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Farm bailout plan is delayed due to government shutdown

By TIM ALEXANDER Illinois Correspondent

PEORIA, Ill. — More than \$10 billion in reported financial aid for soybean farmers and producers of other select commodities was reportedly held up as of Farm World press time, Friday, October 10, due to the federal government shutdown that began nine days earlier.

The delay and its cause was reported by several news sources on Wednesday, October 8, just days after the Trump administration and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) hinted that relief in the form of cash payments was imminent. The cash bailout is due largely to reduced trade markets available to soybean growers, who are facing a possible record harvest with no fall purchases on the books from China, their biggest export customer.

According to the New York Times, Trump said on Monday, October 6 at the White House, "I'm going to do some farm stuff this week." Trump's statement came days after Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said he expected the administration to make an announcement on Tuesday, October 7 about aid to farmers who have lost sales to China.

The Office of Management and Budget has allocated up to \$12 billion to \$13 billion from an internal USDA account to fund the bailouts for farmers, according to a report from Politico. "No final decision has been made on just how much of the money will go toward farm aid, the people said, and the package won't be coming out any time soon. The timeline has been further delayed because some USDA political appointees have been furloughed during the shutdown," Politico reported.

Other news reports said that the greenlit money will be in the form of a \$13 billion transfer from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) to the Office of Ag Secretary Brooke Rollins, and that the transfer was authorized on September 28. The CCC, however, is said to be waiting for Congress to fund USDA, which would allow USDA to reload their \$30 billion annual fund.

The Des Moines Register, after a call with reporters on Wednesday, Oct. 8, said that Iowa Republican Senator Chuck Grassley promised the Trump administration could currently provide just \$4 billion from the coffers of the CCC. Appropriating additional aid for farmers — potentially "tens of billions of dollars," Grassley said colleagues on the Senate Agriculture Committee told him — would require Congress to act.

Though Trump has suggested the administration could provide aid to farmers from revenue generated from tariffs, that approach is likely to run into congressional challenges. Whatever the source, the initial round of farmer aid could potentially total up to \$15 billion, according to Reuters news service. "The funds would go to soybean farmers affected by the China trade spat, as well as other types of commodity farmers, though the exact details were not yet determined," a Reuters source said.

Several sources inside agriculture have stated that current aid proposal amounts will not be nearly enough to cover market losses from Trump's Tariff Wars 2.0. According to American Soybean Association president Caleb Ragland, proposed ideas for \$10 billion to \$14 billion in aid are akin to putting a Band-Aid on an open wound. "We are bleeding economically," Ragland told Yahoo! Finance, saying eventual relief will come "by not having tariffs that are in place."

No announcement from the USDA regarding aid was expected to come while the government remained shut down, according to various news reports. Farmers have also been affected by the government shutdown by delayed and-or canceled payments. ARC and PLC payments farmers had anticipated for the 2024 crop that were supposed to be distributed on October 1 had been postponed at press time.

Along with ARC-PLC payments, any aid distribution to farmers would require USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices and operations to be open, according to news sources



Above: Harvest is well under way in the Farm World readership area. Photo by Leondia Walchle

Large field fires erupt due to drought in some areas

By Stan Maddux Indiana Correspondent

LOGANSPORT, Ind. – Drought conditions in some areas this harvest season have sparked a rash of fires in farm fields, with the largest burning dozens of acres of corn in Indiana and Illinois.

The amount of corn that burned Oct. 5 in western Illinois in Knox County was not disclosed but KWQC-TV reported the fire produced large plumes of smoke large enough to be detected on its weather radar.

According to the Rio Fire Department, the fire was caused by material in a combine igniting due to the dry condition of the crops and over 80-degree temperatures.

One firefighter battling that blaze was taken to a hospital and later released while another firefighter was given medical care at the scene for smoke inhalation, officials said.

A fire on Oct. 1 in north central In-

diana near Logansport in Cass County burned 50 acres in a corn field also from a hot combine contacting very dry crops.

"It's pretty much across the region. We're all in a drought. It's all really dry," said Rocky Buffum, director of the Cass County Emergency Management Agency.

Buffum said a farmer made a few passes in his combine then stopped to dump the corn into a tractor trailer in the field when he smelled smoke.

The organic leftovers in the just-harvested section of the field caught fire and fanned by the fairly strong winds quickly spread into the standing corn.

"It just took off pretty quickly," he said.

He estimated 75 percent of the 50 acres that burned had corn still waiting to be harvested.

Buffum said it took firefighters on brush trucks about two hours to put

(See Fires on page 2)



Above: Drought during the fall harvest resulted in 50 acres of a corn field burning in Cass County, Ind.



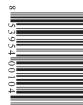
In this Farm World:

Ohio pumpkin farm named USA's no. 1 patch

..... Page 1B

Thieves targeting Ohio pumpkin patches and apple orchardsPage 3B





Fires

FROM PAGE 1

out the flames and another one hour to make sure there were no lingering hot spots.

Fortunately, Buffum said there were no collisions involving the brush trucks due to smoke thick enough to greatly restrict visibility.

That same day in Cass County, a few acres of plant material left from freshly harvested soybeans burned after catching fire from open burning that was being done in a backyard adjacent to the field.

Ever since, Buffum said there were a few other close calls in Cass County involving fires quickly put out with minimal damage from "hot machinery on really dry crops."

Cass and numerous drought-stricken counties such as LaPorte County in northwest Indiana have imposed open burning bans to try to protect crops until harvest season is over.

Other close calls have occurred elsewhere such as in LaPorte County, where farmer Mark Parkman had plant material in the front of his combine catch fire while harvesting sovbeans for a customer near Union Mills on Oct. 5.

Parkman said he smelled a little smoke and stopped then discovered a smoldering fire in the feed accelerator of his machine.

He was able to clear some of the material from his combine but the burning vegetation, once it fell to the ground, caught the stubble from his freshly harvested soybeans on fire.

Parkman said he was able to quickly stomp out the flames and drive his combine to the farm for water to put out the rest of the smoldering material in his machine.

"We were lucky," he said.

Parkman said the fields were also dry enough to kick up enough dust while harvesting to almost force him to stop from low visibility.

"You could hardly see because the wind from the south was blowing everything in front of you. If we wouldn't have had auto-steer we probably wouldn't have been able to keep going," he said.



Above: Dry fields like this one in Cass County, Ind., have caught fire during this year's harvest season.



Taking Bids 2003 International 7400 Plow Truck DT466, Allison Auto, Hendrickson Susp, 14' Box, 31K Orig. Miles Nice.



2016 John Deere 8345RT CAH, IVT, 3 Pt., 4 Remotes, 24" Tracks, Very Nice... \$99,500



2011 John Deere 1590 Drill, 15', Like New Low Use w/Rear Seed Auger



EROP, Dsl., Hyd., Thumb, Steel Tracks, Backfill Blade, 3K Hrs..



2011 John Deere 75D Wacker Neuson WL34 OROPS, Dsl., 2 Spd., Hydro., 72" Bkt... \$19,500



2022 JD 324G CAH, Pilot Controls Aux Hvd Quick Tach, 72" Bkt, 1300 Hrs. w/Warranty \$32.500



2014 John Deere S690 CAH, ProDrive, 5 Spd., FDRH, Powerfold, Powercast, 29' Auger, 520/42 Duals, 3700/2351 Hrs., Gd Cond..



2011 Landoll 7450-39 39' Rolling Baskets, Good Blades & Bearings, Field Ready.



1999 JD 9550, CAH, Hydro Chopper, Chaff Spreader, Bin Extension, 4035 Eng./2518 Sep Hrs...



IH 706 DsI WF 18.4x34 Tires, Dual PTO, 1 Remote. \$6,450



Ford 139 Soil Saver Chisel, 15 Shank, Used Very Little, From a Collector, Like New...



1998 DDT 630B Cummins Dsl., 30 Ton Capacity, Ejector Bed, Low \$24,500



Knight Reel Augie 75 TMR Mixer 540PTO, Scale, Left Side Delivery... \$3,750



Allis Chalmers 7000 Dsl., PS, 3 Pt. PTO, 2 Remotes, Very Nice, Original.



Brent 472, Corner Auger, Nice, Original, Good Augers, Diamond Tires \$8,950



2017 PJ 40' GN Loaded w/Everything, Hyd. Tail, Hyd Jacks, 12" Cross Stringers Deck on Neck, Elec Over Hyd Disc Brakes. \$19,500



1998 Case IH 8940 CAH, PS, 3 Pt., PTO, Duals, 74331 Hrs., 1 Owner, Very Sharp. \$79,500



2013 Landoll 2211 Ripper, Hood Blades & Bearings, Rear Reel, Field Ready... \$27,500



2016 JD 8245R PTO, 4 Remotes, Like New, Super Low Hrs., Local Farmer Retirement.. \$199,500



2018 JD 8320R Pump Frt & Rear Duals 50" Rears, Immaculate Condition, Local Farmer \$249,500



27'6" Field Cultivator, 5 Bar Drag, Local Farmer Retirement, Low Use, Really Nice, Field Ready \$29.500



2011 JD 2210 30" Field Cultivator, Very Tight, Low Use, Always Shedded, Local Farmer Retirement. \$34,500



2015 New Holland Workmaster 60HP, Dsl., Loader, 4x4, 3



2003 Kinze 1050 1000 Bu.,1000 PTO, Roll Tarp, Good Tracks & U/C Work Ready. \$24,500



2011 Krause TL6200-45 Soil Finisher 45' Rolling Baskets, Good Sweeps, Some Welding on Wing Hinges But Gd Cond.



2015 CAT MT865E CAH, PS, 30" Tracks. 5 Remotes Drawbar, 5800 Hrs.. \$124,500



2007 Polaris 700 4x4, Winch, Rear Seat w/ Cargo Box, Very Nice..



2011 JD 512 Ripper 5 Shank VG Blades Low Use, Local Farmer Retirement, Work Ready.

\$16,000



2012 Case IH 7230 Dsl., Hydro, 2WD, Power Fold, Chopper, Very Sharp Through the Shop, Field



John Deere 544G CAH, PS 3 Yrd Bkt., 20.5x25 Tires.



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2002 IH Durastar 4400, alum. bed, always shedded, auto trans., IH dsl. Eng., 6x4 \$39,900



DMI 312A, center dump gravity wagons, 4 available.



2023 Killbros 1035, 1000 bu, corner auger, 1050/50R32 Tires .



J&M 875-18, hydraulic spout, corner auger, large 1000 pto.



2009 Killbros 1950, Trelleborg tires, hyd. spout, roll tarp, lg 1000 pto, 1100 bu capacity, always



New 2024 Killbros 1035, tracks, 1000 bu., 20" corner auger, hyd. spout, factory installed scale pkg w/410 indicator, roll tarp, 36'x112' hyd ext... .Call for Price



2014 Case IH 4408, 8-30", sgl point, header height, kniferolls, very sharp, head cart not in-.\$29,500



1995 JD 920F, 3" knife, all new sickle sections, all new hold downs, updated poly skids, all new parts w/roughly 100 acres on them\$8,750



1997 KINZE 2600, 16/32 No Till, bean & corn meters. local farmer owned., well maintained, KM 3000 mon-



weathered some, in stock .\$3,450



2012 Case IH 2162, 30' flex draper, very nice used headere, head cart not included............ \$49,500



2016 JD 640 flex draper, flip over reel, from estate, very nice. . \$39,900





2008 Case IH 1020, 17.5', 3" cut, hyd. fore & aft., clean late model



2012 JD 635 mower cond., local, small 1000pto, roller conditioner, 11'5"cut, nice.



New 2025 Burchland GSX130, hyd. drive, hyd. lift, 13" drive over hopper, Several in Stock



2008 JD 2210, 22.5' field cultivator, single point



2018 Case SR240, 318 hrs., 2 spd., full cab, heat & air, comes w/CNH 72" bkt., like new..... \$34,500



JD 148 loader, good used ldr., 6' quick attach bkt, 2 spool valve & brackets, removed from JD 4020.



1979 JI Case 2290, 3902 hrs., 2WD, rear 3 pt







BRILLION 24' x fold, 108 packer...... \$11,500





2001 JD 9450, clean, chopper, chaff spreader, lev-\$42,500



Great Plains NP30A, 11 knife, Raven Accuflow cooler, 30" spacing, rear hithc, very nice, well



1997 JD 8100, 6605 hrs., clean western IL retirement tractor, 8.1L, hammer strap, all new LELD



2011 Case IH Steiger 350HD, 4WD, 4601 hrs., PS, 5 hyd. outlets, 1000 pto, Michelin rubber,



2025 Unverferth 1645D, 32' rolling harrow, 12' x-fold base, 10' wings, pull type, 9.5x15 tires, new & in stock Call for Pricel



Kuhn Knight VSL 150, single screw vertical mixer, set up as left hand discharge, small 1000rpm, inline walking tandems, scale





trap, field tracker, set up for AgLeader, Coming in



540/1000 PTO, 2 hyd. loader w/factory joystick, QA bkt, good used tractor.



Killbros E-Z Trail Rhino Koyker Ogden Summers



New Hayliner 37' & 42' hay trailers, 4 in Stock Starting at \$7,695



New Farmco in Stock 20 & 24' fenceline feeders Creep feeders 7x10, 7x20 portable feeders on wheels 6608, 66"x8' portable feeders on legs CF 750R 7.5' round bale rings

NEW WESTFIELD AUGERS IN STOCK



MKX 2 10-63 Lo Pro swing away MKX 2 10-73 Lo Pro swing away MKX 2 10-83 Lo Pro swing away MKX 2 13-74 Lo Pro swing away WRX 10-36

Mexico may need more US corn to feed cattle as border remains closed

Mexico has been an active buyer of U.S. corn recently and trade may not be fully realizing how much the country may need to import this year. The U.S. border remains closed to Mexican feeder cattle imports, and now Mexican farmers need to feed these animals domestically. The U.S. imported an average of 100,000 head of feeder MARKET ANALYSIS cattle from Mexico per month By Karl Setzer prior to the closure due to

New World Screwworm outbreaks, and now these animals are now being fed in Mexico. This is straining Mexico's corn supply, as only 20 percent of the country's corn crop is yellow corn. The bulk of the crop is white corn for food needs. Mexico will now need to import corn for feed, with most if not all coming from the United States.

This potential shift in demand will likely have less impact on U.S. corn balance sheets than initially feared. While the U.S. may see feed demand dip on the lower cattle numbers, the fact these are now being held in Mexico should increase U.S. exports a similar volume. This may not be bushel for bushel, but enough that the impact on balance sheets will likely be muted. We also have to remember that if the USDA trims the production side of balance sheets, they typically adjust the demand side as well, but given current consumption, areas to trim are becoming fewer.

A notable shift took place in China's overall imports last year, with 52.75 mmt being sourced from Brazil and 16.8 mmt from the U.S. These totals were a 2 percent year-to-year reduction for Brazil, but a 31 percent increase for the U.S., a reversal of the recent trend for the U.S.

losing China's market share. Delays to the start of Brazil's harvest and export program opened the door for additional U.S. demand, but since, there have been no Chinese import purchases from the U.S.

> One of the greatest hindrances to the market has been this lack of Chinese demand, mainly for soybeans. The fact is China is not buying many soybeans from any source right now. In the past two

weeks, China has only booked a dozen soy vessels from Brazil. This low demand is from record soybean stocks at Chinese ports. Chinese officials have the country's port inventory at 9.8 million metric tons after big July and August deliveries from South America.

China has also been importing canola and finished meals, easing demand for soybeans. Government soybean reserves are also being rotated right now, putting those soybeans into the supply line. With Brazil already seeding its next soybean crop, the window for U.S. sales is shrinking.

There is a development taking place that may alter global sovbean trade moving forward. The Brazilian soybean crusher ABIOVE says a sizable \$1.1 billion will be invested in the country's crush industry over the next 12 months. This will add 8 percent to the Brazilian soybean crush capacity, a demand growth of 6 million metric tons. Brazil currently has 144 operational crush plants, and this addition will take the country's soybean demand above 80 mmt annually. A steadily expanding biodiesel program is calling for this ad-

(Setzer continued on page 9)



62" mid mount mower.



IH 884 row crop, 1 owner, 700 hrs, 540/1000 pto, 2250 loader, always housed, Exc!

Woods BW 15-5 15' batwing

rotary cutter, very good cond

\$14,900



Kubota LX2610 SUHSD-hydro trans., \$22,500

trans, 4WD cab w/heat & AC,

loader w/Universal SSQA.

300 hrs. very good.

\$42,500



heat & air, 3 rear rem. valves, 24x24 semi-powershift trans, hyd shuttle, MFD, 417 hrs, Exc!, \$86,900



650 hrs, Turf tires, loader, good condition \$17,500



Kubota LX2610 HSDC, cab w/heat & AC, hydro trans., 4WD, loader w/ Universal skid steer quick attach. 60" bucket, rear remote valve, 135 hrs., exc. cond., \$31,000



Kubota B2301 HSD w/Loader & 60" mower deck, 100 hrs., very good



\$19,500



w/heat & AC 2 rear remote valves, 12F-12R hydraulic shuttle, cast rear wheel centers, 930 hrs., very nice \$55,900



hrs., loader w/SSQA, 72' bucket BH92 backhoe w/ mechanical thumb, 18" bucket very good cond.



Case IH CX60 MFD 3 rear remotes, 540/1000 PTO,



Kubota 2421KWT. 60 Kawasaki engine, 60" deck, very good 1 w/340 hrs. - \$5,900



Kubota M7040 SUH 2WD, 1100 hrs, 8F-8R hydraulic shuttle, very good cond. \$22,500



Kubota RTV X900, hydraulic bed lift, 4WD, 1100 hrs.,



International 5100 21x7 double disk openers, depth-press wheels, always housed, exc. cond., \$4,500

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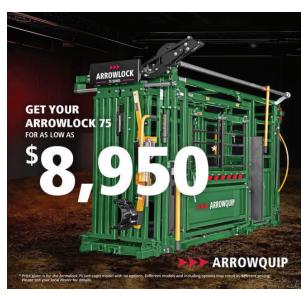
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MARKETS

Blue Grass Stockyards

Livestock Weighted Average Report for 10/06/2025 - Final

•	AUCT		
	This Week	Last Reported 9/29/2025	Last Year
Total Receipts:	989	1,358	1,104
Feeder Cattle:	830(83.9%) 141(14.3%)	1,244(91.6%)	916(83.0%) 177(16.0%)
Slaughter Cattle: Replacement Cattle:	18(1.8%)	109(8.0%) 5(0.4%)	11(1.0%)

Compared to last Monday the feeder market spotty with a plainer than average quality offering. Feeder steer and heifer prices were unevenly steady today ranging from 5.00 higher to 5.00 lower in spots with a good supply and good demand for quality, and value added packages. Additionally, a much softer undertone was noted in the plainer quality and bawling calves as buyers are being more selective with there premiums and increasing the price spread in most weight classes. Slaughter cows and bulls were steady to 2.00 higher with a good supply and good demand. Supply included: 84% Feeder Cattle (35% Steers, 50% Heifers, 15% Bulls); 14% Slaughter Cattle (83% Cows, 17% Bulls); 2% Replacement Cattle (45% Bred Cows, 55% Cow-Calf Pairs). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 49.

Groups of 20 H	Head o	or More				
STEERS			HEIFERS			
23 Hd Black/BWF		460 lbs	450.00	23	Hd I	Black/
BWF	478 lbs	379.00				
28 Hd Chr/CHRX 8	824 lbs	350.00	72 Hd 65% Black/XBREI)		697
lbs 341.00						
56 Hd Black/BWF		900 lbs	339.50	22	Hd	Chr/
CHDA .	7/15 lhc	330 00				

		FE	EDER CATTL	E		
STEE	RS - Mediur	n and La	rge 1-2 (Per Cw	t / Actual Wt)		
			Price Range	,		
12	345	345	407.50	407.50		
2	365-385	375	422.50-437.50	429.80		
6	442	442	435.00	435.00		
8	440	440	451.00	451.00 Fancy		
4	450-465	456	379.00-392.50	388.18		
25	460-470	461	432.50-450.00	448.57 Fancy		
1	480	480	295.00	295.00 Fleshy		
4	525-540	535	372.00-387.50	383.07		
25	500-541	528	412.50-423.00	415.04 Value Added		
7	550-595	565	361.00-380.00	373.64		
9	562-575	563	389.00-403.00	401.41 Value Added		
6	600-615	613	370.00-374.00	371.75		
5	600-617	614	382.50-393.00	390.95 Value Added		
4	660-670	666	335.00-350.00	340.78		
6	710-740	723	330.00-340.00	332.79		
10	742	742	372.00	372.00 Value Added		
1	775	775	321.00	321.00		
28	824	824	350.00	350.00 Value Added		
7	895	895	329.00	329.00		
3	930-935	933	297.00-311.00	306.35		
56	900	900	339.50	339.50 Value Added		
1	955	955	296.00	296.00		
STEE	STEEDS - Medium and Large 2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					

STEERS - Medium and Large 2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
<u>Head</u>	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price		
5	415-440	431	372.00-387.50	378.01		
2	457	457	351.00	351.00		
5	502-535	509	351.00-357.00	355.74		
3	552-575	560	327.50-345.00	333.49		
3	655-675	668	300.00-310.00	306.73		
3	866	866	262.00	262.00		
1	960	960	237.50	237.50		
STEERS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
Head	Wt Range	Ava Wt	Price Range	Ava Price		

6	367-385	371	310.00-320.00	315.78		
1	830	830	211.00	211.00		
STEERS - Medium 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
<u>Head</u>	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price		
4	360-385	373	285 00-300 00	202.75		

4	360-385	373	285.00-300.00	292.75		
2	432	432	250.00	250.00		
HEIFERS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
<u>Head</u>	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price		
3	425-435	428	345.00-364.00	351.43		
18	403-426	409	379.00-389.00	386.11 Fancy		
2	437	437	305.00	305.00 Fleshy		
32	450-495	471	350.00-375.00	366.03		
23	478	478	379 00	379 00 Fancy		

455

810-827

915-935

950

950

24	507-545	524	337.50-355.00	345.36
4	515	515	365.00	365.00 Guaranteed
				Open
9	550-595	571	342.50-353.00	348.51
5	558	558	360.00	360.00 Guaranteed
				Open
19	605-645	626	321.00-335.00	324.29
5	627	627	345.00	345.00 Guaranteed
				Open
8	663-686	675	321.00-327.50	324.31
72	697	697	341.00	341.00 Value Added
1	700	700	302.50	302.50
2	742	742	270.00	270.00 Fleshy
22	745	745	330.00	330.00 Value Added

331.00

331.00 Fleshy

J	010-021	020	270.00-203.00	203.09				
10	870	870	280.00	280.00				
1	960	960	261.00	261.00				
1	1045	1045	230.00	230.00				
2	1020	1020	266.00	266.00 Guaranteed				
				Open				
2	1132	1132	175.00	175.00				
EIFE	EIFERS - Medium and Large 2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)							
ead	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price				
2	250-260	255	367.50-375.00	371.32				
3	300-317	311	340.00-350.00	343.21				
7	274 200	074	000 00 050 00	0.40 57				

825 276 00-285 00 283 80

<u>Head</u>	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2	250-260	255	367.50-375.00	371.32
3	300-317	311	340.00-350.00	343.21
7	371-390	374	330.00-353.00	349.57
9	420-445	428	315.00-337.00	328.48
4	450-470	464	300.00-321.00	310.58
6	527-535	531	327.50-333.00	329.68
3	560-585	577	322.50-331.00	328.25
23	605-645	608	212.50-320.00	297.80
5	655-690	664	281.00-302.00	289.87
2	705-740	723	285.00-289.00	286.95
2	795	795	240.00	240.00
1	875	875	210.00	210.00

922 213.00-230.00 219.30

229.00

229.00

1	1000	1000	160.00	160.00
EIFE	RS - Mediu	m and La	arge 2-3 (Per Cv	vt / Actual Wt)
<u>ead</u>	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	205	205	285.00	285.00
1	340	340	315.00	315.00
5	355-385	365	302.50-317.50	314.34
2	130-110	135	300.00	200.00

483 280.00-282.50 280.84

275.00-280.00 276.71

1	565	565	242.50	242.50		
HEIFERS - Medium 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
<u>Head</u>	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price		
3	386	386	285.00	285.00		
1	425	425	257.50	257.50		
HEIFERS - Medium 2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						

Head Wt Range Avg Wt Price Range Avg Price

508

480-490

502-520

1	400	400	205.00	205.00
BULL	S - Medium	and Larg	ge 1-2 (Per Cwt /	Actual Wt)
<u>Head</u>	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	320	320	400.00	400.00
1	420	420	390.00	390.00
6	450-498	486	379.00-393.00	381.73
7	500-545	526	349.00-370.00	358.97
11	555-565	563	340.00-357.50	349.15
13	600-630	612	320.00-345.00	332.81
3	661	661	347.50	347.50 Fancy
6	705-730	718	295.00-320.00	309.96
1	775	775	295.00	295.00

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

Head Wt Range		Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price					
1	375	375	385.00	385.00					
7	405-431	423	350.00-377.50	371.28					
7	488-495	491	357.50-373.00	366.16					
2	510-545	528	305.00-330.00	317.09					
11 562-595		573	301.00-325.00	315.85					
1	640	640	290.00	290.00					
4	673-685	676	281.00-295.00	284.55					
1	715	715	280.00	280.00					
1	790	790	275.00	275.00					
2 900		900	222.50	222.50					
1	1005	1005	217.50	217.50					
BULL	BULLS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)								

			, (
lead	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
6	350-397	371	270.00-320.00	288.20
1	425	425	280.00	280.00
8	495	495	282.50	282.50
3	523	523	270.00	270.00
1	650	650	232.50	232.50
1	700	700	195.00	195.00
BULLS	S - Large 1-	2 (Per Cv	vt / Actual Wt)	

- 1	700	700	195.00	193.00						
BULLS - Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)										
<u>Head</u>	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price						
1	735	735	285.00	285.00						
BULL:	S - Medium	1-2 (Per	Cwt / Actual Wt)							
<u>Head</u>	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price						
3	396	396	315.00	315.00 Fleshy						

COMIC	Drooker 7	E 000/ /Da	Cut / Actual V	M4N				
	COWS - Breaker 75-80% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)							
<u>Head</u>	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing			
22	1310-1835	1443	151.00-163.00	156.83	Average			
17	1340-1735	1535	165.00-174.00	167.67	High			
3	1350-1520	1412	146.00-149.00	147.67	Lov			
COWS	- Boner 80-	85%(Per (Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing			
17	970-1490	1244	153.00-164.00	157.78	Average			
9	1070-1635	1208	155.00-172.00	168.31	High			
1	1045	1045	174.00	174.00	High			
				Retu	rn to Fee			

SLAUGHTER CATTLE

9	1070-1635	1208	155.00-172.00	168.31	High
1	1045	1045	174.00	174.00	High
				Retu	ırn to Fee
3	1265-1320	1285	143.00-151.00	147.72	Lov
COWS	- Lean 85-9	0% (Per	Cwt / Actual Wt)		
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
13	795-1315	1042	135.00-150.00	140.23	Average
11	905-1670	1130	153.00-167.00	158.38	High
2	965-1060	1013	174.00-175.00	174.48	High
				Retu	ırn to Feed
2	815-1015	915	125.00-130.00	127.77	Lov
1	900	900	100.00	100.00	Very Lov
BULLS	S -1 (Per Cw	/ Actual	Wt)		•

DOLL	BULLS -1 (Fer Cwt / Actual Wt)										
<u>Head</u>	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing						
4	1845-2225	1994	213.00-218.00	215.52	Average						
BULLS -1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)											
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing						
Head 8	Wt Range 1160-1930		,	Avg Price 188.98	<u>Dressing</u> Average						
			,								

157.50-164.00 REPLACEMENT CATTLE

BRE	D COV	/S - M	edium and	Large 1-2	(Per Unit / Actua	al Wt)
Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-4	T2	2	1010-1020	1015	2925.00-3200.00	3063.18
2-8	T2	1	1300	1300	3575.00	3575.00 Fancy
2-8	T3	1	1425	1425	2475.00	2475.00
BRE	D COV	/S - M	edium and	Large 2 (Per Unit / Actual	Wt)
Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-4	T2	1	1065	1065	2600.00	2600.00
COW	/-CALE	PAIR	S - Medium	and Lar	ae 1-2 w/ <150 lb	s calf (Per Uni

2-4	T2	1	1065	1065	2600.00	2600.00
COM	/-CALF	PAIR	S - Medium	and Lar	ge 1-2 w/ <150 lbs	calf (Per Unit
/ Act	ual Wt)			-	•
Age	Stage	<u>Head</u>	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-4	0	1	1110	1110	3325.00	3325.00
>5	0	3	1475-1500	1487	2725.00-2950.00	2849.52
COM	/-CALF	PAIR	S - Medium	2 w/ <15	0 lbs calf (Per Unit	/ Actual Wt)
Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
>5	0	2	715	715	1075.00	1075.00

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 Richard Midden Frankfort, KY | (502) 782-4138 | www.ams.usda.gov/lpgmn https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/ https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/viewReport/2127

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These areas experienced multiple reports of late deliveries during the week of 09/12/25: Indiana, Michigan, Ohio.

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Missouri Direct Hay Report **Direct Hay Weighted Average Report** for week ending 10/03/2025

Pasture conditions across the state improved ever so slightly over the last week, but it was a very minor amount. Surprisingly there are a few producers finding a little something to bale into fall hay after the rains from a couple of week ago. Others however, are just hoping for enough fall growth to stop feeding for a while before snow flies. Fall grain harvest is running full speed and for many that is where attention currently is focused. Hay movement is moderate as early feeding has everyone paying close attention to inventories on hand given the shortness of pasture and quickly approaching average first frost date. That being said at this time supplies aren't a major concern as producers were able to bale a lot of hay earlier in the year and if they don't feel they have enough it can still easily be found. Hay prices are steady to firm. The Missouri easily be found. Hay prices are steady to firm. 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://feedstufff	inder.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)	0.00.40.00
Small Square	6.00-10.00
Alfalfa - Fair (Ask/Per Ton)	125.00-150.00
Large Round Mixed Grass - Premium (Ask/Per Ton)	125.00-150.00
Medium Square 3x3	150.00-200.00
Mixed Grass - Good/Premium (Ask/Per Ton)	130.00-200.00
Large Round	100.00-150.00
Mixed Grass - Fair/Good (Ask/Per Ton)	100.00 100.00
Large Round	75.00-125.00
Mixed Grass - Fair/Good (Ask/Per Bale)	. 0.00 . 20.00
Small Square	3.00-7.00
Mixed Grass - Fair (Ask/Per Bale)	
Large Round	20.00-50.00
STRAW (Conventional)	

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

Wheat - (Ask/Per Bale) Small Square

Essays From God's Country, the newest book by Lee Pitts, features some of the columnist's most inspirational writing. Order online at www. leepittsbooks.com or send \$12.95 plus \$3 postage per book to: Lee Pitts, 2878 Rodman Dr., Los Osos, CA 93402.

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AG FUTURES

4.00-7.00

			October	10, 2025			
Corn	Delivery Month Dec 25 Mar 26 May 26 July 26 Sep 26	Last \$413-4 \$429-2 \$438-0 \$444-2 \$442-2	Change - 4-6 - 4-6 - 4-6 - 4-2 - 2-4	Wheat	Delivery Month Dec 25 Mar 26 May 26 July 26 Sep 26	Last \$ 498-2 \$ 515-6 \$ 528-0 \$ 540-0 \$ 554-2	Change - 8-0 - 8-2 - 8-2 - 8-2 - 8-2 - 8-0
Soybeans	Nov 25 Jan 26 Mar 26 May 26 July 26	\$1004-2 \$1020-6 \$1035-2 \$1049-6 \$1061-2	- 18-0 - 17-6 - 17-0 - 16-4 - 16-6	Oats	Dec 25 Mar 25 May 26 Jul 26	\$ 296'6 \$ 320'0 \$ 325'2 \$ 327'2	+ 1-0 + 1'6 - 2'4
Soybean Meal	Oct 25 Dec 25 Jan 26 Mar 26 May 26	\$ 269.7 \$ 275.8 \$ 280.1 \$ 286.0 \$ 291.4	- 1.1 - 1.1 - 1.1 - 0.8 - 0.9	Live Cattle	Oct 25 Dec 25 Feb 26 Apr 26 June 26	\$ 234.850 \$ 238.225 \$ 241.625 \$ 243.675 \$ 238.550	- 0.175 - 1.675 - 1.775 - 1.600 - 0.275
Soybean Oil	Oct 25 Dec 25 Jan 26 Mar 26 May 26	\$ 50.38 \$ 49.80 \$ 50.14 \$ 50.52 \$ 50.72	- 0.59 - 1.14 - 1.13 - 1.12 - 1.12	Lean Hogs	Oct 25 Dec 25 Feb 26 Apr 26 May 26	\$ 96.750 \$ 83.725 \$ 86.025 \$ 89.600 \$ 93.075	- 0.250 - 0.625 - 0.650 - 0.625 - 0.925

Ag Futures sponsored by



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Weekly National Sheep Summary

For Week Ending Friday, October 3, 2025

	I OF WEEK Enaming I II	day, Octo	DCI 3, 2023
Weekly Trends: Compared to slaughter ewes were softer.	o last week slaughter lambs traded unevenly steady and	Billings: Ft. Collins:	No test. 80.00-125.00.
All sheep sold per hundred w	veight (CWT) unless otherwise specified.	Kalona:	90.00-135.00.
Slaughter Lambs: Choice an	d Prime 1-3	Equity Coop: Sioux Falls:	85.00. 90.00-115.00.
San Angelo:	50-60 lbs 290.00-306.00; 60-70 lbs 265.00; 70-80 lbs	Buffalo, MO:	125.00-142.00.
· ·	285.00; 80-90 lbs 211.00; 100-110 lbs 205.00-215.00	Missouri:	75.00-125.00.
	130-140 lbs 184.00-215.00.	Feeder Lambs: Me	dium and Large 1:
New Holland:	60-70 lbs 240.00-255.00; 70-80 lbs 230.00-255.00;	San Angelo:	No test.
	80-90 lbs 230.00-250.00; 90-100 lbs 230.00-255.00;	Billings:	No test.
	100-110 lbs 220.00-245.00; 110-120 lbs 235.00-255.00.	Sioux Falls:	40-50 lbs 285.00-310.00; 50-60 lbs 260.00-280.00; 60-
Billings:	No test.		70 lbs 255.00-270.00; 80-90 lbs 235.00.
Ft. Collins:	50-60 lbs 285.00; 60-70 lbs 257.50-295.00; 70-80 lbs	Buffalo, MO:	No test.
	260.00; 80-90 lbs 245.00-250.00; 90-100 lbs 220.00-	Missouri:	No test.
	235.00; 110-120 lbs 205.00-206.00; 130-140 lbs	Ft. Collins:	No test.
	210.00-212.50.	Kalona:	No test.
Kalona:	50-60 lbs 340.00; 60-70 lbs 285.00-315.00; 70-80 lbs	Equity Coop:	No test.
	250.00-265.00; 80-90 lbs 240.00-265.00; 90-100 lbs	Arkansas:	No test.
	210.00-240.00.	Replacement Ewes	: Medium and Large 1-2:
Equity Coop:	No test.	San Angelo:	No test.
Sioux Falls:	60-70 lbs 235.00-265.00; 70-80 lbs 220.00-225.00;	Billings:	No test.
	80-90 lbs 190.00-255.00; 90-100 lbs 215.00-250.00;	Ft. Collins:	No test.
	100-110 lbs 215.00-235.00; 110-120 lbs 235.00-240.00;	South Dakota:	No test.
	120-130 lbs 241.00-243.00; 130-140 lbs 217.50-245.00;	Kalona:	No test.
	140-150 lbs 244.00-247.00; 150-160 lbs 244.00-247.00.	Missouri:	No test.
Buffalo, MO:	No test.	Arkansas:	No test.
Missouri:	80-90 lbs 210.00; 90-100 lbs 210.00; 100-110 lbs	Sioux Falls:	No test.
	175.00; 110-120 lbs 160.00-175.00; 120-130 lbs 155.00-	Buffalo, MO:	No test.
	175.00.	Sheen and lamb sla	aughter under federal inspection for the week to date totaled 35,000
Arkansas:	No test.		D last week and 36,229 last year.
Equity Coop:	No test.		e: USDA Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News
Slaughter Ewes: Good 2-3:	00.00.400.00		Concretinguities, places cells (202), 700, 4000

80.00-123.00 General inquiries, please call: (202) 720-1990 email: mymarketnews@usda.gov

Daily Livestock and Poultry Slaughter Report for Thursday, October 9, 2025 - Final

Current Day Slaughter									
Thurs., Oct. 9, 202	<u>25</u>	Week Ago	Year Ago	WTD	Prev Week WTD	Last Year WTD	2025 YTD	2024 YTD	YTD % Change
Calves	1,000	1,000	362	4,000	4,000	2,584		162,473	
Cattle	111,000	110,000	116,295	446,000	458,000	475,807		24,397,939	
Hogs	491,000	490,000	483,928	1,946,000	1,939,000	1,926,383		99,749,742	
Sheep	8,000	7,000	8,171	32,000	31,000	33,969		1,479,820	
Chicken (Young)	35,315,000	35,524,000	34,912,000	142,436,000	142,329,000	140,352,000	7,344,702,000	7,370,304,000	-0.4%
			Pre	vious Dai	ly Slaugh				
Wed., Oct. 8, 2025	<u>i</u>	Week Ago	Year Ago	WTD	WTD	WTD	2023 YTD	YTD	% Change

Previous Daily Slaughter												
Wed., Oct. 8, 2025	<u>i</u>	Week Ago	Year Ago	WTD	PTEV WEEK WTD	Last Teal WTD	2025 YTD	2024 YTD	% Change			
Calves	1,000	1,000	742	3,000	3,000	2,222		162,111				
Cattle	118,000	115,000	125,804	335,000	348,000	359,512		24,281,644				
Hogs	484,000 R	483,000	485,127	1,455,000	1,449,000	1,442,455		99,265,814				
Sheep	7,000	6,000	6,152	24,000	24,000	25,798		1,471,649				
Chicken (Young)	35,778,000	35,523,000	35,290,000	107,121,000	106,805,000	105,440,000	7,309,387,000	7,335,392,000	-0.4%			
Dravious Day Breakdown												

Wed., Oct. 8, 2025

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 yea R = Revision WTD = Week to Date YTD = Year to Date

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Monroe Livestock Auction **Market Report**

Cows/Bulls 23 000

Contact us at: (260) 216-5489 | Market Report (260) 216-5050 Address: 1871 E 200 S, Monroe, IN 46772

Sale every Tuesday night: Small animals @ 5pm • Livestock animals @ 11am *please note that our market report is an overall average price-they are not always the highest and lowest price.

Small Animals	10/7/2025	Sheep		Cows	
Chickens	\$2-\$8	Ewes	\$0.90-\$1.45	Cull Cows	\$.85-\$1.74
Bantys \$2.50-\$22.50		40-60# Lambs \$2.25-\$3		Bulls	\$1.72-\$2
Ducks	\$3-\$30	61-80# Lambs	\$1.65-\$2.75	Fat Cattle	48
Pigeons \$2.50-\$9		81-100# Lambs	\$1.75-\$2.40	Holstein Fat Heifers	\$1.80-\$2
Eggs	\$1-\$2		102	Colored	\$2.15-\$2.25
Rooster	\$2-\$20	Goats		00.0.00	29
Turkey	\$10-\$50	Billys	\$55-\$400	Pigs	
Peacock		Nannies	\$30-250	Fat Hogs	\$.42-\$75
Rabbits	\$3-\$30	Kids	\$20-40	Sows	\$.35-\$.75
	921		96	Boars	\$0.32 94
Veal Calves		Feeder Cattle Dairy a	and Beef	Feeder Pigs	34
Holstein (80# & UP)	\$875-\$1180	200-500#	\$1.40-\$3.35	20-45#	\$35
Beef Cross (80# & UF	P) \$1200-\$1560	501-800#	\$1.30-\$2.70	46-65#	\$25-\$55
	385		88		25



Market Report 22nd Auction October 8th 2025

This Report is the Actual High and Average Prices.

Feeder Pigs: 8 \$60 High \$41.25 Avg. Butcher Hogs: N/A Bf. /Crs. Vl: 20 \$1400 High \$1041.25 Avg. Dai. V: 57 \$1175 High \$977.46 Avg. Jersey Cross: 3 \$400 High \$316.67 Avg. Beef Feeders: 37 \$3.60 High \$2.26 Avg. Cull Cows: 4 \$1.51 High \$1.37 Avg. Bulls: N/A Fat Cattle: N/A Brd Cows & Sprgs: N/A

Sheep Ram: 1 \$.78 High \$.78 Avg. Sheep Ewe: 3 \$1.15 High \$.81 Avg. Lamb 0-60: 6 \$2.65 High \$2.62 Avg. Lamb 61-85: 3 \$2.25 High \$2.25 Avg. Lamb 86-100: 1 \$.20 High \$.20 Avg. Goat Wethers: 2 \$380 High \$210 Avg. Goat Billys: 2 \$385 High \$357.50 Avg.

Hd. Cnt:147 Next Horse Sale!!! Friday Oct. 10th

The 1st sale of the month will have Vet on grounds for checks and vaccines, etc.

Auction Every Wednesday

Sale Order Hay / Straw / Firewood 11:30 AM Livestock 12:00 PM Small animals 5:00 PM. Licensed and Bonded # AC32500012

Chickens: 49 \$15.00 High \$3.69 Avg. Roosters: 39 \$20.00 High \$7.21 Avg. Bantys: 5 \$4.50 High \$3.90 Avg. Ducks: 27 \$15 High \$8.39 Avg. Rabbits: 23 \$18 High 7.57 Avg. Turkey: 3 \$35.00 High \$35 Avg. Guinea Pig: 2 \$1.00 High \$1.00 Avg. Quail: 20 \$3.25 High \$2.75 Avg. Pigeon: 6 \$5.75 High \$5.58 Avg. Guinea: N/A Guinea Pig: N/A Total Head Count: 174

Hay: Large: 76 \$90 High \$55.79 Avg. Straw Lg: N/A Straw Sm.: N/A

Special Sheep and Goat Sale Oct. 24th (Breed Stock)

Get you Consignments in early!!!

Contact Us: 1-765-725-2552 Market Report: 1-765-725-2552, Ext. 2 Address: 10927 N. US 27, Fountain City IN 47341 8 - Farm World - Fri., October 17, 2025 www.farmworldonline.com To Subscribe Call 1-800-876-5133



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Setzer

FROM PAGE 4

ditional crushing, same as in the United States. Brazil currently has a 15 percent biodiesel blend rate, but is considering raising it, adding even more domestic soybean demand and trimming exportable stocks.

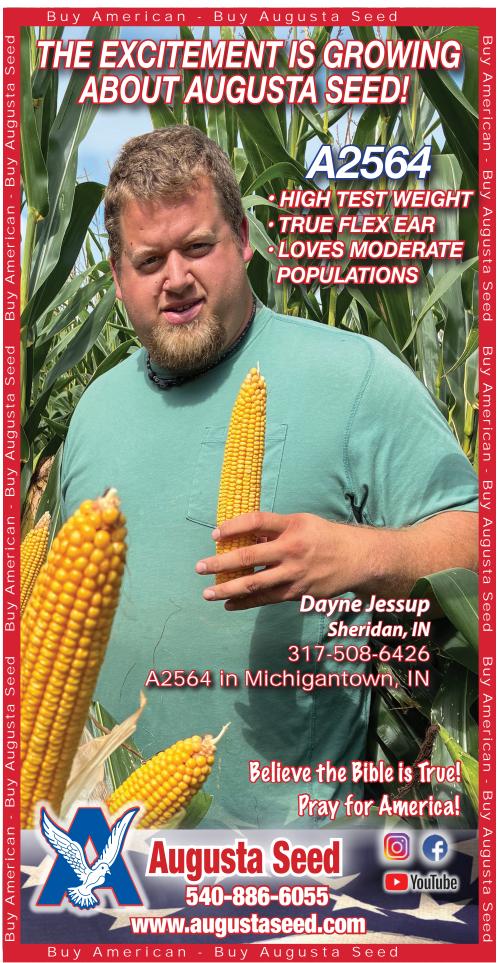
While soybean demand remains high, we are starting to see pressure on crush margins. The U.S, crush margin has dropped to a six-month low and Chinese crush margins are negative as competition from alternative grains and protein feeds heats up. One of these is canola, with China now sourcing that oilseed from Australia. China has also booked Argentine meal recently, allowing importers to bypass the crush process altogether. The global soybean market also continues to see pressure from cheap palm oil, with the value of that vegetable oil falling to half of soy oil at times in recent weeks.

While the U.S. harvest is just getting underway, analysts are already looking forward to next year. The most interest at this time of the year is the spread between new crop corn and soybean futures, as these tend to sway acres. Right now, this spread is at 2.3:1, the tightest it has been in the past $2\frac{1}{2}$ months. A ratio this tight tends to favor corn pro-

duction as it takes just 2.3 bushels of corn to equal the values of one bushel of soybeans. This advantage is not from strength in corn, but from weakness in the soy complex.

The United States continues to see expansion to its dairy herd. The U.S. added 10,00 head of dairy cattle to the nation's herd, taking it to 9.52 million. This is 176,000 more cows in the dairy line up than a year ago, and has elevated year-to-year U.S. milk production by 3 percent. While this added milk production has weighed on dairy futures, it has lessened animals going into the U.S. beef herd, further tightening an already low U.S. beef supply.

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5th generation Ohio farmer finds success with heritage grains

By Celeste Baumgartner **Ohio Correspondent**

CLARKSVILLE, Ohio - Branstrator Farm has been in the family since 1823. Jon Branstrator is the fifth generation tending the soil there. He is currently growing non-GMO corn and beans using no-till and cover crops but what he finds most interesting is growing and milling heritage grains.

The farm, however, went through many iterations to get to that point. His dad, Ralph, grew up working a team of horses. He left the farm during World War II. He did all kinds of things, such as driving a truck, to avoid farming.

"Then at one point he was given access to one of the farms that my grandparents owned," Branstrator said. "He went to some kind of farmer's school, I think they were put on by Purdue. Whoever was teaching it said, 'Get rid of all your livestock, tear out all of your fences, and plant nothing but corn every year."

Ralph wanted to escape the drudgerv of farming that he grew up with, so that's what he did. That's how Jon grew up farming.

"Economically, it worked out back then because the inputs were cheap; insects, diseases, and different problems associated with continuous corn took a while to develop," Jon explained. "By the time I took over the farm, I started renting it from them about 1975, and I was kind of locked into that system. He thought this corn system was heaven-sent, and to grow anything else was some kind of here-

Jon wanted to diversify the farm, and that led to disagreements with his dad. So. he moved on and did other things. He was going to college in Arizona when Ralph passed. In about 1999, Jon came back to take over the

"I came back with all kinds of ideas; some of them worked, some of them didn't," Branstrator said. "I started farming with the help of my neighbor and exchanged work for the use of their equipment. It was during one of the economic downturns, so I was not making any income. I was going to have to get a job to support my farming

Brad Bergefurd, now retired from The Ohio State University, suggested he grow pumpkins. Branstrator planted 6 acres, and when that was a phenomenal success, he planted more. He got up to 30 acres of pumpkins. He expanded into peach trees and straw-

"I had a bunch of fantastic Mexican folk working for me, and it was awesome," Branstrator said. "I did that for quite a while, but labor kept getting harder to secure. There was com-



Above: The mill room. The stone mill shown is for corn only. The wheat equipment is kept separate to keep the gluten out of it.

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Above: Jon Branstrator, looking over a field of Red Fife wheat. Growing commodities is profitable, but he wanted to do something more interesting.

petition from roofers and landscapers who were paying 20 bucks an hour. So, during COVID, I put that down for a while and went back to commodity farming, although with cover crops and no-till regenerative practices."

Branstrator had tried growing heritage grains earlier, but southwest Ohio was not yet ready for that, so he put it aside. But now, while growing a lot different for heritage grains than commodities was good financially, he



Above: Jon Branstrator grows Red Fife wheat for Dorothy Lane and other markets. He feels good about producing a good, healthy flour that performs well for bakers.

wanted to do something more interest- local markets.

He went to some classes in Maine 1440 combine that he tuned up just for and Kentucky. The learning curve is wheat. The combine is in great shape, for commodity grains. Branstrator persisted, bought a mill, and found some

He bought a 1980 International

(Branstrator Farm continued on page 11)



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Branstrator Farm

FROM PAGE 10

but it is old, and he doesn't want to put a lot of hours on it, so he hires a neighbor to do his corn and sovbeans.

He landed an account to market his heritage grains with the Dorothy Lane Markets, an upscale grocery in the Dayton area.

About then, Branstrator met Jay Brandt, who had formed the Local Millers, a group of like-minded farmers who partnered to preserve and promote diverse varieties of wheat and corn, and to bring back the lost technique of stone-milling.

"It is hard to grow everything yourself," Branstrator said. "They had a good set up and Jay was really good about expanding so that somebody was growing Einkorn and maybe Blue Corn, somebody else was growing spelt, and something else. Between us, we had a pretty good list of grains."

So, Branstrator primarily grows Red Fife wheat for Dorothy Lane and other markets. He has built some of his own equipment and last year, cleaned about 2,000 pounds of his wheat. He does some retail business but finds that with retail, the flour might sit on the shelf for a long time. The nature of stone-ground flour is such that it has a shorter shelf life and can get rancid.

"When I am delivering to my professional bakers, it is fresh," he said, "If it sits on a shelf for months, it is not

Branstrator has about 45 acres in these grains. Just enough to satisfy the customers he has.

"Like so many things in agriculture, you have these romantic notions about growing flour; you get into it, there are big and little things to pay attention to, and it makes it interesting," Branstrator said. "Then, I really feel good about producing a clean and healthy flour that performs well for the bakers. This year's Red Fife, everybody is going crazy about it."



Above: This is a 1980 International 1440 combine that Jon Branstrator tuned up just for wheat. The combine is in great shape, but it is old and he doesn't want to put a lot of hours on it, so he hires a neighbor to do his corn and soybeans.



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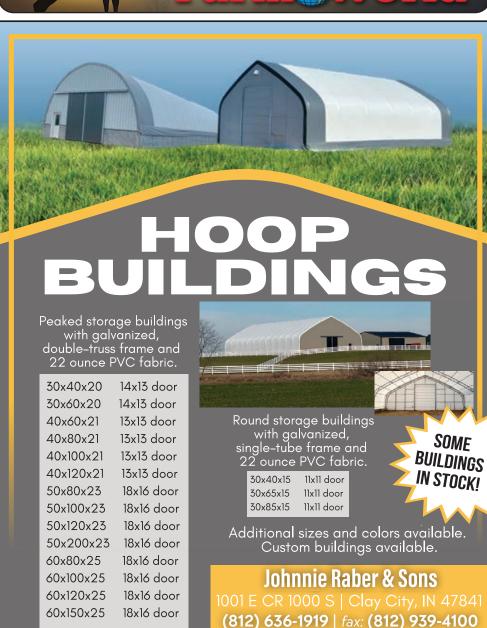
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National FFA Convention planned for late October in Indianapolis

By Michele F. Mihaljevich Indiana Correspondent

INDIANAPOLIS – About 70,000 people are expected to attend the FFA's 98th national convention beginning in late October in Indianapolis.

During the National FFA Convention & Expo – Oct. 29-Nov. 1 – winners of individual and chapter competitions will be announced. The event also includes days of service, student and teacher workshops, and speakers.

"(The convention) is an opportunity not only to celebrate one another, but to meet new friends and network with chapters across the country," explained Kristy Meyer, the organization's communications manager. "We see friendships being made that withstand the test of time. It's a time to celebrate agriculture and the great things that are happening in agricultural education and FFA."

American Star Awards will be given out in four categories – agribusiness, agricultural placement, agriscience and farmer. American FFA Degree recipients will be honored, as will high school and middle school chapters. Honorary awards will be presented,

and members will compete in Career and Leadership Development events.

"One of the highlights for me at convention is watching the members be recognized on stage for all the hard work they've done throughout the year," Meyer noted. "It's an amazing feeling to watch these members walk across the stage and be celebrated for what they've achieved. Their excitement and enthusiasm is contagious.

"It also reminds us that the future of our world is in good hands, and these members are going to be a great next generation of leaders."

FFA members will participate in the annual National Days of Service during the convention. The members may choose from such businesses or sites as Carmel Clay Parks and Recreation, Crown Hill Heritage Foundation, Indianapolis Cultural Trail, St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry and White River State Park. Depending on the site, members will clean up gardens, pick up trash or help neighbors through a food pantry and serve food from a soup kitchen.

An on-site service project - making

(FFA continued on page 19)



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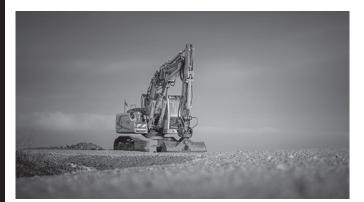
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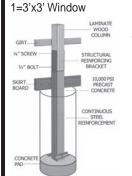
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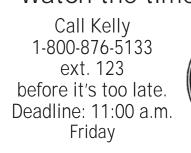
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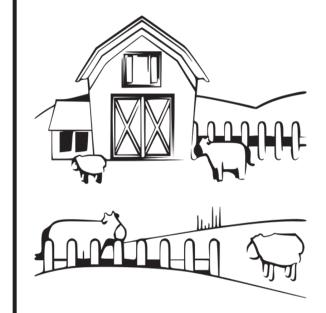
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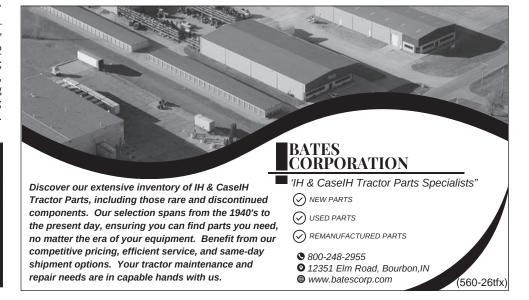
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\mathbf{FFA}

FROM PAGE 13

paracord pet leashes to be given out by IndyHumane – will be available. FFA members will assemble emergency pet kits during an evening service project.

"Part of the FFA motto is Living to Serve," Meyer said. "Days of Service offers our members an opportunity to give back to the local community that has served as a gracious host to us over the years. While there are limited spots for Days of Service, the on-site event at convention allows more members to participate. Many of our members then take what they learned while serving and create a way to mimic it in their local community."

The evening service project has been around a couple of years, she said. With many members competing during the day, they may not have an opportunity to attend a Days of Service event or the on-site activity, Meyer pointed out. Offering the evening activity was a way to address those needs, she added.

The student workshops help members develop premier leadership, personal growth and career success, FFA said, while teacher workshops provide teachers with new ideas and activities to integrate into their classrooms.

Career success tours will be avail-

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able in eight areas, including agribusiness, biotechnology and natural resources. Members may tour businesses such as Beck's, Corteva Agriscience and Teter Organic Farm.

"With more than 350 careers in agriculture, there is a lot for our FFA members to explore," she said. "Partnering with companies in the greater Indianapolis area allows our members to see first hard what a career in agriculture looks like. So instead of just reading about it, they can see it in ac-

"We hope to empower our members to be the best they can be in their community, in their classroom and in their FFA chapter," Meyer said. "We are thankful to the city of Indianapolis for being such an amazing host to us for the past years - and hope our members enjoy their time at the event, while taking what they learned home and implementing it in their communities."

The convention will have an economic impact of more than \$14 million, according to Visit Indy.

Convention events will be live streamed at https://convention.ffa. org/ffa-live. For more information and the daily schedule, visit https://convention.ffa.org.

Water quality grant proposals accepted

NASHVILLE —The Tennessee Department of Agriculture (TDA) is accepting grant proposals for projects that will help improve water quality by reducing nonpoint source (NPS) pollution in the state. For the first time, incentives will be given to projects located in both economically distressed and at-risk coun-

"With this cost-share support, we're helping Tennesseans take direct action to improve water quality," said Commissioner Andy Holt. "These projects make a lasting difference by reducing runoff, restoring watersheds, and supporting healthier ecosystems for people, wildlife, and future generations."

NPS pollution includes a variety of contaminants, such as sediment, urban runoff, excess fertilizers, pesticides, chemicals, and other pollutants that can affect both surface and groundwater.

Eligible applicants include local governments, regional agencies, soil and water conservation districts, state universities, and nonprofit organizations. The submission deadline is Dec. 1,

This federal grant supports the implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to combat NPS pollution, as wells as efforts in training, education, and water quality monitoring. Grant program priorities, incentives and evaluation criteria can be found online at www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/agriculture/documents/landwaterstewardship/fy26/FY2026_319_RFP_FINAL.pdf

Contact Dr. Sam Marshall at 615-837-5306 or sam.marshall@tn.gov with questions. The Nonpoint Source Program was created in 1987 as part of the Clean Water Act. TDA's Land and Water Stewardship Section manages the Tennessee NPS Program on behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

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SECTION B

Friday, October 17, 2025

Ohio's Lehner's Pumpkin Farm is USA Today's No. 1 patch

By DOUG GRAVES Ohio Correspondent.

RADNOR, Ohio - What started as a small roadside farm now holds the title as the best pumpkin patch in the nation.

Lehner's Pumpkin Farm in Radnor - 30 miles north of Columbus was voted the top pumpkin patch in the country by USA Today's 10 Best Readers' Choice Awards.

Lehner's is family-owned and operated. It has 1,100 acres of corn, soybeans, wheat, pumpkins and gourds.

"Truly, I'm blown away by the whole thing," Shelly Lehner said. "I really have to thank all of our friends and family and community, and everyone who voted. It's the voters that made it happen. I'm really humbled by it."

The USA Today's best pumpkin patch is chosen through a process



Above: Eeyore, the loveable donkey at Lehner's, gets his fair share of attention each October. (photo submitted)

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where a panel of industry experts nominate favorite pumpkin patches. After the nominations, the final nominees are voted on by the public to determine the top picks.

"There's so many beautiful pumpkin farms throughout the whole United States, so this quite an honor," Lehner said.

The farm offers a 15-acre pickyour-own patch and even more activities, like a 10-acre corn maze, inflatables, an old-time village and a petting zoo. Additionally, Lehner's offers loads of family-friendly activities, like pumpkin bowling, barrel rides, a real henhouse and a historic Pumpkinville play village. There are farm animals, a climbing wall and tractors to race.

Among the animals are baby doll sheep, a donkey named Eevore known for giving hugs, ducks, bunnies and other barnyard friends.

The farm's fall festival atmosphere has attractions for all ages. Visitors can enjoy lumberjack tournaments, bonfires and plenty of food. Other entertainment includes miniature golf, a ventriloquist act and a fifthgrade violinist.

A beloved Mercer County, Ky., farm was chosen No. 7 on the USA Today top 10 list. Devine's Corn Maze & Pumpkin Patch in Harrodsburg is best known for its mazes that cover 10 acres. The farm features a Kiddie Maze, the First Timer's Maze and the Featured Maze.

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Above: If you have the time (and proper hiking shoes) there's 15 acres of pumpkins to choose from at Lehner's Pumpkin Farm in Radnor, Ohio. (photo submitted)

Visitors also come for the classic their sense of direction. wagon rides, human hamster wheels, fires. Each paid admission includes a free pumpkin of your choice and unlimited access to more than a dozen attractions that appeal to guests of all ages.

This year's Featured Maze celebrates pumpkins, scarecrows and some twists and turns that will keep guests dizzy. Fortunately, there is a digital map guests can access on their devices in case someone loses

"We've had to rescue a few lost zip-lining and marshmallow bon- maze-goers at the end of the night in the past, but there's not need to worry because nobody gets left behind at Devine's," farm manager Jason Devine said.

Devine's Corn Maze & Pumpkin Patch is all about authenticity, Devine said.

"We set ourselves apart because

(Lehner's Pumpkin continued page 2B)



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Pumpkin

FROM PAGE 1B

we are a working farm," he said. "And then come fall, we open it up to the public and everybody comes out to enjoy our corn mazes, pumpkin patch, and just have a good time out on the farm. Guests don't want to see commercialized stuff. We've learned that. We try to keep to our roots. We don't have a big gift shop or anything like that. We just keep it to the basics and offer good, affordable fun on the farm."

Huber's Orchard & Winery in Borden, Ind., came in at No. 8 on the USA Today list. Just a half-hour drive north of Louisville, the farm offers mounds of gourds and rows of apple cider on display. And of course, there's pumpkins, some smaller than your hand and others as big as your car's front seat.

"Pumpkins are sort of the unofficial mascot around here," says Lise Kruer, director of marketing at Huber's.

And their pumpkins are not just for looks. Inside Huber's Farm Market one will find freshly baked pumpkin muffin bread, pumpkin praline fudge and pumpkin pies. One of the most popular seasonal items can be found inside the nearby Huber's Ice Cream Factory, where homemade pumpkin ice cream is made weekly.

"Folks line up out the door for our pumpkin milkshakes and pumpkin pie lattes," Kruer said. "We were pumpkin before pumpkin was cool. Pumpkin season for us has been second-to-none for decades."

The southern Indiana farm got its start in 1843. And while serene most of the year, this farm attracts visitors from a three-state area.

"There's some built-in nostalgia with the fall season," Kruer said. "And as the leaves are turning and winter is coming on, people want to celebrate and enjoy being outside before it gets too cold to do anything."

The rest of the top 10 pumpkin patches, according to USA Today's 10 Best, were: 2 Treworgy Family Orchards (Levant, Maine); 3 Shuster's Farm (Deerfield, Wis.); 4 Sinkland Farms (Christiansburg, Va.); 5 Denver Downs Farm (Anderson, S.C.); 6 Swans Trail Farms (Snohomish, Wash.); 9 Kelder's Farm (Kerhonkson, N.Y.); and 10 Great Country Farms (Beaumont, Va.).



Above: Miniature golf with a farm theme can be found at Lehner's Pumpkin Farm in Radnor, Ohio. (photo submitted)

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Above: Lehner's Pumpkin Farm in Radnor, Ohio, is one big play spot for children. (photo submitted)







Thieves zeroing in on apple orchards, pumpkin patches

By DOUG GRAVES Ohio Correspondent

PICKERINGTON, Ohio – A popular central Ohio farm known nationally for its pumpkin patch has been hit by thieves, with hundreds of pumpkins stolen just ahead of the Halloween season. Sam's Pumpkin Patch in Pickerington, a 2024 finalist for USA Today's 10 Best Readers' Choice award for best pumpkin patch, reported the theft of 275 to 300 pumpkins from its fields. Owner Terry Dunlap said the pumpkins were discovered missing Sept. 23.

Dunlap estimated the retail value of the stolen pumpkins at around \$6,000, noting that figure doesn't include the cost of seed, fertilizer and spray. He described the estimate as a conservative number.

With many acres of farmland to cover, Dunlap said there's little he can do in terms of added security, citing both cost and logistics as barriers due to the size of the farm.

"It hurt. I was sick when I saw it. I saw they were gone and nearly got physically sick over this," Dunlap said.

Thieves targeted the most valuable pumpkins, Dunlap said.

"They took the great big ones about the size of a bushel basket with big handles on them," he said. "They're the premium pumpkins that nobody else has."

He discovered the crime while checking his plants.

"When I went to spray, the vines were all knocked down and the pumpkins were gone," Dunlap said. "The thieves came at night.

"Somebody is out there selling the pumpkins they stole from me. I had about 300 pumpkins that would average \$20 each, so that's \$6,000 right there. Right now, I've had to replace my inven-



Above: Diaper bags, purses and backpacks are used by pickers to gather apples from orchards. Some orchards in Ohio, however, are issuing strong paper grocery bags or reinforced garbage bags to customers instead. (photo submitted)

tory, so I went to my Amish friends up north and we got big pumpkins with big handles on them. The pumpkins that thieves stole from me had big handles on all of them."

Dunlap, 85, reported the theft to the Fairfield County Sheriff's office and there is a reward for information leading to arrest of those involved.

Dunlap posted a message on Facebook, asking customers to watch out for people trying to sell a large batch of pumpkins in the area, especially ones with huge handles on them.

And there are other pumpkin pilferers. Puffy's Pumpkin Patch in Circleville reported pumpkins were stolen, as did Madmax Farms in Delaware County.

Thieves are targeting apple orchards, too. At Lynd's Apple Orchard in Pataskala, Ohio, owner Andy Lynd says his orchard has served Licking and adjacent counties for 50 years, but thieves are putting a crimp in his profits.

"Some people have stolen \$400 worth of apples and it's happening almost every weekend," Lynd said. "We've found them in wheel wells of cars, in car trunks under spare tires, under blankets in their back seats under blankets. It's happening so often that now we'll be calling the sheriff's office every time someone tries to steal. The sheriff's office has already recommended charges against two people."

Lynd says he doesn't mind if customers take a taste test while picking apples, as testing a product is always a good idea. But he's also asking customers and staff to report anything they see that's suspicious.

"It costs a lot of money to raise ag-

ricultural crops, apples being one of them," Lynd said. "It requires a lot of investment to get that return to us if people pick and pay for the apples they pick. If theft gets really problematic, then these thieves could force us to sell property or even discourage us from opening the orchards to the public for pick-yourown, and we really don't want to do that. We've just tolerated this theft for several years and we're just kind of tired of it."

Those at Apple Hill Orchard in Mansfield, Ohio, have the same problem with apple stealing. Anne Joudrey, who took over operations of the orchard from her parents this season, has decided to put restrictions on what can and cannot be taken out into the orchard.

"We have to work year-round to grow this crop and make sure that the fruit is well taken care of, but this season more than ever we've worked to keep thieves away," Joudrey said. "Sadly, our rule this year is that we disallow purses, diaper bags, backpacks or anything like that into our orchard when customers are picking. And, we've found that people who come out to the orchards to pick around five or six in the evening are not always the best customers, and they're oftentimes putting apples in the clothes they're wearing."

In Madison County, The Orchard and Company LLC just south of Plain City said it is experiencing an influx of theft at the orchard. The business said last week, in a 30-minute timespan, three different customers were confronted after attempting to leave with more than \$200 worth of apples.

The owners say an increasing number of customers are attempting to pick more apples than will fit in their bag so they dump the extras on the ground to avoid paying for them. Once on the ground the apples are no longer able to be sold.





Ohio Farm Bureau county organization director writes book

By Mike Tanchevski **Ohio Correspondent**

PIKE COUNTY, Ohio - Kim Harless, senior organization director of the Pike County Farm Bureau, promotes her book, "The Life of a Real Farmer," to teach children where their food comes from and highlight real Pike County farmers' lives.

The book offers a glimpse of what it's like to balance life as a farmer with the realities of working off the farm.

"The purpose behind it is to let the community people know that maybe the person driving your school bus is also a farmer," Harness said.

USDA data from 2023 estimates that 96 percent of farm households earned income from off-the-farm sources. Working off the farm is not always about income.

"Many of our farmers or their spouses have to work off the farm so they can get their health insurance through their job; that is one of the biggest driving factors for our area," Harless said.

What began as an inspired dream in the early hours of 2023 evolved into a community project, uniting Pike County around agricultural literacy.

Harless remembers waking up early one morning with an idea so exciting that she emailed her secretary at 3:30 a.m. "She's like, what is wrong with you?" she said.

"I said I just can't shake this, I just have a good feeling about it, and I know this county can do it."

Harless brought the idea to the Pike County Farm Bureau Board in 2024, and they liked it.

When considering content for the book, Harless wanted to feature each board member, along with various farms in the county. "We focused on our board members first, and then we

started thinking we wanted to focus on a variety of different related commodities," she said.

The 39-page book features photographs and text that emphasize farming and educational backgrounds, as well as off-farm jobs. "We want to show that the majority of people around our area aren't big enough to just be fulltime farmers, but that's okay because they can drive a bus or work at the auditor's office - that still allows them to do what they love."

The book opens with an introduction about the author and an acknowledgment of every board member who contributed. Each board member received a uniform for their portraits, uploaded their favorite farm photos, and wrote their own family farm histories. Harless collected, edited, and turned those personal stories and photos into the

Two pages are dedicated to each board member or farm family, telling their unique stories. "Each family or individual selected what aspects of their story they wanted to highlight, and we worked together to edit and refine each narrative," Harless said.

The book was a collaborative effort, involving multiple rounds of revisions with the staff at Ohio Farm Bureau's Heart Magazine. "Their feedback and support were invaluable as we shaped the final version," Harless said.

Board members and featured farmers were encouraged to take their time selecting photos they were happy with before submitting photographs for the book. Submissions were due by the end of October 2024. "I gave that deadline and said we need to have everything in so I can start on the writing, the editing, and getting everything sent to Ohio Farm Bureau," Harless said.

A financial boost came when the

team secured a \$5,000 grant from the Pike County, and while there are as-Ohio Farm Bureau Foundation. "We're a small county with limited funds, but we were all in on this book," Harless said. The agricultural literacy grant green-lighted the project. By January, the team was finalizing the edits: in February, printing began, to have the books ready for March's "Right to Read" week.

This past spring, volunteers visited every elementary school in Pike County, reading the book to approximately 1,100 students and donating copies to both classrooms and libraries throughout the county.

The book's reach extended even further when it was tied into ag career connections, with volunteers reading to older students and linking the stories to real-life agricultural careers.

In May, every Pike County third grader who attended the Ag Day free field trip received a copy of the book. A total of 389 books were distributed in a single day.

While the book's content and pictures are best suited for elementary students, older children, and adults have also enjoyed it. The book's popularity has grown through social media and community events, with all proceeds from book sales going directly to the Pike County Farm Bureau Youth Fund, which provides scholarships and supports youth programming.

Recognition has followed, including an award for community partnership from Nationwide Insurance and special acknowledgment from the American Farm Bureau president. "We sent a copy of the book to our American Farm Bureau president, Zippy Duvall, and when some of my coworkers were visiting DC, they actually took a picture of the book on his desk," Harless said.

The project sparked interest beyond



Above: Hardback and softback copies of "The Life of a Real Farmer," by Kim Harless, senior organization director of the Pike County Farm Bureau.

pirations to distribute the book statewide, logistical and publishing challenges remain. "We haven't tried it on Amazon or anything like that - because you have to go through all this stuff - but I'd love to get it out statewide," Harless said.

Plans are underway for future educational materials, including agriculture-themed activity sheets for local restaurants and a six-page activity booklet for children. "We talked about doing a series, but we don't want to do it back-to-back, so this year we're doing an activity sheet," Harless said. The activity sheets will highlight Pike County's agricultural facts and statistics about Ohio agriculture.





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Kentucky State University launches its first-ever Tractor School

By DOUG SCHMITZ **lowa Correspondent**

FRANKFORT, Ky. - Kentucky State University (KSU) launched its first-ever Tractor School this past August at the Harold R. Benson Research and Demonstration Farm, a three-day training session that gave beginning farmers hands-on experience in tractor operation, maintenance and mechanized production practices essential for scaling up production, officials said.

The project, called "Farming for Cash: A Training Program Leading to Farm Ownership," was funded in 2024 by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture through the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program.

"Many new farmers come from non-farming backgrounds and start small," said Siddhartha Dasgupta, KSU professor and associate research director for the land grant program in the College of Agriculture, Health, and Natural Resources, who serves as project director. "As they grow, they need to mechanize to compete in wholesale markets. Tractor School gave them the confidence and knowledge to take that critical next step."

He told Farm World he developed the Tractor School concept at KSU after more than a decade of training beginning farmers.

"Many of the individuals we worked with were not from traditional farm families, where even children grow up learning how to use tractors," he said. "Some of our student farmers were completely new to agriculture, while others came from nations where mechanized farming is not common."

He said he also created the Tractor School because beginning farmers were finding it increasingly difficult to sell in



Above: James Howard, Kentucky State University (KSU) extension assistant, (right, on tractor) teaches tractor operation to student farmers (pictured left) from Africa, Asia and the United States, during KSU's first-ever Tractor School in August. (courtesy of Kentucky State University)

direct-to-consumer markets, such as farmers markets.

"These outlets, which cater to smallscale or backyard growers, were becoming saturated with existing vendors," he said. "To find new sales outlets, such as restaurants, grocery stores and produce auctions, farmers needed to scale up production to 2 to 5 acres. For producers with limited labor, mechanization is an essential part of both production and marketing success. Tractor School was designed to be that vital link in their agricultural training."

During the training, he said farmers learned how to safely operate tractors, manage gears and hydraulics, and engage the power-take-off.

He said they also learned how to use the three-point hitch, well as practice routine maintenance such as oil changes and fluid checks, then applied their skills in the field.

"In the first Tractor School at Kentucky State, we engaged farmers who are operating small farms across Kentucky, including some urban growers," he said. "Most had been relying on tillers as their primary mechanized equipment."

He said many participants especially appreciated learning how to use KSU's old Ford tractor in combination with implements such as a moldboard plow (a piece of farm equipment with a curved metal plate - the moldboard - that slices, lifts and inverts the soil, burying crop residue and weeds), and a plastic mulch layer (an agricultural implement used to automatically apply plastic sheeting, known as plastic mulch, to the soil), "because their goal is to farm larger tracts of land."

He added, "The urban growers were excited to work with our walk-behind tractor equipment, where we taught them to use rotary plows, cultivators, a plastic mulch layer, and even a potato seeder and harvester."

This first-ever Tractor School also included a presentation on small-scale grain and oilseed production from KSU Agronomist Anuj Chiluwal, where he noted the rising demand for specialty organic grains among bakeries and feed mills. Organizers said future training could include demonstrations with small-scale harvesting equipment such as combines, reapers and threshers to meet this emerging interest.

Marcus Bernard, KSU dean of the College of Agriculture, Health, and Natural Resources and director of the land grant program, said participants in the first session included farmers from Louisville, African immigrant farmers in Fayette County, and a farmer from Nepal in

"Based on evaluations, all participants found the experience enjoyable and valuable," he said. "Several commented that three days were not enough, and they encouraged us to extend future sessions. Those who drove a tractor for the first time in their lives said the training brought them one step closer to realizing their dream of farming larger properties."

Plans are now being made to expand the Tractor School into a five-day program in 2026, opening the opportunity to more beginning farmers from across the state, and beyond, he said.

"Kentucky State is committed to supporting beginning farmers with the tools and training they need to succeed," Bernard said. "Our work is meant to be impactful, improving lives and strengthening the health of our communities. Tractor School is another way the university is helping producers grow their businesses, support their families, and contribute to a stronger Kentucky."

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Government shutdown means less information for markets, producers

MIELKE MARKET

WEEKLY

By Lee Mielke

The government shutdown has resulted in the loss of this month's Dairy Products report, the US Dairy Trade report, the World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE), this week's Crop Progress and Crop reports, among many others, which means less for the markets to feed on and less to report on.

Last month, you'll recall the Agriculture Department raised its estimate of 2025 and 2026 milk output for the seventh month in a row in its WASDE report. I suspect this month's issue would have echoed much of the same.

"Dairy margins were relatively flat over the second half of September as milk prices stabilized following steep losses over the past six weeks," according to last week's Margin Watch (MW) from Chicago-based Commodity and Ingredient Hedging LLC.

"Dairy product prices may be finding value at current levels although concerns remain over demand not keeping up with increased production," the MW warned.

"USDA's monthly Milk Production report showed August output totaled 19.52 billion pounds, up 3.2 percent from last year and the eighth consecutive month of year-over-year increases. Milk output through the first eight months of this year is now 2.1 percent higher than during the same period in 2024."

USDA also revised July's production estimate higher to reflect a 4.2 percent increase from last year, 0.8 percent above the initial estimate. The increase was due to an upward revision in cow numbers and milk yields. USDA added 25,000 cows to its initial July estimate, with the August figure pegged up another 10,000 from July to

9.52 million head which is 176,000 higher than last year and the largest herd size since 1993. August milk yields rose 1.3 percent from last year also to 2,050 pounds per cow as cheaper feed costs helped to boost productivity.

"USDA's Cold Storage report showed butter inventories at the end of August totaled 305.858 million pounds, down 7.7 percent from July and 5.7 percent below last year. The decline was more modest than

the typical drawdown between July and August. Total cheese inventories of 1.42 billion pounds were up 1.7 percent from last year and down 0.8 percent from July. American cheese stocks of 818.182 million pounds were up 3.1 percent from last year though and 0.6 percent above July as they increased more than other varieties," the MW concluded.

Speaking of cow numbers; Reuters reported this week that Mexico's agriculture ministry has confirmed another case of screwworm, this time in Nuevo Leon, which borders the U.S., "marking the state's second case in about two weeks."

Dairy prices in Chicago weakened this week. The 40-pound Cheddar blocks fell to \$1.7350 per pound Tuesday, but were trading Thursday morning at \$1.76, after closing Friday at \$1.79, highest CME price since Aug. 26.

The 500-pound barrels fell to \$1.74 per pound Tuesday and were holding there Thursday, following a Friday finish at \$1.77, highest since Sept. 3.

Eyes are on Europe where cheese prices are dropping to compete with the U.S. Dairy Market News reports that Central region milk production is steady but remains up from previous months. Class I purchases are strong. However, downtime at some cheese plants in the region added some spot volume. Contacts were moving some loads to other regions where inventories are tighter, according to DMN. Mid-week

Class III spot prices ranged

flat to \$3 over. Cheese pro-

duction is strong, despite downtime at some plants reducing their schedules. Last week's increase in CME cheese prices contributed to an uptick in demand for bulk cheese, says DMN. Retail cheese sales are steady to higher but remain light over-

all and food service sales are light. Strengthening milk production in the West is providing plenty for cheese vats. Cheese production was steady to stronger. Cheese producers noted mixed availability of loads for spot buyers this week. Some report production is largely obligated to contractual sales. Distributors and traders convey that mozzarella is somewhat tight, but other varietal cheese is widely available. Domestic demand is flat. The retail sector continues to be more robust than food service. Export demand varies from somewhat weaker to somewhat stronger, according to DMN.

After rising 3 cents last week, CME butter saw daily declines this week and fell to \$1.6025 per pound Thursday, lowest since Feb. 26, 2021's \$1.47. It closed Friday at \$1.75.

Milk output and component levels are strong in the Central region, says DMN, and there's plenty of cream available. Demand is steady to light.

Butter makers are utilizing internal cream for production rather than turning to the spot market. Churns are generally active in the region, but some plants scheduled downtime this week. Domestic butter demand was light. Retail sales are picking up but remain below some expectations. Spot loads of 80 percent butterfat butter are available, but strong export demand is keeping inventories of 82 percent product tight, says DMN.

Seasonally strengthening milk production and fat components were adding to already adequate cream availability in the West. Cream demand from butter makers was mixed and multiples were unchanged through Wednesday. Butter production was lighter to somewhat stronger. Plant managers convey some unplanned downtime, mostly due to equipment maintenance. Some butter manufacturers indicate that inventories are decreasing. However, more than ample loads of salted and unsalted product is available. Retail demand is steady to stronger and ahead of food service sales. Export demand is strong, says DMN.

Grade A nonfat dry milk closed Thursday morning at \$1.1350 per pound, following a Friday close at \$1.16.

HighGround Dairy's "Monday Morning Huddle" stated: "The U.S. is not the only place with milk flowing; New Zealand's season-to-date milk solids collections are up 4.2 percent, providing plenty of dairy commodity output. As such, Fonterra has increased its GDT whole milk powder offer volumes by 10,000 metric tons which will be al-

(Mielke continued on page 8B)



Tennessee Department of Agriculture awards specialty crop block grants

NASHVILLE - The Tennessee Department of Agriculture (TDA) has awarded \$567,424 to support 11 projects through the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBGP). These investments will enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops across the state by funding research, marketing, and educational initiatives that benefit Tennessee farmers, producers, and consumers.

"Tennessee's specialty crops from strawberries and hops to lavender and mushrooms-are vital to our economy, our communities, and our way of life," Agriculture Commissioner Andy Holt said. "We are proud to support innovative projects that address today's challenges and open new opportunities for our farmers and agribusinesses."

Specialty crops are defined as fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, and nursery crops, including floriculture. The

program is administered by TDA's nine research initiatives, one ed-Business Development Division and is funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Awardees and their projects are as follows.

Serenity Springs Lavender Farm hosting a Northeast Tennessee Farm Trail Weekend to highlight lavender farming and agritourism

Tennessee State University - advancing pest and crop management through projects on cucurbits, shiitake mushrooms, woody crops, Japanese beetle control, and AI-driven precision agriculture

University of Memphis - using aerial technology to detect fruit orchard diseases early in West Tennessee

University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture - combating spotted lanternfly, expanding hop and strawberry production and marketing, and creating a mobile-friendly Southeastern Vegetable Crop Handbook

Together, these projects represent

ucation and outreach project, and one marketing project, all designed to improve the competitiveness and long-term success of Tennessee's specialty crop industry.

For more information about the

Specialty Crop Block Grant Program and other business development opportunities, visit www.tn.gov/agriculture/businesses/business-development.html.

PLEASANT & SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIPS

AUCTION LOCATION: Clark County Fairgrounds, APBA Arts Building, 4401 S. Charleston Pike, Springfield, OH.

<u>LOCATION</u>: Property next to 3003 Vernon Asbury Road. From Catawba go north on Rt. 54 to left on Neer Road, to left on Vernon Asbury Road. Property on left. (Watch for signs)

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Westmorland Farm LLC, Owner

PREVIEWS: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28 3 TO 5 P.M. **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8 10 AM TO 12 NOON**





FROM PAGE 7B

Mielke

located at events from October to February."

The Daily Dairy Report's Sarina Sharp wrote in the Oct. 3 Milk Producers Council newsletter, "Immense demand for high-protein products is using up much of the whey stream, but as cheese production climbs, manufacturers will have to dry more and more whey into powder. Thankfully, whey exports are decent."

U.S. dairy cows are producing a lot more milk right now that is high in butterfat and protein, which is what U.S. dairy farmers are striving for. But, that's causing some problems for dairy processors, according to a new

report from CoBank.

Lead dairy economist Corey Geiger reported in the Oct. 13 Dairy Radio Now broadcast that the issue came to light especially in June, July, and August when butterfat was up over 5 percent from year ago levels. With half of U.S. milk going into cheese, the protein to fat ratio is off and in processing circles, they want a protein to fat ratio closer to .80 or slightly higher, says Geiger. Anything significantly lower than that can reduce cheese quality and compromise production yields.

Protein is the foundation for cheese, he said, especially mozzarella, and processors always had to pull butterfat off to make it or other Italian styles, but now even Cheddar, Colby, and Pepper Jack producers need to pull butterfat or else add milk protein concentrate to the milk to raise the protein content.

AUCTIO WITH IMPROVEMEN JACKSON TWP, CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, OH **60.15 ACRES TILLABLE**

AUCTION LOCATION: Champaign County Fairgrounds, 384 Park Ave., Urbana, OH at the Michael's Building.

LOCATION: 1 mile south of Christiansburg at 5782 N. Addison-New Carlisle Road, Casstown, OH, Follow signs off Rt. 55 and Rt. 235 to property.

RECREATIONAL/LIFESTYLE FARM OPPORTUNIT

BUY ANY INDIVIDUAL TRACT, SELLING IN 4 TRACTS COMBINATION OR WHOLE PROPERTY TRACTS RANGING FROM 5.6 AC TO 54.48 AC

TRACT #1: 5.68 acres. 2 story Colonial brick home with 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. Outbuildings: 100x26 hog barn, 70x30 flat barn, 40x34 open sided pole barn, & 48x34 flat barn. 751.68' frontage on N. Addison New Carlisle Road.

TRACT #2: 54.48 acres with 50.65+/- acres tillable. 905.09' frontage on N. Addison New Carlisle Road & 1189.52' frontage on Drake Road. 34% Kokomo; 11% Brookston; Miamian. Crosby & Miami soils as well.

TRACT #3: 15.26 acres recreational lifestyle farm opportunity with 6.5+/- acres tillable. 635.19' frontage on N. Addison New Carlisle Road. Woods.

TRACT #4: 15.89 acres recreational lifestyle farm with 3+/- acres tillable. 1159.67 frontage on N. Addison New Carlisle Road. Woods.

PREVIEWS: TUESDAYS, OCT. 14 & 28, 4 TO 6 PM **SATURDAY, OCT. 25, 10AM TO NOON** OR BY APPOINTMENT

FOR DETAILED BROCHURE WITH TERMS & CONDITIONS, CALL 800-450-3440 or www.wilnat.com

> Estate of Gerald E. Volk & Roberta Volk **Revocable Living Trust, Roberta Volk Trustee**



A REAL ESTATE & AUCTION GROUP

Mark Wilson, Auctioneer | Brandon Wilson, Auctioneer

TAYLOR TWP, UNION COUNTY, OH SELLING IN 8 TRACTS TRACTS RANGING FROM 12 ACRES TO 170 ACRES

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Life Center, 1033 W. 5th Street, AUCTION LOCATION: Marvsville, OH

LOCATION: 22132 SR 31, Marysville, OH. Approximately 5.5 miles north of Marysville on SR 31. (Watch for signs)

2 MODERN HOMES WITH OUTBUILDINGS SMALL ACREAGE LIFESTYLE FARM TRACTS

TRACT #1: 60 acres with 50 acres tillable. 1155' frontage on SR 31, 2059' frontage on Wheeler Green Road. Blount, Pewarmo & Glynwood soils.

TRACT #2: 170 acres with 156 acres tillable. 1655' frontage on SR 31. Wetzel, Blount, Pewamo, & Glynwood soils.

TRACT #3: 19 acres. Modern 4 bedroom brick ranch home with 3 acres of open land and 16 acres wooded with lots of wildlife.

TRACT #4: 5 acres. Older 1-1/2 story home in very good condition with 4 bedrooms, 1577 sq. ft. Large HIP roof barn, Quonset building & shop. Grain bins will be removed from the farm, along with the metal around the old feedlot.

TRACT #5: 19.9 acres vacant land with 16 acres tillable. Corner location with 817' front-

age on SR 31 & 595' frontage on Wheeler Green Road. **TRACT #6:** 12.5 acre building site with approx. 8 acres tillable, 4 acres non-tillable.

TRACT #7: 13 acres nearly all tillable with 570' frontage on Wheeler Green Road. TRACT #8: 15.2 acres nearly all tillable with 600' frontage on Wheeler Green Road.

SMALL ACREAGE BUILDING SITES ADJOINS TRACT 2

Turkey Run Inc., Owners

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 15 4 TO 6 P.M. SATURDAYS, OCT. 18 & **NOV. 1 - 10 AM TO 12 NOON** OR BY APPOINTMENT

PREVIEWS:













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Mark Wilson, Auctioneer | Brandon Wilson, Auctioneer

Land Auction - Vermilion County, IL 222.61 +/- Acres Highly Productive Farmland

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Thursday, November 6 – 10 AM Central

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ONLINE AUCTION ENDS OCTOBER 29

ADDRESS: 1743 IN-135 SW, Corydon, IN 47112 LOCATION: Just 3 miles S of Corydon or 12 miles N of Brandenburg KY! (NEW Beckort Auctions Showroom!)

OPEN HOUSE: Monday October 27, 3-5 PM

AUCTION INFO: Bid your price on 235+ QUALITY modern & vintage firearms. Highlights include: 60+ handguns, 80+ rifles, 50+ shotguns, 100+ lots of ammo, knives, archery, & related items. Visit beckortauctions.com for complete catalog & auction details!



LICENSE #AU19800105



OFFERED IN 6 TRACTS · COMBINATION BIDDING · CUSTOM 2001 BUILT 4BR/3.5BA HOME

ONLINE AUCTION ENDS NOVEMBER 5 ADDRESS: 9375 West Dohoney Rd Fredericksburg, IN 47120

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REAL ESTATE INFO: Discover a rare opportunity to own 189 +/- picturesque contiguous acres in Washington County, featuring two nomes and offered in six versatile tracts. Formerly a thriving well-designed cattle operation, this outstanding property boasts expansive pastures, automatic waterers, and ample space for livestock. The main house exudes country charm with its inviting wraparound porch and well-maintained, welcoming interior. Whether you envision productive farmland, lush pasture, or a stunning rural homesite, the possibilities here are endless. Tracts range from 2 +/- acres to 64 +/- acres and can be purchased individually or combined to suit your needs

[RACT #1: 6.02 +/- acres and 2001 built custom 1.5 story country home & adjoins Tract 2 & Tract 3. House: 2436 +/- total SF above ground, 1218 +/- SF basement, 4BR/3.5BA, covered wrap around porch, attached 2-car garage, & NEW carpet/paint throughout home! Outside: 30x60 metal sided garage/shop.

TRACT #2: 44.61 +/- acres; both open & wooded acreage; & adjoins Tracts 1, 3, & 6.

TRACT #3: 32.36 +/- acres; mainly open acreage; & adjoins Tract 1 & 2.

TRACT #4: 64.07 +/- acres; well-designed livestock facility; open acreage; marketable timber; & adjoins Tract 5 & Tract 6. Improvements: 5300+ SF open sided hay/machinery building; 4600+ SF livestock loafing shed; & 7 livestock waterers.

FRACT #5: 2 +/- acres with 1994 built modular home & adjoins Tract 4. House: 2099 SF, 3BR/2BA, & open floor plan. Outside: detached 1024 SF garage, large 2600+ SF metal sided shop/machinery, & grain bin.

TRACT #6: 40 +/- acres; amazing views across valley with outstanding building sites; mainly open acreage with scattered trees.

Auctions 110

OPEN HOUSE/INSPECTION: Thurs Oct 16 3-5 & Thurs Oct 30 3-5 PM





Make sure someone on the farm has some knowledge of machinery

Several months ago, I mentioned a dairy in the northern part of the thumb of Michigan in their third year of litigation with their local dealership - a local dealership that had been purchased by a dealership group in Kentucky. That same dairy is now in the 4th year of litigation and finally, yes finally, received permission from the court to take the tractor apart and see what the problem

It's important to know that after spending tens of thousands of dollars to have this tractor repaired it was returned to the dairy, repaired but inoperable. Inoperable because it had a terrible noise coming from the rearend. The dealership declined to take it back and fix it right, refused to refund the dairy's money, and has legally denied any responsibility since.

As the legal process has snailed along, frivolous arguments have been made as to why the tractor couldn't be taken apart (to find out what's wrong with it), and the dairy has been forced to put four seasons of crops in without their workhorse. With all the problems facing today's farmers, it seems to me that the one place we shouldn't have to worry about is the service we receive from equipment dealerships we have worked with for decades.

I have long advocated that someone on your farm must have a working knowledge of your equipment and general equipment repair. Fifty plus years ago, we learned it in Vo-Ag class in high school. Today, I'm not sure where we expect our kids to learn it. Granted, our children's expertise with video games will probably be helpful as our farms trend toward AI but someone will always have to deal with the mechanics required of all the different equipment we have.

More importantly, our equipment manufacturers must do two things, hold the dealerships to the standard of service necessary to keep us operating, and help the dealerships find a new way to absorb

55 YEARS AND **COUNTING FROM THE** TRACTOR SEAT BY BILL WHITMAN

the expense of unprofitable years other than putting it on the backs of farmers. This has reached a critical stage in agriculture and requires attention immediately. I see all sorts of advertising being done talking about manufacturers being team members with our farms, but I see few examples.

I was talking with an attorney recently who was explaining the legal process of litigation to me. My comment in return is that farmers are a different breed. First, we want honesty, and secondly, we expect people to do what they are paid to do. I hear all the time businesspeople saying that agriculture must conform to the new American models of agri-business. I've heard this as related to risk management being applied to feedyards, dairies, ranches and grain farms. I can accept, even embracing the concept but it cannot be so rigid that adjustments can't be made in times of emergencies.

Wondering what the forensic engineers and mechanics found in the dairy's tractor? Pinion shaft was shattered, two gears for a different model tractor were installed, and oops, a 12-inch punch was left in the rearend sump. What upsets me the most is not that mistakes were made. What upsets me is that a dealership used a lawsuit to delay accepting responsibility while a good and loyal (to the manufacture) dairy had to rob Peter and pay Paul just to last long enough to see justice served. I might add that in this case, the owner is fighting

Horse Sense: Good thing my horse is smarter than I am. Wouldn't be alive today if he wasn't.

IndianaAg@bluemarble.net

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- Online Only

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Travelers discover flint chips, broken spear point from earlier era

On the next day of our canoe trip from Moscow to Columbus, we stopped early in the afternoon and put up camp at the top of a huge gravel bar on a large island.

While Steve gathered firewood for a campfire, I set about catching the main course for our evening dinner.

My light spin cast rod tipped with a small crawdad0colored Mepps spinner soon put a couple 1 ½ pound smallmouth on the bank. Using one of our paddles for a fillet board, they were quickly turned into boneless fillets. Teamed with fried potatoes in an iron skillet, it made for a memorable meal.

During the day's run on Big Flatrock, we came to an interesting feature on the river. Below a swift run and alongside a large quiet pool, there was a large outcropping of limestone on the east side of the river. It was about four feet above the river and formed a large natural platform. From the limestone cliff on the backside of the platform, there was a spring of water at waist height coming from the rocks and squirting out onto the platform... not unlike water spewing from a garden hose.

We could see two ancient pathways from either side of the platform leading up the steep hillside. Following one of the pathways, we came to an open farm field. At our feet were several flint chips and a broken spear point. Looks like the ancient ones took advantage of the clear spring for many years.

We weren't the first to travel this way!

Reserved hunt applications for December Gamebird Areas and Indiana Private **Land hunts**

Hunters can now apply for Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) reserved hunts at GoOutdoorsIN.com. Reserved hunts included in this round include December Gamebird Areas and Indiana Private Lands Access (IPLA) hunts.

The online application method is the only way to apply for the hunts listed. No late entries will be accepted. Applicants must possess a hunting license valid for the hunt for which they apply. A \$1 tech fee is charged for each hunt application purchased.

Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. ET on Oct. 29. A complete list of hunts available is at on.IN.gov/ reservedhunt.

In December 2024 a new license system, the Activity Hub, replaced the former system. To purchase a license or apply for a reserved hunt, follow the instructions below. Allow yourself plenty of time to log in and learn how the system works.

Click the login button on the home page of GoOutdoorsIN. com. From there, you will be taken to Access Indiana, where you will be required to log in or create an account. Once logged in through Access Indiana, you will automatically be directed back to the Activity Hub. From there, you will SPAULDING OUTDOORS be able to purchase a license By Jack Spaulding and apply for reserved hunts. Note: If it's your first time using the Activity Hub, you will need to look yourself up in the system and verify or

correct your personal information. Hunters at each participating property will be selected through random computerized draws and will be able to view results at GoOutdoorsIN.com. An email will be sent to all applicants when the drawings have been completed.

Reserved hunts in this application period include:

December Gamebird Area (GBA) Hunts in Benton, Jasper, Newton, Warren and White counties. Hunters may choose from a variety of hunt dates in December. The hunts are not put/take pheasant hunts.

IPLA hunts for deer muzzleloader/archery in LaPorte, Cass, Sullivan, Scott, Harrison and Bartholomew counties.

IPLA hunts for waterfowl in DeKalb. Sullivan and Batholomew counties.

IPLA hunts for small game in Scott, Sullivan, DeKalb, Noble, Stueben, Green and Pike counties.

B&O Trail Extension opens

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR), B&O Trail Association (BOTA), and Speedway Trails Association (STA) celebrated the opening of B&O Trail extensions Oct. 8 with a ribbon cutting. The event was held at the trail access point near Chapel Rock Christian Church in Indianapolis.

"Trails are about more than just miles and pavement - they make vital connections between people, communities, and the great outdoors," said Alan Morrison, DNR director. "This new connection through the B&O Trail provides a great way to gain exercise and experience the benefits of Indiana's growing trail system, which is why DNR has provided support for this trail's construction all along the way."

More than 6.1 miles of asphalt multiuse trail was constructed by BOTA and STA with help from two trail grants totaling \$9,166,100, administered by the DNR. The projects filled critical gaps within the B&O Trail and extend-

ed it on both sides, creating a long, continuous trail for Hoosiers and visitors to use and enjoy.

BOTA is a nonprofit, all-volunteer organization formed in 1993 to create a recreational trail along the abandoned B&O Railroad corridor. It completed 8.2 miles of paved trail in Hendricks County and is finalizing completion of a new

trailhead at County Road 500E just west of Brownsburg.

STA, established in 2007, had previously constructed 3 miles of trail on the west side of Indianapolis, running from Michigan Street to High School Road. With the addition, the B&O Trail encompasses 8 miles in Marion Coun-

"This marks the realization of a vision we've worked toward for decades - closing the gap and connecting communities along the B&O Trail," said Jeff Smallwood, BOTA president. "This new section links Speedway with Hendricks County and brings us one step closer to a continuous trail from the White River in downtown Indianapolis to west of the Wabash River."

Bev Katterhenry, spokesperson for the STA, added, "Completion of this 3-mile gap allows the B&O Trail in Speedway to fully connect to the Hendricks County portion. The result is nearly 17 miles of continuous trail that links the Indianapolis Cultural Trail through Speedway and into central Hendricks County.'

'till next time,

Jack

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

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



WED. NOVEMBER 5TH, 4 PM - 6 PM ET

ONLINE at halderman.com

178.124+/-ACRES • 5 TRACTS • RANDOLPH CO, IN

PROPERTY LOCATION: Approximately 4 miles southeast of Winchester, IN near 4800 E 100 S, Union City, IN 47390 in Wayne Township, Randolph County.

Chris Peacock: 765.546.0592 | Lauren Peacock: 765.546.7359





LARRY MOSER ONLINE ONLY PERSONAL PROPERTY ESTATE AUCTION

Melsmitleyauctions.com

Bidding Opens: October 13, 2025

Ends: October 26, 2025 with a soft close at 6:00 PM

LOCATION: 7851 W. 400 N., PENNVILLE, IN 47369

PREVIEW DATES: Oct. 22, 2025, 4:00 PM-7:00 PM & Oct. 25, 2025, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM

TRUCK - TRACTOR - SKID LOADER EQUIPMENT - TRAILERS 2022 Dodge Ram 2500 Laramie (4x4, Diesel;

10,3xx mi, 1 owner); 2015 Sure-Trac Tilt Trailer; 2018 Force 6.5x12 Utility Trailer w/ramp; 2015 JD 5115M s/n 1LV5115MAFJ741366 w/H310 Loader, sells w/85" material bucket, bale spear sold sep, 1 Owner, MFWD, Prem cab, 16 speed

w/Powr Reverser, 599 hrs.; JD 709 rotary cutter, 7'; 2011 JD 318D Skid loader, s/n 1T0318D-BEA0194401, hand controls, two speed, power quick attach, 72" utility bucket, 467 hrs.; skid steer bale spear, skid steer pallet forks 48"; Woods GSM84 Grader; Yard Tool 25 Ton Log Splitter; Old Tiller; (3) hay wagons, (1 w/hoist); LP Tank; Fuel tank, 500 gal. w/pump; Craftsman Snowblower, walk-behind,

8 hp, 27", elect. start.
FIREARMS – AMMO

J Stevens Shot 22 cal.; Sears
Roebuck/Ted Williams Model 340 Lever Action 22 cal.; W. Richards 12 g Shotgun double hammer; White powder 12 g Single shot; Thompson Center Black Powder 50 cal. Muzzle-loader; Ardesa 54 cal. Muzzle-loader; Winchester Model 1890 22 cal. (reconditioned); Winchester Model 06

Pump 22 (reconditioned); Win-

chester Model 67; Winchester

1894 Cowboy Commemorative



30/30 lever action; Winchester Model 37 20 g; LLP Bull's-eye 22 Single Shot; High Standard 22 Revolver Pistol; Colt Model Cowboy 45 Cal. Revolver; Replica Arms Model 1861 Officer 36 cal. Revolver (black powder); Ruger New Model Blackhawk 357 Magnum; Ruger Old Army Black Powder 45/44 Magnum Revolver; Ardesa Spain 50 cal. Black Powder Muzzle-loading Pistol; Var-

> HOUSEHOLD - TOOLS **COLLECTIBLES**

Toy farm equip.; Rocker; Dresser; Gun Cabinet; Collectibles; Primitives; Crocks; heads; Pins/Award Geneva; Vint. Scout Patches; Belt buckles; Jewelry (few turquoise); Ant. Ice Chest; Cast-Iron Skillets; Dinner Bell; Whiskey Barrel; Lg. Trading Post Sign; lanterns; Adv. Cans; Deer Horns; (3) Lg portable barn fans; Saddles (1-Oliver); Horse equip; Various Gates; JD sign; Halters/ feed pans; Various feeders; Water Tanks; Fishing equip; Canoes; Stihl Chain saws; Stihl weed eater; Generac GP6500 Generator; Wrenches/Sockets; Pressure washer; Nails, Bolts, Screws, etc.; Ladders; Band saw; Table saw; Yard tools, Old Comics, Stereoscope w/cards; Older baseball cards; Portland & Geneva yearbooks: Portland HS sweater and lots more not

OWNER: Larry Moser, Deceased (Jennifer Gray, Representative) See website for terms, conditions, catalog and bidding instructions. Melsmitleyauctions.com • Auctionzip #11389

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STRIKE FAMILY COUNTRY AUCTION SAT., OCTOBER 25th, 2025 @ 10:00 AM 529 Brower Rd., EATON, OHIO 45320

Live on-site Auction with Pre-Bidding at walnutharvestauctions.hibid.com or walnutharvestauctions.com All pre-bids will be used during the live portion of the Auction!

Several Items Un-listed & Un-cataloged Fantastic Auction of Antiques ~ Furniture ~ Collectibles ~ Large Amount of Silver Coinage ~ Large Collection of Farm Toys & Dolls (most nib)

Older Horse-drawn Farm Equipment Early Wooden Church Bench & Granite Ware from Lower Twin Meeting House Galv. Chicken Feeders ~ Crock Watering Bowls ~ Wooden Crates

AUTOMOBILES ARE IN RUNNING CONDI- proved checks, or credit card with a 3.5% con-TION: 2014 Dodge Caravan-69,844 Miles &

2003 Ford F350 XLT 4x4 Super Duty Pickup w/7.3L Diesel Eng. 2004 Chevy 3500 Series 12 Passenger Van-

234,534 Miles & 6.0 Eng. 2001 Ford F250 XLT 4x4 Super Duty Pickup Truck w/Diesel Eng. 273,308 Miles

Troy-Bilt Horse Tiller ~ 9-Crates of Seasoned Firewood (can load day of Auction)

venience fee.

• All online purchases are subject to a buyer's premium. Not responsible for 3rd party internet service of lagged bidding.

Online purchases exceeding \$100.00 must

be paid by wire transfer by the end of the next business day. We have been scammed by credit card scammers!

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• Coins has been removed from premises & will Payment methods accepted: Cash, pre-ap- not be on-site until day of Auction.

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Lucky Montoya, Auctioneer & Realtor -937-313-1660

OWNERLAND REALTY



WEEN BRYANT & GENEVA. INDIANA JUST EAST OF US 27 ON ADAMS/JAY CO LINE THURS, OCTOBER 23RD • 6PM Held Live at the Cardinal Hall **OFFERED IN 2 TRACTS** 120 W. Line Street, Geneva, IN 46740 OR AS WHOLE Potential Building Sites · Wooded Recreational Land Excellent Location INSPECTIONS BY APPOINTMENT Owner: Larry J Miller Trust 27 BEAR CRE AU10200074 Andy Wagner 765.748.4509 WagnerAuctionandRealEstate.com

AUCTION

Since having retired I have listed to sell the following farm equipment.

Located at: 5210 W.State Road 250

MADISON, IN 47250 SATURDAY OCTOBER 25, 2025, 10:00am

JD 7800 tractor mfwd, cab, duals, 6700 hrs.; JD 7200 tractor mfwd, cab, 7500hrs.; JD5510 tractor, rear weights, 4320 hrs.; JD4040 tractor, open station, 5000 hrs; JD 310D back hoe, mfwd, cab, extend hoe; JD9500 combine, 4wd, clean; JD 922 grain head; JD 643 corn head; 2 header carts; Case 1845C skid steer, 5600hrs; IH super C tractor, good rubber; JD 4 wheel 6500 sprayer, cab, 60' booms; JD 6000 sprayer; Kinze 3000-6/11 planter, liquid fertilizer, excellent; 6 E-Z Trail 20'flatbed wagons, 4 Killbros 20' flatbed wagons; wagons have treated beds; 4 gravity wagons; Killbros 385 gravity wagon w/seed auger; Chandler fertilizer & lime spreader; IH 496-18' disc; Mechanical 4 row 5000WD transplanter, carousel, 3pt.; IH 4 row cultivators; 3 Big Bubba tobacco balers; 1991 Ford F700 grain Truck, 14' bed w/roll tarp, 55, 000 miles; 2001 Load Trail 20'+5' gooseneck flatbed trailer; 2006 Ponderosa 20' stock trailer; Hudson18' bumper trailer; Kawasaki mule, 4x4; 2001 Chevy 2500 truck, 4x4; 2003 Chevy S-10 truck; Gehl 120 feed grinder; Heston 320 manure spreader; New Holland disc mower; Bush hog 10' hydraulic grader blade; Kewanee 12' cultimulcher; saddle tanks; Ford hay rake; New Holland hay rake; DMC 8"x60' swing around auger; 12' chisel plow; Frontier rear tiller, 3pt.; JD 4-16' semi mount plows; Ford 4-14" semi mount plows; New Idea one row picker, good; water tank; 3-500 gallon fuel tanks w/electric pumps; 2-1500 gallon poly tanks; 2-2500 gallon poly tanks; transfer pumps; garage carts; sandblaster; metal band saw; drill press; bench grinder; draw bars; gates; fence wire and post; file cabinets; tools; plus lots & lots of misc. found around the farm. This is only a partial listing. Check Auctionzip ID#48878 for complete listing and photos.

Note: Due to health issues Mr Konkle has rented his farm out. Almost all equipment has been kept inside!!! Plan to attend, in case of inclement weather all small items will be sold inside. Lunch served by House of Brisket.

Terms: Cash or check with ID.

LEONARD W. KONKLE -OWNER

SMITH & COLEN AUCTIONS

Darrell Smith 812-599-6401 AU01031022 Kris Colen 812-599-3208 AU11400093

Judging cattle shows a way to make enemies

"They stopped judging chickens when they learned to count eggs." – Anonymous

I enjoyed some success on my collegiate livestock judging team so after college I was asked to judge some cattle shows. I was better at judging horses and sheep, but I never did get asked to judge a horse show, which was probably for the best. I'm told that losing halter

horse owners can become quite irate to the point of fingering a firearm in their shoulder holster as an enticement to see things their way. I was a terrible swine judge, and the porkers all looked the same to me. A seasoned and well-traveled swine judge once told me that when explaining his reasons for picking his Grand Champion, he just picked someone in the crowd and described that person with god-like superiority.

The 1970s were a terrible time to be a cattle judge because the industry was in a quandary as to whether it wanted them tall and long or short and dumpy. Oops, the grammar police would have me say "vertically challenged" instead of "short." In high school, I worked on a ranch that once owned an International Grand Champion Angus bull and photos of him show he was belt buckle high to a fourth grader. I called such cattle "belly draggers" because you couldn't see any daylight underneath them.

I really didn't like judging cattle shows because they took up a lot of time, the pay was peanuts and, alas, no one ever tried to bribe me. Plus, you made a lot of enemies. I may be the only person to be banned forever from a county fairgrounds because I rolled a heifer to the bottom that belonged to the daughter of a fair board member. My psyche is fragile enough to begin with, and I really didn't enjoy people hating me.

I was once asked to be a member of a three-person team to judge a breeding show which I wouldn't recommend to anyone seeking to advance their career. One of my fellow judges was a breeder of the breed we were judging, another was an ac-

ademic who spent his time before shows studying the results of prior shows in breed journals so he'd have some idea of what was expected of him. He didn't want to put a Denver Grand Champion fourth in his or her class. Then there was me who primarily served as a referee between the academic and the breeder. In every instance I found them both

to be wrong.

In one show I judged there was a 2-year-old bull I'd seen before. He'd been winning all the shows, but I disliked him very much. So much so that when I judged a class with him in it at the Cow Palace Collegiate Judging Contest, I put him in third place knowing I'd bust the class. The bull was so tall you could drive a Smart Car under him and come out the other side untouched. I'll admit the bull was the longest beast I'd ever seen but my problem with the bull was that he was devoid of muscle. Funny thing, even though I busted the class I got a 50 on my reasons, a perfect score. Still, it cost me several points and I lost winning the entire contest by two points.

A smart person would have just realized who owned the bull and put him on top. In horse judging this is known as "judging the halter," or recognizing the horse's name that was on the brass plate on his halter. A friend told me this frequently happened at cattle shows too and to prove it he once showed the lesser of two heifers he had in a class but was picked first because, he explained, "The judges always assumed I'd be showing my best animal in every class."

For me and the gutless wonder who, to this day, I've never seen in any pedigree, judgment day came when the fraud was sent to slaughter. I'm told they couldn't scrape enough meat off his long bones to produce a decent Quarter Pounder. I felt vindicated at last, but still, I was never asked again to judge another cattle show and for that I will be forever grateful.







As Middle Fall comes closer, ash, locust and hickory trees reach their finest colors

This is when the piercing power and sultry heat of the Sun abate, and gods send autumn rains, and flesh of men and women feels easier. - Hesiod

The Moon in October The Moon is new Oct. 22 The Moon enters its second quarter Oct. 29

The Morning and Evening Stars of October

Venus in Virgo and Mars in Libra are the morning stars. They remain in the daytime sky until evening when they can be seen as the evening stars. Jupiter in Gemini follows Orion across the sky, appearing in the east before dawn.

Meteors in October

The Orionid Meteor Shower will occur in and around Orion in the early morning of Oct. 20-21.

The Weather

The 15th is usually pleasant, with clear to partly cloudy conditions prevailing 80 percent of the days. Rain passes through just one day in four. Highs in the 80s occur 5 percent of the time, 70s 30 percent, 60s 40 percent and 50s 25 percent. Morning lows reach the 30s or 40s half the vears, and frost strikes one to two dawns out of 10.

The Natural Calendar The landscape contains a thousand dials which indicate the son and Second-Bloom of Watercress natural divisions of time.... -Henry David Thoreau

As Early Fall becomes Middle Fall, the ash, locust and hickory trees reach their finest color and then shed suddenly in the cold waves that sweep

> more violently across the Great Plains. When those leaves come down, high mapleturn moves into the Midwest, producing some of the

brightest oranges and scarlets of the season.

New England asters now come to the end of their blooming cycle and asparagus yellows in the garden. A few lance-leaf and zigzag goldenrod still hold on, but the great roadside bloom of tall goldenrod and small white asters gradually withers. Thimble plant heads break apart like milkweed pods, and jumpseed seeds disappear into the undergrowth. The brown seeds of the beggartick plants stick to stockings and pantlegs.

The transition week between Early and Middle Fall is typically associated with Leafdrop Season for locusts, box elders and ashes. It is the last week of Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker Migration Season. It is close to the end of Spider Web Season as Insect Breeding Seasons end in the cold. It is Blackbird Flocking Season, early Leafturn Season for the red maples and black maples, dogwoods, sassafras and persimmons. It is Beggarticks-Stick-To-Your-Stockings SeaSeason, Aster Season, Jerusalem Artichoke Season and Zigzag Goldenrod Season diminish across the woods and fields. Pink Smartweed Season continues to spread through the dooryards and alleys. In the greenhouse, precocious Christmas cacti have entered Christmas Cactus Budding Season.

Journal: The Dials of Scorpio

The landscape contains a thousand dials which indicate the natural divisions of time.... - Henry David Thoreau

The sun's passage from Libra to Scorpio on Oct. 23 tilts the hinge of Middle Autumn and initiates the most dramatic period of leaf fall. Throughout this final stage of the natural year, the landscape becomes fully primed for the new signs and seasons to come.

As the days shorten, the effects of the weakening sun are easily seen in the collapse of almost all the foliage. Smaller changes also offer measure of Scorpio. The low trills of the field crickets become slow then rare then disappear. Goldenrod flowers darken and turn to downy tufts. Pokeweed berries shrivel and fall. Wingstem mediate landscape. turns brittle from the cold. Knotweed withers. Jerusalem artichokes

Offered in 5 Tracts, Any Combination

Tracts Ranging from 8.5 to 68.69± Acres

PRODUCTIVE SOILS

HIGHLY TILLABLE

yellow, stalks collapsing. Dahlias blacken.

The last flocks of migrating robins, blackbirds and herring gulls pass through the Glen. The last sandhill cranes depart their northern nesting grounds in Michigan, the first formations reaching the Yellow Springs sky just days before Sagittarius. The last monarchs sail over the last roses. The last black walnuts and Osage fall. The last raspberry bushes and apple trees give up their fruit. The last autumn violets and dandelions go into dormancy. The last witch hazel blossoms curl in the hard frost.

Milkweed and white snakeroot seeds scatter. Christmas cacti flower and fade. Bittersweet opens. Asian lady beetles take shelter in bark and siding. Glen deer mate in the night. Wings of the hosta droop and melt. Black privet berries and rose hips appear as their foliage thins. Winter wheat sprouts and greens the fields. Skunk cabbage spears push out from the muck at Jacoby, forecasting spring.

As distant and unimaginable as the movements of the firmament seem, so close and tangible and countable are the events of the im-

AUCTION LOCATION: The Country Mansion Dwight, IL **PROPERTY LOCATION:** West of Campus, IL. <u>Tracts 1 & 2</u>: Intersection of 3200 E Rd. & 2700

N Rd. <u>Tract 3</u>: South on 3200 E Rd. <u>Tracts 4 & 5</u>:

INSPECTION DATES:
Fri., Oct. 17 • 2 - 4pm Central
Thurs., Oct. 30 • 2 - 4pm Central
Meet a Schrader Rep at Tract 1 on 3200 E Rd.

Intersection of 3200 E Rd. & 2600 N Rd.

9± miles Southeast of Dwight • 1± mile West/Southwest of Campus

Poor Will's Almanack

By Bill Felker

OCTOBER

20 104.5± ACRES IN 6 TRACTS. Allen County, IN. One Owner Custom Built Home with Pond and Meyer Pole Building • Scenic Building Sites • Nearly 80 Productive Cropland Acres • Great Hunting and Recreation Land. Contact Jerry Ehle 260-410-1996.

21 819± ACRES IN 13 TRACTS. Knox County, IN. Potential Building & Recreational Sites • 670 Cropland Acres • 4 Farms • 15 Miles North of Vincennes, IN • 17 Miles South of Sullivan, IN. Contact Brad Horrall 812-890-8255.

23 115± ACRES IN 4 TRACTS. Henry County, IN. Mixed Use Farm with Pasture, Cropland, and Woods • 109± FSA Cropland Acres • Abundant Wildlife – Established Hay Fields • 2-Story Country Home and Farmstead. Contact Andy Walther 765-969-

23 343± ACRES IN 6 TRACTS. Pike County, OH. Quality Tillable Bottomland Numerous Fenced Fields & Good Pasture • Mature Timber • Multiple Outbuildings • Existing Trail System. Contact Travis Kelley 740-572-1525 or Tommy Brewster 740-357-

27 100.5± ACRES IN 11 TRACTS. Berrien County, MI. 46.78 USDA Tillable • Row Crop Land • Residential • Recreational & Hunting Paradise • 14 miles from South Bend Int. Airport • ½ mile from NW side of Buchanan. Contact Ed Boyer 574-215-7653 or Ted Boyer 574-215-8100.

27 196± ACRES IN 10 TRACTS. DeKalb County, IN. Home w/ Pond & Barns • Productive Tillable Land • Woods for Hunting Potential Building Sites. Contact Jerry Ehle 260-410-1996 or Justin Griffin 260-223-5861.

29 80± ACRES IN 4 TRACTS. Paulding County, OH. 4 Acre Homesite w/ Barns • 14 Acre Potential Building Site • 14 Acres Woods for Hunting & Recreation • 48 Acres Productive Tillable Soils. Contact Jerry Ehle 260-410-1996.

29 98± ACRES IN 5 TRACTS. Grant County, IN. Productive Tillable Land • Woods & Recreation Land • Potential Building Sites. Contact Al Pfister 260-760-8922.

& PERSONAL PROPERTY

OCTOBER

26 PERSONAL PROPERTY - TIMED ON-LINE ONLY. DeKalb County, IN. Contact Stephanie Swinehart 260-433-8117.

NOVEMBER

2 PERSONAL PROPERTY - TIMED **ONLINE ONLY.** Allen County, IN. Contact Mike Roy 260-437-5428.

2 PERSONAL PROPERTY - TIMED ON-**LINE ONLY.** DeKalb County, IN. Contact Stephanie Swinehart 260-433-8117.

3 PERSONAL PROPERTY - TIMED **ONLINE ONLY.** Allen County, IN. Contact Jared Sipe 260-750-1553.

11 PERSONAL PROPERTY - TIMED ON-**LINE ONLY.** <u>DeKalb County, IN</u>. Contact Daniel Days 260-233-1401 or Dean Rummel 260-343-8511.

15 PERSONAL PROPERTY. Whitley County, IN. Contact Ritter Cox 260-609-

DECEMBER

18 FARM EQUIPMENT CONSIGNMENT -VIRTUAL AND TIMED ONLINE. Various Locations. Contact Eric Ott 260-413-0787 or Robert Mishler 260-336-9750 or Mark Schroeder 260-564-0570.

Featured-Farms

DELAWARE CO., IN - 70.63± ACRES. • 70.0± acres • Quality Williamstown, Treaty and Crosby Soils • Gently rolling topography • Located in a top agricultural area • Annual RE taxes approx. \$3,320, Annual Ditch Taxes: \$78.32 • 2026 Crop Rights to the Buyer. Call Mark Smithson 765-744-1846.

CASS CO., IN - 228± ACRES. • Prime Investment Quality Farmland • Excellent Location • Excellent Soils • Excellent Yields • 10± miles SE of Logansport, IN • 20± miles NW of Kokomo, IN. Call Jim Hayworth 765-427-1913 or Todd Freeman 765-414-

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Thank You for saying you saw it in Farm World!

WILLIAM C. RUNYAN TRUST FARMS AUCTION 359± ACRES CHAMPAIGN & CLARK CO., OHIO WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12 @ 6PM

AUCTION HELD AT THE CLARK COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

359± Acres in (2) Farms - Outstanding Land Auction 306.9 Ac. Homestead Farm- 6847 SR 54, Mechanicsburg 52.4± Acres Agr. Land - Tarbutton Rd., South Vienna

Historic Homestead Farm – 306.9± Acres

Circa-1850s brick 2-story, approx. 3,500 SF, with large country kitchen, utility room, main-level bedroom & bath, living & dining rooms. Upstairs: 4+ bedrooms, full bath, and sun porch. Basement. Ready for your updates!

Approx. 230 acres tillable cropland and 55 acres pasture. Former Dairy Operation with an array of farm outbuildings

Agricultural Land - 52.4± Acres

Approx. 50 acres tillable, mostly level with strong soil profile.

PREVIEWS: MONDAYS, OCT. 27 + NOV. 3 (4-6PM)

53± ACRE JUDITH WELSHEIMER FARM AUCTON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5 @ 6PM

AUCTION HELD AT THE LAWRENCEVILLE COM. BLDG.

4705 Troy Rd., Springfield, OH: 53± Acres - Clark County 2-Story Brick Home - Bank Barn - Maintained Outbuildings

PREVIEWS: SUNDAYS, OCT. 26 + NOV. 2 (2-4PM)

ONLINE AUCTION: 9.2± ACRE MINI FARM ENDING WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29 HARMONY TWP - CLARK COUNTY, OH

84 N. Houston Pk. South Vienna, OH

Country Home (4 bedroom, 2 bath), new HVAC (3) Modern Shop/Livestock Buildings

PREVIEWS: WED. OCT. 15 & 22 (5-6PM)

HARVEY AUCTION CO. LLC. | HARVEY PLUS LLC. 937-244-2121 | harveyplus.com **Jeff Harvey, Auctioneer & Broker**





Above: The Port of Houston expansion project is expected to be completed next year. (courtesy Soy Transportation Coalition).

US soybean farmers invest \$275,000 in Port of Houston expansion project

By DOUG SCHMITZ lowa Correspondent

HOUSTON, Texas - A group of U.S. soybean farmer leaders presented a ceremonial check of \$275,000 to The Andersons, Inc., in Houston Sept. 24th for the company's expansion project at the Port of Houston, which will enable the export of soybean meal from the facility once it's completed in the first quarter of 2026, officials said.

The Andersons, Inc., is based in Maumee, Ohio.

Presenting the check to The Andersons, Inc., at a luncheon at the Port of Houston's headquarters, Mike Koehne, Soy Transportation Coalition (STC) chair and Greensburg. Ind., farmer, said, "As stewards of the funding through the Soybean Checkoff program, my fellow soybean

farmers and I are constantly exploring any opportunity to increase the profitability of our industry." The group also received a tour of the Port of Houston export terminal, and an update on the expansion project.

He added The Andersons, Inc.'s soybean meal and grain export facility at the Port of Houston is "an excellent example of an investment that will help accomplish many of our major priorities.

"Most soybean farmers in the U.S. are located hundreds of miles or more from our coastal regions," he said. "This geographic distance is a challenge we must overcome if we are to compete in the international marketplace. We would like to express our appreciation to The Andersons, Inc., and the Port of Houston for investing

(Port continued on page 14B)

TIMED ONLINE • NO-RESERVE

DEALER & FARMER AUCTION

NOW ACCEPTING CONSIGNMENTS!

Now accepting farm machinery, trucks, trailers, construction equipment & more - don't miss your chance to sell!

LAST DAY TO CONSIGN & DELIVER:

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2

CONSIGNMENTS ACCEPTED:

MONDAY - FRIDAY • 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM CENTRAL



BIDDING CLOSES: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16 STARTING AT 8:30 AM CENTRAL

HAMILTON, ILLINOIS FACILITY | 1066 E US HWY 136, HAMILTON, IL 62341 Contact: (844) 847-2161 | Sold@SullivanAuctioneers.com

HUNTINGTON, INDIANA FACILITY | 11996 N GOSHEN RD, HUNTINGTON, IN 46750 Contact: Bryon Prible (260) 820-0981 | Bryon.Prible@BigIron.com

BIRD ISLAND, MINNESOTA FACILITY | 101 HWY AVE. E. BIRD ISLAND, MN 55310 Contact: Jeremy Negen (320)-522-0751 | Jeremy.Negen@BigIron.com Or Allen Henslin (320) 979-1808 | ahenslin@sullivanauctioneers.com

CRAWFORDSVILLE, IOWA FACILITY | 3187 320TH ST., CRAWFORDSVILLE, IA 52621 Contact: Tim Meyer (319) 750-1233 | tim.meyer@sullivanauctioneers.com



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STAUFFER AUCTION

Location: 4372 W 500 N

PORTLAND, IN 47371 SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2025 AT 9:00 AM











PICKUP TRUCK, TRAILERS, TRACTOR, MINI EXCAVATOR

2004 Dodge Ram 3500 4wd, 4 Door, Dually, Long Bed, 167,000 Miles; 2024 (24') Interstate Cargo Trailer; 2018 PJ Dump Trailer 8 x 14; John Deere 5200 with John Deere 540 Loader; Kubota KX71-3 Mini Excavator 4000 Hrs.; Hustler Super-Z Hyper-Drive 60" Deck; Kawasaki Mule; Club Car Electric Golf Cart; King Kutter 6' Tiller; Assorted Excavator Buckets 12" Bucket, (2) 24" Buckets, 36" Bucket; 3 Pt. Mower; 17' Michi Craft Aluminum Canoe; 1972 Custom Chevy Pickup Truck No Title; Jeep 4x4 SUV.













CONSTRUCTION, SHOP, MISC. ITEMS

(5) Sets of X Brace Heavy Duty Scaffolding; (3) Sets of 5' Scaffolding; (11) Pcs. Scaffolding with Walking Plank; (2) 40' Fiberglass Ext. Ladders; 28' Alum. Ext. Ladder; 10' Alum. Step Ladder; 12' Fiberglass Step Ladder; (2) 22' Alum. Ladders; Sheet Metal Brake; LP Gas Forge; Canedy Otto Forge; Champion Blower & Forge Co. Forge; N.C. Anvil; Stihl MS362 Chain Saw; Stihl Weed Trimmer; Echo Pole Saw; Bull Float & Brooms; Craftsman 2700 Psi Pressure Washer; Simpson 3100 Psi Pressure Washer; Torch Set: Predator 301cc Trash Pump: Makita Battery Operated Wheelbarrow with Dump Bed; Handyman Jack; Assorted Bottle Jacks; Kobalt Tile Saw; Porta Power; Pipe Thread Dies; Ratcheting Thread Cutter; Assorted Air Nail & Staple Guns; Roofing Nail Gun; Power Floor Nailer; Air Framing Guns; Assorted Hand Tools.

HOUSEHOLD

Speed Queen Washer; Amana Dryer; (2) Wardrobes; Misc. Household Items.

Terms: Cash or Good Check; Not responsible for accidents. Any announcements made day of auction take precedence over printed matter. Go to Auctionzip.com 50347 for complete list and pictures. Charlie Hill 260-341-4978

OWNERS: LEVI & ANGELA STAUFFER

HILL AUCTION

CHARLIE HILL

IN #AU10700054

Port

FROM PAGE 13B

in the supply chain that allows farmers like me to be successful."

Mike Steenhoek, STC executive director, told Farm World, "Given how the objectives behind the investment align with a number of the key priorities of U.S. soybean farmers, we began discussions regarding the potential of investing funding in the project. The Soy Transportation Coalition board visited the facility in February of 2024. We committed the \$275,000 of funding in late 2024."

He said The Andersons, Inc., was chosen because soybean farmers decided to invest in the project because it addresses some of the key priorities of soybean farmer organizations, including increasing soybean meal export capacity, increasing resilience of the supply chain, and diversifying international markets.

"One of the significant developments in the U.S. soybean industry continues to be the investment in processing facilities in order to produce more sovbean oil for renewable fuels," he said. "The additional production of soybean oil will result in an additional production of soybean

"While much of this additional soybean meal will be consumed by the domestic livestock industry, it is increasingly essential to invest in additional export capacity to connect with international markets," he add-

He said given the continued challenges the sovbean industry has experienced with low water conditions on the Mississippi River, it is important to promote diversity of the supply chain by "spreading the eggs across more baskets."

"The soybean meal that will be shipped to the facility at the Port of Houston will be transported via BNSF Railway or Union Pacific Railroad," he said. "It will not utilize the inland waterway system.

"Given the significant challenges confronting soybean exports due to the curtailment of the Chinese market, it is imperative to pursue base hit marketing opportunities for soybean meal and soybeans," he added. "The identified markets for the Houston export terminal are: The Middle East and North Africa, the Caribbean, Latin America and Asia."

www.farmworldonline.com

With storage capacity of 6.3 million bushels, the Houston facility supports the export of more than 2 million metric tons of grain annually, and will include up to 22,000 metric tons for storing soybean meal for export, officials said. Additional upgrades will include a new conveyance system to transport goods from storage to the ship loaders, as well as a new ship-loading tower to increase the efficiency and speed of loading.

The Andersons, Inc.'s projects in the primary states that will feed the soybean meal to their facility include Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri and Nebraska: "It is possible other states will feed into the facility as well, given the expansion of soybean processing throughout the country," Steenhoek said.

Because the Port of Houston facility will result in greater resiliency of both international marketing and the supply chain, officials said the following soybean farmer organizations contributed the \$275,000 toward the project: United Soybean Board, Soy Transportation Coalition, the Iowa Soybean Association, the Kansas Soybean Commission, the Missouri Soybean Merchandising Council and Nebraska Soybean Board.

Officials added the funding will be used for research, analysis, pre-engineering, and design expenses associated with the Port of Houston facility expansion, and The Andersons, Inc., would assume the costs of the actual construction of the project.

"We sincerely appreciate the opportunity to work with soybean farmers on this important investment," said Matt Dvorak, Houston business manager at The Andersons, Inc.

"As domestic soybean crush increases, we are identifying new opportunities for the export of soybean meal via our Houston facility," he added. "We look forward to working with the Soy Transportation Coalition and the broader soybean farmer community on this project, which will help connect U.S. soybean meal with international customers."

Bradley Leising (Decensed) Tools & Vehicles Online Auction

- October 7 @ 8:00pm EDT (START)
- October 22 @ 6:30pm EDT (END)

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: Bradley had a long career as a Millwright and owned many tools, including specialty tools; Starrett, Snap-on, Mac, and others, all in excellent condition.

2005 Chevrolet Trailblazer, 2008 Suzuki XL7

NEW Duro Max Generator, Snapper 250Z mower, Stihl Hedge Trimmer, NEW & Like New Starrett Tools, Starrett Outside Micrometer, Starrett Master Precision Levels, Starrett Adjustable Steel Parallels, Snap-on Open End Crowfoot Wrench Set, Snap-on Flank Drive Crowfoot Wrench Set, Wiha Insulated Soft Finish Screwdrivers, Impact Sockets, Walton REPS Pipe & Bolt Extractors,

VEHICLES: 2006 Chevy 2500HD Crew Cab, | Ratchets, Hammers, Wrenches, Toolboxes, Machinist Taps, Tool Cart, Lever Chain Hoists, Power Tools and much more.



For a complete listing and photos: www.harmeyerauction.net

Call Cindy At: 419-467-2329 For Advertising Info In Southeast Michigan

PRODUCTIVE TILLABLE FARMLAND

CASS CO, INDIANA

Monday, October 20th, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm ET

PROPERTY LOCATION:

2 miles north of Logansport, IN along CR 275 N.

31.8+/- TOTAL ACRES Tract 1: 20+/- Acres

Tract 2: 11.8+/- Acres

Larry Jordan: 765.473.5849 | AJ Jordan: 317.697.3086 Emma Barr: 260.494.0992 | Brandon Stroble: 765.499.1170



#AC69200019 HLS#LWJ-13140, Seller: Billiard Farm



AUCTIONS

800.424.2324 | halderman.com

CASS CO, IN: OCTOBER 20 (ONLINE) 31.8^{+/-} Acres • 2 Tracts • Tillable

Contact: Larry Jordan: 765.473.5849, AJ Jordan: 317.697.3086, Emma Barr: 260.494.0992 or Brandon Stroble: 765.499.1170

CLINTON CO, OH: OCTOBER 22 (ONLINE) 72.983^{+/-} Acres • Tillable

Contact: Robert McNamara: 614.309.6551

REAL ESTATE & FARM MANAGEMENT

PREBLE CO, OH: OCTOBER 28 (LIVE) 278.9+/- Acres • Farmland

3 Tracts Contact: Craig Springmier: 937.533.7126 or H. John Kramer: 937.533.1101

CARROLL CO, IN: OCTOBER 29 (ONLINE) High Quality Farmland **54***/- **Acres** Contact: AJ Jordan: 317.697.3086, Larry Jordan: 765.473.5849, Brandon

Stroble: 765.499.1170 or Emma Barr: 260.494.0992

MULTI-DAY ONLINE AUCTION • NOVEMBER 4TH - 6TH HOWARD, GRANT, WABASH CO, IN: High Quality Tillable Farmland **1,013.348**+/- **Total Acres • 12 Tracts** Contact: Joe Halderman: 260.330.1222,

AJ Jordan: 317.697.3086, Jon Rosen: 260.740.1846 (Day 3 Only), Larry Jordan: 765.473.5849, Brandon Stroble: 765.499.1170 or Emma Barr: 260.494.0992

RANDOLPH CO, IN: NOVEMBER 5 (ONLINE) 178.124+/- Acres • 5 Tracts

Cropland Contact: Chris Peacock: 765.546.0592 or Lauren Peacock: 765.546.7359 NEW! CARROLL CO, IN: NOVEMBER 10 (ONLINE) • 5 Tracts • Home

324.159+/- **Acres • Cropland • Woods** Contact: AJ Jordan: 317.697.3086, Larry Jordan: 765.473.5849, Brandon Stroble: 765.499.1170 or Emma Barr: 260.494.0992

NEW! RANDOLPH CO, IN: NOVEMBER 11 (ONLINE) • 9 Tracts **440.2***/- Acres • Cropland • High Quality Timber Contact: Chris Peacock: 765.546.0592, Lauren Peacock: 765.546.7359 or Craig Springmier: 937.533.7126

NEW! BOONE CO, IN: NOVEMBER 11 (ONLINE) • 160+/- Acres

3 Tracts • Farmland • Home • Shop Contact: Todd Litten: 812.327.2466, Sam Clark: 317.442.0251, Jim Clark: 765.659.4841 or Charlie McCarty: 812.480.9560

NEW! BLACKFORD CO, IN: NOVEMBER 12 (ONLINE) 114.14+/- Acres Potential Wind Turbine Income • Quality Tillable Farmland

Contact: Rick Johnloz: 260.827.8181 or Jason Johnloz: 260.273.9177

NEW! CASS CO, IN: NOVEMBER 13 (ONLINE) Tract 1: 77.417*/- Acres

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New Illinois commission will study barriers facing new farmers

By TIM ALEXANDER Illinois Correspondent

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Signed into law by Governor JB Pritzker on August 1, Illinois' Farmland Transition Commission Act will establish a commission within the Department of Agriculture to study the barriers individuals ages 25-40 encounter when purchasing or accessing farmland. The commission will be formed from state ag leaders, policymakers and young farmers, with the goal of reviewing existing policies and incentives in order to recommend policy changes to improve farmland transfer opportunities.

An application portal through the Illinois Boards and Commissions website (https://govappointments.illinois.gov/boardsandcommissions/)

has been established to apply to serve on the commission, which will meet through Dec. 31, 2031. According to Claire Shipp, Midwest Policy Manager for American Farmland Trust (AFT), there is a great need for intentional policy interventions that help young and beginning producers access the tools they need to acquire land and build a resilient farm business in Illi-

"Our hope is that the Farmland Transition Commission takes a holistic approach to the issue of land access and transfer for Illinois farmers and that they will consider a broad range of existing and novel policy solutions. Ensuring young and beginning farmers can access farmland requires both addressing the barriers they face (cost of land, access to capital, fair leasing agreements, etc.) and the incentive structures farmland sellers experience (development pressures, personal economic needs, complex succession planning, etc.)," said Shipp, who provided Farm World with a list of issues ATF would like to see addressed by the Farmland Transition Commission, once it forms.

"Beginning Farmer Tax Credits (BFTC) offer agricultural asset owners a state income tax credit if they lease land, equipment, livestock and/or buildings to beginning farmers. Details vary from state to state, but typically a landowner will receive a personal property tax exemption or a tax credit in exchange for making land or equipment available to a beginning producer. As of September 2023, six states Iowa, Kentucky, Minnesota, Nebraska, Ohio, and Pennsylvania have implemented BFTC programs. Representative Dan Swanson filed legislation to establish a Retired Farmer Tax Credit program in Illinois last session, and we'd love to see something like this become a priority for the Illinois General Assembly during the next legislative session," said Shipp.

"Farmland Purchase and Protection Incentives (FPPI) provide financing to beginning farmers to purchase farmland while protecting it with an agricultural conservation easement. The easement proceeds are passed through to the original seller, reducing the overall cost of buying the land to the beginning farmer. Delaware and Maryland have implemented successful programs to help first time farm buyers afford land.

"Beginning Farmer Loan Programs provide low-interest loans, loan guarantees, and loan participation programs to help producers buy land, buildings, equipment and breeding livestock. Some programs, including 'Aggie Bond' programs, are targeted specifically to beginning farmers. The National Council of State Agricultural Finance Programs tracks available programs and produces a comprehensive directory of state-level programs available to beginning and established

"Down payment assistance programs provide direct financial support to beginning farmers and ranchers to purchase land. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) has a down payment assistance grant which offers up to \$15,000 to qualified farmers purchasing their first farm. The program is administered by the MDA's Rural Finance Authority (RFA)."

AFT would also like to see the Commission consider ways to expand and support the tools and programs that already exist in Illinois in partnership with organizations, such as The Land Connection's Illinois Farm Link program that connects land seekers with land sellers. Illinois also offers land leasing programs through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, which this year is leasing 35,000 acres of agricultural land statewide.

"It would be great to explore how these existing tools, among others, can be further leveraged or expanded upon to open up land access for young and beginning farmers. Ultimately, we hope the Commission will provide policy recommendations that are politically feasible and effective in addressing the many challenges Illinois farmers face in accessing, transferring and protecting farmland," said Shipp.

The legislation (Senate Bill 2372) was sponsored by State Senator Sally Turner (R-Beason). A total of 18 members will take part in the commission, including four young farmers from different regions of the state who will meet quarterly. The Director of Agriculture, or their designee, will serve as chair, according to the legislation.

"Empowering young farmers is essential for the future of Illinois agriculture," said Turner. "By focusing on individuals aged 25 to 40, we're ensuring that those in the early stages of their farming careers have the support they need to access farmland."

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TELL THEM YOU SAW THEIR AD IN



Gilt selection officer enjoys variety the job offers

By Mike Tanchevski **Ohio Correspondent**

JOHNSTOWN, Ohio - After graduating from college, Heimerl Farms' gilt selection officer. Brooklyn Ashcraft. knew she wanted to work with animals. Living in Ohio, she had two choices. "I went to college for animal science – so I knew that I wanted to work with animals, and in Ohio, it's either poultry or swine. The choice for me was easy, it was swine," she said.

The gilt selection officer's role involves selecting high-quality gilts and breeding to enhance sow herd productivity, longevity and genetic performance. The job is a blend of science, logistics and relationship building, and, as Ashcraft said, "It's really different every single day."

Heimerl Farms is a family-owned and operated farm in Johnstown. Although Johnstown provides a home to many aspects of Heimerl Farms Ltd., the farming operation has swine facilities throughout the state. This creates an unconventional workday for Ashcraft, who is responsible for 16 or 17 barns.

"No two days are alike - usually, it's a lot of driving," Ashcraft, one of two gilt selection officers at Heimerl Farms. said. "We have barns all over the state mine specifically are pretty spread out."

Weekly visits to assigned barns are a big part of the job, with Ashcraft often spending at least an hour, and sometimes more, at each facility. "It's a lot of showering," Ashcraft said, referring to the strict biosecurity protocols. "Every gilt barn is a shower-in, shower-out



Above: A freshly weaned pig (21 days).

facility."

Once inside, the officer's responsibilities multiply: "I go into the barn and select breeding gilts for customers and for our internal replacements," Ashcraft said. "I also do all of the service work for the barns that I'm in charge of. like marking market loads, doing blood testing, and health checks to make sure the pigs are doing well in the barns."

Pig health is paramount at Heimerl Farms. "We have a pretty high standard for pig health," Ashcraft said, "Especially the gilt barns - we don't have a lot of death loss and so we take that very seriously."

Part of the job is assessing the pigs' health. Ashcraft is responsible for recording and evaluating which animals are ready for market and which are suitable for breeding.

When selecting gilts for customers, balance is key. "It's structure - when you have this many pigs there's sometimes some deformities, but we also select for uniformity," Ashcraft said. "If I start selecting the biggest pigs in the pen, then I need to continue to select the biggest pigs in the pen. So usually I go for some middleweights in the pen - that way if I have to go a little heavier or a little lighter, it's not such a drastic difference."

Heimerl Farms' customers run the gamut, from universities to international buyers. "We send a lot in the United States, but recently we've been doing a lot to Mexico," Ashcraft said. "We've done a couple of Philippines orders and some Vietnam stuff. We've sold to some universities... and some of it's research. Every customer is different in what they're doing."

Heimerl Farms operates mostly on a contract grower model. "They don't own the barns or the property," Ashcraft said. "They own a few - the rest are contract growers. Families and whoever, they own the barns and the property, and they do all the daily caretaking, and Heimerl owns the pigs and supplies the feed and the medicine."

This means that the gilt selection officer must be an effective communicator. "A lot of the guys who do the daily caretaking look to me as sort of a stepping stone for health - like they come to me, if I don't know what to do, then I go to the vet because there's only one of her and there's like 167 barns or sites in our system."

Many gilt selection officers come to the job with animal science backgrounds, but not always with expertise in swine. "I didn't have any swine ex-

perience coming into this job at all... I went to college for animal science, and I knew that I wanted to work with animals, but I didn't have any exact intentions to work with swine," Ashcraft said. "It took me about three or four months to get pretty comfortable in what I was doing."

From strict biosecurity routines and health checks to customer order fulfillment and barn management, Ashcraft's job is integral to the farm's operations. Her role demands adaptability, strong communication, a keen eye for animal health and quality, and, above all, a passion for working with people and pigs alike.

The gilt selection team, veterinary staff, and growers all work closely together, forming a collaborative support network. And that's the best part of Ashcraft's job.

"I really like the farmers, the growers. They're really good people, and everyone is kind of in different situations, different backgrounds," she said. "I've really enjoyed getting to know a lot of



Above: Ashcraft in a sow farm with a 2-week-old pig.

them. I went to one of their hog roasts and I've gone to some hockey games,



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Wednesday, October 29 • 6pm



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AUCTION LOCATION: The Paulding County Fairgrounds, 501 Fairground Dr, Paulding, OH 45879 PROPERTY LOCATION: 6560 SR 111, Antwerp, OH 45813

> PREVIEW: Meet a Schrader Rep on Tract 1 Mon, Oct. 13 from 4-6pm or Thu, Oct. 23 from 4-6pm or call for walkover preview

SELLER: Stephanie Long, Shelley Heller, Stephen W. Peters AUCTION MANAGER: Jerry Ehle • 260.410.1996 #SAL.2006001035, #2013000026 SChrader Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc #63198513759, #REC.0000314452 (Jeffersonville,OH), #BBB.2010001376 (Irwin,OH)

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Case-IH 9370 Quadtrac yields \$43,500 at Michigan auction

By William Flood Ohio Correspondent

ST. CHARLES, Mich. - On Sept. 23, Wegner Auctioneers wrapped up an online-only equipment sale for Rivercrest Farms. The 83-lot lineup included tractors, harvest and tillage equipment, trucks, trailers and excavation gear. A 5 percent buyer's premium applied to all sales. In-person inspections were available two days prior and on auction day.

Leading the auction at \$43,500 was a Case-IH 9370 Quadtrac with 6.885 hours. The second-owner machine was equipped with an N14 Cummins engine, autosteer, 36-inch belts, three-point hitch with Quick-Hitch, four remotes, and a CIH FM-750 display with roof puck.

Case-IH 245 Magnum MFWD tractor with 7.226 hours. It featured a 19-speed powershift transmission, Quick-Hitch, four remotes, 380/80/R50 rear duals, front suitcase weights, inner-wheel weights, a Trimble Nav II controller and RTK antenna. The Trimble FM-1000 display was auctioned separately for \$850.

Bidding went to \$33,300 on a Krause TL-6200 Landsman 36-foot double-fold mulch finisher, used on just 4,000 acres and always housed when not in use. It was outfitted with a three-bar spike, basket levelers, and rear hitch. The hammer then struck \$26,500 on a Case-IH 2388 Axial Flow combine with 3,676 hours (2,660 on the separator). The second-owner machine had a Cum-

Close behind at \$40,000 was a mins engine, PRWD, bin extension, auto-steer ready, 30.5X32 drive tires, and an Ag Leader yield monitor. Selling for about half that, at \$13,750, was an excellent-condition 2012 Kuhn Krause Dominator 4850-15 disk ripper with about 2,000 acres of total use. Always stored inside, it featured excellent iron, original blades set at 24 inches, round pipe baskets, and a cushion hitch.

Around a dozen pieces of agricultural equipment also bid into the four-figure range. Those included a Unverferth Zone Builder that brought \$9,250. The low-use rig featured a three-point hitch and an eight-shank inline ripper with coulters. The same sum scored a good-condition 2019 20-foot Loftness stalk shredder/flail mower with a drawbar and light kit. A bit lower, hammering at \$6,250 was an inside-stored Amity 2500 sixrow sugar beet harvester. Currently set to 28 inches, it featured cushion lifters, a rock paddle, and a heavy apron chain.

The sale also included a handful of vintage machines. A circa 1913/14 Buckeye 1081 traction ditcher turned heads, bringing in \$10,500. The 12-by-12-inch model ran on a single-cylinder hit-and-miss gas engine and featured 11-inch-wide wheels, 5.5-foot digging depth, and hi/low with reverse. The self-contained unit was in running and driving condition and came with extra parts, a parts catalog, and additional literature. On the more modest end, an IH Farmall "H" narrow-front tractor with electric start, PTO, drawbar, and 13.6-38 tires, sold for just \$1,000, while a pre-WWII Caterpillar pull-type grader, equipped with an 8-foot blade, steel wheels, and manual adjustment, changed hands for \$900.

Trucks and trailers brought strong numbers. A 1998 Alfab 35-foot, six-axle aluminum dump trailer with a clean title went for \$30,500. It was outfitted with 2-2-2 lift axles, 80-inch sides, grain and air gates, tarp, and several new tires. A 2008 International Prostar Premium 6x4 semi tractor, with 597,000 miles, also with a clean title, followed at \$25,500. It featured an ISX 485 Cummins engine, 10-speed Eaton Fuller transmission, air-ride cab and suspension, air-slide fifth wheel, wet kit, 3-stage engine brake, and was wired for air axles and gate. Not far behind, a clean-titled, recently-serviced 1983 East 32-foot quad-axle aluminum dump trailer featuring 96-inch width, 76inch sides, fetched \$23,250. It was equipped with one lift, three down axles, a newer Sioux electric tarp, air gate, grain gate, and excellent tires.



Above: Both trucks and trailers were available. Bidding on this Alfab 35-foot, six-axle aluminum dump trailer hit \$30,500.



Above: A Krause Landsman Finisher (\$33,000) was one of nearly three dozen implements auctioned.

Heavy equipment also received a good amount of attention. A John Deere 750C bulldozer with a 10-foot, 6-way blade, 22-inch tracks, and a full weight package bid to \$13,000. Listed in excellent condition, it had 7,113 hours on the meter and new batteries. It was preceded in the lineup by a Kobelco K-905LC excavator with just \$3,575 hours that went for \$11,250. The good-condition machine, also sporting new batteries, came equipped with triple-grouser tracks, an AIM manual thumb, and three buckets (36 inches, 40 inches and 60 inches). It took just \$1,700 to secure a Caterpillar D4 FLF crawler dozer with an 8-foot blade, ROPS, and a drawbar that was in running condition when stored seven years

Even light bidding brought home good utility, like an M&W 30-foot hydraulic-fold rotary hoe - sold for parts or repair at just \$210. Though missing a jack stand and resting on its side, it came with several solid wheels. A Pincor trailer-type 16kW PTO generator and a Yamaha sprayer each brought \$120, while an FMC Wedge Wick 28-foot front-mount weed wick with a hydraulic lift changed hands for only \$85. From basic implements to high-value machinery, the auction met the practical needs of working farmers across a range of budgets.



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AUCTION MANAGERS Steve Slonaker **765-969-1697** (cell)

Andy Walther 765-969-0401 (cell)



Above: The auction's highest bid, at \$43,500, went for a Case-IH 245 Magnum MFWD tractor, one of three tractors offered.

4 Hoosiers compete in state corn husking contest

By Leondia Walchle Indiana Correspondent

NAPPANEE, Indiana - The 99th Indiana State Corn Husking Contest was Oct. 4 at Reed Farms. The object was to harvest the most corn by hand after gleaning and husk deductions were calculated. Clean corn meant higher scores.

There were 84 Indiana participants with a total of 12 classes (ranging from ages 14 and under to 75 and over), along with a team class. Depending on the class, 10-20 minutes of corn husking took place. A handful of huskers have been competing for over 10 years, while there were also plenty of newcomers to the sport.

The contestants harvested the corn in their assigned row by throwing it into a wagon pulled by either a draft horse or vintage tractor. The wagon was followed by a gleaner, a volunteer who collected the missed corn into a burlap sack. Once the field judge called time, the contestants unloaded the corn into a bin where it was weighed and any deductions identified.

The gleaning deduction was determined by the weight of "marketable ears" (normal ear at least 3 inches in length with kernels around the entire cob) multiplied by 3. For husks, there was no deduction for up to 1 ounce. For 1.1-2 ounces, 1 percent of gross weight for each ¼ ounce, and over 2 ounces, 3 percent of gross weight for each 1/4 oz.

Winners in each class and net result in pounds:

Youth boys 14 and under - Philip Schwartz, Nappanee - 49.83

Young girls 14 and under - Callie Aggertt, Plymouth - 68

Boys 15-20 - Gage Richard, Rochester - 151.9

Girls 15-20 - Cora Burns, Macy -82.09

Young men (21-49) - Lane Eckrote,



Above: Contestants must unload their own corn.



Above: Corn Husking Sign.



Above: Reed Farms, Nappanee, Ind., hosted the Indiana State Corn Husking Contest.

Macy - 291.17

Young women (21-49) - Jennifer Edwards, Sullivan - 175.38

Men's senior (50+) - Norman H. Miller, Topeka - 278

Women's senior (50+) - Darlene Bender, Wolcottville - 163.68 Men's golden agers (75+) - Wayne

Rough, Walkerton - 90 Women's golden agers (75+) - Phyliss

Calloway, Macy - 57.29 Men's open - Kevin Lambright, Hud-

Women's open - Judy Lambert, Akron - 142.9

Team - Brent Reed, LuAnn Ambriole and Robert Kuhns, Nappanee – 363

Reed Farms will also host the Na-



Above: Husking is a family sport.

Call Michele At: 1-800-876-5133, Ext. 122 **For Auction Advertising** Information

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LAND AUCTION

THURS., NOV. 6th, 2025 5:00 PM CST

75+/- AC. 45.92+/- TILLABLE REMAINDER WOODED TIMBER/BUILDING SITES

LAND LOCATION: IL Rte. 33 and Crawford Co. CR 300N **GPS:** 38° 53' 47" N 87° 34' 17" W Brief Legal: N77.5 AC, NW, Sec. 7, Twp. 5N, R 10W TRACT 1: 46.24 +/- AC-Most all till-

able-FARM 2026 TRACT 2: 13.61 +/- AC-Wooded-Timber/Building Sites

TRACT 3: 12.00 +/- AC-Wooded-Timber/Building Sites

> TERMS: 10% down 6% Buyer's Premium

BIDDING: Live, Online, or by Phone **AUCTION LOCATION:**

Flat Rock, IL Community Center 104 Central Ave., Flat Rock, IL Elmer Warren Farms-Estate

Call Tyler Parrott - 618-943-0000 or Gregg Parrott - 618-843-4905

www.4sellafarm.com YOUR TEAM ON THE GROUND

tional Corn Husking Contest Oct. 17-18. Day 1 features out-of-state huskers without a state contest of their own. Day 2 will feature qualifiers from all states. The top three finishers from each Indiana class will be able to compete.

For more information, visit facebook.com/indianacornhusking.



Above: Vintage tractors also took part in the contest.

Right: 29 percent of huskers that participated were women.



Above: Draft horse teams await their turn into the corn field.



Above: 10-20 minutes is allotted for the competition.



Above: Husked corn transferred into the bin to weigh.



Land Auction - Edgar County, IL

153.15 +/- Acres Highly Productive Farmland Sec. 17 & 20 Grandview Twp.

Friday, November 14 - 10 AM Central

153.15 +/- acres, 145.6 FSA tillable NHEL, 137.1 PI

Auction Location: Step Station, Paris, IL

Moss Auction Team, LLC

Live In-Person & Online Bidding Available! Paris, IL 217-465-4545 Online bidding available & more info at: www.mossauctionteam.com



Wednesday October 29th 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm et

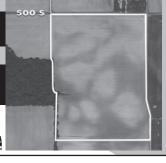
PROPERTY LOCATION:

1 mile west of Burlington along CR 500 E in Cutler, IN in Burlington Township, Carroll County.

52.43+/-Tillable 1.57+/-Other

AJ Jordan: 317.697.3086 | **Larry Jordan:** 765.473.5849 **Brandon Stroble:** 765.499.1170 | **Emma Barr:** 260.494.0992





Bushman Fahns Equipment Online Only Auction

Bidding opens 10-27 @ 8:00 closes 10/29 @ 6:30 P/U 10-30 10:00 - 4:00

Inspection on 10/27 by appointment, call Chris Green at 765-748-5969 or Josh Wagonbach 219-863-0870

Bidding platform - www.harmeyerauction.net

BOBCAT SKID STEER & TRAC LOADERS: 2011 - S300, 2019 - T740, 2014 - E35, 2021 - SB200 snowblower, 6' material F250, 1996 Ford F350 Service Truck, 1995 bucket, Brute Tree puller attachment, 10' Box

EXCAVATOR: 2005 Kobelco SK330LC, Ditch Bucket, 40" bucket, 1994 Kobelco

HEAVY TRUCKS & TRAILERS: 1985 Autocar 2 Construktor Dump Truck, 1989 Mack R600K Semi Tractor, 2004 Load Trail Flatbed (28+2), 1978 Fleetwood, 2004 Trail King (55 ton) Detach, 1968 Phelan WT25 Low-Boy, (2) 1982 Chamberlin Hopper Bottom.

Dodge 3500, 1994 Chevy GMT-400,K2500 Service Truck. Sur Trac 16' trailer.



For a complete listing and photos: www.harmeyerauction.net



Featured Metzger Auction Calendar www.BioMetzger.com



Vehicles, Motorcyles, Tools Saturday, October 18, 2025 **6815 N. 200 E., Rochester, IN**



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



Mobile Home & Pole Barn Saturday, October 18, 2025 6815 N. 200 E., Rochester, IN



Weekly Overstock Auctions! Warsaw, Sidney, Huntington Churubusco & More!



Quality Primitives & Antiques Saturday, October 18, 2025 River Road, North Manchester, IN



18 Acres with Off-Grid Cabin Tuesday, October 21, 2025

1595 N. 600 E., Lagro, IN

1.56 Ac. Home & Garage! Tuesday, October 21, 2025 **345 W. 450 S., Warren, IN**



New Holland, Mustang, Tools Tuesday, October 21, 2025 Kewanna. IN



1501 Fisher Ave., Warsaw, IN

Absolute Home & Pole Barn Wednesday, October 22, 2025 939 Adolph Rd, Union City, MI



Solar Panels, Tools, Antiques Wednesday, October 22, 2025 **Union City, MI**



4100 SF Commercial Building Thursday, October 23, 2025 3437 Broadway, Fort Wayne, IN



Kos. Co. Govt. Auction Thursday, October 23, 2025 WARSAW. IN



Equipment, Antiques, Sporting Thursday, October 23, 2025 **2653 E. US 30, Warsaw, IN**



Clemans Estate Auction Saturday, October 25, 2025 8735 N. 500 E., Denver, IN



Equipment, Tools, Household Saturday, October 25, 2025 3758 W. 1400 N., North Manchester, IN



Ranch Home, Barn & 5.5 Ac. Saturday, October 25, 2025 3758 W. 1400 N., North Manchester, IN



Farmhouse & Garage on 1.5 Ac. Saturday, October 25, 2025 3758 W. 1400 N., North Manchester, IN



Port Mitchell Lake House Sunday, October 26, 2025 558 N. Lakeshore Dr., Albion, IN



Vehicles. Antiques. Tools Sunday, October 26, 2025 558 N. Lakeshore Dr., Albion, IN





Fleet Vehicle, Contract & Equip. Tuesday, October 28th, 2025 **1582 W. SR 114, N. Manchester, IN**



2BR Cottage on Big Barbee Thursday, October 30, 2025 34 EMS B59 Lane, Warsaw, IN



Brick Victorian Home Wednesday, October 29, 2025 111 N. Main St., Milford, IN



The Ramer Car Collection Saturday, November 1, 2025 **8287 12B Road, Argos, IN**

Chad Metzger, N. Man., IN, 260-982-0238 Tim Pitts, Fort Wayne, IN 317-714-0432 Michael Gentry, LaCrosse, IN 219-754-2237 John Burnau, Leesburg, IN 574-376-5340 Rod Metzger, Ossian, IN, 260-982-0238 Jason Conley, Warsaw, IN 574-527-2247 Tiffany Reimer, Realtor 260-982-0238 Neal Snyder, Andrews, IN 260-358-7923 Tim Holmes, Churubusco, IN, 260-580-5473 Rainelle Shockome, Col. City, IN, 260-341-4801 Brian Evans, Lagro IN 219-754-2237 Justin Nicodemus, Churubusco, IN 260-246-3778 Brent Ruckman, Larwill, IN 260-609-2155 Dustin Dillon, Warsaw, I N574-265-9215 Dodie Lambright Hart, Howe 260-463-1717

<u>Auctioneers & Realtors...</u>



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