in Washington, Mo., was applied on approximately two miles of County Road 84 in Hancock County via a truck-mounted sprayer. (photo courtesy of RePlay)

asphalt sealant (covers approximately one mile).

Among the benefits of the program, the council said, soy-based asphalt sealant reduces maintenance costs, increases longevity of roads, and supports local farmers.

“The goal of the demand arm of the Ohio Soybean Council is to invest in programming and projects that lead to increased sales of Ohio soybeans and soybean-derived food and products,” Brown said. “We feel that incentivizing the use of soy-based bio-products does exactly that, and helps to accomplish that goal that we set.”

In 2021, the Soy Transportation Coalition and Hancock County, Ohio, partnered on a pilot project in which RePlay, a soy-based asphalt sealant produced by BioSpan Technologies (based in Washington, Mo.), was applied on approximately two miles of

County Road 84 in the county via a truck-mounted sprayer, according to the Ohio Soybean Council.

“The penetration of salt, water, and other materials into a paved road – particularly in areas with a freeze-thaw cycle – can result in significant damage and diminished longevity,” the council said in a media statement. “The application on an asphalt sealant, like RePlay, can provide a barrier to such penetration, and significantly increase the useful life of the road or bridge.”

Doug Cade, Hancock County engineer, said because RePlay is 88 percent produced from bio-based products, mostly soybean oil, the product is safe to apply and environmentally sustainable; he added the road was able to be reopened to traffic within 30 minutes of application.

“Our ultimate goal in applying Re-

Play to this section of road is to safely extend our repair schedule by five years,” he said. “This will allow us to allocate taxpayer money to other projects that are in more need of immediate attention.

“The road now dries faster than the adjacent untreated roads since the sealant helps prevent water penetration,” he added. “Applying RePlay also slightly darkened the coloration of the asphalt, which will result in quicker melting of snow and ice during the winter. This will all benefit motorist safety. We have also noticed that skid resistance has been maintained in the road treated with RePlay.”

David Clark, Ohio Soybean Council and the Soy Transportation Coalition board member, and a Springboro, Ohio, soybean farmer, said, “Because our rural roads and bridges are so critical to our success, farmers need to be willing to step up to the plate and help promote solutions to many of our challenges.

“By doing this joint project with Hancock County, we hope to increase the awareness of the one use of soy-based sealants for our rural infrastructure, and encourage it to be a more widely-utilized tool within our state,” he added.

Steve Reinhard, Ohio Soybean Council and the Soy Transportation Coalition board member, and a Bucyrus, Ohio soybean farmer, said, “The use of soy-based asphalt and concrete sealants checks a number of important boxes. It first increases the longevity of our roads and bridges.

“Second, it does so in an environmentally sustainable way,” he added. “Finally, it provides another marketing opportunity for soybean farmers. We hope to encourage greater momentum throughout the country in using these products.”

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17 graduate from Iowa State University's Landowner Education Program

By DOUG SCHMITZ
Iowa Correspondent

AMES, Iowa – Seventeen Iowa landowners recently graduated from the 2025 Landowner Education Program, organized by Iowa State University (ISU) Extension and Outreach, according to officials.

This educational initiative aims to equip landowners with essential skills to improve soil health, apply conservation practices, and communicate effectively with tenants or family, the officials said, with participants also building a strong network with conservation professionals and fellow landowners. The program features five in-person and two virtual educational events to help landowners improve the environmental and economic resiliency of their land through soil health practices.

Officials said the program is intended for Iowa agricultural landowners

who want to learn about practices such as reduced tillage, cover crops and perennials, understanding the important financial and legal considerations of adopting these practices, and building a supportive network of conservation professionals and peers.

"In Iowa, 58 percent of farmland is leased, and those who own the land but do not farm it have varying levels of engagement with its soil, water resources and habitat," said Catherine DeLong, ISU extension water quality program manager and program co-leader.

"Our goal is to help landowners focus on the 'how': how to take care of their soil, how to navigate financial programs to help cover the cost, and how to talk with family members or tenants about changes," she added.

She told Farm World, "The Landowner Education Program started in 2024. The main goal is to help landowners navigate the financial, legal and relational aspects of building soil

health on their farmland. Program sessions take place in June and July, and are in-person in central Iowa. There are five sessions; each session is about three hours."

Brandon and Hannah Kerkhoff, Templeton, Iowa, beginning landowners and members of the 2025 graduating class, said the program will help them practice conservation methods more confidently.

"We've always dabbled in conservation practices, but the knowledge we have gained from this program has made us more confident using those continuously," Hannah said.

Brandon added, "After each meeting, there was always a piece of information we learned that was something new. It was great to get that. It's the small things that can help us make a big difference."

To apply, DeLong said landowners fill out a short application that asks questions about their current land management and goals.

"If they are accepted into the program, they will also be asked to fill out a short survey so we can curate our education to their needs," she said. "We encourage participants whose land is primarily in row crop production as our program focuses on the soil health benefits of reduced tillage, cover crops and perennials. We currently have grant funding to offer the program at no cost in 2026.

"After 2026, we will charge for attendance and shift to offering the program every other year," she added. "We have also discussed moving it to other areas of the state such as Iowa City and Coralville."

Indiana distillery earns prestigious honor during Heartland Whiskey Competition

CHICAGO, Ill. – The American Craft Spirits Association (ACSA) has announced the recipients of the Farmer-Distiller program of the 2025 Heartland Whiskey Competition. Starlight Distillery in Borden, Ind., claimed the prestigious Top Farmer-Distiller award – the competition's most challenging honor, determined by the highest average score across three judged spirits from a single qualifying distillery. To qualify as a farmer-distiller, participants must both own a distillery and operate a working farm.

"This was an impressive showing from corn farmers who own distilleries, showcasing their ability to produce top-tier products and develop high-quality grain for distilling – grain that benefits craft distillers across the board," said Paul Hodgen, a farmer from Roachdale, Ind., and an Indiana Corn Marketing Council (ICMC) director. "ICMC, together with other state check-off organizations, is proud to sponsor this competition to raise awareness of the many uses of corn."

The Farmer-Distiller: Best Bourbon resulted in a numerical tie, with two distilleries sharing the honor. Queens Reserve, a product of Wood Hat Spirits in Florence, Mo., scored identically to Bloody Butcher Bourbon, is produced by Pathfinder Farm Distillery in Boonsboro, Md. Both distilleries will receive awards.

Farmer-Distiller: Beyond Bourbon goes to Tobacco Barn Distillery in Hollywood, Md., for its Maryland Bourbon Cream. Tobacco Barn previously earned Top Farmer-Distiller in 2023.

Numerous corn farmers throughout the U.S. own and operate craft distilleries and submitted approximately 40 percent of this year's entries, demonstrating the strong connection between agriculture and craft spirits production.

"We are very pleased by the enthusiasm that farmer-distillers have shown for this competition along with other craft distillers," stated Margie A.S. Lehman, CEO of ACSA. "With corn state

support we're able to promote the craft spirits industry and the important role that agriculture has in producing excellent spirits. The communication and information sharing on farming practices specifically for distilling is of great value to our members."

All other Heartland Whiskey Competition awards were to be announced Aug. 26.

The 2025 competition marked the fifth biennial Heartland Whiskey Competition, open to craft whiskeys incorporating corn in their mash bill. This blind-judging competition is generously sponsored by state corn marketing associations, and ACSA facilitates the judging process. Former ACSA Board President Chris Montana, owner of Du Nord Social Spirits in Minnesota, served as judging director for the fifth time. Judges are selected from the spirits industry by ACSA and chosen for their knowledge of craft whiskey.

Judging happened on July 15 at the West Fork Whiskey Co. in Westfield, Ind.

Scoring and medal criteria

The scoring of whiskeys, with judges hand-selected from the North American spirits community, was based on a 100-point system with 10 main categories of consideration worth 10 points each. The categories are Appearance, Aroma Intensity, Aroma Complexity, Palate Concentration, Palate Complexity, Body, Alcohol, Texture, Finish and Pour for a Peer.

Whiskeys were then assigned a medal based on the average score determined by the following benchmarks: 70-79 points were Bronze; 80-89 points were Silver; and 90-100 points were Gold.

Best Farmer-Distiller was awarded to the top average score across three spirits among all judged whiskeys submitted by Farmer-Distillers. Farmer-Distiller: Best Bourbon and Farmer-Distillery Beyond Bourbon were awarded to the spirits that scored highest in the bourbon category and all other categories respectively.



Above: Iowa State University's 2025 Landowner Education Program graduates (pictured) learned about such practices as reduced tillage, cover crops and perennials; understanding the important financial and legal considerations of adopting these practices; and building a supportive network of conservation professionals and peers. (courtesy of Iowa State University Extension and Outreach)



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SECTION B

FarmWorld

Friday August 29, 2025

Rendleman's Orchards, ag tourism at its best

By Cindy Ladage
Illinois Correspondent

ALTO PASS, Ill. – Rendleman's Orchards offers everything a person seeking an agritourism trip could ask for. Nestled in the Shawnee Hills and owned by Wayne and Michelle Sirles, the orchard has been in the family since 1873.

Visitors can enjoy shopping at the farm market, which offers orchard produce as well as specialty food items. A peach smoothie and fresh apple cider slushies during seasons are refreshing and tasty. Young visitors will enjoy the fancy chicken coop with a large chicken run, with a chunnel bridge to goats. There is a bee apiary and amazingly beautiful flower fields perfect for pictures. Flowers may be selected and purchased to take home. In the fall, u-pick pumpkins will also be available with a special Goth Pumpkin this year.

With the flowers is a monarch garden that has been certified. The entire farm has also been eco-certified as well.



Above: Michelle Sirles during nectarine harvest.

Best of all, most all these stops have placards to educate visitors about farming. "Most anyone, if they

(Orchard continued on page 2B)

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Orchard

FROM PAGE 1B

are not a farmer, is disconnected from the farm,” Michelle Sirles explained. “Back in the day almost everyone had a connection to a family farm. They would go stay with their grandparents or aunt and uncle who were funning the family farm. That is not the case today. Many people do not have a farm connection in their family anymore. We plan to continue sharing Ag education opportunities here at Rendleman Orchards.”

With this change in mind, educating visitors, especially the youth, is a very important part of her agritourism education experience. Being a sesquicentennial farm, the Rendlemans recently went through the arduous process of adding several buildings to the National Register of Historic Places. In fact, the farm has been designated a Historic District. The placards help tell the story of the Rendleman family on the farm. “We did the history of all the structures. Thirty-one out of 40 met the National Register criteria. Before Highway 127 came through, a gravel road was the main road,” Michelle added.

They have a Cottage at Rendleman’s managed through Southern Illinois Vacation Rentals. Built circa 1920, the house is a family one that has been converted into vacation rental property. With two bedrooms and more, there is even a taj mahal of a chicken house for visitors to enjoy. Golf cart rental is also available to peruse the orchards during a stay.

While they offer a nice selection of gift items and produce in their gift shop, Rendleman’s is a working 512-acre orchard with peach, nectarine and apple orchards. For those look-

ing to have fruit shipped, they offer a gift box sent right to a home. The farm manager Rick has been with Rendleman’s since he was 18. With two teams, farm workers harvest the crop in season with two crew bosses that have been on staff for over 40 years. For years, Michelle said that her mother-in-law was the team boss.

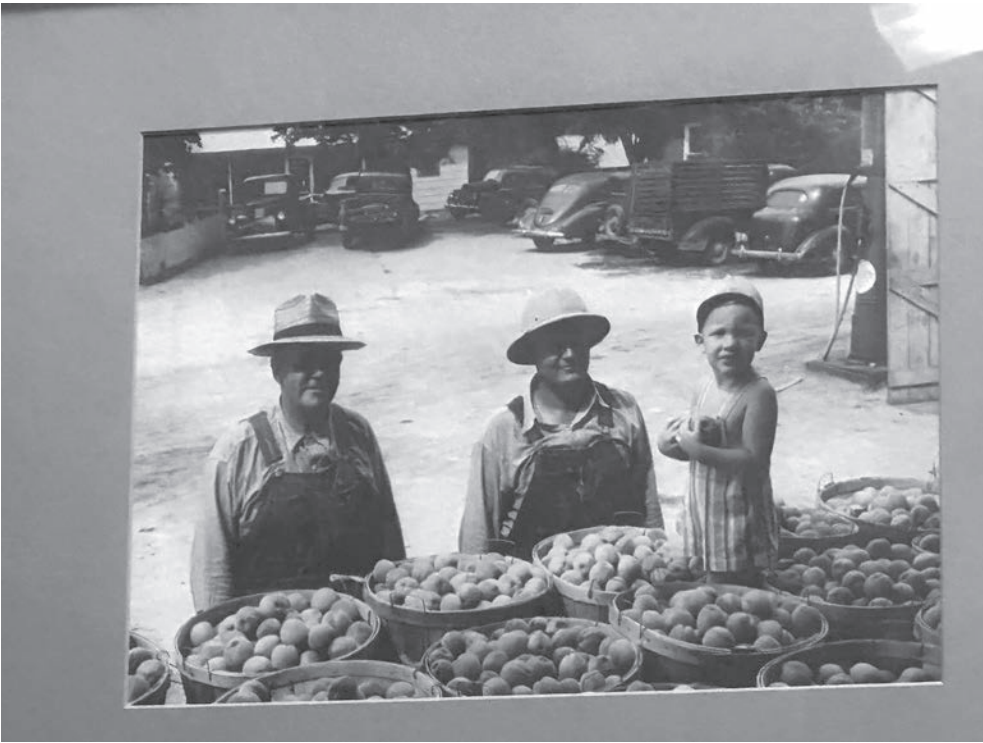
Michelle explained that harvest is like a synchronized dance where everything is timing. “Tractor drivers are critical,” Michelle said about the wagons the drivers pull up to keep the fruit moving from orchard to packing house. “It is a big responsibility. They have to keep up with the fastest picker who sets the pace.”

Using old Ford tractors, they fill up the boxes using a system that Michelle said was passed down for decades. “Originally the wagons were pulled by mules. Each worker carries a 25-pound bag and a ladder. The bags and ladders are personal because each picker adjusts them to his own work style. Trees are picked several times, allowing unripe fruit to finish on the tree.

The trees offer their own protection from the elements. “Peach and nectarine leaves protect the fruit from hail. Trees are pruned like a hand; they are open inside. Branches for peaches are like a bowl, then the sun can get to the center.”

When orchards are planted, they are planted by hand, and hand staked. During the winter many workers help keep the buildings and agritourism stops well maintained.

Rendleman’s Orchards is open the end of June to the end of October, Monday-Saturday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. The rest of the year they are open by appointment. To learn more about the orchard, visit their website at <https://rendlemanorchards.com>.



Above: A historic picture of this orchard that has been in the Rendleman family since 1873.



Above: While the flower fields are perfect for a photo op, they are also helping the bees with pollination.



Above: The farm market offers produce and specialty food and gift items as well.



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Eliot Clay wins coveted Woody Woodruff Award at Illinois state fair

By **TIM ALEXANDER**
Illinois Correspondent

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Eliot Clay, first-year executive director of the Association of Illinois Soil & Water Conservation Districts (AISWCD), was given the prestigious Woody Woodruff Award on Agriculture Day, August 8, at the Illinois State Fair (ISF). The award is named in memory of Robert “Woody” Woodruff, a beloved conservation leader, Macoupin County farmer, and Illinois Stewardship Alliance staff member. It recognizes a farmer who exemplifies Woody’s passion for soil, water, and community.

“Eliot Clay, this year’s Woody Woodruff Conservation Award recipient, is a true champion for conservation in Illinois,” according to Kris Reynolds, Midwest director for American Farmland Trust. “His dedication to agricultural stewardship and practical, common-sense policy embodies the very essence of this honor. Through his leadership, he has united partner organizations, farmers, and advocates in working toward a brighter future for Illinois farmers and the land they steward.”

Clay came to the AISWCD from the Illinois Environmental Council (IEC), where he led their policy agenda on agriculture, conservation and on how natural and working lands are utilized in Illinois. He led the IEC’s Land Use Programs and also served as director of the council’s State Programs and Agriculture & Water Programs. Clay also co-leads the Illinois Livestock Reform Coalition, and was appointed in 2024 to the state’s Good Food Purchasing Task Force by Lt. Governor Juliana Stratton.

Clay took over as AISWCD leader in January and inherits a reduced

state budget for assisting farmers and landowners in a time of increased dust storms and other soil-related environmental challenges. The fiscal year 2026 budget signed by Gov. JB Pritzker in June allotted \$7.5 million to the state’s SWCDs, a \$1 million overall cut from the previous year’s funding, which had already been cut by \$4 million. Of that \$7.5 million, just \$3 million will go to cost-share grants to farmers for the costs of implementing both state and federal conservation policies, such as cover crops. The remaining \$4.5 million will go to administrative costs, Capitol News Illinois reported.

During the 2025 Ag Breakfast, Clay spoke to Farm World about how the AISWCD is adjusting to another year of budget reductions that place the annual funding for Illinois AISWCDs at 1990s levels.

“SWCD funding has been fluctuating for years under multiple administrations,” said Clay, a Chatham, Ill., native who now resides in Auburn. “You can chalk it up to politics or whatever, but during the (former GOP Gov. Bruce) Rauner administration, they completely zeroed out SWCD funding in Illinois. Things have been dire before, but we were hoping we were going to get this number back up.”

Clay feels the decision by the Illinois General Assembly to reduce FY 2026 funding for SWCDs is a result of a lack of education and knowledge about the important role they play for not only farmers and rural landowners, but the general public. “The center of power in the (state) legislature right now is really in Chicago, and there are (lawmakers) there that don’t get exposed very often to the work that SWCDs are doing all over the state, including in Cook County,” he said. “Part of what

I endeavor to do and make part of our game plan is to make sure the work our SWCDs do is tangible to people, and that they know what their existence (is for). If you ask the average legislator from the Chicago region, they’re probably not going to be able to give you an answer as to what a SWCD actually does. It is our responsibility to take this message to the general assembly and improve our message to communicate and show our worth.”

In addition to better educating upstate lawmakers, SWCDs must do a better job of informing the public as to why their tax dollars are well spent, according to Clay. “For instance, there was the big dust storm that hit central Illinois (in May) and it was purely because of favorable weather conditions and poor soil conditions; ground cover wasn’t there. SWCDs can help play a role in keeping that from happening again,” he said.

Clay also pointed to a June drinking water alert for residents near Kankakee in southern Will County that was a result of an N spike in water sources due to farm field runoff. “We know for a fact that it was because of farm fertilizers, and we are starting to see the real consequences of not having these (soil conservation) measures in place,” he said. “Another example would be the recent (July) algae bloom that’s happening at Lake Mattoon; that lake for a number of days was restricted from entry and the algae got into their water supply.

“City officials were warned years ago that they needed to get ahead of all of the nutrients going into their water supply, because eventually something like this was going to happen. The way to stem problems like these at the source is through conservation



Above: Eliot Clay, first-year executive director of the Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts, received the Woody Woodruff Conservation Award at the Illinois State Fair on Ag Day, August 8, 2025. (T. Alexander photo)

practices.”

Clay said he was “humbled” to accept the Woodruff Award, and mentioned a close family connection to the late conservationist. “Growing up with my dad teaching me to hunt morels and to turkey hunt, it was all on Woody’s property. Woody was somebody who was a part of my family growing up, and he taught me a lot. He practiced everything under the sun on his farm in terms of conservation and he was very inspiring; those years of my life were very formative to me and to get this award is a very big deal to me,” Clay explained.



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Aimee Wertz-Lutz returns to Iowa State as new Iowa Beef Center director

By DOUG SCHMITZ
Iowa Correspondent

AMES, Iowa – Growing up on a grain and livestock farm in central Illinois, Aimee Wertz-Lutz said the most valuable skills she learned from that experience were work ethic, dedication and adaptability.

“Being involved in agriculture is a continuous use of problem-solving skills and innovation to overcome challenges,” she told Farm World. “I also gained an understanding of agriculture values. These skills and values have been irreplaceable to me in my career.”

On July 1, Wertz-Lutz started a new chapter in her agricultural career as the new director of Iowa State University’s (ISU) Iowa Beef Center and extension feedlot specialist, returning to ISU where she was a post-doctoral research associate in ruminant nutrition and nutritional physiology from 2001-2003.

“I have always had a tremendous amount of respect for Iowa State University, the heritage of Iowa cattle production, and the producers that make that happen,” she said. “My academic side loves questioning ‘what if’ and seeking the answers that propel our industry forward; and my industry side is rooted in assessing what is the best technology available to date to address a problem, and then making a decision that balances the optimal path for production and economic soundness.”

Prior to returning to ISU, she was a ruminant nutritionist at Devenish Nutrition North America in Fairmont, Minn., from 2019 to just recently; manager of ruminant nutrition research at ADM Animal Nutrition in Quincy, Ill., from 2011 to 2019; and an associate professor of animal and range sciences at South Dakota State University in Brookings, S.D., from 2003 to 2011.

“These opportunities gave me the ability to apply science and tools I learned from that research to solve problems,” she said. “It also gave the perspective beyond what I would have if I had only been exposed to a single feeding operation.

“One of the greatest things about American agriculture is there are many ways to do it successfully,” she added. “While working in industry, I also had the opportunity to grow a network of allied industry partners, both in Iowa and across the U.S. This network is very powerful, and the synergy of those interactions is incredibly important.”

Moreover, she said, “In agriculture and through Iowa State University, we are fortunate to have the land-grant system in place with a structure to seek solutions, convey solutions to producers, and communicate with the public the impact of these solutions.

“The value the Iowa Beef Center brings is from being presented with a newly emerging challenge and using our skill, to identifying solutions, conveying those to producers, and making the impact known to consumers,” she added. “It’s also important for the Iowa Beef Center to remain an objective source of information and maintain relationships so that objective information can be shared with regulatory bodies and policymakers.”

As Iowa Beef Center director, she said, “Twenty-five percent of my time will be dedicated to administrative duties such as budget management; being a liaison between the Iowa Beef Center, and the Iowa Cattlemen’s Association and the Iowa Beef Industry Council; working with field staff to develop state and regional programming; and working with extension administration to assess impacts of programming.

“An additional 35 percent of my time will be dedicated to my role as extension feedlot specialist,” she added. “In this space, I am interested in



Aimee Wertz-Lutz

pre-weaning nutrition and its impacts on feeder cattle performance and health; non-traditional feeding practices of dairy-beef and the impacts on efficiency of starch utilization, inorganic and organic mineral sources; and the impact of calf growth and health. The balance of my position will be teaching- and research-focused.”

In addition, she said she will be making connections with other regions of the state, “getting them to participate in as many ongoing activities as possible. There are six extension beef-focused field specialists in regions across the state of Iowa. Each of these individuals has programming to meet the needs of producers in their region.

“These programs include pasture walks, feedlot short course, Beef Quality Assurance (a program that provides systematic information to U.S. beef producers of how good animal husbandry techniques can be coupled with accepted scientific knowledge to raise cattle under optimum management conditions), farm management plan-

“I am scheduled to attend a number of these meetings, and it is a goal of mine to get to each region in the coming months,” she added. “I have also been participating in Iowa Cattlemen’s Association and Iowa Beef Industry Council meetings. The boards of these organizations are composed of producers from across the state. I am working with other beef faculty to organize some tours of feedlots across the state to meet producers, and gain a perspective of challenges they face.”

Among the goals she has in her new roles, she said, “I would like to develop a series of short courses for the experienced cattle feeder, whether on-farm or working in the feed industry. I have worked with a number of producers with backgrounds in agribusiness, agronomy, or agricultural economics. But in their day-to-day tasks, they have a significant role in cattle feeding and management.

“Depending on their degree program (if they had previous college coursework in agriculture), they may or may not have had an animal nutrition course, or it may have been a number of years since they participated in an animal nutrition class and their needs now exceed original training,” she added.

She said, “Feeding practices and feed ingredients evolve and because feed cost accounts for over half of the cost of cattle production, providing opportunities to brush-up on or learn new skills that can improve feed management, feed efficiency, or survivability of cattle, can impact the fiscal and environmental sustainability of cattle feeders and the beef industry.

“I would like to work with other faculty to develop an advanced feed formulation class for our students that want to enter the feed industry,” she added.

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reers, she said, “Careers in agriculture are very diverse. While fewer people live on farms, we all still eat and there is a need for the well-trained in the agriculture sector. I think it is important to get some hands-on experience, and to work in as many roles as possible to gain a greater understanding of agriculture practices and life.

“I am also a firm believer of science with practice,” she added. “The combination is more powerful than either alone: learning to problem solve, and using science to solve problems and improve cattle production and sustainability. The other piece is to grow your professional network. Those interactions may seem insignificant at initiation, but as you mature in an agriculture career, they are mutually beneficial and very valuable.”



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Michigan milk production up 4.1 percent with 17,000 more cows

US dairy farmers continue to fill their bulk tanks. The Agriculture Department's latest data shows July output hit 19.57 billion pounds, up 3.4% from July 2024.

The 24 State output, at 18.8 billion pounds, was up 3.5%.

June production in the 50 States was revised up 5 million pounds, leaving output 2.3% above a year ago. The 24 State total was also revised up 5 million pounds, up 3.4%.

Cow numbers totaled 9.485 million, up 10,000 head from June, and 159,000 or 1.7% more than a year ago. The May count was revised up 6,000 head. The 24-State count, at 9.040 million, was up 8,000 from June and 154,000 or 1.7% above a year ago. The June count was revised, up 3,000 head.

Output per cow averaged 2,063 pounds, up 34 pounds or 1.7% from a year ago in the 50 states and averaged 2081 pounds in the top 24, up 36 pounds or 1.8%.

California milk production, now with bird flu pretty much in the rear view mirror, was up 125 million pounds or 3.8% from a year ago, thanks to 3,000 more cows and a 70 pound increase per cow.

Michigan was up 4.1% on 17,000 more cows and a 5 pound gain per cow. Minnesota was up 1.9%, on a 30 pound gain per cow and 2,000 more cows.

Meanwhile, the USDA's latest Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Outlook says "With a combined total of 140,000 head (dairy cows) added in June 2025 compared to last year, Texas, Idaho,

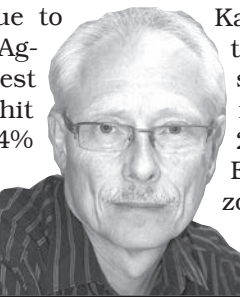
Kansas and South Dakota continue to lead dairy herd expansions. Milk per cow per day increased across most of the 24 production states selected. Exceptions include Utah, Arizona, Oregon and Washington.

Notably, milk per cow in California was higher year over year for the first time since September 2024 when the first cases of herds impacted by highly pathogenic avian influenza were reported in the state. Since then, the monthly number of reported outbreaks has declined significantly both in California and elsewhere."

Dairy margins nationally were flat the first half of August as milk prices were mixed while feed costs diverged with corn making new contract lows and soybean meal rallying in response to USDA's August World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates report. That according to the latest Margin Watch (MW) from Chicago-based Commodity and Ingredient Hedging LLC.

"Milk prices have been holding steady as milk production and dairy product output increases with strong demand, particularly in the export market, helping to absorb the additional supply," the MW stated.

Exports are vital to the U.S. dairy industry and President Donald Trump's upsetting of the tariff apple cart has affected all types of trade, including dairy. Speaking in the Aug. 25 Dairy Radio Now broadcast, Rabobank's Lucas Fuess said the U.S. received in writing this week the verbal trade agreement between the U.S. and EU



MIELKE MARKET WEEKLY
By Lee Mielke

(Mielke continued on page 8B)

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March SSF On Point 4028



Lot 16 Reg:19843792
PVF Surveillance daughter bred to RL&L Cobalt 174L



Lot 18 Reg:20967319
Lazy JB Sundance daughter bred to SAV Brilliance



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Mielke

FROM PAGE 5B

and called it a “win for both sides.” He said there’s not a lot of dairy that leaves the U.S. for Europe but there is a significant amount of high-end cheese and butter that comes to the U.S. from Europe. The agreement impacts many other items.

He also said U.S.-China trade negotiations have been extended until November after seeing tariffs in April and into May of up to 145 percent on U.S. imports of Chinese goods. That also decimated U.S. whey and permeate trade, he said, however there was a strong recovery in June when those tariffs were rolled back.

China’s dairy imports showed a lot of negatives in July but one of the positives was whey. Whey imports hit 151.4 million pounds, up 17 percent from a year ago, highest volume since May 2021 on a 30-day adjusted basis, according to HighGround Dairy. Sailings from the U.S. were up 22 percent, as China and the U.S. came to a trade “truce” on May 13, and HGD says “It is likely buyers piled on additional shipments following the reduced tariff announcement. However, trade relations between the two nations remain strained driving China to seek alternative origins like Belarus and Turkey.”

Lactose imports marked a new-all time high, adds HGD, and the U.S. remained the top origin nation, accounting for 60 percent of total market share. Following the trade truce, sailings of lactose jumped 36 percent. China continued to diversify their lactose purchasing, also buying product from Germany, Denmark and Italy.

Cheese imports hit 42.1 million pounds, up 20.8 percent, highest level on a 30-day adjusted basis since March 2021, according to HGD, with New Zealand accounting for 65 percent of those imports. More cheese also came from Australia and the United Kingdom, while imports from the U.S. were down 44 percent.

Combined whole milk and skim milk powder imports were down 19.0 percent and butter was down 6.3 percent.

The September Federal order Class I base milk price was announced at \$18.70 per hundredweight, down 23 cents from August and \$2.90 below Sept. 2024. It equates to \$1.61 per gallon, down from \$1.86 a year ago. The average stands at \$19.37, down from \$19.67 a year ago, and compares to \$19.05 in 2023.

Cash block Cheddar cheese reversed last week’s downturn and marched to

\$1.8675 per pound Wednesday, but dropped 8.75 cents Thursday, falling back to \$1.78, after closing Friday at \$1.7750. The barrels gained 3 cents Monday, hitting \$1.81, and that’s where they stood Thursday following their Friday close at \$1.78.

StoneX Aug. 19 Early Morning Update says “There appears to be a seasonal uptick in U.S. cheese demand underway. And while there is reportedly a good deal of Cheddar in the country today, less of it seems to fit the spec of what can be brought to the CME spot market than a month or so ago.

“There is some concern that firming prices (north of \$1.90) will shut off the much needed export market the U.S. has enjoyed this year. We agree with this in theory, but upside risks remain as we enter the time of year in which U.S. demand even for just a few weeks drives cheese price action. If, and this is a big if, U.S. domestic demand heats up more, spot cheese can exit the pricing zone needed to export as the market rations demand. We’re not there yet but it’s on our radar.”

Dairy Market News reports “Milk output in the Central region is mostly steady but still trending lower, as variable heat and stormy weather continue to influence conditions. Cheese production is steady to lighter. Domestic demand from retail and food-service is steady, while export interest remains solid.

Contractual milk volumes are being met for cheese manufacturers in the West despite some lighter milk output, says DMN, and is likely ample, with bottling seasonally lighter for a couple more weeks. Cheese output is steady. Sellers describe domestic demand as moderate, steady, or somewhat stronger, and U.S. prices keep it attractive to international buying which is steady to stronger.

Cash butter had fallen to \$2.24 per pound Thursday, lowest CME price since April 29, after finishing Friday at \$2.30 per pound.

Cream is ample in the Midwest. Milk production is seasonally low but components are comparatively higher than in recent years. Softening demand of cream for ice cream is leaving plenty of cream available for churns.

Spot cream is tighter in the West due to lighter milk production. Some butter producers churning at less than full capacity were choosing to pass up available loads.

Those actively churning were generally running steady output, with many more focused on retail production and building inventories for fourth quarter.

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John Deere, CNH, AGCO and others all have current openings for specialty careers. Agricultural colleges are reporting that 100 percent of their graduates in mechanized agriculture are receiving job offers.

Different groups of employers are competing for you once you have your education. In recent years,

many farm equipment dealers have merged into groups of from 10 to over 100 locations. These organizations have a growing need for specialists, as tractors and farm equipment become more automated. Job openings are increasing rapidly for remote diagnosis of equipment failures in the field.

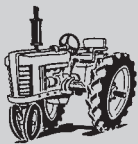
A specialized education will prepare you for these careers. Let me describe my own education in mechanized agriculture that led to a long career, and I could do the same for you:

In 1921, the University of Illinois created a department of agricultural engineering. Through the years, many machinery courses were added. In 1956, a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in agricultural mechanization was approved. Two students had completed the required courses and received their degrees in 1956. One was hired by Deere & Co. The other was me, and I was hired the week after graduation by International Harvester Company, a career that lasted 31 years.

Today, the College of Agriculture

ALL ABOUT TRACTORS

BY PAUL WALLEM



is known as ACES (College of Agricultural Consumer & Environmental Sciences). Within that structure are a variety of mechanization degrees:

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You can learn about these online at: digital.illinois.edu and abe@illinois.edu.

The University of Illinois and many other colleges can prepare you for a career in the rapidly growing field of mechanized agriculture. You can expect to have a choice of locations, the size of the employer, and the type of career.

There are far more job opportunities now than when I started. The world of precision farming and digital agriculture brings a huge demand for those with a passion for it and the willingness to prepare for that kind of career. Would you like

to be part of a future that includes autonomous machinery? Visualize a farmer operating his combine from home, using an iPad. He moves his combine to the field and begins harvesting the crop. He directs the auger cart to the moving combine, unloads the grain bin, and moves the auger cart to the semi waiting at the road. Meanwhile, the combine continues harvesting.

This is not somewhere in the future. It is happening now, throughout the country. You could be part of this fascinating industry by preparing yourself to join a manufacturer, a large dealer group, or even a large farming operation.

Learn more about precision farming and digital agriculture by going on YouTube and entering "Precision Farming - Digital Ag with Paul Wallem."

If you are in middle school, there are summer camps that tour dealerships and manufacturers and also have sessions describing engines, transmissions, and other critical elements of tractors, combines, etc.

If you are an FFA member, your adviser can be a big help as you search for a career that fits you. Start looking now.

Paul Wallem was raised on an Illinois dairy farm. He spent 13 years with corporate IH in domestic and foreign assignments. He resigned to own and operate two IH dealerships. He is the author of THE BREAKUP of IH and SUCCESSES & INDUSTRY FIRSTS of IH. See all his books on www.PaulWallem.com. Email your comments to pwallem@aol.com.

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Ohio Stress Task Force offers help for struggling farmers

By **DOUG GRAVES**
Ohio Correspondent

COLUMBUS, Ohio – From weather uncertainties to rising prices and the escalating costs of doing business, along with the long hours and the heavy burden of maintaining family farms, the responsibilities of farming can lead to significant stress and impact a farmer's mental wellbeing.

For dairy farmers, stress might come from slumps in milk prices or the rising cost of feeding their cows. For crop farmers, stress might evolve from low prices for corn or soybeans, or even the fact they may not have been able to plant a crop that season.

Rural communities are unique and rural residents experience stressors related to economics, drug addiction, sustainable food sources, along with lack of access to medical care services and rural broadband. Add to this the burden of additional challenges and stressors like unpredictable weather, labor shortages, market pressures, international trade agreements and environmental concerns.

Because of these issues facing farmers these days, Ohio State University's College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) has offered assistance through its Rural and Farm Stress Task Force. The task force is made up of people who can help connect farmers and their families with specialists either within Ohio State Extension or within the community.

All across Ohio, some farmers face difficult decisions.

"Nobody wants to be the one in a family to stop farming, especially if it's been going on for generation after generation," said Emily Marrison, a founding member of the task force and an educator with OSU Extension. "I don't think we could ever make the assumption that the reason a farm closes down is because of poor management."

Tough financial times on the farm have pushed many farmers to seek work off the farm for additional sources of income. One of the efforts of the Rural and Farm Stress Task Force is pointing farmers toward resources to assist their business, find new work or seek a counselor. In providing this help, the hope is to reassure and empower farmers.

"Farmers are so resilient, or they wouldn't be doing the job they're doing," said Dee Jepsen, co-chair of the task force and state safety leader for OSU Extension. "For decades, farmers have dealt with weather challenges as well as shifts in markets and prices, and they have persevered. Sometimes with that strong will to persevere comes a resistance to seek help. They're tough. They may not want to talk about their problems."

Some farmers might see their struggles to keep their farm viable as a sign of personal failure. Even just admitting that or asking for help can be challenging for some farmers.

Amanda Bohlen, an OSU Extension educator in Washington County, knows firsthand the toll that stress can take on a struggling family. Five years ago, her husband, Kurt, had to sell off their dairy herd. "It got to a point that it would have been cheaper for us to buy a gallon of milk from the grocery store, dump it into our tank, and resell it rather than produce our own," Bohlen said.

Kurt had to find another job, which led to a grieving process of relinquishing a profession that was all he knew. "It was the last of everything," she said. "The last time you were shutting off the milk pump, the last time you were closing the barn door."

After a stint in excavation work and another on a dairy farm that later closed, Kurt accepted a job as an agriculture teacher.

The task force encourages farmers to visit county extension offices where specialists can provide ideas on how to keep farms running or find jobs away from the farm. The task force has been particularly helpful for those facing challenges like heavy rain that delayed planting, or other agricultural difficulties.

The task force has directed farmers to mental health providers if they are struggling emotionally. This has been crucial for addressing the mental health challenges that many farmers face. It has merged resources from the agricultural community with local mental health services, providing a comprehensive approach to addressing the stressors faced by Ohio farmers.

Ohio State has provided educational programs to help farmers understand the challenges they face and how to cope with them.

"Some of the questions that farmers might have are, 'what do I do if I have nothing in the ground this year? What skills do I have off the farm,'" Jepsen said. "And there are many, many others."

In 2023, the Ohio Agricultural Mental Health Alliance launched a farm stress survey. More than 600 people responded from 80 of the state's 88 counties.

According to the survey, Ohio

(Ohio Stress continued on page 13B)



Above: A 2023 survey taken of farmers in 80 of Ohio's 88 counties showed that the cost of land ranks as a farmer's biggest concern. Market prices for the products they sell ranks fifth. (photo submitted)

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TRACTORS: 1999 Case IH MX200 - 4wd, 420/80R46 Duals, 1000 PTO, 4 Rem., 6400 Hrs.; Cabela's LM75 Turbo - 4wd, CAH, Loader, 2 Rem., 3100 Hrs.; John Deere 8640 - 7500 hrs., 3pt., PTO; Case 1370 - 4300 Hrs., 2 Rem.

COMBINE/HEADS/CARTS (Sold Separately): 1990 John Deere 9500 - 4wd, Maurer Bin Ext., Spreader, 4600/2954 Hrs. - NICE; JD 6R30" Corn Head; JD 920 20' Grain Table; (2) E-Z Trail 680 Header Carts.

FARM EQUIPMENT: Weedzapper Annihilator Electric Discharge Weeder; 15' Horsch Joker High Speed Disk; Case IH 5100 Drill w/Seeder (21 Hole) NICE; White 8122 8R Planter; Chandler CLT Poultry Litter/Shavings Spreader; White 5100 6R30 Planter; Case IH 496 21' Disk; Glencoe 28' Field Cultivator; Hatzebichler 15' Tine Comb Weeder; Hiniker 6000 12R Folding Cultivator; White 6R Cultivator; John Deere 2350/2450 7b On-land Plow; Unverferth Zone Builder 4 Shank Ripper; Rock-O-Matic Rock Picker; 3pt. PTO Spreader; Cabela's TL3074 3pt. Rototiller; 3pt. Hay Spear; SSQA Forks; SSQA Hay Spear; Unverferth Rolling Harrow; Roll Under Transfer Auger; Westfield 8"x60' PTO Auger; 10"x30' PTO Auger; JD 6R Cultivator; Top Air 500 Gal. 22' Sprayer; (3) Killbros 385 Wagons; Killbros 350 Tender Wagon w/Tarp and Brush Auger; E-Z Trail 450 Wagon; P&H 1000 Gal. Nurse Tank Trailer w/Pump.

GRAIN BINS: (3) 1400 Bu. Grain Bins (Buyer Responsible for Removal).

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST: MiTM 3500 PSI Gas Hot Water Pressure Washer; Cub Cadet FT24R Rototiller; Pallet Jack.

Register & BID at www.bradneuhart.com

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Tim Swain Estate & Others Auction

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5243 S ADAMS STREET, MARION, IN

NO BUYER'S PREMIUM

2024 Chevy Silverado 1500 Crew LT 4X4, VIN 1GCUDDDED3RZ136494, 5.3 V-8, 10 speed transmission, all star edition plus package! One owner only 13k miles, lots of warranty left, immaculate condition! New & Used Guns - Lots of Brand New Ammo - Brand New Archery - Hunting Blinds - Silver Coins - 90 Redlines Hot Wheels Prestine Condition - Graded ABA Cards!! These are from same estate which we recently sold 40 cars! This will be a specialty auction and we will not be offering household in this auction! Truck will sell at Noon!

Terms: Cash; Good Check w/photo ID; MasterCard; Visa; Discover. A 3% convenience service fee will be added to buyer total for credit cards. No fee for debit cards. Not responsible for accidents. Lunch available.

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National Corn Growers Association partners with ag data firm to promote carbon market contracts to U.S. farmers

By DOUG SCHMITZ
Iowa Correspondent

CHESTERFIELD, Mo. – The National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) and Ag Data Transparent (ADT) recently announced a new partnership that officials said would bring clarity to U.S. farmers interested in carbon market contracts.

“The rapid expansion of carbon programs and solution providers in agriculture presents immense opportunities, but also significant risks,” said Sean Arians, NCGA vice president of sustainable production and value chain engagement. “As new programs and players enter the space, farmers are left with limited information, unclear standards, and inconsistent program guidelines, making it difficult to evaluate opportunities and confidently participate.”

With the first phase of this partnership project launching in early 2026, Todd Janzen, Janzen Schroeder Ag Law partner and ADT administrator, said this project aims to bring the same level of transparency, simplicity and trust to carbon initiatives in agriculture as it does in its agricultural data sector.

“By building on ADT’s trusted brand and established framework, this new carbon-focused initiative will help farmers make informed decisions, and navigate both existing and emerging carbon programs with confidence,” he said.

Arians told Farm World the partnership conversation started earlier this summer, working with Janzen and the ADT board to work through what phase I of the program would look like.

“Farmers will be able to use this resource for free via the Ag Data Transparent website (agdatatransparent.com),” he said. “Think of it like a Better Business Bureau for carbon markets. This resource will give farmers insight into various programs on the market, how they are structured, and contract details such as length, exit clauses, and payment terms.

“The goal is to create an easy-to-access and independently verified resource that surfaces the most critical information for a broad spectrum of carbon opportunities in the market today in a way that minimizes the guess work for farmers, and allows for easier comparability of programs,” he added. “It is our intention to support improved and informed decision making and participation confidence.”

He said farmers are interested in these programs and even more so in new revenue opportunities for their farms. But he added that today’s challenges with carbon markets include: unfamiliarity with the complexity and technical details associated with carbon markets; significant inconsistencies in contracting terms from one program to the next; and challenges with determining ROI (return on investment) – especially as it relates to enrollment processes, data collection, long-term payment timelines, and sustainable long-term carbon demand pipelines.

He also said there is a lack of transparency in credit valuation over time and value sharing back to the farm; risk of double counting acres due to enrollment of the same fields and practices in multiple programs;

and farmers who are considering practice changes, but don’t simultaneously enroll in a program may miss out on the opportunity to participate in the market in the future due to the demand for additionality (which ensures the emission reductions or removals achieved by a project are genuine and wouldn’t have happened without the financial support provided by carbon credits) for many buyers of carbon assets.

“A broader consideration for the industry at large is if we don’t do the work to enable this market to thrive, agriculture will be missing out on the projected multi-billion-dollar carbon market over the next decade,” Arians said. “We want to ensure that agriculture can play a meaningful role in supplying carbon assets in the market to drive the most value back to the farm as possible.”

He said, “The carbon market presents significant opportunities for agricultural innovation, but it also faces challenges that hinder farmer participation and trust. Transparency is a cornerstone for addressing these issues – from contract clarity to equitable credit valuation and transfer.

“By fostering collaboration with stakeholders across the agricultural and carbon sectors, we can build a decision-making tool that empowers farmers, enhances program integrity, and creates lasting value for the entire industry,” he added.

However, Samantha Cave, National Family Farm Coalition (NFFC) strategic content designer, told Farm World NFFC is among many farm advocacy groups standing against carbon markets in agriculture, which include

the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition in Washington, D.C., La Via Campesina in Bagnole, France; Friends of the Earth in San Francisco, Calif.; Food and Water Watch in Washington, D.C.; and the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP) in Minneapolis, Minn.

“NFFC is not alone in highlighting the harmful impact of carbon markets to independent farmers,” she said. “Carbon should not be turned into yet another commodity privatized for the benefit of corporate profits.”

In an Aug. 8 statement to Farm World, IATP said, “These (carbon) markets have struggled to get off the ground largely because they don’t pay enough for farmers,” adding that “a number of agriculture carbon market developers have gone under in recent years, including Nori (once based in Seattle, Wash.).

“It’s important that farmers understand their legal risk related to these contracts, exactly what they are going to be paid, and the obligations of the buyer and project developer,” IATP added. “As companies back off of environmental-, social- and governance-oriented claims (a framework used to evaluate a company’s sustainability and ethical impact), there has been less demand for carbon credits.”

Cave said there are other solutions to carbon markets for farmers, including “incentivizing conservation and agroecological (designing and managing sustainable food and farming systems) growing practices, providing fair prices for farmers to incorporate these practices, and stronger enforcement of regulations limiting corporate power over our food system.”

OUTSTANDING GLT FARMS EQUIPMENT AUCTION

- THURS., SEPTEMBER 4TH, 2025 @ 5:30PM -
ADDRESS: 8901 W. TR 112 Fostoria, Ohio 44830
DIRECTIONS: From Fostoria, Ohio: Take St. Rt. 18 East. Drive to TR 59 & Turn R. Then head S. For 1.4 mi then turn L onto TR-112. Drive 2.3 miles



TRACTOR

2014 John Deere 8345R MFWD, 1705 Hours, IVT Trans., ILS, 5 SCV's, Case Drain, Planter ISO, 1000 PTO, Quick Hitch, Fender Controls, 1377 Lb Inner Rear Wts., 3 - 451lbs Outer Rear Wts., Front Dual Wts., 20 Front Wts., 480/80R50 Rears, 380/80R38, Build Code Components: IVT 42KPH, 10" Color Display, 4600 Processor, Premium Cab W/Active Seat, Premium Radio, 9.0L FT4 Engine, 85cc/60GPM Hyd. Pump, CAT 4 Quick Hitch And Drawbar, Premium Lighting, Front Fenders, Electric Control Mirrors, Foot Throttle, Cold Weather Package, Aux. Hyd. Connect 1/2 In., Leather Trim, JD Link, Ethernet Switch, Must See! SN: 1RW8345RPED09447.

TILLAGE & PLANTING

2014 Kinze 4900 24-30 Planter, 24 Row, 30 Inch Spacing, 2 X 2 Fertilizer, In-Furrow Fertilizer, Cast Trash Wheels, Electric Row Clutches On Each Row, Air Downforce, Variable Rate Seed, Variable Rate Fertilizer, Light Kit, Digi-Star Scales, 2.5" Fertilizer Rear Fill, 11R-22.5-16 Ply Tires, Electric Drive, Kinze 40 Cell Corn Plates, Soybean Plates, Yearly Inspections By Kinze Dealer, PTO Pump, AKG Hydraulic Cooler, On Board Air Compressor, Aux Lighting Package, Very Good Condition! SN: 103752;



2014 Kuhn Excelerator 8000 Vertical Till, 30', Walking True Tandem, Trash Wheels, Flat Bar Rolling Baskets, New 22" HD Blades & Bearings In Spring 2025, 150 Acres Of Use, Manual Adjust Gangs, Light Kit, Rear Hitch & Hydraulics With 7 Pin, 12.5L-15FI Tires, Great Condition, SN: 800-30-3302; **Unverferth 1225 Rolling Harrow**, 32', Double Basket, Adjustable Tongue, 9.5L-15SL Tandem Frame Wheels, Leveler Bar, Light Kit, Wing Gauge Wheels, SN: A62340106; **Case IH 2500 Ecolo-Til Ripper**, 5 Shank, 30" Spacing, 6" Winged No-Till Points/Shanks, 30" Spacing, New Gauge Wheels, 21" Blades, SN: YFD08041; **(5) CNH Ripper Arms**, Standard Arms, 5" wing points; **(5) 7" Winged Ripper Points**, Used, Extra Set

HARVEST & FARM MAINTAINANCE

Killbros 1195 Grain Cart, Lg. 1000 PTO, 17" Unload Auger, Manual Clean-out Door, Trelleborg 900/60R32 Tires, Light Kit, Roll Tarp, Rear & Unload Auger Cameras, Metal Extensions, Hyd. Tip Spout, SN: B25700116; **Portable Fuel Trailer**, 500 Gallon, Fill-Rite 20GPM Pump, Front Mounted Hose Reel, 1.5" Hose, Fill-Rite Nozzle W/Swivel Coupler; **Snyder 300 Gallon Front Tank**, 2.5" Lines, Banjo Fittings, Came Off 10 Series John Deere Tractor.

INSPECTION: Mon., August 25th • 2PM-6PM

TERMS: Cash, Check or Credit Card w/ 4% Card Fee. All items sold AS-IS. The catalog is merely a guide. Sales not invalidated due to catalog errors.

NOTE: ONLINE BIDDING: www.waltonauctionco.com. Very short auction but not lacking quality! Very well maintained lineup selling! Lunch/Restrooms

OWNERS: GLT Farms – Greg Theis

Douglas E. Walton, CAI, Auctioneer, Broker
227 W. Wyandot Ave. Upper Sandusky, Ohio 43351
office@waltonauctionco.com
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FRENS' ORCHARD INC. ONLINE AUCTION

Tuesday, September 9 | FREMONT, MI



- Case International 7230 Magnum tractor
- Case 95 4-wheel drive tractor
- Case JX1075C 2-WD tractor
- Case International 585 2-WD tractor
- International 966 Farmall tractor
- Ford 3500 Industrial off-road forklift
- Monosem 3-row planter, 6-row Kinze frame
- International 56, 4-row corn planter, 38" rows
- DMI 11-shank chisel plow with pin style hitch
- Case 475 disc, 20' wide, 4' foldable wings
- 12' wide drag, 3 pt. hook up
- 3-row cultivator with 5' on center row spacing
- Brillion 11' wide packer with 4" axle
- Demco 500 gallon sprayer, model HP500

- Ag-Rain water-reel with traveling sprinkler, 720' of hose
- Ag-Rain water-reel with traveling sprinkler, approx. 660' of hose
- Kifco irrigation pump
- Diesel powered irrigation pump with Deutz 8-cylinder diesel engine
- 30' pipe trailer
- Irrigation pipe, fittings and attachments
- AgTec orchard sprayer
- Perfect 7' flail mower, model KG-220
- John Deere 25K PTO generator, single phase
- 5-tooth brush rake with fork pockets, 66" long teeth
- Phil Brown welding brush sweeper
- McKee Sno-Lander snow-blower, model 620
- 18' x 9' wide flat bed wagon

- 16' x 99" wide flat bed hay wagon
- 16' x 99.5" wide flat bed hay wagon
- Gehl 1006 running gear
- 2021 Husqvarna 570 BTS backpack leaf blower
- Stihl MS270 chainsaw with 16" bar
- Stihl O28AV Super Wood Boss chainsaw with 16" bar
- Orchard ladders
- Collapsible crates
- Flatbed Trailers 45' & 53'
- Wood cherry lugs
- Apple Bins
- Michigan Orchard Supply Apple Wax and Dry conveyor linewidth
- Wash and Packout conveyor
- Turntable style packing table
- Hydraulic bin dumper
- Dump belt conveyor
- **Plus Much More**

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Wheat trial results now available to Michigan growers

By Stan Maddux
Indiana Correspondent

EAST LANSING, Mich. – Michigan wheat growers can get a glimpse of the varieties they might want to plant this year to achieve the best results in terms of disease resistance, quality and yields.

The Michigan State University 2025 Wheat Performance Trial results contained in a 13-page report are now available at miwheat.org.

The results are from the commercial and experimental varieties of wheat tested in 2024-25 at seven sites across the state under the direction of MSU wheat breeder Dr. Eric Olson and MSU wheat systems specialist Dennis Pennington.

This year's trials included 100 wheat varieties comprised of 55 commercially available and 45 experimental lines supplied from 11 seed companies and MSU's wheat breeding program.

"Bringing new wheat varieties to market and giving our producers a sense of confidence in new seed lines has been a consistent top priority for Michigan's wheat farmers," said Jeffrey Krohn, chairman of the Michigan Wheat Program (MWP).

Krohn is also a wheat producer from Owendale in the thumb section of the state near Lake Huron.

The wheat performance trials have been conducted by MSU for over 30 years.

For over a dozen years, the MWP, a not-for-profit organization using check-off dollars to promote the state's wheat industry, has contributed funding and other resources for the trials.

The organization provided \$44,000 to the program last year, said MWP Executive Director Jody Pollok-Newsom.

She said her office receives a lot of calls each year from producers wanting to know when the trial results will be posted so they can begin deciding the varieties to plant in September and October.

In Michigan, a vast majority of wheat is planted during those two months for harvest during the following summer.

"I think this is a huge help for growers as they're trying to make those variety decisions," she said.

Before the MWP became involved, trial results were based on varieties

grown without much, if anything, added to the soil.

Nowadays, the trial results also reflect how seed varieties respond to extra nitrogen and other applications or practices typically used by farmers in their own fields to achieve the best results with the dollars provided by the Michigan Wheat Program.

"You can see what the baseline is and what it would do under high management conditions," she said.

Check off money is derived from fees every grower pays based on yields when selling their crops.

"Investing in this research helps our wheat growers keep advancing in yield and grain quality, which were founding principles for our check-off program," Pollok-Newsom said.

Trials were also conducted at three other sites in the state, but those results are not reflected in this year's statistics. Much of the wheat at those locations toppled over from strong winds, hurting the quality and yields of those crops.

"That wouldn't be an honest comparison," she said.

Researchers caution that variety selection is best made using at least three years of data because of how results can vary annually depending on weather and location. It's also important for farmers to select varieties that performed well in areas close to their respective locations.

The MWP, whose priorities include research on wheat production practices and grower education, is funded by about 8,000 farmers growing wheat in at least 78 Michigan counties.

According to USDA, Michigan is forecast to be the tenth leading producer of wheat in the nation this year at 43 million bushels. Kansas is projected to be the top wheat producer in 2025 at 351 million bushels. Washington and Oklahoma are predicted to be next in wheat production at more than 100 million bushels this year, according to USDA.



Above: Michigan wheat growers can review which seed varieties might be best to plant this fall for harvest next summer.

PRODUCTIVE SOILS | TIMBER | RECREATION

193+/- ACRES | 3 TRACTS | WABASH CO, IN

ONLINE at halderman.com

AUCTION

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH | 4 PM - 6 PM ET

PROPERTY LOCATION: Southeast corner of SR 13 and CR 700 N in Chester Township, Wabash County.

Tract 1: 58 +/- Acres | Tract 2: 84 +/- Acres | Tract 3: 51 +/- Acres

Jon Rosen: 260.740.1846 | AJ Jordan: 317.697.3086 | Larry Jordan: 765.473.5849

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800.424.2324 | halderman.com

Additional information including a drone flight is available at halderman.com

Farm: Kelly and Kaye Wolf Farm

Auctioneer: Russell D. Harmeyer IN Auct. Lic. #AU10000277, HRES IN Auct. Lic. #AC69200019, HLS#JRR-13121

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AUCTIONS

WABASH COUNTY, IN: SEPTEMBER 4 (ONLINE) 193+/- Acres

3 Tracts • Productive Soils • Timber • Recreation

Contact: Jon Rosen: 260.740.1846, AJ Jordan: 317.697.3086 or Larry Jordan: 765.473.5849

JEFFERSON COUNTY, IN: SEPTEMBER 8 (ONLINE) 160+/- Acres

3 Tracts • Cropland • Building Site • Farmhouse • Pond Outbuildings

Contact: Tyler Reiger: 812.614.8034, Michael Bonnell: 812.343.6036 or Dave Bonnell: 812.343.4313

WELLS COUNTY, IN: SEPTEMBER 15 (ONLINE)

26.46+/- Acres • Prime Tillable Farmland

Contact: Rick Johnloz: 260.827.8181 or Jason Johnloz: 260.273.9177

ST. JOSEPH COUNTY, IN: SEPTEMBER 16 (ONLINE) 120+/- Acres

2 Tracts • Farmland • Outbuildings • Home

Contact: Nolan Sampson: 219.575.1486, AJ Jordan: 317.697.3086 or Larry Jordan: 765.473.5849

CLINTON COUNTY, IN: SEPTEMBER 17 (ONLINE)

70.433+/- Acres • 3 Tracts • Prime Tillable Acreage Woods

Contact: Sam Clark: 317.442.0251 or Jim Clark: 765.659.4841

PRIVATE SALES

NEW! MECOSTA COUNTY, MI: LISTING PRICE: \$239,000

61.56+/- Wooded Acres • Recreation • Potential Home Site Hunting

Contact: Joe McQuillin: 219.877.5173

NEW! WELLS COUNTY, IN: SUBMIT OFFERS BY SEPTEMBER 19

10.68+/- Acres • Modern Cattle Feeding Operation • Storage 770 Head Capacity • Livestock Barns • Hospital/Vet Building

Contact: Rusty Harmeyer: 765.570.8118 or Jason Johnloz: 260.273.9177

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CONTIGUOUS PRODUCTIVE CROPLAND | 160+/- ACRES

BUILDING SITE W/ POND | WOODS | JEFFERSON CO, IN

ONLINE at halderman.com

AUCTION

Mon., September 8th 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm ET

PROPERTY LOCATION: 8556 N 650 W, Dupont, IN 47231

FEATURES: 3 Tracts | (3) Pole Barns | Grain Bin

1.5 Story Farmhouse: 5 Bedrooms | 2.5 Baths | Attached Garage

Tyler Reiger: 812.614.8034 | Michael Bonnell: 812.343.6036

Dave Bonnell: 812.343.4313

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HLS#TLR-13127

Auctioneer: Russell D. Harmeyer IN Auct. Lic. #AU10000277, HRES IN Auct. Lic. #AC69200019, Farm: Geyman & Zinge Farm

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PRIME TILLABLE ACREAGE • WOODS

70.433+/- ACRES • 3 TRACTS • CLINTON CO, IN

ONLINE at halderman.com

AUCTION

Wednesday, September 17th | 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm ET

PROPERTY LOCATION: Approx. 3350 S CR 1300 E, Kirklin, IN 46050

TRACT 1: 38.8 +/- Acres

TRACT 2: 24.745 +/- Acres

TRACT 3: 6.888 +/- Acres

Sam Clark: 317.442.0251 | Jim Clark: 765.659.4841

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Auctioneer: Russell D. Harmeyer IN Auct. Lic. #AU10000277, HRES IN Auct. Lic. #AC69200019, HLS#SFC-13128, Seller: Lafin Farm

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MODERN CATTLE FEEDING OPERATION • WELLS COUNTY

FOR SALE

SUBMIT OFFERS BY: SEPTEMBER 19 | 3:00 PM ET

PROPERTY LOCATION: Along 450 W near SR 218 in Liberty Township, Wells County.

FEATURING: 10.68+/- Acres | 770 Head Capacity
(2) Livestock Barns | Hospital/Vet Building | Feedstuff Bunker
Commodity Storage | Covered Manure Storage

Rusty Harmeyer: 765.570.8118 | Jason Johnloz: 260.273.9177



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SELLER: Blue River Beef LLC, HLS#RH-13141





120+/- ACRES • 2 TRACTS • MADISON TWP, ST. JOSEPH CO, IN

TILLABLE ACREAGE • HOME • OUTBUILDINGS

ONLINE at halderman.com


AUCTION

Tuesday, September 16th, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm ET

OPEN HOUSES: Tuesday, September 2 | 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm ET
Saturday, September 6 | 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm ET





PROPERTY LOCATION: 17850 Layton Road South Bend, IN 46614

Nolan Sampson: 219.575.1486 | AJ Jordan: 317.697.3086 | Larry Jordan: 765.473.5849




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Additional information including photos and a drone flight are available at halderman.com.



Auctioneer: Russell D. Harmeyer IN Auct. Lic. #AU10000277, HRES IN Auct. Lic. #AC69200019, Farm: Richard Farm, HLS# NAS-13130



Thanks for reading

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FARM & EQUIPMENT AUCTION



BEN DEGROAT, SANDRA GEBHART & NEIGHBORS

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 @ 10:00 AM

1401 W MARKET ST., GERMANTOWN, OHIO 45327


Live Auction & Equipmentfacts internet bidding

***TRACTORS: Case 280 CVT Magnum (2015 / 2198 hrs.) John Deere 4430, John Deere 7520, Farmall H, 2- Farmall M. ***HARVEST EQUIPMENT: John Deere 4400 Combine w/Corn & Bean Heads, New Idea 323 Corn Picker, John Deere 920 bean head, 25' head cart, John Deere 915 bean head, John Deere 343 narrow row corn picker, 3 - Gravity wagon, 8120 NEURO Air leg, Mayrath 70' x 12" auger w/swing away. ***DIRT EQUIPMENT: Komatsu D31E Dozer, JCB 416 Loader, JCB JS 160 Excavator, Parker Soil Max Gold Digger Tile machine w/GPS. ***FARM TRUCKS & Trailers: International Semi w/Cab, Ford F series flat bed, Chevy C50 Stake truck, Semi-trailer flat bed, Houston flatbed trailer, ARID Steel Trailer set up with nurse/fertilizer tanks & pump, Ford 700 with Omaha grain/ livestock bed, Job Site/ Office Trailer, Chevy Cheyenne mulch dump bed, Chevrolet C8500, Semi-Trailer Dolly. ***Planters: John Deere 1690 Soybean Special CCS seed monitor, Massey Ferguson 8200 bean planter, John Deere Bean planter, John Deere 7000 corn planter. ***TILLAGE EQUIPMENT: 2-John Deere 5 bottom plows, 3 pt. 5' adjustable scraper blade, 30' folding Cultimulcher, 3 pt. CASE 183 – 13 row cultivator, Chisel Plow, Rotary mulcher. ***HAY EQUIPMENT: HESSTON 4800 baler, New Holland 273 baler, New Idea hay rake R202, Deutz Fahr KH300 2 basket tedder, Hay elevator, running gear w/no bed, *** OTHER FARM RELATED ITEMS: Better Bilt 2600 slurry wagon, ARTS-WAY 425c feed grinder w/scales, Yard Sport VS200 side by side, John Deere 797 72" zero turn lawn mower, Fuel Tanks, 3pt Sprayer, MUCH MORE TO BE LISTED!



BID2LUCKY.COM or WalnutHarvestAuctions.com

Majority of equipment belongs to Ben DeGroat & Sandra Gebhart.
Lucky Montoya - Auctioneer, & Realtor - 937-313-1660 ~ OWNER LAND REALTY,
Broker BOB ROACH – AUCTIONEER ~ HOGAN KINDRICK - AUCTIONEER



Having a positive attitude helps in trying times

I have a brother-in-law – very successful in the business world – who recently told me that he had misjudged the most important part of life. Success isn't about possessions; it's about how content and fulfilled you are in life. It's being satisfied at the end of the day that your day's labor means something.

In grain farming, we're going through difficult times. Grain prices are down, inputs up, and the stress on our families is... growing. Given all these negatives, I recently spent the day working with a neighbor trying to beat the weather making hay. If you know, you know. Even on a good day, nothing goes perfectly. You wrap a roller, kick out an unwrapped bale, sheer a bolt, and each time something happened during the day, my neighbor found something to laugh about, and it was infectious. I laughed harder that day than I have in a long time.

Since that day, I have thought, wondered, and contemplated how he could carry with him such a positive attitude. Then, I began wondering why I can't have that same attitude every day as well.

Recently, I sold a piece of equipment that we don't need any more. Charlie Mullins raises cattle and began a used equipment business a few years ago in Spencer, Ind. Every interaction I've had with Charlie over the years, I have been impressed with his cheery attitude. I've learned over time that it's genuine. When we've seen him at a restaurant or even when he was getting a sleep test at the hospital when my wife was too, he's upbeat wherever we see him. And as you might expect, his business has grown along with his reputation.

In many cases I think we take ourselves too seriously. Like we can control so many factors in our daily life as farmers. Sure, I think there are things we can

55 YEARS AND
COUNTING FROM THE
TRACTOR SEAT
BY BILL WHITMAN

do to reduce many problems by planning and following through with our plans, at least to the extent we can. How we approach these events and the hiccups are the

choices we make.

We face challenges unlike any our ancestors ever had to face because of the complexities of the world we live in. I do believe that our financial challenges have exponentially increased and certainly the weather is unlike anything we have experienced in decades. But that's what we do, we meet challenges and overcome each one. Whether we do it with a smile or a grimace is a choice.

What I learned the other day, the one thing we do have control over is who we surround ourselves with and whether we have a positive influence or negative influence on the way we approach each day.

One of the concerns I have is how many farms are being sold after generations of families overcoming challenge after challenge. I recently learned that a farmer I knew in my youth took his own life. Granted he was older, and his son had taken over the management of the farm. Recently his son felt it was time to sell off the family farm. I know this is happening all over the country and is something that a lot of families are having to deal with.

We can't control the weather, prices of inputs, cost of equipment, and prices we receive for our crops. What we can do is choose to approach each day determined to make the most of it. I think it's appropriate that we consider the "Serenity Prayer."

"God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference."

Horse Sense: On a good horse, you can get a day's work done, with a smile. IndianaAg@bluemarble.net

Ohio Stress

FROM PAGE 13

farmers listed the following as their top stressors:

1. The cost of land
2. The cost of farm inputs like feed, seed, fertilizers and pesticides
3. Concerns for the future of farming due to factors like urban sprawl and industrialization
4. The cost of fuel, maintenance, supply chain parts and the labor force
5. Market prices for the products they're selling

The survey also showed that farmers are more likely to talk about mental health today than they were just a generation ago. But many are still hesitant to seek help.

"They just flat out said, 'I don't have time to stop what I'm doing on the job to go take care of myself or to seek resources,'" Jepsen said. "About one in four farmers felt that these programs wouldn't be a benefit for them."

For more information about the OSU Extension Farm Stress team contact Bridget Britton, behavioral health specialist, at 330-365-8160 or email britton.191@osu.edu.

77th Semi-Annual

Milroy Amish School Auction

2102 W 900 S, Milroy, IN 46156

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 2025 AT 9:00 AM

★★ CONSIGNMENTS WANTED ★★

Consignments accepted Thursday, August 28 and Friday, August 29 from 8AM to 7PM
Small animals and horses accepted until 9AM Saturday, August 30.

Contact: Daniel Wagler 765-629-2345 or Norman Troyer 765-561-9824

Firearms (All FFI Laws Applied)
Would like to have guns
Thursday, August 28th
No guns after 4:00 pm Friday, August 29th
All other consignments including all types of Farm Equipment, Shop Tools, Power Tools, Tractors, Lawn & Garden Equipment, Lawn Furniture, Flowers, Trees & Shrubbery, Antiques & Collectibles, Small Animals, Tack, Horses & Ponies (Must Furnish Halter & Lead Rope)

Small Animals accepted in fall sale only.
Animals must be in cages or boxes.
Buyers bring your own cages (no dogs or cats!). Small animals accepted on Saturday only until 9AM

All proceeds go to Milroy Amish Schools

Author uses his experience in sharing tips on how to avoid scammers, thieves

"Anatomy of a Con Artist: The 14 Red Flags to Spot Scammers, Grifters, and Thieves" by Johnathan Walton
c.2025, Rodale, \$28, 256 pages



THE BOOKWORM SEZ
Terri Schlichenmeyer

You're not going to answer that call, are you?

Nope, it's not from a number you recognize and you know what that means: it's probably a spammer, robo-caller or crook. You're not answering because you know how to be safe with this sort of thing. Or do you? As you'll learn in "Anatomy of a Con Artist" by Johnathan Walton, there's more than one way to be scammed.

In 2013, Walton and his husband were living in a nice apartment building in California that had lost its rights to use a nearby pool, and Walton was angry. He tried to set up a coalition to fight the loss, and that's when he met Mair Smyth, who was one of his neighbors.

With her charm, wit and generosity, Mair quickly became Walton's best friend and he grew to love her. She claimed to be an Irish heiress worth millions of dollars and her circle, she said, was wide – she was, in fact, having an affair with a powerful, married politician who, later in the tale, personally repaid money that Walton had loaned her.

Paid it off – which was one of the "red flags" that Wilson eventually understood are hallmarks of a scam. Mair's quick offers to help, her too-easy familiarity, the "drama, drama, drama" were meant to lay the track for theft. She used technology to fake her lies, she asked him to wire some money, and she used "Dale Carnegie Techniques." It took years, but she ultimately stole tens of thousands of dollars from Walton.

That made him angry, so he got busy. He went public and flipped the table.

"I can never undo what I did in her name and at her behest..." he said.

"I can only use what happened to me to help other people avoid getting scammed by the crazy Irish Heiress archetypes in their lives."

Do you know where your wallet is? Good, you'll want to have your hand on it when you're reading "Anatomy of a Con Artist."

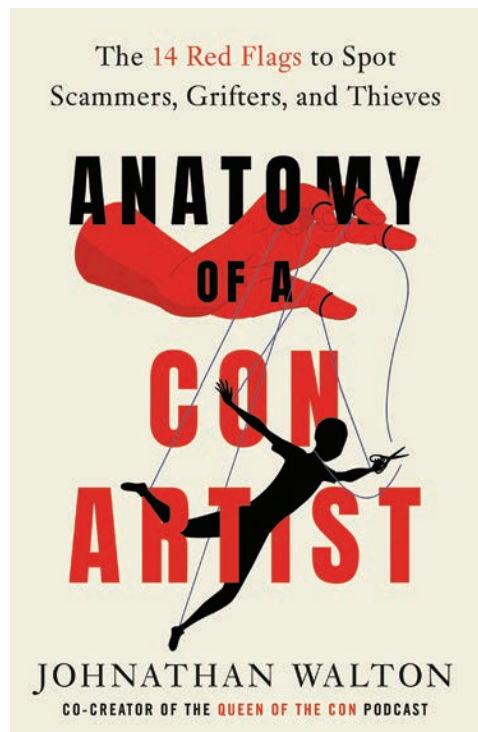
There are a lot of things to like about this book, starting with the help that Walton offers, help that's not just for you but also for your elders, disabled neighbors, and new adults who need to see his warnings. Step-by-step, he explains how a scam begins, how it progresses, and why police don't often do much about it.

Then he explains how to stop a scam in its tracks.

If you think you've heard all that before, well, you haven't read Walton's own experiences, which make up half this book and which read like a spy-novel-caper.

His job as a film-maker shows through here, making the uncovering, the chase, and the capture of a scammer as exciting as a movie, and you don't want to miss it.

"Con artists don't outsmart you," Walton says, "they out-feel you" and you'll feel pretty confident about your safety after reading this book. If you want to know how to avoid being cheated, "Anatomy of a Con Artist" may be the answer.



CRANEY AUCTIONS

1875 E Main St., Greenfield, IN
(Next to John Deere)

NEXT LIVE AUCTION

SAT., SEPT. 6th 1PM

FARM-AUTO-TOOLS
ANTIQUES-COLLECTIBLES
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See Auctionzip for pictures

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ROSEN THOMAS TRUST AUCTION

Tractors • Skid Steer • Backhoe • Equipment
Wednesday • August 27 • 10 AM

9259 Jamestown Rd, S. Charleston, OH

Due to Mr. Thomas' death, the family is liquidating their lineup of tractors, combine, skid steer, backhoe, & field equipment. The family has been a longtime fixture in the local agricultural community and will be selling a portion of the family farm in late '25.

Visit us online for complete details and loads of photos!!



Onsite Inspection: Mon • Aug 25 • 9AM-1PM

Terms: Live auction w/Online Bidding Only. 10% Buyer Premium. Cash, checks or CCs w/ID. 4% convenience fee on CC purchases. Full terms online.

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LENAWEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

147± Acres Land Auction

Offered in 5 Tracts

Monday, September 29th • 6pm

- PRODUCTIVE TILLABLE FARMLAND
- PATTERN TILED
- GREAT HUNTING
- POTENTIAL TIMBER VALUE
- LARGE STORAGE SHED

OWNER: Welden Family
AUCTION MANAGERS: Kevin Jordan, 800-451-2709 and Jon Shaw, 517-945-3142

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Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc.
Kevin Ray Jordan, 6502397357 • Jonathan Aiden Shaw, 6501458992 | Schrader Real Estate and Auction Company Inc., 6505397356

PROPERTY LOCATION:
6305 W US Highway 223,
Adrian, MI, 49221

AUCTION LOCATION:
The Centre -
1800 W US Highway 223,
Adrian, MI, 49221

INSPECTION DATES:
Thurs., Sept. 4th • 2pm-4pm
Wed., Sept. 17th • 10am-12pm
Meet a Schrader Rep on Tract 3
for more info about the auction!



Wayne County, IN

HARRIS ESTATE AUCTION

The Robert & Myron Harris Collection

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH • 10 AM

30+ TRACTORS - TRUCKS - IMPLEMENTS & MORE!

ALLIS CHALMERS TRACTORS

• 1982 Allis-Chalmers 8070 Tractor, Power shift, 3 remotes, 14 front suit-case weights, Duals 20.8-38 w/ 2,588 Original Hrs, original paint, 1-owner • 1980 Allis-Chalmers 7060 Tractor, 2 remotes, 20.8-38 tires, 1-owner, 2,783 hrs • Duetz-Allis 6265 Tractor, MFWD with 465 Loader, Star Cab, 1-remote, 540 pto, 18.4-30 rears & 12.4-24 front tires • 1966 Allis Chalmers 190 LP Tractor, 2 remotes, 3pt, 18.4-34 rears, console control, showing 3,146 hrs • 1963 D17 Allis-Chalmers Series III, Restored, single front, hand clutch • 1967 D17 Series IV Tractor w/Bush hog 2400QT Loader, wide front, 16.9-28 tires, (2) sets of rear wheel weights, quick coupler connect, 540 pto, showing 3,346 hrs • 1955 WD 45 "All-Fuel", wide front, 14.9-28 tires, Power-Crater engine, pto, repainted • 1951 AC WD, repainted, narrow front, 13.6-28, no pto, standard AC rear attach • 1956 Allis-Chalmers WD-45 Tractor, wide front, gas, 1-owner • 1948 Allis-Chalmers "G" Tractor w/ 2 row planter, like new 7.2-30 tires • 1939 Allis-Chalmers WC Tractor, Restored, Flat-spoke rear rims, round-spoke front rims, # WC37276 • AC "B" Tractor, repainted • AC #40 Pull-type Combine

INTERNATIONAL - FARMALL - VERSATILE TRACTORS

• 1976 Versatile 850 Series II Tractor, 855 Cummins engine, Duals all-around with 18.4-38 outers & 24.5-32 inners, 3 remotes, bareback, *051335 • 1974 IH 1568 Tractor, diesel, Restored, dual exhaust, NEW Goodyear 570/85R/38 rears & 11.00-16 SL tires, 2-remotes, 1000 pto, *2650127U007628 • 1972 IH 1468 Tractor, diesel, restored, 2 remotes, 1000 pto • IH 460 Tractor, Diesel, 15.5-38 rears, wide front, fenders, fast-hitch, 1 rear remote & side loader remote, 540 pto, *15982 • 1949 FARMALL "M", narrow front, 13.6-38, 1-set rear wheel weights

MINNEAPOLIS MOLINE TRACTORS & IMPLEMENTS

• 1971 Minneapolis Moline G-1050 Diesel Tractor, 2-remotes, 3pt., dual pto, 18.4-38 tires, showing 2,543 hrs • 1970 Minneapolis Moline G1050 Propane Tractor, 2-remotes, dual pto, older repaint, 18.4R38 rears, showing 1213 hrs, #44300007 • 1966 Minneapolis Moline Super "U" 302 LP, Restored, 15.5-38 rears, 3pt., 1 remote • 1968 Minneapolis Moline M670 Gas Super, wide front, 16.9-38, 2 remotes, showing 2,696 hrs, *29901735 • 1949 Minneapolis Moline GTB, restored • 1953 Minneapolis Moline ZB, propane, 1 remote, 540 pto, 13.6-38 rears, narrow front, restored, #06201448 • 1950 Minneapolis Moline "R" Tractor, Narrow Front, RT-100 frame, *0015901948 • Minneapolis Moline 445 Gas Tractor, Repainted, 13.6-38 rears, 3pt., 540pto, *10101392 • 1965 Minneapolis Moline Super M670 LP Tractor, wide front, 18.4-34 tires, 2 remotes, 3pt., 540 pto, showing 6,713 hrs, *29902577 • Minneapolis Moline 445LP Tractor, 13.6-38 rears, 3pt., 1 remote, narrow front, restored, *10103554 • MM 3-14" Plow, Rope Trip, repainted, Never in the ground • Allis-Chalmers 160, 1-remote, diesel

KINZE PLANTER - AUGER CART - TILL-AGE TOOLS

• 2014 KINZE 3600-ASD 16/31 Planter, New PTO Pump, Kinze Evolution seed units, good condition, several updates, control box & KPM2 Monitor • J & M 1075-16 Grain Cart, low use, yellow, Firestone 35.5L – 32 tires, roll tarp, 16" unload auger, 1000 pto • KRAUSE Mod. 3121 Landsman, 21', narrow transport, S-tine, 5 bar Remlinger Harrow • DMI Tiger-mate Field cultivator, 30', 1-owner • Glenco "Soil Saver" Chisel Plow, 9 shank, single bar harrow, 1-owner • Kewanee 20' Wing Fold Disk • Allis-Chalmers 200, 15' wing-fold disk • Willrich 3400 31' Soil Finisher • Brillion 13.5' Cultimulcher • 30' Chain Drag • OLIVER 546 Plow, 4-16", like new, toggle trip

ROTARY MOWER - SEED WAGON

• 15' BUSH HOG MOWER, batwing, 1000 pto, 6 solid rubber perforated wheels • J&M 250 Bu. Seed wagon, JD 1075 Gear, 14' Brush auger, extendible tongue

GRAIN TRUCK & VEHICLES

• 1973 Chevy C-60 Custom Deluxe, 350 engine, 16' grain bed, 4/2 Transmission, single axle, ONLY 45,187 miles, 1-owner • 2001 Dodge 1500 V-8, SLT Laramie package, standard cab, 8' bed, 318 engine, auto, ONLY 38,142 miles • 2004 Dodge 1500, 2WD, V-8, standard cab, 185k miles • 2001 Dodge Intrepid sedan, 85K miles

MOWERS - GOLF CART - FUEL TANKS

• Cub Cadet Z-Force SX Mower, 4-wheel steer, 704 hrs • Cub Cadet LGTX 1050 Riding Mower, Hydrostatic, 50" cut • Prairie View Golf Cart, battery, Vintage 1980's • 1,000 Gallon Fuel Tank, self-contained steel dike, Tuthill pump • (2) 500 Gallon Fuel Tanks, Electric Pumps

VINTAGE GARDEN TRACTORS

• FORD 140 Garden Tractor • Allis-Chalmers B-208 Garden Tractor • MM 112 Garden Tractor, parts

NOTE: This is a LIVE In-Person Auction with online bidding available. No small items. Please be Prompt.

EQUIPMENT QUESTIONS: Myron Harris, (765) 969-9463
AUCTION MANAGER: Andy Walther, (765) 969-0401
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OWNER: Emmabelle Harris Estate and Myron Harris

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Tuesday, September 30th,
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Featured
Auction Calendar

www.BidMetzger.com



LIVE AUCTION

Massive 3 Ring Antique Auction
Saturday, August 30, 2025
1778 E 550 S, Warsaw, IN



AUCTION

2000+ SF Commercial Building!
Tuesday, September 2, 2025
205 E. Main St., Atwood, IN



AUCTION

Lakefront Home & Garages
Wednesday, September 3, 2025
33 E. Ireland Dr., N. Man., IN



AUCTION

Weekly Homier Overstock Auctions Every Sunday & Monday
Huntington, IN



AUCTION

Market Monday Consignment Auction Ending Every Monday!
1582 SR 114, N. Manchester, IN



AUCTION

Cars, Tools, Antiques
Wednesday, September 3, 2025
33 E. Ireland Dr., N. Man., IN



AUCTION

Massive Texaco Collection
Thursday, Sept. 4, 2025
2563 E. US 30, Warsaw, IN



AUCTION

3 BR, 2 BA Home in Fort Wayne
Thursday, September 4, 2025
6201 Tarbet Place, Fort Wayne, IN



AUCTION

19 Acres Cropland - 2 Tracts
Thursday, Sept. 4, 2025
CR 200 W South of Old 24, Peru, IN



AUCTION

Country Home on 5 Acres
Thursday, Sept. 4, 2025
Roann, IN



215 ACRES

Real Estate LIVE
AUCTION

SEPT. 23 6:30 PM

Auction Location: 1582 W. SR 114, N. Man., IN

Metzger

• 75 Acres
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on SR 114

• 140 Acres Cropland &
Recreational Land on SR 15



Auction Manager: **Tim Pitts: 317-714-0432**

MetzgerAuction.com



60 ACRES
4 Tracts

Metzger
260-982-0238

Sept. 17 6:30 pm

Farm Location: On 16th Rd. between Ironwood & Hawthorn Rd.

Approved Building Sites
Recreational Land • Prime Hunting



Auction Location: B&R Building
194 S Michigan St, Argos, IN

BidMetzger.com

Walnut Twp.
Marshall County
Indiana

Recreational Real Estate
AUCTION

45 ACRES OFFERED IN 4 TRACTS

FARM REAL ESTATE AUCTION
2768 S. SR 25,
Warsaw, IN
Quality Cropland
Country Home
Storage
Barns

Metzger
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Tuesday, Sept. 16 6:30 PM
www.BidMetzger.com

300 ACRES

ABSOLUTE FARM REAL ESTATE AUCTION

Metzger
Real Estate • Auctions • Appraisals
260-982-0238

Thursday, Sept. 18 6:30 PM
Farm Location: 13806 N. 200 W., N. Man., IN
Auction Location: Metzger Market, 1582 W. SR 114, N. Man., IN

**COUNTRY HOME, BARNs
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