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Vol. 71, No. 51

Friday, January 30, 2026

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## Pesticide complaints have stabilized says IDOA Director

By **TIM ALEXANDER**  
Illinois Correspondent

PEORIA, ILL. — The six-week government shutdown in October-November 2025 could be the culprit behind the delay in state departments of agriculture receiving updated instructions for the use of the herbicide dicamba for the 2026 growing season. This is according to Illinois Agriculture Director Jerry Costello II, who also cited the loss of more than 20 percent of USDA workers via DOGE-related layoffs and early buyouts as a driver behind the delay.

“The lion’s share of these losses were within the USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), especially among senior staffers there,” Costello said on January 21, when he spoke at input retailers and farmers at the Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association’s (IFCA) 2026 convention and trade show in Peoria. “This is affecting our farmers who are trying to plan and budget for this year’s crop.”

The uncertainty over dicamba usage is familiar to GMO soybean growers, who are forced to adjust their over-the-top, or in-season, application windows to meet both weather and calendar requirements each year. “We’re still awaiting word from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on whether over-the-top application on soybean will be allowed in the 2026 growing season,” Costello said. “I understand how difficult it is to plan when those decisions are unresolved, and I want you to know the department of agriculture remains engaged and we are ready to communicate clearly to you all as soon as we have definitive guidance.”

A “silver lining” in the dicamba issue is a “stabilization” in the number



**Above:** Illinois Agriculture Director Jerry Costello II traveled to Peoria to tell members of the IFCA that pesticide misuse complaints have “stabilized” the last three growing seasons after peaking in 2019. (T. Alexander photo)

of pesticide misuse complaints lodged with the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) over the past three growing seasons, according to Costello. “There is no dramatic increase to report, and that speaks to the professionalism of licensed applicators, the emphasis on training and the commitment this industry has shown to doing the right thing the right way,” he said.

In Illinois, formal complaints over pesticide misuse surged to 971 in 2019 after the rise of dicamba use. By 2020 complaints had plummeted to just 145. Only 85 complaints from 2022-25 resulted in fines, with most penalties totaling less than \$1,000, Investigate Midwest, an independent, nonprofit newsroom whose stated mission is to serve the public as a watchdog over influential agricultural corporations and institutions, reported.

A request for updated pesticide and dicamba complaint numbers made to an IDOA spokesperson by Farm World was not acknowledged by press time. The University of Illinois Extension reported that in 2024, 241 pesticide misuse complaints were filed with the IDOA. Of those, 202 cases had been completed (reviewed and closed or an enforcement action taken) as of early April 2025. Among the completed cases, 103 were closed with no evidence of misuse found. Just 91 complaints had

( See Pesticide on page 2)



**Above:** While most of the Farm World readership area endured some wild winter weather, it still provided great opportunities for beautiful photos down on the farm. Photo by Susan Seitz.

## Farmers given tips to lower costs during the Purdue Top Farmer event

By **Michele F. Mihaljevich**  
Indiana Correspondent

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. – Farmers are seeing lower prices and higher break-even prices, meaning they need to look for ways to trim costs without impacting yield, according to a Purdue University professor of agricultural economics.

The real challenge today is prices are relatively low, Michael Langemeier said, but they’re not as low as they were back in 2014-19. There is a difference between then and now, he added.

“Our break-evens are so much higher and so it’s even more challenging today from a corn and soybean standpoint than it was anytime from 2014-19 because we have this large gap between break-evens and the corn price. Costs went up right after COVID and they came down a little bit, but not enough.”

Langemeier and two of his Purdue colleagues spoke on strategies to reduce cost per bushel for the upcoming growing season during the Jan. 9 Purdue Top Farmer Conference in West Lafayette.

In November, respondents to the Purdue University/CME Group Ag Economy Barometer were asked what changes, if any, they will make to their farm in 2026 to respond to low corn prices. Langemeier said 40 percent would make no change, while 33 percent said they would use lower cost seed varieties, 30 percent would re-

duce phosphorus, 18 percent would reduce nitrogen, and 18 percent would reduce seeding rate.

Farmers generally have about 40 corn crops over their lifetimes, he said.

“You have 40 chances to get it right,” Langemeier pointed out. “If you’re on the year 25 or year 30, I always think you’re probably close to where you need to be so how much tweaking do you need to do? When you come into an environment where there’s such a large gap between price and production cost, you start realizing I need to look at every cost on that budget and see if I can make any changes.”


The right way to cut costs is to cut them only when the marginal benefits of doing so outweigh the marginal costs, he said.

Dan Quinn, assistant professor of agronomy, looked at where corn farmers might find some flexibility in cutting costs without sacrificing production.

The two highest variable costs for corn – seed and nitrogen fertilizer – often have a lot of flexibility in application, he said. He suggested farmers consider lowering seeding rates because today’s hybrids are better able to work with those lower rates.

Farmers should target the use of the economic optimum nitrogen rate (or maximum return) rather than the agronomic optimum nitrogen rate (maximum yield), Quinn said.


( See Top Farmer on page 2)

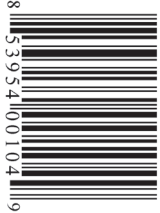


**Kentucky 4-H members shine at NAILE event. . . . .**  
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**In this Farm World:**

**Check out the prices of equipment selling at auction**  
.....Page 3B





# Study examines whether nitrogen pollution human-derived or hydrological

URBANA, Ill. – Scientists at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign can now differentiate between human-derived and hydrological contributions of riverine nitrogen pollution in the Upper Mississippi River Basin. The advancement, published in Environmental Science and Technology, sets the stage for more nuanced policy and management of nitrate and nitrite, the nutrients that degrade drinking water quality and cause oxygen-starved “dead zones” in the Gulf each year.

“This is the first study that distinguishes changes in nitrogen loss attributable to human activities, such as fertilizer application and farm conservation practices, from hydrological variability, such as extreme rainfall and changes in streamflow. It also shows us where the hotspots of nutrient loss are and which driver – human activity or hydrological variability – is more influential in each sub-watershed location,” said Bin Peng,

assistant professor in the Department of Crop Sciences, part of the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences at Illinois. “Our goal in segregating these drivers is to further tailor policy and management to reduce nitrogen loss.”

Peng and his co-authors obtained 20 years of water quality data from U.S. Geological Survey monitoring sites across the Upper Mississippi River Basin and calculated annual nitrate, and nitrite loads at each location. The team then used observational data to calibrate a modified version of the USGS’s SPARROW model, which relates stream nutrient loads to watershed characteristics, including nutrient sources, land-to-water delivery factors, and in-stream processes. Finally, the team conducted a factorial scenario analysis to attribute the changes to human-derived and hydrological drivers.

The researchers focused on two time

periods – 2001–2005 and 2016–2020 – showing that nitrogen loss increased by nearly 10 kilograms per hectare per year on average during that 20-year span. About half of the increase was attributable to human activity, while the other half was due to hydrological changes. But that was for the entire region. When the team drilled down to the sub-watershed scale, they could tell which drivers were most important in each location.

“The northwestern part of the Upper Mississippi River Basin shows high contributions from both anthropogenic activities and hydrological changes, whereas the southeastern part of the basin has a higher contribution from hydrological change,” said Qianyu Zhao, first author of the study and a doctoral student in the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences (NRES) in ACES.

Tailoring solutions based on the prevalent drivers – an approach that could improve outcomes for state and federal nutrient loss reduction strategies – will look different in each location. For example, Peng said, the northwestern part of the region should focus on reducing fertilizer and manure inputs while simultaneously controlling losses from

increased precipitation. The southeastern part of the basin may need to focus more on the impacts from hydrological variability.

The research team is now expanding their focus to the entire Mississippi River Basin, with the goal of reducing nutrient loss to benefit farmers’ bottom lines and prevent environmental impacts.

“Expanding this analysis to the whole Mississippi Basin will also help us build our new science-based and data-driven conservation prioritization framework, which will be of many practical uses to all stakeholders, including farmers, watershed managers, state and federal policy makers,” Peng said.

“This is a good example of how deeper scientific research at the Agroecosystem Sustainability Center (ASC) at Illinois can inform practices on the ground and environmental policies,” said Kaiyu Guan, Levenick Endowed Professor for Sustainability in NRES and founding director of the ASC.

The study is published in Environmental Science and Technology (DOI: 10.1021/acs.est.5c06476). Peng and Guan are co-corresponding authors on the study.

## Top Farmer

FROM PAGE 1

“(Understand) making informed, targeted input applications,” he explained. “A lot of that has to do with disease control, so the fungicide applications, biological applications, micro nutrients, bio-stimulants, there’s a thousand million out there now. Ask yourself these questions – is there a justification for that application? Have I tried them on my farm? Have I seen it work or have I not seen it work? On the fungicide side, do I have a history of disease or do I not have a history of disease.”

Shaun Casteel, professor of agronomy, discussed reducing costs in soybean production. He said fertilizer accounts for 26 percent of variable costs

for soybeans, while seed accounts for 21 percent and pesticides 20 percent.

Farmers who practice a “build-up and maintain” approach when it comes to phosphorus and potassium would have an opportunity to forego them both if their soil levels are sufficient, Casteel said.


The timely planting of soybeans is important, he said.

“Usually we think of mid-Aprils, late Mays as a good sweet spot to maximize our yield,” Casteel said. “You’re doing nothing else but just deciding when to plant. All your other investments are the same. So it’s just maximizing the potential and then getting more of that production.”

A closed soybean canopy should be established by early July, he said. “‘Green to the eye by the 4th of July’ is what we’re shooting for.”

Applicators are currently required to meet certification and licensing standards in order to legally handle and supervise the use of pesticides. The current process involves passing an IDOA pesticide general standards competency exam. To maintain their certification and licensing, applicators must retake the exam once every three years.

“This was an industry-led initiative that came together the right way, (with) stakeholders at the table. There was thoughtful discussion that focused on practical outcomes and the bill moved through the legislature unanimously, which is no small feat. That kind of cooperation is something we should all be proud of, and honestly it is a model for the Illinois agriculture industry and the state legislature on coming together and working for the common good,” he said.



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Farm World is published weekly, except for Christmas week, by MidCountry Media, Inc., 27 N. Jefferson St., Knightstown, IN 46148. Periodicals postage paid at Knightstown, IN and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to Farm World, P.O. Box 90, Knightstown, IN 46148.

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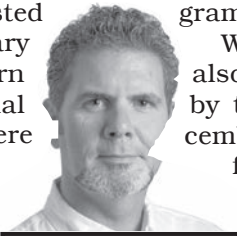
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# Corn acres remains contested number in January WASDE

One of the most contested numbers from the January WASDE report remains corn acres. In May when the initial 2025/26 balance sheets were released, U.S. corn acreage was estimated at 95.3 million for planted acres and 87.4 million on the harvested side. By January, this acreage had risen to 98.8



MARKET ANALYSIS  
By Karl Setzer

million for planted acres and 91.3 million on harvested. A big reason for this was a decline in silage acreage due to low cattle numbers. There are some thoughts that recent bridge payments may have altered reported acreage, however. The low farmer survey response rate for the January USDA data of just 40 percent is also casting doubt over the entire release.

While mostly overlooked, the December 1st quarterly stocks report indicated solid demand for U.S. grains and even soybeans. Corn consumption in the first quarter of the marketing year was 5.29 billion bu, well above last year's 4.58 bbu for the same period. Wheat disappearance totaled 459 million bu, a 9 percent increase from last year. Soybean disappearance was down 20 percent on the year at 1.3 bbu, mainly from a slow start to the China export pro-

gram, which is now underway. Where inventory is located is also being monitored, especially by the cash market. Of the December 1st corn inventory, on-farm stocks are up 14 percent and off-farm is up 4 percent. On-farm soybean inventory is up 2 percent and off-farm is up 10 percent. On-farm wheat stocks are down 4 percent from a year ago while off-farm stocks are up 11 percent.

China continues to see elevated demand for its government auctioned soybeans. The latest auction saw 1.14 million mt of soybeans sell. Concerns are building in China that when U.S. soybeans start arriving it will cause lengthy unloading delays at import facilities. Some reports show 25-30 day waits are expected, similar to recent years. Data shows China has 7 mmt of soybeans to arrive in February. At the same time, Chinese crushers report needing coverage for the spring months. As a result, crushers are buying the government offers. These sales will need to be refilled with U.S. soybeans, which is a good sign for future export demand.

China's Customs Minister is re-

porting December soybean imports were sizable 8.04 mmt, up 1.3 percent from December 2024. This volume brought China's total soybean imports for 2025 to 111.83 mmt. This was a 6.5 percent increase from 2024.

Census released its November U.S. corn grind and soybean crush data with friendly numbers. Soybean crush in the month totaled 221 million bu, down from October's record 236 mbu, but that was the only month higher than the November total on record. Marketing year-to-date soybean crush now totals 662.5 mbu, an 8.2 percent increase from last year. The USDA is currently predicting soybean crush to increase just 4.5 percent year to year.

While soybean crush is high, soy product inventories are building, tempering the positive reaction. U.S. soy oil stocks at the end of November totaled 2.164 billion pounds, well above last year's 1.61 billion pounds, and the highest volume in 18 months. Soy meal stocks at the end of November totaled 462,916 million tons, a 12-month high.

Census reported an ethanol corn grind in November of 481.87 mbu. This was down 1 percent from October but slightly higher than a year

ago. Dried distiller grain production in November totaled 1.75 million tons, down 9 percent from October and 5 percent less than in November 2024.

U.S. beef and pork export totals for 2025 down from 2024, which was not a surprise. Beef exports totaled 697,000 mt for 2025, down 14 percent from the 2024 total of 797,700 mt. A lack of available beef to export was the reason for the smaller total. Pork exports in 2025 totaled 1.55 mmt, down 8 percent from the 2024 total of 1.68 mmt. Culling to China's hog herd limited U.S. pork exports, as did a shift in global diets to include other proteins.

U.S. beef production for 2025 is starting to become better known. Through November, the U.S. had slaughtered 26.7 million head of beef cattle, 7.1 percent fewer than in the same period in 2024 according to data from the University of Florida. Heifer slaughter for the year was down 7.7 percent through November and fed cattle slaughter was down 6.1 percent.

While slaughter numbers are down, beef production has not declined as much as expected. The USDA is currently predicting 2025 beef production of 26 billion pounds, down just 3.6 percent from 2024. Heavier carcass weights have helped negate some of the loss of animal numbers. Beef production is forecast to start rebounding in 2026, climbing 1 percent to 25.7 billion pounds.

One noticeable trend with recent cattle slaughter is the high grading of beef. U.S. beef from January through November graded 12 percent as prime, up from 10.48 percent in 2024. This is cutting into the U.S. choice and select grade beef, especially with U.S. beef imports down in recent months from tariffs. This is also adding to the higher retail costs of U.S. ground beef.

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# Traders analyze ‘monster corn yield’ market repercussions

By **TIM ALEXANDER**  
Illinois Correspondent

PEORIA, Ill. – A small but interested group of central Illinois farmers gathered in the Peoria County Farm Bureau auditorium on Jan. 20 to hear Jay Mathews and Clay Liesman, of Prairieview Grain, discuss USDA’s revised 2025 harvest yield estimates, which blindsided the market, and 2026-27 market projections.

The pair of analysts offered corn marketing advice for farmers struggling with prices that remain stubbornly below break-even levels and no apparent end in sight, after setting the table with the final 2025 USDA numbers announced Jan. 12, 2026.

“We’ve got a monster corn yield,” said Mathews, founder and CEO of central-Illinois based Prairieview Grain. He said last year’s U.S. corn crop averaged a record 186.5 bushels per acre, up 0.5 bushel from a previous estimate, according to USDA’s Crop Production Annual Summary.

“This was a 4 percent improvement over 179.3 bpa in 2024, along with harvested acreage up 269 million bushels from USDA’s previous estimate in November. Harvested acreage was raised by 1.3 million acres to 91.3 million acres, resulting in a record crop totaling 17.021 billion bushels, and up over 2 billion bushels, or 14 percent, from 2024,” said Mathews, who has managed grain elevators across central Illinois. He has expertise in trading grain by rail, truck and barge delivered to domestic processors and the river system.

“2.227 billion bushels in ending corn stocks is an all-time record and provides a pretty good cushion built into the market right now,” said Mathews, adding that early planting intentions by farmers point to another record planting for corn, with 95 million U.S. acres projected for the 2026-2027 marketing year.

According to Liesman, corn growers who are confused about how to best

market their corn should consider enrolling in an Average Price Program through Prairieview or another crop marketing firm. “The (APP) takes the guesswork out of trying to hit market highs while giving producers the confidence to price grain,” he said. “This program can effectively take the emotion out of marketing your crop.”

Offered by numerous traders, the APP is offered to increase the likelihood of better financial outcomes based on historical seasonal trends. Here’s how the 2025 APP worked, courtesy of Equity Grain Marketing of Effingham, Ill.:

“This contract involves 12 incremental forward sales spread over a specific time frame. The physical delivery period for the grain is set for fall 2025 and/or January 2026. As a farmer, you face many uncertainties on the production side (such as wet or dry conditions, late planting or extreme temperatures) and the unpredictability of the marketing side can add unwanted stress.

“Historically, the highest prices for December corn and November soybeans tend to occur between March and June. Sometimes these peaks happen earlier, and sometimes they come a bit later. However, during the spring, when stresses from planting season and crop uncertainty are high, the market often adds a weather premium. The Average Pricing Program aims to capitalize on this seasonal price increase. Generally, December corn and November soybean futures rise during the spring planting period, but as the crop’s size becomes clearer, prices typically decrease going into the fall.

“Suppose you commit to 2,400 bushels for fall 2025 delivery under the Average Price Program. The 2,400 bushels are divided by 12, meaning 200 bushels per week. Each Wednesday during the pricing window, 200 bushels will be priced according to the fall 2025 bid we post after the Chicago Board of Trade closes. At the end of the 12-week period, the 2,400 bushels are combined into one Forward Price Contract, with

the final price being the average of all 12 weekly prices.”

The Prairieview traders also offered the Peoria farmers a glimpse at market influencers to watch for in the 2026-2027 marketing year. They include:

- Will drought in parts of the U.S. persist into spring?
- Will low river levels continue to affect grain movements?
- China is promising to purchase 25 million metric tons of soybeans.
- Blends of ethanol up to 15 percent (E15) will likely be available to motorists year-round.
- Farmers can expect more ad hoc, emergency government relief soon – this time from Congress, rather than USDA reserves.

Praireview is an active member of the National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA), and Mathews has been a long-term member of NGFA Trade Rules Committee, currently serving as chair of the Arbitration Appeals Committee.

Mathews and Liesman can be reached with questions about the APP and the upcoming grain marketing year at [prairieviewgrain.com/contact](http://prairieviewgrain.com/contact).



**Above:** Jay Mathews (left) and Clay Liesman, of Prairieview Grain, are pictured speaking one-on-one with members of the Peoria County Farm Bureau following their presentation on the 2026-2027 crop marketing year. (T. Alexander photo)

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# MARKETS

## Blue Grass Stockyards Lexington, KY

Livestock Weighted Average Report for 1/19/2026 - Final AUCTION			
	This Week	Last Reported 1/12/2026	Last Year
Total Receipts:	988	1,189	572
Feeder Cattle:	885(89.6%)	1,009(84.9%)	520(90.9%)
Slaughter Cattle:	100(10.1%)	165(13.9%)	32(5.6%)
Replacement Cattle:	3(0.3%)	15(1.3%)	20(3.5%)

Compared to last Monday the feeder market was stronger in spots with a good quality offering. Light weight feeder steers 200-350 lbs appeared slightly cheaper with a limited supply, while the 400-650 lbs steers were steady to 6.00 higher with a good supply and good demand. Yearling steers were mostly steady with a light test. Feeder heifers 200-400 lbs were sharply higher with a good supply, while the 400-500 lbs heifers were 1.00 to 3.00 lower and the 500-650 lbs heifers were 4.00 to 8.00 higher with good demand. Slaughter cows were 1.00 to 3.00 higher with a good supply and slaughter bulls were steady to 2.00 higher with good demand. Supply included: 90% Feeder Cattle (50% Steers, 38% Heifers, 12% Bulls); 10% Slaughter Cattle (85% Cows, 15% Bulls); 0% Replacement Cattle (67% Stock Cows, 17% Bred Cows, 17% Cow-Calf Pairs). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 40%.

Groups of 20 Head or More

STEERS  
74 Hd 90% Black/REDX 721 lbs 380.25

FEEDER CATTLE					
STEERS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
3	295	295	490.00	490.00	
2	275	275	590.00	590.00	Fancy
4	345-348	347	500.00-525.00	506.21	
3	325-332	330	580.00-597.50	591.75	Fancy
18	350-392	370	507.50-535.00	521.64	
2	420	420	482.50	482.50	
10	400-447	432	505.00-513.00	510.55	Fancy
7	401-415	409	545.00-572.50	558.00	Thin Fleshed
15	460-487	479	460.00-484.00	471.18	
33	460-499	489	490.00-507.50	499.08	Fancy
4	455-460	458	517.00-522.50	519.73	Thin Fleshed
10	500-545	528	412.50-430.00	425.54	
11	506-530	510	480.00-501.00	497.03	Thin Fleshed
12	500-543	529	440.00-467.50	453.26	Value Added
29	569-590	578	393.00-418.00	411.29	
11	562	562	453.00	453.00	Fancy
22	550-580	557	420.00-445.00	432.90	Value Added
11	602-645	628	369.00-387.50	378.86	
12	602-621	615	415.00-417.50	415.82	Value Added
21	660-696	680	362.50-383.00	372.86	
26	650-691	676	387.00-391.00	388.25	Value Added
8	707-740	722	329.00-347.50	333.12	
91	701-725	703	360.00-384.00	378.83	Value Added
9	760-790	773	327.50-347.50	340.54	
12	751-765	753	355.00-360.00	359.16	Value Added
4	805-830	824	329.00-333.00	329.98	
2	860-890	875	300.00-320.00	309.83	
3	915-922	920	298.00-317.00	304.30	
5	955-962	961	299.00	299.00	
1	1010	1010	251.00	251.00	
1	1055	1055	231.00	231.00	

STEERS - Medium and Large 2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	360	360	455.00	455.00	
1	415	415	450.00	450.00	
1	475	475	400.00	400.00	
2	545	545	365.00-380.00	372.50	
2	655-660	658	320.00-327.50	323.74	

STEERS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	265	265	345.00	345.00	

STEERS - Medium 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	820	820	292.50	292.50	

HEIFERS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
2	210-240	225	400.00-412.50	406.67	
5	244	244	552.50	552.50	Thin Fleshed
1	265	265	415.00	415.00	
3	265-280	273	475.00-490.00	481.65	Fancy
4	310-335	319	412.50-437.50	422.06	
8	300-335	321	452.50-482.50	468.23	Fancy
18	350-398	383	450.00-472.50	459.61	
2	382	382	492.50	492.50	Fancy
8	415-447	440	402.50-419.00	412.30	
22	400-445	423	425.00-452.50	440.81	Fancy
6	480-495	490	380.00-402.50	391.43	
22	455-485	463	415.00-437.00	428.05	Fancy
3	515-540	525	372.00-380.00	376.44	
50	500-543	523	392.50-406.00	399.56	Value Added
15	550-576	557	360.00-377.00	372.95	
44	555-598	585	382.50-399.50	396.22	Value Added
12	610-647	639	335.00-357.50	350.37	
27	600-640	613	360.00-377.50	369.12	Value Added
2	675-690	683	342.50-347.50	345.03	
3	655	655	360.00	360.00	Guaranteed Open
9	700-720	712	313.00-333.00	321.67	
6	702	702	372.00	372.00	Value Added
5	765-780	774	307.00-320.00	312.76	
7	805-808	806	305.00-311.00	307.58	
2	850-875	863	291.00-292.50	291.76	

2	910-920	915	270.00-287.00	278.55	
1	970	970	265.00	265.00	
2	1115-1140	1128	235.00-265.00	250.17	
HEIFERS - Medium and Large 2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
2	360-370	365	381.00-395.00	387.90	
1	545	545	350.00	350.00	
4	575-590	581	333.00-355.00	344.98	
1	615	615	307.50	307.50	
5	650-675	670	295.00-317.00	305.38	
1	735	735	300.00	300.00	
2	755-765	760	275.00-280.00	277.48	

HEIFERS - Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	835	835	265.00	265.00	

BULLS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
3	288	288	522.50	522.50	
3	315-345	332	455.00-475.00	464.80	
1	340	340	510.00	510.00	Fancy
3	377-395	383	430.00-445.00	439.84	
7	407-440	416	480.00-505.00	498.15	
9	415-440	434	515.00-540.00	533.44	Fancy
11	451-481	467	465.00-495.00	474.75	
4	456-460	457	530.00-535.00	533.74	Fancy
5	531-540	534	402.50-415.00	410.46	Fancy
6	505-540	522	437.50-445.00	441.27	Thin Fleshed
7	586-598	592	358.00-389.00	374.13	
5	550-587	577	400.00-420.00	404.22	Fancy
11	600-640	622	360.00-380.00	374.52	
3	626	626	393.00	393.00	Fancy
1	680	680	342.50	342.50	
2	740-745	743	332.00-333.00	332.50	
4	750-797	784	300.00-317.50	308.00	
1	815	815	335.00	335.00	Fancy
1	940	940	233.00	233.00	
2	975-995	985	222.50-225.00	223.76	
1	1020	1020	213.00	213.00	
BULLS - Medium and Large 2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	490	490	440.00	440.00	
1	705	705	300.00	300.00	
BULLS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	455	455	351.00	351.00	
1	890	890	160.00	160.00	
BULLS - Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	740	740	310.00	310.00	

SLAUGHTER CATTLE					
COWS - Breaker 75-80% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
7	1320-1655	1466	154.00-163.00	159.59	Average
9	1300-1790	1564	165.00-177.00	170.16	High
1	1550	1550	148.00	148.00	Low
COWS - Boner 80-85% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
9	1080-1800	1386	150.00-164.00	159.17	Average
8	1105-1765	1359	166.00-173.00	169.60	High
3	1155-1250	1210	144.00-147.00	146.05	Low
COWS - Lean 85-90% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
17	875-1380	1088	131.00-148.00	138.27	Average
6	915-1260	1108	151.00-168.00	159.60	High
5	850-1240	1061	120.00-127.00	123.49	Low
2	1085-1150	1118	95.00-105.00	100.15	Very Low

BULLS - 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
6	1360-2090	1723	183.00-195.00	190.78	Average
2	1545-2150	1848	198.00-202.00	199.67	High
4	1100-1725	1354	164.00-176.00	171.47	Low

REPLACEMENT CATTLE					
STOCK COWS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Avg Price
2-8	O	4	915-1205	1099	170.00-186.00
					175.88
BRED COWS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Unit / Actual Wt)					
Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Avg Price
>5	T2	1	1705	1705	2650.00
COW-CALF PAIRS - Medium and Large 1-2 w/ <150 lbs calf (Per Unit / Actual Wt)					
Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Avg Price
>5	O	1	1870	1870	3650.00

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 Combined Regional Shell Egg Report

Report for: 01/11/2026 - 01/17/2026					
National Shell Eggs - Caged					
Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen					
	Class	Price Range	Average Price	Price Change	Last Reported (1/9/2026)
	Extra Large	56.00 - 93.00	77.75	-4.25	82.00
	Large	55.00 - 80.00	67.94	-8.00	75.94
	Medium	35.00 - 56.00	46.00	0.00	46.00
Midwest Shell Eggs - Caged					
Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen					

Last					
	Class	Price Range	Average Price	Price Change	Reported (1/9/2026)
	Extra Large	56.00 - 65.00	60.50	-8.00	68.50
	Large	55.00 - 64.00	59.50	-8.00	67.50
	Medium	35.00 - 44.00	39.50	0.00	39.50

Delivered Store Door, White, Cents Per Dozen				
Last				
Class	Price Range	Average Price	Price Change	Reported (1/9/2026)
Extra Large	63.00 - 71.00	67.00	-8.00	75.00
Large	61.00 - 69.00	65.00	-8.00	73.00
Medium	41.00 - 49.00	45.00	0.00	45.00
Bid to Producers - FOB, White, Cents Per Dozen				

# MARKETS

## Kentucky Daily Grain Bids

Grain Report for Thursday, January 22, 2026 - Final

FUTURE SETTLEMENTS						
Exchange	Commodity	Closing Settlement Prices (¢/bu) as of 1/22/26				
CBOT	Corn	424.00 (Mar 26)	432.25 (May 26)	438.50 (Jul 26)	437.75 (Sep 26)	451.75 (Dec 26)
CBOT	Soybeans	1064.00 (Mar 26)	1076.25 (May 26)	1089.00 (Jul 26)	1086.75 (Aug 26)	1071.50 (Sep 26)
CBOT	Wheat	515.50 (Mar 26)	526.50 (May 26)	539.00 (Jul 26)	553.50 (Sep 26)	573.25 (Dec 26)
CBOT	White Oats	291.25 (Mar 26)	298.50 (May 26)	302.50 (Jul 26)	306.25 (Sep 26)	319.75 (Dec 26)
KCBT	Wheat	525.75 (Mar 26)	536.00 (May 26)	548.25 (Jul 26)	563.50 (Sep 26)	584.00 (Dec 26)
MGE	Wheat	573.75 (Mar 26)	585.25 (May 26)	596.50 (Jul 26)	612.75 (Sep 26)	631.75 (Dec 26)
					464.75 (Mar 27)	471.25 (May 27)
					1077.25 (Nov 26)	1088.25 (Jan 27)
					590.00 (Mar 27)	598.50 (May 27)
					323.25 (Mar 27)	329.25 (May 27)
					600.00 (Mar 27)	608.00 (May 27)
					646.00 (Mar 27)	

US #2 WHITE CORN (BULK)					
Country Elevators - Conventional					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Pennyrile	50.00H to 190.00H	UNCH	4.7400-6.1400	UP 0.0225	5.4400
Pennyrile	50.00Z	UNCH	5.0175	UP 0.0200	5.0175

Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Lower KY	170.00H	UNCH	5.9400	UP 0.0225	5.9400
Ohio River - Lower KY	50.00Z	DN 5.00	5.0175	DN 0.0300	5.0175
Purchase	170.00H	DN 5.00	5.9400	DN 0.0275	5.9400
Purchase	65.00Z	UNCH	5.1675	UP 0.0200	5.1675

US #2 YELLOW CORN (BULK)					
Country Elevators - Conventional					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Purchase	20.00H	UNCH	4.4400	UP 0.0225	4.4400
Purchase	-10.00U	UNCH	4.2775	UP 0.0175	4.2775
Green River	20.00H	UNCH	4.4400	UP 0.0225	4.4400
Green River	-10.00Z	UNCH	4.4175	UP 0.0200	4.4175
Pennyrile	-15.00H to 20.00H	UNCH-UP 1.00	4.0900-4.4400	UP 0.0225-UP 0.0325	4.2150
Pennyrile	-30.00Z to -15.00Z	UNCH	4.2175-4.3675	UP 0.0200	4.2842
Louisville	-8.00H	UNCH	4.1600	UP 0.0225	4.1600
Louisville	-8.00H	UNCH	4.1600	UP 0.0225	4.1600
Bluegrass	-10.00H	UNCH	4.1400	UP 0.0225	4.1400
Bluegrass	-45.00Z	UNCH	4.0675	UP 0.0200	4.0675

Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Upper KY	5.00H to 8.00H	UNCH-DN 1.00	4.2900-4.3200	UP 0.0225-UP 0.0125	4.3050
Ohio River - Upper KY	-32.00Z to -30.00Z	UNCH	4.1975-4.2175	UP 0.0200	4.2075
Ohio River - Lower KY	4.00H to 23.00H	DN 5.00-UP 3.00	4.2800-4.4700	DN 0.0275-UP 0.0525	4.4083
Ohio River - Lower KY	-35.00Z to -20.00Z	UNCH	4.1675-4.3175	UP 0.0200	4.2575
Purchase	4.00H to 26.00H	DN 3.00-UNCH	4.2800-4.5000	DN 0.0075-UP 0.0225	4.4050
Purchase	-35.00Z to -15.00U	UNCH	4.1675-4.2275	UP 0.0200-UP 0.0175	4.2008

US #1 SOYBEANS (BULK)					
Country Elevators - Conventional					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Purchase	15.00H	UNCH	10.7900	DN 0.0050	10.7900
Green River	-15.00H	UNCH	10.4900	DN 0.0050	10.4900
Green River	-40.00X	UNCH	10.3725	UP 0.0275	10.3725
Pennyrile	-25.00H to 28.00H	UNCH-UP 2.00	10.3900-10.9200	DN 0.0050-UP 0.0150	10.5157
Pennyrile	-60.00X to -14.00X	UNCH	10.1725-10.6325	UP 0.0275	10.2825
Louisville	-59.00H	UNCH	10.0500	DN 0.0050	10.0500
Louisville	-59.00H	UNCH	10.0500	DN 0.0050	10.0500
Bluegrass	-40.00H	UNCH	10.2400	DN 0.0050	10.2400
Bluegrass	-75.00X	UNCH	10.0225	UP 0.0275	10.0225

Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Upper KY	14.00H to 15.00H	UP 3.00-DN 2.00	10.7800-10.7900	UP 0.0250-DN 0.0250	10.7850
Ohio River - Upper KY	-30.00X	UNCH	10.4725	UP 0.0275	10.4725
Ohio River - Lower KY	2.00H to 38.00H	DN 9.00-UP 3.00	10.6600-11.0200	DN 0.0950-UP 0.0250	10.8983
Ohio River - Lower KY	-30.00X to -10.00X	DN 5.00-UNCH	10.4725-10.6725	DN 0.0225-UP 0.0275	10.5725
Purchase	20.00H to 25.00H	UP 9.00-UNCH	10.8400-10.8900	UP 0.0850-DN 0.0050	10.8775
Purchase	-25.00X to -20.00X	UNCH	10.5225-10.5725	UP 0.0275	10.5558

US #1 MILLING SOFT RED WINTER WHEAT (BULK)					
Country Elevators - Conventional					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Pennyrile	20.00H	UNCH	5.3550	UP 0.0775	5.3550
Pennyrile	10.00N	UNCH	5.4900	UP 0.0750	5.4900

US #2 SOFT RED WINTER WHEAT (BULK)					
Country Elevators - Conventional					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Purchase	-15.00N	UNCH	5.2400	UP 0.0750	5.2400
Green River	-75.00N	UNCH	4.6400	UP 0.0750	4.6400
Pennyrile	-65.00H to -40.00H	UNCH	4.5050-4.7550	UP 0.0775	4.5850
Pennyrile	-55.00N to -5.00N	UNCH	4.8400-5.3400	UP 0.0750	5.0067
Louisville	-33.00H	UNCH	4.8250	UP 0.0775	4.8250
Louisville	-79.00N to -34.00N	UNCH	4.6000-5.0500	UP 0.0750	4.8250

Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Upper KY	-25.00N	UNCH	5.1400	UP 0.0750	5.1400
Ohio River - Lower KY	-22.00N to -5.00N	UNCH	5.1700-5.3400	UP 0.0750	5.2680
Purchase	-22.00H to -12.00N	DN 3.00-UNCH	4.9350-5.2700	UP 0.0475-UP 0.0750	5.1025
Purchase	-26.00N to -10.00N	DN 9.00-UNCH	5.1300-5.2900	DN 0.0150-UP 0.0750	5.2367

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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## Weekly National Sheep Summary For Week Ending Friday, January 16, 2026

Weekly Trends: Compared to last week slaughter woolled and shorn lambs sold steady. Slaughter ewes sold firm.

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

Slaughter Lambs: Choice and Prime 1-3

San Angelo: 780-90 lbs 300.00; 120-130 lbs 250.00; 170-180 lbs 280.00.

New Holland: 80-90 lbs 375.00; 90-100 lbs 355.00.

Billings: No test.

Ft. Collins: 70-80 lbs 335.00-365.00; 80-90 lbs 290.00-340.00; 90-100 lbs 285.00-295.00; 100-110 lbs 265.00-330.00.

Kalona: 40-50 lbs 400.00-425.00; 50-60 lbs 380.00-425.00; 60-70 lbs 370.00-455.00; 70-80 lbs 320.00-405.00; 80-90 lbs 280.00-355.00; 90-100 lbs 270.00-345.00.

Equity Coop: 120-130 lbs 237.50.

Sioux Falls: 70-80 lbs 315.00-340.00; 80-90 lbs 285.00-305.00; 90-100 lbs 290.00-300.00; 100-110 lbs 230.00-270.00;

1 20-130 lbs 222.00-227.00;

140-150 lbs 205.00-227.00;150-160 lbs 218.00-228.00.

Buffalo, MO: No test.

Missouri: No test.

Arkansas: No test.

Equity Coop: No test.

Slaughter Ewes: Good 2-3:

San Angelo: 120.00-1609.00.

New Holland: 170.00-190.00.

Billings: No test.

Ft. Collins: 100.000-155.00.

Kalona: 95.00-160.00.

Equity Coop: No test.

Sioux Falls: 110.00-150.00.

Buffalo, MO: No test.

Missouri: No test.

Feeder Lambs: Medium and Large 1:

San Angelo: No test.

Billings: No test.

Sioux Falls: 50-60 lbs 375.00-440.00; 60-70 lbs 375.00.

Buffalo, MO: No test.

Missouri: 30-40 lbs 372.50; 50-60 lbs 387.50..

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: No test.

Buffalo, MO: No test.

Sheep and lamb slaughter under federal inspection for the week to date totaled 40,000 compared to 38,000 last week and 35,788 last year.

Source: USDA Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News

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### Market Report

January 21st 2025 37th Auction

**This Report is the Actual High and Average Prices.**

	Hd. Ct.	High	Avg.
Fat Hogs:	2	\$ .90	\$ .78
Sows:	N/A		
Boars:	N/A		
Feeder Pigs:	N/A		
Beef & X Veal #1:	34	\$150	\$1302.65
Beef & X Veal #2:	9	\$975	\$655.56
Dairy Veal #1:	60	\$1300	\$1125.25
Dairy Veal #2:	21	\$750	\$452.38
Jersey Cross:	N/A		
Beef Fdrs 200#-550#	N/A		
Beef Fdrs 551#-1000#	1	\$2.00	\$2.00
Dairy Fdrs 200#-550#	9	\$ .275	\$ .25
Dairy Fdrs 551#-1000#	N/A		
Cull Cows #1:	1	\$1.38	\$1.38
Cull Cows #2:	7	\$1.23	\$1.04
Fat Cattle Colored:	N/A		
Fat Cattle Holstein:	N/A		
Bulls:	N/A		
Cow/Calf Pair:	N/A		
Breed Cows Colored:	N/A		
Milk Cows:	N/A		
Springers:	N/A		
Sheep Ram:			
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 :	3	\$120	\$80
Goat Wethers:	N/A		
Total Hd Cnt:	147		

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

Hay Lg Sq:	38	\$140	\$98.21
Hay Sm Sq:	248	\$7.50	\$5.42
Hay Rnd Bale :	7	\$42.50	\$36
Straw Lg. Sq:	21	\$40	\$36.50
Bedding	N/A		
Straw Sm. Sq:	120	\$4.50	\$4.00
Rabbits:	N/A		
Chickens:	N/A		
Chicks:	N/A		
Bantys:	N/A		
Roosters:	N/A		
Ducks:	N/A		
Turkey:	N/A		
Quail:	N/A		
Pigeon:	N/A		
Guinea:	N/A		
Guinea Pig:	N/A		
Geese:	N/A		
Pheasants	N/A		
Eggs:	N/A		

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**The**

# Floriculture cracked the top 10 list of Ohio agriculture products

By DOUG GRAVES  
Ohio Correspondent

COLUMBUS, Ohio – The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) recently released the state’s top 10 agriculture products based on annual cash receipts for 2024.

As expected, soybeans and corn held the top two spots on that list. Chicken eggs, dairy products, hogs, cattle and calves, broilers, wheat and turkeys round out the top 9 in this state. No surprises here.

However, cracking the top 10 for the first time ever was floriculture, which creeps in at No. 10.

Ohio is home to 513 large and small floriculture operations spread throughout the state. Nationwide, Ohio ranks No. 6 for the number of floriculture operations and No. 7 for floriculture sales, which totaled \$238 million in 2024.

More farmers across the Buckeye State are looking at floriculture as an additional source of income. Some have jumped all in.

First-generation farmers Steve and Gretel Adams, of Sunny Meadows Farm near Columbus, were once raising pigs, ducks and chickens on their modest homestead. They even dabbled in canned vegetables from their garden and made their own soap. It was the unexpected success of their flower crop that set them on a path toward specializing in flowers.

In the early years, Sunny Meadows sold fresh bouquets at farmers markets and offered floral designs for weddings and special events. Over time, the farm expanded and the business grew to include direct-to-florist sales and deliveries, and bouquet distribution to specialty grocery stores. With their nationwide shipping program,

they sell across the country to both wholesale and retail customers.

“We wish we would have started out growing 100 percent flowers,” Steve said. “In the beginning, our idea was to live off the land, so we raised pigs, ducks, vegetables and all of those ideal homesteading tasks. Flowers became our niche, and that really helped us turn the farm into a business. We have learned so much from other farmers, and have really become better growers because of the inspiration we draw from our mentors.”

Located just six miles from downtown Columbus, Sunny Meadows grows more than 500 varieties of flowers on 50-plus acres across four farm locations, making it one of the largest urban flower farms in the Midwest.

“My dad purchased the land in the 80s and the city kind of grew around it as it expanded,” Gretel said. “Where we are was historically farmed and from reading the farmer’s memoirs, they specialized in turnips that they shipped to surrounding states in the 1950s. However, when we inherited the land, it hadn’t been farmed since. My grandfather used to mow it, but he was in his 80s when we moved out, so it was totally overgrown. We made investments in infrastructure to make it a farm.”

The couple was fortunate their land offered good soil.

“We own 10 acres and rent two, making our actual tillable field production about 3.5 acres, and the rest of our production acres are our perennial fields and greenhouses,” Gretel added. “The good thing about flowers is that you can crank a lot of volume out of limited space.”

Steve and Gretel’s experience and expertise have made them sought-after and well-respected speakers, teachers

and thought leaders in the floral industry. They regularly share their expertise through workshops, conferences and their own consulting services.

While the Adams have their preferred flowers, the variety to choose from seems endless, and Ohio’s diverse climate offers a unique canvas of flowers.

Annuals such as marigolds, petunias and zinnias are the choice of many flower enthusiasts. Annuals can be used greatly in vegetable gardens, where they add beauty and help in pest control. Other popular annuals including sunflowers, cosmos, snapdragons, petunias and impatiens are favorites among gardeners and farmers.

Perennials such as daylilies, hostas, and peonies offer recurring blooms and a sense of garden continuity. Perennials also play a crucial role in creating habitats for wildlife, offering shelter and sustenance across multiple seasons. Other popular perennials include coral bells, astilbe, Sxxhasta daisy and lavender.

Wildflowers such as Black-eyed Susan, wild columbine and purple cone-flower thrive in minimal intervention, perfectly adapted to Ohio’s climate and soil. Wildflowers support native wildlife, providing nectar, pollen and seeds to various bees, butterflies and birds. Other eye-catching wildflowers include Joe Pye weed, New England aster, goldenrod and Ironweed.

While this couple has taken floriculture from a small plot to a large business, farmers wanting to add an additional source of income involving flowers can do it on less than 1 acre.

Urban micro-farms operate on less than 1 acre, often focusing on specialty blooms. Market farms span 2-5 acres, serving farmers markets and florists. Production farms focus on specific varieties like peonies or dahl-

ias. U-pick operations combine retail and agritourism experiences. Theirs is a market farm.

“From each farm you visit, or conversation you have with a farmer, you can take a piece of that back to your farm and try to figure out how it works within your systems,” Steve said. “We are always striving for more efficiency on the farm, and there is always more to learn...that’s why we like farming.”

Gretel said, “One thing this wild and wonderful journey has taught us is to never underestimate the power of flowers. They surround us at life’s biggest celebrations. They communicate happiness, love, empathy, congratulations and sorrow. They are there for us in the good times or bad.”

Sunny Meadows can be found at 3577 Watkins Road in Columbus.



Above: Steve and Gretel Adams, of Columbus, Ohio, were raising pigs, ducks and chickens before finding more success by turning their acreage into a flower farm. (photo submitted)

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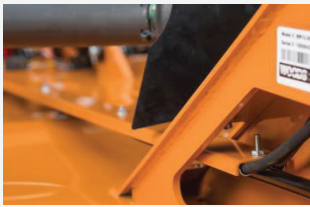
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**By Mike Tanchevski**  
**Ohio Correspondent**

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# Lindsey Hall named 2026 president of Ohio Cattlemen's Association board

By Mike Tanchevski  
Ohio Correspondent

HILLSBORO, Ohio - Amid a surge in demand and tight supplies in the beef industry, the Ohio Cattlemen's Association (OCA) has named Lindsey Hall, of Highland County, as its 2026 president. Hall, a veteran cattle producer with experience in both the seedstock and retail sectors, will lead the association during this pivotal period.

Hall's leadership is grounded in hands-on experience on her family's Maplecrest Farms seedstock operation and retail outlet, Maplecrest Meats & More. As board president, she aims to help all producers navigate the current market and build sustainable futures.

Operating Maplecrest Farms and Maplecrest Meats involves managing roughly 350 mature cows and navigating the complexities of a retail front that processes 120 head annually. That combined perspective - as both a producer and a retailer - allows her to see the gaps in the supply chain that the OCA can help fill.

"I have a retail business, so I have to think about things from a commercial producer perspective as well as from a retail perspective," Hall said.

For Ohio's cow-calf producers, the current market dynamics are a welcome shift after years of tight margins. A combination of drought-driven supply shortages and steady consumer demand has created a unique opportunity for profitability.

"It's a good time to be in the beef industry," Hall said. "Finally, cow-calf pro-

ducers are getting a larger piece of the pie - earning more of their fair share."

However, with high prices comes high risk. Hall feels the industry is more exposed to market volatility than ever before. In response to uncertainty, she hopes to prioritize educational resources and risk management.

While prices are at record highs, she points out that the modern beef economy comes with intensified risks. "The higher we rise, the further we can fall," Hall said.

Today's producers are exposed to significant market volatility, triggered by global policy shifts or even social media. "We're at record high prices, but all it takes is one tweet from the president or someone within the Department of Agriculture for drastic market fluctuations," she said. "Unless we're continuing to stress to the people who are making these huge decisions - such as trade agreements and tariffs - until they fully understand the implications of these high input costs down the production chain, we're not going to see a change."

Another challenge for beef producers, according to Hall, is the state's lack of large-scale cattle processing facilities. Currently, many Ohio producers travel out of state to Pennsylvania or Michigan to find facilities with the capacity or USDA licensing required to capture maximum value.



Above: Lindsey Hall speaking at the OCA BEST Awards Banquet.

"There are not enough facilities that have the (USDA) inspections and clearances to be able to ship across state lines. I still have to work at least six months out in terms of scheduling my appointments," she said.

Hall hopes to maximize OCA's relationships with lawmakers to advocate for increased meat processor grants and funding for infrastructure. "There are more meat processors than people think in the state, but there's also a lot of small processors that could do a lot more if they had funds available to make improvements," she said.

Another important component of the OCA agenda is youth development.

While the OCA is widely known for the Beef Exhibitor Show Total (BEST) program, Hall is pushing to expand the association's reach to youth who may not be in the show ring.

The Ohio Beef Youth Council (OBYC) is set to take a larger role, including overseeing the Stockmanship program. Hall's goal is to transition "show kids" into "industry leaders" by providing them with a deeper understanding of policy and advocacy.

"The highlight of our youth programs is always the BEST program, but that's a very niche segment," Hall said. "The

(Lindsey Hall continued on page 11)



Above: Lindsey Hall serving as a judge with Dr. Aaron Arnett for the 2024 Dean's Charity Steer Show.

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## Lindsey Hall

FROM PAGE 10

Youth Council is not just for show kids - this is for all of Ohio's beef youth and even youth who aren't necessarily directly involved."

By engaging youth early, she hopes to build a membership base that understands the "unseen" work of the OCA, such as trade advocacy and legislative monitoring.

"If we give these guys a better experience or better understanding of what OCA does from a younger age, they'll be able to carry that out and better understand what we do as they get older."



Above: Lindsey Hall speaking at the 2025 OCA Annual Meeting.

With the average Ohio herd size sitting at just 15 to 20 head, Hall is very aware that OCA's decisions have a massive impact on the livelihoods of small-scale farmers. Her day job as an agent for ICAP Crop Insurance gives her a front-row seat to the rising input costs that plague the industry.

"I want to make sure that any decision that we make in that boardroom positively impacts every single beef producer in the state of Ohio, regardless of size and scope," Hall said.

To help these producers, Hall plans to focus on legislation regarding price reporting and transparency by major beef packers. "I really want to challenge our board to be more innovative - this isn't our grandpa's beef economy anymore," she said. "We need to continue to provide services that better serve our customers and provide modern services that reflect today's digital and retail-focused markets, and educate lawmakers on how trade agreements and tariffs trickle down to affect the individual farmer's bottom line."

In addition to Hall, the 2026 OCA board officers are vice president: Andy Lohr, Crawford County; treasurer: Linde Sutherly, Clark County; and member at-large: Frank Phelps, Logan County.

As the OCA prepares for the 2026 term, Hall's mission is to ensure that the association continues to grow and support its membership.

"I feel like it's an exciting time and there are so many talented producers, young professionals that aren't involved in OCA. It's time to get those people involved," she said. "For us to be more sustainable, all of us need to be successful. There's room for everybody to have a piece of that pie."

Hall and the OCA is positioning Ohio's beef industry to not only survive the current market volatility but to thrive for generations to come.

"Our highest priority is always going to be to grow our membership, and to continue to show and prove the value of that membership. I don't think people really appreciate or even understand everything that the Ohio Cattlemen's Association does on behalf of Ohio's beef producers."

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FROM PAGE 9

and development. Nate hopes to host field trips from local schools and organizations like the local Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts for team building and agricultural education. “These programs would teach the life cycle of a pumpkin or the flowers, allowing children to move from the classroom setting of the barn directly into the fields to help us plant or help us cut flowers for a true hands-on experience,” he said.

Beyond public events, the couple plans to establish the farm as a professional resource by hosting conferences and workshops that focus on innovative agricultural practices. They intend to host presentations focused on regenerative techniques, providing a space for both conventional and organic farmers to discuss non-traditional methods. Nate also expressed a desire to support industry peers. “It would be neat to host the summer meeting of the Ohio Christmas Tree Association one day,” he said.

What makes their endeavor even more challenging is their “day job” – both Nate and Jill are physical therapists. With Nate working full-time and Jill part-time, the farm is a true family labor of love.

“We do a lot of it as a family. That’s how we spend our evenings and weekends,” Jill said. While the kids enjoy playing in the mud and the extended family pitches in during peak seasons, the couple uses creative strategies to keep operations manageable.

Nate and Jill’s passion for agriculture is rooted in their background within rural farming communities. Jill’s connection to the land comes from her uncle and grandfather, who were both farmers. “That gave me an appreciation of growing things,” she said.

Nate’s interest came from his experience at a greenhouse and nursery throughout high school and college. During a winter break, he discovered his specific calling. “I helped sell pre-cut Christmas trees, and I just really enjoyed it,” he said. “It’s a fun time of year; everybody’s all happy to get the Christmas tree.”



Above: Young Christmas trees peeking through the snow.



Above: A foreground of wildflowers at Clover Valley Farm.

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# Culver's Thank You Farmers® project hits \$8 million in donations

By William Flood  
Ohio correspondent

PRAIRIE DU SAC, Wis. – Culver's Thank You Farmers® project marked a significant milestone in 2025, surpassing \$8 million in total donations since the program's launch in 2013. Now in its 12th year, the initiative also recorded its strongest single year to date, raising more than \$1.5 million to support agricultural education and the long-term viability of farming.

That program, along with others, was created to recognize the role farmers play in the food system while investing in the future of agriculture. Funds raised through customer contributions and local restaurant-led efforts are directed toward programs that support agricultural education, land stewardship, and the next generation of farmers, with support coming from both rural and urban communities.

"Behind every meal we serve in our restaurants are local hardworking farmers," said Alison Demmer, Culver's senior public relations manager. "This year and every year, we're proud to work alongside our guests to create something truly meaningful, and we're so thankful to everyone who joined us

in furthering our efforts to uplift our next generation of farmers."

The success of the Thank You Farmers Project relies heavily on the generosity of Culver's guests, who contribute through donations and participation in special events.

Culver's fundraising and recognition efforts in 2025 included a range of initiatives aimed at supporting agriculture and rural communities. Those initiatives included a promotion tied to the film Green and Gold, in which Culver's donated \$1 for each rental and digital purchase of the movie, resulting in \$100,000 distributed to three agricultural organizations.

The company continued its "To Farmers with Love" contest, in which guests nominated farmers and ranchers from across the country. Five winners were selected and received \$500 cash prizes along with a VIP Tim McGraw concert experience at the Field of Dreams in Dyersville, Iowa, as well as Culver's gift cards and branded items.

Support for agricultural education was highlighted during the 11th annual Scoops of Thanks Day, when guests donated more than \$170,000 by receiving a single scoop of Fresh Frozen Custard in exchange for a \$1 contribution. In 2025, Culver's served 171,319 scoops during the event, with proceeds benefiting local FFA chapters and other agricultural education groups. Since its launch, Scoops of Thanks Day has raised more than \$1 million for local FFA chapters nationwide.

Additional fundraising came through Culver's Concretes for a Cause program, which raised more than \$570,000 in 2025 by donating \$1 from each Concrete Mixer sold systemwide over five days to local hunger relief efforts. Since the program began, more than \$2.3 million has been raised for local food banks. All donations go directly to local food banks selected by participating restaurants through Culver's Give Local Program.

Culver's also supported FFA members through several initiatives aimed at developing future agricultural leaders. Through its FFA Ambassadors program, guests nominated standout members to represent the company in their communities, with 10 ambassadors earning up to \$2,500 each to support learning experiences tied to agricultural advocacy events. At the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Culver's served more than 30,000 scoops of custard over three days, and through its Blue Jacket Program, the company provided 1,100 official FFA jackets to students who may not otherwise have been able to afford one.

In 2025, Culver's continued to honor and support farmers through further efforts that reached rural communities nationwide. Guests wrote more than 329,000 thank-you notes to farmers across the country, while the Blue Room Experience reached 14,450 visitors and four VIP farmers at major events, offering free custard, interactive games, photo opportunities, and

(Culver's continued on page 14)

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# Soybean groups question ‘Dietary Guidelines for Americans’

By DOUG SCHMITZ  
Iowa Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D.C. – While many national farm organizations are praising the recent release of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ “Dietary Guidelines for Americans for 2025-2030 (DGA),” at least two U.S. soybean groups are questioning some of the report’s findings.

According to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr., and USDA Secretary Brooke Rollins, the report marks “the most significant reset of federal nutrition policy in decades. The new guidelines deliver a clear, common-sense message to the American people: eat real food,” they said in a Jan. 7 media statement.

Kennedy and Rollins said DGA emphasizes “simple, flexible guidance-rooted in modern nutrition science” such as: prioritizing protein at every meal; consuming full-fat dairy with no added sugars; eating vegetables and fruits throughout the day; incorporating healthy fats from whole foods like meats, seafood, eggs, nuts, seeds, olives and avocados; focusing on whole grains, while sharply reducing refined carbohydrates; and limiting highly processed foods, added sugars and artificial additives.

However, Scott Metzger, American Soybean Association (ASA) president and Williamsport, Ohio, farmer, said in a Jan. 7 media statement the report’s appendix continues to call into question the process of soybean oil extraction, which is scientifically proven to be safe for human health.

He said soybean oil and soy protein play a critical role in the health and nutrition of Americans: “U.S. soybean farmers are proud to grow a heart-healthy and high-protein crop that can feed the country and the world.

“ASA appreciates that the 2025-2030 Dietary Guidelines for Americans acknowledge the importance of soy as part of a well-balanced diet, but we remain deeply concerned by the rhetoric and selectively cited studies regarding the health and safety of soybean oil in

DGA-supporting material,” he added.

In an official Jan. 21 joint statement to Farm World, ASA explained why the soybean oil extraction process is safe for human consumption: “Seed oils, including soybean oil, are most often extracted using solvents like hexane.

“Hexane is an organic liquid solvent used to effectively and safely separate oils from any mixed material,” the statement said. “This has been common practice for decades, dating back to the 1930s, and is used globally to produce protein and fiber for livestock feed and the remaining oil for human consumption.”

According to ASA, “By the most conservative estimates, an individual would need to drink 158 times more oil than average, about 4,900 grams, to reach the minimal risk level for hexane. Further refinement removes toxic compounds, improves shelf stability, and removes undesirable odors. The FDA has reviewed this process and recognizes it as safe. Furthermore, the body of scientific evidence overwhelmingly endorses the consumption of soybean oil, regardless of processing method.”

ASA said “the authors cite (in DGA’s appendix) lipid absorption in rats, which does not correlate with the same association in humans. Researchers conducting rodent studies have acknowledged that human metabolism is much more complex. The questions posed in the appendix ignore the immense body of evidence that support replacing saturated fats with unsaturated fats, like soybean oil.

“While many Americans may never see these discussions reflected in the final dietary guidelines, their inclusion reveals a troubling mindset among the authors toward seed oils that is not supported by the evidence,” ASA added. “Such false claims risk eroding consumer confidence in a safe, widely used product and threaten an important market for producers who are already facing challenging economic conditions.”

The National Oilseed Processors Association (NOPA) agreed with ASA, saying in a Jan. 7 statement that “some appendices rely on a narrow evidence

base with limited citations, which is concerning,” given the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ claims, they asserted, questioning the safety of certain vegetable oils, despite an established scientific consensus.

Without strong demand for vegetable oils, NOPA said, these protein ingredients become less available, limiting production, and increasing costs across the food system: “Grown by American farmers, these oilseeds and the full range of products that come from them help strengthen a resilient farm-to-table supply chain that delivers nutritious and affordable options to households nationwide.”

Metzger said, “ASA will continue to address claims that disparage the use of soybean oil and promote solutions that are healthy and safe for consumers.”

To view the complete list of DGA, visit: <https://realfood.gov>.

# Culver’s

FROM PAGE 13

a chance to connect with the public. The company also remained involved in the Decade of Ag initiative, a national effort led by U.S. Farmers & Ranchers in Action to strengthen the long-term sustainability of U.S. agriculture through collaboration across the food and ag sector. Culver’s gratitude was also visible through its Blue Barn Experience, which featured hand-painted barns across the Midwest displaying the message “Thank You, Farmers” to recognize the vital role farmers play in feeding their communities.

For more information on Culver’s Thank You Farmers Project and its other initiatives impacting agriculture, or to donate to a project, visit: [www.culvers.com/about-culvers/thank-you-farmers-project](http://www.culvers.com/about-culvers/thank-you-farmers-project).

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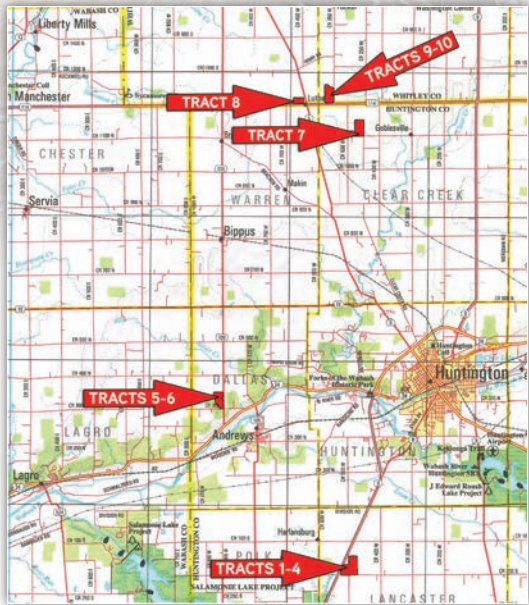
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- HARVEST EQUIPMENT & GRAIN TRUCK:**
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  - JD 625F HydraFlex 25' platform
  - Unverferth HT25 head cart
  - JD 693 corn head
  - J&M 755 gravity wagon
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  - J&M 555 gravity wagon
  - J&M 555 gravity wagon
  - Sudenga OX1071 swing away auger
  - AGI VRX grain vac
  - 1979 IH 1854 grain truck



- TILLAGE:**
- Salford Halo HSD, 20', spade hitch
  - Salford 550-32 field cultivator
  - Case IH 870 Ecolo-Tiger disc ripper
- PLANTER, SPRAYER, APPLICATOR, FERTILIZER SPREADER & SEED TENDER:**
- Kinze 3600 12/24 bulk fill planter
  - 2024 Hardi Commander 45 pull type sprayer
  - 2014 Kongskilde F3450 applicator
  - Loftness FS800 fertilizer spreader
  - Unverferth Seed Runner 3955XL
- TRACK SKID STEER & BACKHOE:**
- New Holland C245 track skid steer
  - Case 580C extendahoe 2WD
- MISCELLANEOUS FARM SUPPORT ITEMS:**
- Bush Hog 12215 flex wing mower
  - Pair of Firestone 30.5L-32 tires
  - Pair of Firestone 16.9-26 tires

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Sat., Feb. 21st  
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**2023 FREIGHTLINER M2 112 Crew Cab Detroit DD13** 410hp Eaton-Fuller 14210CFRO 10-Speed Manual Air Ride Suspension P/S A/C 202 Wheelbase 11x22.5 Aluminum Budds Front and Outside Rear 60,337 Miles ..... **\$115,500**



**2016 FREIGHTLINER M2 112 CREW CAB Detroit DD13** 410hp Eaton-Fuller FRO 14210C 10spd Transmission Air Ride Suspension P/S A/C 3:55 Ratio 208WB 11x22.5 Aluminum Budds NEW CAPS REAR 192,157 Miles. .... **\$74,500**



**(2) 2019 FREIGHTLINER CASCADIA DET DD13** 450hp Allison Automatic 4000HS Trans Air Ride Susp P/S A/C 3:70 Ratio 182WB 11x22.5 Alum Budds 412,526 & 419,136 Miles ..... **\$49,500 EACH**



**2017 FREIGHTLINER M2 106 Cummins ISL 300hp** Allison 3000HS Transmission Spring Suspension P/S A/C Power Windows & Locks 5:86 Ratio 160 Wheelbase 11x22.5 Aluminum Budds 69,665 Miles. . . . . **\$37,500**



**2019 KENWORTH T880 Cum ISX 425hp** Eaton-Fuller FOA-16810C 10spd Reyco Susp P/S A/C 3:70 Ratio 266WB 25' Vanbody Railgate 11x22.5 187,395 Miles. .... **\$85,500**



**2018 FREIGHTLINER M2 106 Cummins ISL 350HP** Allison 3000RDS PTO PORT Transmission Air Ride Suspension 20,000 Front Axle P/S A/C 5:29 Ratio 270WB 24' Flatbed 315X22.5 Front Tires 11X22.5 Rear TIRES 363,200 Miles ..... **\$69,500**



**(2) 2017 FREIGHTLINER M2 106 Cummins 350hp** Allison 3000RDS Transmission 44,000 Air Ride Suspension 16,000 Front Axle 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**



**2016 FREIGHTLINER M2 112 Detroit DD13 410hp** Eaton-Fuller FRO-16210C 10spd Manual Transmission 46,000 Air Ride Suspension 18,000 Front Axle P/S A/C Lift Axle 3:73 Ratio 272WB 315x22.5 Aluminum Front Tires and Lift Axle 11x22.5 Aluminum Rear Tires 322,913 Miles ..... **\$64,500**



**2016 FREIGHTLINER 108 Cummins ISL 370hp** Allison 3000RDS TufTrac Suspension 20,000 Front Axle P/S A/C 13,200 Lift Axle 5:29 Ratio 315x22.5 Aluminum Front 11x22.5 Aluminum outside rear 237,307 Miles . . . . . **\$71,500**



**2017 FREIGHTLINER 114SD Detroit DD13 450HP** Eaton Fuller FRO-15210C Transmission 46,000 TufTrac Suspension 18,000 Front Axle P/S A/C Full Lockers Double Frame 4:11 Ratio 288 Wheel Base 315x22.5 Aluminum Budds Front 11x22.5 Steel Budds Rear 388,803 Miles SOUTHERN TRUCK. .... **\$64,500**



**2020 FREIGHTLINER M2 106 Extend Cab Cummins L9** 350hp Allison 3000RDS Transmission Air Ride Suspension 16,000 Front Axle P/S A/C 5:86 Ratio 2 Lift Axle 274 Wheel 28' Flatbed 315x22.5 Aluminum Budds Front 11x22.5 Aluminum Budds Outside Rear **\$79,500**

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This Section!

Kentucky 4-Hers shine at North American International Livestock Expo

By DOUG GRAVES  
Ohio Correspondent

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — From identifying livestock to barbecuing turkey, Kentucky youth competed in national 4-H contests held at the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) in November.

NAILE, held annually at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville, is the largest all-breed, purebred livestock show in the country and includes general and species-specific competitions for 4-H youth. Nearly 30,000 entries from 48 states competed, 1,800 more entries than the previous year. Species included beef

cattle, dairy cattle, equine, goats, llama/alpacas, sheep and swine.

“We welcomed the thousands of exhibitors, their livestock and their competitive spirit to Louisville,” said David S. Beck, President and CEO of Kentucky Venues. “We’re witness to a record growth and interest in our exposition. It’s great to showcase the best of the breeds as well as recognize individuals in the industry who dedicate their livelihood to the betterment of agriculture and others.”

During this four-day event, national 4-Hers competed in a Livestock Contest, 4-H Dairy Judging, Dairy Quiz Bowl, Skillathon and Livestock Quiz Bowl.

During the Livestock Quiz Bowl participants used a buzzer to answer questions, testing their knowledge of beef, sheep, swine and meat goats.

“These competitions are a shining example of how 4-H is continuing to cultivate generations of agricultural leaders, equipped with the knowledge and skills to lead in a world of change,” said Rachel Guidugli, assistant Extension director for Kentucky 4-H Youth Development. “Not only do these youth exhibit high levels of content knowledge in an area they’re passionate about, but they also expand marketable skills for work and life, like critical thinking, communication, goal setting and resilience.”

Kentucky’s Livestock Quiz Bowl team from Scott County, Ky., coached by Alison Smith, competed against 18 other state teams and earned



Above: Livestock judging was just one of several competitions confronting 4-Hers at the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) held in November. (photo submitted)

second place. Each member of this reserve national championship team (Cate Noe, Creighton Smith, Sophia Smith and Pollyanna Vaske) earned All-American status. In the individual competition, Creighton placed fifth while Sophia finished eighth nationally.

“These competitions have given me a foundation of real-world knowledge and experience that will allow me to be successful in a future ag

career or in life,” Smith said.

During the National 4-H Livestock Skillathon, students were tested on their knowledge and skills in various aspects of livestock production and management. On contest day, participants were tasked with a variety of exercises that challenge their ability to recall different breeds of livestock, livestock equipment, feedstuffs used

(Kentucky continued page 2B)



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 <p>Jenkins brush mower, 1/4" deck, 14-25 gpm, heavy grass to 4" material</p> <table><tbody><tr><td>5' .....</td><td>\$5,400</td></tr><tr><td>6' .....</td><td>\$5,600</td></tr><tr><td>7' .....</td><td>\$6,100</td></tr></tbody></table>	5' .....	\$5,400	6' .....	\$5,600	7' .....	\$6,100	 <p>Jenkins 5500 LBS pallet forks, walk through frame,</p> <table><tbody><tr><td>4' frame x 4' forks (standard) .....</td><td>\$1,300</td></tr><tr><td>5' frame x 4' forks .....</td><td>\$1,400</td></tr><tr><td>5' frame x 5' forks .....</td><td>\$1,500</td></tr></tbody></table>	4' frame x 4' forks (standard) .....	\$1,300	5' frame x 4' forks .....	\$1,400	5' frame x 5' forks .....	\$1,500	 <p>Jenkins Brush Grapple, 3/4" tines, dual hydraulic cylinders.</p> <table><tbody><tr><td>86" .....</td><td>\$3,400</td></tr><tr><td>76" .....</td><td>\$3,300</td></tr><tr><td>66" .....</td><td>\$3,200</td></tr></tbody></table>	86" .....	\$3,400	76" .....	\$3,300	66" .....	\$3,200
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76" .....	\$3,300																			
66" .....	\$3,200																			
 <p>Jenkins Skeleton Grapple/Rock bucket, cylinder covers, 3/8" tines</p> <table><tbody><tr><td>84" .....</td><td>\$3,300</td></tr><tr><td>74" .....</td><td>\$3,200</td></tr><tr><td>68" .....</td><td>\$3,100</td></tr></tbody></table>	84" .....	\$3,300	74" .....	\$3,200	68" .....	\$3,100	 <p>Jenkins Heavy Duty Dirt Buckets, 3/4" bolt on edge</p> <table><tbody><tr><td>68" .....</td><td>\$1,650</td></tr><tr><td>74" .....</td><td>\$1,700</td></tr><tr><td>84" .....</td><td>\$1,800</td></tr></tbody></table>	68" .....	\$1,650	74" .....	\$1,700	84" .....	\$1,800	 <p>Jenkins Super Duty Tree Puller, pull, cut, dig &amp; carry with one machine, 1" steel jaws.....</p> <p>\$3,600</p>						
84" .....	\$3,300																			
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68" .....	\$1,650																			
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86" .....	\$4,300																			
76" .....	\$4,000																			



**Above:** Dairy cattle judging was one of many competitions for 4-Hers during this four-day event. (photo submitted)

## Kentucky

FROM PAGE 1B

in livestock diets and animal health information.

Kentucky’s Livestock Skillathon team was from Woodford County and coached by Theresa Vanzant. The team of Stockton Stivers, Sarah Vanzant, Ellea Were and Hayden Westfall finished eighth overall and first in the identification category.

“There is a unique feeling when the judge congratulates you and hands you the banner,” said Stivers, who individually placed ninth overall and second in identification. “It’s a feeling of ‘wow, I’ve put in the work, and this was the payout.’”

Vanzant finished as the High Individual in the identification category.

“I’ve been a part of Livestock Skillathon my whole life and being able to represent Kentucky at this contest is such an honor,” Vanzant said.

The National 4-H Livestock Judging involved the evaluation, comparison and selection of beef cattle, sheep, goats and swine for particular physical characteristics. Participants must not only make quick decisions about the quality of livestock but also give a verbal explanation of their evaluation.

Kentucky team members in this event included Colton Kearns (Boone County), Daniel Laurent (Caldwell County), Clayton Laytart (Harrison County) and Klaber Wolfe (Pendleton County). The team was coached by Wyatt Banks, Agriculture Extension associate senior for 4-H livestock. This team finished 19th overall and eighth in the swine category.

“Livestock judging to me is more than just evaluating animals,” Wolfe said. “It’s given me the confidence to speak in front of people, the discipline to study and prepare in an efficient manner, with a team that feels like family.”

The National 4-H Poultry and Egg

Conference was held during NAILE. This contest offers national-level activities and contests designed to introduce participants to poultry and the poultry industry.

Competitor events included Poultry Judging Team, Avian Bowl, Cookery Categories, Egg Production and Market Poultry.

The Texas team was the overall winner in the judging contest. Ohio finished ninth and Indiana finished 10th.

Luke Baker (Montgomery County, Ky.) placed first in Turkey Barbecue while Adam Blanford of Marion County was second in this category. Cecilia Huggins (Simpson County) placed third in Egg Chef Challenge.

The NAILE event turned 50 this year. The event was once held at Union Stock Yards in Chicago, but when the Stock Yards closed in 1971, many were concerned that the expo would end as well.



**Above:** Daniel Laurent, Colton Kearns, Clayton Laytart and Klaber Wolfe were part of a Livestock Judging team. They represented the Kentucky counties of Caldwell, Boone, Harrison and Pendleton respectively. The team was coached by Wyatt Banks. (photo submitted)

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# Four new Indiana Soybean Alliance board members needed in 2026

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – The Indiana Soybean Alliance (ISA) is seeking farmer leaders to join its 24-member board responsible for investing Indiana’s soybean checkoff funds. Due to four board members who are scheduled to complete their third term, at least four of the eight available seats will be filled by new farmers during this year’s election in June.

The ISA board directs programs that develop new markets for Indiana soybeans, create value for the state’s soybean growers, engage farmers in events and support their environmental, social and economic sustainability efforts. The ISA Board of Directors represent approximately 20,000 Indiana soybean farmers who fund the checkoff program and manage soybean farmer investments. Applications for the election are due Feb. 27.

In District 1, incumbent ISA Chair Denise Scarborough, of LaCrosse, Ind., will complete her third and final term and cannot seek re-election. Kevin Kelley, of Brookston, Ind., is up for election for his third term. District 1 includes Benton, Carroll, Cass, Clinton, Elkhart, Fulton, Howard, Jasper, Kosciusko, LaPorte, Lake, Marshall, Miami, Newton, Porter, Pulaski, St. Joseph, Starke, Tipton, Wabash and White counties.

In District 2, incumbent C.J. Chalfant, of Hartford City, Ind., will term off the board. Steve Phares, a farmer from Albion, Ind., is up for election for his third term. District 2 includes Adams, Allen, Blackford, DeKalb, Delaware, Grant, Henry, Huntington, Jay, LaGrange, Madison, Noble, Randolph, Steuben, Wayne, Wells and Whitley counties.

In District 3, Mark Legan, of Coatesville, Ind., and Derika Lynam-Spaetti, of Richland, Ind., will finish their third terms, making both seats available. District 3 includes Clay, Daviess, Dubois, Fountain, Gibson, Greene, Knox, Martin, Montgomery, Owen, Parke, Pike, Posey, Putnam, Spencer, Sullivan, Tippecanoe, Vanderburgh, Vermillion, Vigo, Warren and Warrick counties.

Both District 4 candidates, Chris Eck, of Boggstown, Ind., and Roger Wenning, of Greensburg, Ind., are up for re-election for their second terms. District 4 counties are Bartholomew, Boone, Brown, Clark, Crawford, Dearborn, Decatur, Fayette, Floyd, Franklin, Hamilton, Hancock, Harrison, Hendricks, Jackson, Jefferson, Jennings, Johnson, Lawrence, Marion, Monroe, Morgan, Ohio, Orange, Perry, Ripley, Rush, Scott, Shelby, Switzerland, Union and Washington.

Each candidate must meet these requirements:

- Has paid into the federal soybean checkoff within the last two years.
- Certify ownership or share ownership and risk of loss of soybeans.
- Complete a director expectation statement and return it to ISA by Feb. 27.

Visit [www.incornandsoy.org/ISAelection](http://www.incornandsoy.org/ISAelection) to learn more about serving as an ISA director or to download a director expectation statement. Send an email to Amber Myers at [amyers@indianasoybean.com](mailto:amyers@indianasoybean.com) for more details. ISA will distribute election ballots to soybean farmers by mail this spring and announce election results this summer.

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**By William Flood**  
**Ohio Correspondent**

Other farm equipment also sold well, led by a 2015 John Deere R4030 sprayer with 2,728 hours that hit \$67,000. It featured hydrostatic drive, 90-foot booms, 800-gallon poly tank, boom air purge, seven-section boom with 20-inch nozzle spacing, side fill, section control, Auto-

Heavy equipment also saw some value purchases. An operating Komatsu D53A-15 dozer with 8,038 hours, two-way blade, 20-inch steel tracks, and OROPS went for \$10,000. A Galion A500E grader with 4,481 hours, 12-foot blade with tilt, mid-mount ripper, and EROPS landed \$7,500. A \$5,500 offer won a 1980 John Deere 860-B motor scraper with 16-cubic-yard capacity,



Momentum continued with semis and commercial trucks, topped by a 2018 Kenworth T880 quint-axle dump truck with 415,664 miles that reached \$92,500. It had a Paccar MX-13 485-hp engine paired with an 18-speed Eaton Fuller automatic transmission, along

Mid-range semis included a 2000 Peterbilt 379 sleeper at \$55,000. Showing 986,522 miles and a rebuilt motor with roughly 500,000 miles, it featured a 60-Series 500-hp Detroit engine, 373 rear ends, Jost lockable fifth wheel with blocks for dual-line wet kit, aluminum wheels, Michelin fiberglass rear fenders, 22.5 low-profile tires, and numerous new parts. At the lower end, a 2009 Volvo VNL tandem-axle sleeper with 876,499 miles finished at \$4,300, while a 2007 Volvo VNL sleeper with 1,633,306 miles brought \$4,000.

**(Bussey continued on page 5B)**



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30.92 FSA Cropland Acres  
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**77+/- ACRES • 2 TRACTS**

**JANUARY 28, 2026 Room Opens at 12PM, Bidding starts at 1PM CST**

- Shelby County, Illinois
- Held at Foxmore in Shelbyville, IL

*Owner: The Miller Family, et al.*



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**Significant Tillable + Beautiful Home**  
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*Owner: Kankamp Trust, et al.*

- Tracts range from 9+/- to 73+/- Acres
- Investigate Potential Homesites
- Some tracts feature mature timber, or potential sewer an water nearby



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**Greentown, IN**  
**Howard County**

**2.07+/- ACRES • 3 TRACTS**

**BIDDING OPEN NOW THRU MARCH 19, 2026**

- Offered as three (3) tracts
- Investigate potential homesites

*Owner: BD Ag Solutions, LLC*



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# Bussey

FROM PAGE 3B

Attention then shifted to smaller professional trucks and pickups, led by a 2018 Ford F550 4x4 crew cab diesel flatbed at \$32,500. With 121,654 miles, it carried a 6.7-liter turbo diesel engine, 6-speed automatic transmission, and 9-foot steel flatbed rated at 19,500-pound GVWR. It was equipped with an XL décor package, trailer tow package with power-heated mirrors, a 9.5-foot six-way stainless steel trip-edge Power V snowplow, a 9-foot four-cubic-yard salt spreader with 10.5-hp gas drive and 400-pound vibrator kit, and

stainless-steel LED light bar. Bids eventually dipped to \$1,400 for a 2006 Chevrolet Suburban 1500 4x4 with 231,064 miles and a 5.3-liter gas engine. Trailers were also plentiful, led by a Mac 39-foot aluminum end-dumper with full liner, air ride, electric tarp, coal, and man doors scoring \$43,000. A 1998 Eager Beaver lowboy trailer with 22-foot wood deck, 8-foot top deck, front hydraulics, pony motor, rear ramps, and 22 outriggers bid to \$22,000. The auction closed with 16 shipping containers, ranging from \$1,700 for a Touax 20-foot variety to \$5,750 for a used-once 40-footer, with two side doors and rear double doors, capping a successful event and sales year.

## Indiana FFA, Indiana Farm Bureau mark successful 2026 Advocacy Day

INDIANAPOLIS – Indiana FFA and Indiana Farm Bureau brought young leaders, educators and agricultural advocates to the Indiana Statehouse on Jan. 21 for the 2026 Advocacy Day. The annual event connected FFA members and farm bureau volunteers with lawmakers to discuss issues shaping Indiana agriculture and rural communities. More than 100 FFA students from across the state participated in legislative visits, policy discussions and leadership activities designed to strengthen their understanding of civic engagement. The event featured keynote remarks from Lt. Gov. Micah Beckwith and Don Lamb, director of the Indiana State Department of Agriculture. Lamb underscored the impact of the event. “Advocacy Day is so important because it gives FFA members a real look at how things get done at the Statehouse. When you’re walking into legislative vis-

its, sitting in on committee hearings and talking directly with the people who make decisions, it suddenly clicks – your voice really does matter. This day helps young leaders feel confident speaking up, builds stronger connections across our ag community and makes sure the folks writing our laws understand what’s happening on the ground in Indiana agriculture.” Participants met with legislative members and toured the Statehouse. The day concluded with a three-person panel featuring Jeanette Merritt, Indiana Pork director of communications; Hannah Gee, Indiana Beef education and industry relations director; and Katie Nelson, Indiana Farm Bureau executive director of public policy. The panel focused on the importance of agricultural education, volunteer efforts to teach young children about agriculture and the value of engaging with local government leaders.



Above: Over four dozen trucks were offered, including this 2018 Kenworth T880 quint-axle dump truck that bid to \$92,500.




Above: The auction's highest bid, \$325,000, went to this good-condition, well-outfitted John Deere S790 combine.

ROCK ISLAND COUNTY, ILLINOIS

LAND AUCTION

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026 - 12:00 PM CST

VIRTUAL LIVE!



120± ACRES  
(Subject to Survey)  
2 TRACTS

The Johnston farm is located approximately 3 miles east of Reynolds, IL or 15 miles south of Rock Island, IL and is further described as being located in Section 34, T16N • R2W, Bowling Township, Rock Island County, IL.

Tract 1 is nearly 100% tillable “Class A” farm land. Tract 2 is high percentage income producing land, has recreational possibilities and a potential home site as well!

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SUSAN ORWIG AND  
VICTORIA JOHNSTON

Representing Attorney: Karl Bredberg | Katz Nowinski, P.C.  
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Auction Representative: Dale Jones (309) 299-6400

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OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

LAND AUCTION

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026 - 12:00 PM CST

VIRTUAL LIVE!



285.68± DEEDED ACRES  
3 TRACTS

The Yokoi farm is located approximately 6 miles north of Dixon, IL in Sections 29, 28 and 32, T23N-R9E Pine Creek Township, Ogle County, IL.

Tracts 1 and 2 represent high percentage tillable, productive Class A cropland. Tract 3 represents mostly tillable, productive cropland with a small amount of wooded area and a large, sweeping draw.

JANE YOKOI LIVING TRUST  
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KNOWN LOCALLY AS THE JONES FARM

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# Cornhusking competitions may still be found in 9 states

I was 5 years old in 1939, and dad didn't have a corn picker yet. He picked by hand. I recall walking alongside him as he cut off ears with the husking hook he wore on one hand and sent the ear flying into the horse-drawn wagon.

The ear fell in the wagon after bouncing off the bang board, which rose up from the far side of the wagon. Instantly, another ear followed behind. It sounded like a slow-motion machine gun.

Every few steps, he ordered the team ahead. They took a few steps and stopped. The wagon was always alongside him. That went on all day, and he probably averaged 60-75 bushels per day. It was back-breaking work, in all kinds of weather: snow, rain and mud.

The 2-row New Idea picker he bought in 1941 was pulled with our Allis WC and was a huge step forward.

Picking by hand became a national sport in 1920, with local and state competitions to see who could pick the most bushels in an hour. The sport died after World War II ended, and most farmers had corn pickers. The competition continues in nine states, however. The National Cornhusking Association hosts local events and a national competition annually to keep the tradition alive.

I can still hear the ears hitting the bang board. There's no other sound just like it.

## Hydrogen power continues to advance

The technology for producing low-emission hydrogen as tractor fuel continues to advance.

ExxonMobil and BASF have joined forces to speed up the process. They have a demonstration plant in Baytown, Texas, to continue validation. Large-scale production will be planned for this location.

Numerous tractor manufacturers are also involved in similar developments.

Kubota claims the first hydrogen fuel cell self-driving tractor concept. It is powered by compressed hydrogen, which is a carbon-free alternate for use in conventional diesel engines. No modifications are necessary.

Steyr and Vienna University of Technology (TuWien) have teamed up to create a hydrogen tractor. They are developing the FC-TRAC, a hydrogen fuel unit for tractor power. The FC-TRAC replaces the diesel engine with a hydrogen fuel cell generating electricity stored in a 14-kilowatt high voltage battery. Steyr's parent company is CNH.

New Holland, also part of CNH, has developed the T5.140 model, running on 30 percent hydrogen and 70 percent diesel. John Deere is more fo-

cused on electric but is developing hydrogen-compatible power electronics.

## Plow Day scholarships

It's not surprising to read about farm families supporting each other in times of loss. What is surprising is when it creates 16 years of scholarships.

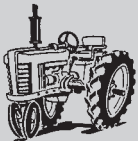
Wisconsin State Farmer recently reported the 16th Skalitzky Plow Day near Waterloo, Wis. It began in 2008 to memorialize a family member's death. The Skalitzkys decided to continue the event to raise scholarship funds for 4-H and FFA members. Now in its 16th year, the plow day drew 30 antique tractors to plow with a dinner for 200 afterward. This event has raised funds for 75 scholarships.

Events with goals like this are rare in today's society – but not in farm country!

Paul Wallem was raised on an Illinois dairy farm. He spent 13 years with corporate IH in domestic and foreign assignments. He resigned to own and operate 2 IH dealerships. He is the author of THE BREAKUP of IH and SUCCESSES & INDUSTRY FIRSTS of IH. See all his books on www.PaulWallem.com. Email comments to pwallem@aol.com.

## ALL ABOUT TRACTORS

BY PAUL WALLEM



Above: STEYR & Tu Wien's hydrogen fuel-cell powered tractor.

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY LAND AUCTION

\*ONLINE BIDDING ONLY\*



120±

ACRES OF PRODUCTIVE FARMLAND IN 1 TRACT

Seller: The Seward Family

-located 5 miles E of CRAWFORDSVILLE, or 15 miles W of LEBANON, INDIANA



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## CARROLL COUNTY LAND AUCTION

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11 - 10:00 AM



149+/-

ACRES OF PRODUCTIVE FARMLAND IN 1 TRACT

Seller: The Wingard Family

This quality farm is located 6 miles E of Flora, or 13 miles NW of KOKOMO, INDIANA



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**TRACT 1**

**TRACT 4**

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## ONLINE ONLY AUCTION

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9<sup>TH</sup> AT 7:00 PM (SOFT CLOSE)

With pickup available on Tuesday afternoon.  
Auction pre-view Friday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00 to 6:00 P.M.  
861 Cassell Rd., Eaton, Ohio 45320  
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- Furniture, collectibles, and household goods, flatbed trailer, golf cart, shop/barn items, Corvair.
- 2020 B-Wise 24' flatbed trailer with hydraulic tilt/jack (well maintained)
- 2011 Yamaha golf cart with gas engine and convertible back seat (running condition) 2002 Honda Shadow motorcycle w/20757 miles & 750cc, 1963 Corvair car (requires restoration; previously operational), four-post car lift with dollies
- JD Z Trac F620 zero-turn mower, like new portable alum. grooming chute, cattle show supplies-Circuiter hot blower-dryer, Mini-Circ blower-dryer, farm gates, Poly round bale feeder, older hay wagon with steel running gears, 15" Western saddle
- Central Machine 36" brake with stand, Ingersoll Rand upright air compressor (approx. 80 gal, 220V), hand and power tools, Honda 2000 generator; acetylene torch set with cart, 3pt. sprayer, 3pt. King Cutter 5' tiller, Frontier Land Plain 1160 64" wide, diesel tank with manual pump, Chevy stock and aluminum rims & tires (good condition), new and used zero clearance fireplaces, children's play set with swings (buyer responsible for removal), sofas, king-size bedroom suite, round card/game table, modern wicker set, handmade wooden tables/stands
- Selection of wedding decorations and reception items, partial listing.

For inquiries or further information regarding specific details, please refer to the auction website.

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# AUCTION

WEDNESDAY  
FEBRUARY 18<sup>TH</sup>  
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM CT

PRODUCTIVE CROPLAND • LAPORTE CO, IN  
WHITETAIL & TURKEY HABITAT • STORAGE SHED

PROPERTY LOCATION: 3 miles southwest of Union Mills,  
IN along 1100 S north of US-30 in Noble Twp, LaPorte Co.

**205+/- ACRES**  
161.13 +/- Tillable | 43.87 +/- Woods/Non-Tillable/Ditches

Nolan Sampson: 219.575.1486 | Larry Smith: 219.716.4041

**HALDERMAN**  
REAL ESTATE & FARM MANAGEMENT  
800.424.2324 | halderman.com

Auctioneer: Russell D. Harmeyer IN Auct. Lic. #AU10000277, HRES IN Auct. Lic. #AC69200019, Seller: Schultz Wray Farm

**HLS#NAS-13187**  
Auctioneer: Russell D. Harmeyer IN Auct. Lic. #AU10000277, HRES IN Auct. Lic. #AC69200019, Seller: Schultz Wray Farm

LARGE PUBLIC AUCTION

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026 AT 9:00 AM

Ted Everett Farm Equipment, 11998 N. STATE RD. 39, MONROVIA, IN 46157

Twenty Miles West of Indianapolis, Indiana, on Interstate 70 To State Road 39, (Exit 59)-Then ½ Mile South To Sale Site.

ABSOLUTE AUCTION, EVERYTHING SELLS, NO CONSIGNMENTS

\*Three Auction Rings - Two Starting at 9:00 AM\*

FIRST RING: Compact Tractors, Industrial, Farm Equipment • SECOND RING: Golf Carts, Lawn & Garden, ATV’s & Misc.

THIRD RING: 1:00 PM OUTSIDE - Vehicles & Misc.

TRACTORS

JD 9530 W/ DUALS, PS, 4272 HRS, S/N 24916  
JD 8420 W/ DUALS, WEIGHTS, MFWD  
JD 8100 W/ DUALS, MFWD  
JD 7230 W/ WEIGHTS, MFWD, 1600 HRS, S/N 639589  
JD 5500 W/ LDR & CANOPY, MFWD  
JD 5425 W/ LDR, MFWD (AS IS- BAD TRANS)  
JD 5320, ONE REAR SCV, MFWD, 987 HRS  
JD 4630 W/ DUALS & WEIGHTS, 8400 HRS  
JD 4500 W/ LDR, MFWD  
JD 4240 W/ JD 148 LDR, ROPS, QR  
JD 4020 W/ JD WF  
JD 4005 W/ BACKHOE, MFWD, 1420 HRS  
JD 2840, 1-OWNER  
JD 2640, DSL  
JD 2640 W/ ROLL BAR  
JD 2210, MFWD (AS IS)  
JD 2030 W/ LDR  
JD 2025R W/ BELLY MOWER, MFWD, 800 HRS  
JD 1070  
JD 1025R W/ LDR  
JD 1023E W/ LDR & BELLY MOWER, MFWD, 311 HRS  
AC 8030 W/ CAB, DUAL PTO, 3PT, 2WD  
C/IH STX275, 3PT, PTO, 5307 HRS  
C/IH MAXXUM 115 W/ CAB, 2WD  
C/IH MX285 W/ FRONT & REAR DUALS, MFWD, 5195 HRS  
C/IH MX240 W/ FRONT & REAR DUALS, MFWD, 6125 HRS  
C/IH JX100U W/ LDR, ROPS, MFWD  
C/IH DX35 W/ L340 LDR, MFWD, 321 HRS  
CASE 2590, 2WD, 1000 PTO, 3PT, 5359 HRS (AS IS - PARK LOCK OUT)  
CASE 930 COMFORT KING FARMALL SUPER H (AS IS)  
FORD 7700, WF, C/A/H, 3PT, 540 PTO, WEIGHTS  
FORD 6610 W/ LDR  
IH 1066 W/ LDR  
IH 424  
KIOTI CS2220 W/ LDR & BACKHOE, MFWD, 200 HRS  
KUBOTA M120 W/ CAB & LDR, MFWD, 3900 HRS  
KUBOTA L3301 W/ LDR & BKT, 1100 HRS  
KUBOTA L2501 W/ LDR & CANOPY, MFWD  
KUBOTA L2501 W/ LDR, MFWD  
KUBOTA BX25 TLB W/ DECK, MFWD, 368 HRS  
2023 KUBOTA BX2380 W/ LDR, MFWD, 2 HRS  
KUBOTA BX2680 W/ LDR & 60" DECK, MFWD, 167 HRS  
KUBOTA B7300  
KUBOTA B2920 W/ LDR, HYDRO, MFWD  
NEW KUBOTA B2401 W/ LA435 LDR  
KUBOTA B2401 W/ LDR, MFWD, 350 HRS  
KUBOTA B2400  
MF 4245 W/ CANOPY, MFWD, 2000 HRS  
MF 2670 W/ CAB & LDR, MFWD, 2802 HRS, S/N 11005  
NH T7.260, MFWD, 4500 HRS, S/N 06456  
NH TC40D W/ LDR, MFWD  
NH TN75 W/ CAB & LDR, MFWD  
NH 3930, 5300 HRS  
NH WORKMASTER 225 W/ LDR, MFWD, 210 HRS  
VERSATILE 550DT, QUAD TRACK, 16-SPEED, PS, CUMMINS, GUIDANCE READY, JD 2600 DISPLAY, 3360 HRS  
VERSATILE 856, 3PT, PTO, 4918 HRS  
WHITE 6045 W/ 2SCV, 2WD, 1187 HRS

DAVID ALLEN EQUIPMENT

KUBOTA B20 TLB, 731 HRS  
KUBOTA G5200 (AS IS)  
AC D19, LP, 3PT  
IH 806, LP

IH 706, LP, 3PT, S/N 29824  
IH 560, LP  
IH 45 FIELD CULTIVATOR, 12'  
BRILLION PACKER, 10'  
DUNHAM PACKER, 8'  
SULKLEY 1X PLOW  
HYD BOOM POLE, 3PT  
BACKHOE BUCKET, 3'  
GRADER BLADE, 8'  
ROTARY CUTTER, 7'  
BLADE, 3PT, 5'  
BLADE, 3PT  
(2) WAGON W/ HOIST  
(2) HAY WAGON  
HEIDER BARGE BOX WAGON W/ HOIST  
KAWASAKI MULE 610, 4WD, 133 HRS  
YAMAHA KODIAK 400 (AS IS)  
DIXIE CHOPPER SP3000, 72" (AS IS)  
DIXIE CHOOOPER XT3200, 60" (AS IS)  
DIXIE CHOPPER XW2500 (AS IS)  
JD 260, NO DECK (AS IS)  
MC ROTARY SCYTHE, 12'  
SCISSOR HOIST W/ PTO PUMP  
JD PTO AIR PUMP  
13HP GAS ENGINE, NEW  
BRIGGS 2HP ENGINE, NEW  
CONTINENTAL PHD  
POST DRIVER, 3PT  
REESE HITCH, 3PT  
(2) CASE QUICK HITCH  
HYD CYLINDERS, 4"  
BRUSHGUARD FOR IH 706-806  
BRUSHGUARD FOR AC D19  
(2) RUNNING GEAR  
(2) PULL-TYPE SPRAYER  
24XDW16L 8-LUG RIM, NEW  
12.5-15 IMPLEMENT TIRES  
LOTS OF MISC

CONSTRUCTION

JD 333G SKIDSTEER, 875 HRS, S/N 366614  
2020 CAT 299D3 SKIDSTEER, 2407 HRS, S/N DY902365  
2019 CAT 289D SKIDSTEER, 2643 HRS, S/N TAW13881  
2021 CAT 259D3 SKIDSTEER W/ CAB & AC, 2349 HRS  
2020 CAT 259D3 SKIDSTEER, 1259 HRS, S/N CW906191  
2018 BOBCAT T650 SKIDSTEER, 2259 HRS, S/N ALJG25665  
BOBCAT T595 SKIDSTEER, 484 HRS  
BOBCAT T190 SKIDSTEER, NEW TRACKS (AS IS - HYD LEAK)  
BOBCAT S250 SKIDSTEER, 2344 HRS  
BOBCAT S185 SKIDSTEER  
2014 BOBCAT 570 SKIDSTEER, 349 HRS  
CASE TR380 SKIDSTEER, 1400 HRS  
CASE SR210 SKIDSTEER, S/N 440064  
CASE 1835B SKIDSTEER  
2024 KUBOTA SSV65 SKIDSTEER  
2017 NH C238 SKIDSTEER, 1341 HRS, S/N NHM427861  
NH L150 SKIDSTEER, 1118 HRS  
NH LS160 SKIDSTEER, 1500 HRS  
1996 NH LX665 SKIDSTEER, 3300 HRS  
TORO DINGO TX-1000 WB SKID-STEER, NARROW TRACK, VERTI-CAL LIFT, 500 HRS  
CLARK FORKLIFT, ELECTRIC  
HYSTER FORKLIFT, DSL  
2022 CAT 910-14 HIGH LIFT WHEEL LOADER, 1172 HRS, S/N JW201181  
2014 CAT 907H2 WHEEL LOADER, 3465 HRS, S/N JRS00612  
DOOSAN 200 WHEEL LOADER, 1400 HRS  
KUBOTA R530 WHEEL LOADER, OPEN STATION  
CAT 426D BACKHOE W/ CAB, 4-IN-1 BUCKET, FLIP-OVER FORKS, 4WD, 5600 HRS  
CAT 420D BACKHOE W/ CAB, EXT-A-HOE, 4WD, 2500 HRS  
2015 CASE 580N BACKHOE W/ CAB & HEAT, EXT-A-HOE, 2130 HRS  
CASE 580K BACKHOE W/ CAB, 2WD, 6206 HRS  
JD 410 BACKHOE (AS IS- RUNS, WON'T MOVE)  
2004 NH LB75B BACKHOE W/ CAB,

EXT-A-HOE, 4WD, 4200 HRS  
CASE 590SL TLB W/ CAB, EXT-A-HOE, 2WD, 2900 HRS  
(2) 2024 CASE CX30C EXCAVATOR W/ CAB & AC, NEW W/ WARRANTY  
2023 CASE CX37C EXCAVATOR W/ CAB & AC, 351 HRS  
2015 CASE CX80C EXCAVATOR, C/A/H, 3890 HRS  
YANMAR SV100 EXCAVATOR, 4805 HRS, S/N 011334  
2019 YANMAR VIO25-6A EXCAVATOR  
JD 17D EXCAVATOR W/ 2 BUCKETS, 246 HRS, S/N 221805  
2015 CAT D5K2 LGP DOZER, GRADE CONTROL, 3624 HRS, S/N KY200515  
JD 260B BACKHOE ATTACH  
BRADCO 8MD2 BACKHOE ATTACH  
CAT BA25 ANGLE BROOM  
SWEEPSTER 2101 BROOM, WHEEL LOADER MT, 18'  
JD MS60 MANURE SCRAPER, SS ATTACH  
FINISH MOWER, SS ATTACH  
CAT SKIDSTEER POWER BOX RAKE  
CAT SKIDSTEER AUGER W/ 12" & 24" BITS  
JD PA15 AUGER OFF JD 17D EXCA-VATOR (NO BITS)  
TELEHANDLER BOOM  
PLATE COMPACTOR, SS-ATTACH  
DANUSER CONCRETE MIXER, SS MT  
CONCRETE CHUTE, QA  
SKIDSTEER BUCKET  
BACKHOE BUCKET  
CAT TOOTH BUCKET, 24"  
(12 SETS) Q/A PALLET FORKS, 4000LB CAPACITY, NEW

COMBINES

JD 9660 STS W/ BIN EXT, 4490/2900 HRS, S/N 712617  
JD 9560 STS W/ DUALS, 3080/2169 HRS, S/N 710330  
C/IH 7120, 4WD, 3986/3170 HRS, S/N Y9207949  
NH CR7090 W/ DUALS, 4WD, 4587/2582 HRS, S/N 116798  
NH TR89 W/ DUALS, S/N YOG116798

HEADS

MACDON FD75 DRAPER HEAD, 35', S/N 234284  
C/IH 3162 DRAPER HEAD, 35'  
2013 C/IH 3020 GRAIN HEAD W/ AIR REEL, S/N YCH210505  
JD 920 GRAIN HEAD, 20', POLY  
JD 918 GRAIN HEAD  
GERRINGHOFF NS ELITE CORN HEAD, 12-ROW  
JD 608C CORN HEAD, S/N 757008  
JD 893 CORN HEAD  
JD 643 CORN HEAD  
JD 444 CORN HEAD  
2012 C/IH 3408 CORN HEAD, S/N YCS022950  
C/IH 2206 CORN HEAD  
NH CORN HEAD, 6-ROW

PLANTERS & DRILLS

JD 1780 16/31 SPLITTER PLANTER  
JD 7200 VAC PLANTER W/ PRECI-SION 2020 MONITOR, 6-ROW  
KINZE 3650 12/23 SPLITTER PLANT-ER, LIQ FERT  
KINZE 3600 12/24 SPLITTER PLANT-ER, BULK-FILL  
KINZE 3600 12/24 SPLITTER PLANT-ER, NO-TILL  
JD 1520 DRILL, S/N 680132  
JD 750 DRILL W/ GRASS SEED & MARKERS, 15'  
GP NO-TILL DRILL, 24'  
C/IH 5100 DRILL

TILLAGE

GP 3000 TURBO-TILL W/ ROLLING BASKET, SPIDER WHEELS, 30'  
UNVERFERTH 1245D ROLLING HARROW, 22'  
MCFARLANE RD4020RBG REEL DISK, 21'  
DMI CRUMBLER, 45'  
KRAUSE DOMINATOR 4850-18 RIP-PER, 11-SHANK

DMI 527 DISK RIPPER, 5-SHANK  
BRILLION CC-300 RIPPER W/ HITCH, 4-SHANK  
WHITE DISK CHISEL, 11-SHANK  
BRILLION 6-ROW CULTIVATOR  
CHISEL PLOW, 3PT  
JD ROTARY HOE  
KEWANEE DISK, MANUAL FOLD, 12'  
JD 630 DISK  
KRAUSE 1452 ROCKFLEX OFFSET DISK, 15'  
PULL-TYPE HYD DISK, 8', 7.5"  
SPACING  
JD 3X PLOW  
MF 3X PLOW  
4X PLOW

GRAIN CARTS & WAGONS

BRENT 880 GRAIN CART W/ TARP  
BRENT 780 GRAIN CART W/ TARP & SCALE  
BRENT GCB572 GRAIN CART  
BRENT 570 GRAIN CART W/ SCALES, 1000 PTO  
KILLBROS 1800 GRAIN CART  
EZ-TRAIL 500 GRAIN CART  
J&M 540 GRAVITY WAGON  
(2) J&M 250 GRAVITY WAGON

HAY EQUIPMENT

JD 348 SQUARE BALER W/ HYD TONGUE, 540 PTO, PULL- TYPE  
JD 327 SQUARE BALER  
NH 310 DISKBINE  
JD 946 MOCO  
KUHN GF5001THA TEDDER, 4-BAS-KET, PULL-TYPE  
NH 258 HAY RAKE  
NH 256 HAY RAKE  
NI 402 HAY RAKE  
(3) BALE SPEAR, 3PT  
BALE SPEAR, QA  
LDR BALE SPEAR  
BALE SQUEEZE, SS MT  
BALE FORK

ROTARY MOWERS

JD CX15 BATWING  
JD HX15 BATWING  
BUSH HOG 11815 BATWING  
BUSH HOG 2615 BATWING, 540 PTO  
WOODS BW1800RM BATWING, 1000 PTO  
WOODS BW180 BATWING, 540 PTO  
JD MX6 ROTARY MOWER  
RHINO TS12 ROTARY MOWER, 12'  
BUSH HOG TW60 ROTARY MOWER  
BUSH HOG ROTARY MOWER, PULL-TYPE, 10'  
LANDPRIDE RCR1248 ROTARY MOWER  
WOODS 208 ROTARY MOWER  
FRONTIER ROTARY MOWER, 6'  
ROTARY MOWER  
FRONTIER TURF FINISH MOWER, 540 PTO, 12'  
FRONTIER GM2072R FINISH MOW-ER, 3PT, 72"  
BUHLER FARM KING FINISH MOWER, 3PT, 72"  
RHINO AG TW120 BRUSH MOWER, PULL-TYPE, 10'

OTHER EQUIPMENT

C/IH 2800 LIQUID APPLICATOR W/ 1000-GAL POLY TANK, 13-SHANK, 2-SECTION CONTROL, SC8 440  
RAVEN MONITOR  
JD 700 GRINDER MIXER  
GEHL 120 FEED GRINDER  
PEERLES P20041 ROLLER MILL W/ BLOWER  
BUFFALO ROLLER MILL W/ BLOWER  
FRONTIER MS1223 MANURE SPREADER W/ HORIZONTAL BEAT-ERS, 540 PTO  
NI 3632 MANURE SPREADER  
(2) BULL CHUTES  
BRANDT 5200EX GRAIN VAC, S/N 108720  
ADRIAN 85LP PORTABLE DRIVE OVER PIT  
UNVERFERTH HT36 HEADCART, 36'  
(2) UNVERFERTH HT30 HEAD CART, 30'

UNVERFERTH HT25 HEAD CART, 25'  
J&M TB600 TRAILBLAZER HEAD CART, 35'  
HOME MADE HEAD CART  
JD H480 LOADER W/ GRAPPLE & BALE SPEAR OFF JD 8100  
WOODS 360 LOADER OFF MAGNUM TRACTOR  
FARMHAND F348 LOADER  
NH 550LU LOADER FRAME - NO BRACKETS OR BUCKET  
(2) JD 84" BUCKET  
JD 72" BUCKET  
KUBOTA BUCKET  
KUBOTA PIN ON BUCKET  
LANDPRIDE SGC0660 GRAPPLE, 60"  
LANDPRIDE BB596 BOX BLADE  
WESTERN PRO SNOWPLOW, 7'6"  
CUB WALK-BEHIND SNOWBLOWER  
SNOWBLOWERS  
LARSON SALT SPREADER  
PRESEEDER 605, 3PT, 6'  
LANDPRIDE RTR1250 TILLER, LIKE NEW  
WOODS RT48 TILLER, 48"  
TILLER  
LOG SPLITTER W/ MOTOR, PULL-TYPE  
GENERATOR  
DANUSER PHD, 3PT  
COUNTYLINE PHD  
BOBCAT 15C PHD  
(2) STIHL CHAINSAW  
STIHL LEAFBLOWER  
STIHL WEED EATER  
PRESSURE WASHER  
FRONTIER DIAMOND DRAG  
JD CP48 COW PULVERIZER  
TORO SPRAYER  
LINCOLN POWER ARC4000 WELDER  
MILLER WELDER  
POWERMATIC LATHE, 3-PHASE  
SUN VBC620 PROCUOT BRAKE LATHE  
MINI WOOD LATHE  
BLUE METAL BRAKE  
ROCKWELL DRILL PRESS  
DELTA DRILL PRESS  
PAPER DRILL PRESS  
BELT & DISK GRINDER SANDER  
POWERMATIC ROTATING SANDER  
CRAFTSMAN BANDSAW  
CRAFTSMAN RADIAL ARM SAW, 10"  
DEWALT 7749 RADIAL ARM SAW  
DELTA UNISAW, 10"  
DELTA BAND SAW  
DELTA PLANER  
DELTA PLANER/JOINTER  
QUICKWAY VALVE GRINDER  
AMCO BRAKE DRUM ROTOR & TURNER  
ACCU-TURN TIRE CHANGER  
SUN CWB1856 TIRE BALANCER  
ROTUNDA TIRE BALANCER  
SNAP-ON AC KOOLKARE-134  
SNAP-ON VOLTAGE TESTER  
AIR BLOWER  
FIRE EXTINGUISHERS  
LIGHT PLANT  
PORTABLE RAMP  
JD 466 ENGINE  
(6) JD FRONT WEIGHTS  
JD 500LB WEIGHTS  
JD SUITCASE WEIGHTS  
(2) QA TO 3PT ADAPTER  
QUICK HITCH  
2025 1A FUEL TRAILER, NEW  
1000-GAL FUEL TANK W/ PUMP  
(2) PAIR OF 11.2X28 TIRES  
1400-24 TIRE  
2 RIMS OFF MAGNUM TRACTOR  
MISC SETS OF KUBOTA TIRES & RIMS  
MISC TIRES & RIMS

VEHICLES

1999 PETERBILT 379 W/ CAT 3406 MOTOR, 18-SPD, 250000 MILES ON OVERHAUL  
1978 CHEVY C65 GRAIN TRUCK  
1975 CHEVY 6000 GRAIN TRUCK  
2023 NORTH STAR IRON BULL TRAIL-ER, TRI-AXLE GOOSENECK, 8'X40'  
2022 RC ENCLOSED TRAILER RDLX, 7'X19'  
1992 HURST BUMPER HITCH TRAIL-

ER, TANDOM AXLE, SINGLE WHEEL  
2009 YAMAHA SNOW MOBILE (NO KEY)

GOLF CARTS, ATVS, AND UTVS

(60) 2015/2016 YAMAHA GLACIER GOLF CART, GAS  
(52) 2021 EZ-GO TXT GOLF CART, 48V, BURGANDY W/ TAN SEAT & TOP, WINDSHIELD  
(2) YAMAHA GOLF CART, GAS  
2018 TXT GOLF CART, GAS  
2016 CLUB CAR PRECEDENT, GAS, BLUE W/ BEIGE SEATS  
BIG HORN GOLF CART, GAS, 92 HRS  
(2) GOLF CARTS  
2024 CAN AM COMMANDER 700XT, 300 HRS  
2023 KAWASAKI MULE PRO 700MX  
2022 JD XUV835M GATOR W/ WESTERN SNOWPLOW & 45-GAL SPRAYER W/ BOOMS  
2021 CAN-AM COMMANDER 1000R XT, 20 HRS  
2021 JD TE GATOR, ELECTRIC  
2020 POLARIS RANGER 1000  
2020 KAWASAKI TERYX LE800, 150 HRS  
2019 KUBOTA RTV X900, 1558 HRS/8258 MILES  
2018 HONDA PIONEER 1000-5 DE-LUXE, 150 HRS  
2018 POLARIS RANGER XP900  
2016 POLARIS RANGER XP900  
2016 POLARIS RANGER 570  
2016 JD 8251 GATOR W/ POWER DUMP BED, PS  
2016 BAD BOY BUGGIE AMBUSH  
2015 POLARIS RANGER 570, 100 HRS  
2013 POLARIS RANGER XP900  
2013 JD XUV8251 GATOR  
2011 POLARIS RANGER XP800, 498 HRS  
2011 POLARIS RANGER 800  
2011 CAN-AM COMMANDER 800 RXT  
(2) 2006 POLAIRS SPORTSMAN 500 H.O. 4-WHEELER  
BOBCAT 2200 UTV, 4X4  
CAN AM COMMANDER 800R, 300 HRS  
HONDA PIONEER 1000-5, 600 HRS  
HONDA PIONEER 1000-5  
JD XUV855D  
JD XUV620I GATOR  
JD XUV835R GATOR W/ HEAT & AIR, 900 MILES  
JD XUV825M S4 GATOR  
JD XUV825I  
JD 4X2 GATOR  
JD TX GATOR, 182 HRS  
JD TX GATOR, 406 HRS  
JD TX GATOR, 704 HRS  
JD TX GATOR, 1293 HRS  
(3) JD GATOR  
KAWASAKI MULE PRO-MX, 4WD  
KAWASAKI 3010 MULE  
KAWASAKI MULE, 707 HRS  
KAWASAKI MULE  
KUBOTA RTV1140, 4WD, 1211 HRS  
KUBOTA RTV X1100CWL-A, C/A/H  
KUBOTA RTV1100CWX-A, 1000 HRS  
KUBOTA RTV900XTG  
KUBOTA RTV900  
KUBOTA RTV850 SIDEKICK, 120 HRS  
POLARIS RANGER 700 W/ CAB & HEAT, CAMO  
POLARIS RANGER 570 CREW, 600 HRS  
POLARIS RANGER 500 W/ HYD DUMP BED, 4WD

LAWN AND GARDEN

JD Z997R, 870 HRS  
JD Z997R, 1000 HRS  
(2) JD Z997R, 72"  
JD Z997, 60"  
JD Z960M, 1950 HRS  
JD Z960M, 1450 HRS  
JD Z960M  
JD Z950R, 875 HRS  
JD Z930M, 770 HRS  
(2) JD Z920M W/ TWEELS  
JD Z920M, 962 HRS  
JD Z915B, 60", 800 HRS  
JD Z757

JD Z665, 60", 368 HRS  
JD Z445, 48"  
JD Z445  
JD Z425, 48", 733 HRS  
JD Z225, 42", 1000 HRS  
JD X534  
JD X520  
JD X350, 42", 429 HRS  
JD X320, 48", 588 HRS  
JD X300, 48"  
JD X300  
JD M653  
JD LTX1046  
JD LT155, 42"  
JD LT125, 42"  
JD F1145 W/ BLADE, FWD, NO DECK  
JD D140  
JD E120, 42"  
(5) JD 997, 72"  
JD 757, 60"  
JD 737, 54"  
JD 335  
JD 320, 48"  
JD 318 W/ HYDROSTAT & HYD DECK  
JD 48R WALK BEHIND  
BAD BOY OUTLAW XP7200  
BAD BOY MAVERICK FS730  
BAD BOY MAVERICK MZ  
BAD BOY MAVERICK, 60"  
BOBCAT ZTR, 52"  
BUSH HOG ZTR  
CUB CADET TANK, 54"  
CUB CADET ZT1, 54"  
CUB CADET PRO Z160S (AS IS)  
COUNTRY CLIPPER XLT, 52"  
(2) DIXIE CHOPPER 2760 SILVER EAGLE  
DIXIE CHOPPER LT2700  
DIXIE CHOPPER X-CALIBER, 74"  
(3) DIXIE CHOPPER EXMARK LZ27  
EXMARK LZXS  
(6) EXMARK LAZER Z  
EXMARK LAZER Z, 48"  
EXMARK 30 X-SERIES COMMERCIAL  
EXMARK STAND ON  
EXMARK, 60"  
FERRIS IS3200Z  
FERRIS IS3000Z  
FERRIS IS600, 250 HRS  
FERRIS SRS (AS IS)  
GRASSHOPPER 720K W/FRONT DECK  
GRAVELY, 54 HRS  
GRAVELY PRO-STANCE, 60"  
GRAVELY  
HUSQVARNA LZ30  
HUSQVARNA ZTR (AS IS)  
HUSTLER SUPER Z XR7, 60"  
HUSTLER FASTRAK  
HUSTLER RAPTOR SD42  
KUBOTA ZD1211L, 72", 380 HRS  
KUBOTA ZD1211L, 72", 460 HRS  
KUBOTA Z231  
KUBOTA Z125S, 54", 400 HRS  
KUBOTA ZG23, 54"  
KUBOTA 3990 FRONT MT W/ CAB, 4WD  
KUBOTA TRACTOR-TYPE MOWER  
NEW HOLLAND ZTR  
SCAG TIGER CAT II, 61", EFI, 1489 HRS  
SCAG TIGER CAT, 61", 806 HRS  
SCAG CHEETAH, 72", 628 HRS  
SCAG CHEETAH, 1400 HRS  
SCAG TURF TIGER  
SCAG LIBERTY  
SIMPLICITY DERBY, 48"  
(3) SIMPLICITY  
TORO Z-MASTER 7000, 72", DSL  
TORO MX5480, 594 HRS  
TORO 3000, 60"  
TORO Z588E, 60", EFI, 632 HRS  
TORO TITAN ZX4800, 48"  
TORO 325-D GROUNDMASTER  
TORO TIMECUTTER  
TORO  
TROYBILT XP, 42"  
PUSH MOWERS  
L&G TIRES  
L&G SEATS

AGDIRECT FINANCING AVAILABLE CALL 317-996-3929 FOR PRE-APPROVAL

Ted Everett Farm Equipment, Monrovia, Indiana

317-996-3929  
OFFICE  
765-366-4322  
JEREMY EDWARDS

317-443-0771  
DAVID LEE  
309-945-7644  
J.R. SIMS

#AC31500029  
317-760-8994  
CALEB JONES

317-691-4937  
KURT  
765-301-0319  
RICHARD McMAINS

317-370-3113  
TED'S CELL  
317-432-1338  
AUSTIN JORDAN

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# Disciplined and proactive approach necessary for farmers in 2026

The National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center's outlook through Feb. 3 calls for "very likely below" normal outlook for temperature and precipitation. The February-March-April seasonal outlook for the upper Midwest is leaning to a normal outlook for temperature and above normal outlook for precipitation. Farther out, the May-June-July outlook is leaning above normal temperature and equal chances for normal outlook for precipitation.

The Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC) recently issued a very rare G4 (severe) geomagnetic storm watch for Jan. 20. A G4 geomagnetic storm may degrade satellite navigation for some hours and disrupt low-frequency radio navigation. But given this is January and not the middle of spring planting for example, this storm had a negligible effect on U.S. farms.

A look at recent history shows the impact of a geomagnetic storm could well be more significant during the crop season. On May 10, 2024, a powerful geomagnetic storm affected the U.S., smack in the middle of planting. That storm caused "mass global navigation satellite system outages leading to an assumed \$565 million in losses for Midwestern crop producers."

The sun is the main source of space weather. Radio emissions, coronal mass ejections (CMEs), and solar flares are some of the causes of geomagnetic storms. These can disrupt communications, the power grid, navigation, radio and satellite operations for minutes, to hours or days at a time. A complete loss of signal lock by the GPS receiver due to extreme noise from the upper atmosphere (primarily nighttime) can result in no location data for an interval of time. Like a thunderstorm, farmers can only manage their systems through GPS-battering geomagnetic storms. Newer positioning systems that lock onto multiple satellite constellations are little or not affected by solar storms.

With older navigation systems, farmers may bring a stop to fieldwork or, like grandpa did, grab the steering wheel and just plow through, accepting crooked rows and any planting and data collection inaccuracies that follow. But without GPS, the as-planted data (as-sprayed, as-fertilized) cannot be logged onto a map or georeferenced. Interested persons can sign

## WEEKLY AG UPDATE

BY NED BIRKEY  
MSU EXTENSION EDUCATOR EMERITUS  
SPARTAN AG

up for space weather alerts/watches/warnings at the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center. If an issue is noticed with the GPS systems, look at the NOAA alerts or the Navigation Centers civilian GPS outage reports to determine whether the source is environmental or a hardware problem.

Marketing Success is NOT about timing the market perfectly. Farmers have only one chance to hit the high (or low) price, but two chances to hit all other prices. Agriculture is often defined by volatility and change but also depends on planning, perspective and partnership. Maintaining a strong relationship with a lender that understands agriculture helps farmers make informed decisions that support their short-term and long-term goals.

As farmers prepare for 2026, a disciplined and proactive approach will be essential. Penciling out and keeping costs low and under control remains a top priority. Tighter margins make it more important than ever to closely review operating expenses and identify opportunities for efficiency. Planning the financial budget well ahead of the production cycle can help reduce uncertainty, strengthen cash flow and provide flexibility as market conditions evolve. Strategic use of risk management tools – such as crop insurance and thoughtful marketing strategies – can also help protect against volatility. Hitting the highest price of the year is not a reasonable goal. There are other tools to help achieve high relative prices, usually with the help of someone off the farm with the time and experience to objectively watch the markets.

MSU "Agronomy Day" in southeast Michigan will be for both field crop and vegetable farmers on Feb. 4, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Old Mill Museum, Dundee. Farmers can register now by calling Chris Galbraith at 734-240-3178 or Madelyn Celovsky at 517-768-2048. New this year in the afternoon will feature two concurrent sessions, one session on corn, soybean and wheat pro-

duction topics and the other session with vegetable production topics. This event and lunch are free, but space is limited so please register ahead. 4 RUP and 6 CCA CEUs will be available.

Outdoor and Gardening Benefits of Snow Winter snow may feel like a nuisance, but it's surprisingly useful. From lightening pancake batter to protecting garden plants and easing inflammation, snow has practical benefits indoors and out. Snow is an insulator that keeps plants and even water from freezing. Apple growers will use wind or irrigation water to protect fruit from freezing. Snow is great for gardens and called "poor man's fertilizer." Soil that's insulated by a blanket of snow can stay close to 32°F even when the air temperature plunges below zero, which can protect leftover root crops. In a brief winter warm spell, snow's insulation works the other way: It can keep the soil from warming up

so plants aren't tricked into sprouting too soon.

Snow protects plants from drying winter winds, especially semi-hardy plants such as bigleaf hydrangeas. In spring, melting snow provides moisture to plants' roots as the plants are coming out of dormancy.

Frequently Asked Questions  
Is it safe to eat snow? Only eat clean, freshly fallen snow away from roads, roofs, and animals. Avoid old or discolored snow.

Can snow really insulate plants? Yes. Snow traps air, keeping soil temperatures near freezing even in extreme cold, which protects plant roots.

Can snow be used instead of ice for injuries? Yes, but always wrap snow in a cloth to prevent frostbite. Apply for no more than 10 minutes at a time.

Does snow help gardens in spring? Absolutely. Melting snow slowly releases moisture into the soil just as plants wake from dormancy.

## LAND AUCTION

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"Happy Memories Farm, LLC"



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Auction opens March 1, 2026 & ends March 6, 2026  
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Location: 259 S 700 W, Winamac, IN

Call by Tuesday, February 10th to have your items advertised!

➡ Call Nate @ 574-242-1262 ◀

Consignments taken Wednesday, February 25 through Saturday, February 28 (8-5) ET

Inspection: Monday, March 2 (9-2) ET. Gate open daily from daylight until dark to view items.

Buyer pick up: Saturday, March 7 & Monday, March 9 (9-4) ET

Gary Olson 574-595-5164 - Nate Swartzell 574-242-1262 - Kenny Becker 574-242-0146

Gary L. Olson  
Auctioneer  
IN Auc Lic #AU01031658



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Ohio Auctioneer: Schrader Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc. #63198513759

# Metzger Auction Calendar

www.BidMetzger.com



**Robertson**  
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January 30, 2026  
Peru, IN 46970

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Online Silver, Coin & Currency Auction!  
**AUCTION!**  
February 1, 2026  
North Manchester, IN

AUCTION MANAGER: TIM HOLMES - 260-580-5473 BidMetzger.com

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February 2, 2026  
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February 3rd • 6 pm  
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## Auctioneers & Realtors...

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Tim Pitts, Fort Wayne, IN 317-714-0432  
Michael Gentry, LaCrosse, IN 219-754-2237  
John Burnau, Leesburg, IN 574-376-5340

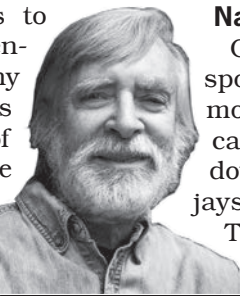
Rod Metzger, Ossian, IN, 260-982-0238  
Jason Conley, Warsaw, IN 574-527-2247  
Tiffany Reimer, Realtor 260-982-0238  
Neal Snyder, Andrews, IN 260-358-7923

Tim Holmes, Churubusco, IN, 260-580-5473  
Rainelle Shockome, Col. City, IN, 260-341-4801  
Brian Evans, Lagro IN 219-754-2237  
Justin Nicodemus, Churubusco, IN 260-246-3778

Brent Ruckman, Larwill, IN 260-609-2155  
Dustin Dillon, Warsaw, IN 574-265-9215  
Dodie Lambright Hart, Howe 260-463-1717

# Cardinals, blue jays, robins among birds becoming more active

But now there are things to be heard if one is at all attentive. At noontime on a sunny day the dooryard sparrows begin to test a few phrases of remembered song... From the woodland the male cardinal whistles as though he really means it... True, these are slight matters, particularly on a day when the wind has a wire edge and the threat of more snow. But spring is the sum of many things, and weather is only one of them. – Hal Borland



POOR WILL'S ALMANACK  
By Bill Felker

**The Weather in the Week Ahead**  
On Jan. 31, the sun passes a declination of 17 degrees and 40 minutes, one fourth of its way to spring equinox. Near this same day, a temperature pivot throws the entire northern and southern halves of the planet into reverse. And average temperatures start to rise throughout the country. Personal thermometers not only mark that process at home, but almost everywhere. And no matter where the starting point, the interval – the rate of increase – is almost the same in every part of the United States:  
During February, for example, the rise in averages at Columbus, Ohio, is from 28 to 30 degrees. That interval is matched by Houston's rise from 54 to 56, Memphis' 42 to 45, Juneau's 25 to 27, Denver's 29 to 32, San Francisco's 49 to 51, St Louis' 32 to 35, Chicago's 26 to 28. In western states more subject to the vast thaws sweeping up from the gulf, the jump is four to five degrees: Minneapolis averages move from 12 to 16 degrees, International Falls from 3 to 7.  
These seemingly minor changes measure distance and time as well as temperature. If we actually can't see the days expanding by 90 seconds every 24 hours, even if we can't walk north now through green Louisiana, we still can know for certain that our Spring is underway everywhere north of the equator. It will reach us when it should, and we will pick our daffodils in the middle of an ordered sequence that begins this January week along the southern beaches.

**Natural Calendar**  
Cardinals, which sang only sporadically earlier in the month, have begun mating calls half an hour before dawn, doves, song sparrows and blue jays often joining their song. The first major waves of robins and bluebirds cross the Ohio River. On highways, roadkills attest to the increasing nighttime activities of skunks and opossums. Constellations of the Dog Days are rising: Lyra and Cygnus. Deep in the southeast, red Antares is glowing. Regulus leads Leo's Sickle into the west.  
As January wanes, Orion moves more westerly in the mid evening, and to the upper left of that vast group of stars, past Castor and Pollux, the stars of Cancer follow. After Cancer, and shaped like a sickle, comes Leo, easily found since Regulus, now the strongest star in the eastern sky, is its leading edge. Early mornings in late January bring May's planting star, Arcturus, overhead. To the far east, the first dandelions can be flowering, snow crocus and henbit budding. Sometimes moss grows on logs. Sometimes tulip and grape hyacinth leaves are pushing out of the ground. Sometimes day lily foliage is up three inches, daffodil spears four to eight inches. When the sun is strong enough for all of that to happen, then flies hatch to warm themselves on the south side of your house, their soft presence almost tipping the delicate scale of time.

**In the Field and Garden**  
Pruning is recommended for the next two weeks, as the moon wanes. Depending on where you live, this may be the time to lime your soil. Since lime reacts slowly with the ground, it should be worked in a few months before planting. Lime can also be applied to the surface for no-till fields.  
Inspect young trees for rodent damage throughout the winter. Consider forage testing for your livestock

soon if you suspect that quality is declining.  
Some traditional supplements for your animals include a little whole barley, a teaspoon of molasses in a pint of milk, powdered slippery elm, calcium rich powdered willow bark, flaked oats, powdered seaweed, and mashed raw carrots. As with any supplement, use in moderation, and keep track of any results you notice.  
The major lambing and kidding season now starts throughout the region: more lambs and kids are born in the next eight weeks than in any other months.  
A light feeding in the morning, and a heavier feeding towards dark can provide your chickens with a little more heat as the mercury falls. Egg production can be expected to decline when highs stay below 30 degrees, but warm water may help keep the hens laying a little.  
Frost-seed crops like red clover in

the pastures, and scatter grass seed over bare spots on the lawn. Freezing and thawing plants the seeds.  
Spray broad-leaved evergreens with anti-drying agent to prevent winterkill. Prepare landscaping, garden, and field maps, including plans for double cropping, intercropping, and companion planting.  
**The Countdown to Spring**  
• One week until the skunk cabbage blooms in the wetlands and cardinals begin their spring mating calls  
• Two weeks until doves join the cardinals, and maple sap is running  
• Three weeks to the very first snow-drop bloom and the official start of early spring  
• Four weeks to major pussy willow emerging season  
• Five weeks to crocus season

(Poor Will continued on page 13B)

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Auction opens February 1, 2026 & ends February 9, 2026  
➡ **olsonauctions.hibid.com** ⬅️  
LOCATION: 6942 E 350 N, Monticello, IN 47960  
Inspection Day: Tuesday, February 3 (3:00 - 6:00) ET - Buyer pick up: Tuesday, February 10 (2:00 - 6:00) ET

**TRACTORS - BACKHOE**  
IH 1066 D, fender, s/n 49138; Farmall Super MTA, gas, PS, turbo, s/n 70026; CIH DX25 MFWD, ROPS, 60" deck, 1,711 hrs; IH 806 D, fender, FH, 18.4x38 tires, 7,403 hrs, s/n 34717; IH 1066 D, fender, s/n 9807; Case 580K backhoe, MFWD, extend-a-hoe, rebuilt cylinders; Farmall M, s/n 130994;

**VEHICLES - TRAILER**  
2011 Ford F250 Super Duty 4x4 pick-up, 4-door, 6.7 Power Stroke, GN hitch, 57K mi; 1961 Ford Galaxy 500, 2-door, hard top, 390 V8, nice restoration, rare; 2023 Eby alum. 20' tandem trailer, mega ramps, pulled approx. 100 mi since purchased new; 1967 Ford F150 4x4 ext cab pick-up, runs, rough;

**4-WHEELER - EQUIPMENT - MISC.**  
2021 CFMOTO 4-wheeler, 4x4 w/winch; IH 2350 loader; CIH 3408 8x30 corn head, single point hook-up, stalk stompers; IH 720 5x18 ASR plow; 12' 3 pt or pull type spring harrow, like new; KK 5' 3 pt rotary mower; 9-bolt dual hubs for IH 1066; 18.4x38 9-bolt duals; forks for 2350 loader; pair 38" rims; narrow front for H or M; 300 gal OH fuel tank; Texaco & Mobile gas pumps; other misc. items;

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{ Becky Hunt & The Late Wayne Hunt, Owner }

Note: Wayne loved Ford vehicles & IH tractors (especially the 1066). Most of the tractors have been repainted w/good tires. Car & pick-up are excellent.

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Lic #AU01031658

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# Number of dairy cattle sent to slaughter up from previous week

While President Donald Trump rattled the markets this week in his pursuit of Greenland, threatening additional tariffs on nations critical of his venture, the USDA issued its monthly Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Outlook on Jan. 16. As usual, it mirrored milk price and production projections in the preceding World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates report issued Jan. 12.

The Outlook reported that dairy cow slaughter in the first half of 2025 was below 2024 levels. "The low culling levels likely indicate that producers chose to extend the productive life of existing cows partially due to tight supplies of replacement heifers, elevated replacement cow

prices, and high feeder cattle prices increasing the value of cross-bred calves. Moreover, the low feed prices through most of 2025 likely helped farmers to keep dairy cows longer in the productive cycle. However, during the second half of the year, the slaughter rates have been mostly above the 2024 levels, with weekly dairy cow slaughter in the last four weeks of the year averaging only slightly above last year's levels."

USDA will issue its Cattle report on Jan. 30 and include milk cow inventory data along with dairy re-

placement heifer numbers. The report will give insight into the current state of the herd and will inform the outlook for much of 2026.

Meanwhile, the USDA's latest Livestock Slaughter report was scheduled to be issued Thursday afternoon. The latest weekly report showed 45,500 head of dairy cattle sent to slaughter the week ending Jan. 3, up 3,000 from the previous week, and 1,400 or 3.2 percent above that week a year ago.

The latest Margin Watch (MW) from Chicago-based Commodity and Ingredient Hedging LLC. stated; "Dairy margins were mixed over the first half of January with continued weakness in nearby periods as lower milk prices offset a decline in feed costs, and stable profitability further out on the curve.

"USDA released a surprisingly bearish January crop report," according to the MW, "raising corn production to a record 17.021 bil-

lion bushels on higher yields and increased acreage, counter to pre-report market expectations. While the soybean balance sheet was not quite as bearish, it likewise featured rising inventories on both the domestic and world balance sheets, with corn and soybean meal prices slumping as a result.

"Milk futures remain under pressure from heavy supplies and dairy product production," according to the MW, which also detailed highlights from the November Cold Storage report that I have previously reported.

The MW stated that butter prices have dropped to a five-year low and cheese trading down to levels last seen during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, however "Low prices are beginning to stimulate demand."

The 6.3 percent jump in the Jan. 6 Global Dairy Trade auction (GDT) broke a five-month losing streak, according to the MW. "Low prices need to be maintained for the U.S. to remain competitive on the global market though, with high cattle prices sustaining dairy margins for now," the MW concludes.

Speaking of the milk futures; settlements Wednesday were not encouraging. The January contract was at \$14.75 per hundredweight; February, \$15.30; March, \$15.38; April, \$15.80; and May, \$16.25; with the peak at \$17.75 in October.

A quick note on the feed front; corn export sales are strong and almost double the five-year-average, according to Western United Dairy's weekly update. Soybean sales remain well behind the historical average, but purchases from China are starting to pick up and export inspections are increasing.

The second Global Dairy Trade of 2026, Event 396, saw the weighted average rise 1.5 percent, following the surprising 6.3 percent boost on Jan. 6. Volume fell to 61.3 million pounds, down from 64.6 million on Jan. 6. The average metric ton price hit \$3,615 US, up from \$3,533 on Jan. 6, and the highest since Nov. 18, 2025.

(Mielke continued on page 15B)

**February 2026 Machinery Auction co-hosted with L&W Equipment**  
Tuesday, February 17th at 9:30AM | 6645 NE Rockfield Rd; Delphi IN 46913

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**Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30 PM**

**Location:** The property is located at 1778 County Road 175, Jeromesville, OH. From US Rt 30, take County Road 175 north just over a mile to the property. Watch for RES signs.

**The auction will be held at the RES headquarters at 375 Fry Road, Wooster, OH.**

**Open House:** The home will be open for inspection **Tuesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> 4-5:30PM.**

**The poultry barns will be available to view by appointment only due to Livestock Biosecurity. Pick up a brochure and walk the land at your leisure. Private showing available through Andy White, 419-651-2152.**

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## 49th ANNUAL COLDWATER YOUNG FARMERS CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

Located on the North edge of COLDWATER, OHIO at the Coldwater football stadium on Butler Street on **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2026 - 9:00 A.M.**

### TRUCKS, TRACTOR, SKID STEER, TRAILERS

2016 Freightliner Cascadia day cab, Cummins ISX 450 hp, 10 speed, 597k miles; 2011 Mack Pinnacle sleeper semi, 773k miles, 505 hp, dual line wet kit; 2001 IH 4400 single axle truck w/dry box, DT466, 6 speed, 413k miles, wet kit; 1974 Ford single axle grain truck, tarp, 55k miles; John Deere 3520 compact tractor w/loader, 1320 hrs; Case 1845c skid steer, 4700 hours, w/bucket; 2005 Mauer 34"x66"x96" hopper bottom; 1993 Barrett 26' aluminum gooseneck livestock trailer

### FARM EQUIPMENT:

JD 7000 6 row planter; AC 1300 18' field cult. w/rolling basket; IH 720 4-18 plow; J&M TF 212 26' torsion flex soil conditioner; 2014 Hardi Navigator 4000 90' sprayer w/JD rate controller; 2014 Spray King 1000 gal sprayer w/90' booms, Tee Jet controls; 9 shank 28% applicator, 500 gal, John Blue pump; Gehl CB800 chopper w/both heads; (2) Gehl 940 14' silage wagons; IH 56 silage blower; NH 570 square baler w/launcher; Kuhn GF5202 4 basket hay tedder, hyd lift;

16' kick bale wagon (nice); (3) kick bale wagons; NH 411 discbine; Pequea 710 hay tedder; Claas rollant 66 round baler w/net wrap; NI 401 hay rake; JD 640 hay rake; Hesston 3831 hay rake; Hiniker stalk chopper; Brillion 15' stalk chopper; JD 27 20' stalk chopper; NI 1 row picker; Hagedorn 5290 manure spreader; NI 3632 tandem axle manure spreader; IH 150 manure spreader, pto; NI triple beater manure spreader; Friesen 220 bulk seed tender; J&M 385 bu hopper wagon; (2) Killbros 350 hopper wagons; Killbros 385 hopper wagon; JD 3000 receiver; (12) JD max emerge XP row units w/3 bu boxes; (12) fert. openers for White 8000 planter; (6) fert. openers for White 6100 planter; solid cast closing wheels; sand shooter for skid steer; 10' x 12' building (new); (2) battery jump boxes; 2006 Simplicity Citation zero turn mower, 48" deck; Simplicity 520 20" snow blower; 84 sections of roller conveyor; PHT 150 bu hopper extension for JD S760/ S770 combine; hay & straw; misc items.

*Note: We will be selling with 2 rings promptly at 9:00 A.M. Sale day phone # 419-733-3096.*

To view updates and photos go to [www.coldwaterauctionservice.net](http://www.coldwaterauctionservice.net)

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Not responsible for Accidents

COLDWATER YOUNG FARMERS ASSOCIATION

Sale Conducted by **COLDWATER AUCTION SERVICE**  
419-733-3096 or 419-852-0800

Auctioneers: Rick Uhlenhake, Brenda Schwieterman, Jim Walterbusch, Frank Wills Arling, Brandon Arling  
Lunch served by Philothea Ladies Sodality

# Question of why we drink too much answered in this new book

“Why We Drink Too Much: The Impact of Alcohol on Our Bodies and Culture” by Dr. Charles Knowles

c.2025, Celadon Books, \$28, 304 pages

It seemed like a good idea at the time.

You had a drink. And another. Someone ordered a round and it's always polite to reciprocate, right? You toasted to the future, to friendship, your families and to your health – but you didn't feel so healthy the next morning, ugh. In the new book “Why We Drink Too Much” by Dr. Charles Knowles, you'll see why you can't wait to do it again.

So, you had a few drinks on New Year's Eve. Or more than a few, and you're not alone: in 2018, the average adult on the planet drank more than 1.5 gallons of ethanol, which is “an ingredient in drinks.” That's equal to more than 206 cans of beer per year, per person.

Monkeys drink alcohol. Elephants do it, insects do it, and tree shrews do it. Humans have been drinking alcohol for tens of thousands of years. But why?

Somehow or other, you had to “learn to drink,” Knowles says, and once you did, alcohol was reinforcing because drinking was fun. Your brain was rewarded with a rush of dopamine. Pure alcohol tastes awful but the drink's mix made it taste good. The behavior motivated you in one of two ways: if you drank to celebrate or because everyone else was drinking, your “externally generated motivations” were triggered. If you were drinking to relax, to self-soothe, to forget or feel better, your “internally generated motivations” were working overtime.

Inside your body, your organs are toiling hard, too. Alcohol goes to your stomach, then to the liver, which processes as much as it can. What it can't process leaks into your circulatory system, to your heart and your brain, and you get drunk.

And maybe you want to stop, but you're not sure how. Knowles, a surgeon, offers some advice, including “Twelve Guiding Principles” for those who drink too much. And he ought to know: some 10 years ago, his “30-year

relationship with alcohol” nearly made him take his own life...

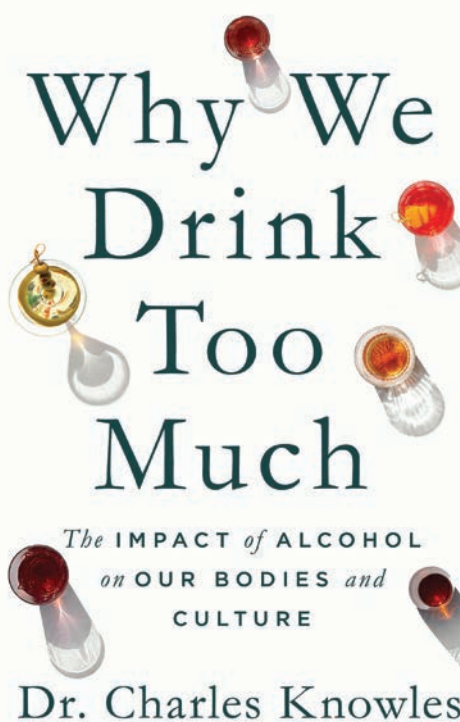
New Year's Eve was fun. New Year's Day, not so much. You knew that was going to happen, but you drank anyhow and “Why We Drink Too Much” explains why.

The first thing you'll want to know about it, though, is that it's not the breezy book you might want. Knowles dives deep into science, neurology, biology and ancient history, taking the facts slow so they're well-parsed and relatively easy to understand. He doesn't scold or belittle anyone, but he's quite firm when he tells readers what alcohol can do, long-term. Throughout his narrative, Knowles answers questions that readers want to know about biology, cravings and why some people can be “social drinkers.” This is all wrapped in a stunning biography that will resonate with readers who need it, and with those they love.

Before you head to your after-holiday party or that next-celebration celebration, check out “Why We Drink Too Much.” If you're worried about yourself or a loved one, reading it might be a good idea now.



THE BOOKWORM SEZ  
Terri Schlichenmeyer



# Purdue offering 4-session Grain Market Navigator Program

Grain price volatility, shifting basis, and uncertain economic conditions have made marketing decisions more complex – and more consequential – than ever. The Grain Market Navigator Program is a four-session Purdue University Extension series designed to help Indiana producers strengthen their understanding of cash and futures markets, evaluate marketing alternatives and manage risk with greater confidence. Through real-world examples, current market outlooks, and direct insight from grain buyers, participants will gain practical tools they can apply immediately to their operation. Sessions run Feb. 17-March 10, with in-person locations across Indiana and a live virtual option available.

The Grain Market Navigator provides the knowledge and tools needed to confidently navigate grain markets – especially during uncertain economic times.

The four sessions are:

Feb. 17 – Session 1 breaks down grain marketing terminology, explains basis and compares cash vs. futures markets.

Feb. 24 – Session 2 dives into grain contracts, using real-world ex-

amples to show how they work and what to consider.

March 3 – Session 3 features a market outlook presentation to help producers understand current trends and future projections.

March 10 – Session 4 wraps up with a dynamic panel discussion featuring grain buyers who will share insight, answer questions and offer practical advice.

This series also fosters community engagement and resilience by connecting farmers with experts and peers to strengthen decision-making and market strategies.

The sessions are 6:30-8:30 p.m. eastern time/5:30-7:30 p.m. central time. In-person or virtual options are available. In-person locations include LaPorte, Jasper, White, Elkhart, Whitley, Huntington, Carroll, Putnam, Johnson, Knox, Dubois and Spencer counties.

Register by Feb. 12, 2026. The virtual registration fee is \$55. The in-person registration fee is \$40. Register <https://extension.purdue.edu/county/johnson/Ag-Natural-Resources/grain-marketing.html>.

## Virtual EQUIPMENT AUCTION

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SMALL ITEMS WILL BE IN A TIMED ONLINE ONLY AUCTION. Lots Start Closing: THURS., FEB. 5<sup>TH</sup> @ 5PM.  
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**29<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WINTER NO-RESERVE EQUIPMENT AUCTION**  
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**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19<sup>TH</sup>**  
 11:30 AM to 2:30 PM

at the beautiful **ESTERO COUNTRY CLUB**  
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11:30 Registration  
 11:45 Introductions and Meet Fellow Landowners  
 12:15 Luncheon (RSVP)  
 1:00 Program  
 2:30 Questions, then Social Hour

**Reservations Required!**  
 To RSVP by Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup> or Questions Please Call Toll Free!

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**FEATURED TOPICS**  
 LAND VALUES TODAY  
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 TAX DEFERRAL STRATEGIES THROUGH SOIL FERTILITY  
 -Alec Bean, Soil Tax Guys



**PREBLE COUNTY FARM & EQUIPMENT AUCTION**

**SATURDAY MARCH 21, 2026 @ 10:00AM**

**PCFG - 722 S FRANKLIN ST EATON OH 45320**

**Consignment deadline**

**Friday March 13**

**We have change the format to better serve the global market. Our continued dedication to marketing your investment has not changed. The auction deadline will be strickley enforced!**

**Please call early for consignments.**

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# LUCAS OIL SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

**10 TRUCKS – 10 TRAILERS – PASSENGER VEHICLES – CLOSING TRUCK MAINTENANCE FACILITY**

**ONLINE-BIDDING ENDS FEBRUARY 17**

**ADDRESS: 3185 Harrison Way NW, Corydon, IN 47112**

**LOCATION: Just 24 miles west of Louisville KY on Exit #105 on I-64.**

**SHOP EQUIPMENT & TOOLS - MASSIVE AMOUNT OF NEW/USED PARTS**

**INSPECTION: Thursday February 12, 12-3 PM**



**NOTE:** Lucas Oil has closed their truck & trailer maintenance facility at the Corydon Facility. Visit [beckortauctions.com](http://beckortauctions.com) for complete catalogs & photos of 750+ lots! Highlights: 10+ trucks, 10+ trailers, 6 passenger vehicles, storage containers, \$500K+ in NEW & used truck/trailer components/parts, & shop equipment/tools!

**SEMI/WRECKER/SERVICE/BOX TRUCKS (10+):** '01 Peterbilt FLD132 (Detroit S-60, 13-speed); '01 Freightliner FLD132 (Detroit S-60, 13-speed); '05 Freightliner CST120 (Detroit S-60, 10-speed); '96 Peterbilt 379 wrecker (CAT 3406E, 18-speed); Pro-Tote 8 Elite wrecker boom; '95 Ford Aeromax L-9000 (Cummins N14, 10-speed); '99 Ottawa Cammondo 30 Yard Spotter (Cummins); '97 Int 4700 service w/Knapheide service bed (welder, air comp, lift gate); '05 GMC C7500 24' box (CAT C7, auto); '87 Int S2300 24' box (Cummins L10, 9-speed)

**TANKER/VAN TRAILERS:** '02 Great Dane 53' dry van; '00 Great Dane 53' dry van; (3) '99 Great Dane 53' dry vans; '97 Freuhauf 53' dry van; '73 Freuhauf 8700-gal tanker; '75 Heil 8700-gal tanker; '81 Polar Tank 9500-gal tanker; (3) 40' storage containers

**PASSENGER VEHICLES (6):** '08 Toyota Tunda 4x4 PU, miles: 265K, loaded; '04 Ford F150 XLT PU, miles: 284K; '11 Toyota Highlander SUV, miles: 173K; '10 Toyota Highlander SUV, miles: 156K; '10 Toyota Highlander SUV, miles: 286K; '05 Ford E-350 cargo van, miles: 241K

**NEW TRUCK/TRAILER PARTS:** Western Star; Peterbilt; Kenworth; International; Kenworth; Volvo; large amount of Cummins/Detroit engine parts; (5) truck radiators; (6) charge air coolers; (12) sets semi-trailer skirts; (5) engine turbos; (10) water pumps; (25) A/C compressors; lighting; brake parts; (100) air springs; air horns; alternators; clutch fan kits; Cobra 29 CB radios; mufflers; mud flap assemblies; (20) Cummins/Detroit resurfaced flywheels; filters; (4) Cummins ISX DPF filter systems; fuel injectors; Thermo King APU parts; (85) shoe brake sets; (30) brake drums; trailer jack assemblies; chrome bumpers; fender sets;

**USED TRUCK/TRAILER PARTS:** (2) CAT C-15 engines; (5) Cummins N/14/ISX engines; (1) Detroit 60 engine; engine parts (blocks, cores, etc); (20) transmissions; chassis/body parts; bumpers; seats; (10) Thermo King APU; crates of good used truck parts; axles; (25) differentials; (10) fifth wheel plates

**TIRES/WHEELS:** (90) NEW 22.5/24.5 tires; (200) good used/recap22.5/24.5 tires; (100) 22.5/24.5 alum wheels; (100) 22.5/24.5 metal wheels

**SHOP/SPECIALITY TOOLS:** Generac self-contained pump system (15 hrs); Homak RS Pro15-drawer tool chest; Armstrong 19-drawer tool chest; Robinair 34788 AC service machine; Protrak QTC laser alignment system; (2) Gray WL-30 wheel lifts; (2) Gray LTL-300 trailer lifts; (3) Gray speciality lifts; (10) 1" pneumatic impacts; antifreeze/oil waste units; large amount of hand tools/wrenches/sockets (NAPA, Matco, Snap-On, Armstrong); quality torque wrenches;

**SHOP EQUIPMENT:** Miller Dial Ark welder; Lincoln 350MP welder; Lincoln SP-135 welder; (10) NEW Graco oil pumps; Ridgid compound/table saws; Everett 3-ph cut off saw; Wilton 3410/8201 metal bandsaws; (3) mobile ladder systems; shop fans; jack stands; tire equipment/tools; floor jacks; tool sets; pneumatic/power tools; gear pullers; (23) 210-gal poly storage tanks;

**STEEL TABLES/SHELVING:** Mobil 8" weld table w/Wilton 8" vise; steel tables; mobile workstations; metal cabinets/shelving; pallet racking



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# Illinois conference to focus on protecting natural resources

COLLINSVILLE, Ill. – Natural resource professionals play a key role in protecting our communities' environmental assets. With ongoing research and changing conditions, it's increasingly important to adopt responsible stewardship, manage new diseases and pests, and apply sustainable practices that safeguard the future.

Industry professionals and land stewards interested in this intersection of agriculture and sustainability can register for the 2026 Gateway Green Conference hosted by Illinois Extension. The March 4 event at the Gateway Convention Center in Collinsville will provide a platform for attendees to access current research findings and explore best practices to responsibly care for Illinois' natural resources and cultivated outdoor spaces.

Sessions run from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. across three main tracks: Building Sustainable Landscapes, Conservation Stewardship, and Tree Care. Conference attendees will gain insights from industry experts and researchers.

Through the building sustainable landscapes track, presenters will share information on interconnected landscapes, stormwater and rain gardens, understanding soil test results, shade gardens and invasive plant management.

Through the conservation stewardship track, participants will learn about the mushrooms of Illinois, man-

aging wildlife species, prairie ecosystems and the ornate box turtle, and alternative tools for conservation. An added bonus for the conservation track is a presentation from Heather Holm, a renowned pollinator conservationist, biologist, and award-winning author known for her influential books like Pollinators of Native Plants, Bees, and Wasps. Through her work, Hold has been educating gardeners and the public on supporting native bees and insects by using native plants and creating habitats.

The tree care track covers topics such as pruning shade trees, managing trees in decline, diagnosing oaks, shade tree species selections, breeding and selecting woody plants, and Tree City USA and community forestry grants.

Register online at [go.illinois.edu/2026GGC](http://go.illinois.edu/2026GGC). Registration on or before Feb. 27 is \$80 per person; registration after Feb. 28 is \$85 per person. Certified Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists with a current ID card or letter of active status from their supervising Extension county director may register for \$50 per person.

Continuing education units will be available for professional association members maintaining certification through the International Society of Arboriculture, Illinois Park & Recreation Association, and Certified Golf Course Superintendent.

## Poor Will

FROM PAGE 10B

- Six weeks to the beginning of the morning robin chorus before sunrise
- Seven weeks to daffodil time
- Eight weeks to the major wildflower bloom
- Nine weeks until the yellow blossoms of forsythia bushes appear

### Journal

2006: After a very mild January, I took inventory at the beginning of Late Winter. Snowdrops, some daffodils and hyacinths were up about an inch around the yard. Snow crocus were two inches above the mulch, ready to bud. Purple deadnettle, bittercress and chickweed were slowly spreading across the garden.

I found one new wild strawberry leaf, one new waterleaf sprout. There was fresh growth on the Japanese honeysuckle, leaves dark violet, venturing out from the axils of their woody vines. A few red nubs of peonies had appeared.

The foliage of the oak-leaf hydrangea had fallen in the past two weeks. The Osage fruits had turned deep red

brown. The berries of the euonymus were falling from their decaying, once protective sepals. No pussy willow catkins were open yet; I cut a branch and brought it indoors, set it in a vase of warm water.

I walked beyond the covered bridge late in the afternoon with Bella, our border-collie-spaniel. The temperature was almost 60 degrees, the river high. Garlic mustard was lush on the hill-sides. In protected hollows, cushions of chickweed were deep March green.

Black walnut hulls were dark and collapsing, fell away at the touch of my heel. Only a few box elder seeds were hanging from their branches, thinning now like the honeysuckle berries. Young poison hemlock was feathery and spreading. New ragwort and sweet rocket leaves were pushing up. Cautious skunk cabbage spears were just barely visible.

Even though I was a little disappointed at the slow progress of the plants during such a warm, month-long thaw, Bella had no reservations about the state of the landscape. A far better observer than I, she took a different inventory, and she ran and ran for joy once we reached the bright meadows below the Vale.



**TIMED ONLINE | NO RESERVE**

## GREENVIEW FARMS RETIREMENT

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 | Grand Mound, Iowa



**HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:** '24 John Deere 9R440 4X4 Tractor, 99 hrs.; '24 John Deere 8R370 MFWD Tractor, 479 hrs.; '24 John Deere 8R370 MFWD Tractor, 307 hrs.; '24 John Deere 8R370 MFWD Tractor, 428 hrs.; '24 John Deere 8R370 MFWD Tractor, 515 hrs.; '24 John Deere 8R310 MFWD Tractor, 306 hrs.; '24 John Deere 6R145 MFWD Loader Tractor, 282.6 hrs.; '24 John Deere 6R145 MFWD Tractor, 233.3 hrs.; '25 John Deere S7800 Pro Drive Combine, 431.3 eng./320.4 sep hrs.; '25 John Deere S7800 Pro Drive Combine, 413.8 eng./317.5 sep hrs.; '25 John Deere S7800 Pro Drive Combine, 418 eng./321.8 sep hours; '24 John Deere HD40F Hinged Frame Draper Head; '24 John Deere HD40F Hinged Frame Draper Head; '24 John Deere HD40F Hinged Frame Draper Head; '24 John Deere C12F Folding 12 Row 30" Corn Head w/Trailer; '24 John Deere C12F Folding 12 Row 30" Corn Head w/Trailer; '24 John Deere C12F Folding 12 Row 30" Corn Head w/Trailer; '25 John Deere 1775NT Exact Emerge 24 Row 30" Planter; '25 John Deere DB60 24 Row 30" or 47 Row 15" Planter; '25 John Deere DB60 24 Row 30" or 47 Row 15" Planter; '22 Unverferth SeedRunner 3755 XL Seed Tender; '21 Unverferth SeedRunner 3755 Seed Tender; '21 Unverferth SeedRunner 3755 Seed Tender; '20 Kuhn/Krause Exceleator 8005 40' Vertical Tillage; '20 Kuhn/Krause Exceleator 8005 30' Vertical Tillage; '13 Kuhn/Krause 6200 Landsman 27' Soil Finisher; '10 John Deere 714 11 Shank Mulch Tiller; '20 Chevrolet/Navistar 5500 HD Diesel 4 X 4 Dump Truck, 20,842 mi.; '01 Ford F450 4 X 4 Dually Diesel Service Truck, 122,416 mi.; '18 B & B Tilt Bed 22' Flat Bed Trailer; '23 John Deere XUV835R Gator 4 X 4, 267.8 hrs.; '06 Polaris 500 cc Ranger 4 X 4, 1,087.5 hrs.; Plus Much More!

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INSPECTION EVENT | THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026

# Mississippi farmers looking for ways to end wild pig infestation

HAZELHURST, MISS. — John Parker Campbell describes the wild pigs on his family farm as “a constant headache.”

Hogs will eat corn and peanuts that have just been planted, damaging acres of crops in a night. Some years the hog damage is worse than others, but it has been a problem since his father started farming in Copiah County in the 1990s.

In Mississippi, wild hogs create around \$60 million to \$80 million in damage every year, including eating crops and damaging property. Farmers, researchers, the state and the federal government are trying to fight the infestation, but it’s a never-ending battle for landowners.

“Farmers have enough stress as it is. They don’t need this modern-day locust,” said Mississippi Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson.

Campbell and his father use traps and have an electric fence around their property to keep the hogs out. The fence has been effective, although the feral pigs have broken through parts of it before. However, it was expensive to initially put up and costs thousands of dollars each year to maintain.

“You have to know that they’re out there,” Campbell said. “We keep an eye on our fields but you can get busy and then go a couple days without looking and they can just do a tremendous amount of damage.”

The wild hog population has grown over the past 40 years, not just in Mississippi, but across the United States. In the 1980s they lived in 17 states, now they can be found in 35. Previously, it was thought they cost the U.S. \$2 billion a year but new research indicates that number is over \$3 billion.

Wild pigs are not native to the United States. The first population was escaped livestock brought to the Americas by European settlers. Later, Eurasian boars were imported for hunting and joined the wild hog population. With no natural predators and plenty of land, water and food, their numbers have grown.

While some owners successfully deterred pigs by using electric fences, the only way to manage the larger population is by killing the hogs.

Mississippi was the first state to launch a statewide wild hog-control program in 2020. The program provides education and traps to landowners.

The program operates with a budget of \$183,000 a year which mainly goes to staff salaries and maintenance of smart traps and cameras. The program has four application cycles with each cycle receiving 35 to 40 applications.

There are a number of ways to reduce the pig population, including using

ing traps, aerial gunning and poison. While wild hogs are considered nuisance animals and can be hunted year round, hunting is relatively ineffective at controlling the larger population.

Aerial gunning in Mississippi is only used by the USDA. It also has limited use as the pigs can easily run into the trees for cover, whereas in places like Texas, there is more open and flat land. While there is ongoing research into the use of poisons, including contraceptives, it’s challenging to make sure that other animals don’t eat them.

Trapping is one of the most common methods and is preferred as it requires less time and effort than other methods. A new study from Mississippi State University looked at the economic benefits of trapping.

The average landowner in the study had an estimated \$20,000 in hog damages per year. It showed that reducing a local pig population can lead to less damage and \$300-\$4,000 in savings per pig the next year for landowners. But combating the wild hog problem is an expensive and constant battle.

The study involved intense, dedicated hog removal through Delta Wildlife, a conservation nonprofit.

Jody Acosta, Delta Wildlife’s nuisance-and invasive-species program manager, and his team set up and monitor traps around the Delta. While the team is experienced and knowledgeable, Acosta is clear that the job is not about the glory of hunting but about pest management.

Some of the trap doors will only close when a Delta Wildlife team member remotely pushes a button. So, they work around, the clock, often late at night, checking the live video feed of the traps. Once they successfully trap a group of pigs, a Delta Wildlife worker quickly makes their way to the trap so they can dispose of the pigs and reset the trap.

The study estimates that it would cost a landowner about \$200 per pig if they outsourced every part of trapping. Strickland, one of the study’s authors, acknowledges that “it’s absolutely a big number” but says that the average landowner would likely pay less. Despite the initial sticker shock, Strickland said the study shows that pig removal results in a “positive return on investment” and that government programs are economically viable.

Long term, Strickland thinks it’s possible to reduce the wild pig population through a concerted effort and investment. He urges farmers and landowners to take wild pigs seriously even if there’s only a few on their property.

“The problem will only get worse and worse,” he said.

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TUESDAY  
FEBRUARY 17TH  
4 PM – 6 PM CT  
OR 5 PM – 7 PM ET

81.78 +/- ACRES

79.16 +/- Tillable | 2.62 +/- Non-Tillable

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TRACT 2: 61 +/- Acres  
TRACT 3: 33 +/- Acres  
165.48 +/- ACRES

MON. FEBRUARY 9TH | 4 PM – 6 PM ET

PROPERTY LOCATION: Approx. 10425 E SR 38, Kirklin, IN 46050 in Sugar Creek Township

Sam Clark: 317.442.0251 | Jim Clark: 317.627.6928

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Mielke

FROM PAGE 11B

Anhydrous milkfat again led the gains, up 3.0 percent, after leading Jan. 6 by 7.4 percent. Butter was up 2.1 percent, after a 3.8 percent rise. Skim milk powder was up 2.2 percent, after jumping 5.4 percent, and whole milk powder was up 1.0 percent following a 7.2 percent rise. GDT Mozzarella led the declines, dropping 2.3 percent, after inching 0.7 percent higher last time. Cheddar was down 1.4 percent, after inching up 0.6 percent. Lactose was down 1.8 percent.

StoneX says the GDT 80 percent butterfat butter price equates to \$2.3515 U.S. per pound, up from \$2.3040 on Jan. 6. GDT Cheddar equated to \$2.0838, down from \$2.1158 last time. GDT skim milk powder averaged \$1.1862 per pound, up from \$1.1629, and whole milk powder averaged \$1.5644, up from \$1.5453 per pound.

Analyst Dustin Winston reports that North Asia (which includes Chi-

na) market share of purchases was down from the previous event but stronger than last year. Southeast Asia and Oceania purchases were up from the last event, which led to an increase in market share from the first event of the year but less than last year.

China got serious on buying cheese and butter in December. The latest data showed cheese imports totaled 49.0 million pounds, up 24.4 percent from December 2024, an all-time high, according to HighGround Dairy. The largest year-on-year gains came from Australia and New Zealand.

Butter imports hit 36.6 million pounds, up 28.9 percent, a multi-year high not seen since Jan. 2020, says HighGround, which credited falling Kiwi prices toward the end of fourth quarter 2025. New Zealand accounted for 94 percent market share, says HGD, and the Jan. 20 GDT results "Showed North Asia maintaining a strong share of butter sold, suggesting demand from the region has carried into the new year."

Skim milk powder imports were down 34.8 percent and whole milk powder was off 4.4 percent. HighGround says, "Strong internal cream production has increased the availability of skim solids domestically, reducing the need for skim milk powder imports, while whole milk powder demand remains supported by displaced internal production."

Back on the home front, cash block Cheddar saw some strength in the Martin Luther King Day holiday shortened week. It climbed to \$1.36 per pound Wednesday, highest since Jan. 7, but gave back a penny Thursday, slipping to \$1.35, up 6 cents on the week thus far, but still 48.25 cents below a year ago. It closed Friday at \$1.29. Traders were anticipating Friday afternoon's December Milk Production and Cold Storage reports.

The barrels were holding at \$1.3575 per pound Thursday, which was where they closed Friday, and are 46.25 cents below a year ago.

HighGround's Monday Morning Huddle stated "Outside of 2020, the last time Cheddar blocks were below \$1.30 per pound was in 2016, and before that it was 2010 and 2009, highlighting how rare this price level is."

Dairy Market News reports that milk output is strong in the Central region and Class I demand was strengthening. Spot sales of Class III milk were steady compared to the previous week but remain light overall, as cheesemakers have plenty of milk within their networks. Class III prices at mid-week ranged from \$4-under to \$1-over Class. Spot volumes remained available but some contacts who reported downtime in recent weeks said their plants were now operating full schedules and they were selling fewer spot loads.

63± ACRE  
FARMLAND  
AUCTION

HANCOCK COUNTY  
ALLEN TOWNSHIP



AUCTION DATE & TIME:  
FEBRUARY 12, 2026  
6:00 PM

AUCTION LOCATION:  
OLD MILL STREAM  
CENTRE HANCOCK  
COUNTY  
FAIRGROUNDS,  
1017 E SANDUSKY ST.  
FINDLAY OHIO 45840

CONTACT:  
DEVIN DYE  
THE LAND GUY  
419-303-5891  
WWW.DYEREALESTATE.COM



90± ACRE  
FARMLAND AUCTION

ALLEN COUNTY | AUGLAIZE TOWNSHIP

AUCTION DATE & TIME:  
FEBRUARY 19, 2026  
6:00 PM

AUCTION LOCATION:  
HOWARD JOHNSON INN  
1920 ROSCHMAN AVE.,  
LIMA, OH 45804



CONTACT:  
DEVIN DYE  
THE LAND GUY  
419-303-5891



60th ANNUAL  
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ANNUAL  
CONSIGNMENT  
SALE

ON-SITE LIVE AUCTION  
SAT., FEB. 28, 2026  
AT 9:00 AM  
RUSHVILLE, INDIANA

NOW TAKING CONSIGNMENTS  
FOR SALE LISTING ABSOLUTELY  
NO HOUSEHOLD GOODS

WILL HAVE WAGONS  
WITH MISC. ITEMS

WILL BEGIN ACCEPTING ITEMS  
ON FEBRUARY 11, 2026  
9:00 AM TILL 4:00 PM  
MONDAY THRU SATURDAY  
NO SUNDAYS

ABSOLUTELY NO TIRES ACCEPTED!

NOTE: Items accepted at the discretion  
of the sale committee - last day to bring  
items is Feb. 24, 2026 by 4:00 PM.

TO CONSIGN,  
CALL ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:  
LARRY T. JOHNSON - 765-561-0212  
DAVE HASECUSTER - 765-561-0432  
CARL GREEN - 317-797-5119  
MIKE NIEDENTHAL - 765-561-1392  
AUCTIONEERS  
RODGER DIERCKMAN - AU10900004  
LOREN MATLOCK - AU12400024  
JACOB SCHWAB - AU11600050  
ROBERT VESTAL - AU19300220  
MENO HERSHBEGGER - AU1060077



Seed Genetics Direct 2025 Corn Yield Contest Winners

FIRST--James Jacobs--Bloomington, Ohio

AGI-C-4111PWE    323.36 BU/ AC.    NCGA NO-TILL 3rd OHIO  
AGI-C-6112PWE    304.07 BU/AC.    NCGA NO-TILL 5th OHIO

SECOND--Don Jackson--Camden, Ohio

AGI-C-6112PWE    297.06 BU/AC.    NCGA STRIP-TILL, MIN. TILL 8th OHIO

THIRD--Hartsock Farms/Tim & Tom--Circleville, Ohio

AGI-C-3114PWE    257.79 BU/AC.    NCGA STRIP-TILL, MIN. TILL. IRRIGATED 5th OHIO

Seed Genetics Direct 2025 Soybean Yield Contest Winners

FIRST--Wenning Farms Inc.--Greensburg, Indiana

ET-4738E3            102.54 BU/AC.            1st

SECOND--Kannon Jones--Greensfork, Indiana

ET-4736E3            99.66 BU/AC            2nd

THIRD--Bruce Stephens/85:10 Farms--Columbus Grove, Ohio

ET-3731E3            90.89 BU/AC.            3rd



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and get your 2026 Seed Guide.*

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