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Ag-related jobs for college grads expected to increase over 5 years

By Michele F. Mihaljevich Indiana Correspondent

WEST LAFAYETTE – Nearly 105,000 job openings in agriculture and related fields are forecast for new college graduates annually over the next five years, according to a recent report from the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture and Purdue University's College of Agriculture.

The report looked at job openings in food, agriculture, renewable natural resources and the environment (FARNRE) from 2025 to 2030. The average of 104,766 openings annually through 2030 is higher than the 59,400 openings reported in the last study, which covered 2020-2025.

Three reasons for the additional job openings in the most recent study are noted in the report. "A more rigorous approach to determining FARNRE job openings; the inclusion of associate degree holders in this study; and the inclusion of some jobs open to those with a high school degree," the report said. "We estimate that 90 percent of these positions will require at least an associate degree, with the other 10 percent open to those without a degree."

Of the annual job openings, an average of 42,855 will be in business and management, which the report said includes jobs throughout all stages of the food and agriculture value chain, from agricultural inputs and production to food wholesaling and distribution, including the management of renewable natural resources.

"Demand will remain particularly strong for general managers, operations leaders, financial analysts and risk managers as firms adapt to the ever-changing FARNRE economic environment," the report said. "Technical sales and service specialists will continue to see favorable prospects, especially where solutions combine equipment, inputs and digital tools. Employers also seek managers who have strong data management and analytics skills to improve decision making."

For science and engineering, an average of 22,298 annual jobs will be available. The report described the category as including the life, physical and social sciences and engineering occupations aligned with the production, transportation, processing and distribution of food and fiber.

"Agricultural, biological and environmental engineers, along with technicians in computer-based systems, sensing and GIS, will continue to be in strong demand as precision agriculture expands," the report said. "Food science and engineering graduates will find steady opportunities in food safety, processing and packaging, especially at the intersection of nutrition and human health. Employers are also prioritizing expertise in automation, robotics and artificial intelligence, reflecting the increasing integration of advanced technology into agricultural production systems and supply chain management."

The study said an average of 19,888 annual jobs would be available in education, communication and governmental services, which includes educators, communicators and public relations specialists in the public and private sectors. A range of positions are offered by local, state, national and international agencies.

The report noted its forecast of available governmental services jobs may be overly optimistic because the forecast doesn't include any impacts of the federal workforce reduction initiatives such as the 2025 Deferred Resignation Programs.

In food and biomaterials production, which includes occupations that focus on the production, operations, processing and logistics of commodities used in food or biomaterials, the study said an average of 19,725 annual jobs would be available.

Regionally, the Atlantic area of the country, which includes Kentucky and Tennessee, will have more than 30 percent of available jobs, while

(See Ag jobs on page 4)



Above: These newborn Holstein calves arrived just in time to celebrate Christmas. Photo by Leondia Walchle

Illinois Farm Economics Summit looks at USDA cattle projections

By TIM ALEXANDER Illinois Correspondent

EAST PEORIA, Ill. – The USDA is projecting year-over-year increases in the U.S. beef cow herd through the next decade. How and why the USDA arrived at their conclusion was a topic of discussion during the Illinois Farm Economics Summit, Dec. 16 in East Peoria.

"Here in 2025, we have about the same amount of cattle in the beef herd as we had in the 1960s," said Brittney Goodrich, assistant professor in the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics at the University of Illinois. Goodrich noted that cattle herd inventories have historically run in 10-to-12-year cycles and are primarily responsive to incentives on behalf of beef producers responding to cattle prices.

"As prices increase producers see there is more opportunity to make profit going forward, so they start increasing their cattle inventories. Because of that we see decreasing harvest numbers. Because cattle take a while to produce, prices eventually start falling (but) you're still seeing the cattle inventory increasing over time. Eventually we get to the point where we top out that inventory, and the prices start falling. We then start to see our cattle inventory falling as well," she said.

U.S. cattle producers are currently in a position in the cattle cycle where herd rebuilding is beginning to ramp up in response to historically high prices, according to Goodrich. "But there are issues, particularly from drought, and with a lot of other uncertainties going on in the beef market," she said.

Drought liquidation ramped up in the U.S. beef cattle herd in 2022, leading to historically high cattle prices and, in turn, retail beef prices. Since then, cattle ranchers have faced several additional challenges in trying to rebuild the cattle herd, including high input prices and a labor force shortage

However, the USDA is projecting year-over-year growth in the U.S. beef herd from 2026 through 2035, Goodrich reported. "We're expected to see a decrease between January 2025 and January of this coming year, then the USDA is projecting that herd expansion will begin happening between 2026 and 2027," she said.

Feeder steer prices, which have increased drastically, will begin to recede in 2026, the USDA predicts. "Prices will top out and will start to slowly fall, but they are still pretty high historically so there is still that incentive to increase herd size," Goodrich said. "The WASDE report that came out (on Dec. 9) had fed steer prices a little lower than previous projections. A lot of our cattle prices are reported out of Oklahoma, and Illinois prices do track with what happens in bigger cattle producing states. Monthly prices from Illinois auctions (show that) record high prices earlier in the fall have dropped off, leading us to wonder if this is a time when prices are going to bottom out

"I kind of view this as being somewhat of a market correction, but we always see seasonality in feeder cattle prices because there are more feeder cattle on the market in the fall. We typically do see this downward trend in prices, so I am not particularly alarmed."

The million-dollar question is whether producers are, indeed, entering a cycle of herd expansion. In true economists' fashion, Goodrich deftly

(See Cattle on page 2)



In this Farm World:

Kentucky farmer turns down \$8 million from data center Page 1B

MSU honors soil heroes for environmental practices...... Page 9B





Cattle

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dodged a direct answer.

"There is conflicting evidence either way. Beef heifers intended for herd replacement in January and July are still on a downward trajectory, but with our herd size low we would expect these numbers to be low, so this is not the best indicator as to whether our herd will be expanding," she said. Conversely, with fewer hogs and heifers being slaughtered since 2023 after a several year decrease in slaughter numbers, it could be argued that more cattle are being held back for herd expansion, she explained.

"This indicates modest evidence we might be expanding our herd size, but it's not happening rapidly by any means. Another way to look at this is the percentage of land in droughtlike conditions. When you have years of very high percentages of land in drought, you have the annual change in the beef herd being significantly negative. When we have less drought the U.S. beef herd expands over time. While we are not yet seeing an expansion of the herd yet, we are seeing less of a decrease in the herd size even though drought conditions have persisted in many areas. This is another

Right: Brittney Goodrich, an ag economist and assistant professor at the University of Illinois, said the USDA is predicting a slow decrease in beef cattle prices beginning around 2028. She spoke during the Illinois Farm Economics Summit, Dec. 16 in East Peoria, (T. Alexander photo)

modest indicator that the herd may be

At the time of Goodrich's presentation, the beef industry was still assessing the potential impacts of the announced closures of a large Tyson Foods beef packing plant in Lexington, Neb., and a JBS beef processing plant in California. Barring no major disruptions to the supply chain, the U of I agricultural economist sees the 12-year beef cycle continuing to progress just as USDA predicts.

"Eventually the cattle cycle will play out, so we will see herd sizes build and eventually prices will decrease on average. USDA is predicting (this will happen in) either 2028 or 2029 but again, those prices are still going to be very high because our herd is so low," Goodrich said.

Goodrich's Farm Economics Summit presentation slides and graphs may be viewed at: https://farmdoc.illinois. edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/ BrittneyGoodrich_IFES2025.pdf.





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2023 CIH STEIGER 470 AFS QUADTRAC, 3 PT, PTO, GUIDANCE, 1400 HRS 2010 CIH STEIGER 485, PS, BB, GUIDANCE, 4900 HRS 2023 CIH MAGNUM 340 AFS CONNECT, PS, MFD, 1300 HRS 2022 CIH MAGNUM 310 AFS CONNECT, PS, MFD, GUIDANCE, 1800 HRS 2008 CIH MAGNUM 275, PS, MFD, 3200 HRS 2014 CIH MAGNUM 225, CVT, MFD, GUIDANCE, 2200 HRS

2014 CH MAGNUM 225, CV1, MFD, GUIDANCE, 2 2020 CHP PUMA 150, PS, MFD, LDR, 1700 HRS IH 504, GAS, LDR 2017 JD 950R, PS, BB, 2500 HRS 2012 JD 9410R, PS, PTO, GUIDANCE, 4300 HRS 2024 JD 8R 250, PS, MFD, 600 HRS 2016 JD 8345R, IVT, ILS, 3400 HRS 2016 JD 8345R, IVT, ILS, 3400 HRS

2012 JD 8335RT, PS, 6400 HRS 2012 JD 8335RT, PS, 6400 HRS 2014 JD 8295R, IVT, ILS, 3900 HRS 2010 JD 7930, IVT, MFD, 4200 HRS

2013 JD 7280R, IVT, TLS, 2000 HRS 2015 JD 7230R, IVT, TLS, LDR, GUIDANCE, 2200 HRS 2004 JD 7420, IVT, MFD, 8300 HRS

2008 JD 6330, CAH, PQ, MFD, LDR, 1200 HRS 2004 JD 6420, CAB, MFD, PQ, 3600 HRS 2003 JD 6415, CAH, 2WD, 3100 HRS

2003 JD 6415, CAH, ZWD, 3101 HD, 2500 HRS 2006 JD 6120L OS, TWD, LDR, 3500 HRS 1989 JD 4955, PS, MFD, 8000 HRS 1984 JD 4450, PS, MFD, 4000 HRS 1981 JD 4440, QR, MFD, 6800 HRS 2020 JD 4066M, OS, HYDRO, LDR, 1100 HRS 2021 JD 4044M, OS, HYDRO, LDR, 200 HRS 2008 JD 4720, CAH, HYDRO, MFD, LDR, 1000 HRS 2013 CHALLENGER MT655D, CVT, MFD, GUIDANCE, 3600 HRS 2018 JD XUV825M S4 GATOR, 4WD, GAS, OPEN CAB, 400 HRS

PLANTERS

2017 KINZE 3600 ASD 16/32 PLANTER 2013 KINZE 3500 8/16 NO-TILL PLANTER 2011 KINZE 3500 8/15 NO-TIL PLANTER KINZE 3000 6R30 CORN PLANTER, LIQ FE JD 7200 6R30 CORN PLANTER, DRY FERT CIH 5300 GRAIN DRILL, SEEDER JD 750 15FT NO-TILL DRILL, DOLLY, MARKERS UNVERFERTH 3750 SEED TENDER

COMBINES

2019 CIH 8250, 2WD, TRACKS, FT, RT, CHPPR, POWER TOP, GUID ANCE, 2279/1696 HRS

GRAIN CARTS

J&M 1122-20S GRAIN CART, TRACKS, TARP, LIGHTS UNVERFERTH 8250 GRAIN CART, TARP, LIGHTS J&M 620 GRAIN CART, TARP, LIGHTS

CASE IH TIGERMATE 200 28 FT FIELD CULTIVATOR CASE IH TIGERMATE 200 25 FT FIELD CULTIVATOR JOHN DEERE 2210 28 FT FILED CULTIVATO KONGSKILDE 2900 40 FT FIELD CULTIVATOR JOHN DEERE 2310 33 FT SOIL FINISHER SUNFLOWER 6333 22 FT SOIL FINISHER CASE IH SPEED TILLER 475 21 FT HIGH SPEED DISC CASE IH 3950 18 FT DISC CASE IH 3850 13 FT DISC UNVERFERTH 1225 22FT DOUBLE ROLLING BASKET KRAUSE 4428D SOLID ROLLER PACKER BRILLION XXL184 40 FT SOLID ROLLER PACKER 2009 JD 512 5 SH & 9 SH DISC RIPPER CASE IH MRX 690 5 SH DISC RIPPER JOHN DEERE 680 25FT CHISEL UNVERFERTH PULL-TYPE RIPPER/STRIPPER, 4R38 H&S BF14HC HIGH CAPACITY RAKE NH 216 TWIN BAR RAKE, HYD DRIVE JD S350 MOCO, RUBBER ROLLS CASE IH DC92 MOCO, RUBBER ROLLS JD 560R ROUND BALÉR, NET WRAP JD 348 SQUARE BALER NH 565 SQUARE BALER WOODS 9180 15 FT TURF MOWER JD CX15 BATWING MOWER H&S 430 TANDEM AXLE MANURE SPREADER KUHN KNIGHT 1215 SINGLE AXLE MANURE SPREADER UNVERFERTH NUTRIMAX 1400 15 COULTER NITROGEN APP

2015 MAC DON FD75 30FT DRAPER, CNH SINGLE POI T HOOK-UP 2010 MAC DON FD70 40FT DRAPER HEAD 2015 CASE IH 3020 30FT GRAIN HEAD 2012 CASE IH 3020 20FT GRAIN HEAD 2011 GERINGHOFF NS830 CORN HEAD, CNH SINGLE POINT 2015 JD 608C, KR, HD, HH, RS 2010 JD 606C, KR, HD 2002 CASE IH 2206, KR, HD, HH, CNH SINGLE POINT

CONSTRUCTION

2019 DEERE 310L EP, CAH, 4WD, E-HOE, 2300 HRS 1998 BOBCAT 751, OS, DIESEL, 1700 HRS 1993 DEERE 375, OPEN STATION, DIESEL, 600 HRS 2019 CASE CX37C MINI EXCAVAVTOR, CAH, 2 SPD, 1600 HRS







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Farm World

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6B 2019 FREIGHTLINER M2-112 30FT. ROLLBACK WITH REMOTE. 135,120 MILES, 68,000GVW-18,000LB FRONT AXLE, 40,000LB REAR TANDEM,13,200 LIFT AXLE DD13 ENGINE-450 HORSEPOWER, ALLISON 4000RDS 6 SPEED TRANSMISSION, ENGINE BRAKE, AIR RIDE SUSPENSION WITH DUMP VALVE, P.S. A/C, CRUISE, POWER WINDOWS, POWER LOCKS, HEATED MIRRORS, TILT-TELE STEERING WHEEL, 315/80R 22.5 FRONT TIRES, 22.5 REAR DRIVES, 4:63 RATIO, (2) 80 GALLON ALUMINUM FUEL TANKS, 282 W.B. **\$129,500**



(2) 2017 FREIGHTLINER M2 106 CUMMINS 350HP ALLISON 3000RDS TRANSMISSION 44,000 AIR RIDE SUSPENSION 16,000 FRONTAXLE P/S A/C 5:86 RATIO 270WB 24' FLATBED/DUMP 315X22.5 ALUMINUM BUDDS FRONT TIRES 11X22.5 ALUMINUM/STEEL REAR TIRES ... 189,573 MILES \$ 89,500 212,824 MILES \$88,500



2) 2015 INTERNATIONAL PROSTAR CUMMINS ISX15 400HP ENGINE BRAKE 10SPD AIR RIDE SUSPENSION P/S A/C POWER WINDOWS & LOCKS HEATED/POWER MIRRORS 175WB 8 NEW CAPS REAR 11X22.5 ALUMINUM WHEELS FRONT

...... 408,922 & 429,835 MILES \$26,500 EA



...... 325,222 MILES \$45,500





FROM PAGE 1

the west will have about 25 percent, the study found. The Midwest will have about 19 percent, the Plains nearly 14 percent, and the south almost 12 percent.

The study also looked at the number of college graduates from 2025 to 2030. The number of new college graduates - including those with associate degrees - annually seeking employment opportunities in FARNRE jobs will remain strong, according to the report.

Graduates from associate, baccalaureate and postgraduate/professional degree programs in FARNRE fields will fill 50,057 of the available positions annually. Graduates with allied degrees - degree specializations offered by public and private nonprofit higher education programs in biological sciences, engineering, health sciences, business, communication, etc. - will account for 24.6 percent of the annual new graduate supply pool, the report said.

To fill the total 104,766 FARNRE jobs available, an additional 28,907 other graduates will be needed annually. About 10,477 of these 28,907 positions will be filled by individuals without a degree," the report said. "The remaining 18,430 positions will need to be filled by additional allied majors or graduates from majors purdue.edu/usda/employment/.

outside those in the allied category in order to meet total FARNRE demand."

Bonnie Johnson, marketing & communications manager for AgCareers.com, said employers have indicated their No. 1 recruiting difficulty was that applicants lacked required skills, followed by a lack of experience. AgCareers is compiling its new 2025-2026 Agriculture & Food HR Review, a survey of industry employers about their hiring practices, she

"Employers were asked which roles they struggle to fill, and skilled/ technical trades and production/ labor-intensive roles were the most difficult to fill," Johnson told Farm World. "Regarding the types of careers employers are hiring, ag technology is consistently hiring and growing, continually evolving in response to new developments and technological advancements. This technology encompasses anything related to computers, equipment and processes, from artificial intelligence and drones to robots and software. We expect growth in any career tied to computers, IT or technology.

"There is also strong hiring in STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) fields, including engineering, science, data analysis and research. The demand for skilled trades is growing as experienced tradespeople retire."

The report may be viewed at www.

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Simazine 90df \$6.10lb Callisto/Mesotrine Generic \$61.40gal Authority XL Generic \$31.30 lb Authority First or Sonic Generic \$31.70lb **Boundary Generic package \$44.20 gal** Envive or Valor XIT Generic \$21.10 lb Metribuzin DF \$10.20 lb 24D LV6 tote \$33.60 gal or package \$34.70 gal Dicamba/ Clarity Generic \$39.00 gal Clethodim 2EC \$42.90 gal

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ack of Chinese demand cited as a cause of lower US soybean exports

Several analysts have pointed out demand is picking up. The USDA keting year that was down 154 how U.S. soybean exports are well below last year, but fail to mention that soybean supplies are also down. Current U.S. soybean exports are down 46 percent from last year, mainly from an absence of Chinese demand. China has now returned to the U.S. export market though, and

is already expecting 240 million bu fewer exports than a year ago in balance sheets from a smaller soybean supply, so a slow start to China's program is factored into values. Between old crop ending stocks and this year's production, the U.S. had a soybean supply to start the marmbu from last year. At the same time, the USDA is predicting a 110 mbu increase in crush from last year. Even with a sluggish start to the soybean export program, the bottom line is ending stocks are down from last year and in a rationing position, regardless of exports being slower than a year ago. MARKET ANALYSIS

Quality is becoming more of a factor in global commodity

trade, and this is favoring the U.S. China recently rejected Brazil soybeans after detecting pesticide in incoming vessels. China also found wheat in Brazil soybean imports. Recent reports also indicate some of the Argentine soybean sales it has to China have shifted to U.S. origination with quality being an issue there as well. What trade is most interested in is if China starts importing corn to blend with their domestic crop which has low quality due to late growing season rains.

Corn futures are starting to find more support from the global market, primarily the strength we have seen in the Chinese market. China's minister of ag has reported the country produced a bumper grain crop this year, but data indicates otherwise. Corn values in China have rallied to record values as available stocks are minimal. Port stocks in Northern China are reported at 1.2 million metric tons, well below last year's 3.4 mmt. Chinese corn processors report corn inventories from

> 12- to 20-day supplies. Farmers in China that do have corn to sell are waiting for higher values and this is generating the tight stocks, as is the

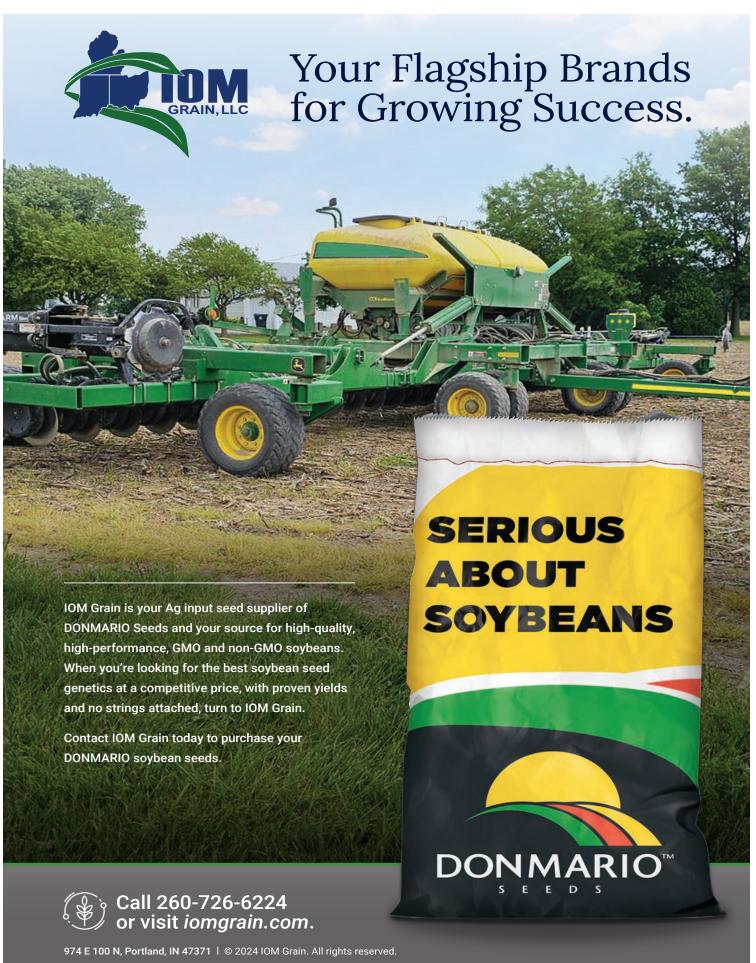
low quality of what corn is available. More attention is being given to South American weather as those countries growing seasons get underway. At the present time, conditions are mostly favorable but being closely monitored. Northern Brazil is reportedly seeing good rainfall which has slowed fieldwork but been a great benefit to crops. Central Brazil is drier, as is Paraguay, but both have adequate soil moisture for now. If rain does not develop soon, this will become a worry spot. Soils have started to dry out in Argentina, but right now this is needed to finish planting. While the majority of South America has the potential for large crops, any missed rains and this could change

By Karl Setzer

We are seeing more estimates released for Brazil corn and soybean crops with lower numbers. Brazil's initial soybean crop estimates were

(Setzer continued on page 9)







MARKETS

Blue Grass Stockyards Lexington, KY

Livestock Weighted Average Report for 12/15/2025 - Final

	This Week	Last Reported 12/8/2025	Last Year
Total Receipts:	624	2,747	1,283
Feeder Cattle:	578(92.6%)	2,631(95.8%)	1,081(84.3%)
Slaughter Cattle:	44(7.1%)	112(4.1%)	193(15.0%)
Replacement Catt	le:2(0.3%)	4(0.1%)	9(0.7%)

Special Note: **Blue Grass Stockyards Lexington will be closed 12/22/25 to 1/2/26 for CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR Holiday

Beef Calf: 400.00 per/head

Compared to last Monday the feeder market was mostly steady with a good quality offering. Good quality feeder steers and heifers 600 lbs and under were mostly steady with a limited supply and good demand for weaned and value added packages and groups. Yearlings appeared steady as well but with limited comparisons. Buyers were active and willing to pay premiums for quality, while discounting plainer and off colored calves severely. Slaughter cows were steady to 2.00 higher with a good supply and no trends on slaughter bulls due to a light test. Supply included: 93% Feeder Cattle (42% Steers, 0% Dairy Steers, 54% Heifers, 4% Bulls); 7% Slaughter Cattle (5% Steers, 2% Heifers, 88% Cows, 5% Bulls); 0% Replacement Cattle (67% Stock Cows, 33% Cow-Calf Pairs). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 80%.

Groups of 20 Head or More

STEERS	HEIFERS
442 80% Black 750 lbs 340.50	43 Black/BWF 646 lbs 342.75
63 Black/BWF 788 lbs 346.00	27 Black/BWF 668 lbs 343.00
59 Black/1CHRX 926 lbs 324.75	39 Black/1CHRX 760 lbs 311.50
	60 Black/1CHRX 859

			00 DidCK/	1011KX 037
		F	EEDER CATT	LE
STEE	PS - Madius	n and I	arge 1-2 (Per C	wt / Actual Wt)
			t Price Range	
4	346	346	497.50	497.50 Fancy
2	422	422	396.00	396.00
1	415	415	458.00	458.00 Fancy
8			400.00	400.00 Falley
4	510-542	530	373.00-392.00	389.75 398.75 Value Added
5	520	520	377.50-400.00	390.73 Value Audeu
2	550-587			
	605-610	608		364.00
8	608	608		382.00 Value Added
5	650-695	685		
1	715	715	321.00	321.00
4	768	768		310.00
105	750-788			343.86 Value Added
1	845	845	305.00	305.00
59	926	926	324.75	324.75 Value Added
8	997	997	304.00	304.00
2	1025-1040		286.00-305.00	
			arge 2 (Per Cwt	
			t Price Range	
2	452	452	341.00	341.00
1	515	515	301.00	301.00
1	550	550	300.00	300.00
3	605-610	608	300.00-320.00	312.53
2	660-665	663	295.00-313.00	303.97
1	905	905	284.00	284.00
			arge 2-3 (Per C	
Head	Wt Range	Avg W	t Price Range	Avg Price
1	745	745	257.50	257.50
STEE	RS - Mediur	n 1-2 (P	er Cwt / Actual	Wt)
Head	Wt Range	Avg W	t Price Range	Avg Price
1	550	550	275.00	275.00
DAIRY	STEERS -	Large 3	(Per Cwt / Acti	ual Wt)
Head	Wt Range	Avg W	t Price Range	Avg Price
1	825	825	200.00	200.00
HEIFE	RS - Mediu	m and I	Large 1-2 (Per C	Cwt / Actual Wt)
			t Price Range	
1	335	335	380.00	380.00
3	378	378	400.00	400.00 Fancy
6	410-440		375.00-380.00	
6	407-440	418		
2	475	475	377.00	377.00
4	533	533	360.00	360.00
31	558-599		355.00-360.00	
2	600	600	320.00-347.00	333.50
54	624-646	642	341 00-347.00	342.40 Value Added
7	675-685	670	320.00-331.00	225 50
27	668	668		343.00 Value Added
17	720	720		320.00 Guaranteed Op
46	720 760-781	763		
46 1				312.98 Guaranteed Op
ı	890	890	289.00	289.00

66 859-862 859 303.00-304.50 304.36 Value Added 5 981 981 273.00 273.00 Guaranteed Open 3 1031 1031 287.00 287.00 Guaranteed Open HEIFERS - Medium and Large 2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

	ito iniounu			t//totadi ii
<u>lead</u>	Wt Range	Avg W	Price Range	Avg Price
1	350	350	330.00	330.00
2	510-540	525	320.00-327.50	323.86
4	550-560	553	321.00-322.50	322.12
4	600-645	623	287.50-295.00	289.99
3	675-690	682	230.00-297.50	274.21
1	705	705	281.00	281.00
1	1055	1055	232.50	232.50
IEIFE	RS - Mediu	m and L	arge 2-3 (Per C	wt / Actual
<u>lead</u>	Wt Range	Avg W	Price Range	Avg Price

1 425 425 275.00 275.00 1 490 490 300.00 300.00 HEIFERS - Medium 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt) Head Wt Range Avg Wt Price Range Avg Price

BULLS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)										
Head	Wt Range	Avg W	Price Range	Avg Price						
1	385	385	410.00	410.00						
1	420	420	400.00	400.00						
6	435	435	446.00	446.00 Fancy						
1	560	560	353.00	353.00						
2	665-670	668	285.00-295.00	289.98						
1	720	720	263.00	263.00						
2	777	777	267.50	267.50						
BULL:	S - Medium	and Lai	ge 2 (Per Cwt /	Actual Wt)						

Head Wt Range Avg Wt Price Range Avg Price 2 465-495 480 330.00-357.50 344.18 3 515-520 518 300.00-312.50 307.49 2 615-645 630 275.00-287.00 281.14 BULLS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt) Head Wt Range Avg Wt Price Range Avg Price

1 370 370 335.00 335.00 1 465 465 272.50 272.50 BULLS - Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt) Head Wt Range Avg Wt Price Range Avg Price

630 274.00 274.0 SLAUGHTER CATTLE

STEER			e 1-2 (Per Cwt /		
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
2	1880-2190	2035	170.00-190.00	179.24	Average
HEIFE	RS - Choice	1-2 (Per C	Cwt / Actual Wt)		_
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
1	1660	1660	177.00	177.00	Average
COWS	- Breaker 7	5-80% (P	er Cwt / Actual	Wt)	
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
2	1415-1555	1485	167.00-171.00	168.91	Average
12	1325-1655	1507	175.00-188.00	181.28	High
COWS	6 - Boner 80-	85% (Per	Cwt / Actual W	t)	
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
10	945-1250	1124	157.00-168.00	163.55	Average
3	1250-1365	1300	171.00-176.00	173.30	High
2	1175-1345	1260	147.00-152.00	149.67	Low
COWS	6 - Lean 85-9	0% (Per 0	Cwt / Actual Wt)		
<u>Head</u>	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing

IIcac	Wi Kange	AVY	I live ivalige	AVGITICE	Dicooilig
1	1065	1065	139.00	139.00	Average
5	1065-1395	1214	153.00-165.00	158.57	High
2	760-975	868	121.00-127.00	124.37	Low
BULI	LS - 1-2 (Per	Cwt / Actu	ual Wt)		
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
2	1700-1940	1820	205.00-210.00	207.66	High

REPLACEMENT CATTLE

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

 Age Stage
 Head
 Wt Range
 Avg Wt
 Price Range
 Avg Price

 2-4
 O
 2
 1020-1055
 1038
 175.00-187.50
 181.36

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

 Age
 Stage
 Head
 Wt Range
 Avg Wt
 Price Range
 Avg Price

 2-4
 O
 1
 990
 990
 1500.00
 1500.00

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

Weekly National Sheep Summary For Week Ending Friday, December 12, 2025

Weekly Trends: mpared to last week slaughter wooled and shorn lambs sold steady. Slaughter ewes sold firmer.

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

Slaughter Lambs: Choice and Prime 1-3 San Angelo: 60-70 lbs 330.00-355.00;

70-80 lbs 354.00; 80-90 lbs 325.00; 90-100 lbs 300.00; 110-120 lbs 246.00.

New Holland: 90-100 lbs 340.00-360.00; 100-110 lbs 330.00-335.00;

100-110 lbs 330.00-335.00 110-120 lbs 300.00-325.00.

Billings: No test.

Ft. Collins: 70-80 lbs 295.00-315.00; 80-90 lbs 280.00; 90-100 lbs 265.00-290.00; 100-110 lbs 250.00-275.00; 110-120 lbs 235.00-245.00; 120-130 lbs 237.50-255.00 140-150 lbs 220.00-222.50; 150-160 lbs

232.50-235.00.

Kalona: 50-60 lbs 410.00-440.00; 60-70 lbs 325.00-430.00; 70-80 lbs 375.00; 80-90 lbs

280.00-330.00 90-100 lbs 275.00-305.00. Equity Coop: 120-130 lbs 239.00-239.50;

140-150 lbs 233.50.
Sioux Falls: 80-90 lbs 310.00-325.00; 90-100 lbs 250.00-295.00; 100-110 lbs 264.00-285.00;

110-120 lbs 230.00-250.00; 120-130 lbs 236.00-241.00; 130-140 lbs 228.00-238.00; 140-150 lbs 227.50-235.00; 150-160 lbs 227.00-237.00.

Buffalo, MO: No test.

Missouri: 110-120 lbs 260.00; 150-160 lbs 205.00.

Arkansas: No test.

Equity Coop: No test.
Slaughter Ewes: Good 2-3:
San Angelo: 120.00-147.00.

New Holland: 120.00-145.00.
Billings: No test.
Ft. Collins: 122.50-145.00.
Kalona: 102.50-135.00.
Equity Coop: No test.
Sioux Falls: 90.00-125.00.
Buffalo, MO: No test.
Missouri: 147.50.

Feeder Lambs: Medium and Large 1:

San Angelo: No test.

Billings: No test.

Sioux Falls: 30-40 lbs 420.00; 50-60 lbs 425.00; 60-70 lbs 330.00;

70-80 lbs 325.00; 80-90 lbs 310.00-355.00.

Buffalo, MO No test.
Missouri: No test.
Ft. Collins: No test.
Kalona: No test.
Equity Coop: No test.
Arkansas: No test.

Replacement Ewes: Medium and Large 1-2:

San Angelo: No test.
Billings: No test.
Ft. Collins: No test.
South Dakota: No test.
Kalona: No test.
Missouri: No test.
Arkansas: No test.

Sioux Falls: Middle aged exposed 130-

190 lbs 200.00-275.00 per

unit. No test

Buffalo, MO: No test.

Sheep and lamb slaughter under federal inspection for the week to date totaled 40,000 compared to 40,000 last week and 40,259 last year.

Source: USDA Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News

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

AG FUTURES

			Decembe	er 19, 2025			
Corn	Delivery Month Mar 26 May 26 July 26 Sep 26 Dec 26	Last \$443-2 \$451-0 \$457-2 \$450-6 \$461-4	Change - 1-2 - 1-2 - 0-6 - 0-4 - 0-6	Wheat	Delivery Month Mar 26 May 26 July 26 Sep 26	Last \$ 508-2 \$ 519-0 \$ 530-0 \$ 543-6	Change + 0-4 + 0-2 + 0-2 UNCH
Soybeans	Jan 26 Mar 26 May 26 July 26 Aug 26	\$1048-0 \$1058-2 \$1069-4 \$1081-4 \$1078-6	- 4-2 - 3-6 - 3-6 - 3-4 - 3-2	Oats	Dec 26 Mar 26 May 26 July 26 Sep 26	\$ 561-2 \$ 297'2 \$ 304'4 \$ 309'6 \$ 313'0	- 0-6 UNCH + 0'2 - 3'0 UNCH
Soybean Meal	Jan 26 Mar 26 May 26 July 26 Aug 26	\$ 298.8 \$ 302.2 \$ 305.5 \$ 310.3 \$ 311.9	+ 0-4 - 0-1 - 0-7 - 0-8 - 0-6	Live Cattle	Dec 25 Feb 26 Apr 26 June 26 Aug 26	\$ 229.950 \$ 229.750 \$ 229.050 \$ 222.925 \$ 219.325	+ 1.525 + 1.350 + 0.900 + 0.825 + 0.900
Soybean Oil	Jan 26 Mar 26 May 26 July 26 Aug 26	\$ 47.55 \$ 48.08 \$ 48.58 \$ 48.87 \$ 48.75	- 0.56 - 0.54 - 0.52 - 0.51 - 0.52	Lean Hogs	Feb 26 Apr 26 May 26 June 26 July 26	\$ 83.775 \$ 88.500 \$ 92.450 \$101.250 \$102.175	- 0.125 - 0.625 - 0.575 - 0.325 + 0.150

Ag Futures sponsored by



Ag Futures taken from CME Group/Chicago Board of Trade & Dow Jones Industrial Average http://www.cmegroup.com

Daily Livestock and Poultry Slaughter

Report for Thursday, December 18, 2025 - Final

Current Day Slaughter									
					Prev Week	Last Year	2025	2024	YTD
Thur., Dec. 18	3, 202 <u>5</u>	Week Ago	Year Ago	WTD	WTD	WTD	<u>YTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>	% Change
Calves	1,000	1,000	379	4,000	4,000	2,636	118,972	198,119	-40.0%
Cattle	123,000	123,000	121,581	472,000	484,000	483,643	28,377,984	30,461,067	-6.8%
Hogs	495,000	494,000	485,172	1,957,000	1,965,000	1,946,245	123,527,412	125,463,702	-1.5%
Sheep	8,000	8,000	8,713	37,000	35,000	37,077	1,881,367	1,852,674	1.6%
Chicken (Young) 35,256,000 35,370,000 35,000,000 140,930,000 141,652,000 139,600,000 9,188,584,000 9,166,465,000								0.2%	
Previous Daily Slaughter									

					Prev Week	Last Year	2025	2024	YTD
Wed., Dec. 17	7, 202 <u>5</u>	Week Ago	Year Ago	WTD	WTD	WTD	YTD	YTD 9	← Change ← Change
Calves	1,000	1,000	787	3,000	3,000	2,257	117,972	197,740	-40.3%
Cattle	118,000	123,000	122,529	349,000	361,000	362,062	28,254,984	30,339,486	-6.9%
Hogs	494,000	490,000	486,898	1,462,000	1,471,000	1,461,073	123,032,412	124,978,530	-1.6%
Sheep	8,000	9,000	7,852	29,000	27,000	28,364	1,873,367	1,843,961	1.6%
Chicken (Your	na) 35 324 000	35 471 000	34 806 000	105 674 000	106 282 000	104 600 000	0 153 328 000 0	131 465 000	0.2%

Previous Day Breakdow

Wed., Dec. 17, 2025
Cattle Steers/Heifers ... 97.000

Explanatory Notes: Livestock Species listed consists of young and mature animals.

Poultry references young only. Year to Date calculation is based on week 1 of calendar year R = Revision WTD = Week to Date YTD = Year to Date

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These areas experienced multiple reports of late deliveries during the week of 11/21/25: Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Tennesee

These States reported single reported of late delivery for the same week: Georgia

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Please, also contact USPS at 1-800-ASK-USPS or 1-800-275-8777

If you are experiencing consistent late delivery of all mail, we are encouraging you to reach out to your State Representatives to report the ongoing problems with late mail delivery. While we agree that the physical copy of the paper is the top priority, we do want to remind everyone that in the event your paper does not arrive by the issue date, the current issue is available to view on the website www.FarmWorldOnline.com. The online issue is free to subscribers and totally keyword searchable. Thank you for your continued patience & support as we work through the issues with USPS.

MARKETS

Kentucky Daily Grain Bids

Grain Report for Thursday, December 18, 2025 - Final

FUTURE SETTLEMENTS

Exchange	Commodity		Closing Settlement Prices (¢/bu) as of 12/18/2025							
CBOT	Corn	444.50 (Mar 26)	452.25 (May 26)	458.00 (Jul 26)	451.25 (Sep 26)	462.25 (Dec 26)	475.75 (Mar 27)	482.75 (May 27)		
CBOT	Soybeans	1052.25 (Jan 26)	1062.00 (Mar 26)	1073.25 (May 26)	1085.00 (Jul 26)	1082.00 (Aug 26)	1066.75 (Sep 26)	1071.00 (Nov 26		
CBOT	Wheat	507.75 (Mar 26)	518.75 (May 26)	529.75 (Jul 26)	543.75 (Sep 26)	562.00 (Dec 26)	578.50 (Mar 27)	587.00 (May 27)		
CBOT	White Oats	297.25 (Mar 26)	304.50 (May 26)	309.75 (Jul 26)	313.75 (Sep 26)	324.50 (Dec 26)	328.00 (Mar 27)	334.00 (May 27)		
KCBT	Wheat	517.00 (Mar 26)	529.25 (May 26)	541.75 (Jul 26)	556.75 (Sep 26)	576.25 (Dec 26)	592.25 (Mar 27)	600.75 (May 27)		
MGE	Wheat	573.00 (Mar 26)	583.00 (May 26)	595.75 (Jul 26)	612.25 (Sep 26)	629.75 (Dec 26)	642.00 (Mar 27)			

		IIC #2 WILITE	CORN (BULK)		
		US #2 WHITE	COKN (BULK)		
Country Elevators - Co					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	<u>Average</u>
Pennyrile	50.00H to 180.00H	UNCH	4.9450-6.2450	UP 0.0400	5.5950
Barge Loading Elevato					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	<u>Average</u>
Ohio River - Lower KY	185.00H	UNCH	6.2950	UP 0.0400	6.2950
Ohio River - Lower KY	50.00Z	UNCH	5.1225	UP 0.0175	5.1225
Purchase	170.00H	UNCH	6.1450	UP 0.0400	6.1450
Purchase	65.00Z	UNCH	5.2725	UP 0.0175	5.2725
		US #2 YELLOW	CORN (BULK)		
Country Elevators - Co	nventional				
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	<u>Average</u>
Purchase	10.00H	UNCH	4.5450	UP 0.0400	4.5450
Green River	15.00H	UNCH	4.5950	UP 0.0400	4.5950
Green River	-10.00Z	UNCH	4.5225	UP 0.0175	4.5225
Pennyrile	-5.00H to 10.00H	UNCH	4.3950-4.5450	UP 0.0400	4.4700
Pennyrile	-30.00Z to -15.00Z	UNCH	4.3225-4.4725	UP 0.0175	4.3858
Louisville	-8.00H	UNCH	4.3650	UP 0.0400	4.3650
Louisville	-8.00H	UNCH	4.3650	UP 0.0400	4.3650
Bluegrass	-20.00H	UNCH	4.2450	UP 0.0400	4.2450
Bluegrass	-45.00Z	UNCH	4.1725	UP 0.0175	4.1725
Barge Loading Elevato	rs - Conventional				
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Upper KY	-4.00H to -2.00H	UP 3.00-UP 2.00	4.4050-4.4250	UP 0.0700-UP 0.0600	4.4150
Ohio River - Upper KY	-30.00Z	UNCH	4.3225	UP 0.0175	4.3225
Ohio River - Lower KY	1.00H to 10.00H	UP 4.00-DN 2.00	4.4550-4.5450	UP 0.0800-UP 0.0200	4.5267
Ohio River - Lower KY	-35.00Z to -20.00Z	UNCH	4.2725-4.4225	UP 0.0175	4.3492
Purchase	1.00H to 18.00H	UP 4.00-UNCH	4.4550-4.6250	UP 0.0800-UP 0.0400	4.5425
Purchase	-35.00Z to -15.00U	UNCH	4.2725-4.3625	UP 0.0175-UP 0.0250	4.3258
		US#2 SORG	HUM (BULK)		
Barge Loading Elevato	rs - Conventional		_		
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Lower KY	-90.00H	UNCH	3.5450	UP 0.0400	3.5450
		US#1 SOYB	EANS (BULK)		
Country Elevators - Co	nventional				
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	<u>Average</u>
Purchase	10.00F	UNCH	10.6225	DN 0.0600	10.6225
Purchase	15.00F	UNCH	10.6725	DN 0.0600	10.6725
Croop Pivor	20.005	UNCH	10.07.20	DN 0 0600	10.0725

Country Elevators - Co	nventional				
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	<u>Average</u>
Purchase	10.00F	UNCH	10.6225	DN 0.0600	10.6225
Purchase	15.00F	UNCH	10.6725	DN 0.0600	10.6725
Green River	-20.00F	UNCH	10.3225	DN 0.0600	10.3225
Green River	-20.00F	UNCH	10.3225	DN 0.0600	10.3225
Pennyrile	-30.00F to 20.00F	UNCH-UP 3.00	10.2225-10.7225	DN 0.0600-DN 0.0300	10.2939
Pennyrile	-25.00F to 27.00F	UNCH-UP 1.00	10.2725-10.7925	DN 0.0600-DN 0.0500	10.3539
Louisville	-65.00F	UNCH	9.8725	DN 0.0600	9.8725
Louisville	-65.00F	UNCH	9.8725	DN 0.0600	9.8725
Bluegrass	-45.00F	UNCH	10.0725	DN 0.0600	10.0725
Bluegrass	-40.00H	UNCH	10.2200	DN 0.0675	10.2200
Barge Loading Elevato	rs - Conventional				
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	<u>Average</u>
Ohio River - Upper KY	4.00F to 10.00F	UP 4.00	10.5625-10.6225	DN 0.0200	10.5925
Ohio River - Upper KY	13.00F to 16.00F	UNCH-UP 1.00	10.6525-10.6825	DN 0.0600-DN 0.0500	10.6675
Ohio River - Lower KY	5.00F to 27.00F	UP 1.00-UNCH	10.5725-10.7925	DN 0.0500-DN 0.0600	10.7025
Ohio River - Lower KY	19.00F to 35.00F	UP 3.00-DN 2.00	10.7125-10.8725	DN 0.0300-DN 0.0800	10.7875
Purchase	5.00F to 20.00F	UP 1.00-UP 2.00	10.5725-10.7225	DN 0.0500-DN 0.0400	10.6475

Purchase Purchase	5.00F to 20.00F 15.00F to 32.00F	UP 1.00-UP 2.00 DN 1.00-UP 2.00	10.5725-10.7225 10.6725-10.8425	DN 0.0500-DN 0.0400 DN 0.0700-DN 0.0400	10.6475 10.7675	
US #1 MILLING SOFT RED WINTER WHEAT (BULK)						
Country Elevators - C	Conventional					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	<u>Average</u>	
Donnyvilo	E 0011	LINICH	E 407E	11D 0 04E0	E 407E	

Pennyrile	10.00N	UNCH	5.3975	UP 0.0200	5.3975
,					0.00.0
		US #2 SOFT RED WI	NIEK MHEAI (BULI	<u>(1)</u>	
Country Elevators - Co	nventional				
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	<u>Average</u>
Green River	-75.00N	UNCH	4.5475	UP 0.0200	4.5475
Pennyrile	-50.00H	UNCH	4.5775	UP 0.0150	4.5775
Pennyrile	-55.00N to -7.00N	UNCH-UP 1.00	4.7475-5.2275	UP 0.0200-UP 0.0300	4.9108
Louisville	-22.00H	UNCH	4.8575	UP 0.0150	4.8575
Louisville	-74.00N to -25.00N	UNCH	4.5575-5.0475	UP 0.0200	4.8025
Barge Loading Elevato	rs - Conventional				
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	<u>Average</u>
Ohio River - Upper KY	-35.00N	UNCH	4.9475	UP 0.0200	4.9475
Ohio River - Lower KY	10.00H	UNCH	5.1775	UP 0.0150	5.1775
Ohio River - Lower KY	-15.00N to -5.00N	UNCH	5.1475-5.2475	UP 0.0200	5.2055
Purchase	-8.00H to -20.00N	UNCH	4.9975-5.0975	UP 0.0150-UP 0.0200	5.0475
Purchase	-23 00N to -10 00N	UNCH	5 0675-5 1975	UP 0 0200	5 1275

Explanatory Notes: Price & Basis Values quoted are for Current Delivery, unless otherwise noted.

CBOT/KCBT/MGE Trade month symbols: F January; G February; H March; J April; K May; M June; N July; Q August; U September; V October; X November; Z December. FOB: Freight On Board. CIF: Cost, Insurance, and Freight. T: Truck, R: Rail, B: Barge, T/R: Truck/Rail, R/B: Rail/Barge, T/R/B: Truck/Rail/Barge, OV: Ocean Vessel

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Monroe Livestock Auction Market Report

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*please note that our i	market report i	is an overall average pri	ce-they are not	always the highest and	lowest price.
Small Animals	12/16/2025	Sheep		Cows	
Chickens	\$2-\$10	Ewes	\$1.15-\$1.50	Cull Cows	\$1.15-\$1.57
Bantys	\$6-\$7	40-60# Lambs	\$3.70-\$4.10	Bulls	\$1.60-\$1.91
Ducks	\$2-\$10	61-80# Lambs	\$3.30-\$4	Fot Cottle	31
Pigeons	\$4-\$4.50	81-100# Lambs	\$1.75-\$3	Fat Cattle Holstein	
Eggs	\$2.75-\$3		183	Colored	\$2.10
Rooster	\$2-\$12	Goats		Colorou	1
Turkey	\$10-37.5	Billys	\$75-\$375	Pigs	
Peacock		Nannies	\$90-\$310	Fat Hogs	\$.50-\$.80
Rabbits	\$3-\$17.50	Kids	\$55-\$85	Sows	\$.50-\$.60
	922		83	Boars	\$0.30
Veal Calves		Feeder Cattle Dairy an	d Beef	Feeder Pigs	47
Holstein (80# & UP)	\$800-\$1130	200-500#	\$1-\$3.15	20-45#	\$10-\$25
Beef Cross (80# & UP)	\$975-\$1350	501-800#	\$1-\$2.40	46-65#	\$70

79

15

Missouri Direct Hay Report

Direct Hay Weighted Average Report for week ending 12/19/2025

Feeding season is underway for most everyone at this point. Even with some snow not enough winter moisture to move the drought monitor in the correct direction. Currently 85 percent of the state is still highlighted in some stage of drought. Hay prices are doing what they typically do in a year where there is a surplus. Mid to lower quality hay is harder to move and prices are weak to lower, higher quality suitable for dairy or horse interest is harder to find and prices are steady. A big warm up forecast for Christmas week will be the gift for livestock producers this year as there shouldn't be any ice to chop or worries of gelled up tractors making one late for Christmas Dinner. The Missouri Department of Agriculture has a hay directory at https://apps.mda.mo.gov/haydirectory or visit the University of Missouri Extension feed stuff finder at https://feedstufffinder.org

HAY (Convention	al)	Paid t			
Alfalfa - Supreme (Ask/Per Ton)		i aiu t			
Medium Square 3x3	250.00-300.00				
Alfalfa - Supreme (Ask/Per Bale)		<u>Cla</u> La			
Small Square	10.00-15.00	La Med			
Alfalfa - Premium (Ask/Per Ton)		Sn			
Medium Square 3x3	175.00-225.00	Nort			
Alfalfa - Good (Ask/Per Ton)		Deliv			
Large Round	150.00-175.00	Deliv			
Alfalfa - Good (Ask/Per Bale)	0.00.10.00				
Small Square	6.00-10.00	_ Cla			
Alfalfa - Fair (Ask/Per Ton)	405.00.450.00	Extra La			
Large Round	125.00-150.00	Med			
Mixed Grass - Premium (Ask/Per		Sout			
Medium Square 3x3	150.00-200.00	Deliv			
Mixed Grass - Good/Premium (As		Deliv			
Large Round	100.00-150.00				
Mixed Grass - Fair/Good (Ask/Per		Cla			
Large Round	75.00-125.00	Extra			
Mixed Grass - Fair/Good (Ask/Per	Bale)	La			
Small Square	3.00-7.00	Med			
Mixed Grass - Fair (Ask/Per Bale)		Sout			
Large Round	20.00-50.00.	Deliv			
STRAW (Conventional)					
Wheat - (Ask/Per Bale)	,	CI			

Source: USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Grain

4.00-7.00

Small Square

Market News https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/viewReport/2929

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Weekly Combined Regional Shell Egg Report

Report for: 12/07/2025 - 12/13/2025

National Shell Eggs - Caged Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen

				<u>Last</u>
	Price Price	Average	Price	Reported
Class	Range	Price	Change	(12/5/2025)
Extra Large	185.00 - 209.00	198.13	-43.00	241.13
Large	184.00 - 208.00	196.19	-43.00	239.19
Medium	132.00 - 153.00	143.00	-26.00	169.00

Midwest Shell Eggs - Caged

Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen

Class	<u>Price</u> Range	Average Price	Price Change	<u>Last</u> <u>Reported</u> (12/5/2025)
xtra Large	185.00 - 194.00	189.50	-43.00	232.50
Large	184.00 - 193.00	188.50	-43.00	231.50
Medium	132.00 - 141.00	136.50	-26.00	162.50

Last

Delivered Store Door, White, Cents Per Dozen

	<u>Price</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Price</u>	Reported	
Class	Range	Price	Change	(12/5/2025)	
Extra Large	192.00 - 200.00	196.00	-43.00	239.00	
Large	190.00 - 198.00	194.00	-43.00	237.00	
Medium	138.00 - 146.00	142.00	-26.00	168.00	
Doid to Producers EOP White Cents Ber Dezen					

				<u>Last</u>
	<u>Price</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Price</u>	Reported
Class	Range	Price	Change	(12/5/2025)
Large	166.00 - 176.00	171.00	-43.00	214.00
Medium	114.00 - 118.00	116.00	-26.00	142.00
Small	70.00 - 76.00	73.00	-10.00	83.00

theast Shell Eggs - Caged

DCIIVCICA II	Last			
	<u>Price</u>	<u>Average</u>	Price	Reported
<u>Class</u>	<u>Range</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Change</u>	(12/5/2025)
Extra Large	189.00 - 203.00	196.00	-43.00	239.00
Large	186.00 - 200.00	193.00	-43.00	236.00
Medium	134.00 - 147.00	140.50	-26.00	166.50

ıth Central Shell Eggs - Caged vered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen

Class	<u>Price</u> <u>Range</u>	Average Price	Price Change	Reported (12/5/2025)
Extra Large	200.50 - 209.00	204.75	-43.00	247.75
Large	199.50 - 208.00	203.75	-43.00	246.75
Medium	144.50 - 153.00	148.75	-26.00	174.75

theast Shell Eggs - Caged

vered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen

Class	<u>Price</u> <u>Range</u>	Average Price	Price Change	Reported (12/5/2025)
Extra Large	198.50 - 206.00	202.25	-43.00	245.25
Large	196.00 - 203.00	199.50	-43.00	242.50
Medium	142.50 - 150.00	146.25	-26.00	172.25

Explanatory Notes: Prices to retailers, sales to volume buyers, white eggs

Regional Breakdown: Midwest: IA, IL, IN, KY, MI, MN, OH, NE, ND, SD, WI, WV, Western NY, and Western PA. Northeast: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, Eastern NJ, Eastern NY, Eastern PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT South Central: AR, AZ, CO, KS, LA, MO, NM, OK, and TX. Southeast: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, Eastern TN, and Southern VA.

Source: USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News General inquiries, please call: (202) 720-1990 or email: mvmarketnews@usda.gov https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/viewReport/2848 https://www.ams.usda.gov/lpgmn

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Market Report December 17th 2025 32nd Auction

rices.

This Report is the	Actual	High and	Average Pi
	Hd. Ct.	High	Avg.
Fat Hogs:	N/A		
Sows:	N/A		
Boars:	N/A		
Feeder Pigs:	N/A		
Beef & X Veal #1:	25	\$1325	\$1226.40
Beef & X Veal #2:	14	\$800	\$389.29
Dairy Veal #1:	60	\$1250	\$1090.83
Dairy Veal #2:	12	\$800	\$399.58
Jersey Cross:	3	\$140	\$83
Beef Fdrs 200#-550	# 21	\$2.30	\$1.41
Beef Fdrs 551#-100	0# 1	\$2.02	\$2.02
Dairy Fdrs 200#-550	# 40	\$1.35	\$.99
Dairy Fdrs 551#-1000	0# N/A		
Cull Cows #1:	6	\$1.43	\$1.36
Cull Cows #2:	5	\$1.19	\$1.02
Fat Cattle Colored:	N/A		
Fat Cattle Holstein:	N/A		
Bulls:	N/A		
Cow/Calf Pair:	1	\$3025	\$3025
Breed Cows Colored	: N/A		
Milk Cows:	N/A		
Springers:	N/A		
Sheep Ram:	1	\$1.30	\$1.30
Sheep Ewe:	N/A		
Lamb 0-60:	N/A		
Lamb 61-85:	N/A		
Lamb 86-100:	N/A		
Goat Nannies :	N/A		
Goat Billys :	N/A		
Goat Wethers:	N/A		

Total Hd Cnt: 189

Auction Every Wednesday

Sale Order

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

Hay Lg Sq:	15	\$75	\$75
Hay Sm Sq:	369	\$6.25	\$4.42
Hay Rnd Bale :	N/A		
Straw sm. Sq:	60	\$5.25	\$4.58
Bedding	N/A		
Straw Rnd Bal:	N/A		
Rabbits:	20	\$10.50	\$2.93
Chickens:	36	\$13.00	\$5.50
Chicks:	1	\$4	\$4
Bantys:	N/A		
Roosters:	26	\$19	\$5.87
Ducks:	2	\$2.00	\$2.00
Turkey:	N/A		
Quail:	12	\$1.25	\$1.25
Pigeon:	N/A		
Guinea:	N/A		
Guinea Pig:	N/A		
Geese:	4	\$15	\$15
Pheasants	2	\$4	\$4
Eggs:	139	\$3.25	\$2.98

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After Dec. 5th small animal sales will occur only on Dec. 17th, Jan.28th, Feb.25th, Mar. 25th

Indiana farmer visits White House, meets with president

By Michele F. Mihaljevich **Indiana Correspondent**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — During Tyler Everett's first visit to the White House, he participated in an agriculture-focused roundtable discussion that included President Donald Trump and USDA Secretary Brooke Rollins. The meeting was Dec. 8, the day the president announced the Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA) program.

"Being a part of the farm bridge payment announcement was a momentous experience," recalled Everett, vice president of the Indiana Corn Growers Association. "But sitting at the cabinet table and then going into the Oval Office where some of the world's most important and powerful people have sat, discussed and made deals that affect the world, felt surreal."

The program will make \$12 billion available in one-time bridge payments to U.S. farmers impacted by temporary trade market disruptions and increased production costs, the USDA said. Of the \$12 billion, up to \$11 billion will be used for the FBA and will go to row crop farmers who produce such commodities as corn, soybeans, wheat and canola. The remaining \$1 billion will be used for commodities not covered in the program such as specialty crops and sugar, the agency said.

Rollins said farmers would receive FBA payments by Feb. 28, 2026. USDA said the payments are designed to aid farmers until investments from the One Big Beautiful Bill Act reach eligible farmers Oct. 1, 2026.

The roundtable included farmers from seven other states, including Iowa and Ohio. Everett said meeting Trump was an honor and privilege he would never forget. The president heard concerns from farmers on a variety of issues, Everett added.

"Some questioned if \$12 billion is enough," he explained. "Twelve billion dollars is a lot of money but if (it) boils down to \$15-\$50 an acre for any one row crop, it will hardly put a dent in the money they've lost. The president really listened to all of the farmers and myself that were in the White House. Some of the farmers had concerns about water in Texas, some had concerns of rice being imported into Puerto Rico, and I had concerns on when vear-round E15 would become reality."

About 50 percent of Indiana's corn goes into ethanol, Everett said. He spoke briefly to the president about supporting lawmakers who would sponsor a bill calling for E15 sales year round.

Everett said U.S. Sen. Deb Fischer (R-Neb.), who also attended the roundtable, "mentioned (to the president) that she was putting forth a bill that would enact year-round E15 sales. I told the president that policy groups have done all they can to promote and lobby for year-round E15 sales. It's up to Congress now to act and get it passed to help America's farmers."

Trump also discussed expanding markets for U.S. commodities worldwide, Everett said.

"While he didn't mention any specific steps, he did mention that they're

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constantly in negotiations with China and other powerful countries about buying more soybeans and more exports from the United States. He and Secretary Rollins also alluded to developing new markets in other countries where we may not export now.

"He knows that our products are far superior than all the other countries that produce exports like ours, and he wants to make sure they know that."



Tyler Everett

Everett owns and operates Everett Farms and Seed with his father near Lebanon, Ind. They raise corn and soybeans.

He said he appreciated Rollins in-

cluding him in the roundtable.

"The president and Secretary Rollins have the farmers' best interest in their hearts and will do whatever thev can to help," Everett said.





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FROM PAGE 5

from 178 million metric ton and up from there. Recent weather has not been conducive to high yields in Brazil though, and analysts are now starting to walk back their projections. Several analysts now have the crop from 176 mmt to 177 mmt, close to the USDA's 175 mmt estimate. There are even outliers who have the crop at 171.98 mmt, putting it below last year's 172 mmt.

For Brazil's corn crop, analysts are now predicting a crop of 136 mmt, down 2 mmt from prior estimates. This is still well above the 131 mmt estimate from the USDA. A building concern in Brazil is that a large portion of the safrinha crop may be planted outside the window for optimum yields. One crop scout believes up to 30 percent of the safrinha crop may fall into this late planting. It is interesting to note that analysts are forecasting a Mato Grasso corn crop of 51.7 mmt, down 6.7 percent

Visit Farm World on the internet at www.farmworldonline.com from last year despite an increase in planted acres. Unless Brazil starts seeing timely rains, these estimates will fall even further.

A big story in the livestock complex was the announcement from Tyson that they would be closing their Lexington, Neb., packing plant. Low cattle inventory is a primary cause of this closure, although there were other contributing factors. This closure will impact 3,200 jobs. Tyson also announced it would be slowing its Amarillo Texas plant to just one full-time shift from declining cattle numbers. This plant employees

The entire U.S. packing industry has been impacted by low cattle numbers. Packers are required to run at a minimum speed by labor unions, and nearly all are already at this bare minimum. As a result, this may not be the only plant closure we hear of. Current cattle numbers indicate it will take at least 18 months to turn the curve.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has announced the approval of a topical solution that will prevent and treat cattle against new world screwworm and cattle fever tick. The FDA has approved this treatment for beef cattle 2 months of age and older, and in replacement dairy heifers under the age of 20 months. It is not approved for lactating dairy cattle, dairy calves or veal calves. It will also not be for use on bulls over 1 year old being raised for breeding purposes.

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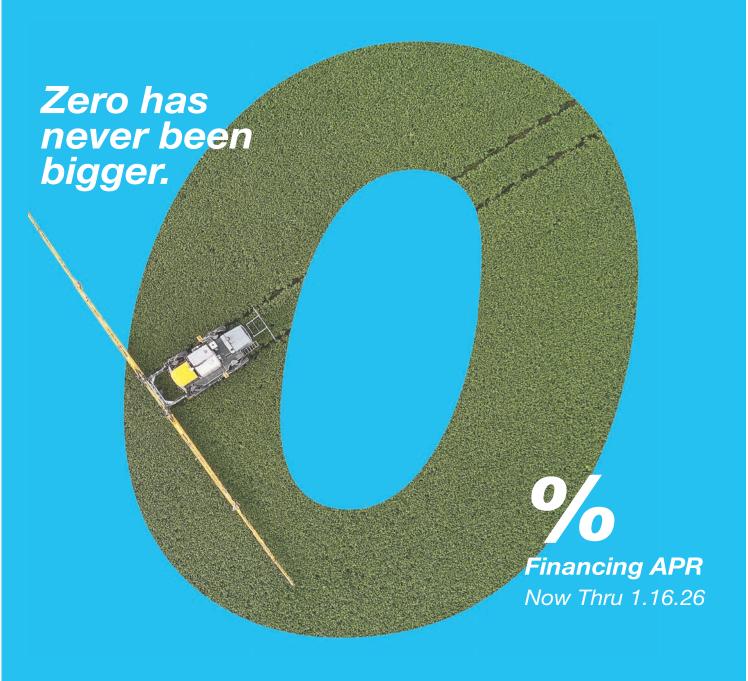
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Farm World

Ohio State releases 2026 budgets for corn, soybeans, wheat and alfalfa

WEEKLY AG

National Weather Service through outlook Dec. 30 called for "leaning to likely above normal" outlook for temperature and "near normal to leaning

UPDATE **BY NED BIRKEY MSU EXTENSION EDUCATOR EMERITUS SPARTAN AG**

above normal" outlook for precipitation. Wilson A. Bentley, a farmer and amateur meteorologist, is famous for being the first person to take a picture of a snowflake under a microscope, on Jan. 15, 1885. He is credited with advancing the idea that no two snowflakes are exactly alike. His proudest moment came in 1931 upon the publication of his book; Snow Crystals, which contained 2,453 of his photographs. At age 65, he photographed his 5,000th snowflake. Working in the cold, he then became sick and died of pneumonia.

Last week the winter weather words blizzard and flurries were defined. More winter words include the following: Snow flurries involve light snow falling for short durations. No accumulation or just a light dusting is all that is expected. Snow showers involve snow falling at varying intensities for brief periods of time with some accumulation possible. Snow squalls are brief, intense snow showers accompanied by strong, gusty winds and accumulation may be significant. Blowing snow is wind-driven snow that reduces visibility and causes significant drifting. Blowing snow may be snow that is falling and/or loose snow on the ground picked up by the wind.

2026 crop budgets from Ohio State University include corn, soybeans, wheat and alfalfa. Their projections for corn include a price of \$4.45 per bushel, and for a 190-bushel yield, they project variable costs totaling \$594.44, land charges, such as for rent of \$235, resulting in a possible net loss of \$156.54. For soybeans, the budget price used is \$10.60, a 56.8-bushel yield, variable costs of \$283.89 per acre, and the same cash rent land charge of \$235 per acre, resulting in a projected net

loss of \$35.15 per acre. There are a lot of variables that can influence costs. yields and price, so farmers need time to budget carefully for the

year ahead. Budgets are available at: www.farmoffice.osu.edu/farm-management/enterprise-budgets.

Farm accidents during the winter months are when grain bin and auger accidents peak, according to research from Purdue's Agricultural Safety and Health Program. Around grain bins, farmers should do several things, including install or fix a guard on an auger. Next is never to work alone and be sure others know where you are working. Third is to lock out power when entering a grain bin or servicing equipment. Then keep guards around floor openings and wells to prevent plugging or entrapment. Last is to maintain grain quality so not having to remove spoiled grain means not having to enter the bin and running ventilation.

Are yams and sweet potatoes different? Yes and no. When orange sweet potatoes were first introduced, grocery stores call them "yams." However, they differ and are not related botanically speaking. Yams are big, edible tubers grown in tropical and subtropical climates, primarily in South America, Africa and the Caribbean. They can reach 2 to 3 feet long and weigh as much as 80 pounds. When properly cooked, yams have a mild, earthy flavor with a subtle sweetness. Sweet potatoes are edible roots native to the Americas, especially in the Southeast United States. They are generally only about 5 inches long, weigh less than half a pound and are always tapered at the end and have thick skin. Sweet potato varieties come in orange, white, yellow or purple and have a naturally sweet, creamy, moist texture, often served as a colorful side dish around the holidays. By the way, sweet potatoes are not related to potatoes, either.



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hydro trans. 4WD. loader w/Universal skid



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Case IH CX60 MFD 3 rear

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Above: Operated by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture in Nashville, the Tennessee Agricultural Museum (pictured) houses thousands of artifacts representing Tennessee's rural heritage and agricultural innovations, officials said. (courtesy of the Tennessee Department of Agriculture)

Tennessee Agricultural Museum grant will support ag heritage

BV DOUG SCHMITZ lowa Correspondent

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - The Tennessee Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial (TN250) recently awarded the Tennessee Agricultural Museum Association a \$17,365 Tennessee America 250 Exhibitions and Programs grant, which officials said will support new museum experiences that celebrate the state's agricultural heritage, while commemorating America's 250th anniversary.

"This grant allows us to showcase those stories through a new exhibit, and connect visitors with the broader history of America's 250 years," said Elaura Guttormson, Tennessee Agricultural Museum director. "We are grateful for the support that makes this important work possible.'

The funding will be used to develop a new exhibit focused on the Tennessee Century Farms program, highlighting its lasting significance for the state and rural communities, officials said.

Kim Doddridge, Tennessee Department of Agriculture (TDA) public information officer, told Farm World the Century Farms program has meticulously preserved records of these family farms, providing abundant documentation of challenges and successes, as well as generations of

perseverance. "Museum Curator Abigail Coomes is collaborating with Century farmers across the state to showcase artifacts from their farms," she said. "The exhibit will feature artifacts from each of Tennessee's Grand Divisions, and illustrate how agriculture in the state has evolved over time, with particular emphasis on technological innovations like motorized engines, and electricity that revolutionized rural

In addition, grant funds will suport a series of educational progran related to America's 250th anniversary, offering visitors opportunities to learn about the nation's history and Tennessee's vital contributions to agriculture, officials said. The museum will also create interpretive materials that outline connections between the semiquincentennial and the state's rich farming legacy, officials added.

communities."

Doddridge said the grant will fund a series of pre-Kindergarten through high school educational programs developed by Museum Educator Cheyenne Douthitt that connect America's 250th anniversary with the stories of Tennessee's century farms.

"The funding will also support interpretive panels throughout the museum for young readers that highlight artifacts tied to the anniversary, and Tennessee's role in early nationhood," she said. "Details for programs will be finalized in the upcoming weeks, but



1960 John Deere 730, Dsl., Pony Start, WF 3 pt., PTO, All Orig. Survivor, Runs



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



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



2011 John Deere 75D EROP, Dsl., Hyd., Thumb, Blade, 3K Hrs.,



OROPS, Dsl., 2 Spd., Hydro., 72" Bkt... \$19,500



2018 John Deere

630 Moco,



2015 JD 1590 15' No-Till Drill, 7.5" Spacing, Ground Drive Dolly Wheels,



2000 Case IH STX 450, Quad Trac, CAH, QSX-15 PS Trans., Drawbar, 4 Rem.,



1998 John Deere 862B Self Loading Scraper, CAH, PS, 29.5x25 Tires, Good Chain, Work, Ready



2005 JD 956 Moco 14'6" Cut, Impeller Conditioner, Good Knives, Gone Through,



Ford 139 Soil Saver Chisel, 15 Shank, Used Very Little, From a



1998 DDT 630B , Cummins Dsl., 30 Ton Capacity, Ejector Bed, Low Hrs... \$22,500



Dark Wing 53' Step Deck, All Aluminum, Spread or Close Axle, VG Condition...



2022 JD S780, CAH, Pro Drive, 4x4, 5 Spd., Feeder House, Power Cast, Firestone, 650 Duals, Extended Grain Bin, Like New, Very Nice.. \$119,500



2005 Volvo EC160BLC, CAH, 9'11" Stick, 24" Pads, 46" Bkt...



2003 CAT MT865 CAH, C-18, PS, Drawbar 4 Remotes, Auto Steer,



1998 Case IH 8940 CAH, PS, 3 Pt., PTO, Duals, 74331 Hrs., 1 Owner,



2006 Case 621D CAH, PS, 2.5 Yrd ACS Quick Tach Bkt, 20.5x25 Tires, All Orig. Nice... \$34,500



2016 JD 8245R CAH, PS, 1300 Frt 3 Pt PTO, 4 Remotes, Like New, Super Low Hrs., Local Farmer Retirement.. \$199,500



2011 Brent 544, 500 bu., Roll Tarp, Very Nice, Farmer Retirement. \$13,500



2005 JD 2210 27'6" Field Cultivator, 5 Bar Drag, Local Farmer Retirement, Low Use, Really Nice, Field Ready... \$29,500



2013 Yale GDP80VX, Veracitor 80VX 2 Stage Mast, 144.7" Max Lift Ht, 90" Lowered Mast Ht, 42" Forks, Aux. Hyd. Plumbing, tier 4, 2013 US EPA Label Kubota V3800 CR-T-FF02 54.6 KW 3.8L Dsl Eng., \$9,450



2015 New Holland Workmaster 60HP, Dsl., Loader, 4x4, 3 \$19,500



2011 JD 9330, 5956 Mi., CAH, PS, PTO, 4 Rem., 480/50 Michelin Tires w/Duals, Very Nice, 2 Owner Tractor. \$144,500



2005 CAT 304 Enclosed Cab, Swing Boom, 6' Stick, Aux. Hyd. Plumbing, Backfill Blade, 16" Rubber Tracks, 28 Digging Bkt, Thumb Bracket... \$19,500



2008 Bobcat V723, Enclosed Cab, 23' Max Lift Hght, 7000 Lb Max Lift Cap., 48" Hyd. Coupler, Frame Leveling, Aux. Hyd. Plumbing, 400/80-24 Tires... \$27,500



2012 Genie S45 45' Max Platform Ht. 500 Lb. Max Wght Cap., Jib, Power to Platform, Onboard generator, Deutz Dsl. 3 Cyl., 49HP, 2.3L Dsl Eng., 12-16.5 Tires.. \$17,500



2000 Ford F750, CAT6 Cyl. Dsl. Eng., Allison Auto Trans., 12,000 Lb. Front Axle, 21,000 Lb Rears, 33,000 Lb GVWR, 11R22.5. spring Susp., 168" WB, 350 Lb Cap. Center Mtd 1-Person Art. Boom, Chip Body, A-Outriggers, 11'x102" Bed... \$9,750



1999 John Deere 9550, CAH, Hydro, Chopper, Chaff Speader, 30.5x32 Tire, \$27,500



2015 Case IH 875, 13 Shank Ripper, Like New Rolling Baskets, No Welds, Big Blades, Work Ready... \$64.500



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Miami University's horses help to counsel students

Ohio Correspondent

OXFORD, Ohio - Some of the hors- so soothing and calming." es at Miami University's Equestrian Center have a new job. In addition to being part of the university's riding Psychotherapy in partnership with the Equestrian Center.

An alumnus reached out to Heath-Equestrian Center, and suggested the idea. Pinnick liked it because it was another way to use the horses. She reached out to Jennifer Young, licensed psychologist and associate director for community engagement at the Student Counseling Service, who also liked the idea. The two brainstormed.

"It started almost a year ago now, so it is still fairly new," Pinnick said. "We're piloting it to see just what we can do and how to grow with it. We have done some other things too, with the drop-in sessions for the students just to come down and pet the horses, give them a treat. Then we have the specific weekly counseling sessions."

The university provides student counseling, said Young, who works with Sami Goodpaster, another counselor. This is typically one-on-one therapy in a room with the student and counselor facing each other and talking once a week. That works for a lot of people, but not everybody.

"For a lot of students who maybe would prefer to be doing something instead of staring at your counselor across the way, this works really well," Young said. "We are standing, we are grooming a horse, it can be less intimidating for some people who don't like direct eye contact. So, when students come to our center to start therapy, we tell them about the option of horse therapy.'

Many students like the idea, Young said. "Those who do tend to be students who are anxious, maybe have PTSD issues, are low in confidence, maybe have depression, those seem to be the most common concerns that do well with horses.'

However, before the program could get off the ground, Pinnick had to help Young, who had never been around horses, get acquainted with them. She learned how to put on a halter, lead them out of the stall, curry and brush them, and pick out their hooves. It was a new experience.

"It was wonderful," Young said. "Heather was very patient and taught



me about the tack room and how to get the horse out of the stall. I love the animals. They are just beautiful,

Then Pinnick chose specific horses to use for therapy that were of the right temperament. They needed to department, they are now helping to be friendly, to like being groomed, counsel students. The Student Coun- and not too big; that could be intimiseling Service (SCS) offers drop-in dating. She came up with six horses. Horse Therapy and Equine-Assisted They all have other jobs, too. They are not used exclusively for therapy.

"We have therapy sessions once a week, Young said. "We take the horse er Pinnick, director of riding at the out of the stall, I help groom the horse. I think that helps the students who are especially anxious just to be around such a large animal, when you see that it starts to respond to you as you're brushing it. The students love that."

Sometimes the horses "try to push the student's buttons," Pinnick said. Maybe the horse won't pick its foot up right away. So, there is a level of frustration and there is so much reward when they finally do get it.

"Horses are very intuitive of how we're feeling," Pinnick said. "I think

(Miami continued on page 11)



Above: Heather Pinnick and Jennifer Young feeding Fendy treats. Young had to get acquainted with horses and how to care for them before beginning the Horse Therapy program.



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Above: All the horses used in the therapy program have other jobs, too. Annika Nyberg enjoys riding Francoe in Miami University's equine program.

Below: The equine center has had three drop-in sessions. The counseling staff made name tags for the horses. The horses like the sessions – they know when the treats are coming.



Miami

FROM PAGE 10

sometimes they know when we need to push through something, so maybe they don't pick their foot up right away, and we need to push through that frustration; or they know when we're sad, it is really cool to watch."

The students gain confidence, Young explained. Some students score pretty high on an anxiety scale when they start therapy. By the end of the semester, it is much reduced. Anxiety seems to be well-treated by the horses.

"We have had students who cry when they're here, too," Young said. "The horse just provides another outlet. Being around the horses allows the student to feel calm and safe. They can then start to talk about some tough issues. One student had grief issues; she would cry as she groomed the horse. It was cathartic for her."

Equine therapy is a good modality for individuals with autism or who are on the autism spectrum, Young said. They aren't quite as verbal, and they don't have to stare at the counselor across the room. They can look at the horses and maybe don't have to talk as much.

Also, with the start of the therapy program, Pinnick and Young introduced drop-in days where any student can come and pet the horses, give them a treat; they have been very successful.

"We wondered if students would come," Young said. "More than we thought came. The first time we ran out of treats. We had over 100 in one hour, and we have had higher numbers since then. Students from all backgrounds, professors will come and bring their kids. Students love it. It's a great way to tell them about the therapy program.

Added Pinnick: "We have had three drop-in sessions. The counseling staff made name tags for the horses. The horses like it. They know when the treats are coming! The giggles we hear, from the students, the smiles we see, it's so amazing to see them interact."



Above: The drop-in sessions, where students can visit the horses and give them treats, have been very successful. At the first one, more than 100 students came in one hour. They ran out of treats.



Michigan farm property values up nearly 8 percent in past year

(AP) - Michigan farm property values are going gangbusters, rising 7.8 percent in the past year and leading the nation, according to an annual report from the USDA.

National values increased 4.3 percent - coming amid fluctuation in farm revenue and markets, in part due to tariff volatility - means prices are remarkably stable, said national landowner services company Farmers National Co.

The state's higher rate of increase is coming, at least in part, from buyers who seek to turn the land into homes, factories or other commercial enterprises, experts said.

"The main reason for land coming on the market is usually either a decision to sell due to generational change or land in more urban areas selling for uses other than farming," Jay Van Gorden, of Farmers National, said in a July forecast.

Several recent high-profile economic development initiatives in the state are using farmland. They include:

- 1. The megasite under development in Genesee County, where of 1.300 acres under contract, much is farmland.
- 2. A new hyperscale data center, where developers had sued Saline Township for permission to build on 575 acres of farmland.
- 3. The planned home for an electric vehicle battery factory near Big Rapids, where Gotion had planned to build, largely on over 250 acres of agricultural land.

Farmland for some megasites such as in Mundy Township in Genesee County - can fetch \$15,000 to \$30,000 an acre, far above the state average of \$6,800 per acre for

non-development land.

The average U.S. data center land transaction is now 224 acres, according to commercial real estate firm Cushman & Wakefield. That is "driven by the need for multi-building campuses and future expansion," the brokerage said.

"Land is worth what you could put on it," Jim Porth, a commercial real estate agent at Thomas Duke Co., of Farmington Hills.

In Washtenaw County, Porth said national homebuilders also are able to pay more for land because they have the resources to gain higher unit counts on property that otherwise may be zoned for up to 10-acre lots.

When used for agricultural purposes, farmland across the state varies due to location and demand.

Agriculture property can sell for \$5,000-\$10,000 per acre in west Michigan, according to real estate website Land Boss, climbing in southwest Michigan to \$8,000-\$12,000 per acre.

Non-agricultural, remote land in the Upper Peninsula might be found for \$1,000 per acre, while the same type of property in more-developed east Michigan could cost up to \$15,000 per acre.

Institutional investors continue to seek farmland, industry experts said. Among them are international companies, a move that's prompted scrutiny. Legislation has sought to limit foreign land ownership after deals resulted in Singapore owning 5 percent of the Upper Peninsula.

And while farmland values are up in Michigan, the number of properties on the market is nearly one-third fewer than seen during the pandemic

(Michigan continued on page 18)

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Tennessee

FROM PAGE 11

the interpretive panels will anchor the educational offerings."

Operated by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture in Nashville, the Tennessee Agricultural Museum houses thousands of artifacts representing Tennessee's rural heritage and agricultural innovations, which attracts more than 15,000 people annually, officials said, adding the museum's ongoing preservation efforts ensure future generations can experience and understand the state's agricultural legacy.

Doddridge said TDA operates the Tennessee Agricultural Museum as an ongoing service to the citizens of Tennessee: "TDA values the material culture entrusted to the museum, and recognizes the powerful role artifacts play in connecting people to the past. Agricultural artifacts offer expansive opportunities to explore history, innovation, and everyday life.

"TDA engages museum visitors from across the state, the nation, and the world to demonstrate how farming in Tennessee has evolved over time, and how those changes have shaped daily life," she added. "TDA provides funding for a staff of three: the Museum Director Elaura Guttormson; the

Museum Curator, Abigail Coomes; and the Museum Educator, Cheyenne Douthitt, and supports their work to connect the public with Tennessee's agricultural past and present."

Officials said the State of Tennessee made available \$6,435,000 to the Tennessee State Museum to administer on behalf of the commission, with the majority of funding to be re-granted to Tennessee communities to support statewide America 250 initiatives.

Carrie Tipton, TN250 coordinator, told Farm World Tennessee organizations receiving grants from the commission applied for funding via a competitive process requiring applicants to demonstrate project alignment with the commission's mission and vision.

"The commission was pleased to fund the Tennessee Agricultural Museum's 250th Project Support Grant, which includes multiple Semiquin-

centennial initiatives," she said. "First, the grant supports an exhibit on Tennessee's Century Farms and Pioneer Farms program, highlighting the resilience and contributions of Tennessee farm families, and showing how agriculture built communities and supported national growth."

She added the Century Farms exhibit will anchor the museum's America 250 commemoration, and enhance its long-term interpretive capacity.

"The grant also supports a traveling exhibit component; an interactive America 250 passport scavenger hunt; updated permanent interpretive panels in the museum; and public programming for a new Century Farms book to be published in 2026," she said. "These initiatives will expand public access to and awareness of Tennessee's rich agricultural heritage, and its role in regional and national history."

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MFWD TRACTORS: '96 NH 8560, cab, 18x6 semi ps trans, w/ LH pwr shuttle, 4RR, frnt fndrs, 480/80R42 Mitar rears, 14.9R30 FS frnts, exclnt rubber, 7400 hrs, very nice!; JD 4955, 8600 hrs, 4 hyds, lg 1000 pto, 42" duals, like new, led lights, auto steer, q-hitch, well maint;

TRACTORS: '74 JD 4430, cab, quad range, 3RR, 20.8-38 rears w/ clamp on duals, shows 9033 hrs; '79 JD 4840, shows 600 hrs (approx. 6600 total), 3 hyds, 1000 pto, 3pt, quick hitch, 18.4-42 rears w/ duals, 85-90%, 9 frnt wts, nice tractor; CIH 7120, CAH, 18.4-42, 23* Firestone, 3 hyds, 540-1000 pto;

FRONT LDRS/BUCKETS/BLADES/ FORKS: IH 2350 Frnt Ldr, mount-omatic, 48" pallet forks, slightly used, works well; Frontier 2072 3pt Blade, 6', never used; Frontier 2072 Blade, 3pt, 6', never used;

COLLECTORS: IH 460, gas, NFE, fast hitch, one own; David Bradley Corn Sheller; Clipper Seed Clnr;

INDUSTRIAL: NH LX485 Skid Steer, w/ bckt, Plexi on sides of cab, new 10-16.5 tires, 2286 org hrs, very nice!; Fiat Allis FR10 Wheel Ldr, dsl, LF reverse, 96" bkt, runs good; Kobelco K905 Excavator, 6219 hrs, runs & operates; Dresser TD7G Dozer, Cummins eng, new undercarriage, runs & drives;

MECHANIC SPECIALS: IH 966, dsl, no cab, runs & moves but doesn't steer;

GRAIN HEADS: JD 920F, 20', 3" cut, poly liner, pto hookups;

AUGER CARTS: UM 9250, 900 bu, lg 1000 pto, on tracks, w/ tarp, red; EZ Trail 1020, hyd spout, roll tarp, Avery Weigh Tronix scale;

WAGONS: M&W 400 bu, center dump; PLANTERS: Kinze 3000, 6/11R, NT, 4 spring DP, sharp!; '98 JD 1770, 16R-30", sure-flow seed frmrs, mrkrs, row cltchs, air force, e-set meters, c/b plates, 400 gal tank, plumbed for in-furrow fert, SI upper parallel arms, Martin row clnrs;

FERTILIZER SPREADERS: Stainless Steel 6 Ton Spreader, 19.5-16.1 tires, 540 pto;

ROCKFLEX DISKS: '13 Kuhn Krause 7300, 25', 7.5" sp, rear hyds & hyds;

FIELD CULTIVATORS: JD 960, 36', walk tands on main & wings, rear hyds & hitch, 5 bar spike drag;

DISK RIPPERS: DMI 527, shanks extd to 30";

RIPPERS: '03 Blu-Jet Sub-tiller II, 5x;

SOIL SAVERS: Glencoe 9x;

MOWERS: Woods Rot Mwr. 540 pto. slightly used, works well; JD MX10, spt, rear tires, hyd, offset; '95 Bush Hog 2615, legend, 15', batwing, 1000 pto, frnt & rear shlds; JD 709, 7';

LIVESTOCK: Danhuser 3pt PHD, very nice!; 3pt PHD, w/ 10" & 14" auger bits; New Wolverine Post Pounder;

HAYBINES/DISCBINES: NH 7230, 10', hyd hitch, good rolls; NH 495, end trans, works good;

HAY BALERS: Deutz GP220, round; Gehl 1500, round, twine tie, works good;

MANURE SPREADERS: Meyer 7500, V-Force, horizontal rear beaters, good augers;

IRRIGATION: ABI Hose Reel;

TRUCKS & TRAILERS: '96 IH 4170 Dump Truck, sngl axle; 2025 Big Tex 25GN, 35', w/ 5' dove tail; '79 Homemade Trlr, 14K lb cap, 8'x18', tilt bed;

MISC: Landpride CR25 Straw Crimper, 72", 3pt; Farm King 740 Snow Blwr, 7", 540 pto, hyd spout; IH 80 Snow Blwr, 540 pto, sharp!; Brandt Grain Deck Drive Over Belt Conveyor, hyd drive; New TMG-DB86 Snow Blade; Tree Shear; New Wolverine Trencher; Byron 3020B Conveyor, 30" wide x 20' long, rubber belt w/ cleats, hyd drive; 22' Hay Rack, red; David Bradley Gear; Wallenstein Wood Chipper, like new; (2) Welding Tables; 540 Elec Drive Motor, w/run grain auger; (2) 18.4-38, radials w/ rims; (2) 18.4-34 Duals;





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2022 JD DB60 MaxEmerge5e, 32 row 20", hyd. down pres., pneum. row cleaners, liq. fert, seed firmers....... \$375,000



1955 JD 50, LP, 540pto, lights, like new rubber



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BEEF 509 program planned for late February at Ohio State

MARYSVILLE, Ohio - The Ohio Beef Council and the Ohio Cattlemen's Foundation, in partnership with The Ohio State University Animal Science Department, will host the BEEF 509 program on Feb. 27-28, 2026, at the Animal Science Building, 2029 Fyffe Rd, Columbus, OH 43210.

BEEF 509 is an intensive educational program designed to help cattle producers better understand the food side of their business and implement best management practices to improve beef quality, enhance profitability and recognize value within the beef supply chain.

Participants will explore topics including Live Cattle Evaluation, Beef Carcass Grading, Grid Pricing, Beef Harvest Demonstration, Carcass Fabrication and Cutting, Understanding the Science of Beef, Beef Quality Assurance and Live Carcass and Boxed Beef Evaluation.

During the program, participants will work in teams to:

• Evaluate live animals and grid pricing systems

- · Select cattle through an "auction-like" setting
- Follow those cattle through harvest, grading, and hands-on cutting sessions

This hands-on approach allows participants to experience firsthand differences in carcass composition and understand how those differences impact value and profitability. Teams' results will be evaluated based on profit margins from their original live purchase prices.

The program is limited to 30 participants on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration is \$175 per person, with the Ohio Beef Council covering all additional program expenses. Participants are required to attend both days. The tentative schedule is Friday, 3-7:30 p.m. and Saturday, 8 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

For registration and additional information, visit ohiocattle.org, call 614-873-6736, or email cattle@ohiocattle.org. Registration closes Jan. 20, 2025, or once the program reaches capacity.

Michigan

FROM PAGE 14

- leaving the lower supply also a likely reason for the price gains.

That could change with the economy, Van Gorden said.

"With ongoing uncertainty in both the agricultural and overall economies, we may see more land being offered on the market to pay down debt, generate operating capital, or because of operator retirement," Van Gorden said.

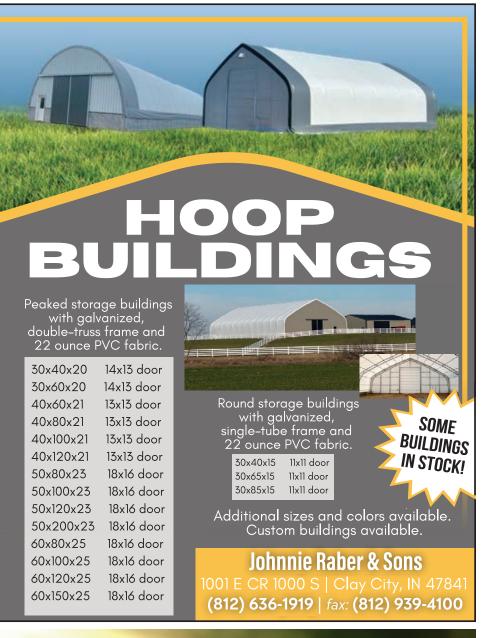
Meanwhile, the state continues to lose farmland, with 300,000 fewer acres used for farming purposes in 2022 than in 2017, the most recent census shows.

The loss represents about 3 percent of the state's 9 million agricultural acres, much of it attributed to urban growth spreading into farming areas.

There are 44,000 farms in Michigan with about 150,000 workers. The agricultural industry, including food processing, generated over \$2 billion in economic impact, the state said.

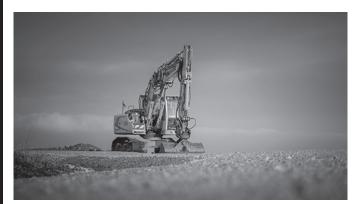
Many farmers are still working through new tariffs set by the Trump administration, which prompted big drops in exports compared to last year. In the first half of 2025, Michigan soybean meal exports fell by 46 percent, wheat exports declined 89 percent, fresh cherry exports fell 62 percent and fresh apple exports declined 58 percent, according to the state Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

TELL THEM YOU SAW THEIR AD IN Farm World





Farm World







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13978 Jones Rd., Hagerstown, IN 47346

765-524-6117 Tensile Board

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Fence Chain Link Barbed Wire Vinyl Fence Horse Rail Free Estimates • Post Pounder For Rent





William Haak **MMBR** (219) 364-0030 BillHaak1 @gmail.com

Clean Fill Disposal Sand, Aggregate, Compost/Soil Sales

Site Entrance: W300N & W325N • Valparaiso, IN Mailing Address: P.O. Box 73 • Valparaiso, IN 46384

Call in Your Ads TOLL-FREE — 1-800-876-5133. Ext. 123

CLASSIFICATION TITLES Announcements For Sale, General Planters-Drills 520 Antique Farm Equipment 170 Generators 230 Poultry 300 Rabbits 320 Antique Tractors 410 Goats 270 Augers 390 Grain Bins & Drying Equip. 480 Ratites 400 Buildings 50 **Grinder-Mixers** 550 Real Estate For Sale 160 **Building Materials** 200 Harvest Equipment 310 Real Estate Wanted 150 **Bush Hogs** 101 Hay & Straw 340 Recreational Vehicles 70 Cars 60 Hay Equipment 530 Seed Handling Equip. 370 Help Wanted Cattle 210 30 180 Combines & Pickers-Headers 490 Horses 290 Sheep 260 Skid Steer Loaders 420 Custom Work 120 Industrial Equipment 100 Dairy Equipment 330 Irrigation 430 Swine 250 Tillage (Plows, Discs, Etc.) Dogs-Cats 280 Lawn & Garden 460 510 Farm Equipment Wanted 440 Livestock Equipment 220 450 Tractors Farm Tires 470 190 90 Lumber **Trailers** Feed-Seed 80 350 Manure Equipment 540 Trucks 500 Fert./Chemical Appl. Equip. 380 Misc. Farm Equipment 560 Wagons Fertilizer & Chemicals 20 360 Misc. Parts 240 Wanted To Buy For Rent Organic Wanted To Rent 140

Farm World

CLASSIFIEDS
27 N. Jefferson St. • Knightstown, IN 46148
Toll Free: 800-876-5133 • Fax: 765-345-3323

E-mail: ktrue@farmworldonline.com • Website: www.farmworldonline.com
Classified Deadline: Friday 11:00 AM Eastern Time
Holidays Affect Deadline!

Classified Word Ad Rates

(15 Word Minimum) 95¢ per word for 1st week \$1.90 per word for 2 weeks 3rd week free

City & State count as 1 word each. 2-word city counts as 2 words. 3-word city counts as 3 words. Bold Ads

(Entire Ad) 25% Extra

Blind Box Service

\$5.00 per week added to the cost of ad Replies mailed daily.

Phone numbers count as 1 word. NO REFUNDS ON CANCELLATIONS!

5% billing charge which is deductible if paid within 10 days.

Additional charges added for accounts sent to collection & NSF checks.

Farm World Will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. Each insertion is proof of publication and it is the responsibility of the advertiser to check it. Farm World does not assume any responsibility for errors or ombit to edit responsible to of the ad itself. Farm World

has the right to edit, reject or property classify any ad.

Farm World newspaper reserves the right to change or alter rates at any time without notice or obligation.

10 FOR SALE, GENERAL

(500) hog panels/gates. Reasonable, new. 734-461-1414.

Countryside pellet stove, gd. shape, \$1000 obo. 765-309-3784 Brownsville, IN.

www.farmworldonline.com

Escape Soaring Heat Costs

with Central Boiler's certified, proven technology in the Classic Edge Titanium HDX OUTDOOR

WOOD FURNACE.
Call now for economical warmth solutions!
CLASSIC COMFORT

Heating & Supply

Greenville Ohio

888-296-3875 (10-tApr24

Fiberglass T posts, 7' long, \$7.85 ea.; 4x8 powder coated alum. sheets; solid round fiberglass rods, 1" round, 38' long. 812-257-9700 Odon, IN.

Whole seed corn cob, 12.5% moisture, \$30/ton. 937-604-3289 Brookville, OH.

\$100,000,000 in
Ag Loans available
First come, first serve
30-year mortgages,
livestock facilities,
simple application.

Call or text Jeff Smith - 260-726-5532 Mac America Ag Finance

20 WANTED TO BUY

JD 9230 tractor, w/3 pt. hookup, 3000 hrs. or less. 812-639-3582 Jasper, IN.

Notice: If you have standing timber, call me before you sell! Premium price for large walnut trees. Charles Fox. 765-853-9925, 765-238-9233 Modoc, IN.

Wanted: Horse quality hay in round bales or small squares. Write to: John Yoder, 769 Mobley Rd., Patriot, OH 45658.

"NO REFUNDS ON CANCELLATION OF CLASSIFIED ADS!"

50 BUILDINGS



POLE BARN SPECIALIST

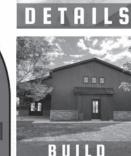
FROM SHEDS TO WAREHOUSES, WE ARE YOUR POST FRAME AND STUD FRAME CONSTRUCTION EXPERTS!

POLE BARNS - STUD FRAME
- BARNDOMINIUM -

WORKSHOPS - GARAGES -

ADDITIONS

HAVE A QUESTION?
NEED A QUOTE?
(937) 526 - 4501



Classified Deadline: Fri. @ 11:00 AM EST

Have Something To Sell? Call Kelly: Farm World Classifieds 1-800-876-5133 Ext. 123



Beware of text & phone solicitors. Don't be a victim.

ALERT! If you get a <u>TEXT</u> message from anyone about your equipment, it's most likely a fraud. BEWARE OF JIM BROWN, NATIONAL VEHICLE REGISTRY, 531-242-5967, JOSHUA BROWN & MICHAEL BRYANT, 912-771-5495, 434-226-4602 (NC)!!!

They will send you a check that appears to be good, but overpays to the amount of what it costs to pick up equipment, and later wants a wire sent to them through Walmart because they now will pay the pick up company. Their check comes back bad after a few days, and the Walmart wire cannot be reversed. They have been reported to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). ALERT!

If you are contacted by a company called National Marketing or Ultimate Market Place from Omaha, Nebraska and others, please be careful. Farm World has been alerted about representatives of Boese Media Marketing, Heartland Media Group LLC, National Marketing & Ultimate Market Place, Sgt. Christopher (TX), Ryan (IA) anyone requesting transaction with **PAYPAL** account and others claiming that they will work for a brokerage or leasing company that matches buyers and sellers together and offers financing to buyers. For \$99-\$400 dollars they claim they have already brokered a buyer for the equipment, and want a credit card over the phone to begin the process. As time goes on, nothing happens, phone calls are not returned, and the equipment is not sold. We have heard from over 400 people, and have filed a complaint with both the Secretary of State and the Attorney General in Nebraska. If you have any experience with this company, please contact Consumer Protection Mediation Center 800-727-6432. Also we would like to hear from you. Please call 1-800-876-5133 x 302 and ask for Gary.

A scammer will often try to pressure you into making a quick decision and to pay up front.

These are warning signs that should not be ignored!

REMEMBER: If a deal is too good to be true, pass. Do not be influenced by a sense of urgency. **DO NOT GIVE YOUR CREDIT CARD OVER THE PHONE.**

Have Something To Sell?

Call Kelly

Farm World Classifieds

1-800-876-5133 Ext. 123



1326 W. Main St.

50 BUILDINGS



Have Something To Sell?

Call Kelly Farm (\$World

1-800-876-5133

Classifieds

Ext. 123



D&E Buildings and More **Amish Craftmanship**

Berne, Indiana | 419-910-0024









All Buildings Custom Built To Customer's Specs

40' x 64' x 14'

1= 20' x 14' Split Sliding Doors 1=36" Walk Door 1=3'x3' Window

40' x 80' x 14'

1= 20' x 14' Split Sliding Doors 1=36" Walk Door 1=3'x3' Window

60' x 88' x 16'

1= 24' x 16' Split Sliding Doors 1=36" Walk Door 1=3'x3' Window

Call Now About Our 5% Off Tax Sale Discount!

FREE ESTIMATES CUSTOMER SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

All Materials Top Quality • Yellow Pine Trusses/Nailers 29 ga. Metal, 40 Yr. Color Guarantee Trusses on 4' Centers • Hurricane Strap on all Trusses Roof Purlins & Wall Nailers Many Other Options Available! (50-TFeb.27)

Large Scale Ag Buildings Also Available – We Also Offer 29 Ga. Metal with a 40 YR Warranty

80 TRUCKS

1981 Int. tandem, w/404 gas eng., roll tarp, 61,000 mi., \$9000. 812-569-0889 Seymour,

2013 Mack Pinnacle, day cab, tandem, M drive, 509K miles, great shape, \$22,000. 419-722-9671 Fostoria, OH.

2016 1500 Dodge Ram, 5.7 Hemi, 4WD, 4 door, 6' bed, red, clean truck, \$16,500 obo. 419-969-0022, 419-969-0023 Ottawa, OH.

New take off truck beds, tailgates & bumpers. 317-512-2129 Franklin, IN.

New takeoffs, Chevy, Ford and Dodge, pickup beds, tailgates and step bumpers. 317-422-5815 Franklin, IN.

Reman 6.7 & 5.9 common rail, Cummins motor, warranty 6 mos./10K, from \$3200. 270-427-4588 Tompkinsville, KY.

90 TRAILERS

2005 Wilson hopper bottom, 34'x72"x96", new brakes and drums, call for more details, \$21,900 obo. 765-993-4250 Liberty, IN.

140 WANTED TO RENT

Cash crops leaving you in the negative? Paying top dollar on ground suitable for hay. 765-914-Union County, IN

180 SERVICES

Dismantle & repair stave silos. 812-596-2757 Hope, IN.



Classified Ads Can Also Be Placed

On Our Website: www.farmworldonline.com

the CLASSIFIEDS You never know what you'll find inside.



Farm World

800-876-5133 • www.farmworldonline.com

PLEASE NOTE: 15 **Word Minimum On All Classified Word Ads**

210 CATTLE

(29) Holstein steers, fully vaccinated, dehorned, tails docked, approx. 375 lbs. Call for pricing. 937-564-4753 Eldorado, OH.

1/2 Simm 1/2 Angus bull. Born 3/31/25. Can be registered. Gentle and eating grain and silage. 812-350-2221 Flat Rock, IN.

Feeder Heifers 15 head, mostly black, 675 lbs. at 310/lb., all shots. 260-403-7203 Fort Wayne,

Room to feed 120 head. confinement with bedded pack, per head/per day pricing, fat cattle or breeding heifers. 317-223-5289 Maxwell, IN.



220 LIVESTOCK EQUIP.

(32) farrowing crates, exc. cond. 812-257-9700 Odon, IN.

Miraco waterers, energy free, MiraFount; Lil Spring. Sale on inventory. 812-699-0856 Linton, IN.

Double H Ag-Bag •

Ag-Bag machines Silage bags & Inoculant

Machine rental (220-tf)● ● John Denny 812-967-3642 ●

220 LIVESTOCK EQUIP.

PRESSURE Nilfisk **WASHERS** Superior Technology - Performance - Features Gas Powered 10-23 HP A Machine For Every Task

For A Free Demonstration

Call 765-482-4776 New & Used

Sales & Service Since 1977 CLEANING SYSTEMS

765-482-4776 Lebanon, IN





280 DOGS-CATS

(2) Treeing Walker pups, (1) male, (1) female, 15 wks. old, GNC bloodlines, UKC papers, parents on site, coon or squirrel dogs, \$500 ea. 765-541-0188 Connersville, IN.

Australian cross Red Heeler puppies, gd. working farm stock, males & females, 1st shots & dewormed, ready to go, \$150 ea. Alan Gingerich, 8557 Wolfrey Rd., New Paris, OH 45347

290 HORSES

Cash paid for sound & crippled horses. Also buying cows & bulls. 937-687-2305.

puppies \$20 ea. 765-570-2636 Rushville, IN.

Australian Blue Heeler mixed

Jack Russell Terrier puppies, shots and dewormed, \$250 ea. 765-541-2737, Cambridge City,

Reg. Border Collie pups, top bloodlines, healthy. JD's Stock Dogs. 812-521-2058 Seymour,

Classified Deadline: Fri. @ 11:00 AM EST

340 HAY & STRAW

1500 lbs. western square bales Alfalfa, \$260/bale. 937-544-7813 West Union, OH.

1st, 2nd, 3rd cut 5x5 alfalfa/orchard grass bales. wrapped tight and put up right. avg 1150# 1st cut \$60, 2nd \$65. Quantity discounts. Lafayette, IN. 765-426-

4th cut squares, alfalfa/orchard grass mix. High alfalfa, some foxtail. Green, good and dry. \$6.50 bale. 765-426-3391 Lafayette, IN.

4x5 grass, round bales, \$45/ bale. 765-914-9196 Liberty, IN.

4x5 Round bales, mixed grass. 812-614-2019 or 812-593-2690 Greensburg, IN.

Alfalfa & grass hay. Horse & dairy quality, high protein & RFV, small or large sq. bales & rounds. Delivery available. Smith Sales, Inc. 606-303-3867 Dunnville, KY.

Big round bales, mixed hay, 4x5's for sale. Brookville, IN. 513-450-1295.

Certified organic hay, 1st & 3rd cutting, large square & round bales, alfalfa mix. 260-349-2525 Albion, IN.

Clover & grass hay, 5x5, net wrapped, stored inside, \$50. 812-327-6445 Springville, IN.

First cut small square bales, \$6 ea. 5x4 round bales, various mixes, \$45-55 ea. 317-501-5871 Brownsburg IN

340 HAY & STRAW

Good 1st cutting 5x5 round bales \$70; 3x4x8 square bales \$90. Lafayette, Ind. (765) 426-3099 or (765) 563-1003 Weekdays Office.

Grass hay, 1st & 2nd cutting 3x4x8 bales, wheat stubble w/alfalfa hay & clover mixed in 3x4x8 bales; straw, 3x4x8 & 4x4x7 bales. 937-408-8742 Springfield,

Hay, rye grass & alfalfa, 21% protein, 1800-2000 lb. round bales, horse hay quality. 812-969-2174 Elizabeth, IN.

Hay. Mixed clean, tight, heavy bales. Easy loading. 513-385-6282 Cincinnati, OH.

Mixed hay wheat straw 3X4 bales, rye straw 3X4 bales, stored inside, delivery avail. 419-262-3699 Graytown, OH.

Orchard grass Brome grass, sm. squares and lg. round. 765-265-3253 Milton, IN.

Round bales of hay for sale. Great horse hay. Call or text 812-257-9700 Odon, IN.

Small square bales hay, timothy & orchard grass, \$7/bale; 5x6 round bales hay, timothy orchard grass & fescue mix, \$55/bale. 812-719-1283 Tell City, IN.

Straw, round bales 4'x5', net wrapped, \$30/bale. Free delivery for full trailer load, 60 miles radius from Oakland, IL. 217-251-

Prairie Haven Farm Hay & Straw for Sale.

3x3 – big squares & rounds 5x6 - rounds 618-838-2554 Xenia, IL

We Buy Straw

Large Square Bales High Quality, Long, Clean & Dry We Buy Year Round

HALL FARMS For more information, call or text:

812-576-2580 - Brookville, IN

350 FEED - SEED

KELP - Acadian Kelp Meal for livestock mineral & soil amendment. Multi-bag & pallet quantity discounts. Grazing Systems Supply, Inc. 888-635-8588.

We pay top dollar for damaged grain. Trucks and vacs available. Immediate response anywhere.

Pruess Elevator Inc. 1-800-828-6642

NEW YEAR'S DAY DEADLINES

In observance of New Year's Day our offices will be closed Thursday, January 1
The following deadlines will be in effect for

the January 9th issue for classified and regular display advertising:

Regular Display Advertising Wednesday, December 31st, 12 Noon

> **Classified Advertising** Friday, January 2nd, 11 AM

3 weeks for the price of 2

360 FERTILIZER & CHEMICALS

New foliar or soil products. Beck's PFR proven. Seeking soybean growers within 120 miles Indianapolis. Call now for more info. Henry Yoder 740-398-1720 Mount Vernon, OH.

PLEASE NOTE: 15 Word Minimum On All **Classified Word Ads**

CHEMICALS FOR SALE

Generic Liberty Tigris brand \$15.00 Enlist 1 \$44.50 AgSaver 5.4 RUP \$13.50 Seneric Callisto \$47.00 LV6 \$26.00 Atrazine \$13.00 Resicore Rev \$43.50 Acuron \$48.50 Generic Lexar EZ \$22.00

Sharpen \$540.00 **GELHAUS AG New Weston, OH** 937-423-2582

Seed • Premium Fertilizer • Chicken Liter

Call for excellent products, great prices and good service.

Eaton, Ohio · 937-472-8269



Dont





Our classified deadlines have changed from **Monday to Friday** at 11:00 a.m.!!

380 FERT. / CHEMICAL APPLICATION EQUIP.



Specializing in Application . . . Focused on Service

FARMS

Urbana, Ohio 937-597-3629 (380-tfx)

390 AUGERS

Warehouse pricing on Mayrath swing-aways, roll-aways, inline drive, top drive, large selection, many sizes on hand. Prompt delivery avail-able. Call 877-846-5381 days, 419-303-6881 eves. Delphos,

410 ANTIQUE TRACTORS

JD 4055 show tractor from OH Science Review show & Farm Proshow, serial #0001. Exc., 4000 hrs. Best offer. 519 977-3335

Prepare your items for the upcoming Hendricks County Tractor Club Consignment Auction on March 7, 2026 (starts at 9:00am) at Ted Everett's Farm Equipment. Farm equipment, trucks, cars, and tools wanted. Sale bill at www.HCATMA.com and photos on AuctionZip. Call Terry Johnson at 317-430-2989 or Brad Beeson at 317-432-8196.

440 FARM EQUIP. WANTED

JD tractors or combines for parts or repair. 812-591-2144 or 812-525-1963 N. Vernon, IN.

Wanted: Good useable Case 870 w/cab, dsl. 859-910-7133

We Buy Damaged Tractors Not Worth Repairing. 937-548-0718.

450 TRACTORS

09 215 Magnum, exc. cond., 1348 hours \$134,800 Call 269-341-4915 Three Oaks, MI.

1997 White 6195, FWD, power shift, 20.8x42 tires & duals, front weights, 5500 hrs.; 202 Agco DT200, FWD, power shift, 18.4x46 tires & duals, front weights, 4425 hrs.; 204 Agco White 8410, FWD, 18.4x42 tires & duals, 5296 hrs.; White 1998 2-88, 2WD, cab & air, 18.4x38 tires, 3795 hrs. 419-969-0022, 419-969-0023 Ottawa, OH.

2002 JD 5420, 81HP, 1967 hrs., 12sp shuttle shift, roll bar and canopy, exc. shape 419-305-5656 Saint Henry, OH.

2013 JD 8335R, ILS, IVT, front duals, inside & outside rear weights, (5) remotes, heated leather seat, no DEF, 2942 hours, very nice. \$185,000 OBO. 740-621-1764 Somerset, OH.

450 TRACTORS

NEW & USED REBUILT TRACTOR **PARTS**

Many late model machines

Hill-T Farm Inc

4295 Richmond • Palestine Rd. New Madison, OH 45346-9608 (937) 548-0718

NEW YEAR'S DAY

DEADLINES In observance of New Year's Day our offices will be closed Thurs., Jan. 1

The following deadlines will be in effect for the January 9th issue for classified and regular display advertising: Regular Display Advertising Wednesday, December 31st, 12 Noon Classified Advertising Friday, January 2nd, 11 AM

470 FARM TIRES

- (1) new Alliance 23.1x30, 8 ply, 23 degree, \$1100. 812-569-0889 Seymour, IN.
- (1) new Cambridge 9532, \$250. 812-569-0889 Seymour, IN.
- (1) new Firestone all traction field & road, 14.9x36, \$400. 812-569-0889 Seymour, IN.

(1) new Firestone traction field & road, 16.9x26, \$500. 812-569-0889 Seymour, IN.

(1) new FS traction field & road, 14.9x30, \$600. 812-569-0889 Seymour, IN.

(1) new FS super all traction 23 degree, 10 ply, 23.1x26, \$1100. 812-569-0889 Seymour, IN.

480 GRAIN BINS & DRYING EQUIP.

36" FF 3 phase fan and heater vapor \$2400 and down 28" FF 4 blade fan single phase fan \$350 rough. Redelman Bin Service. 812-663-3164 Greensburg, IN.

New & used grain dryers, G.T., Delux, GSI. Call anytime 1-877-422-0927

New & used Kongskilde grain vacs. New GT recirculating batch dryers. Cornwell Equipment. 217-543-2631 Arthur, IL.

Got Pigs?



Advertise them in FarmWorld

2131 W. ST. RD. 244, MILROY, IN 46156 765-629-2470 • www.homaninc.com 6915 Olding Rd., Maria Stein, OH 45860 419-925-4349 GSI, Agricultural Buildings, Mayrath Augers

	Serving Our Customers Since 1958	
GSI	NEW EQUIPMENT PRICE Sudenga Drive Over ELECT	7
Augers •	Hoteldan COLONA	ricu
GSI • Agricultural Buildings • Mayrath	2021 Hutchison 13x84 SMED t Shape \$24,500 USED EQUIPMENT FFI CF/SA 600, 3ph 480v NG, 36" legs, Dri-tech/vision control, great shape ready to go \$79,500 Farm King Transfer Auger (Elect, NO MOTOR) 10" \$2,400 Burchland HYD 13" Auger Drive SOLD \$12,500	tural Buildings • Mayrath Augers • GSI
	GSI • Agriculturar Bullulings • Mayratir Augers • GS	

Zip____(Omit Zip if not sure)

nWorld

TO SUBSCRIBE TO FARM WORLD CHECK THE BOXES

☐ RENEWAL ☐ GIFT ONLY

(Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennesse, West Virginia, Illinois & Michigan): ☐ 1 year \$49.95 ☐ 6 MONTHS \$34.00

☐ 6 MONTHS \$42.00 ☐ 1 year \$62.00 **☐** 3 years \$176.00 City.

☐ 2 YEARS \$94.00

☐ 3 years \$141.00

☐ 2 YEARS \$116.00

CHARGE TO: VISA Discover MasterCard Marcican Express CW_

_____ for my subscription. Gifts - Send your name & label or acct. #

(Show mailing address, especially if it's a P.O. Box)

Attach Mail Label or send Acct. #

and expiration date above name

write any label corrections!

Save \$1.00 Per Year On A Gift Subscription (if you are a paid subscriber) ☐ Each 1-Year GIFT Subscription \$48.95 (*Outside IN, OH, KY, TN, WV, IL & MI) ☐ Each 2-Year GIFT Subscription \$92.00 ☐ 1 Year GIFT \$61.00 ☐ 2 Year GIFT \$114.00 DONOR GIFT CARDS WILL BE SENT Name

Address (Show mailing address, especially if it's a P.O. Box) (For Card) Gift From

SEND SAMPLE COPY

If you are a subscriber and have a friend(s) or relative(s) you think would be interested in Farm World send it on the coupon below or mail in on another sheet of paper.

Gift Name

Address (Show mailing address, especially if it's a P.O. Box)

City Your name

Subscriber's name is necessary to show as donor even though sample copies are free. Use separate sheet for more names Mail to: Farm World, PO Box 90, Knightstown, IN 46148

Or, you may PHONE TOLL FREE to subscribe! Call toll-free 1-800-876-5133; inside area 765-345-5133 You may also subscribe online at www.farmworldonline.com

YOU MAY CHARGE with VISA, MasterCard, Discover or American Express by phone, or we will bill you. PHONE HOURS: Telephone hours 8:00 am-4:30 pm EST, Monday through Friday.

Closed Saturday, Evenings & weekends, answering machine will record your subscription, ad or message.

Call in Your Ads TOLL-FREE — 1-800-876-5133, Ext. 123

490 COMBINES & PICKERS-HEADS

3 weeks for the price of 2

2007 Case Int. 2062 draper table, one season on sickle & guards, 36', \$15,000. 937-239-8041 Yorkshire, OH.

500 WAGONS

BEST PRICES in Tri State on new J&M, Killbros and Mayrath wagons, grain carts and augers. Also Maurer & J&M combine bin extensions. Delivery avail. anywhere. Call for best deal. 877-846-5381 days, 419-303-6881 eves. Delphos,

510 TILLAGE (PLOWS, DISCS, ETC)

9 shank Glencoe Soil Saver w/harrow, \$4500. 812-569-0889 Seymour, IN.

520 PLANTERS - DRILLS

1770 NT 24R-30" w/ liquid. New row unit rebuild. New Gen 3 monitor. New V - Drive meters. New Delta force system. New Reveal row cleaners. Planter will be field ready when build is complete. Other options available. Finanancing available or cash discount. \$205,400. Flat Rock Precision. 812-350-2221.

2013 Kinze 3600 ADS. 16/31 planter, bulk fill w/scales, heavy down pressure springs, 20/20 hyd. drives, variable rate, new openers, no-till coulters, plastic spike closing wheels 2 yrs. ago, also has 16 corn meters & 16 row cleaners, less than 10K ac., exc. cond., \$95,000. 765-749-8762 Winchester, IN.

520 PLANTERS-DRILLS

2014 JD 1770 NT corn planter, 16R-30", 1.6 bushel boxes, Star Fire 6000 receiver, 20/20 Gen 3 monitor, markers, Sure Point in furrow fert. w/300 gal. tank;

Johnson Blue ground drive pump w/2x2 JD coulter, 600 gal. tank, Precision planting V-set meters w/ row shut offs, Delta Force & furrow force, Martin air adjust row cleaners, low acres, gd. cond., \$115,000 obo. 814-322-8090 Westover, PA.

530 HAY EQUIPMENT

1989 JD 375 rd. baler, gd. cond., makes 5'x4' bales, string tie only, all new belts, manuals, \$7000: NH 474 mower conditioner/haybine, gd. cond., extra knife, new tires, manuals, \$5000; Rolabar model 256 hay rake, fair cond., new tines, \$700. 513-535-9721 Aurora, IN.

EHE spinner hay tedder, brand new, All American made, all parts interchangeable. Delivery avail. in Indiana. For info. & brochure call Kings Repair 765-597-2015 Mar-

Panorama 4 basket hay tedder, $hyd. \ fold, \ \$2000. \ 812\text{-}719\text{-}1283$ Tell City, IN.

YEAR END SPECIAL PRICES. Save 10%, Arcusion MultiPACK E-14. New and used. 812-989-3542 Lanesville, IN.

Farm World CLASSIFIEDS WORK

540 MANURE EQUIPMENT

Hydra-Push HOOSIERLAND Manure Spreaders MADE IN AMERICA Hoosierland 1500 500 Cubic Feet Level All Models Include... ■ 600 Heaped Bushels ■ World leading Berma ■ Sequencing valve beaters and gear box Light kit ■ 550/60 x 22.5 Ceat Implement Tire ■ Hot dipped galva-■ 34.6 diameter ■ 5.5-Inch Drop Axle gate and end gate ■ 16K 10-Bolt Hub flighting rotating 420 RPM High density poly boards on floor and ■ 4-Inch Wheel Spindle ■ 5-Inch Walking Tandem Spindle **Gary Post**

288 Lowry Rd., Ft. Recovery, OH • (419) 733-0921

FARMERS

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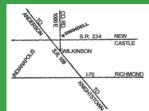
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SECTION B

Friday, December 26, 2025

Northern Kentucky farmer refuses \$8 million offer from data center

By DOUG GRAVES Ohio Correspondent

MAYSVILLE, Ky. - A large artificial intelligence (AI) company aims to build another data center, this time in Maysville in the heart of Mason County. The company is looking to develop about 2,000 acres outside Maysville, but before the company can choose Mason County, it needs landowners to sell their land.

The project is being pursued by a Fortune 500 company, but the company's identity remains undisclosed to maintain competitive advantage. And the company has been met with tough resistance from this close-knit farming community, including one man who is turning down millions to keep his

Dr. Tim Grosser, a farmer in the area, has lived on 250 acres outside Maysville since 1988. His land boasts rolling hav fields and a herd of cattle. Grosser uses an old brick farmhouse as a hunting outpost. On the other side, his son, Andy, lives in a newly built home.

"My grandson loves to come up here and hunt deer and turkeys. It's just what we do," Grosser said.

The market value for farmland in the area is about \$7,500 an acre, which would make Grosser's land worth about \$2 million. The company's first offer was twice that, or about \$4 million. Then the offer doubled again, to more than \$8 million. Finally, Grosser was asked to name his price.

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"Money can't buy happiness," Grosser said. "It can buy a lot, but it can't buy happiness."

Last fall, Grosser was offered a \$500 check for the option to buy his land anytime in the next year for \$15,000 an acre for a potential industrial development project. Grosser wasn't told what kind of industrial project it would be or who was behind it.

Grosser and his son even went downtown to meet with Tyler McHugh, the Maysville-Mason County Industrial Development Authority director. Again, limited information on what was going to be built. Finally, the Grossers were then offered \$30,000 per acre.

"We're not selling," Grosser told the county.

Not all farmers resisted. Ida Ruth Huddleston, 81, and her husband used lumber from their land to build a three-story cabin in 1978. Since before the Civil War, her family lived on the land. She grew up on tobacco fields and raised her kids on them, too. Huddleston and her daughter, Delsia Bare, live in the house together alone. Widowed from their husbands, they look after each other.

Last May, a local real estate agent showed up at their door and offered them a contract on behalf of the new energy customer, along with a warning: If they didn't sell their land, the East Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC) might be able to take it using eminent domain.

Growing up, Bare watched her parents' farmland get portioned off by em-

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Above: Dr. Tim Grosser, a farmer in Maysville, Ky., has lived on 250 acres outside Maysville since 1988. His son, Andy, lives in a newly built home nearby. Both are refusing to sell their land for a data center developer. (photo submitted)

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inent domain when the county claimed some of it for a landfill.

"If we take the money, it hurts our neighbors," Bare said.

Agonizing over their decision, they took the deal because they felt like they had little choice. They wanted to get ahead of what they might stand to lose, so they signed the contracts, unsure of exactly what their land might be used for.

Some farmers have signed contracts, others have not. The area's economic development director said Mason County is one of seven places up for the project. It will likely make a choice by June 2026.

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Last spring, farmers first heard about a company interested in their farmland as eight residents across a 5,000-acre area outside Maysville were approached by Mason County officials who encouraged them to sell their land for an unspecified industrial development project.

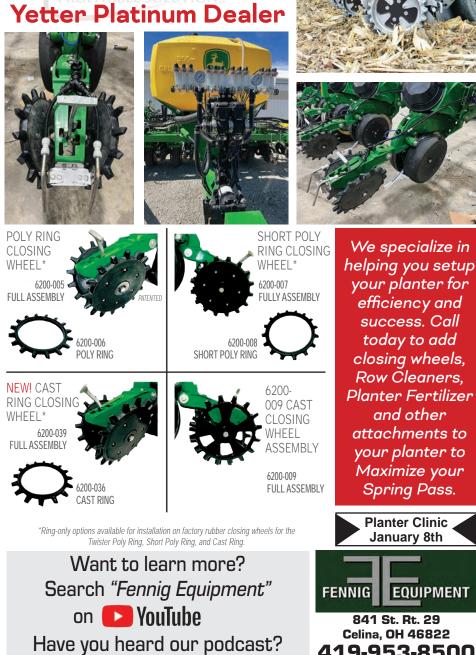
At that time farmers in the area had no clue as to what type of venture was moving into the area. Rumors began to spread around Maysville as early as last July. Was it a solar farm? A penitentiary? A landfill? Furthermore,

(Data center continued page 2B)

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University of Illinois using seed banks to study corn kernel composition

URBANA, Ill. – University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign corn breeders know profitability is about more than yield. By tweaking kernel composition, they can tailor corn for lucrative biotech applications, industrial products, overseas markets, and more. But to efficiently unlock these valuable traits, breeders must first understand their genetic underpinnings.

Traditional corn breeding usually takes years and requires acres of replicated trials, not to mention federal funding to support the research. But tapping into public genebanks and shared data, along with modern computational tools, can dramatically speed up the process.

Corn breeder Martin Bohn, professor in the Department of Crop Sciences in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences at Illinois, recently led a project exploring kernel composition in nearly 1,000 diverse maize inbred lines from the USDA-ARS North Central Regional Plant Introduction Station in Ames, Iowa. The collection is part of the nation's system of seed banks – including two major collections housed at Illinois – representing many thousands of high-quality crop genotypes that are freely accessible to researchers.

Using near-infrared spectroscopy and publicly available genomic data, the team, which included undergraduate researcher Stephen Gray, identified genetic regions influencing both the average values and the variability of key kernel composition traits.

"Seed banks contain an incredible amount of genetic diversity, but they are often underused for quantitative genetics and breeding," Bohn said. "Our results show that these resources can be used effectively to generate meaningful genetic insights, even before launching large, multi-year field experiments."

Because seed bank accessions are typically available only in small quantities, often as packets of 100 seeds from a single genotype, the study relied on unreplicated seed samples, a situation traditionally viewed as a major limitation in scientific studies. To address this challenge, the researchers validated their findings by comparing their results with large, replicated field studies conducted by other research groups. Strong agreement between studies confirmed that the unreplicated data captured real genetic signals.

"We compared our estimates with a huge replicated field experiment by colleagues in Minnesota that overlapped with 200-300 of the lines we used from the NCRPIS collection," Bohn said. "We found that the correlation between their kernel data and ours was actually pretty high, so it gave us confidence that our data is actually meaningful and can be trusted."

The team applied genome-wide association studies, variance-based genetic analyses, and genomic prediction models to identify both well-known and previously unreported genomic regions associated with kernel composition traits.

"Many of the signals we found were in regions where genes had already been identified for the traits that we were interested in - protein, starch, oil and some others – so it confirmed that our analysis was on the right track," Bohn said. "But we also found new ones. This is cool because these are new candidate genes we can explore further."

The fact that the study uncovered new breeding targets is just one reason Bohn and his colleagues are excited about the research.

Doctoral student Christopher Mujjabi, a co-author on the study, said the work highlights a shift in how breeding research can begin. "Instead of starting with years of replicated field trials, researchers can first explore what's already stored in gene banks," he said. "That helps prioritize the most promising material and makes breeding programs more efficient."

The findings demonstrate how public germplasm collections, high-throughput phenotyping, and shared data can be combined to accelerate crop improvement, particularly for traits tied to nutrition, processing quality and emerging specialty markets.

Bohn added, "We have developed a pipeline that allows researchers to utilize the genetic treasures that are located in our gene banks. You don't always have to do an elaborate experiment as a first step. You can get an idea of what is in that collection, dive into the really interesting materials, and then utilize these for further studies."

The study, "Mean and variance heterogeneity loci impact kernel compositional traits in maize," is published in The Plant Genome (DOI: 10.1002/tpg2.70131).

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Above: Opponents of the proposed data center in Maysville, Ky., posted signs across the county, urging farmers to say no to offers to purchase their land. (photo submitted)

Data Center

FROM PAGE 1B

nobody knew who owned it or when it would come.

Thirty frustrated farmers and landowners gathered in the shade of a neighbor's garage last May and began trading grievances and speculation about a cash-rich new development with its sights on their land. And they all agreed on one thing.

"Something this big shouldn't be kept quiet," Max Moran said.

Desperate for an answer, residents started piecing together clues. Neighbors cross-referenced information. The project, whatever it was, would need huge amounts of water, which would explain its proximity to the Ohio River.

In June, after scouring through online public records, they discovered a new customer was requesting service from the EKPC for a 2.2-gigawatt project in Mason County, nearly doubling its annual generation capacity. By mid-summer they connected enough dots to uncover the mysterious new customer: a hyperscale data center.

The state legislature passed a measure earlier this year granting tax exemptions for certain data center projects, making

the state an attractive place to build.

While many communities scramble for such data center projects in hopes the revenue will jumpstart their local economy, those in and around Maysville worry it will change the fabric of their community.

Staci Wood Clements, who lives on a Mason County farm, worries that once the farmland is turned over for development, it'll be gone forever, and that a data center won't bring farmers much in return.

"I'm not anti-technology at all, but I'm super skeptical when something rolls in and it feels like it has more whispers, more legal muscle, than community support," Clements said. "When farmers are told that their land is more valuable as concrete than soil, that concerns me."

Data centers are lured to rural areas by the promise of cheap land. Increasingly, data centers are being built to host artificial intelligence platforms from companies including Meta and Google, accelerating the demand for massive amounts of power.

Some data centers succeed with such buyouts, others fail. One large data center was proposed in Oldham County recently but opposition shut it down. Others, like one being built south of Louisville, proceed.



Illinois research uncovers harvest and nutrient strategies to boost bioenergy profits

URBANA, Ill. - To meet ambitious hammad Umer Arshad, postdoctoral ing strategies to site-specific con-U.S. Department of Energy targets for sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), production of purpose-grown energy crops must ramp up significantly. Although researchers have made substantial progress in understanding the management and conversion of these crops, key knowledge gaps hold the industry back. Now, two new studies from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign help fill in the blanks for Miscanthus and switchgrass management.

"We have come a long way in our understanding of purpose-grown energy crops for SAF, but we still need to optimize agronomic management practices, like harvesting and nutrient management, to reduce production costs and incentivize growers," said D.K. Lee, senior author of both studies and professor in the Department of Crop Sciences, part of the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences at U. of

Previous studies have been limited in spatial scale or focused on the first years after establishment, early in the perennial life cycle. But Lee's group is working to provide more realistic, long-term solutions to maximize biomass productivity and grow a more sustainable fuel industry.

In the first of two recent studies, Lee's team conducted an economic and environmental analysis of two harvest methods for switchgrass.

"Harvesting operations account for 60-80 percent of the total production costs for switchgrass," said Muresearcher in Lee's group and first author on the Bioresource Technology paper. "We wanted to understand why the harvesting cost is so high and how each operation contributes to cost, energy use, and greenhouse gas emissions, as well as identify where reductions are possible.'

Arshad explained that switchgrass harvesting can happen via the stepwise method, in which tasks like mowing, raking, baling and roadsiding are separated into individual operations; or the integrated method, which uses different equipment to consolidate mowing and raking into one pass. Hypothetically, an integrated approach could reduce effort, energy consumption and costs. But, after analyzing data from 125 Virginia commercial-scale sites varying in field size and biomass yield, Arshad found a more nuanced answer.

"We found that the integrated method makes more sense for smaller fields (less than 3 hectares, or 10 acres) and low-yield (less than 3.2 tons per acre) conditions, reducing GHG emissions by 9 percent and energy use by 5 percent," Arshad said. "The stepwise method was better for large fields with high biomass yield, reducing harvesting costs to \$37.70 per ton and achieving the lowest GHG emissions."

The costs were estimated assuming the farmers are using their own machinery, tractors, and harvesting equipment.

Lee added that the results reveal the importance of tailoring harvest-

ditions and provide the first evidence-based guidance that harvest methods can improve both economic and environmental outcomes.

In a separate study published in Biomass & Bioenergy, the team tackled age-related declines in Miscanthus biomass yield, a function of tiller (stem) mass and density. These long-lived perennial grasses follow a predictable growth trajectory, including a juvenile stage that builds over several years to reach peak biomass yield, followed by a slow decline after about 10 years. Until now, it wasn't clear which components of yield change over time and how nutrient management might help.

Postdoctoral fellow Nictor Namoi analyzed data from a long-term Miscanthus trial with nitrogen fertilization treatments that varied in amount and timing. First, he looked at how tiller mass and density changed over time and with various nitrogen treatments. Then, he asked what other soil fertility factors may influence the decline in biomass yield in older

"We found that both tiller mass and density increase from the first year of establishment to the fourth year, and if you apply nitrogen, you get an increase in both factors," Namoi said. "But over time, as you withdraw nitrogen by harvesting biomass, the first component to be impacted is tiller mass. So, tiller mass is very sensitive to nitrogen manage-

Namoi added that tiller density

continues to increase until individual stands become saturated, with no more space for further expansion. After that point, biomass yield is determined by tiller mass.

He noted that the decline in biomass yield over time may not be entirely tied to nitrogen. With every harvest, soil nutrients tied up in plant biomass are removed from the system, depleting elements that play a role in photosynthetic efficiency. When Namoi analyzed soil phosphorus and potassium in mature Miscanthus stands, he found significant deficits in both essential nutrients.

"Our findings identify tiller mass as a key determinant of biomass yield in aging Miscanthus and highlight the need for nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium management for long-term productivity," he said.

Both studies provide practical guidance to increase profitability, a key factor for any producer looking to explore biomass crops.

The first study, "Optimizing bioenergy biofuel harvest: a comparative analysis of stepwise and integrated methods for economic and environmental sustainability," is published in Bioresource Technology (DOI: 10.1016/j.biortech.2025.133288).

The second study, "Soil fertility management for sustainable Miscanthus x giganteus production: Increased tiller weight from nitrogen management explains yield gains in aged miscanthus," is published in Biomass & Bioenergy (DOI: 10.1016/j.biombioe.2025.108394).





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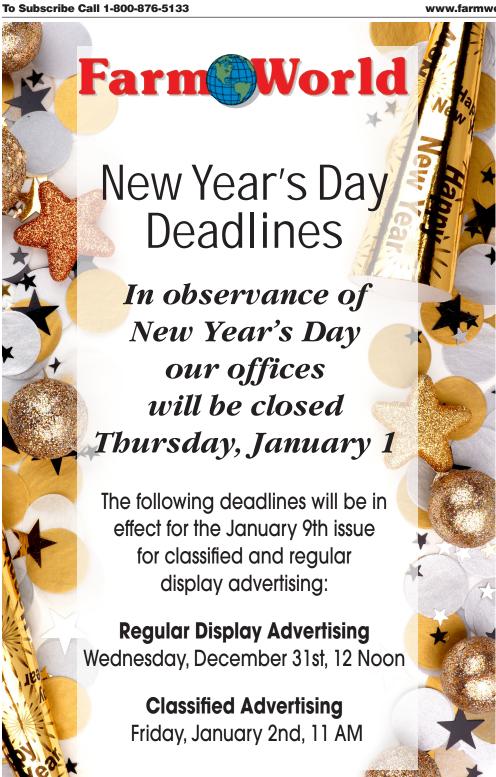






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Dairy economist: Milk production margins decreased for second month

WEEKLY

By Lee Mielke

You'll recall October milk production was up 3.7 percent from a year ago. Milk components were also up and both left plenty for processors. The USDA issued both the September and October Dairy Products reports this week, due to the government shutdown, and they show where the milk was used. MIELKE MARKET

October cheese output totaled 1.261 billion pounds, up 3.7 percent

from September's output which amounted to 1.216 billion pounds, up 5.6 percent from a year ago after only being up 0.5 percent in August. October output was up 3.2 percent from October 2024. Total output in the 10 months hit 12.2 billion pounds, up 2.2 percent from 2024.

Wisconsin vats provided 309.4 million pounds, up 2.8 percent from September, but down 1.8 percent from October 2024. California produced 204.5 million pounds, up 0.8 percent from September and virtually unchanged from a year ago. Idaho cheese, at 91.8 million pounds, was up 9.2 percent from September, but 2.8 percent below a year ago.

Mozzarella production totaled 419.1 million pounds, up 3.4 percent from a year ago. American cheese, at 494.0 million pounds, was up 4.2 percent from September, and up 2.3 percent from a year ago. Italian style cheeses totaled 535.3 million pounds, up 3.7 percent from September and 4.8 percent above a year ago.

Cheddar output climbed to 329.6 million pounds, up 4.3 million pounds or 1.3 percent from September, and up 2.2 million or 0.7 percent from a year ago. September Cheddar totaled 325.3 million pounds, up 7.0 percent from a year ago. YTD Cheddar production hit 3.3 billion pounds, up 5.0 percent from 2024.

Butter output jumped to 185.8 million pounds, up 6.7 million pounds or 3.7 percent from September, and up 17.1 million or 10.1 percent from a year ago. September output came in at 179.1 million pounds, up 11.6 percent from

a year ago. YTD butter output came in at 1.98 billion pounds, up 6.5 percent from a year ago.

October yogurt production totaled 450.0 million pounds, up 7.4 percent from a year ago. Hard ice cream, at 60.9 million pounds, was down 3.0 percent from 2024.

Dry whey output slipped to 67.7 million pounds, down 1.4 million pounds or 2.0 percent from September, but was up 1.4 million pounds or 2.1 percent from a year ago. YTD whey hit 694.6 million pounds, down 3.5 percent from a year ago. Stocks totaled 50.1 million pounds, up 400,000 pounds from September or 0.7 percent, but were down 500,000 pounds or 1.1 percent from a vear ago.

Nonfat dry milk output climbed to 122.7 million pounds, up 4.5 million or 3.8 percent from September, but was down 2.0 million pounds or 1.5 percent from a year ago. NFDM YTD came in at 1.4 billion pounds, up 0.2 percent from 2024.

Stocks fell to 210.4 million pounds, down 12.1 million, or 5.4 percent from September, but up 20 million

(Mielke continued on page 13B)

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From push mowers as a kid to century-old tractors for repairman

By Stan Maddux Indiana Correspondent

HOBART, Ind. – An Indiana man who repaired push mowers to sell while growing up now makes a living primarily fixing and restoring tractors from the early 1900s.

Justin Click is owner of JC Tractor Restoration and Repair, a company he started about 20 years ago at his shop in Hobart in the northwest part of the state. He and his five employees work mostly on tractors from 1910 to 1930 along with antique trucks and

old semis.

His customers are from all over the nation with tractors and trucks delivered to his shop or picked up and returned personally by Click, who recently came back from California with a farm truck made by Rumely to work on.

On the bigger jobs, it's not unusual for Click to make the drive to deliver the finished product.

"I like to take it to the customer so I can go over it with them so they're happy," he said.

Rumely, famous for its gasoline

powered Oil Pull Tractors and other early farm machinery, made trucks for just a couple of years.

Click said only five Rumely trucks are still known to exist. "We work on the rarest stuff there is," he said.

His jobs range from full restorations to much less time-consuming engine tune-ups.

The 44-year-old Click, who did not grow up on a farm, appears to be naturally gifted at a craft he began honing as a young child when he earned money by fixing and selling used lawn mowers waiting to be hauled away as junk.

In his early teens, he moved up to repairing things like engines and transmissions on small, newer model tractors in the garage of his home for a local John Deere dealership.

During that period, he also developed a love for antique tractors he'd see on display at shows he went to on a regular basis.

In his late teens, he purchased, for about \$9,000, a Rumely tractor he fixed up to start his own collection that has since grown to more than a dozen pieces.

A few years later, Click said he was working at U.S. Steel in Gary when he started what was then a part-time business.

His days were spent working on antique tractors and trucks at his shop and at a tractor museum in Illinois before heading to his midnight shift job at the mill. His business grew enough in eight years to allow him to quit his job at the mill and work full time at his shop.

Click said he receives a higher percentage of Rumely machines to work on than any other brand.

"I don't think in the 20 years I've been doing this there hasn't been a Rumely

sitting here to work on," he said.

Other brands he's worked on from the early 1900s include Aultman & Taylor, Avery, Flour City and International.

Parts for such old machines are nearly impossible to find so he makes what he can in his shop and contracts with foundries to produce the rest based on diagrams or pictures of the ones that need replacing.

Click, who's from a family of steel-workers, said he's always had a talent for fixing machinery and made century old tractors and trucks his specialty because he's fascinated by how differently the pieces then were designed.

The differences include engines having one to six cylinders, depending on the brand and model year, and some being oil cooled while others were water cooled.

"Today, everything is very similar," he said.

All his employees, with the oldest being 30, were still in school and in vocational programs when he went to where they attended to recruit applicants whenever he needed more help.

"They all wanted to do stuff like this," he said.

The semi-trucks he's worked on include 1940s Mack and Peterbilt brands. Occasionally, he works on Allis Chalmers and John Deere tractors from the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s, as long as the owners in advance don't have a problem if the cost exceeds the value of the machines.

He said it can take a lot of hours to complete a job and he wants it done right without cutting any corners to save customers money.

"I work to a standard. So, if that's how you want it done, we're going to get along great," he said.



Above: Justin Click restores and repairs primarily tractors made from 1910 to 1930 at his Indiana shop.



block heater, dual radar, *SECOND OWNER TRACTOR* SN#1RW8245RLHP130632; 2015 John Deere 8245R Tractor-2,250 hrs, 250 HP, Powershift, rear duals, front fenders, 4 remotes, 1,000 PTO, 3 pt, quick hitch, Cab, heat, air, radio, Active seat, instructor seat, HID lighting, adjustable steering column, block heater, **ONE OWNER** SN#1RW8245RLFP103573; 1981 International 3088 Tractor, 2 remotes, 540 PTO, 3 Pt, rear duals, lights, open station, SN#2480003U00165; HARVEST EQUIPMENT: 2013 John Deere S550 2002 Engine Hours, 1224 Separator hours, Front singles, bin extensions, contour feeder house, rear straw chopper, rock trap, single point header hookup, heat, ac, radio, instructional seat, under seat cooler, rear camera, auto guidance ready, **ONE OWNER**; 2013 John Deere 606C Corn Head, 6 row, single point hook up, poly snouts, lights, used this year for harvest, SN#1H00606CEDX755525; 2013 John Deere 630F Poly full finger auger, poly finger reel, fore aft reel, marker lights, PTO drive, single point hookup.; Unverferth Manufacturing HT30 Header Cart, adjustable beam height, adjustable stops/rests. rear lights, front steer, extendable hitch; 2006 J&M 385 SD Gravity Wagon, 385BU wagon with lights, front ladder roll tarp side discharge, lights, and brakes, 425/65R22.5 tires; 2006 J&M 385 SD Gravity Wagon, 385BU wagon with lights, front ladder roll tarp side discharge, lights, and brakes, 425/65R22.5 tires; 2006 J&M 385 SD Gravity Wagon, 385BU wagon with lights, front ladder roll tarp side discharge, lights, and brakes, 425/65R22.5 tires; 2006 J&M 385 SD Gravity Wagon, 385BU wagon with lights, front ladder roll tarp side discharge, lights, and brakes, 425/65R22.5 tires; 1996 J&M 350 SD Gravity Wagon, 385BU wagon with lights, front and rear ladders roll tarp side

SN#1A01795AKFA760169;2013 1770NT 12/30 Planter, used for corn, Vac system, precision corn meters, Martin row cleaners, on seed fertilizer, 3 bushel boxes, Pneumatic down pressure, Red Ball system, 1 Spike closing wheel, 1 rubber closing wheel, corn discs and bean discs, was used this year, * ONE OWNER* SN#1A01770WTCM750188; SPRAYERS: 2011 Fast 9613 Pull Type Sprayer 90Ft Booms, 1350-gallon tank, Hydraulic drive quick connect fittings, T Jet nozzles, induction tank, * ONE OWNER* Tri-State Liquid Tender tandem axle 1400 gallon tank, 15 gallon inductor tank, Briggs and Stratton 2 inch pump, gas engine, front tote storage rack, quick connect fill: Tri-State Liquid Tender Tandem Axle, 1000 gallon tank, 2 Inch Gas pump, quick connect fill and discharge, TRUCKS: 2012 Ford F350 SD XLT Truck-132,705 miles, bumper hitch, 4X4, long bed, standard cab, power windows, power locks, heat, air, radio, Boss Power-V XT 8 Ft. 2 In. snow plow, hooked up and operational controller in cab, *ONE OWNER VIN#1FTRF3B69CEB72883; 2005 Dodge Ram 2500 truck-77,680, standard cab, long bed, 4X4, 5.7 Hemi Engine, power windows, power locks, heat, air, radio, *ONE OWNER* VIN#3D7KS26DX5G829398; TILLAGE EQUIPMENT: 2017 Great Plains 2400 Turbo-Max, 24 Ft working width, hydraulic raise & lower, hydraulic fold, lights, rear rolling basket, SN#GP-C6553H; 2011 KONGSKILDE VIBRO TILL 2900 Cultivator, 26 Ft 8 In working width, rear double rolling baskets, hydraulic raise & lower, hydraulic folding, SN#002141; Remlinger Strip Till Bar, 3 Point mount 14ft working width, 30 inch spacing, 6 row, rear rolling baskets, *ONE OWNER* YETTER 3530 Rotary Hoe, 30 Ft working width, 3 pt, hydraulic folding, lights; Glencoe Soil Saver Cultivator, pull type, hydraulic raise and lower, single section, rear Remlinger Coil tines, 15-inch row spacing front mounted disc blades,; John Deere 915 Ripper 7 Shank 20 inch spacing, rear coil tines, 3-point mount,; Unverferth 300 Implement Caddy 3-point mount, pull type caddy, hydraulic lift,; International 720 5 Bottom Plow, 2-point mount, Rear wheel, hydraulic raise lower;

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The sun will finally begin to rise earlier starting on Jan.

If New Year's Eve night wind blow south,

It betokeneth warm and growth;

If west, much milk, and fish in the

If north, much cold and storms there'll be;

If east, the trees will bear much fruit; If north-east, flee it, man and brute. Folk Rhyme

Sun Time: On December 26, daylight begins to increase for the first time since the end of June. Sunrise, however, keeps taking place slightly later up until New Year's Eve. After that, sunrise remains at the same time until January 11 when the Sun finally starts to rise earlier. At that point, the reversal of the Sun's course and the 40-day vigil for its turn toward summer are complete.

The Stars: In Deep Winter's January, Orion's giant figure fills the southern sky at 11p.m. To his right, the red eye of Taurus (the star Aldebaran) leads the way. Behind him comes Canis Minor and its brightest star, Procyon.

Weather Time: The January 1 Front: The first front of the calendar year should bring the most troublesome weather of this winter. Expect snow, sleet and ice.

Zeitgebers: Events in Nature that Tell the Time of Year: As daylight starts to increase, spring is waiting: new daffodil and tulip leaves lie just below the surface of the mulch, and the tips of crocus crouch in their Dock, leafcup, buttercup, mint, ragwort, sweet rocket, plantain, thistles, great mullein, moneywort, red clover, celandine, forget-me-not, wild onion, henbit, and ground ivy foliage push every-so-gradually toward March. Multiflora rose buds swell in the sun. One or two pussy willow catkins crack in the thaws. In warmer microclimates, moss can be long and flushed. In the swamps, wild iris spears stand strong around the broken strands of lizard's tail.

Farm and Garden Time: As the barometer falls in advance of winter cold waves, seeds should be especially eager to sprout. Pruning gets underway as average highs in your area drop into the 30s; it continues until highs climb once again past 40. Take out suckers, dead and crossing branches. Cut fruit trees down to the right level for picking, but don't prune what will bloom before June.

The full force of winter may bring livestock into the barn much more often. Avoid overcrowding in order to cut down on the possibility of pneumonia. And keep adequate ventilation in any closed area your animals use on a regular basis. If you haven't already done so, treat for mites and lice when you bring animals in from the cold.

Mind and Body Time: Pines pollinate across the South, and allergy season begins as those allergens travel north on winds from the Gulf. Begin tracking allergic reactions as the winter progresses; you may be able to narrow your window of sensitivity to certain blooming trees and flowers and be better prepared next year.

Creature Time: Increase the amount of feed at your bird feeders, and listen for the sharp calls of the tufted titmouse announcing the mating season. In the weeks ahead, keep alert for flocks of birds stopping by your yard, blown off course by storms. And listen for sandhill cranes flying over you.

Journal

By the end of the day, all the snow that had covered the ground throughout December, melted in a grand and wonderful thaw. The cold had lasted 28 days, the month more than six degrees below normal.

Walking around the yard, I found

that some things were a little flatter than they had been in November. A few late Osage leaves, covered before I was able to rake them, were matted, sodden and dark. Celandine, lungwort, lamb's ear, parsley, and sweet rockets had all their leaves pushed akimbo. My neighbor's lily-ofthe-valley foliage had been pressed to the ground by the storm on the 13th, leaf tips forced to point east by the hard west wind.

The New England asters and the white boneset had been bent by the snow, and now they were prostrate to seed the soil around them. The oakleaf hydrangea and knotweed leaves had taken a beating, were half of what they were before December. Almost all of the honeysuckle berries had fallen, cluttering the sidewalk.

Each of those changes marked steps in the passage of the year, but also uncovered was the perennial life that had remained at the end of the soft November, reassuring reminder of what the winter cannot touch.

After just three days of thaw, including one sunny afternoon in the 60s, the grass was still half green, just like it was at Thanksgiving. The precocious pussy willows that had opened a crack in October were opening a little more. The lamium and the mint were standing tall and strong. The hellebores near our south property line had risen back to their autumn height.

Creeping Charlie was ruddy but creeping. Japanese honeysuckle and winterberries had been darkened by temperatures near zero, but were still firm. Chickweed was bright between the bricks in the outdoor patio. Pachysandra was upright and budded. Garlic mustard had not been touched by all the cold, stood defiantly against mustard pullers of April. Blood-red peony buds still crouched in the peony garden. Waterleaf peered out from the mulch.

Almanack Classics Winter in the Country by Jeffery Goss, Jr., Springfield,

Winter is easily the least appreciated of all the seasons. The under-appreciation of winter seems to have less to do with the cold temperatures than it does with the apparent dullness of the landscape. You really have to look closely at nature

Poor Will's Almanack By Bill Felker

to notice the activities of life. In spring or summer, finding a blooming flower is no challenge at all; you might even be able to do it with your eyes closed. In

Deep Winter, though, you have to look around. You may find a witch-hazel in blossom by the creek, or a purple henbit flower in the field. You may even find the pollinating cones of pines or the tiny fructifications of a moss. These, too, are "blooming."

Walking through the woods and brush is easiest in wintertime, due to the absence of tall annual weeds, and the dormancy of biting insects. The

only insects you're likely to see are a few ladybugs, craneflies, camel crickets and perhaps an occasional moth.

With the leaves fallen, sounds tend to carry far. On a calm day in late winter, listen to the surroundings. Listen to hear the laughter of distant chickadees, the chatter of distant starlings, even the familiar sounds of far-off dogs. Look up into the tree canopy to see the bittersweet vines with their orange-red berries swaying in the wind, and see the distinctive bark patterns of branches as they can be viewed only from below. Smell the smoke of unseen fires, perhaps from some unseen chimney over the ridge.

For a time in winter, the curtain is lifted on the complex stage of the natural world as it is; we are allowed to see it plain and unadorned. Then comes spring ever so softly, and the heavy green curtain is eased into place once more.



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MSU honors soil 'heroes' for environmental practices

By DOUG GRAVES **Ohio Correspondent**

PETOSKEY, Mich. - Former Michigan State University (MSU) professor George Bird is known across the country and internationally for his work with sustainable agriculture and working with farmers to support environmentally sound agriculture. Bird once said that "environmentally sound agriculture begins with a healthy soil."

With this in mind, MSU created the G.W. Bird Family Foundation Hero Award in 2022, awarded to those considered "heroes" of soil care and health. For 2025, the awards were presented to Brian and Anne Bates, of Bear Creek Organic Farm in Petroskev: Pat. Jim and Matt Graham, of Graham's Organics in Rosebush; and Bruno Gasso, a distinguished professor at MSU.

"To be a soil 'hero' you must be on the cutting-edge of sustainability," said Bird, whose foundation handed out the awards in a Nov. 21 ceremony. "We need to be mindful of the soil so we can have a healthy world in the future. The soil heroes that we've chosen have each contributed in a highly efficient way toward the current and future well-being of agriculture."

Brian Bates, Bear Creek's farm manager, and his wife, Anne, its designer and brand manager, bought 75 acres of unproductive, neglected land a few miles outside of downtown Petoskey in December 2012 and began the arduous journey of transforming that land into a prosperous farm.

The couple started with a vision of sustainability before they even found their dream property in Petoskey. At Penn State University, Brian took classes in sustainable agriculture, soil science and landscape architecture. An art professor at North Central Missouri College, Anne used her skills in creative management to communicate their commitments to local, organic agriculture.

They started with a pole barn that also served as their house for several years. Potted herbs, microgreens and honey made up some of their earliest offerings.

A year after purchasing the acreage, Bear Creek became Petoskey's first certified organic farm. After adding several hoop houses and greenhouses and a dedicated staff, Bear Creek was able to offer a variety of produce and prepared foods. Today, they're Michigan's only B Corp Certified farm, meeting a rigorous global standard of "social and environmental performance, accountability, and transparency" after a month-long audit. Bear Creek is also Petoskey's first Real Organic Project-certified farm.

Brian and Anne have used solar panels to produce some of the farm's power for years. They reuse loads of black plastic trays and pots or take them back to East Jordan Plastics, where they're produced for recycling.

"Environmental health is at the forefront of our business decisions," Brian said.

Bear Creek Organic Farm is proof that organic farming can be highly productive from spring to fall. In May, the farm is alive with hundreds of annuals and perennials, with fresh greens like kale, radishes, potatoes and garlic. In June, the farm harvests fresh basil, snap peas, strawberries and cherry tomatoes. By July, Bear Creek grows an abundance of summer squash, green beans, cucumbers, chard, lavender, blueberries and carrots. The heat of August brings the farm melons, onions, basil, peppers and dill. Winter squash, potatoes, eggplant and spinach are also grown on the farm by September.

The Graham family has been farming in the Rosebush area for more than 100 years. By the mid-1960s, they boast-



Above: Brunno Basso (right) accepts the Soil Science Research Award from the Soil Science Society of America (SSSA) earlier this year. At left is SSSA president Michael Thompson. Basso was also recipient of the G.W. Bird Family Foundation Hero Award, given to those considered "heroes" of soil care and health. (photo submitted)



Above: Brian Bates (shown) and his wife, Anne, turned 75 acres of unwanted, neglected land in Petroskey, Mich., into a highly prosperous organic farm. (photo submitted)

ed an expanded dairy and milk center. In the early 1990s, the farm had seen a few years of hard times. These hard circumstances, the advice from a forward-thinking soil consultant, and the growing conviction that current trend of chemical-focused farming wasn't good for the soil, had Jim and Pat thinking about doing things differently. And they did, leaping into organic farming, using a cultivator rather than chemicals.

"We chose to farm in a way that benefits the soil, our animals, and ultimately the people who consume the meat we sell," Jim said. "It was right for the animals, for people and for the earth."

It took a few years, but by 1995 the Grahams had their first certified organic field (certified through the Organic Crop Improvement Association, or OCIA). The following year they had 250 certified acres and then took steps to become a fully organic farm.

In 1999, they began raising Black Angus cattle. After producing feed for only their own livestock for years, in 2008 they responded to market demand by creating their own feed mill.

Today, Jim and Pat, in partnership with their son, Matt, farm 1,400 acres of corn, sovbeans, oats, alfalfa and spelt, as well as several acres of clover and grasses - all organically. Their en-

(Soil Heroes continued on page 14B)

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4729 Butler Grange Rd., Salem, OH 44460. STARTS: Wednesday, December 31, 2025, 12:00 PM **ENDS:** Monday, January 5, 2026, 5:30 PM

> DROP OFF DATES: Dec. 26 & 27, 2025 8:30 AM-4:30 PM Both Days

PREVIEW: Wed., Dec. 31, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM & Sat., Jan. 3, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

PICKUP: Jan. 7, 8, & 9, 2026 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

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AUCTION =

TRAVIS HUGHES ESTATE AUCTION THURS., JANUARY 1, 2026 - 10:00 AM

WEST COLLEGE CORNER. IN 47003 3743 SOUTH HIGHWAÝ 27

2JOHN DEERE TRACTORS - JOHN DEERE SPRAYER SPRAYER FIELD EQUIPMENT







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AUCTIONEERS: MATT NIXON (IN #AU10900037), MIKE CAMPBELL (IN #AU01048954), JOHN MUNCY (IN #AU11200057)

Union Co, IN Case #81C01-2503-EU-000007, Nicholas M. Tokar-Attorney



△ ■ AUCTIONEERS/REALTORS □ €

Farmer explains how variety in cover crops can pay dividends

By TIM ALEXANDER **Illinois Correspondent**

PEORIA, Ill. - According to Keith Berns, a Nebraska farmer, tailoring a multi-species cover crop mix to meet an operation's particular needs, wants and limitations can help produce a more resilient, productive and profitable cash crop. Berns, known for sharing his years of on-farm experience, research and innovation, explained during a recent public webinar why diversity matters in cover crop systems.

"If soil health is your goal and you're thinking about doing cover crops, it's difficult to overstate how important crop diversity is going to be in accomplishing that goal. Plants are created to thrive in diverse ecosystems, and when you have diversity you have a lot of resilience," he said.

Berns told farmers that it is important to design species mixes that match your goals, including grazing, nutrient cycling, weed suppression or other scenarios. Balancing simplicity, cost and performance, he said, is essential to a successful cover crop strategy.

"With diversity you can be resilient to diseases, insects, (and) drought. And we want a balanced diet for our soil biology, because even good things like legumes and brassicas, if not in balance, can be harmful to (soil) biology and soil structure. And it is really difficult to balance a cover crop if you've only got one thing in there," Berns said.

Berns alluded to the Jena Experiment, an ongoing German research project exploring diverse biosystems in the world. The research has extended for decades, meaning years of data collection are available to compare single-species to multi-species

crops. Researchers found that as the number of diverse crop species in a farm ecosystem is increased, biomass production increases exponentially.

"What they see is a steady increase as you add diversity. Doesn't necessarily mean you're adding more overall seed, you're adding more diversity," Berns said. "This helps your biomass go up, and as your biomass increases we generally see other benefits, whether it is erosion prevention, nitrogen fixation, weed suppression...all of those goals are going to go up with your aboveground biomass, because it is increasing the belowground benefits in proportion to the biomass. We see more of this through diverse (cover crop) mixes."

Research provided by the Jena Experiment (https://the-jena-experiment.de/) has shown that biomass can continue to accrue through a cover crop mix of up to 16 varieties before a tapering off in benefits, according to Berns, with as many as 64 cover varieties mixed for testing.

Plant diversity also has a positive effect on other organisms in a farm ecosystem, he added. With Project Ignite, the Ecdysis Foundation is building on their 1,000 Farms Initiative to push regenerative research further than ever. Ecdysis research done on regenerative farms show that the diversity of insects can "explode" through the benefits of cover crop variety.

"When we create an environment that promotes diversity, insect diversity is going to be a benefit to that system. Diverse (plants) release diverse compounds that result in more carbon sequestration, more microbial activity and more nutrient availability. If you want to cycle nutrients, cover crops are important in doing

that's doing that, it's the microbiome, the bacteria and the fungal populations that the cover crops are supporting that are going to make those nutrients available for your next crop," said Berns, adding that cover crop diversity can help reduce risks from flooding, as well.

He further noted that with no price relief in sight for many farm fertilizers, those who are on the fence about cover crops should consider input cost savings to be among their top benefits.

"Adding a diverse cover crop mix with the appropriate biological community can really help reduce your need for external inputs," Berns said during the Dec. 9 webinar, Mix it Up: Unlocking the Power of Cover Crop Diversity.

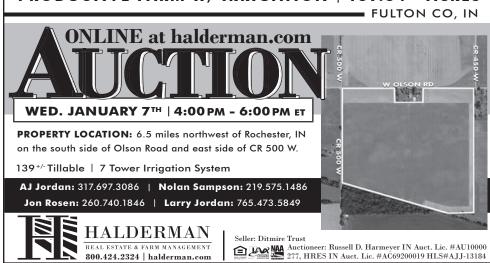
"Cover crops allow you to introduce all this diversity without needing specialized equipment, specialized knowledge or specialized markets. If you're going to try to increase your

that. But it's not the cover crop itself diversity with your cash crops, you're going to need one of those things or maybe all three, and then you've got to sell it somewhere. It's so much easier to add the diversity through the cover crop mix."

> Berns' business. Green Cover, is a cover crop seed company dedicated to providing custom seed mixes to fit any cover crop situation. To reach Berns with questions, or learn more about his business, visit www.greencover. com or email Keith@greencover.com.









UPCOMING AUCTIONS

FULTON CO, IN: JANUARY 7 (ONLINE) 139.34+/- Acres Productive Farm w/ 7 Tower Irrigation System • Tillable Acreage

Contact: AJ Jordan: 317.697.3086, Nolan Sampson: 219.575.1486, Jon Rosen: 260.740.1846 or Larry Jordan: 765.473.5849

RANDOLPH CO, IN: JANUARY 8 (ONLINE) 205.16+/- Acres Productive Cropland • Potential Building Sites • Hunting Locations

HOWARD CO. IN: JANUARY 13 (ONLINE) 76.02+/- Acres • 2 Tracts (2) Homes • Potential Development Contact: Brandon Stroble: 765.499.1170,

8 Tracts Contact: Chris Peacock: 765.546.0592 or Lauren Peacock: 765.546.7359

AJ Jordan: 317.697.3086, Emma Barr: 260.494.0992 or Larry Jordan: 765.473.5849 HAMILTON CO, IN: JANUARY 15 (ONLINE) 34.92+/- Acres Investment Quality Tillable Cropland • Near Suburban Expansion

Contact: Sam Clark: 317.442.0251 or Jim Clark: 317.697.6928 NEW! KOSCIUSKO CO, IN: JANUARY 19 (ONLINE) 197.6+/- Acres

7 Tracts • High Quality Recreational Land Contact: Jon Rosen: 260.740.1846

NEW! JACKSON CO, IN: JANUARY 20 (ONLINE) 93.34^{+/-} Acres 2 Tracts • Productive Cropland • Woods • Tillable

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PRIVATE SALES

IROQUOIS CO, IL: 200+/- Acres • Pattern Tiling **Productive Tillable Farmland** Contact: Pat Tomlinson: 217.864.5733





THURS. JANUARY 8TH | 10 AM - 3 PM

FRI. JANUARY 9TH | 9 AM - 11 AM

LOCATION: 10690 N 175 E (HAUPERT FARM) NORTH MANCHESTER, IN 46962

DAY 1 AUCTION: FRI. JANUARY 9TH | 12 PM AUCTION HELD: MANCHESTER EVENT CENTER 11758 IN-13, NORTH MANCHESTER, IN 46962

COMBINE & HEADS: 2024 \$760 JD COMBINE, 2014 JD 608C CORN HEAD W/HEAD CART, 2020 MACDON 35FT DRAPER GRAIN PLATFORM W/J&M HEAD CART, TRACTORS: 2022 JD 8R 340, 2013 JD 6190R 2WD, 2009 JD 8295 FWA, 2004 JD 9420 4X4, 1971 JD 4320, 1966 JD 4020. SPRAYER: HAGIE STS 10. PLANTER & DRILLS: 2014 JD 1775 NT 16X30, 2012 3660 KINZE 40FT SPLIT ROW, 1997 (TANDEM) JD 750 DRILLS W/HOUCK HITCH. TILLAGE: 2024 YETTER ROTARY HOE, 2022 JD 2680 HIGH-SPEED DISK, 2019 SUNFLOWER 42FT CULTIVATOR, 2019 42FT BRILLON CRUMBLER, 30FT SUNFLOWER DISK. MOWER & ROTARY CUTTER: 2016 JD R280 9FT DISC MOWER, BUSH HOG 2720. MANURE EQUIPMENT: KUHN 6500 TANK W/5 KNIFF INJECTOR, HOSE REFL. MARLOW PUMP & HOSES. AUGERS: 2021 MAYRATH HX72'X10" W/SWING-A-WAY, HUTCHINSON 31'X 8". MISC: JD SKID LOADER, PALLET FORKS, GRAPPLE BUCKET, 2019 JD GATOR, CAT 426 BACKHOE TRUCKS & TRAILERS: 2022 CHEVY SILVERADO, 2008 CHEVY 2500HD, 2001 CHEVY, 2005 PETERBILT 385, 1990 WHITE GMC, 1992 IH TANDEM W/GRAIN BED, DUMP TRUCK, GRAIN/DUMP TRAILER 34'

DAY 2 AUCTION: SAT. JANUARY 10TH | 10 AM

AUCTION HELD: 10690 N 175 E, NORTH MANCHESTER, IN 46962

TRACTORS: FARMALL SUPER M-TA, FARMALL 350 W/TORQUE, FORD 8N, LAWNMOWERS: GRASSHOPPER 900D, TORO Z MASTER, JD 322, WHEELHORSE 14. LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT: JD 785 MANURE SPREADER, BETTER BUILT 2100 MANURE TANK, ART'S WAY 475 FEED GRINDER HOG TRAILER, SILAGE WAGON. TILLAGE: IH 720 6-18'S, JD 400 ROTARY HOE, IH 12' DISK, SPRAYER: SADDLE TANKS. REGENT INSECTICIDE APPLICATOR, WAGONS: 250 BU. SEED TENDER. (2) KILLBROS 250 BU GRAVITY WAGON, HAY WAGONS. MISC: YAMAHA GRIZZLY 450 QUAD, 2001 UTILITY TRAILER, SNOW MOBILE PLOW, BLOWER & TRAILER, BUSH HOG TILLER, FREEMAN GRADER BLADE

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EQUIPMENT QUESTIONS? Contact Rusty Harmeyer: 765.561.1671





HARMEYERAUCTION.NET | HALDERMAN.COM | 800.424.2324 AUCTIONEER: RUSSELL D. HARMEYER IN AUCT. LIC. #AU10000277

Clinton County farmer Alan Dunn to lead ICGA board through 2026



Alan Dunn

Farm World The Midwest's Leading Weekly Ag Publication!

TRACT 3

ty farmer Alan Dunn was elected as president of the Indiana Corn Growers Association (ICGA) Board of Directors during a Dec. 2 meeting. Dunn, who farms in Michigantown, Ind., served as vice president in 2025.

Tyler Everett, a farmer from Lebanon, Ind., was elected as vice president. Ferdinand, Ind., farmer J.R. Roesner was re-elected as secretary, and LaPorte, Ind., farmer Joe Tuholski was elected as the board's treasurer.

Dunn will complete his first, threeyear term on the ICGA board in 2026. Dunn has farmed since 1993 in Clinton County and grows corn and soybeans on a traditional row-crop farm. He has a bachelor's degree in marketing from Butler University, and he also serves as the president of the Clinton County Council.

"It's an honor to lead the Indiana Corn Growers Association," Dunn said. "No one does this alone, and I want our board to remain active in campaigning for the policies that will keep Indiana corn farmers profitable.

INDIANAPOLIS - Clinton Coun- I want to work to protect the mira- Roesner is a recent board director for cle of modern agriculture and to help educate our consumers and partners on the amazing things we have accomplished - and will accomplish as the industry upon which all others are built."

Newly elected as vice president, Everett has had several titles on the ICGA board including treasurer last year. He is a third-generation farmer and works with his father to produce corn, soybeans and wheat on their farm in Boone and Hendricks counties. Everett represents District 7 on the ICGA board.

Representing District 8, Roesner was re-elected as the board's secretary. District 8 includes all of Vermillion, Parke, Vigo, Clay, Owen, Greene, Sullivan, Knox, Daviess, Martin, Gibson, Pike, Dubois, Posey, Vanderburgh, Warrick, Spencer, Perry, Orange, Crawford and part of Fountain counties. A full-time farmer since 2001, he grows corn and soybeans on his farm in Dubois, Gibson, Pike, Spencer and Warrick counties.

the Indiana Corn Marketing Council (ICMC), the state's corn checkoff program. Roesner is an elected member of the National Corn Growers Association's Corn Board.

Tuholski joins the executive committee this year as ICGA's treasurer. Representing District 2, Tuholski grows corn and soybeans on his farm in rural LaPorte County. District 2 includes all of St. Joseph, Elkhart, Marshall, Starke, Fulton, Pulaski, Miami, Wabash, and parts of Cass, Kosciusko and LaPorte counties. He farms 100 percent no-till, and he uses cover crops. Tuholski farms in a partnership with his father and two uncles. A full-time farmer, he began farming in 1995.

Roesner and Tuholski were two of three directors re-elected to the ICGA board in 2025. Scott Smith was re-elected to a third, three-year term in District 5, which includes all of Delaware, Tipton, Madison, Grant, Hamilton, and part of Howard counties.

Smith is a past president of ICGA. He has a diversified, third generation farm that produces corn, soybeans and process tomatoes. A fulltime farmer, Smith began farming in 1974. Along with his wife, Terri, he owns Triple S Smith Farms and Sharp-View Farms in Tipton, Madison, Grant and Howard counties.

Indiana Corn Growers Association are now accepting applications for board election

INDIANAPOLIS - Farmers who want to represent agriculture in the legislative halls of state and federal government should consider adding their name to this year's Indiana Corn Growers Association (ICGA) board election ballot. The ICGA board advocates for Hoosier corn farmers at the local, state and federal levels. ICGA's governing districts match the nine Congressional districts across the state. This year, ICGA will fill seats in districts 1, 4 and 7.

"This is an opportunity for interested corn growers to take an active part in helping secure a better future for Hoosier farmers," said ICGA President Alan Dunn, a farmer from rural Clinton County. "ICGA's mission is to represent the state's corn farmers to lawmakers who make decisions that affect our business. ICGA offers a platform necessary to talk to the people and agencies who can address those concerns."

To be eligible, candidates must be an ICGA member in good standing; own, manage or operate a farm that produces corn; reside in the district they represent; and current on membership dues. Elections will take place in the following districts:

District 1 - Lake, Porter and the northwest corner of LaPorte counties.

District 4 - Benton, Boone, Carroll, Clinton, Hendricks, Jasper, Montgomery, Morgan, Newton, Putnam, Tippecanoe, White, Warren and parts of Cass, Fountain and Howard counties.

District 7 – which includes most of Marion County.

Election applications are due to the ICGA office by Jan 30, 2026. Ballots will be mailed to members in May and must be returned by June 30. Winners will start serving on the board in December 2026. Go to www. incornandsoy.org/ICGAelection for more details, to find a district map or download an application. Submit all completed materials to Amber Myers by email at amyers@incorn.org.



± ACRE LAND AUCT



AUCTION DATE AND TIME JANUARY 8, 2026 6:00PM

AUCTION LOCATION

CLOPAY BUILDING SHELBY COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS 701 S. HIGHLAND AVE., SIDNEY, OH 45365.

CONTACT

DEVIN DYE THE LAND GUY 419-303-5891

COUNTY TOWNSHIP



DYE REAL ESTATE & LAND COMPANY

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76.02+/-ACRES | 2 TRACTS | HOWARD CO, IN

ONLINE at halderman.com

PROPERTY LOCATION: On the north edge of Kokomo, IN along N Reed Road in Clay Twp. Howard Co.

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

TUESDAY JANUARY 13TH 4 PM - 6 PM ET

OPEN HOUSES

Fri. Jan 2 | 2pm - 4pm Thurs. Jan 8 | 4pm-6pm

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

800.424.2324 | halderman.com Auctioneer: Russell D. Harmeyer IN Auct. Lic. #AU10000277, HRES IN Auct Lic.#AC69200019, HLS#BCS-13185, Farm: Cornelia Gordon Farm

INVESTMENT QUALITY TILLABLE CROPLAND

34.92+/- ACRES | NEAR SUBURBAN EXPANSION | HAMILTON CO, IN



THURSDAY JANUARY 15™ 4 PM - 6 PM ET

PROPERTY LOCATION:

Approx. 25620 Jerkwater Road, Sheridan, IN 46069 in Adams Township, Hamilton County.

CONTACT: Sam Clark: 317.442.0251 **Jim Clark:** 317.627.6928

Tract #4

Halderman-Harmeyer HALDERMAN
Real Estate Services REAL ESTATE & FARM MANAGEMENT

Auct Lic. #AU10000277, HRES IN
Auct Lic. #AC69200019, Seller: McKinney Farm, HLS#SFC-13180

800.424.2324 | halderman.com

Real Estate Auction

Tuesday, January 20, 2026 @ 5:30 PM CT

Auction Location: Bass Lake Fire Station, 7225 US 35, Knox, IN 118 +/- Acres - Sold in (5) Tracts Sections 8 & 9 - California Township - Starke County - Indiana

THURS. JANUARY 8TH | 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM ET

ONLINE at halderman.com

PRODUCTIVE CROPLAND • RANDOLPH CO. IN POTENTIAL BUILDING SITES • HUNTING LOCATIONS

PROPERTY LOCATION: In northeast Randolph County, approximately 5 miles northwest of Union City.

> 205.16+/- ACRES 8 TRACTS | 188.787+/-Tillable | 7.863+/-Woods

Chris Peacock: 765.546.0592 | Lauren Peacock: 765.546.7359 HALDERMAN

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Real Estate Services

HLS# CCP-13182 Auctioneer: Russell D. Harmeyer IN Auct Lic. #AU10000277, HRES IN Auct. Lic. #AC69200019, Seller: GLF Farms LLC



PRODUCTIVE CROPLAND • WOODS • TILLABLE • JACKSON CO, IN

ONLINE at halderman.com

TUESDAY JANUARY 20TH 4 PM - 6 PM ET

PROPERTY LOCATION: South of 1025 N at 425 E in Hamilton

Township, Jackson County.

+/- total

TRACT 1: 42+/- Acres TRACT 2: 51.34+/- Acres

CONTACT: Dave Bonnell: 812.343.4313 Michael Bonnell: 812.343.6036



REAL ESTATE & FARM MANAGEMENT

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Auctioneer: Russell D. Harmeyer IN Auct. Lic. #AU10000277, HRES IN Auct. Lic. #AC69200019, HLS# NAS-13108, Farm: Joseph D. Welliver Estate



CLOSING OUT FARM AUCTION LIVE -- ONSITE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7TH - 9:00 A.M. 4 MILES EAST OF MATTOON, IL ON RT. 16, NORTH 5 1/2 MILES ON LOXA ROAD (1100 E) AND EAST 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ MILES ON 1300 N



6 Tractors - - Case IH 5088 Combine - - Case IH 2208 Corn Head - - Case IH 3020 head - - Case IH 9250 - - Steiger Wildcat - Case IH 7130 - - IH 5288 - - IH 1086 - - 3 Grain Trucks - - '97 Ford F8500 Diesel - - '82 Ford 8000 Diesel - - A&L Grain Cart JD 1780 & 1760 Planters - - JD 750 Drill - - Hagie Sprayer - - Seed Wagons - - Augers - - Case IH MRX 690 Disk ripper - -Case IH 4800 Field Cultivator - - IH 4700 Field Cultivator - - IH 490 & 496 Disks - - M&W 1460 & 1465 Disk Rippers - - Landoll Soil Saver - - Fuerst Harrow - - Mowers - - '99 Corvette, C5, 80K miles - - 10 Older Collector Honda Motorcycles from 125cc to 550cc - - 3pt Back Hoe - - 5' x 10' Cargo Trailer - - Elec. Pallet jack - - Poly tanks - - Seed Handling - - Grain Cleaning - - 8 Wagon loads

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William Scherf & Sharon Scroggins, Owners Nathan D. Swartzell Listing Agent Auctioneer #AU11400050 574-242-1262 auctions Kenneth R. Becker, Auctioneer, Lic# AU11400044

Tract #1 (Section 9) - 2.3 +/- Acres, House, Detached Garage, Outbuildings

Tract #2 (Section 9) - 37.7+/- Acres (34.8 +/- Tillable)

Tract #4 (Section 8) - 15 +/- Acres, All Woods Tract #5 (Section 8) - 60.5 Acres (53 +/- Tillable)

Tract #3 (Section 8) - 2.5 +/- Acres, House Trailer, Outbuildings

Gary L. Olson President Auctioneer #AU01031658 574-595-5164

Tract #1

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For more information call Nate at 574-242-1262

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MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 2026, 11:00 AM, EST (Indianapolis Time)

Case IH 210 Magnum, MFWD, 480/80Rx46 rear tires & duals, triple remotes, front weights, 19-speed power shift, 420/90R30 front tires, 1472 hours, SN H01549

1999 Case IH MX 200, MFWD, 480/80R42 rear tires with duals, 18-speed PS, triple remotes, front weights, 380/85R30 front tires, 3923 hours, SN 0098753

1991 Case IH 7110 Magnum, 18.4x38 rear tires,18-speed power shift, triple remotes, front weights, 4923 hours, SN

1981 IH 1086, 18.4x38 rear tires, front weights, dual hyd., 5274 hours, SN 53157 1970 Farmall 856, 18.4x38 rear tires, dual hyd., with Koyker

510 loader, quick tach buck 1970 Farmall 756 gas, 16.9x34 rear tires, WF, dual hyd.,

- COMBINE & GRAIN HEADS -

2009 Case IH axial-flow combine, 30.5x32 tires, rear 18.4x26 tires, rock trap, reverser, chopper, bin extension, twin chaff spreader, monitor, 3019 engine hours, 1801 separator hours

2010 Case IH Model 2020 25' grain head Unverferth 25' head mover

2013 Case IH Model 4406 corn head, 6RN, poly snouts, w/

corn stalk rollers

- TRUCKS - TRAILERS -2001 Freightliner, day cab, ISM motor, 10-speed, air ride,

22.5 tires, 356,000 miles, new tires 2005 IHC 9200, day cab, ISX motor, 10-speed, 11R22.5 tires, 630,000 mile use Timpte 36' aluminum hopper-bottom, ag hopper, roll tarp,

24.5 tires, 30,000 mile use 2006 Farm Master 36' steel hopper-bottom, ag hoppers, roll

1000-gal. Stainless steel tank on tandem-axle trailer 1968 Trailmobile stainless steel, insulated, 4800-gal. trailer, transfer pump, new brakes. 11R22.5 tires

1990 IHC tandem-axle, DT 466 motor, 10-speed, high & low range, 20' aluminum bed, twin cyl. hoist, roll tarp, triple doors, rear hyd. control, 11L22.5 tires

1970 C50 Chevy truck, 366 gas motor, 5- & 2-speed, 16' wooden bed, only 67,790 miles

- TILLAGE EQUIPMENT -

managers 2023 Čase IH Model 2800 "Nutri-Placer" nitrogen applicator,

Kinze Model 3500 Twin Line 16-row splitter, residue

12-row, ground-driven pump, 2 seasons Case IH Model 340 25' disc, rock cushion with hitch UM 25' double-rolling basket harrow John Deere Model 714 9-shank chisel with leveler

DMI 12-row nitrogen applicator with Raven control John Deere Model 1760 12-row fold conservation planter, residue managers, double disc openers, liquid fert., Red

IH Model 720 6x16 auto-reset plow John Deere Model 2210 25' field cultivator, walking tandems, coil tine harrow, single rolling basket

Best Way NTX 1000-gal. pull-type sprayer, 60' hyd. boom, PTO pump, Raven 440 monitor

- GRAIN CART - SEED TENDER -

Unverferth Model 2750 seed tender, dual compartment, tandem axle, roll tarp, talc powder tank, wireless remote,

Ficklin CA 9600 grain cart, 550-bu., corner unload

- AUGERS - MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS -Long Model 1199A 3-pt. backhoe with hyd. pump, 12" & 20"

buckets 3-pt. 45' Spray boom Ford 3-pt. mower, 6 ft. Robo quick-tach rock picker Hutch 62'x8" SA auger

Westfield 61'x8" SA auger

Brandt 61'x8" SA auger Westfield 31'x8" PTO auger with 5-hp. electric Hutch 27'x6" PTO auger 500-gal. Aluminum tank Brady 14' stalk chopper Penn Body 619 dump bed, rare Best Way 1000-gal. liquid manure spreader

6-row Corn reel 9:00 Tires 110-gal. Fuel tank with 12-volt pump Early Studebaker wagon box

Implement tires

55-gal. Barrel of Def with 110-volt pump & auto shut-off Cen-Pe-Co Diesel Klenz 1000- & 300-gal. Fuel tanks

8N Ford loader with pump 8 IH suitcase weights Windmill fan & tail Kawasaki 220 4x4 ATV About a half-hour bargain counter

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FARMLAND AUCTION

EASTERN MADISON COUNTY FARMLAND

191 Acres * 163 Tillable Acres * 7,500" Rd Frontage

Wed * January 14 * 1:00 PM

<u>Farm Location</u>: 5930 Lilly-Chapel Opossum Run Rd. London, OH <u>Auction Location</u>: Madison County Fairgrounds, London, OH

Six productive tracts of Eastern Madison Co. farmland. These properties feature approx. 163 tillable acres, with total road frontage of over 7500'. Over 85% tillable with above-average soils. Located Between London, Mt. Sterling, and West Jefferson. Lot split potential.



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VIRTUAL ONLINE

IROQUOIS COUNTY, ILLINOIS LAND AUCTION

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2026 AT 1:00 PMCT





The Gromer Family Farm is located 4 miles north of Watseka, IL, or 20 miles southeast of Kankakee, IL. It is further described as being located in Section 9, T27N-R12W, Middleport Township, Iroquois County, Illinois.

Farmers & investors, don't miss this well maintained farm with excellent yield history, located close to excellent grain market outlets!

GROMER FAMILY FARM

Representing Attorney: Timothy W. Kirk | Heyl, Royster, Voelker & Allen, P.C. | (309) 677-9519 300 Hamilton Boulevard, Suite 200, Peoria, Illinois 61602 Auction Managers: Kevin Haas (309) 264-7767 & Eric Ifft (309) 825-3730



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ONLINE AUCTION ENDS JANUARY 6/7

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OPEN HOUSE: FRIDAY JANUARY 2, 11-2 PM



AUCTION INFO: Bid your price on 220+ QUALITY modern & vintage firearms. Visit beckortauctions.com for complete catalog & auction details!

DAY #1 (Jan 6) highlights include 165+ firearms from the Tommy Ellingsworth Collection (Clark County Indiana): 42 Browning shotguns (mostly Belgium), 12 Browning rifles (mostly Belgium), 25 Remington shotguns, 13 Remington rifles, 29 Winchester shotguns, 12 Winchester rifles, 15 Savage/Steven O/U combo rifle/shotguns, & 20+ hand guns (Colt, S&W, Desert Eagle).

DAY #2 (Jan 7) highlights include 55+ vintage military firearms from an established 50+ year Collection (Harrison County Indiana): 15 handguns (German Mausers/Lugers, Japanese Nambus) & 40+ long guns (M1 Garands, M1 carbine, M14A, several US Springfields, etc), & related bayonet collection!

BECKORT Auctions 110 - (812) 738 - 9476 -
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Mielke

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pounds or 10.5 percent from 2024.

Skim milk powder production fell to 35.0 million pounds, down 8.7 million pounds or 19.8 percent from September, and down 4.9 million or 12.2 percent from a year ago. YTD SMP amounted to 404.2 million pounds, down 19.7 percent from 2024.

The plentiful cheese production continued to result in a sizeable whey stream, according to the Dec. 15 Daily Dairy Report. "Manufacturers are persistently routing it to the highest-value products," the DDR says. "Production of whey protein isolate jumped 17.7 percent in October while output of whey protein concentrates (WPC) with more than 50 percent protein increased 9.7 percent. As more manufacturers have pivoted toward making these higher value ingredients, production of WPCs with between 25 percent and 50 percent protein tumbled 29 percent."

The last Global Dairy Trade event of 2025 ended on 4.4 percent drop in the weighted average, the ninth consecutive loss, and followed a 4.3 percent decline on Dec. 2. Volume dipped to 74.9 million pounds, lowest since July 15, and down from 75.6 million on Dec. 2. The average metric ton price slipped to \$3,341 U.S., lowest since Dec. 5, 2023, and down from \$3,507 on Dec. 2.

Whole milk powder led the declines with a 5.7 percent fall, and followed a 2.4 percent decline on Dec. 2. Skim milk powder was down 2.1 percent, after a 1.6 percent loss. Anhydrous milkfat had the second biggest decline, down 5.2 percent, and followed a 9.8 percent decline. Butter was down 2.5 percent, after leading the declines last time with a 12.4 percent plunge. Cheddar was unchanged, following a 7.2 percent uptick, while Mozzarella was up 6.7 percent, following a 1.0 percent slip.

StoneX says the GDT 80 percent butterfat butter price equates to \$2.2182 U.S. per pound, down from \$2.2874. GDT Cheddar equated to \$2.1072, up from \$2.1043 last time. GDT skim milk powder averaged \$1.1028 per pound, down from \$1.1331, and whole milk powder averaged \$1.4340, down from \$1.5259.

TELL THEM YOU SAW THEIR AD IN Farm World

Lower feed costs and a strong beef price helped temper a drop in the All Milk Price in October's feed price ratio. The USDA's latest Ag Prices report showed October at 2.40, down from 2.41 in September, and below the 2.97 in October 2024.

The All Milk Price averaged \$20 per cwt. with a 4.35 percent butterfat test, down 40 cents from September, which had a 4.24 percent test, and compares to \$25.10 in October 2024, with a 4.26 percent test.

The national corn price averaged \$3.93 per bushel, down 7 cents from September, and is 6 cents below October 2024. Soybeans averaged \$9.71 per bushel, down 14 cents from September, and 20 cents below a year ago. Alfalfa hay averaged \$168 per ton, down \$3 from September, and \$3 below a year ago.

By the way, the latest Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Outlook reports that August beef imports totaled 414 million pounds, just under 2 percent below a year ago. "Lower year-over-year imports from Brazil and New Zealand offset increased imports from Australia, Mexico, and Canada," the Outlook said. Official trade statistics were only available through August, due to the government shutdown.

HighGround Dairy's Cara Murphy stated in the Dec. 22 Dairy Radio Now broadcast that even though the beef price has come down from August, she believes it will stay strong in 2026 because "It takes time to rebuild that beef herd. We're not just going to have cows come out of nowhere."

October feed costs were the lowest since November 2020, according to dairy economist Bill Brooks, of Stoneheart Consulting in Dearborn, Mo. "Milk production margins decreased for the second month in a row and remained at historically high levels with a 26 cent per cwt. loss from September. Income over feed costs in October were above the \$8 per cwt. level needed for steady to higher milk production for the 24th month in a row," according to Brooks.

"Dairy producer milk income over feed costs for 2025 (using Dec. 15 CME settling futures prices for Class III milk, corn and soybeans plus the Stoneheart forecast for alfalfa hay) are expected to be \$12.33 per cwt., a loss of 25 cents per cwt. versus September's estimate. Income over feed would be above the level needed to maintain or grow milk production, and down \$1.07 from 2024's level."



Grain transportation sector sees strong demand in 2025-2026

lowa Correspondent

ANKENY, Iowa - The grain transportation sector is seeing a strong demand in the 2025-2026 marketing year amid record U.S. corn production, despite challenges from low water levels and market shifts, according to the USDA's Nov. 27, 2025, Grain Transportation Report.

The report said ongoing low water levels on the Mississippi River were affecting shipments, with corn prioritized, but soybean movement was poised to increase as China resumed purchases after an October trade agreement, leading to stronger barge demand, despite initial slow uptake.

"It is unfortunate we are experiencing four consecutive years of low water on the Mississippi River," Mike Steenhoek, executive director of the Soy Transportation Coalition in Ankeny told Farm World. "Low water levels on the river manifest themselves in two ways: a lack of channel depth, and a lack of channel width.

"A lack of depth will result in a barge having to be light loaded out of a concern that the barge could scrape the bottom of the river," he said. "A lack of channel

tire acreage is certified through OEFFA

(Ohio Ecological Food and Farm As-

sociation). Their crops feed their cat-

tle and create organic feed for many

serves customers throughout Mich-

igan and the Midwest, offering or-

ganic feeds for poultry, swine, sheep,

Science Research Award from the Soil

Science Society of America for his con-

tributions to soil science, has dedicated

most of his life to research and study to

help improve the health of soil. Basso's

research portfolio is wide-ranging, from

using drones and satellites to monitor

crop and soil health to leading efforts

through the MSU Center for Regenera-

tive Agriculture to promote sustainable

employ sensors to measure plant nutri-

ents, temperature and size. The infor-

mation is plugged into his revolutionary

Systems Approach to Land Use Sus-

tainability program that models crop,

nutrient, soil and water conditions over

With drones, Basso and his team

Basso, who recently received the Soil

currently

Graham's Organics

goats, dairy and beef.

farming practices.

Soil Heroes

FROM PAGE 9B

other animals.

as many barges together to form one single until it's analogous to a four-lane highway being reduced to two lanes."

The report said while overall shipments dipped the week of Nov. 27 the significant trade deal that promised substantial 2025-2026 soybean exports to China (at least 12 million metric tons) boosted prospects but potentially raised barge rates. The report added these large sales boosted soybean futures and encouraged U.S. farmers to sell more of their stored crops.

Over the past two months, the report added, as shippers prioritized corn shipments, soybean shipments may pick up in the coming weeks, with China resuming its sovbean purchases.

The U.S. exports more soybeans to China than to all our other international customers combined," Steenhoek said. "So much economic development in rural America over the past 20-30 years is a result of U.S. soybean farmers effectively exporting to China.

"Organizations like the U.S. Soybean Export Council have been diligently working for years to diversify and expand marketing opportunities beyond China, but China is truly a unique market for

multiple years and various management strategies. The program compares management techniques over time under current and future climate scenarios.

"Soil is life, and we need to continue to improve its health," Basso said. "Healthy soils are an essential component of all environments, especially in agriculture. As growers and ranchers are tasked with producing more food on less land, it's paramount that we're good stewards of soil and view it as a precious, finite commodity."

Basso has also developed several novel methods that glean key soil health insights, including an analysis metric known as yield stability zones. While routine soil sampling can prove prohibitively expensive for most farmers, Basso has paired soil samples with historical crop yield information and modeling to successfully identify distinct in-field variability based on relative soil organic carbon and relative soil health. The result can give farmers information on when and where to deliver nutrients and water as needed, while saving on application to higher-quality soil regions.

"All of my work is geared toward ensuring that we're using the most efficient practices possible in agriculture to promote sustainability, making farmers sensitive to proper long-term decisions versus short-term goals," Basso said.

width will result in an inability to attach soybeans," he added. "We are pleased to see a resumption of some U.S. soybean exports to China, but we have a long way to go to be back to normal."

> Regarding his outlook for soybean transportation going into 2026, and how it will affect U.S. soybean growers, Steenhoek said: "We will continue to monitor river levels in 2026, hoping for a more normal year. We will also continue to monitor developments in the rail industry, including the proposed merger between Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern."

> As of Dec. 17, 2025, the proposed \$85 billion merger has lost the support of two of their biggest unions that represent more than half the workers because they are worried the deal would

increase safety risks, lead to higher shipping rates and consumer prices. and cause significant disruptions, The Associated Press reported.

After months of meetings with Union Pacific CEO Jim Vena and other executives, the presidents of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen, and the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division unions told The Associated Press they have serious doubts about the potential benefits, adding that the promises Vena made to preserve jobs for all current employees aren't detailed enough to be reliable.

The report added that U.S. sorghum shipments to China restarted, showing a broader positive shift in agricultural trade.

MIKE HUYEAR FARM EQUIPMENT RETIREMENT ONLINE AUCTION

13067 LANGE ROAD • CARLINVILLE, IL 62626 | DECEMBER 29th 2025 | 9:00am

LIVE AUCTION WITH ONLINE BIDDING hanoldauctioneering.com [[[[[]]]]]]

AUCTIONEER NOTES: Mike and Keith have been lifelong farmers and have decided to retire. This is a really clean line of equipment.

Lot 1: Mayrath 13"x83' Swing Away

- Auger Lot 2: Mayrath 10"x31' Auger Lot 3: Westfield 8"x28' Auger
- Lot 5: David Bradley Flairbed Wagon Lot 6: Hyd. Dump High Side Wagon

Lot 4: Running Gear

- Lot 7: 3-Bottom Plow Lot 8: 2-Bottom Plow
- Lot 9: Running Gear Wire Lot 10: Running Gear
- Lot 11: Saturn 7' Shredder
- Lot 12: Chem-Farm Stainless Tanks
- Lot 13: DMI Applicator Lot 14: Case İH 183 8-Row
- Cultivator Lot 15: Convey-All 10" Transfer Conveyor
- Lot 16: Transfer Tank on Gear 1000
- Gallon Lot 17: Chem-Farm Stainless
- Transfer Lot 18: Sprayer Boom Lot 19: International 4900 Tandem
- Lot 20: International Semi
- Lot 21: John Deere 4700 Sprayer
- Lot 22: Sprayer Fenders Lot 23: 385/85/34 Wheels (X4)
- Lot 24: DEF Transfer Tank
- Lot 25: Diesel Generator
- Lot 26: Kubota Side By Side Lot 27: Chevy 2500 Pickup

- Lot 57: 20.8/42 Wheels (X2) Lot 58: Massey Ferguson 9695
- Lot 59: Gleaner 30" Draper Head Lot 60: Horst Head Hauler
- Lot 61: Drago 630 Corn Head Lot 62: E-Z Trail Head Hauler
- Lot 63: 30' JD 400 Rotary Hoe Lot 64: Demco 650 Grain Cart
- Lot 65: White 6180 Planter 12-Row Lot 66: 26' Disc
- Lot 67: Ag Leader Lot 68: Monitor
- Lot 69: Auto Steer
- Lot 70: Chevy C70 Spreader Truck Non Running

anold

- Lot 71: International 986 Lot 72: IH Hubs
- Lot 73: IH Weights (X5) Lot 44: IH 2350 Loader with Bucket
- Lot 45: John Deere Pallet Forks
- Lot 46: International 1456 Lot 47: Case International 7120

Lot 43: International 1256 Tractor

Lot 28: Gransshopper 725D

Lot 30: 20' Glenco Disc Chisel

Lot 31: 24' Brillion Cultimulcher

Lot 33: 30' John Deere Cultivator

Lot 32: 44" DMI Crumbler

Danish

Lot 35 42' Krause Till All

Lot 34: 33' Case IH 340 Disc

Lot 36: 50' Salford applicator

Lot 38: John Deere FC 15 M

Shredder

Lot 39: Kinze 3300 16/31

Lot 41: Farmall Super M

Lot 42: Farmall Super C

Only

Lot 40: Farmall H

Lot 37: J&M 375ST Seed Tende

Lot 29: 30' Ber-Vac

- Lot 48: Case IH 290
- Lot 49: Case IH 535 Quadtrac
- Lot 50: Challenger MT665 Lot 51: John Deere S670 Lot 52: MacDon FE75-S Drapper
- Lot 53: John Deere 70BC Corn Head
- Lot 54: Unverferth HT36 Head
- Lot 55: Killbros Head Hauler Lot 56: 20.8/42 Wheels (X2)

- Lot 74: JD 16' Row Cultivator Lot 75: Sprayer
 - Lot 76: M&W Gravity Wagon Lot 77: John Deer 750 Drill
 - Lot 78: John Deere 7000 8-Row
 - Lot 79 Kinze 3600 16/31 Planter Lot 80: John Deere 8430
 - Lot 81: John Deere 30' Disc 9": Spacing Lot 82: Chevy C70 Grain Truck 18'
 - Bed 366 Motor Lot 83: John Deere Planter 8 Row
 - Front Fold Lot 84: John Deere 2940
 - Lot 85: Chevy 2500 4x4 Pickup Lot 86: 18' Falling Tilt Trailer
 - Cody Hanold, Auctioneer IL Lic. #441.001515 618-781-9810

AUCTIONEERING AUCTION codyhanold@att.net TERMS: Cash or good check with proper ID. Owner, Auctioneer,

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For more photos and updates, visit www.hanoldauctioneering.com

TUES., DEC. 30

LOCATED: LIVE ON-SITE at 2455 Stringtown Road, Sardinia, OH, 50 mi. E. of Cincinnati, OH, 80 mi. SW of Columbus, OH, 14 mi. SW of Hillsboro, OH. Follow signs off SR 138 or SR 321 to auction.

TRACTORS - PLANTER - TILLAGE TRUCK - GRAIN HANDLING - MISC

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: This auction consists of super clean, well maintained items that are in excess of seller's needs. Carraher Farms is continuing their farming operation. Auction will not last long. No small items. Please be on time.







2013 John Deere 9560RT, 2,725 hours, 36 tracks, powershift transmission, 5 rear SCV, 20 front weights, no pto, SN# 1RW9560RJDP902582

2011 John Deere 8260R, 1,743 hrs., 16 spd. power shift, Pre DEF, 4 rear hyd. SCV, 1000 pto, 3pt. w/quick hitch, full coverage rear fenders, 12 front weights,480/80R50 rear duals, 420/35R34 front tires, SN# 1RW8260RHBP044121

2020 John Deere 716C Corn Head, knife rolls, header height sensing, SN# 1H00716CCKX810007 2021 Unverferth AWS-42 Header Cart, 11L-15FI, SN# A67990159

John Deere 1795 Split-Row Planter, 16/32 rows, 15"/30" spacing, 2-point hook up, hydraulic drive, pneumatic down force, no-till coulter, Yetter twister closing wheels, markers, 420 gal. liquid fertilizer tank, piston pump, single disk fertilizer openers, SeedStar II, SN# 1A01795CJKA780452

2023 Unverferth 410XL Seed Tender, 4 boxes, 8"x 21' conveyer, 2520 scale, Honda motor, elec. start, wireless remote, talc applicator, ST235/85R16 tires, 1-owner, SN# D69220122

2011 Freightliner Business Class M2 Grain Truck. 125,054 mi., 500 HP 12.8 L Detroit, modified fuel system. Allison auto, trans., 24'x8' Kann grain bed. roll tarp 315/80R22.5 steer tires & drop down axle, BF2807

Great Plains 4800 Turbo-Max. 48ft. hydraulic raise & lower & fold, adjustable disk gang angle, spike harrow, rolling basket, tire size: 480/45R17, 12 hydraulic hoses, 7 pin light connector, rear hitch w/1 rear hydraulic remote, 1-owner, SN# GP-C7845H

John Deere 2310 Mulch Finisher, 5 section fold, 45'.9", spike harrow, rolling basket, rear hitch w/ hydraulics, 340/65R18 tires, SN# 1N02310X-HB0745317

2021 Unverferth 1245 48' Rolling Harrow, spike leveler bar, 5 section fold, SN# 88382G

2022 J&M 5016 Liquid Fertilizer Applicator, 1,600 gallon tank, 17 knives, new knives, 5 section fold, JD rate controller, 1-owner, SN# 2250019,

Portable 1000 Gallon Plastic Tank with Pump. 11L-15SL tires, 2" plumbing, Portable 1000 Gallon Stainless Tank with Pump,

11L-15SL tires, 2" plumbing Sunflower 1435 40' Disk, adjustable gang, 12.5L-

15FI tires, 1-owner Wheels & Tires for Turbo-Max. VF480/45R17IMP tire size, one brand new BTK tire & rim, 2 bad tires with good rims.

BKT 460/85R38 tires & rims CARRAHER HOME FARM LLC, OWNER

PREVIEW: TUES., DEC. 23 FROM 10AM TO 3PM AT 2455 STRINGTOWN RD, SARDINIA

FOR FULL DETAILED INFORMATION & TERMS CALL FOR BROCHURE

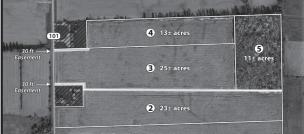
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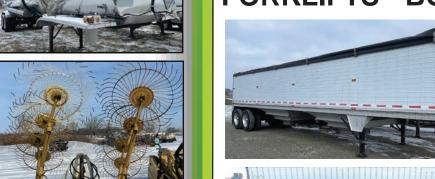
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