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## Farmers shouldn't see immediate impact of ban on foreign drones

By Michele F. Mihaljevich  
Indiana Correspondent

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. – Farmers who use drones to scout their fields or spray their crops shouldn't be impacted immediately by a ban announced in December by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), according to Adam Shanks, of Purdue University Extension.

The FCC's order bans new foreign-made drones from being sold in the U.S. The order also bans critical components produced abroad for uncrewed aircraft systems (UAS).

Shanks, digital agriculture and natural resources curriculum lead at Purdue, said the immediate impact of the ban will be minimal. All drones that are currently being sold or used may continue to be used, he said.

"What has changed? The FCC will not grant licenses for foreign-made drones going forward," Shanks told Farm World. "That approval is required for the use of the radio frequency between the remote controller and the drone in the air. The current approved 'Blue List' drones are exempt and will continue to receive approval for new models.

"Domestically produced drones that contain at least 65 percent domestically produced parts are also exempt until 2027. The challenge for greater than 65 percent domestically produced parts is due to the lack of domestically produced microchips, technology components and processors in needed quantities."

Drones on the U.S. Department of Defense's Blue List have been vetted to be compliant with agency policy, according to the Department of Homeland Security.

Precision tools, including drones, are essential for today's farmers to

manage costs, monitor crops and operate efficiently, the American Soybean Association said in December.

"Soybean farmers depend on modern technology to stay competitive, efficient and sustainable," Scott Metzger, the organization's president, said in a release. "While we recognize the importance of addressing national security concerns, it's critical that policymakers fully consider the real-world impacts these decisions can have on farmers who rely on these tools every day.

"Taking proven technology out of farmers' toolboxes without workable alternatives only adds cost and uncertainty at a time when farmers can least afford it."

In its Dec. 22 order, the FCC said, the ban was enacted "based on a national security determination made by an executive branch interagency body with appropriate national security expertise, including appropriate national security agencies."

According to the FCC notice, producing drones and their components in the United States will reduce the risk of direct UAS attacks and disruptions, unauthorized surveillance, sensitive data exfiltration and other UAS threats to the homeland.

Shanks said the continued use of foreign-made drones is going to be business as usual for the near term. Once that technology ages and is no longer supported for firmware updates or service parts availability, that's when farmers and others will have to look at other options, he noted. For scouting, Shanks said people will continue to be able to purchase the Blue List-approved drones.

He said there's a real push for companies and universities to be building and testing domestic unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). This is emphasized, Shanks said, by Indiana Gov. Mike Braun's development of a drone task force to lead the way in developing and testing this technology in the state.

"The best case scenario is that by the time the current technology is no longer operational, there will be equaled domestic technology available," he explained. "I recently visited a farm show and was overwhelmed by the number of spray drone prototypes and models that are being developed and tested to meet and exceed that 65 percent domestic threshold to be that industry



**Above:** Much of the Farm World readership area found itself blanketed in deep snow and dealing with sub-zero temperatures. But, a farmer's work goes on no matter the weather. It was 3 degrees when Michelle Mundo of Rockville, Ind., made the trip to her barn to feed and water horses. She said her dog was at least having a good time. Have a photo from working on the farm in this recent cold and snow? Send it to Farm World for possible use in the paper. Photos should be emailed to [connie@farmworldonline.com](mailto:connie@farmworldonline.com)

## Kevin Johnson is embracing a new role with IL Soybean

By TIM ALEXANDER  
Illinois Correspondent

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. — A familiar face in Illinois agriculture is now helping to steer legislative policy for the Illinois Soybean Association (ISA). Kevin "KJ" Johnson began his new role as director of government relations and strategy for ISA in January. Johnson came to the ISA from the Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association (IFCA), where he over-

saw regulatory and legislative issues since 2014 and served as executive director since 2021.

"I got a call in mid-November from John Lumpe, CEO of Illinois Soy, telling me about an opportunity here at ISA to run their government affairs team," said Johnson, who lives in St. Joseph, Ill., with his wife Anna and three children, and grows soybeans and corn with his family in Champaign and Vermillion counties. "It was just the right opportunity at the right time. Anyone who truly knows me knows that I love the government affairs end of stuff. My first love is agriculture and my second love is policy."


Johnson had worked on Capitol Hill for Congressman Tim Johnson (no relation) as his agriculture liaison before coming to IFCA in 2011 to assume a similar role for IFCA. In his new role with ISA, Johnson will manage governmental affairs, stakeholder relationships and community engagements in support of their strategic objectives.

He will also manage the organization's outreach efforts while developing policy positions and legislative initiatives. Overall, Johnson's focus will consist of five areas: Government Relations, Organization Strategy, Congressional Relations, Policy Development and Legislative Outreach.

**Above:** Kevin "KJ" Johnson, former executive director of the Ill. Fertilizer and Chemical Association, left the IFCA to become director of government relations and strategy for the Ill. Soybean Association on January 1. He will focus on regulatory, trade and policy for ISA.

( See Drones on page 4)


( See Kevin Johnson on page 2)

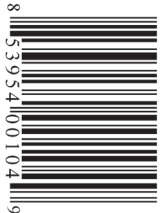


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# Kevin Johnson

FROM PAGE 1

“We all know the economy at the farm gate is not great right now. Anything we can do to help make our producers more economically viable, we are going to do. If that means legislatively or regulatorily, we’re going to try to do it. We need regulatory certainty the way the farm gate is today,” Johnson told Farm World.

Though soybean growers have indicated overwhelmingly they would prefer restored or expanded markets for their products over ad hoc payouts, Johnson said he would advocate for another round of congressionally approved financial relief for farmers. In addition, he will work to expand the use of domestic biofuels

to help fill the void left by lost export sales due to trade disruptions.

“With some of the stuff that’s going on with trade, we are going to have to use more soybeans back here at home,” he said. “We used to say that half (of Illinois’) beans went down the river to the export market, but that’s going to change in the future and we’re going to have to use more of our soybeans back here.”

Johnson is also focused on fending off potential state-led regulatory action around pesticides. “I just want to make sure that no bad legislation gets passed,” he said.

Though he is encouraged by news that China appears to be on target to fulfill their reported promise to purchase 12 million metric tons of U.S. soybeans before the end of February, Johnson is wary of China’s purchasing intentions heading into the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

“I have been told by our national marketing people that (the Chinese) are on pace to buy that 12 million tons but here in the coming months when we begin planting, Brazil and Argentina will begin harvesting. So we will have to see how it plays out; this tariff talk since April 1 has changed so many times that to look into the crystal ball is really tough,” Johnson said.

Johnson earned a B.A. in Agribusiness and Political Science from Illinois State University. He has previously served on the Board of Directors for the FieldWatch, the Illinois Seed Trade Association and the Business and Industry Federation of Economic Concern.

As a side hobby Johnson enjoys tractor pulls; he and his two brothers restored an old International Harvester 1466 tractor, and the team of siblings compete in over a dozen Illinois Tractor Pulling Association

events per year. Their old IH has run on 100 percent biodiesel for the past five years.

“We used to do around 40 hooks per year, but we’re all getting older and with kids of our own now, so we’ve slowed down a bit,” said Johnson. “Our tractor is called ‘Built for Business.’ Hopefully when we’re done with it the kids will start running it.”

During a brief speech at the Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association’s (IFCA) 2026 convention and trade show in January, Illinois Agriculture Director Jerry Costello II took time to acknowledge Johnson’s service to agriculture and the fertilizer industry. In particular, Costello praised Johnson for his oversight of regula-

tory and legislative issues and the development of programs that promote stewardship and safety for the nutrient and agrichemical industry. He also welcomed new IFCA executive director Jason Solberg.

“I’m really happy that (Johnson)’s still going to be around in the industry with the soybean association; we’re fortunate to be able to keep him around in that capacity,” said Costello.

“I’d also like to tell you that I’ve met with and talked to Jason a number of times, and I think you are in very good, capable hands. He’s been nothing but forthright and transparent, and I look forward to working with Jason.”



**Above:** Kevin “KJ” Johnson is pictured at the wheel of his family’s IH 1466 pulling tractor. Johnson, the new director of legislative affairs for the Ill. Soybean Association, restored the tractor with his brothers and competes in around 15 ITPA events per year. Photo provided.

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# Market focus turns to South American as harvest starts

The Brazilian firm CONAB, that country's version of the USDA, has released its updated 2025/26 crop estimates. CONAB held its corn crop estimate steady this month at 138.87 million metric tons. Corn exports were also unchanged at 46.5 mmt, but ending stocks still dipped 1.5 mmt to 12 mmt as domestic demand is rising. The group's soybean crop estimate is now 176.12 mmt, down 1 mmt from the December estimate. CONAB made a slight reduction to exports at 111.8 mmt and also trimmed ending stocks to 11.3 mmt.

Brazil's wheat crop was trimmed to 7.87 mmt from last months 7.96 mmt. This led to a slight increase in imports to 6.77 mmt, but also an increase to carryout to 2.24 mmt. The USDA is currently predicting Brazilian crops of 178 mmt on soybeans, 131 mmt on corn, and 8 mmt on wheat. Harvest is starting to gain momentum in Brazil and will soon start to answer these production questions. The Brazilian state of Mato Grosso is reporting a soybean harvest pace of 7 percent, well ahead of last year's

1.5 percent on this date. Dry weather has favored Brazil's harvest, but rains will start to slow this down. This rapid harvest has some analysts questioning crop size, especially with a few firms cutting their crop estimates. The real question is when these soybeans will start hitting the global market, as growing domestic soybean demand is competing with the export market. Mato Gasso is the most watched Brazilian soybean producing state with a projected crop of 51 mmt, more than all of Argentina. Even with harvest taking place we are seeing interest in South American weather as hot, dry conditions continue to affect Argentine crops. These conditions have led to multiple weeks of lower ratings on the country's soybean crop. Sources in Southern Cordoba are also claiming corn loss is taking place. Rain is in the forecast for Argentina and Brazil as well, but for some areas these may be too late to provide crop relief. These conditions are also slowing the last of Argentina's plantings, further bringing production into question. Sources are now stating that China has reached its 12 mmt soybean



MARKET ANALYSIS  
By Karl Setzer

purchase agreement with the United States. The question now is if China will continue to buy, or they see their coverage at a level that will reach the Brazilian import arrivals. The Brazil soybean harvest is just getting underway, and it will be a few weeks before exports commence. Soybean crushers in China report having limited coverage for spring needs and have been booking soybeans at auction instead to guarantee arrival. China has stated it will likely suspend auctions until the Lunar New Year celebration ends in late February. The answer to China's future soybean purchases will likely be seen before then.

A factor that is having more of an impact on global commodity trade with China is that country's declining population. China is reporting a 2025 population of 1.4 billion people, down 2.4 million from the prior year. This is the 4th consecutive year of a shrink in the country's population and is starting to be noticed in commodity consumption. China is also seeing a record low birth rate which will further trim future commodity needs. A shift in Chinese diets is also affecting commodity needs, especially with elevated beef demand.

While China has been cutting back on its pork production to support prices, the country has seen growth in beef production. China's beef production in 2025 totaled 8.01 mmt, an increase of 2.8 percent from 2024. The biggest increase came from Inner Mongolia with 1.01 mmt, a 14.2 percent increase from the prior year. China's 2025 cattle herd totaled 8.7 million head, a year-to-year increase of 12.7 percent. A shift in China's diet to higher beef content is absorbing this added production.

The January cattle on feed report leaned a little more bearish than trade expected. The January 1st U.S.

(Setzer continued on page 8)

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# Drones

FROM PAGE 1

leader for that market.

“It was quite impressive to see how motivated some very intelligent and entrepreneurial people jumped in to try to be the first one to the market with a domestically produced machine.”

Some farmers are interested in UAV technology and enjoy collecting and using the data, Shanks said. Most, however, are having their acres flown as a service provided by agronomist and crop scouts, he said. Camera drones are not a large investment – prices can start around \$1,500 for a good drone and go up to several thousand dollars, depending on the type of data a farmer wants to collect, he said.

Most producers that fly, and collect the data themselves, own their drones, Shanks pointed out.

Farmers should take into account such things as cost, service and repairs when considering the purchase of a drone versus renting, he said.

Shanks said he couldn’t make brand recommendations, but said there are still many makes and models available for purchase that provide several acres of service without any ban issues.

“Choosing what make, model and platform to purchase depends greatly on the applicator’s needs,” he said. “I would recommend seeing a demonstration of all of them to see what operation platform is on the controller, what type of connection is used for drone/controller communication, and what after-the-sale service is available before deciding what to purchase.”

As a representative of Purdue, Shanks said it’s his role to supply unbiased and research-based information.

“That being said, there has not been any proof shared publicly that the technology we are using is providing any information to foreign entities. Many satellites orbit the planet collecting data every day. There is nothing that we could collect with a camera on a drone that someone couldn’t see by accessing satellite imagery data.”

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**Knightstown Elevator, Inc.** 800-498-6949  
4 W. Grant St. - Knightstown, IN

**Lehman Feed Mill** 260-589-2451  
5111 S. 000 Rd. - Berne, IN

**Maria Stein Grain Company** 937-459-6766  
1478 N. 700 E. - Union City, IN

**Matthys Farm Market** 574-287-1935  
57754 Crumstown Hwy. - South Bend, IN

**Michiana Farm Supply** 260-463-8113  
105 E. 200 N. - LaGrange, IN

**Midwest Farm and Pet** 574-646-2509  
535 5B Rd. - Bremen, IN

**Milan Center Feed & Grain** 260-657-5461  
15402 Doty Rd. - New Haven, IN

**Millersburg Feeds** 574-642-9925  
66094 SR 13 - Millersburg, IN

**Morgan County Feed** 765-342-6902  
349 E. Walnut St. - Martinsville, IN

**Moss Fertilizer Service Inc.** 574-664-4031  
7083 N. Moss St. - Twelve Mile, IN

**The Red Barn Enterprises** 812-486-1000  
3150 N. 900 E. - Montgomery, IN

**Ron Martin Seed Supply** 574-875-5273  
61329 CR 9 S. - Elkhart, IN

**S & W Feed Center** 765-653-5005  
700 Broadway St. - Greencastle, IN

**Shipshe Farm Supply** 260-768-7271  
2425 N. 925 W. - Shipshewana, IN

**Stroh Farm Supply** 260-351-3601  
4105 S. 1180 E. - Stroh, IN

**Taylor Feed Mill** 260-463-3768  
2580 S. 300 W. - LaGrange, IN

**Wana Feed Service, Inc.** 260-768-4567  
405 E. North Village Dr. - Shipshewana, IN  
2nd location: **Cattle Creek Co.** 574-354-8431  
10499 W. Anglin Rd. - Etna Green, IN

**White River Ag** 812-381-7485  
3417 CR 500 W - Lyons, IN

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**ASE Feed & Supply Store** 614-873-4621  
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**Bambauer Fertilizer & Seed** 419-753-2274  
10631 Kettlersville Rd. - New Knoxville, OH

**Byler Seeds & Hardware** 440-548-5580  
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**Maria Stein Grain Company** 419-925-6211  
8115 Industrial Dr. - Maria Stein, OH

**Mt. Eaton Elevator** 330-359-5028  
15911 Berry St. - Mt. Eaton, OH  
2nd location: **Holmes Ag Service** 330-279-2501  
301 S. Market St. - Holmesville, OH  
3rd location: **Mt. Eaton Ag Center** 330-674-0416  
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**Republic Mercantile & Elevator** 419-585-6811  
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**Superior Farm Supply Inc.** 419-485-8351  
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# MARKETS

## Kentucky Daily Grain Bids

Grain Report for Thursday, January 29, 2026 - Final

FUTURE SETTLEMENTS							
Closing Settlement Prices (¢/bu) as of 1/29/26							
Exchange	Commodity	430.75 (Mar 26)	439.00 (May 26)	445.75 (Jul 26)	445.00 (Sep 26)	459.00 (Dec 26)	471.00 (Mar 27)
CBOT	Corn	1072.25 (Mar 26)	1085.75 (May 26)	1099.75 (Jul 26)	1097.50 (Aug 26)	1082.50 (Sep 26)	1089.75 (Nov 26)
CBOT	Soybeans	541.50 (Mar 26)	550.25 (May 26)	560.75 (Jul 26)	573.50 (Sep 26)	592.00 (Dec 26)	607.75 (Mar 27)
CBOT	Wheat	303.00 (Mar 26)	307.75 (May 26)	311.25 (Jul 26)	315.50 (Sep 26)	328.25 (Dec 26)	331.75 (Mar 27)
CBOT	White Oats	547.00 (Mar 26)	557.75 (May 26)	570.50 (Jul 26)	585.25 (Sep 26)	605.25 (Dec 26)	621.00 (Mar 27)
KCBT	Wheat	581.50 (Mar 26)	594.50 (May 26)	606.00 (Jul 26)	621.00 (Sep 26)	639.50 (Dec 26)	650.75 (Mar 27)
MGE	Wheat						

### US #2 WHITE CORN (BULK)

Country Elevators - Conventional					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Pennyrile	50.00H to 175.00H	UNCH-DN 10.00	4.8075-6.0575	UP 0.0075-DN 0.0925	5.4325
Pennyrile	50.00Z	UNCH	5.0900	UP 0.0125	5.0900

Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Lower KY	175.00H	UNCH	6.0575	UP 0.0075	6.0575
Ohio River - Lower KY	50.00Z	UNCH	5.0900	UP 0.0125	5.0900
Purchase	165.00H	UNCH	5.9575	UP 0.0075	5.9575
Purchase	65.00Z	UNCH	5.2400	UP 0.0125	5.2400

### US #2 YELLOW CORN (BULK)

Country Elevators - Conventional					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Purchase	22.00H	UP 2.00	4.5275	UP 0.0275	4.5275
Purchase	-10.00U	UNCH	4.3500	UP 0.0150	4.3500
Green River	20.00H	UNCH	4.5075	UP 0.0075	4.5075
Green River	-10.00Z	UNCH	4.4900	UP 0.0125	4.4900
Pennyrile	-15.00H to 33.00H	UNCH-UP 5.00	4.1575-4.6375	UP 0.0075-UP 0.0575	4.2958
Pennyrile	-30.00Z to -15.00Z	UNCH	4.2900-4.4400	UP 0.0125	4.3600
Louisville	-8.00H	UNCH	4.2275	UP 0.0075	4.2275
Louisville	-8.00H	UNCH	4.2275	UP 0.0075	4.2275
Bluegrass	-10.00H	UNCH	4.2075	UP 0.0075	4.2075
Bluegrass	-45.00Z	UNCH	4.1400	UP 0.0125	4.1400

Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Upper KY	9.00H to 12.00H	UNCH-UP 2.00	4.3975-4.4275	UP 0.0075-UP 0.0275	4.4125
Ohio River - Upper KY	-32.00Z to -30.00Z	UNCH	4.2700-4.2900	UP 0.0125	4.2800
Ohio River - Lower KY	18.00H to 32.00H	UP 3.00-UP 2.00	4.4875-4.6275	UP 0.0375-UP 0.0275	4.5508
Ohio River - Lower KY	-35.00Z to -20.00Z	UNCH	4.2400-4.3900	UP 0.0125	4.3300
Purchase	20.00H to 32.00H	UP 2.00-UP 4.00	4.5075-4.6275	UP 0.0275-UP 0.0475	4.5650
Purchase	-35.00Z to -15.00U	UNCH	4.2400-4.3000	UP 0.0125-UP 0.0150	4.2733

### US #1 SOYBEANS (BULK)

Country Elevators - Conventional					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Purchase	20.00H	UP 5.00	10.9225	UP 0.0225	10.9225
Green River	-15.00H	UNCH	10.5725	DN 0.0275	10.5725
Green River	-40.00X	UNCH	10.4975	DN 0.0025	10.4975
Pennyrile	-25.00H to 35.00H	UNCH-DN 2.00	10.4725-11.0725	DN 0.0275-DN 0.0475	10.6082
Pennyrile	-60.00X to -14.00X	UNCH	10.2975-10.7575	DN 0.0025	10.4075
Louisville	-59.00H	UNCH	10.1325	DN 0.0275	10.1325
Louisville	-59.00H	UNCH	10.1325	DN 0.0275	10.1325
Bluegrass	-40.00H	UNCH	10.3225	DN 0.0275	10.3225
Bluegrass	-75.00X	UNCH	10.1475	DN 0.0025	10.1475

Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Upper KY	5.00H to 15.00H	UNCH	10.7725-10.8725	DN 0.0275	10.8225
Ohio River - Upper KY	-28.00X	UP 2.00-UNCH	10.6175	UP 0.0175-DN 0.0025	10.6175
Ohio River - Lower KY	21.00H to 40.00H	UNCH	10.9325-11.1225	DN 0.0275	11.0292
Ohio River - Lower KY	-19.00X to -10.00X	UP 6.00-UNCH	10.7075-10.7975	UP 0.0575-DN 0.0025	10.7495
Purchase	21.00H to 32.00H	DN 1.00-UP 2.00	10.9325-11.0425	DN 0.0375-DN 0.0075	10.9925
Purchase	-15.00X to -9.00X	UP 10.00-UP 9.00	10.7475-10.8075	UP 0.0975-UP 0.0875	10.7842

### 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	5.6150	UP 0.0550	5.6150
Pennyrile	10.00N	UNCH	5.7075	UP 0.0575	5.7075

### 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	5.4575	UP 0.0575	5.4575
Green River	-75.00N	UNCH	4.8575	UP 0.0575	4.8575
Pennyrile	-65.00H to -40.00H	UNCH	4.7650-5.0150	UP 0.0550	4.8450
Pennyrile	-55.00N to -12.00N	UNCH	5.0575-5.4875	UP 0.0575	5.2125
Louisville	-33.00H	UNCH	5.0850	UP 0.0550	5.0850
Louisville	-79.00N to -34.00N	UNCH	4.8175-5.2675	UP 0.0575	5.0425

Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional					
Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Upper KY	-25.00N	UNCH	5.3575	UP 0.0575	5.3575
Ohio River - Lower KY	-20.00N to -5.00N	UNCH	5.4075-5.5575	UP 0.0575	5.4895
Purchase	-17.00H to -10.00N	DN 3.00-UNCH	5.2450-5.5075	UP 0.0250-UP 0.0575	5.3763
Purchase	-20.00N to -10.00N	UNCH	5.4075-5.5075	UP 0.0575	5.4742

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 Combined Regional Shell Egg Report

Report for: 01/18/2026 - 01/24/2026

### National Shell Eggs - Caged

Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen					
Class	Price Range	Average Price	Price Change	Last Reported	
				(1/16/2026)	
Extra Large	83.00 - 124.00	107.25	29.50	77.75	
Large	82.00 - 107.00	94.94	27.00	67.94	
Medium	61.00 - 82.00	72.00	26.00	46.00	

### Midwest Shell Eggs - Caged

Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen					
Class	Price Range	Average Price	Price Change	Last Reported	
				(1/16/2026)	
Extra Large	83.00 - 92.00	87.50	27.00	60.50	
Large	82.00 - 91.00	86.50	27.00	59.50	
Medium	61.00 - 70.00	65.50	26.00	39.50	

Delivered Store Door, White, Cents Per Dozen					
Class	Price Range	Average Price	Price Change	Last Reported	
				(1/16/2026)	
Extra Large	90.00 - 98.00	94.00	27.00	67.00	
Large	88.00 - 96.00	92.00	27.00	65.00	
Medium	67.00 - 75.00	71.00	26.00	45.00	

Paid to Producers - FOB, White, Cents Per Dozen					
Class	Price Range	Average Price	Price Change	Last Reported	
				(1/16/2026)	
Large	64.00 - 74.00	69.00	27.00	42.00	
Medium	43.00 - 47.00	45.00	26.00	19.00	
Small	18.00 - 24.00	21.00	5.00	16.00	

### Northeast Shell Eggs - Caged

Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen					
Class	Price Range	Average Price	Price Change	Last Reported	
				(1/16/2026)	
Extra Large	91.00 - 118.00	104.50	29.00	75.50	
Large	85.00 - 99.00	92.00	27.00	65.00	
Medium	63.00 - 76.00	69.50	26.00	43.50	

### South Central Shell Eggs - Caged

Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen					
Class	Price Range	Average Price	Price Change	Last Reported	
				(1/16/2026)	
Extra Large	115.50 - 124.00	119.75	31.00	88.75	
Large	98.50 - 107.00	102.75	27.00	75.75	
Medium	73.50 - 82.00	77.75	26.00	51.75	

### Southeast Shell Eggs - Caged

Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen					
Class	Price Range	Average Price	Price Change	Last Reported	
				(1/16/2026)	
Extra Large	113.50 - 121.00	117.25	31.00	86.25	
Large	95.00 - 102.00	98.50	27.00	71.50	
Medium	71.50 - 79.00	75.25	26.00	49.25	

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

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

Source: USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News

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These areas experienced multiple reports of late deliveries during the week of 12/26/25: Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio.

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Missouri Direct  
Hay Report

Direct Hay Weighted  
Average Report  
for week ending 1/23/2026

All attention this week has turned to the weather and possibility of major winter storm over the week-end. Producers are doing what they can to prepare even if forecast end up being wrong about snow, extreme cold is almost certain. Hay supplies remain heavy and out weight demand at the current time. Hay prices are mostly steady. Much of the hay surplus is average to lower quality hay with much of it requiring some additional supplement in order to provide as adequate feed ration. Legit high quality hay as typical for mid-winter has held value much better and is a bit harder but not impossible to find. The Missouri Department of Agriculture has a hay directory at <https://apps.mda.mo.gov/haydirectory> or visit the University of Missouri Extension feed stuff finder at <https://feedstufffinder.org>

HAY (Conventional)

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

STRAW (Conventional)

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

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

Weekly National Sheep Summary  
For Week Ending Friday, January 23, 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: 90-100 lbs 270.00-320.00; 130-140 lbs 205.00-220.00; 140-150 lbs 210.00-225.00.

New Holland: 110-120 lbs 300.00-315.00; 120-130 lbs 260.00-280.00.

Billings: No test.  
Ft. Collins: 80-90 lbs 300.00-305.00; 100-110 lbs 267.00-295.00; 110-120 lbs 285.00-310.00; 130-140 lbs 227.50-247.50.

Kalona: 40-50 lbs 345.00-375.00; 50-60 lbs 340.00-415.00; 60-70 lbs 350.00-420.00; 70-80 lbs 335.00-370.00;

80-90 lbs 265.00-350.00; 90-100 lbs 240.00-325.00.

Equity Coop: 140-150 lbs 213.00-217.50.  
Sioux Falls: 60-70 lbs 370.00; 70-80 lbs 305.00-355.00; 80-90 lbs 315.00-350.00; 90-100 lbs 290.00-327.50;

120-130 lbs 227.50-229.00; 130-140 lbs 222.00-229.00; 140-150 lbs 221.00-229.00; 150-160 lbs 217.00-223.00.

Buffalo, MO: No test.  
Missouri: No test.  
Arkansas: No test.

Equity Coop: No test.  
Slaughter Ewes: Good 2-3:  
San Angelo: 126.00-152.00.

New Holland: 140.00-160.00.  
Billings: 100.00-112.00.  
Ft. Collins: 105.000-165.00.

Kalona: 120.00-155.00.  
Equity Coop: No test.

Sioux Falls: 120.00-145.00.

Buffalo, MO: No test.

Missouri: 140.00.

Feeder Lambs: Medium and Large 1:

San Angelo: No test.

Billings: 60-70 l 320.00-337.50; 70-80 lbs 305.00-337.00; 80-90 lbs 285.00-307.00; 90-100 lbs 262.00-275.00

100-110 lbs 257.50-267.50.

40-50 lbs 405.00; 50-60 lbs 390.00-430.00; 60-70 lbs 380.00-430.00; 80-90 lbs 355.00.

No test.

Buffalo, MO: 30-40 lbs 372.50; 50-60 lbs 387.50..

Missouri: No test.

Ft. Collins: No test.

Kalona: No test.

Equity Coop: No test.

Arkansas: No test.

Replacement Ewes: Medium and Large 1-2:

San Angelo: No test.

Billings: No test.

Ft. Collins: No test.

South Dakota: No test.

Kalona: No test.

Missouri: No test.

Arkansas: No test.

Sioux Falls: No test.

Buffalo, MO: No test.

Sheep and lamb slaughter under federal inspection for the week to date totaled 35,000 compared to 40,000 last week and 33,344 last year.

Source: USDA Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News

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Market Report

January 28th 2025 38th Auction

This Report is the Actual High and Average Prices.

	Hd.	Ct.	High	Avg.
Fat Hogs:	6		\$ .80	\$ .53
Sows:		N/A		
Boars:		N/A		
Feeder Pigs:		N/A		
Beef & X Veal #1:	33		\$1520.	\$1342.
Beef & X Veal #2:	2		\$700.	\$650.
Dairy Veal #1:	46		\$1240.	\$1087.
Dairy Veal #2:	1		\$725	\$725
Jersey Cross:		N/A		
Beef Fdrs 200#-550#	6		\$1.80	\$1.00
Beef Fdrs 551#-1000#		N/A		
Dairy Fdrs 200#-550#	9		\$1.90	\$ .57
Dairy Fdrs 551#-1000#		N/A		
Cull Cows #1:	2		\$1.325	\$1.31
Cull Cows #2:	4		\$1.23	\$1.13
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:		N/A		
Sheep Ewe:	2		\$2.00	\$1.85
Lamb 0-60:		N/A		
Lamb 61-85:	1		\$3.95	\$3.95
Lamb 86-100:		N/A		
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Goat Billys :		N/A		
Goat Wethers:		N/A		
Total Hd Cnt:	112			

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\*please note that our market report is an overall average price-they are not always the highest and lowest price.

<b>Small Animals</b> 1/27/2026 Chickens \$1-\$1.50 Bantys \$4-\$5.50 Ducks \$4.75-\$5 Pigeons \$1-\$1.50 Eggs \$2.50-\$6.50 Rooster Turkey Peacock Rabbits \$5-\$8.50 184	<b>Sheep</b> Ewes \$1.05-\$1.40 40-60# Lambs \$3.70-\$3.95 61-80# Lambs \$3.40-\$3.85 81-100# Lambs \$2.65-\$3 170 Goats Billys \$55-\$340 Nannies \$90-\$215 Kids 122	<b>Cows</b> Cull Cows \$1.15-\$1.65 Bulls 7 Fat Cattle Holstein Colored Pigs Fat Hogs \$ .75-\$ .85 Sows \$0.35 Boars 9 Feeder Pigs 20-45# \$50 46-65# \$60 7
<b>Veal Calves</b> Holstein (80# and UP) \$925-\$1370 Beef Cross (80# and UP) \$1150-\$1530 254	<b>Feeder Cattle Dairy and Beef</b> 200-500# \$3.25-\$3.55 501-800# \$1.45-\$2.25 10	



# Setzer

FROM PAGE 3

cattle herd was down 2 percent from last year at 11.5 million head. December placements were larger than expected at 1.5 million head, 95 percent of last December's volume. December marketings were 2 percent higher than a year ago at 1.77 million head. Until cattle placements outpace the prior year's it will be difficult to pressure the complex without a drop in beef demand.

One build in U.S. livestock is in the dairy herd. The U.S. had a reported 9.14 million head of dairy cows at the end of December, 222,000 more than a year ago. This was 9,000 more head at the end of November and was the leading cause of a 4.6 percent increase in milk production for the month. Until this trend turns, milk values will continue to see price pressure.

The December 31st cold storage report showed U.S. meat stocks are building. The U.S. beef inventory on December 31st was 437.46 million pounds, 3 percent less than in November but 3 percent less than December 2024. This was the tight-

est December U.S. beef supply since 2009. Frozen pork supplies were 390.55 million pounds, 5 percent more than last month and 2 percent less than last year. This was the lowest December pork supply since 1997. The pork belly supply increased 74 percent from November at 36.9 million pounds, which was up 4 percent on the year. Total U.S. red meat stocks at the end of December were up 4 percent from November but down 3 percent from last year.

RISK DISCLAIMER: The risk of loss in trading commodity futures and options is substantial. Before trading, you should carefully consider your financial position to determine if futures trading is appropriate. When trading futures and/or options, it is possible to lose more than the full value of your account. All funds committed should be risk capital. Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results. The information contained in this report is collected from a variety of sources and is believed to be reliable but is not guaranteed to be accurate. This report is provided for informational purposes only and is not furnished for the purpose of, nor is it intended to be relied upon for specific trading in commodities herein named.

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(Left) Mike with father Joe, brother Chuck  
(Above) Amalia, the oldest of Mike and Rebecca's  
4 children helping on the dairy farm

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"Getting Udder Comfort on right away as soon as we see a problem, we find a huge percentage of those cows never get to the hospital or treatment pen. I like the Udder Comfort blue because the color identifies the cow, which means she gets extra attention and follow up. We tried other brands, but this one just works better than anything else out there," Mike explains.

"It's worth the cost because it works the best. Fewer animals in the treated pen is the biggest thing, and our 65,000 SCC shows this. Udder Comfort and attention to detail absolutely contribute to our milk quality," he adds.

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# John Deere breaks ground on facility in northwest Indiana

By Michele F. Mihaljevich  
Indiana Correspondent

HEBRON, Ind. – A new John Deere parts distribution center near Hebron in northwest Indiana will create about 150 jobs, the company said.

Deere said it recently broke ground on the facility, described by the company as a state-of-the-art distribution center. The facility will distribute parts, a John Deere spokesperson said.

An exact opening date for the distribution center hasn't been announced, but "it is safe to say (it will be) in the next year," the spokesperson told Farm World.

John Deere will invest \$125 million to construct and equip a 1.2 million-square-foot warehouse and distribution center on 234 acres in Lake County, according to a Jan. 27 press release from the office of Indiana Gov. Mike Braun. The site is just off I-65.

The company purchased the property for \$7 million in 2024, according to media reports.

"This new facility is an investment in customer expectations around world-class product support through parts availability for our U.S.-based ag, turf, construction, forestry, mining and turf customers," Denver Caldwell, vice president, aftermarket and customer support at John Deere, said in the release. "Indiana's strong workforce and central location make it an ideal choice for expansion."

Deere said it will continue to maintain its primary North American Parts Distribution Center in Milan, Ill., which has been in operation since 1973 and has about 1,200 workers.

The Indiana project will offer wages above the county average, the release noted.

"Our state's location as the Crossroads of America makes it the ideal destination for companies of all sizes

to serve customers across the U.S. and around the world," Braun said in the release. "John Deere's expansion to Indiana is a testament to our business-first environment, our robust manufacturing sector and our strong pipeline of skilled talent."

The Indiana Economic Development Corporation has committed an investment in John Deere of up to \$2.5 million in the form of incentive-based tax credits, based on the company's job creation plans, the release noted. The incentives are performance-based, meaning Deere is eligible to claim state benefits once investments are made and workers are hired, according to the release.

Deere, based in Moline, Ill., also announced it would construct a \$70 million excavator factory in Kernersville, N.C. The company has said it plans to invest \$20 billion in U.S. manufacturing over the next 10 years.

On Jan. 28, Deere said it was bringing back 99 workers at its eastern Iowa construction and forestry facilities starting in mid-February.

Seventy-five employees will be returning to Davenport Works, the company said. Those workers will support production and utility-class assembly; articulated dump truck assembly; and fabrication, machining, weld, paint and material handling.

At Dubuque Works, 24 returning employees will support production-class dozer assembly and fabrication, assembly and material handling, Deere said.

 <p>International 2250 loader 74/84 series brackets, joystick valve, exc. cond.! \$3,900</p>	 <p>Kubota L4060 HSTC-LE hydro trans, 4WD cab w/heat &amp; AC, loader w/Universal SSQA, 300 hrs, very good. \$42,500</p>	 <p>Kubota MX 5100 HST, 508 hrs., loader w/SSQA, 72" bucket BH92 backhoe w/mech. thumb, 18" bucket, very good cond., \$36,900</p>	 <p>Kubota LX2610 SUHSD-hydro trans., 4WD, turf tires \$22,500</p>
 <p>Ford 1920 SSS transmission, 4WD, loader, 1350 hrs, good cond., \$12,500</p>	 <p>Kubota M7040 SUH 2WD, 1100 hrs, 8F-8R hydraulic shuttle, very good cond., \$22,500</p>	 <p>Kubota B2150DT, 2000 hrs., gear drive, loader, 72" mid-mount mower deck, \$12,500</p>	 <p>Case IH CX60 MFD 3 rear remotes, 540/1000 PTO, good cond., \$19,900</p>
 <p>2021 Kubota M6-141DTC-F cab w/heat &amp; air, 3 rear rem. valves, 24x24 semi-powershift trans, hyd shuttle, MFD, 417 hrs, Excl, \$86,900</p>	 <p>Kubota LX2610 HSDC, cab w/heat &amp; AC, hydro trans., 4WD, loader w/Universal skid steer quick attach, 60" bucket, rear remote valve, 135 hrs., exc. cond., \$31,000</p>	 <p>2022 Kubota M7060 HDC12, cab w/heat &amp; AC 2 rear remote valves, 12F-12R hyd. shuttle, cast rear wheel centers, 930 hrs., very nice, \$55,900</p>	 <p>2022 Kubota L3301 HST hydro trans, 4WD, R4 tires, LA525 loader w/Universal skid steer quick attach, 160 hrs, exc. cond., \$24,900</p>
 <p>Kubota B2301 HSD w/Loader &amp; 60" mower deck, 100 hrs., very good, \$19,500</p>	 <p>Ford 3930, 760 hrs., 2WD, 1 rear remote valve, very nice \$16,500</p>	 <p>2021 LS MT357H cab w/heat &amp; AC, 4WD, loader w/universal skid steer quick attach., 3 rear remote, 5800 hrs., nice tractor \$31,000</p>	 <p>Kubota RTV-X900, 2200 hrs., hyd. bed lift, 4WD, power steering, diesel engine, hydro trans., very good, \$11,500</p>

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'96 JD 8100, 6,100 hrs, MFWD, power-shift, nice! . . . . . \$84,900



'94 CIH 7240, 4,159 hrs, 540/1000 PTO, 3 rem, PS, 3 pt, 20.8R42's & 16.9R30's, Nice! . . . . . \$84,900



'23 Kubota L4060HSTC, Limited Edition, cab, A/C, 4wd, loader, only 41 hrs.! . . . . \$44,900



'16 CIH Farmall 110A, 1,336 hrs., 2 rem, 540/1000 pto, 18.4-38's, 14.9-28's, fwd/rev shuttle, only used for mowing, NEW CIH L104 loader, euro coupler, 80" bucket . . . \$62,900



'03 JD 9450, 3,076/2,275 eng / sep hrs, local one owner machine, hours are correct, good care, always stored inside & kept spotless, regular maintenance by local John Deere dealer, None nicer!! . . . . . \$49,500



'02 JD 9650 STS, local trade, many updates, new drive tires, 1,923 hrs., new fuel injection pump, GPS ready, Countour Master, nice!!! . . . . \$44,900



'90 JD 9500, local machine, excellent maintenance, always shedded, very nice orig. paint, bin extension, chopper, chaff spreader, no dents or dings! . . . \$19,900



'06 Int'l 9400, 635k mi., Cummins ISX, 408 hp, 10 spd, 2.64 ratio, alum whls, very nice pre-emissions truck! . \$34,900



'19 Intl. LT625, 574k miles, 400 hp, Cummins X15, 2.80 ration, Eaton auto, alum. whls., 158" WB, very nice! . \$24,900



'66 John Deere 4020, 4,435 hrs. on overhaul, synchro, front stack weights, T-rail duals, 15.5-38's, very clean, runs great! . . . . . \$19,900



'87 CIH 3394, 5,129 hrs, PS, 3 rem, MFWD, 3 pt., 1000 PTO, 12 ft. wts., 18.4-42 duals, new paint & graphics!! \$46,900



'24 Kubota M7152P, 215 hrs, auto steer ready, 380/90R46 Firestones, cab susp, factory warranty remaining . . . \$96,900



'13 CIH Magnum 315, 2,480 hrs, PS, QH, 480/80R50's, mfw, front / rear weights, AFS 700 Pro monitor & receiver, one owner, Nice! . . \$149,900



'01 CIH MX240, 4,843 hrs, PS, 3 rem, mfw, 480/80R46 duals, 1000 PTO, very nice, excellent original paint, new pump & injectors, over \$18k in recent repairs . . . \$87,900



'11 CIH Magnum 315, 3,932 hrs, PS, QH, 5 rem, Hi capacity pump, front axle suspension, 480/80R50's, 380/80R38s, 1,000 PTO, buddy seat, auto track ready . . . \$109,900



'13 CIH Magnum 235, 534 actual hrs!!, one local owner, Pro 700 Guidance Ready . . . . . \$159,900



'80 White 2-85, 3,056 hrs, 6spd w/ over under, 2wd, 540 pto, 2 hyd remotes, 3pt, one owner . . . . . \$23,900



'76 IH 1466, 8,640 hrs, factory black stripe, 2 rem, 540/1000 pto, deluxe cab, a/c, axle duals, hydraulic seat, local original survivor, nice original paint . . . \$24,900



'83 IH 3088, 2wd, 90 hp, cab w/ AC, new tires!, 3,600 hrs . . . . . \$27,900



'83 IH 5288, 2wd, very nice, axle duals, 18.4-42's, nice Indiana tractor . \$31,900



'12 CIH 5130, 1,793 / 1,169 eng / sep hrs, 4WD, chopper, rock trap, Pro 700 monitor, local one owner, like new!! . . . \$129,900



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'20 Case 580SN, 4x4, ext. hoe, 4-N-1 bucket, air ride seat, ride control, New tires! \$79,900



'23 Case 580SV, 459 hrs., 4wd, extenda-hoe, 89" bucket, aux. hyd., very nice! . . . . . \$97,500



'17 Ford F350XL, 213k miles, 6.7L diesel, auto, 2wd, 10K GVW, nice. . . . \$17,900

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'21 Cornhusker 800, 42'x96" hopper trailer, electric tarp, air ride, (8) alum. wheels, Like New Condition! . \$47,900



'21 EBY Generation, 40'X96"x66", air ride, electric tarp, alum wheels, extra clean! . . . . . \$52,900



'23 Timpte, 40'x96"x66", electric tarp, power traps, air ride, alum. outside whls., NEW trailer, never used . \$61,900



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'25 Neville 36' alum hopper, 72" sides, electric tarp, alum wheels . . . . . Call for Price!



'25 Neville 34' alum hopper, 72" sides, electric tarp, alum wheels . . . . . Call for Price



Kuhn Krause 5635-28, 28' width, 3 bar harrow, single rolling basket, very nice. . . . . \$44,900



'04 JD 1790NT CCS, 12/24 row, 15"/30" spacing, monitor, recently retired farmer, fill auger, markers, very nice! . \$49,500



'25 JD 2038R, 7 hrs, 38 hp, hydro, loader, pallet forks, weight box, new condition! . . . . . \$32,900



'03 Freightliner Fld. 112, 418k miles, Cummins ISM, 350 hp, 4.11 ratio, 10 spd., (8) new rears, local farmer owned . \$34,900



'12 Case SV250, 545 hrs, 67" bucket, 2 spd, Hy-flow aux hydraulics, AC, very nice! . . . . . \$32,900



'02 IH Eagle 9200i, 451k mi., 450 HP, Cummins ISM, 3 stage eng brake, 8LL trans, 20' alum bed, elec. tarp, coal chute, 2 steerable air tags, runs & drives good . . . . . \$44,900



'13 Intl. 4400, 165k miles, 270 hp, DT-466, 5.29 ratio, Allison RDS auto, NEW 20' KANN grain bed, tarp, Nice!!! . . . \$104,900



'13 Chevy Silverado 2500 HD LTZ, 4x4, leather seats, am/fm cd, tilt, cruise, power windows and locks, 6.0 liter gas, automatic, 189k, very clean, runs great!! . . . . . \$16,500



# 1988 Deutz-Allis tractor scoops up \$13,600 at Schmid auction

By William Flood  
Ohio Correspondent

FARINA, Ill. – On Jan. 7, Schmid Auction conducted the Rick Payne Farm retirement auction as a fully online sale, offering the advantages of no reserve and no buyer's premium. While modest in size at 55 lots, the auction presented a well-rounded selection of practical farm equipment, including a Deutz Allis tractor, a Case combine, planting equipment and other machinery, along with parts and useful support items. Previews were Dec. 27.

The auction's top sum of \$13,600 went for the one available tractor, an operating-condition 1988 Deutz-Allis model 7085 with 2,645 hours. The 2WD turbo unit was outfitted with an open station ROPS, 540 PTO, small 1000 PTO, Bush Hog 2846 QT loader, loader bucket, 3-point hitch, 2 remotes, and Firestone 18.3-34 tires, with beet juice in the rear tires.

Later came a 1987 Case International 1640 combine, with 4,330 hours, which brought a solid \$4,300. It featured axial flow, Mud Hog 4WD, chaff spreader, buddy seat, and Goodyear 28L-26 front tires along with 14.9-24 rears.

An assortment of farm implements drew solid bidding, with several pieces pushing into the four-figure range. Leading the category at \$6,025 was a one-year-old Kinze Econo Fold 12-row, 30-inch planter, equipped with manual fold along with both corn and bean meters. Close behind at \$5,950 was an E-Z Trail 510 grain cart featuring a small 1000 PTO, roll tarp, and 18.4-26 tires. Also seeing strong interest was a lightly used Land Pride DT35 ditcher, operated fewer than five times and set up for Category 1 or Category 2 with a 540 PTO, which sold for \$3,375.

Additional implements hitting four figures included a simultaneously offered (but separately-sold) 20-foot Case International 1020 auger platform that



Above: A well-outfitted 1987 Case International 1640 combine came in solidly at \$4,300.

went for \$1,000 and a Case IH 25-foot head cart that picked up \$2,050.00. Then came a Case International 1063 6-row, 30-inch corn head, which realized \$1,225. That same sum won an LMC 8-foot 3-point box blade, with ripper teeth, while a bid of \$1,175 scored a John Deere 8300 pull-type drill with 7 1/2-inch spacing.

Bids on implements eventually fell into the hundreds of dollars, with some good machinery picked up in that range. Among the scores was a Case 490 21-foot, 7 1/2-inch spacing disc that sold for a modest \$740. Two separate 225-bushel E-Z Trail gravity wagons on 872 running gear sold for \$660 and \$610, re-



Above: Only one year old, a Kinze Econo Fold 12-row planter, picked up the auction's second-highest bid at \$6,025.

spectively. Hitting lower, at \$310 was an Allis-Chalmer 12-foot field cultivator, with its cylinder and an Allis-Chalmer 4-bottom plow that was picked up for just \$240.

Parts and accessories for the machinery included a set of 19 new planter disc

openers that hammered at \$350. Then came a pair of 10-bolt 23.1-27 B.F. Goodyear tires, originally mounted on a Gleaner combine, that bid to \$330. And, one bidder got a fine deal on an eight-

(1988 continued on page 17)

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• MF 1840 Square Baler. . . . . IN STOCK

• MF RB4160VC round baler

• Westfield Auger MRX-1031, 10in x 31ft auger, PTO drive. . . . . \$8,975

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• 2016 Bobcat T740 track loader, 1700 hrs . . . . . \$41,500



• Woods GSS54, 2024, grading scraper, 4 scarifier teeth, 554 lbs. . \$1,750



• Brillion Used Seeder, LSP6, 2022, excellent shape . . . . . \$6,800

• Unverferth 1225, 22' rolling harrow . . . . . \$12,500

• 2018 Kubota SUL75-Z 1950 hrs, cab, heat, air, bucket. .... \$38,500









# Dedication cited by Michigan soybean yield winners

By Stan Maddux  
Indiana Correspondent

ST. JOHNS, Mich. – A Michigan farmer had first place finishes both times he competed with other soybean growers in the state for highest yields. Scott Mingus, of Sturgis, was the top finisher for 2025 in the early maturity category of the contest held by the Michigan Soybean Association.

His irrigated soybeans, taken from a section of a 225-acre field, produced 94.67 bushels per acre. Last year, his first-ever entry in the contest was tops in the late maturity soybeans category with similar production.

Mingus said he never entered the contest until curiosity emerged while attending a Pioneer seed yield banquet with other growers.

"I just kind of got the itch to see if I could hang with those guys," he said.

Mingus said the success he's had feels good, obviously, but it's not something he expects to continue well into the future given the amount of competition.

"It's not going to last forever. There's a lot of good guys out there," he said.

Mingus, owner of JBM Farms, raised about 1,400 acres of soybeans last year along with commercial corn and seed corn.

He said there is no "secret sauce" behind his high soybean yields but he does monitor his crops closely throughout the growing season for any signs of stress the plants might be under from things like fungus, insects or weather.

That allows him to give the plants what he believes they need most to begin a recovery before there's much, if any, loss in yields. Mingus said he keeps an eye on the condition of his crops by walking into the fields and using camera equipped drones.

"We just got lucky. That's all. We're not doing anything special," he said.

Nick Suwyn from Allegan County was the winner for his 85 acres of irrigated, mid-maturity soybeans at 100.26 bushels per acre.

Suwyn was also recently named the winner for the second year in a row for his 182 bushels per acre of winter wheat in the Great Lakes Enhancement Network contest.

He also racked up a first-place finish with his 140 acres of irrigated corn, which achieved 347 bushels per acre in 2025 in a contest sponsored by the National Corn Growers Association.

Suwyn said he closely monitors his crops for early detection and treatment of any disease or weather-related issues in his crops to maximize yields as much as possible.

He's also open to trying other things to keep pushing the production limits of his plants.

"You try to mitigate risk as best as you can and try to give the plant what it needs all season long. That's been our philosophy year end to year out," he said.

Suwyn also said a high yielding crop requires the help of everyone involved from agronomist's to seed experts and workers doing things like

planting and spraying.

Despite the effort, Suwyn said only so much can be done without divine intervention.

"Ultimately, it's all about what the Lord gives us for weather. Some years are better than others," he said.

He raises about 1,700 acres of corn and over 600 acres of soybeans along with 500 acres of wheat.

"I'm by no means the smartest guy in the room. It's the people around me that help us as a farm," he said.

The other winners were Matt Sharp, of St. Joseph County, with 91.54 bushels per acre of late maturity, irrigated soybeans; Ryan Zelinko, of St. Charles, for 101.55 bushels per acre of mid-maturity non-irrigated soybeans, and Terry Peters, of Tuscola County, with 80.15 bushels per acre of late maturity, non-irrigated soybeans.

According to MSA, there were 145 entries from across the state. The winners will be recognized at MSA's 52nd annual meeting of members on Jan. 27.



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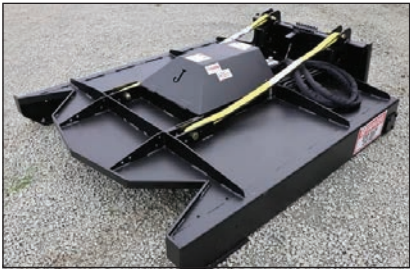
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# Scholarship winners named by the National Cattlemen’s Foundation

CENTENNIAL, Colo. – Shelley Curry, of Kennard, Texas, and Sydney Bowman-Schnug, of Fort Lupton, Colo., have each been awarded a \$15,000 W.D. Farr Scholarship by the National Cattlemen’s Foundation (NCF). The annual W.D. Farr Scholarship program recognizes outstanding graduate students for their academic achievements, leadership and commitment to the advancement of the beef industry. The scholarship recipients will be recognized during CattleCon 2026, Feb. 3-5, in Nashville, Tenn.

Curry is a fourth-generation rancher and doctoral student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, studying how heat stress affects livestock performance, welfare and product quality. She earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in animal science from Texas A&M University. Her commitment to the beef industry is rooted in a lifetime of experience, academic training and professional development. Curry’s professional goal is to become an independent researcher and educator dedicated to advancing the beef industry through innovative, science-based solutions.

“This scholarship will provide critical support to further my education and research and will allow me to share my findings at national scientific conferences, producer meetings and industry workshops,” Curry said. “Disseminating research in these forums not only advances scientific knowledge but also ensures that producers, students and consumers benefit from timely, research-based information.”

Bowman-Schnug is a doctoral student at Colorado State University,

studying ruminant nutrition and effective management strategies to maximize performance while maintaining animal health. She completed her master’s program at Texas Tech University and is a third-generation Colorado cattle producer. Bowman-Schnug plans to pursue a career as a consulting feedlot nutritionist with a goal to incorporate classic feeding strategies with cutting-edge additive technologies in a way that complements cattle type.

“This scholarship is a blessing and will help me encourage the next generation of agricultural leaders in both youth and undergraduate teaching programs,” Bowman-Schnug said. “It will make a monumental difference in my pursuit to further the future of the cattle industry.”

The scholarship, established by NCF in 2007, honors the successful career of the late W.D. Farr, a third-generation Coloradan, pioneer rancher, statesman and banker was known for his extraordinary vision. His dedication to improving agriculture, livestock and water development resulted in significant changes in farming methods that have influenced the practices of ranchers and farmers throughout the nation. Farr was the first president of the NCF and served as president of the American National Cattlemen’s Association, which later became the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association (NCBA). Farr died at age 97 in August 2007.

For more information about NCF and the W.D. Farr Scholarship, visit [www.nationalcattlemensfoundation.org](http://www.nationalcattlemensfoundation.org).

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### 1988

FROM PAGE 12

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There were standouts even when bids dipped below \$100. A collection of 4-bolt and 6-bolt implement tires, along with rear combine tires, in sizes 7.5-16 and 7.50-14, went for a tidy \$91. Then, a group of 11 new planter closing wheels was snagged for \$85, while a \$58 offer scored a pair of mounted electric seeders.

Even at the very bottom of the bidding, with prices under \$10, there were still a few noteworthy purchases. A heavily used 3-foot pull-type cultivator sold for just \$6. Two large swivel trolley hooks went for \$5 and \$6, respectively. Meanwhile, a bidder picked up a Goodyear 14.9-26 8-bolt combine tire with a 14.9-26 special Super Grip wheel for only \$2, bringing a value-filled close to the careful dispersal of long-held equipment.

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# Ag economist: Final USDA hog report of 2025 full of surprises

By DOUG SCHMITZ  
Iowa Correspondent

DES MOINES. Iowa – According to one agricultural economist, the Dec. 1, 2025, USDA Quarterly Hogs & Pigs Report was full of surprises, compared to fourth-quarter pre-report estimates.

Sponsored by the National Pork Board and the Pork Checkoff in Des Moines, the report said the U.S. breeding inventory came in at 5.95 million head, down 1 percent from a year ago.

“This is the smallest U.S. Dec. 1 breeding herd since 2014,” said Lee Schulz, Ever.Ag’s Livestock Risk Management Team chief economist, during a Dec. 23, 2025, webinar. “Farrowing intentions are also above year-ago levels at 2.89 million sows for the December 2025 through February 2026 quarter. The outlook is favorable, so the incentive is there to farrow more sows, but there is a limit, given the size of the breeding herd.”

Although the breeding inventory lined up with pre-report expectations, he said some analysts thought the breeding herd could have seen some modest expansion – and been larger than a year ago.

“Pre-report estimates are important because they generally reflect the aggregate opinion, or forecast, of what data will be in the report,” he said. “More importantly, these general expectations are often ‘bid into’ market prices before the report’s release.”

He said there were quite a few surprises in the report if you compare it to the pre-report estimates. For example, the 180-pounds and over market hog category was the largest change in inventory from a year ago, with a 3 percent increase, compared to last December.

The report said the United States inventory of all hogs and pigs on Dec. 1, 2025, was 75.5 million head, up 1 percent from Dec. 1, 2024, and up slightly from Sept. 1, 2025.

U.S. breeding inventory, at 5.95 million head, was down 1 percent from last year, but up slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 69.6 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, and up slightly from last quarter, the report added.

The report said United States hog producers intend to have 2.89 million sows farrow during the December 2025-February 2026 quarter, up 2 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period one year earlier, but down 1 percent from the same period two years earlier.

The report added intended farrowings for March-May 2026, at 2.91 million sows, are up 2 percent from the same period one year earlier, but down slightly from the same period two years earlier. The total number of hogs under contract owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 52 percent of the total United States hog inventory, up 2 percent from the previous year.

The September-November 2025 pig crop, at 35 million head, was up slightly from 2024. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.93 million head, up slightly from 2024. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 49 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 11.93 for the September-November period, compared to 11.92 last year.

Schulz said the last 17 quarterly U.S. pigs saved per litter estimates have been records for their respective quarters: “While analysts expected another year-over-year litter rate gain and a record for the September through November quarter, they expected a lower rate of increase than has been realized over the last couple of years. On average, analysts expected the September through November 2025 litter rate up 0.8 percent, compared to the same quarter in 2024.”

He added, “Normally, when setting a new record, in anything, it’s by a razor-thin margin. Records are highly


context dependent. Setting a new one isn’t just about talent or hard work. It also often takes a synergy of good circumstances and good luck. How often do all the right variables align? For the number of pigs saved per litter, it appears favorable conditions are aligning more often than not, and that is expected to continue.”

When compared to year-ago levels, he said the report has less of a bearish tone because numbers aren’t largely above or largely below a year ago: “We’re kind of in that plus or minus a year-ago category. I think that does still very much align with the USDA’s latest production estimates. They have 2026 pork production up just slightly from 2025 levels, up 0.05 percent.”

He forecasts a moderately profitable 2026, with losses not projected until later this year: “There is opportunity. Allow for some upside participation. Use the tools available to help manage risk.”




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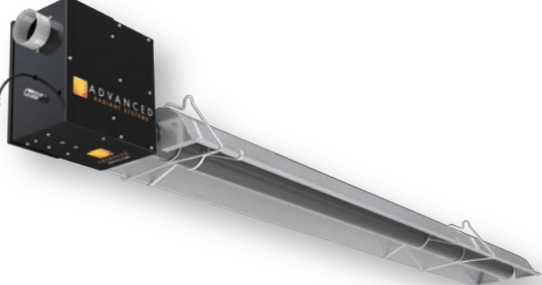
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Above: Led by Laura Highbaugh (pictured), Creekside Elementary School's AgSTREAM program provides students with hands-on agriculture learning. (Nathan Lambrecht photo)

# Kentucky elementary school adds agriculture in all aspects of learning

By DOUG GRAVES  
Ohio Correspondent

SONORA, Ky. – As in all elementary schools in Kentucky, teachers at Creekside Elementary School in Sonora give instruction in math, science, English, reading and more. The only difference is that this school in the west-central part of the state implements the AgSTREAM program, which integrates agriculture education into all its subjects and curriculums.

The program aims to teach students about the future of agriculture, its impact on the community, and career readiness skills.

The seeds for AgSTREAM at Creekside were sown by principal Brooke Custis. And, with the help of the University of Kentucky 4-H Extension office and other agribusiness community partners, Creekside developed the program in time for the 2021-2022 school year to streamline ag studies into science, technology, reading, engineering, arts and mathematics. Custis said she wanted to make agriculture a focus, carrying the theme throughout the school building.

Custis also used grant funding to build an outdoor classroom and hired a STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) teacher to focus on agriculture-related jobs.

“As a new principal in 2020, I reflected on how we wanted to support our students in their return to the classroom after the pandemic,” Custis said. “After meeting with families and staff, it seemed many of them wanted students to have less screen time and more social interaction. It also seemed like students lacked a connection to each other and their community in general. The AgSTREAM program allowed us to look for ways to incorporate agricultural literacy into all sub-

jects and curriculums in our school.

“The Hardin County Board of Education was supportive of the creation of an AgSTREAM teacher position, and all students, kindergarten through fifth grade, began attending an ag class as they would physical education, music and art,” Custis said.

Since the program's implementation, the school has added an outdoor classroom, nature trail and wildflower garden. It also has a fruit and vegetable garden that includes several fruit trees, and an area where students can grow field crops, including corn and soybeans. In addition, there are now teaching and mentoring opportunities with the Central Hardin High School FFA chapter.

As part of the program, Creekside had its first official Ag Day in 2022. AgSTREAM teacher Laura Highbaugh helped create the event where students spend a full day learning and participating in agriculture activities, including off-campus field trips, visits from local farmers, and new farm technology.

“One of my main goals with Ag Day is to help students see what they've been learning about in class and understand there are more components to agriculture than just farmers,” Highbaugh said. “The AgSTREAM program is designed to help children understand the need for agriculture and where their food comes from. I want the students to know that everything they do in everyday life is somehow connected to agriculture – not just the food they eat.”

Custis, from a fourth-generation farm family, was honored for her work with AgSTREAM with a 2022 Excellence in Ag Literacy Award by the Kentucky Farm Bureau. In 2024, Highbaugh, who grew up around ag-

(Kentucky continued on page 21)

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Above: Creekside Elementary School students harvest popcorn from the school farm in Sonora. (Nathan Lambrecht photo)

## Kentucky

FROM PAGE 20

riculture as well, was honored as a National Excellence in Teaching About Agriculture Award winner by the National Agriculture in the Classroom organization and USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

There are five other key school-farm programs designed to help students stay connected with the food they eat and the farms where that food is grown.

The Kentucky Agriculture & Environment in the Classroom is designed to educate students in grades K-12 about the food and fiber system. This program offers a variety of resources, including lessons plans, workshops and mobile school programs to help teachers incorporate agricultural concepts into their curriculum.

The Kentucky Farms Feed Me program allows students to embark on

virtual field trips to Kentucky farms, with short educational videos that provide insights into all that is grown in the state.

The Kentucky Farm to School Challenge is for teachers who incorporate any agriculture, garden or farm-related lessons into their curriculum. This initiative encourages Kentucky schools and classrooms to engage in three activities – taste, learn and grow – during Farm to School Month (October).

The Adopt-a-Cow Program brings a calf right into the classroom. Students will receive photos and stories of a calf, highlighting the happenings to that calf as it grows up on a farm.

“There’s a Pig in My Classroom” is a live, virtual program designed for students in grades 3-6. Inside the curriculum, students will see the journey of pork from the farm to plate. They’ll learn how pigs are raised on the farm, production terminology, and how to purchase pork in the grocery store.

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# 56 national farm groups call on Congress to aid U.S. farmers

By DOUG SCHMITZ  
Iowa Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Fifty-six national farm groups have sent a letter to Congress, stating that America’s farmers, ranchers and growers are facing extreme economic pressures that threaten the long-term viability of the U.S. agriculture sector.

“An alarming number of farmers are financially underwater, farm bankruptcies continue to climb, and many farmers may have difficulty securing financing to grow their next crop,” the Jan. 15 letter read. The farm groups are urging Congress to provide immediate economic support to “fill in the gap of remaining losses for both field and specialty crop farmers.”

For the last three to four years, the letter added, the reality of record-high input costs, and rapidly declining and historically low crop and specialty crop prices have culminated in many U.S. farmers experiencing negative margins and losses approaching \$100 billion nationwide: “These trends aren’t just statistics; they represent an economic crisis in rural America.”

Brian Glenn, American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) director of government affairs, told Farm World, concerning how the groups came together to pen the letter, “We have heard from farmers across the country who are under extreme economic pressure due to record-high production expenses and depressed commodity prices.

“Many farmers are trying to hold on and make it to the next growing season,” he said. “This is why AFBF, along with 55 other agricultural groups representing a wide breadth of commodities, called on Congress to fill in the remaining gap of losses that farmers are experiencing. We are grateful to the USDA for the \$12 billion aid package, but we recognize this does not cover the full extent of cumulative losses felt across the farm economy.”

According to AFBF, “Farm losses are the result of a multitude of challenges over several years of downturns that have led to these devastating farm losses.” Organized by AFBF, the letter, however, acknowledged the significant investments over the past year in farm programs, a bridge assistance program, and other aid to support farmers.

Currently, the USDA’s Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA), announced in December 2025, provides \$11 billion in one-time, per-acre payments to eligible 2025 row crop producers, with funds expected by Feb. 28. This initiative offers immediate relief for 2025 financial losses due to low prices and high input costs, officials said.

On Jan. 16, U.S. Senate Agriculture Committee Chair John Boozman (R-Ark.) and U.S. Agriculture Appropiations Committee Chair John Hoeven (R-N.D.) issued a proposal they said would provide targeted relief to farmers by building upon the FBA program by expanding its coverage, and providing additional assistance for losses that exceed national averages.

“America’s farmers are resilient, hard-working and deeply committed to feeding and clothing our nation,” Boozman said. “Unfortunately, resilience and hard work are not enough to withstand the significant challenges that have been mounting for several years.

“The message is clear that while they are extremely grateful for the investments Congress, President Trump and (USDA) Secretary Brooke Rollins recently delivered, they need more help to keep farming,” he added. “We need to maintain a safe, affordable and

reliable food supply, and the only way to achieve that is to support the men and women who make that possible.”

Hoeven said this assistance will also provide better account for basis and cost of production concerns: “We also increase farm ownership and operating loan limits so producers can access capital to help with higher costs. Our goal is to ensure that farmers and ranchers can make it through this challenging period, and continue their operations now and into the future.”

Glenn said, “There is a recognition from our Agriculture Committee leaders that farmers need a lifeline, and we urge immediate action to build upon the USDA’s Farmer Bridge Assistance Program and support our farmers.”

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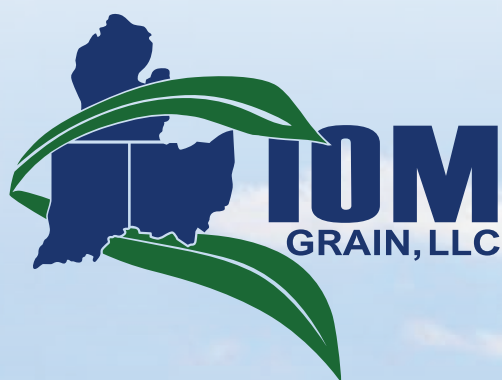


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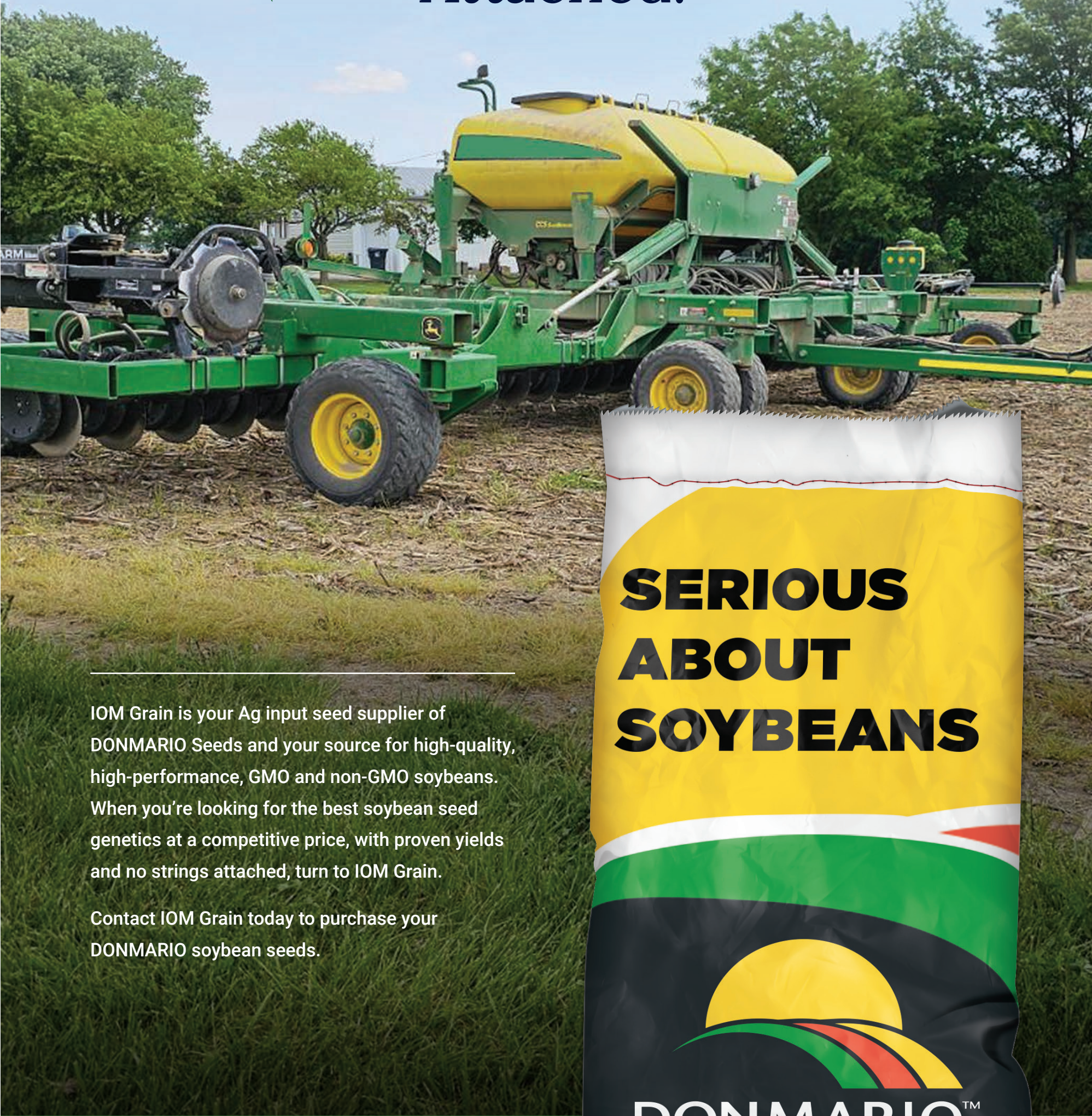


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# Women breaking 'grass ceiling,' becoming sole operators of farms

By DOUG GRAVES  
Ohio Correspondent

OWENSBORO, Ky. – USDA statistics show that there are 1.2 million women farmers in the United States, with 14 percent of those women serving as principal owners.

Women being the backbone of a farming operation is nothing new. What has surfaced more in recent years is women as sole head of the farm.

Women in Agribusiness (WIA) re-



**Above:** Lorilee Schultz, of Illinois, is sole operator of Mil-R-Mor Farm, a 60-cow registered Holstein dairy. She became the sole principal owner of her grandparents' dairy farm 15 years ago. (photo submitted)

cently collaborated with International Year of the Woman Farmer (IYWF) to spotlight the essential roles women play across global agrifood systems, from production to processing and trade. WIA found a rise in the number of women who are sole farm operators.

Suzanne Cecil White (Kentucky), Lorilee Schultz (Illinois) and Zoe Kent (Ohio) are three examples of women who have taken the reins of their farm operations.

White, of Daviess County, is the sole operator of her farm and she owes it to community supported agriculture (CSA).

Cecil Farms has been producing fruits and vegetables commercially since 1981, sending their goods across the country. But it wasn't until 2011 that Suzanne came back to the farm after teaching for 10 years at Bowling Green.

"I returned to Owensville with the idea of applying for a teaching job," she said. "Instead, my dad showed me an article in a magazine about CSA. I knew about the production side, having grown up on the farm, and Owensboro had never had a CSA in the community. So that summer I started a CSA. I just learned as I went. The community really took to it and got excited, which in turn, excited me."

White's dad and brother worked to establish the commercial side of the produce business, but bringing it to retail and making Cecil Farms Produce a household name in the region was



**Above:** Zoe Kent, of Ohio, is the eighth generation of her family to head up the family farm. She bought her dad out in 2021. (photo submitted)

never done.

From that point on, White now oversees the entire Cecil Farms Produce business along with a farm stand. The operation also includes greenhouses with flowers and plants, and she services schools and restaurants with fruits and vegetables.

"Initially, I did all home deliveries with the CSA, delivering watermelons, cantaloupes, tomatoes, squash and

zucchini to all the local schools in Daviess County, then I'd go to Hancock County, then into Henderson County," she said.

"I still have a lot of people say to me when I tell them what I do, 'Oh, so your husband is a farmer.' And I'm glad to reply, 'No, I'm the farmer.' she said. "Yes, my father and brother laid the

(Women farmers continued page 2B)



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# Women farmers

FROM PAGE 1B

groundwork for what we have today. I just want to be an example of overcoming, of dreaming and believing big and deeper. And knowing this down in my heart I want to help plant that seed in other women's hearts.

"Women have always been present on the farm, it's just now a lot of women have become the actual face of the operations that you see."

Schultz, of Orangeville, Ill., is manager and owner of Mil-R-Mor Farm, a 60-cow registered Holstein dairy. She became the sole principal owner of her farm after taking over her grandparents' dairy farm 15 years ago.

Schultz's dairy story began in seventh grade when she spent her summer days at her grandparents' dairy farm. Beyond summers, she spent the rest of the year on her parents' livestock farm, helping tend to beef cattle, sheep, pigs and chickens. But no Holstein dairy cows.

Years later, Schultz would find herself stepping into the role of primary operator of the family farm, not by design, but by default. She had to fight for the opportunity to keep the cows when a herd dispersal was being discussed and she had to prove her commitment. What carried her through these moments was the foundation laid years earlier by her grandmother, who never doubted her capability.

"You must have those true believers who can cheer you on and that you know you can go to for unconditional support," Schultz said.

Schultz already had a full plate milking and feeding cows, but added to that was caring for her grandmother in between milking and calf chores while also raising her 2-year-old daughter.

"I don't even know how I did it," she said. "You just keep going, one foot in front of the other."

Down the road, Schultz stepped into the influential spotlight where decisions are made, including as chairwoman of the Young Cooperators Board within the National Milk Producers Federation and taking the stage to speak during the IDF World Dairy Summit.

Schultz said a reporter once referred to her simply as a farmer, rather than a female farmer.

"It felt like before I was a farmer with an asterisk," she explained, "to have that reporter just say, 'dairy farmer Lorilee Schultz from Orangeville, Ill.' and not female farmer. I feel like my brain just had this shift, like, yeah, I am a farmer. Full stop."

At 30, Kent is the owner and operator of Kent Farms in Crawford County, Ohio. As the eighth generation, she feels a responsibility to continue the family's legacy.



**Above:** Suzanne Cecil White, of Kentucky, became the sole operator of her farm after successfully running a CSA. She would go on to become the 2021 Kentucky Farm Bureau Farm Woman of Year. (photo submitted)

"I can't remember a time I didn't want to farm," Kent said. "I think there was one time in fifth grade I wanted to be a hairdresser. My parents steered me away from that."

Her first job on the farm was driving a 420 lawnmower.

"Then I convinced my dad I could drive kind of straight, so I got bumped up to driving the 4440 and clipping wheat stubble, a job you can't mess up too bad," she said.

This led to running the combine and other farm machinery.

She attended Ohio State University, where she studied ag business. She enjoyed college life, but knew farming was where she wanted to be. She worked on the farm during the summer months, but after graduation she returned home to farm full time.

"In 2021, dad decided he was ready to retire so I bought him out. This is my fourth year of solely owning and running the farm," she said.

When she started farming she withstood lots of criticism and doubt from many who don't know her.

"When I came back to the farm at the beginning, I would hear comments like 'You must be your dad's secretary', or 'It's nice that your dad's letting you hang out.' But everyone who knows me understands that I'm capable of doing all of the things I need to do on the farm."

Kent refuses to get caught up in stereotypes or labels of being a female farmer. Instead, she empowers others to be their best and enjoy all facets of the farm. She farms alone. Well, almost alone.

"I have one mostly full-time employee, JD. He's a mechanic," Kent said. "I am not good with a wrench. So, he keeps everything in working motion, and I'm really thankful for him."

# Illinois Extension schedules invasive species webinar for March 19

Across the U.S., including Illinois, many non-native wildlife species have found their way into new environments, where they can pose a threat to natural ecosystems and the economy. This spring, explore the history of these animal invasions and efforts to protect local natural resources and economic interests with the University of Illinois Extension webinar Wild and Wily Animal Invaders.

The free webinar will be at 1 p.m. on March 19. The session will be led by Extension natural resources, environment, and energy staff and presented by Joy O'Keefe, associate professor and wildlife Extension specialist at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Species covered will include feral swine, nutria, Norway rats and starlings. Sign up by March 18 at [go.illinois.edu/AnimalInvaders](http://go.illinois.edu/AnimalInvaders).

Everyday Environment explores the intricate web of connections that bind us to the natural world through podcasts, blogs, webinars, and videos. The spring 2026 series explores the impacts of invasive species, the latest laws and research, tools for detection and reporting, and success stories of communities working to manage invasives.

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this webinar, contact Erin Garrett at [emedvecz@illinois.edu](mailto:emedvecz@illinois.edu). Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to meet your access needs. All sessions are recorded and available to watch on YouTube within a few weeks.

To connect with Extension natural resources, environment, and energy staff about a program or for a consultation, visit [go.illinois.edu/NREEstaff](http://go.illinois.edu/NREEstaff).



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# Indiana Beef Cattle Association bestows awards

NOBLESVILLE, Ind. – On Jan. 17, members of the Indiana Beef Cattle Association (IBCA) gathered at the Embassy Suites Hotel for the 2026 IBCA Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet. IBCA members came together for fellowship and to recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions to Indiana’s beef industry.

The Robert C. Peterson Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Loran Wilson, of Orleans, Ind. Wilson, along with his wife Kathy, operates Wilson Angus, a family-owned beef cattle operation rooted in generations of dedication to agriculture. Known for raising high-quality freezer beef and marketing breeding stock capable of improving both registered and commercial herds, Wilson has built a reputation founded on integrity, quality and family values. His leadership extends beyond the farm through service on the American Angus Association board of directors, the Indiana Beef Cattle Association board, and numerous agricultural organizations throughout Orange County. His lifelong commitment to cattle, community, and the Angus breed has left a lasting impact on Indiana’s beef industry.

The IBCA Cattleman of the Year Award was presented to Leah Meinders, of Milan, Ind. Alongside her husband Jeff, she operates Clear Water Simmentals, a purebred Simmental operation known for its focus on performance, quality and practical beef production. Meinders is deeply involved in all aspects of the operation and is widely respected for her work ethic, innovation and dedication to continuous improvement. In addition to her work on the farm, she has created opportunities for fellow breeders through hosting multiple sales each year and organizing family-friendly customer appreciation events.

Meinders is also actively involved with the Indiana Simmental Association, American Simmental Association, Indiana Beef Cattle Association, and serves on the Simmental Breeders Sweepstakes board of directors.

The IBCA Outstanding Young Cattleman Award was presented to Chris Muegge. Using his background in ruminant nutrition, Muegge has built a progressive beef operation focused on efficiency, environmental stewardship and education. He formulates rations across all segments of his beef business and has implemented innovative feeding strategies to improve cattle performance. He is also actively engaged in seedstock production, marketing bulls to commercial producers across the Midwest and Southeast. A strong advocate for continuing education, Muegge regularly attends and presents at industry meetings and seminars while also serving his local community through farm bureau leadership, youth programs and agricultural education.

The IBCA Friend of the Beef Industry Award was presented to Greg Beavers. Greg devoted more than four decades of service to the Indiana beef cattle industry through his career with Select Sires and Central Star Cooperative. Known for his honest guidance and passion for beef cattle, Beavers has supported countless producers across the state. His dedication continues through his extensive involvement with the Indiana Beef Evaluation Program, where he serves on the board of directors and contributes his time and expertise to support research, education and data collection efforts. His commitment to the industry has made a lasting difference for Indiana cattle producers.

To view a complete list of past IBCA award winners, visit [www.indianabeef.org](http://www.indianabeef.org).

The IBCA’s membership also elected officers for the 2026-2027 year. The new officers selected by the membership included:

- President - Dr. David Dixon, of Rensselaer
- President-Elect - Dr. Ron Lemenager, of Lafayette
- Vice president - JD Faulk, of Worthington
- Treasurer - Andrew Stewart, of Greensburg
- Immediate past president - Keegan Poe, of Franklin

Prior to the annual meeting and convention, IBCA hosted area meetings around the state and one of those meetings included elections for area directors to represent that area on the IBCA/IBC board of directors. The beef producer elected to represent their respective area included:

- Area 5 director - JD Faulk
- Area 7 director - Dan Chesnut
- Area 11 director – Jacob Pettigrew

Additionally, Poe announced several additional board members who would be filling two-year presidential-appointed positions on the IBCA/IBC board, representing different IBCA standing committees or industry segment representatives. Those presidential appointments included:

- Promotions chair - Lindsay Sankey
- HBC chair - John Blake
- IBCA rep - Sidney Stinson
- Marketing rep - Gordon Lowry
- Service rep - Andon Boocher
- Dairy rep - Jeff Carter
- NCBA director - Chad Lanum

These newly elected and appointed directors will join the returning directors to make up the 2026-2027 IBCA/IBC board of directors.

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# Michigan egg producer will be expanding into northeast Indiana

By Stan Maddux  
Indiana Correspondent

KENDALLVILLE, Ind. – Michigan’s largest producer of eggs is expanding into northeast Indiana with a new plant expected to begin processing more than a million eggs a day in the spring.

Herbruck’s Poultry Ranch, based in Saranac about 30 miles east of Grand Rapids, is building a new processing facility in Kendallville.

According to company officials, the 75,000-square-foot plant on Western Avenue, will process about 420 million eggs annually.

Cody Herbruck, associate vice president of operations, said the plant will meet increased demand for eggs, allow for the local processing of Indiana farm eggs and distribution of eggs directly from the site to customers.

“We are excited to be part of the Kendallville community and thank local leaders for their support,” he said.

The plant is expected to create 60 jobs and generate more than \$20 million in economic investments.

Herbruck’s Poultry Ranch, founded in 1958, has several other egg-producing facilities near Saranac, along with another plant in Topeka, Ind., and other facilities in Pennsylvania.

The company has its own egg laying facilities to help generate billions of eggs a year. The remainder of the eggs are from small farms in Michigan and Indiana for organic and cage-free eggs available under well-known specialty and niche brands to retailers and food service outlets across the country.

The new facility received state tax

credits from Indiana due to the creation of jobs.

“Herbruck’s is a family-owned company built on generations of hard work and they’re making a long-term investment in Kendallville that will bring good paying jobs and new opportunities to the area,” said Indiana Gov. Mike Braun.

According to the company’s website, the Herbruck family has been in the egg business since at least the 1920s, when Harry Herbruck started an egg delivery company in the Flint, Mich., area.

As the company grew, Herbruck’s service territory for delivery expanded from Flint to Saginaw and Detroit.

Eventually, Harry Herbruck Jr. and his wife, Marilyn, with a growing family to support, broke away from the company to produce their own eggs for delivery from 6,000 chickens housed in a coop in Saranac.

That gave birth to Herbruck’s Poultry Ranch, currently operated by the sons and daughter of Harry Jr. and now a fourth generation of family members, according to the company’s webpage.

Herbruck’s Poultry Ranch is also recognized for innovation in technology resulting in the creation of the 18-egg carton and other things like devising and using robots for egg packing.

According to the company’s website, other in-house developments include processing poultry litter into dried fertilizer products, using computerized monitoring equipment for the hen house and processing lines and strict guidelines for hen husbandry.

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# Croplife enlists ‘farm moms’ to refute anti-pesticide language in MAHA

By **TIM ALEXANDER**  
Illinois Correspondent

PEORIA, Ill. — Alexandra “Alex” Dunn, president and CEO of Arlington, Virginia-based Croplife America, came to Peoria with one message for pesticide retailers and farmers: we’ve got your backs.

Speaking to dozens of agricultural input dealers at the Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association’s (IFCA) 2026 convention and trade show, Dunn recounted the efforts of Croplife America in enlisting a coalition of “farm moms” to refute anti-pesticide language contained in reports issued by the Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) movement. She also cautioned those in attendance that far from waning, the MAHA movement will likely pick up strength heading into the November midterms.

“When you connect all the strings, the MAHA movement is all over the top of the White House; everybody in the White House is connected to it,” said Dunn, whose Croplife America

functions as a trade organization for the U.S. crop protection sector. “The MAHA movement just got whole milk back in schools. (MAHA is) not all bad, but when it comes to pesticides, they don’t have a lot of good things to say.”

The initial Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) MAHA report, issued in May 2025, mentioned pesticides 79 times while insinuating food growers were over-applying farm chemicals, according to Dunn. “It essentially said pesticides are not good for people, not good for food,” she said. “From May to August of last summer farmers started speaking out, and so did (Croplife America). We went to the White House with (dairy co-op) Land O’ Lakes, Corteva (Agriscience) and others. We told the administration that the path they were on with farmers in this situation was not working, and this narrative had to stop.”

At the same time, Croplife America started a campaign to enlist “farm moms” to refute the MAHA movement. “The whole MAHA movement

is around moms, kids, vaccines and food that might have pesticides used on them. The MAHA moms are an army, but we said ‘you know what, we have an army too’ — an army of farmer moms who are raising healthy children and healthy food on their farms,” said Dunn.

The result was that a revised set of MAHA recommendations, issued in September 2025, backed off of pesticide use by farmers. As opposed to the initial report, input was allowed by the MAHA Commission from agriculture interests, independent scientists, researchers and the chemical industry before the issuance of the second report, thanks in part to pressure from Croplife’s farm moms movement. Since the release of the follow-up report, there has been very little talk in Washington about taking pesticides away from farmers.

“Having the farm groups stand up and state how important these (pesticide) products are was a game changer,” Dunn said. “However, as of January 2026 MAHA is still here. We survived two reports last year, (but

we are not okay.”

A recent MAHA accomplishment was to reinstate the Presidential Fitness Test in public schools, but also included in that bill (S.3412) is language around food labeling that will require disclosures of artificial colorings and other processed food ingredients that could be detrimental to food producers. Some of the “food ingredients” mentioned in the Presidential Fitness Test Act of 2025 are not actually food ingredients, but were thrown in by MAHA influencers only to “smoke out” those who support chemical use by farmers, according to Dunn.

“We have to be very, very vigilant because there is a lot happening with MAHA. There are movies, politics, money, messaging and non-stop social media telling people that something is not right with their food and what their kids are being given. We have to be the counterbalance providing facts, information and context.”

## Illinois Performance Tested Bull Sale scheduled for Feb. 19 in Springfield

URBANA, Ill. – Enhancing cattle herds with trusted genetics can strengthen beef operations. Get started by attending the annual Illinois Performance Tested Bull Sale at 11 a.m. on Feb. 19 at the Illinois State Fairgrounds in Springfield. The sale helps kick off the 2026 Illinois Beef Expo, where families, including many Illinois 4-H members, spend the week showing their cattle.

“The sale is a yearly staple for many to attend as well as a reputable source for producers to add high-quality genetics to their herds,” said Travis Meter, sale manager, commercial agriculture educator, and beef cattle specialist at University of Illinois Extension.

Over the past 57 years, more than 5,000 bulls have been sold for over \$10 million through the IPT bull sale. As a leader in proven genetics and the latest evaluation technologies and practices, dedicated breeders and commercial cow-calf producers mark their calendars.

“Every year we get to put together another strong set of bulls for Illinois cattle producers, we know we are impacting success for the beef industry,” Meter said.

The sale format includes the opportunity to view all bulls while they are on display for buyer inspection before the sale. The sale will take place in the Artisans Building, where attendees will view videos of bulls shown during the live auction. Halter-broke, as well as docile, non-halter-broke bulls are eligible. All non-halter-broke cattle will be screened for disposition before the sale.

### Bull Sale Qualifications

Sale order and qualifications are determined by performance in multi-trait economic selection indexes. The sale order is based on each breed’s % Rank for a maternal and a terminal Dollar Value Index. Index data can be found in the sale catalog, including:

- Angus: \$Combined (\$C), which consists of \$Beef (\$B) and \$Maternal (\$M),

- Simmental: All Purpose Index (API), Terminal Index (TI)
  - Hereford: Baldy Maternal Index (BMI); Certified Hereford: Beef index (CHB)
- Calving ease expected progeny differences must be in the top 85th percentile. A veterinarian also must conduct all breeding soundness exams. For the most up-to-date policy on genetic recessive traits and health requirements, visit the IPT Bull Sale website at [ipthbullsale.com/](http://ipthbullsale.com/).
- For more information, to view bull photos, and flip through the 2026 digital sale catalog, visit the IPT Bull Sale website at the link above.

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**21 FARM EQUIPMENT.** Whitley County, IN. Contact Ritter Cox 260-609-3306.

**26 FERTILIZER EQUIPMENT.** Ross County, OH. Contact Andy Walther 765-969-0401 or Nick Cummings 740-572-0756.

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**3 FARM EQUIPMENT.** Wayne County, IN. Contact Andy Walther 765-969-0401.

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# 2025 Seed Genetics Direct’s corn, soybean yield winners set records

By Michele F. Mihaljevich  
Indiana Correspondent

JEFFERSONVILLE, Ohio – The corn and soybean winners in Seed Genetics Direct’s (SGD) 2025 Yield Contest both set records for the competition, an official with the company said.

In corn, the top yield was 323.36 bushels per acre by James Jacobs, of Bloomingburg, Ohio. For soybeans, the winning yield was 102.54 bushels from Wenning Farms Inc., of Greensburg, Ind. Jacobs won using SGD’s AGI-C-4111PWE. Wenning Farms achieved its top yield with SGD’s ET-4738E3.

“We were very pleased with the yield numbers in our contest entries,” said Todd Jeffries, SGD vice president. “One hundred and two bushels on soybeans. Wow! That was certainly a record for our contest and the 328 on corn was as well. It’s amazing how much the plants are able to produce given near favorable conditions.”

This is SGD’s fourth or fifth year offering a yield contest to their customers, he said. The company accepts entries into the National Corn Growers Association’s (NCGA) yield contest into its internal testing.

“We support the NCGA and the state yield trials but wanted to do something fun and exciting that only our customers can participate in,” Jeffries explained. “There is no state or national yield contest for soybeans, so we find it fun and interesting what our customers can produce.”

SGD’s internal yield contest is for the seed the company produces and sells, he added. As prizes, the contest’s winners received varying amounts of seed from SGD and herbicides from Herbicides Direct.

Jacobs ranked third in Ohio in the NCGA contest. Using another seed – AGI-C-6112PWE – he placed fifth in the NCGA state contest with 304.07 bushels. For first place, he received \$5,000 in seed and \$5,000 in herbicides.

Second place in the SGD contest for corn went to Don Jackson, of Camden, Ohio, with 297.06 bushels. He also used AGI-C-6112PWE. Jackson received \$2,500 in seed and \$2,500 in herbicides.

Hartsock Farms (Tim and Tom), of Circleville, Ohio, placed third with 257.79 bushels using AGI-C-3114PWE. Hartsock Farms received \$2,000 in seed and \$2,000 in herbicides.

Jeffries said the weather in spring 2025 had an impact on the contest yields.

“Last year, we had a very cool and a very wet spring with limited planting windows early,” he noted. “If someone was able to get planted in those April and early May windows, we saw a yield advantage, especially because the rain seemed to shut off the second half of July, all the way through most of September. Our entries with earlier planting dates tended to be near the top.”

For having the top yield in SGD’s soybean contest, Wenning Farms received \$2,500 in seed and \$2,500 in herbicides.

Second place in the soybean contest was Kannon Jones, of Greensfork, Ind., with 99.66 bushels. Jones used SGD’s ET-4736E3. Jones received \$1,500 in seed and \$1,500 in herbicides.

Third place in soybeans went to Bruce Stephens, of 85:10 Farms in Columbus Grove, Ohio. Stephens used SGD’s ET-3731E3 to achieve a yield of 90.89 bushels. He received \$1,000 in seed and \$1,000 in herbicides.

Jeffries said some farmers do things differently in their fields for

the contest, while others do the same things they do across all their ground.

“Our contest just checks 1.25 acres, so a customer can try out a few things like switching up their fertilizer program, tinkering with nitrogen rates, biologicals, fungicides, etc.,” he said. “Farming is not a one-sized-fits-all business. What works in Ripley County might not exactly work in Tipton or Whitley counties. Unfortunately, there is no silver bullet when entering these contests or raising a crop, other than getting rain at perfect timing.”

SGD’s yield contest has a later entry deadline than the one offered by NCGA, Jeffries pointed out. NCGA’s contest requires entries to be submitted by mid-August.

“Say someone was going to enter but they don’t feel like their corn or beans will be as good and they decide not to fuss with it. If they are able to capture some rains after that point, and once they start harvesting, they notice their crop is better than anticipated, they can enter up until Nov. 30 with us. We just need the measurements, a scale ticket and the signed entry form so we can verify.”

# Indianapolis chef takes top award in Indiana Pork’s Taste of Elegance

INDIANAPOLIS – Indianapolis chef Craig Baker, executive chef at the Intercontinental Hotel in downtown Indianapolis, took home the top award at this year’s Taste of Elegance on Jan. 27 at the Indiana Roof Ballroom in Indianapolis. The premier chef’s competition, hosted by Indiana Pork, is a culinary event designed to inspire innovative and exciting ways to serve pork.

Each year, the Taste of Elegance competition brings talented chefs together to compete in the prestigious event created to encourage chefs to use pork more frequently in creative, non-traditional ways. The event attracts over 400 pig farmers, lawmakers and, ag industry leaders for an evening of elegance and celebration.

Baker’s dish featured a banana leaf-wrapped pork shoulder mar-

inated in achiote and citrus and slow-roasted until meltingly tender. It was presented over fresh masa sopes with a silky black bean purée enriched with pork stock, finished with pineapple-habanero salsa, pickled onions, fresh cheese and micro cilantro. As the Taste of Elegance winner, Baker was presented with a check for \$1,000 from Indiana Pork and an entry into the 2026 World

Food Championships.

“Chef Baker is no stranger to food competitions,” said Jeanette Merritt, director of communications of Indiana Pork. “Chef is a previous winner of Taste of Elegance and has a great understanding of how to make pork taste delicious and design a plate that is appealing to the judges. His dish was an outstanding example of well-prepared pork.”

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# Winter months can be challenging for livestock producers

Winter months challenge livestock producers across the Midwest. Snow cover, temperature swings, and reliance on dormant or stockpiled forage often make winter grazing a necessity. In many cases, it is a far better option than moving animals into muddy lots or hauling additional feed. While winter grazing can work, understanding the physiological stress it places on forage plants – and planning for recovery – is critical to long-term pasture health.

For winter grazing to be sustainable, cool-season forages must be fully dormant before grazing begins. Grazing prior to dormancy places substantially more stress on plants because they continue attempting regrowth, drawing heavily on carbohydrate reserves until enough consecutive freezing days force true dormancy.

Dormancy in cool-season forages like tall fescue, orchardgrass, and clovers is a survival mechanism. As day length shortens and temperatures drop, leaf elongation slows or stops, new tillers are not initiated, and aboveground growth ceases. From a management standpoint, this creates the opportunity to graze without immediately forcing regrowth, which would otherwise draw heavily on stored carbohydrate reserves. One controlled defoliation after dormancy is generally tolerated; the plants can maintain their crowns and roots without severe depletion of reserves. However, dormancy does not mean inactivity. Roots and crowns continue to respire, fine roots naturally turn over, and tiny amounts of photosynthesis may occur during mild winter spells. This low-level metabolic activity relies on stored energy, meaning that repeated grazing over extended periods – even of dormant forage – gradually depletes the plant’s reserves.

Continuous winter grazing quietly impacts forage plants in ways that often go unnoticed until spring. Protective lower leaves and residual stubble that insulate plant crowns from cold and desiccation are removed, exposing growing points to freeze-thaw cycles and wind stress. Carbohydrate reserves stored in roots and crowns are slowly drawn down to maintain viability. Buds that will initiate early spring growth may be clipped or damaged. Root systems are particularly vulnerable: even if plants appear “alive” aboveground, thin roots reduce water and nutrient uptake as soil temperatures warm, slowing regrowth and limiting the stand’s ability to compete with weeds. For legumes, especially clovers, the impact is more pronounced because crowns are smaller, nitrogen-fixing nodules are sensitive to physical stress, and overall energy reserves are lower.

Despite these risks, winter grazing remains a practical strategy when responsibly managed. Protecting residual height is critical. Maintaining at least three to four inches of residual allows crowns to remain insulated, preserves some photosynthetic capacity during mild winter periods, and buffers the soil against extreme temperature swings. When residuals drop below this threshold, even dormant plants can experience significant stress, which often goes unnoticed until green-up. In situations where extended grazing is unavoidable, rotating animals, spreading winter pressure across multiple fields, and avoiding repeated grazing of the same patch year after year are essential strategies for long-term pasture health.

Recovery planning is just as important as managing grazing. In southern Indiana and much of the Midwest, late February is an ideal window for overseeding pastures that suffered from extended winter grazing. Cool-season legumes

## GRAZING BITES

BY VICTOR SHELTON,  
RETIRED NRCS AGRONOMIST/  
GRAZING SPECIALIST

and grasses, such as red clover, white clover and Italian ryegrass, can be planted before spring warmth fully arrives, giving seedlings time to establish and supplement the recovering stand. Italian ryegrass, particularly tetraploid varieties, establishes quickly, offers high-quality early spring forage, and can persist for one to two growing seasons under favorable conditions and appropriate management. Clover reseedling adds nitrogen to the system while helping restore diversity and resilience to mixed pastures. Timing and seeding technique are crucial. Shallow planting depths, ideally around ¼ inch, and light incorporation or controlled hoof traffic can improve seed-to-soil contact, enhancing germination without crushing crowns or seedlings. Fields that received heavier winter grazing may benefit from slightly higher seeding rates to compensate for crown loss and thin stands.

Animal species differences further influence both winter impact and recovery strategies. Mature beef cows exert the greatest pressure on dormant pastures due to their weight and selective grazing. They can compact soil, consume more residue, and clip crowns repeat-

edly, especially on palatable species like orchardgrass and young fescue shoots. Weaned calves, by contrast, are lighter and graze more uniformly, creating less compaction and preserving crowns and roots. Sheep are extremely light but graze remarkably close to the ground, which minimizes compaction but increases the risk of damaging crowns and lower growing points. Horses fall somewhere in between: they are highly selective, clip grass close to crowns, and can create patchy overgrazing even in pastures that appear healthy overall. Recognizing these differences allows producers to adjust stocking rates, rotation schedules, and recovery plans according to animal behavior.

Once seeded, practical recovery strategies should include protecting newly overseeded areas until seedlings reach at least a three to four leaf stage, maintaining adequate residual in remaining stands, and monitoring for uneven grazing patterns. For cows and horses, rotation is especially important to prevent further localized damage. Sheep and calves can be used strategically for light grazing or to press seed into soil, but care should be taken to avoid overexposure of crowns or seedlings. Fertility management also supports recovery: ensuring adequate phosphorus and potassium aids root development, while nitrogen applications can be timed

once seedlings are established to boost growth without promoting premature growth or creating excessive competition from established perennials.

By combining careful winter grazing management, strategic overseeding, and animal-specific considerations, producers can maintain forage productivity through winter and into the next season. Pastures grazed in winter do not have to suffer long-term damage if carbohydrate reserves, crowns, and buds are protected, and recovery steps are implemented as soon as feasible. Recognizing the subtle, cumulative effects of winter grazing and planning for repair ensures that spring green-up is vigorous, stand density is preserved, and forage diversity is restored.

It is not about maximizing a single grazing event but about optimizing the entire grazing season. Keep on grazing!

### Reminders & Opportunities

Indiana Forage Council Annual Meeting – March 12, 2026, Gasthof Restaurant, Montgomery, Ind. – 4 p.m. ET. Call 812-254-4780 Ext 3 to register

Southern Indiana Grazing Conference – March 13, 2026, Shiloh Community Bldg, Odon, Ind. – Peter Byck, Greg Halich, Barry Fisher and Peter Ballerstedt are speakers. For more information call 812-254-4780 Ext 3 or register at <https://sigc2026.eventbrite.com>

## 9th Annual Tri-Co Benefit CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

Receiving Consignments  
at Sale Location.  
Thursday 8:00-6:00 &  
Friday 8:00-Dark

FEBRUARY 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2026 | 9:00 AM

No Consignments Day of  
Sale Except Small Animals,  
Unless Prior Arrangements  
are made.

### SALE LOCATION

WAYNE COUNTY PRODUCE AUCTION  
8025 CARLOS RD • WILLIAMSBURG IN 47393

CONSTRUCTION  
TOOLS

WAGON LOTS  
& MISC

NEW & USED  
FARM EQUIPMENT

SMALL  
ANIMALS

BUILDING  
MATERIALS

## SOME EARLY CONSIGNMENTS

### Farm Equipment

- 6 Hay Wagons
- New Idea Crimper
- 80 H JD Power Unit HYD Steering Dual Outlets
- NH 56 Rollabar Rake New Teeth
- 2 Forecarts
- EHE 4 Star Tedder W/Kohler Engine
- 10' Cultipacker
- Gravity Wagon On Rubber
- Rollabar Hay Rake
- 6' Scraper Blade 3 Point
- JD 7000 4-Row Corn Planter, Rebuilt
- 8-Wheel V-Rake, Good Condition
- 4-Basket Tedder Hyd. Fold w/New Honda
- 56 NH Rake, Rebuilt
- (4) Hay Wagons, 8x16
- McCormick Corn Binders
- Pioneer Fore Cart
- NI Manure Spreader, Good Condition
- NH 278 Baler
- Gravity Wagon
- Copperari PTO Drive Irrigation Pump 4"
- Rain-Flo Plastic Layer
- 2500 Ft. 6" Aluminum Pipe
- 1200 Ft. 2" Aluminum Pipe w/Risers & Sprinklers



### Carriages

- Brand New Stormfront Carriage From E&L Carriages: Spring Torsion Gear, Rubber Shocks, CMS Steel Wheels, Premium Dash
- Used Stormfront Carriage Torsion Axle, Fiberglass Wheels, Deluxe Dash, Good Condition
- Used Stormfront Carriage CMS Gear, Torsion Axles, Steelwheels Deluxe Dash, Good Condition
- Ultra Lite Spring Wagon From E&L
- Used Stormfront EX Starter, Grey Interior
- Used Stormfront Good Starter LED Lights
- Expecting More Till Sale Time

Selling NEW Tools  
All Day!

### NEW ITEMS

- EHE 4 Star Tedder W/16H Engine
- W.H. 2 Way Plow W/14" Bottoms
- W.H. Forecart W/Torsion Axles & Auto Turn
- Esch Round Bale Unroller
- Pembroke Forecart W/Torsion Axles & Auto Turn
- En-Rossi 10 Wheel U Rake W/Center Wheel
- 300' 6" White Manure Hose
- Portable Manure Loading Stand W/25' Pipe
- Belmont Dump Trailer
- Farm Built Hay Wagon 8x16 Bed
- Semi Load Fence Posts
- Lots Of Gates (Various Sizes)
- (2) 50' Round Pens

### Miscellaneous

- 2018 Linde Forklift 6000 lb. Lift
- Feed Bins
- 3500 PSI Pressure Washer
- 8x12 Backyard Greenhouse
- (2) 2000 Gallon Propane Tanks
- Fork Positioner & Side Shift For Hyundai Forklift
- Weigh Tronix Scales w/4 Weigh Bars
- 16x40 Cabin, 4' Porch, Full Insulated & Finished
- 6' and 8' Vinyl Hot Beds
- 100 Gal. Minute Sand Filter
- 9500 Watt Generator
- 18 Ton Feed Bin

Sale starts at 9:00 with wagon loads, smalls,  
followed by equipment, gates, and posts

Selling tack and tools at 9:30 followed by buggies  
Multiple rings all day.

Absentee Bids:  
765-238-5284

Watch future ads for more information. Questions or info, call 765-847-1660 • Advertising Deadline: January 21st.

New & used farm equipment, produce  
equipment.  
Contact Jonas Jr. 765-238-5284

Shop tools & equipment, construction  
tools & equipment, trailers, forklifts. etc.  
Small animals & building materials.  
Contact Jesse at 765-847 2585.

Announcements made day of sale take  
precedence over printed material.

Carriages, harness. & tack.  
Contact Amos 765-886-5165

Auction Company not  
responsible for accidents.

Food Provided by  
Local Community

Auctioneer: Jonas Stoltzfus Jr. AU-11600005  
All proceeds benefit Peaceful Meadows Workshop.

Selling Meat and  
Cheese in Tool Ring.



AC31300015  
**Metzger**

Featured

# Auction Calendar

www.BidMetzger.com



**Antiques - Primitives - Glass & Pottery**  
Online Auction  
February 6, 2026 - Sidney, IN

**Antiques Collectibles**  
Bid ☆ Metzger.com

**Outstanding Marvin Davis Estate**  
ONLINE AUCTION - PART 3!  
Monday, February 9th, 2026  
North Manchester, IN

Bid ☆ Metzger.com METZGER PROPERTY SERVICES

**The Robert & Carol Bridge**  
ONLINE AUCTION!  
Friday, February 13, 2026  
Rochester, IN

Bid ☆ Metzger.com

**Outstanding Marvin Davis Estate**  
ONLINE AUCTION #4!  
Sunday, February 15, 2026  
North Manchester, IN

Bid ☆ Metzger.com METZGER PROPERTY SERVICES

**Charming 2-Bedroom Ranch in the Country!**  
Wednesday, February 18th - 6 pm  
12500 S. CR 700 East, Losantville, IN  
Open House: Sunday, Feb. 15th from 1-2 pm

Bid ☆ Metzger.com Auction Manager: Tim Holmes, 260-580-5473

**The Peggy Ann Gerkin Trust**  
ONLINE AUCTION!  
February 17, 2026  
Leesburg, IN

Bid ☆ Metzger.com METZGER PROPERTY SERVICES  
Auction Manager: Dustin Dillon - 574-265-9215

**Metzger** Property Services  
**Metzger's FEBRUARY EQUIPMENT & VEHICLE ONLINE SIMULCAST AUCTION!**

**Factory Direct Equipment, Hopper Bottom, Somero S240 & More!**

**BidMetzger.com**  
Online Simulcast on Friday, February 6, 2026 • 1:00 PM EST • North Manchester, IN  
Auction Manager: Jason Conley • 574-527-6330

**The Outstanding Jim Mayer Estate**  
ONLINE AUCTION!  
February 8, 2026 Claypool, IN

Bid ☆ Metzger.com

**97+/- ACRES**  
of QUALITY TILLABLE CROPLAND & COUNTRY HOMESTEAD!  
61.5 Acres with a Country Homestead in Howard County & 35.66 Tillable Acres in Clinton County

**BID LIVE OR ONLINE!**

FOREST TWP., CLINTON CO., IN  
MONROE & HARRISON TWPS., HOWARD CO., IN

Thursday, February 12th at 6:30pm

AUCTION LOCATION:  
Jeff Stout Community Center  
650 N. West Street  
Russiaville, Indiana

**Metzger** Property Services  
**BidMetzger.com**

## Auctioneers & Realtors...

Chad Metzger, N. Man., IN, 260-982-0238  
Tim Pitts, Fort Wayne, IN 317-714-0432  
Michael Gentry, LaCrosse, IN 219-754-2237  
John Burnau, Leesburg, IN 574-376-5340

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

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

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





**JEFFBOONE**  
Auction & Realty

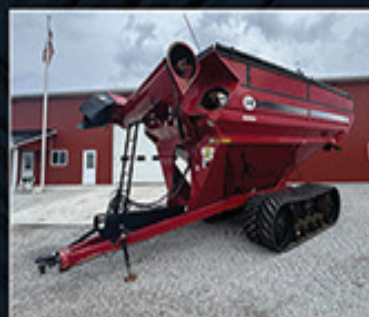
**ONLINE BIDDING AVAILABLE  
ON BIDBOONE.COM**

# Seth Doctor Farms Dealer Inventory **REDUCTION AUCTION**

**LIVE IN-  
PERSON  
& ONLINE**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH @ 10 AM EST**

**CHECK OUT THIS GREAT LINEUP OF QUALITY  
EQUIPMENT BEING SOLD ABSOLUTE NO-RESERVE!**



**Call or text Seth (260) 224-3270 or Levi (260) 229-6960 for questions! JeffBooneAuctions.com**

**Trucking - Contact one of these two companies for all your trucking needs! Ferguson Transport: (317)353-4416 or Dalton Rhea Trucking: (317)550-6582**





**JEFFBOONE**  
Auction & Realty

*Seth Doctor Farms Dealer Inventory*

# REDUCTION AUCTION

**LIVE IN-  
PERSON  
& ONLINE**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH @ 10 AM EST**

**LIVE ON-SITE AND ONLINE!**

**LOCATION: 6667 N 750 W HUNTINGTON, IN 46750**



Join us on Friday, February 13th @ 10 AM EST for this inventory reduction auction!

NO Buyers Premium for In-Person bidders! Save money by attending this auction on-site!

Buyers premium varies for online platforms. Use BidBoone.com for 5% BP with \$2,500 cap. Use Equipment Facts or HiBid platforms for 7% BP with \$7,500 cap.

**HUNDREDS OF OTHERS PIECES ARE STILL AVAILABLE  
IN INVENTORY FOR PURCHASE ALSO!**

**NO BUYERS  
PREMIUM  
FOR ON-SITE  
BIDDERS!**



2013 JOHN DEERE S680 COMBINE

**2,296  
SEPARATOR  
HOURS!**

**3,514  
ENGINE  
HOURS!**



1994 CASE IH 7220 TRACTOR

**6,487  
HOURS!**



2008 NEW HOLLAND T8030

**2,580  
HOURS!**



2007 JOHN DEERE 1790 16/31 PLANTER



2019 FORD F250 STX

**OVER 150 PIECES BEING SOLD! ITEMS BEING ADDED DAILY!  
THIS IS JUST A SMALL PORTION OF QUALITY ITEMS TO BE SOLD!**



**ONLINE BIDDING AVAILABLE ON BIDBOONE.COM**



# Antique tractor drive planned for 100th anniversary of Route 66

VIRDEN, Ill. – Antique tractor collectors will take to the road on June 20, 2026, for an antique tractor drive in honor of the 100th anniversary of Route 66. The tractor drive will begin at the Litchfield Museum & Route 66 Welcome Center at 9:30 a.m. Drivers will travel a 35-mile route on three different sections of Route 66. The drive will continue to Staunton where tractor drivers will see some Route 66 sites and have lunch at the Dairy Queen. For those interested in this drive honoring the Mother Road, and agriculture along the route, contact Jim Niemann at 217-724-5574, or Keith Ladage at 217-971-5917.

In Staunton, drivers can view the former Gulf Gas Station and Café where farmers filled up with both gas and food. There is a farmers market that is set up May-October. Travelers will enjoy the Byway interpretive Exhibit.

Agricultural history at the Litchfield Museum & Route 66 Welcome Center is found throughout like Jim Stieren's story with his champion stallion Pri that won the amateur Division and Open World Championship. He represented American Quarter Horses in this neck of Central Illinois. Even the very development of the route included agriculture like the mules Jack and Jenny in 1928 that were used to help build the highway. The mules were owned by grain farmers Cecil and Beulah Nettleship.

One fascinating use of tobacco took place around the Motherway Cigar factory where workers like Henry C. Buskahl hand-rolled cigars on the side porch of a home. He went on to become a tailor.

The Ariston Café, Route 66's oldest continually operating restaurant,



Above: Picture of the mules used to help build Route 66.



Above: This neon sign is at the museum in Litchfield located across the street from the historic Ariston.



WRENCHING TALES  
By Cindy Ladage

served migrants and farm workers family-style meals during the Dust Bowl. In the early 1930s, the Greek immigrant that founded it, Pete Adams, set up gas pumps offering fuel, and a revenue stream for farm families.

Girard, Ill., where Doc's Off 66 is located, offers meals, a fun ice cream fountain and a pharmacy museum. This historical capsule offers insight into the medicine the Deck Brothers provided for farm families and farm animals. When they first opened in 1864, Lewis C. Deck operated a hardware and general store selling things needed on the farm.

Route 66 circles farmland near Nilwood, where in the 1920's when pouring concrete for the Mother Road, a group of wild turkeys left their tracks behind, offering a one-of-a-kind Route 66 story with their footprints along an agricultural stretch of road.

Auburn, Ill., has a worldwide famous agricultural company, Dickey John, which manufactures planter monitors. The headquarters are just off Route 4, which was part of the original alignment of Route 66 from 1926-1930. The company was started by a

(Wrenching continued on page 13B)



Above: This drag racing history mural profiles Stan Lomelino, a blacksmith welder who helped farmers in the area with his creativity.



## Wrenching

FROM PAGE 12B

farmer; Bob Dickey who developed his planter monitor after an accident in 1960 that affected his eyesight. In the accident, he lost his right eye. He could no longer turn around to check and see if seeds were planting in the row behind the tractor and planter. Working with his nephew Jack Littlejohn, they created the monitor at his home in Chatham, Ill., then established the company in Auburn.

North of Auburn is the Historic Brick Road along Route 66, a 1.4-mile original section of bricks laid



Above: This mural appears on a grain bin on the Historic Brick road north of Auburn, Ill.

over the concrete roadbed. Laid 1931-1932, this area winds through farm fields, and visitors can also see the mural on a grain bin owned by Farmer David Moose.

In Virden, a new drag racing mural reflects the unique history of racers Stan Lomelino and Joe Hendricks. While the main aspect of the mural is the drag racing history, it also includes ag as well. Lomelino was a talented welder and blacksmith, and he and his two sons Dan and David, worked in his blacksmith shop along with Stan, where they fixed agricultural equipment and kept farmers up and running. Stan also developed a piece of equipment that helped pick up downed corn that many farmers used. Because of this agricultural history, North Mac FFA served as the fund-raising arm, and an FFA section is included in the mural.

These are only a few of the ag connections to Mother Road celebrating the 100th anniversary this year. There are celebrations all year long. Springfield, Ill., is also filled with Route 66 attractions. On Veteran's Day, there will be a Statewide Conference Epic Route66 Centennial Celebration at Motherheads Bar and Grill.

For more information about the Illinois section of Route 66, refer to IllinoisRoute66.org.

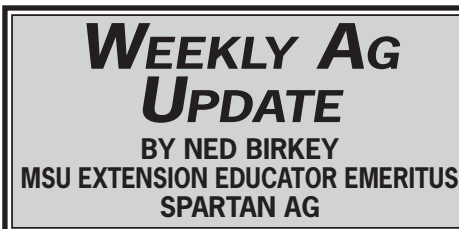
## Farmer Bridge Assistance payments should arrive by the end of February

The National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center's 8-to-14-day outlook through Feb. 10 is calling for an outlook "leaning below" normal tem-

perature but "leaning below" normal precipitation. The 30-day outlook for February, issued Jan. 15, is calling for equal chances for normal temperatures but leaning above normal chances for precipitation. Feb. 3 marked the halfway point between the (first days of) winter solstice and the spring equinox.

The Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA) payment numbers were released on New Year's Eve. The main three for most of the Upper Midwest include corn at \$44.36/acre, soybean at \$30.88/acre, and wheat at \$39.35/acre. These will be for the 2025 crop year planted acres. A pre-filled form with acres that were certified with the FSA office will be mailed/ emailed to farmers in early February to review and sign. Full payments are expected on or around Feb. 28, 2026.

Science for Success is a national and state funded soybean checkoff project



allowing soybean extension specialists to collaborate on key research and outreach questions. Soybean extension specialists across the U.S. conducted more

than 100 trials with biological seed treatments across 21 states in 2022 and 2023 and focused on biological seed treatments. Results cover 101 site-years covered plots from North Dakota to Florida and Nebraska to South Carolina.

Results so far showed no active ingredients consistently provided statistically significant results when comparing the national average to the untreated control. However, the team observed some local, conditional responses. Further in-depth analysis of additional data beyond soybean yield may help identify places where biological seed treatments fit and offer an advantage.

From major companies to start-ups, countless ag input businesses are betting on biologicals. Their research and development investments have rapidly expanded the availability of products with biological active ingredients, like bacteria, fungi, plant extracts or algae extracts. Often, they are applied as seed treatments, which has proven to be an effective way to deliver many of these new options. Biological active ingredients are very different than chemicals," says Laura Lindsey, professor of soybeans and small grains at Ohio State University and lead of this multi-state study, along with doctoral student Fabiano Colet, who developed the trial protocol and coordinated logistics and gathered results. "They are living organisms that need a host, in this case a soybean plant, and a conducive environment to thrive and provide the expected benefit."

For these trials, the Science for Success team focused on biologicals that claim to support plant health and growth. These biologicals, often classified as inoculants or biostimulants, target improved nitrogen fixation, increased nutrient uptake or use efficiency, stimulated root growth and similar functions. Lindsey notes that differences between Science for Success in-field research and company information could relate to the rapid development of the market and its products.

In the meantime, Lindsey offers the following initial recommendations to farmers considering biological seed treatments for soybeans. Consider making in-field comparisons before going all-in on a product. Follow product label directions, remembering that the active ingredients need to be alive when applied. Keep in mind that any yield increases are often small.

New Year's Resolution...Buy Augusta!

New Year's Resolution...Buy Augusta!

New Year's Resolution...Buy Augusta!

New Year's Resolution...Buy Augusta!

## THE NUMBERS THAT YOU NEED FOR 2026??

**A4961 - 111 RDM**

AVAILABLE TRAITED AND CONVENTIONAL  
PLANT HEALTH (BEST IN CLASS AGAINST TAR SPOT)  
ABOVE AVERAGE YIELD  
STRESS TOLERANT  
SEMI FLEX EARS  
VERY GOOD GRAIN QUALITY  
AND TEST WEIGHT

AVAILABLE  
CONVENTIONAL  
NOW!



"Augusta has a nice blend of high yielding hybrids with technology and conventional options. Give me a call and discuss the options that fit your budget!"

**Matt Rawley**  
Vice President  
Augusta Seed  
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**DON'T FORGET YOUR NEW YEARS RESOLUTION... PLANT MORE AUGUSTA!!**

**A1259 - 109 RDM**

FULLY TRAITED  
EXCELS AT MODERATE TO LOW POPULATIONS  
PLANT ANYWHERE HYBRID  
BIG YIELDS  
DEFENSIVE WITH TOP END POTENTIAL

**A4759 - 109 RDM**

DRYS DOWN LIKE 107  
AVAILABLE CONVENTIONAL  
TO FULLY TRAITED  
THRIVES ON MODERATE TO LIGHT SOILS  
VERY GOOD STANDABILITY  
VERY STRESS TOLERANT  
GREAT EAR FLEX  
ULTRA FAST DRYDOWN FOR MATURITY

AVAILABLE  
CONVENTIONAL  
NOW!

**GREAT HYBRIDS AND GREAT PRICES!**



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AVAILABLE CONVENTIONAL  
HUGE EAR FLEX  
SUPER HIGH YIELDER FOR 105 RDM  
ADMIRABLE STRESS TOLERANCE  
APPEALING LATE SEASON INTACTNESS

**49 YEARS AND STILL GROWING!**



New Year's Resolution...Buy Augusta!

New Year's Resolution...Buy Augusta!

New Year's Resolution...Buy Augusta!

New Year's Resolution...Buy Augusta!

New Year's Resolution...Buy Augusta!

New Year's Resolution...Buy Augusta!

**ASHLAND COUNTY 70-ACRE FARM & CHICKEN BARN'S ABSOLUTE AUCTION**

Tillable Land – Move-In Ready Home – 4 Pullet Breeder Houses – Great Location – Instant Income Opportunities

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.

**INSPECTION NOTICE:** The home, property, and poultry barns will be available to view by appointment only due to Livestock Biosecurity. Private showings are available through Andy White, 419-651-2152.

Andy White – Jake White – Drew Turner – Mary Hartley – Seth Andrews, Broker

5% Real Estate Buyer's Premium  
Auction Services  
633-SOLD-RES www.RES.BID

SCAN HERE!



# Strong demand for protein is good news for the U.S. dairy industry

Much of the country was digging out of last weekend's winter storm this week and power was being restored to thousands. Lawmakers in Washington were hoping to avoid a second government shutdown as Friday's deadline approached to approve another funding measure. Unlike the frigid weather, tempers were flaring on Capitol Hill as several lawmakers warned they would not support any legislation containing funding for Immigration and Customs Enforcement, better known as ICE, which has drawn extreme opposition across the country, particularly in Minnesota. And, the Federal Reserve announced that it will hold its key interest rate at current levels.

Meanwhile, you'd think US dairy farms were in the spring flush. December milk output hit 19.568 billion pounds, up 4.4 percent from December 2024. The 24-state total, at 18.823 billion pounds, was up 4.6 percent. Fat and protein were both up from last year, which put component adjusted production up 5.9 percent, according to StoneX.

Production in the 50 states for the quarter totaled 57.8 billion pounds, up 4.2 percent from a year ago. Cow numbers, at 9.56 million, were up 23,000 head from the July to September quarter, and 202,000 more than fourth quarter a year ago.

November milk production was revised up 6 million pounds to 18.796 billion, 4.5 percent above a year ago, and the 24-state total was revised up 3 million pounds, to 18.081 billion,

up 4.7 percent. Output for all of 2025 amounts to 231.482 billion pounds, up 2.5 percent from 2024, and 222.476 billion for the 24 states, up 2.6 percent. Cow numbers for the year were up 148,000 head and output per cow averaged 24,392 pounds, up 214 pounds.

December cows numbered 9.567 million, up 9,000 from the November count, which was revised down 12,000 head, but up 212,000 or 2.3 percent from a year ago. The 24-state count was 9.138 million, up 9,000 from the November total, which was revised down 4,000 head, but is 222,000 or 2.5 percent above a year ago.

December output per cow averaged 2,045 pounds in the 50 states, up 41 pounds or 2.0 percent from a year ago. The 24-state average, at 2,060 pounds, was up 42 pounds or 2.1 percent from 2024. The November average was revised up 4 pounds in the 50 States and 2 pounds in the 24 states.

The USDA's weekly data showed 60,300 head of dairy cattle were sent to slaughter in the week ending Jan. 10, up 14,800 from the previous week, and 4,900 or 8.8 percent above that week a year ago. That brought the year-to-date total to 105,800 head, up 6,300 or 6.3 percent from a year ago.

There's plenty of dairy in the freezer though exports have kept stocks in check. The USDA's latest Cold Stor-

age report showed December butter stocks had shrunk to 199.3 million pounds, down 11.1 million pounds or 5.3 percent from November, and a whopping 14.96 million or 7.0 percent below December 2024.

American type cheese crept to 789.8 million pounds, up 2.5 million or 0.3 percent from the November level, and up 18.6 million pounds or 2.4 percent from a year ago. The "other" cheese holdings climbed to 559.9 million pounds, up 7.2 million or 1.3 percent from November, but were just 468,000 pounds above a year ago.

The total December cheese inventory hit 1.372 billion pounds, up 10.2 million or 0.7 percent from November, and up 18.0 million or 1.3 percent from a year ago. There were no revisions in any of the November data.

One thing for sure that keeps stocks low is consumer demand and there's good news on that front for dairy products. CoBank says, "Consumer demand for foods and beverages with high protein levels continues to surge as a growing percentage of Americans focus on increasing their dietary protein. The sharp rise in demand is shifting buying habits and could ultimately transform the retail grocery space. Food and beverage manufacturers representing a host of product categories are moving quickly to respond with new product offerings and position themselves for success with protein-hungry consumers."

A new report from CoBank states, "This strong consumer demand for protein bodes well for the U.S. dairy industry, given the high protein levels and nutritional qualities in tradition-

(Mielke continued on page 22B)



MIELKE MARKET WEEKLY  
By Lee Mielke

PRIME FARMLAND • 276.28+/- ACRES • CLINTON/BOONE CO, IN

3 TRACTS • POTENTIAL BUILDING SITE • WOODS • CREEK • TOOL SHED

MON. FEBRUARY 23<sup>RD</sup>, 6:30 PM ET

AUCTION

EDWARD JONES COMMUNITY BUILDING  
1701 S JACKSON STREET,  
FRANKFORT, IN 46041

PROPERTY LOCATION: Approx. 7250 S CR 880 W, Colfax, IN 46035 in Perry Township, Clinton County (Tracts 1-2) and Sugar Creek Township, Boone County (Tract 3).

TRACT 1: 155.8+/- Acres  
TRACT 2: 40.48+/- Acres  
TRACT 3: 80+/- Acres

Halderman-Harmeyer Real Estate Services

HALDERMAN REAL ESTATE & FARM MANAGEMENT

Jim Clark: 317.627.6928 | Sam Clark: 317.442.0251

800.424.2324 | halderman.com Farm: Lela Powers Trust  
Auctioneer: Russell D. Harmeyer IN Auct. Lic. #AU10000277, HRES IN Auct. Lic. #AC69200019, HLS#SFC-13195

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10<sup>TH</sup> | 5 PM - 6 PM ET

ONLINE at halderman.com

AUCTION

172+/- ACRES | 4 TRACTS | MARSHALL CO, IN

POTENTIAL BUILDING SITES | CLASSIFIED FOREST PRODUCTIVE FARMLAND | TILLABLE ACREAGE

PROPERTY LOCATION 4 miles northeast of Plymouth, IN in Center Township, Marshall County.

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

HALDERMAN REAL ESTATE & FARM MANAGEMENT

Additional information including photos and drone flight are available at halderman.com.  
Auctioneer: Russell D. Harmeyer IN Auct. Lic. #AU10000277, HRES IN Auct. Lic. #AC69200019, HLS#AJJ-13191 Farm: Crocker

TRACT 1

TRACT 4

HIGH QUALITY FARMLAND

THURS. FEBRUARY 26<sup>TH</sup>, 4 PM - 6 PM CT

ONLINE at halderman.com

AUCTION

478+/- ACRES • 3 TRACTS • BUREAU CO, IL  
PATTERN TILE • CENTER PIVOT IRRIGATION

PROPERTY LOCATION: Along 150 East and CR 1800 N in Mineral, IL of Mineral and Gold Township in Bureau County.

John Bechman: 765.404.0396 | Josh Wagenbach: 219.863.0870

HALDERMAN REAL ESTATE & FARM MANAGEMENT

Auctioneer: Russell D. Harmeyer IL Auct. Lic. #441.002337, HRES IL Auct. Lic. #417.013288, Seller: Gripp Farm, HLS# JRB-13196

TRACT 1

TRACT 2

TRACT 3

HIGH QUALITY TILLABLE FARMLAND & SOILS

LAPORTE CO, IN  
WILLS TWP

ONLINE at halderman.com

AUCTION

PROPERTY LOCATION: 4 miles southeast of New Carlisle, IN along the intersection of 250 N and 1100 E.

81.78+/- ACRES

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

TUESDAY  
FEBRUARY 17<sup>TH</sup>  
4 PM - 6 PM CT  
OR 5 PM - 7 PM ET

Nolan Sampson: 219.575.1486 | Larry Smith: 219.716.4041

HALDERMAN REAL ESTATE & FARM MANAGEMENT

Auctioneer: Russell D. Harmeyer IN Auct. Lic. #AU10000277, HRES IN Auct. Lic. #AC69200019, Seller: Braid Farm, HLS# NAS-13176

HALDERMAN

REAL ESTATE & FARM MANAGEMENT

UPCOMING AUCTIONS

CLINTON CO, IN: FEBRUARY 9 (ONLINE) 165.48+/- Acres • 3 Tracts  
Prime Tillable Farmland • Potential Building Site • Creek  
Contact: Sam Clark: 317.442.0251 or Jim Clark: 317.627.6928

MARSHALL CO, IN: FEBRUARY 10 (ONLINE) 172+/- Acres  
4 Tracts • Tillable • Potential Building Sites • Woods Contact:  
AJ Jordan: 317.697.3086, Jon Rosen: 260.740.1846 or Larry Jordan: 765.473.5849

LAPORTE CO, IN: FEBRUARY 17 (ONLINE) 81.78+/- Acres  
High Quality Tillable Farmland & Soils  
Contact: Nolan Sampson: 219.575.1486 or Larry Smith: 219.716.4041

LAPORTE CO, IN: FEBRUARY 18 (ONLINE) 205+/- Acres  
Productive Cropland • Whitetail & Turkey Habitat • Storage Shed  
Contact: Nolan Sampson: 219.575.1486 or Larry Smith: 219.716.4041

BOONE/CLINTON CO, IN: FEBRUARY 23 (LIVE)  
276.28+/- Acres • 3 Tracts • Prime Farmland • Creek • Tool Shed  
Tillable Acreage • Woods • Potential Building Site  
Contact: Jim Clark: 317.627.6928 or Sam Clark: 317.442.0251

NEW! BUREAU CO, IL: FEBRUARY 26 (ONLINE) 478+/- Acres  
High Quality Farmland • Pattern Tile • Center Pivot Irrigation  
3 Tracts Contact: John Bechman: 765.404.0396 or Josh Wagenbach: 219.863.0870

NEW! PULASKI CO, IN: MARCH 2 (ONLINE) 200+/- Acres • 4 Tracts  
Large Investment Property • Farmhouse • Wildlife Contact: Josh  
Wagenbach: 219.863.0870, AJ Jordan: 317.697.3086 or Larry Jordan: 765.473.5849

NEW! WAYNE CO, IN: MARCH 3 (ABSOLUTE - ONLINE) • 2 Tracts  
98.37+/- Acres • Tillable Cropland • Home • Woods Contact: Chris  
Peacock: 765.546.0592, Lauren Peacock: 765.546.7359 or Rusty Harmeyer: 765.570.8118

800.424.2324 | halderman.com

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Online Only February Auctions

EQUIPMENT EXCHANGE

THE WENDT GROUP

AUCTION OPENS: TUES, FEBRUARY 10TH AT 12 NOON  
Begins to Close: Wed, Feb. 11th at 12 Noon  
with staggered closing

FOUND on the FARM

AUCTION OPENS: WED, FEBRUARY 11TH AT 12 NOON  
Begins to Close: Thurs, Feb. 12th at 12 Noon  
with staggered closing











ALL EQUIPMENT REMAINS AT SELLERS LOCATION. ADDRESSES CAN BE FOUND WITH EACH LOT ON THE WEBSITE.

CONTACT AN AGENT TODAY TO ADD YOUR EQUIPMENT

Tyler Wilt at 740-572-1249 or Tyler@thewendtgroup.com

Dale Evans at 260-894-0458 or Dale@thewendtgroup.com

Kasey Smith at 740-505-8845 or Kasey@thewendtgroup.com

Kevin Wendt at 614-626-7653 or Kevin@thewendtgroup.com

Keagan Nicol 937-594-8146 or keagan@thewendtgroup.com

WJ Fannin at 614-395-9802 or wj@thewendtgroup.com

REGISTER & BID ONLINE @ WWW.THEWENDTGROUP.COM • 614.626.SOLD

EQUIPMENT EXCHANGE			FOUND ON THE FARM		
2026	Auction Date	Equipment Due	2026	Auction Date	Equipment Due
Mar.	3/11	2/18	Mar.	3/12	2/18
Apr.	4/8	3/18	Apr.	4/9	3/18
May	5/13	4/22	May	5/14	4/22
Jun.	6/10	5/20	Jun.	6/11	5/20
Jul.	7/8	6/17	Jul.	7/9	6/17
Aug.	8/12	7/22	Aug.	8/13	7/22
Sept.	9/9	8/19	Sept.	9/10	8/19
Oct.	10/14	9/23	Oct.	10/15	9/23
Nov.	11/11	10/21	Nov.	11/12	10/21
Dec.	12/9	11/18	Dec.	12/10	11/18



# Next week, the day's length will be a full hour longer than it was Dec. 26

Whistling winds, frosts and flowers, icicles and snowy towers, new-born clouds and aether low'es, these and more are seasonal sprights, evenings dark and dismal nights, rural storms and dreary sights. – Columbian Almanack for 1789

Phases of the Tufted Titmouse moon  
And the Red-Winged Blackbird Moon

Feb. 9: The Tufted Titmouse Moon enters its final quarter.

Feb. 17: The Red-winged Blackbird Moon is new.

Feb. 24: The Moon enters its second quarter.

## The February Outlook for Southwestern Ohio and the Lower Midwest

A typical February brings one day with highs in the 60s, two or three in the 50s, a week in the 40s, eight to 10 days in the 30s, six in the 20s and one or two days only in the teens or single digits. There is a 50 percent chance of a morning or two below zero.

The coldest part of February usually falls between the 1st and the 14th. Early Spring, a pivotal warming time, occurs by the 17th seven years out of 10. Wildflower foliage begins to appear; bulbs push up; buds swell on the trees; groundhogs and opossums become more active.

The February days with at least a 40 percent chance of highs only in the 20s or below are the 6th, 7th, 8th and 12th. The warmest days, those with a 30 percent chance of highs above 50, are the 15th, 18th, 19th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd and 28th. The 22nd is typically the warmest day of all, having a 50 percent chance of highs above 50 degrees.

The normal precipitation for Feb-

ruary (in water equivalent) is 2.11 inches, the second lowest of the year. The wettest February days, those with at least a 50 percent chance of precipitation, are the 6th, 11th, 14th, 15th and 21st. Snow is most likely to fall on the 11th and 12th, and the 25th.

The driest February days, those that bring a 20 percent chance or less for precipitation, are the 7th, 8th, 10th and 20th. The percentage of possible sunshine increases 4 percent from that of January, up to 45 percent. The sunniest February days, those with at least a 60 percent chance of sun, are the 23rd, 26th, 27th and 28th. The days that have at least a 60 percent chance of clouds are the 6th, 11th, 14th, 16th, 17th, 19th, 21st, and 22nd.

Six to eight major banks of high pressure move across the Midwest this month. The first four February weather systems belong to the sub-season of Late Winter, the last three to Early Spring. Frozen precipitation usually precedes these fronts except between the 17th and 23rd, when the amount of snow often decreases to November levels.

## The Natural Calendar

The Groundhog Day Thaw gets underway by the 1st of February as the last cold front of January moves east. Thunderstorms can make their appearance with that thaw, and the temperature of the earth sometimes surges well above 40 degrees, telling the pastures to start growing.

In the gentle, wet nights around Groundhog Day, you will catch the first whiff of spring skunk. In the

daytime, you can pick new mint leaves in the woods, and find the pale Asian lady bugs emerging in the sun all around your house.

Robins and bluebirds arrived the last week of January. Now juncos are flocking all along the backroads, getting ready for their migration north. Sparrows are mating, and the great morning chorus that lasts deep into summer is well underway, the starlings whistling and chattering by a quarter to eight, the crows and cardinals and doves joining in. Male blue jays are bobbing up and down, talking to their mates.

By the 12th, the day's length is a full hour longer than it was on December 26th, and the brighter afternoons tell the groundhogs and opossums that it's mating time. Raccoons and skunks seek partners too, and the beavers are pairing off. Owls sit on their eggs, and horned larks migrate. Flies appear in the sunny corners of the barn.

Then on the 18th day of the year's second month, the sun reaches a declination of 11 degrees, 53 minutes, the halfway point to equinox. The sun enters Pisces at the same time, and initiates the season of Early Spring, a six-week period of changeable conditions, infiltrated ever so slowly by warmer temperatures that finally bring the first trees and the early bulbs to bloom.

By the 19th, moss will be growing a little more on the old logs, and crocus, daffodil and tulip foliage will have pushed out above the mulch. Garlic planted in late November will be at least 6 inches tall. The first rhubarb leaves will be unfolding. Henbit can be blossoming in the alleys, skunk

cabbage in the swamps, aconites and snowdrops in a yard or two.

These soft days of Early Spring tell Canadian geese, mallards, canvas-back ducks and killdeer to check out sites for laying eggs. Jenny wrens are making nests, and the milder afternoons call out the moths and water striders. Earthworms become active again; any day now, you will see them crossing roads and sidewalks in the lukewarm rains.

Ragwort and dock grow back in the swamps during Early Spring. A few deep red peony stalks appear underneath the mulch. Then more yellow aconite, white snow drops and yellow and purple snow crocus bloom. Pussy willows open wide.

Then, the last week of the month, as the Moon wanes into its final quarter, along comes Snowdrop Winter Week, a time of meteorological ambivalence, promising hepatica, then backsliding.

First the warmth: The fifth major high-pressure system of February comes through on the 20th, but it is typically the weakest front of the month, and highs reach above 50 (and sometimes even 60) three days in 10, and another five in 10 are in the mild 40s. And this week brings the first day since November 28th that the chances for highs just in the 20s or teens falls to almost zero!

Then a step backward: Snowdrop Winter arrives on the 24th, often one of the windiest days of the month, and colder temperatures often return for up to 72 hours. Snow or sleet falls almost half the time, but this is the last week of winter that chances for frozen precipitation climb so high.

On the 26th, Snowdrop Winter starts to recede, and from that day

(Poor Will continued on page 16B)



**Now Accepting Consignments**

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**LATE MODEL AG & CONSTRUCTION AUCTION**

72435 State Road 15 • New Paris, IN 46553

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2026 @ 8:30 AM EST**

**Selling 2 RINGS ALL DAY So bring a friend!!**

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SEMI TRUCKS • TRAILERS • SKID STEER ATTACHMENTS  
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**REAL ESTATE & PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION**

Featuring the Kennedy Estate  
Two Properties Available

**AUCTION DATE: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2026**  
**PERSONAL PROPERTY BEGINS:**  
**10:00 AM and Real Estate Begins: Approx. 12:00 PM (noon)**

**LOCATIONS:**  
• **415 N. Cherry St. (Commercial Building)**  
• **130 & 132 E. High St. (Building Lot)**  
**EATON, OHIO 45320**  
Preble County – Washington Township – Eaton City Schools



**415 N. Cherry St. (Former Renner's Feed Store)**  
Owned by James Kennedy Estate.  
now used as a warehouse, 6,250 sq. ft. with overhead doors on both east and west sides  
West side unloading dock  
Storefront and feed mill still have most original equipment

**SHOP ITEMS:** Hand and power tools, plumbing and electrical supplies, scrap metals (wire, copper, iron), rough-sawn lumber, pallet racking, shelving, stainless-steel sinks, and more (details forthcoming).

**NOTE:** Pallet racking, shelving, parts bins, fuel tanks, and stainless-steel sinks are sold separately at Auction and not included with the property.

The building is available for viewing by appointment only.  
Please contact Bob 937-533-7081



**130 & 132 E. High St. is a vacant corner lot at High & Cherry St., next to 415 N. Cherry St. It will be offered at Auction following 415 Cherry St. Estate of James D. Kennedy**

**ADMINISTRATOR:** Diane L. Crosby  
• **ATTORNEY:** Dirk Earley  
• Preble Co. Probate Case #20251146

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Please check our website for updated listing. Live on-site Auction with pre-bidding only will be offered on real estate & select items of interest for personal & shop items. Pre-bidding is open now; all pre-bids will be used during the live portion of the Auction. Internet bidding is subject to bp & other terms. **Loader will be available on day of Auction & Monday.**

**TERMS**

- Payment accepted: Cash, pre-approved checks, or credit card (3.5% fee).
- Online purchases include a buyer's premium.
- For online purchases over \$100.00, payment must be made by wire transfer by the next business day.
- Call for a buyer's packet-real estate Auction Terms.

**WALNUT HARVEST AUCTIONS, LLC**  
Bob Roach Auctioneer & Realtor, 937.533.7081  
Anna Marie Roach, Manager & Realtor 937.657.5626  
Lucky Montoya, Auctioneer, & Realtor 937.313.1660

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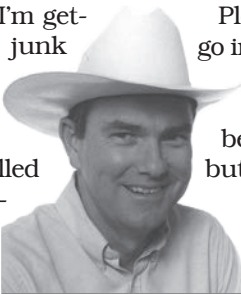


# Letter may be a good way to scam a scammer

I don't know about you but I'm getting sick and tired of getting junk emails from a Nigerian Prince with a convoluted get-rich-scam. The Prince says in broken English and misspelled words that all he needs is a little seed money and we're both gonna get rich. Such emails have been floating around the internet for decades now and the process has become known as "phishing." I used to think that no sane person would fall for such a scheme, but I actually know someone who fell for a similar scam and ended up losing \$450,000! And this person was a lawyer and a local politician which makes me question the intelligence of our elected officials.

This Nigerian Prince must be filthy rich by now so I figured, who better to send my own phishing email? Here's the email I wrote to the Prince that you might want to borrow:

Dear Beloved Friend Prince Badari Kumalo Surugala,



It's THE PITTS  
By Lee Pitts

Please permit me of my desire to go into a business relationship with you. I'm writing to you because I know you are a trustworthy benefactor who has lots of money but no brains.

I am currently writing this email from the county jail with tears in my eyes and a heavy heart. I swear on my mother's grave that I am being wrongly held against my will and can't afford a good lawyer (if there is such a thing). I don't know if I can stand too much more abuse before I will hang myself with my own shoelaces. We're fed a mushy maggot-infested gruel once a day, forced to sleep on the concrete floor, they beat us incessantly and pipe rap music over the intercom 24 hours a day to drive us all crazy. I believe this violates the Geneva Convention as cruel and inhumane treatment. You, my dearest friend, are my last and only hope.

I know you will be curious as to how I got your name. A fellow inmate told me about you and said that you were

so burdened with money that you use hundred dollar bills to light your cigars, your net worth is more than most African countries, and even your pedigreed pooch has its own mansion and chauffeur-driven Mercedes so he can chase cars anytime he wants to. Hearing how you acquired your wealth has inspired me and gave me the idea that you are a good man who might want to throw down a ladder to help a poor, wrongly accused person.

The local sheriff arrested me for rustling cattle but I swear I am innocent. I urgently need \$50,000 to pay my bond and legally break out of this prison. If you would please send \$50,000 via a wire transfer to my account at the Secret Bank of Switzerland, account number (# redacted). I need this to happen immediately because once I am convicted of a crime, that I swear I did not commit, I will be locked up in a dungeon far worse than even my current abode. Paying my bond would allow me some time to gather up all my cattle, brand them and sell them to a cartel in

Mexico who are looking for a backhaul for their drug smugglers and mules. I have dealt with these cartel members previously and found them to be reliable and reputable. I, like you, am not a greedy person and once the cattle are sold I'll split the proceeds with you on a 50/50 basis. I figure your share easily will come to more than \$250,000!

To wire your share of the proceeds I will need your bank name, account number, mother's maiden name, name of your pet and your secret password.

I pray that I have chosen wisely in selecting Your Highness as a business partner to benefit from this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. May you be blessed as you extend your helping hand to a needy person who is in the same dire straits as you were many years ago.

Your humble servant,  
Lee Pitts (prisoner # redacted)

P.S. Please be advised that it could take some time before I'm able to send your share of the money because I have to let the brands scab over before I can sell the cattle.

# LIVE ONSITE AUCTION

HERRON AUCTION & REALTY HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED TO SELL THE FOLLOWING:

**170.23+/- ACRES • 50 POULTRY BROILER HOUSES • 5 RESIDENTIAL HOMES • OFFERED IN 9 TRACTS**

WEBSTER COUNTY, KY and MCLEAN COUNTY, KY

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH @ 10AM CST**

**www.herronauctions.com**

**BID ONSITE OR ONLINE**

**OFFERED IN 9 TRACTS**

**Tract #1** 1866 Gravel Pit Road, Sebree, KY 42455

**21.51± ACRES**

- 21.51+/- Acres of Land and 8 Poultry Broiler Houses
- Each Broiler house is 43ft x 510ft (built in 1997)
- Private Location
- Easy Access
- Pond on property
- Approximately 12 miles to Tyson Processing Plant & Hatchery
- County Water
- Interior Gravel Road access to structures



**Tract #2** 53 Honeysuckle Lane, Sebree, KY 42455

**13.181± ACRES**

- 13.181+/- Acres of Land and 8 Poultry Broiler Houses
- Each Broiler house is 43ft x 510ft (built in 1997)
- Quiet location on the outskirts of Onton Ky.
- Approximately 1,800 feet of gravel road frontage on Honeysuckle Lane
- County Water
- Only 1/2 mile to the Gravel Pit Road farm
- Tracts 3 & 4 directly across Honeysuckle Lane



**Tract #3** 70 Honeysuckle Lane, Sebree, KY 42455

**6.477± ACRES**

- 6.477+/- Acres of Land and Single Family Home
- 1,620 square feet of living space
- 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms
- Built in 1998
- Vinyl siding and concrete block foundation
- Peaceful location with pond on property and serene country living



**Tract #4** Honeysuckle Lane, Sebree, KY 42455

**4.48± ACRES**

- 4.48+/- Acre vacant lot
- Approximately 350 feet of frontage on Honeysuckle Lane
- Peaceful and Quiet Country Property
- Located Between Sebree and Onton
- Adjoins tract 3



**Tract #5** 1714 Wrightsburg Road, Sebree, KY 42455

**14± ACRES**

- 14+/- Acres of land and 4 Poultry Broiler Houses with Compost Shed
- Property on the corner of Wrightsburg Rd and BD Luck Rd near Onton Ky.
- Each Broiler house is 43ft x 510ft (built in 1997)
- 48X80 Compost Shed built in 2015
- Approximately 350 feet of blacktop road frontage on Wrightsburg Rd
- Approximately 1,300 feet of blacktop road frontage on BD Luck Rd
- Easy access with interior gravel road
- Close to Tyson Processing Plant
- Potential for multiple alternative uses



**Tract #6** 1061 Collins Road, Sebree, KY 42455

**40.326± ACRES**

- 40.326+/- Acres of Land, 8 Poultry Broiler Houses and Single Family Home
- Property is on both sides of Collins Road
- Each Poultry House is 43ft x 510ft (built in 1997)
- 1,690 square feet of living space in home with carport
- 3 bedroom 2 bathroom
- Country Cottage home with aluminum siding, metal roof, and one story
- 8+/- acres of row crop tillable ground
- 8+/- acres of pasture and pond for livestock
- Great location with approximately 1,040 feet of blacktop road frontage
- Only 5 miles to Sebree



**Tract #7** 1097 Collins Road, Sebree, KY 42455

**16.52± ACRES**

- 16.52+/- Acres of Land w/ 8 Poultry Broiler Houses and Single Family Home
- Each Poultry Broiler house is 43ft x 510 (built in 1997)
- Ranch style vinyl sided home with metal roof and 1,620 square feet of living space
- 3 bedrooms 2 full bathrooms built in 1997
- Private location
- Access of Collins Road with easement
- Only 7 miles to Tyson Processing Plant
- 5 minutes to Sebree



**Tract #8** 1842 Ky. Highway 56 N., Calhoun, KY 42327

**16.856± ACRES**

- 16.856+/- of Land w/ 6 Poultry Broiler Houses and Single Family Home
- Each Poultry Broiler House is 43ft x 510ft (built in 1997)
- 8 broiler house sites initially, 2 structures damaged in storm
- One story 3 bedroom 2 bathroom vinyl sided home w/ metal roof
- 1,360 square feet of living space
- Blacktop road frontage
- County water
- Close to Owensboro and Calhoun
- Only 6 miles to Tyson Hatchery and 13 miles to Processing Plant
- Lots of potential for alternative uses



**Tract #9** 2500 Ky. Highway 56 N., Calhoun, KY 42327

**16.52± ACRES**

- 36.88+/- acres of Land w/ 8 Poultry Broiler Houses, Compost Shed, & Single Family Home
- Each Poultry Broiler House is 43ft x 510ft (built in 1997)
- 40x120 Compost shed
- Pond and mixture of woods
- One story aluminum sided home w/ metal roof
- 3 bdrms 2 bths w/ 1360 sq ft of living space
- Adjoins tract 8
- County water
- Easy access



**Tract #1** 1866 Gravel Pit Road, Sebree, KY 42455

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- Approximately 1,800 feet of gravel road frontage on Honeysuckle Lane
- County Water
- Only 1/2 mile to the Gravel Pit Road farm
- Tracts 3 & 4 directly across Honeysuckle Lane



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- 8+/- acres of pasture and pond for livestock
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- 3 bedrooms 2 full bathrooms built in 1997
- Private location
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- Only 7 miles to Tyson Processing Plant
- 5 minutes to Sebree



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- Each Poultry Broiler House is 43ft x 510ft (built in 1997)
- 40x120 Compost shed
- Pond and mixture of woods
- One story aluminum sided home w/ metal roof
- 3 bdrms 2 bths w/ 1360 sq ft of living space
- Adjoins tract 8
- County water
- Easy access



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- 1,690 square feet of living space in home with carport
- 3 bedroom 2 bathroom
- Country Cottage home with aluminum siding, metal roof, and one story
- 8+/- acres of row crop tillable ground
- 8+/- acres of pasture and pond for livestock
- Great location with approximately 1,040 feet of blacktop road frontage
- Only 5 miles to Sebree



**Tract #7** 1097 Collins Road, Sebree, KY 42455

**16.52± ACRES**

- 16.52+/- Acres of Land w/ 8 Poultry Broiler Houses and Single Family Home
- Each Poultry Broiler house is 43ft x 510 (built in 1997)
- Ranch style vinyl sided home with metal roof and 1,620 square feet of living space
- 3 bedrooms 2 full bathrooms built in 1997
- Private location
- Access of Collins Road with easement
- Only 7 miles to Tyson Processing Plant
- 5 minutes to Sebree



**Tract #8** 1842 Ky. Highway 56 N., Calhoun, KY 42327

**16.856± ACRES**

- 16.856+/- of Land w/ 6 Poultry Broiler Houses and Single Family Home
- Each Poultry Broiler House is 43ft x 510ft (built in 1997)
- 8 broiler house sites initially, 2 structures damaged in storm
- One story 3 bedroom 2 bathroom vinyl sided home w/ metal roof
- 1,360 square feet of living space
- Blacktop road frontage
- County water
- Close to Owensboro and Calhoun
- Only 6 miles to Tyson Hatchery and 13 miles to Processing Plant
- Lots of potential for alternative uses



**Tract #9** 2500 Ky. Highway 56 N., Calhoun, KY 42327

**16.52± ACRES**

- 36.88+/- acres of Land w/ 8 Poultry Broiler Houses, Compost Shed, & Single Family Home
- Each Poultry Broiler House is 43ft x 510ft (built in 1997)
- 40x120 Compost shed
- Pond and mixture of woods
- One story aluminum sided home w/ metal roof
- 3 bdrms 2 bths w/ 1360 sq ft of living space
- Adjoins tract 8
- County water
- Easy access



**Tract #1** 1866 Gravel Pit Road, Sebree, KY 42455

**21.51± ACRES**

- 21.51+/- Acres of Land and 8 Poultry Broiler Houses
- Each Broiler house is 43ft x 510ft (built in 1997)
- Private Location
- Easy Access
- Pond on property
- Approximately 12 miles to Tyson Processing Plant & Hatchery
- County Water
- Interior Gravel Road access to structures



**Tract #2** 53 Honeysuckle Lane, Sebree, KY 42455

**13.181± ACRES**

- 13.181+/- Acres of Land and 8 Poultry Broiler Houses
- Each Broiler house is 43ft x 510ft (built in 1997)
- Quiet location on the outskirts of Onton Ky.
- Approximately 1,800 feet of gravel road frontage on Honeysuckle Lane
- County Water
- Only 1/2 mile to the Gravel Pit Road farm
- Tracts 3 & 4 directly across Honeysuckle Lane



**Tract #3** 70 Honeysuckle Lane, Sebree, KY 42455

**6.477± ACRES**

- 6.477+/- Acres of Land and Single Family Home
- 1,620 square feet of living space
- 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms
- Built in 1998
- Vinyl siding and concrete block foundation
- Peaceful location with pond on property and serene country living



**Tract #4** Honeysuckle Lane, Sebree, KY 42455

**4.48± ACRES**

- 4.48+/- Acre vacant lot
- Approximately 350 feet of frontage on Honeysuckle Lane
- Peaceful and Quiet Country Property
- Located Between Sebree and Onton
- Adjoins tract 3



**Tract #5** 1714 Wrightsburg Road, Sebree, KY 42455

**14± ACRES**

- 14+/- Acres of land and 4 Poultry Broiler Houses with Compost Shed
- Property on the corner of Wrightsburg Rd and BD Luck Rd near Onton Ky.
- Each Broiler house is 43ft x 510ft (built in 1997)
- 48X80 Compost Shed built in 2015
- Approximately 350 feet of blacktop road frontage on Wrightsburg Rd
- Approximately 1,300 feet of blacktop road frontage on BD Luck Rd
- Easy access with interior gravel road
- Close to Tyson Processing Plant
- Potential for multiple alternative uses



**Tract #6** 1061 Collins Road, Sebree, KY 42455

**40.326± ACRES**

- 40.326+/- Acres of Land, 8 Poultry Broiler Houses and Single Family Home
- Property is on both sides of Collins Road
- Each Poultry House is 43ft x 510ft (built in 1997)
- 1,690 square feet of living space in home with carport
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# Poor Will

FROM PAGE 16B

forward, average temperatures swell one degree every 72 hours (instead of every 24 to 36 hours) until the second week of June, and each day now brings some visible, measurable rise in the fortunes of spring.

## In the Field and Garden

It's not too early to feed your bulbs with liquid fertilizer before major blooming time begins. Mardi Gras is Feb. 17. Consider advertising your lambs and kids to this barbecue market.

When the land is ready, worm livestock before turning them out to pasture. Mares show signs of estrus as the days grow longer. The last of the lambs and kids conceived in middle autumn are born.

Barometric changes can trigger flare-ups of arthritis in people and also in your pets and livestock. Add paprika mixed in molasses if you think an animal is suffering from joint pain.

When aconites bloom, then spread fertilizer in the field and garden so that it can work its way into the ground before planting. When maple sap runs, then prune house plants to encourage spring growth.

## Countdown to Spring

- Just a few days until doves join the cardinals singing before dawn
- Two weeks until the first red-winged blackbirds arrive
- Two and a half weeks to the first snowdrop bloom and the official start of early spring – a time when maple sap season can begin at any moment
- Three weeks to major pussy willow emerging season
- Four weeks to crocus season and owl hatching time
- Five weeks to the beginning of the morning robin chorus before sunrise
- Six weeks to daffodil season and silver maple blooming season

## Journal

One learns a landscape finally not by knowing the name or identity of everything in it, but by perceiving the relationships in it – like that between the sparrow and the twig. The difference between the relationships

and the elements is the same as that between written history and a catalogue of events.

Barry Lopez

The flowering season has just barely begun, and one might take an early inventory of the land before momentum builds much more. The exact end of winter came well before the most recent thaws, arriving unseen in the coldest weeks of the year when the March and April bulbs followed their own subterranean schedules and pushed up beneath the snow.

The cardinals, titmice and doves noted the temporal shift, even though the weather was harsh and the landscape white. While the sun and birds are already well on their way to equinox, however, the vegetation that now appears across local yards and gardens has changed little in the past weeks; it easily becomes a definition of the fulcrum that balances winter on one side and spring on the other.

Walking through town on Valentine's Day, I found that some daffodils were 2 inches high, and a few tulips and hyacinths were up at least an inch. Snowdrops, snow crocus and aconite were ready to bloom. Lilac buds were swollen, fat green and gold. Even on the old pussy willow branches, a few catkins were cracking. Garlic mustard, wild mallow and henbit were growing new leaves. A monarda patch showed half-inch foliage. Chickweed, wild strawberry, celandine, wild onion, hollyhock, sweet William, lamb's ear, lungwort, dandelion, motherwort, and great mullein had remained intact from fall and were waiting for a little more sun.

Spring, of course, is as much a state of mind as a state of nature. The beauty of a seasonal inventory is that there is never a correct number of things to find. The end of winter always appears in the eye of the beholder. Critical mass for the arrival of spring rests less on the total quantity of observations than on one crucial scent or sight or sound that tips the scales of private time. Each person encounters that pivotal event at a different moment and in a different way. Whenever that realization does occur (for Barry Lopez – when the relationship is formed), then the entire scaffolding of the old year collapses and all the pieces of the new year take on meaning as they fall into place.



*Like to be noticed?*  
*You will be seen in*  
**FarmWorld**

ATTENTION LANDOWNERS & FAMILY FARM OWNERS

Join us for Lunch, Program and visit with fellow landowners on **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27<sup>th</sup>** 11:30 AM to 2:00 PM

**BECK AGRICULTURAL CENTER**  
WEST LAFAYETTE  
4550 US 52 W, West Lafayette, IN 47906

Meet Schrader Representatives and learn about the current farmland market. Also hear comments about estate planning, unique 1031 exchange opportunities, and tax strategies from Discipline Advisors.

*Farm Owners, Spouses, Attorneys and Trustees Welcome.*  
*No charge for program. Lunch with great fun and farm fellowship expected.*

Reservations Required! To RSVP by Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup> or Questions, Please Call Toll Free

**SCHRADER** 800-451-2709 • SchraderAuction.com

**UPDATE**  
**LAND VALUE**  
**TRENDS and**  
**COMMODITY**  
**MARKETS**

# 2nd Annual Steinke Tractor Spring Consignment Sale

Saturday, April 11, 2026 @ 9:00 AM  
707 S Barron Street, EATON, OH 45320

**Auctioneer's Note:** The 2nd Annual Steinke Tractor Spring Consignment Auction will be held at Steinke Tractor, in Eaton, Ohio and will include live simulcast bidding for those who cannot attend in person. The online bidding will take place at [harmeyerauction.hibid.com](http://harmeyerauction.hibid.com). Contact us today to consign your items! Visit [www.harmeyerauction.net](http://www.harmeyerauction.net) for complete details & updates on inventory often.

Currently Accepting Good Quality Consignments!  
**Accepting Consignments March 14th-April 7th**  
Monday thru Friday: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Saturday: 9:00 a.m.-Noon  
**\*No consignments accepted after April 7th\***  
**NOTE: \*Absolutely No Household Goods \* No smalls \* Ag Tires considered \* Items accepted at the discretion of the sale committee.**

For information or to consign:  
Call Steinke Tractor 937-456-4271,  
Gene Steiner 513-616-4086 or Harmeyer Auction & Appraisal Co. 765-561-1671  
**\*Auction day announcements take precedence over printed material.\***

[www.harmeyerauction.net](http://www.harmeyerauction.net)  
**Harmeyer**  
AUCTION & APPRAISAL CO.

# Eastern Indiana Land AUCTION

Cambridge City, IN (WAYNE COUNTY)

**THURSDAY, February 19<sup>th</sup> @ 11 AM**

**30<sup>±</sup> Acres**  
Offered in 2 Tracts

**AUCTION SITE:** Golay Community Center, 1007 E Main St, Cambridge City, IN 47327  
**PROPERTY LOCATION:** 14661 Goose Heaven Rd., Cambridge City, IN 47327

**INSPECTION DATES:** 10AM-11AM  
Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup> | Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup>

- 2 miles Northeast of Cambridge City, IN • 2026 Crop rights to Buyer
- Country Home in convenient location • Easy I-70 Access at Exit 137
  - Small farms like these are very hard to find
  - High Tinsel fence on 3 sides of the property
- ATTENTION: Crop Farmers – Rural Home Buyers – Produce Farmers

**OWNER: D & A Worl LLC | Sales Manager: Andy Walther: 765-969-0401**

**SCHRADER** Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc.  
RB14024625, AU19400167, CO81291723, AC63001504

CALL FOR BROCHURE OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE  
**800-451-2709 • SchraderAuction.com**  
• ONLINE BIDDING AVAILABLE •

# LAND AUCTION

**Champaign/Clark Co. Area Land Auction**  
**Cropland ♦ Pasture Land ♦ Building Sites**  
**Thursday ♦ February 19 ♦ 1:00 PM**

**Farm Location:** 3760 Middle Urbana Rd. Urbana, OH  
**Auction Location:** Champaign County Fairgrounds, Urbana, OH

**deal mix of homesites, pasture, farmland, and recreation. 6 lots include: 5+ acre, perc-tested building sites. 3 larger tracts: 25.5 & 39 acres with pond, rolling pasture great for horses, hunting, or mini-farms; 78± acres with 60 tillable, pond, and woods excellent for farming or investment. Buy one, a combo, or the whole farm! Just north of the Clark County line.**

**INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY!**  
Call or visit us on the web for a complete Bidder Package

**SHERIDANS** is a leader in the sale of land throughout Ohio. Call today for a no-fee consultation to discuss your buying or selling needs.

**SHERIDANS** LLC  
[www.SheridanTeam.com](http://www.SheridanTeam.com)  
(937) 766-2300

# 55<sup>±</sup> Land AUCTION

HUNTINGTON COUNTY, IN • ROANOKE AREA

*acres* **Wed, March 4 at 6:00pm**  
at American Legion Post 160, 1122 N Main St, Roanoke, IN • Online Bidding Available

**OFFERED IN 3 TRACTS OR COMBINATIONS**  
at the intersection of N Mayne Rd and E Station Rd, Roanoke

**Previews: 4:00-6:00pm**  
**Tues, February 17 & 24**  
Or contact Jerry Ehle for walkover inspections permission.

**OWNERS:** Garwood Farms, LLC, Michael R. Garwood, Sasha L. Mosser, Travis J. Garwood, Tessa Fulghum, Logan E Garwood

- Scenic Potential Building Sites
- Quality Tillable Soils
- Abundance Of Road Frontage
- Easy Access To Major Highways
- Short Drive To Downtown Roanoke
- Immediate Possession After Closing

**SCHRADER** Auction Mgr: Jerry Ehle • 260.410.1996  
AC63001504, LC20700176 *of Fort Wayne* 260-749-0445 • SchraderFortWayne.com



# Biblical teamwork in the Church: Lessons from Acts 6

Acts 6:3 “Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.”



VERSES FROM MAMA  
By Sandra Sheridan

Large projects often move forward more effectively when a qualified team works together. When each collaborator faithfully fulfills their role, the end result is stronger, healthier and more effective. This is true in every area of life – and especially in ministry.

Our family business models this philosophy of teamwork well. We are a small, family-owned real estate and auction company with several distinct areas of focus.

All the moving parts of our business require a diverse team of qualified and experienced people. Each employee oversees their specific area of service with excellence, allowing us to serve our clients well and operate smoothly. The early church faced a similar need for teamwork. After the coming of the Spirit, the number of believers multiplied rapidly. As the church grew, challenges naturally arose, particularly concerning how people were being cared for.

The Hellenistic Jews, Greek-speaking Jewish believers, raised concerns that their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. Feeling that these women were not receiving equitable care, they brought

the issue to the apostles. Recognizing their limitations, the apostles gathered the believers together. They explained that overseeing the food distribution would pull them away from their primary calling: prayer and the ministry of the Word. Instead, they proposed a wise solution: select seven men who were known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom and entrust them with this responsibility. The plan was well received. The believers chose seven godly men and presented them to the apostles. The leaders prayed, laid hands on them, and commissioned them for the work – and the ministry flourished. As each person focused on their God-given role, the Word of God spread rapidly. The number of disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem. These early growing pains highlight-

ed a timeless spiritual truth: God’s work thrives when His people serve together, each in their proper role. The Apostle Paul later reinforced this truth in 1 Corinthians 12, describing the church as the body of Christ. God intentionally places each member within the body just as He desires. Every believer is baptized by one Spirit and gifted uniquely, just as hands, feet, and eyes each serve a different yet vital function in the human body. Just as it wouldn’t work for one employee to try to handle every task our business requires, the church cannot function as God intended unless each person faithfully does what God has called them to do. When believers work together in unity, the message of the gospel spreads, and God’s kingdom grows. Are you part of God’s family? Then you have a purpose to fulfill. Your role matters. Serve together in the power of the Holy Spirit, and God’s work will be done well.

## Richland County, Ohio, cultivating minds through ag literacy program

By Mike Tanchevski  
Ohio Correspondent

RICHLAND COUNTY, Ohio – When a second-grade teacher in Richland County asked her class, “What is agriculture?” only a few students volunteered a reply. One hour later, after engaging with a hands-on literacy kit, every hand in the room shot up. “To me, that was awesome,” Richland County Farm Bureau Organization Director Abra Dunn said. “Even the teacher praised us. She said, ‘I can’t keep these kids engaged for an hour like that.’ That’s pretty impressive. They had fun and enjoyed it... It was good feedback from the kids.” The engaging lesson came from the Cultivating Minds Project, a joint effort led by Richland County Farm Bureau and the Richland Soil and Water Conservation District (RSWCD), initiated to bridge a gap in local agriculture education. Even in areas like north-central Ohio, surrounded by farmland, many school districts lack formal agricultural programs. This project provides teachers with the tools they need to integrate environmental and farming concepts into their curriculum. Three environmental and agriculture literacy kits were provided to Richland County elementary schools and the Mansfield/Richland County Public Library. The kits feature a turnkey lesson plan for kindergarten through sixth grade, designed to teach students about natural resources, food and agriculture. The kits include children’s books, lessons, and items needed for an activity. A total of 75 kits were distributed throughout the county. Individuals, homeschoolers, homeschool groups, scout troops, 4-H clubs, and church groups were invited to check out the kits through the library.

(Richland continued on page 20B)

Sunrise

COOPERATIVE

Success grows here.

SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

AUCTION

LIVE with Live Online Bidding Available

TUES, FEBRUARY 17TH • 10AM EST

EQUIPMENT INSPECTION: Mon., Feb. 16 • 10am-2pm

Held at the Clark County Fairgrounds • Springfield, Ohio

SPRAYERS & FLOATERS  
PICKUPS & TRUCKS  
FERTILIZER EQUIP  
CHEMICAL EQUIP  
TRAILERS • FORKLIFTS  
MISCELLANEOUS

**SPRAYERS & FLOATERS**

- 2013 Case IH 3530 Titan Combo, Case IH 610, 85' booms, 30" spacing, 2000-gal SS tank, 7957 hrs
- 2017 Prowler E370 Combo, 8.9L Cummins, 11-speed Funk trans, 120' alum booms, 20" center, 1800-gal GVM SS tank, 6459 hrs
- 2014 TerraGator TG8300B, Sisu, CVT trans, New Leader L4000G4 MultApplier twin bin, 4881 hrs
- 2014 TerraGator TG7300, Sisu diesel, CVT trans, New Leader L4000G4 MultApplier twin bin, Ag Leader monitor, auto steer, 1000/5-R25 floaters, 5128 hrs
- (2) AgCo liquid system for TG8300B, 85' Benson booms, Flood Jet nozzles, 1800-gal SS tank w/ inductor, one unit has foam markers (*Wagons do not sell*)

**PICKUP TRUCKS**

- 2019 Chevrolet Silverado 1500, 4-door, 4x4, 5.3L gas, 166,168 mls
- 2017 Chevrolet Silverado 1500, 4-door, 4x4, 5.3L gas, 214,434 mls
- 2017 Dodge Ram 1500, 4-door, 4x4, Hemi 5.7L gas, 225,619 mls
- 2017 Dodge Ram 1500, 4-door, 4x4, Hemi 5.7L gas, 235,242 mls
- 2016 Chevrolet Colorado, 4-door, 4x4, 3.6L V6 VVT gas, AREA fiberglass topper w/ toolboxes, 195,005 miles
- 2015 Chevrolet Silverado 1500, 4-door, 4x4, 5.3L gas, 141,528 mls
- 2014 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD, 2-door, 4x4, Vortec 6.0L gas, 115,500 mls
- 2011 Dodge Ram 4500 HD, 2-door, 4x4, 6.7L Cummins Turbo diesel, 155,000 mls
- 2011 Ford F250 Super Duty, 2-door, 4x4, 6.2L gas, 154,814 mls
- 2009 Chevrolet Silverado 1500, double cab, 2WD, 5.3L Vortec gas, 180,720 mls
- 2008 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD, 2-door, 4x4, Vortec 6.0L gas, 192,382 mls
- 2006 Chevy 2500 HD, 2-door, 4x4, 6.0L gas, 200,000+ mls
- 2005 Dodge Ram 2500, 2-door, 4x4, 24V Cummins Turbo diesel, 196,497 mls

**TRUCKS**

- 2019 Peterbilt 579, Paccar MX, auto trans, 295/75R22.5 tires, 255,396 mls
- 2016 Freightliner Cascadia, Cummins ISX 450, auto trans, 275/80R22.5 tires, 467,983 mls
- 2015 Kenworth T800, cab & chassis, Paccar MX13, auto trans, 11R24.5 tires, 308,372 mls
- 2012 Freightliner Business Class M2 fuel truck, Cummins 8.3L diesel, 331,480 mls
- 2012 Mack CXU613 Pinnacle, Mack MP8 505, auto trans, 285/75R22.5 tires, 675,155 mls
- 2011 Kenworth T370, cab & chassis, Paccar PX8300, auto trans, 11R22.5 tires, 429,325 mls
- 2010 Kenworth T370 fuel truck, Paccar 330, auto trans, 310,677 mls
- 2009 International 7500 SBA fuel truck, Allison 466 (recent remanufactured motor), auto trans

**EQUIPMENT QUESTIONS, CALL: JAY DARNER 937-207-3201**

**SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR FULL LISTING, PHOTOS, & INFORMATION**

**2007 Freightliner Columbia**, Detroit Series 60, Eaton Fuller 10-sp trans, 571,843 mls

**2007 Freightliner Columbia**, Detroit 60 Series, Eaton Fuller 10-sp trans, 582,502 mls

**2006 Freightliner Business Class M2**, Mercedes Benz, auto trans, 18'Lx8'W flatbed, 242,487 mls

**2005 Sterling AT9 liquid tender truck**, Cat C-13, Eaton Fuller 10-sp trans, 776,580 mls

**2005 Sterling AT9 liquid tender truck**, Cat C-13, Eaton Fuller 10-sp trans, triaxle, 24' flatbed, 785,320 mls

**2004 Freightliner Columbia**, cab & chassis, Cat C-12, Eaton Fuller 10-sp trans, 489,021 mls

**1991 International 4900**, cab & chassis, DT-466, 5x2-sp trans (newer remanufactured), 1600-gal SS tank, 235,623 mls

**FERTILIZER EQUIPMENT**

- 4000-gal poly leg tank
- 1600-gal poly leg tank on steel saddle, 3" plumbing
- 750-gal SS pup trailer, poly pump w/ motor, 2" plumbing, 11L-15 tires
- (4) 140-gal SS pods on frame

**CHEMICAL EQUIPMENT**

- (2) 2500-gal SS cone-bottom chemical tanks
- Chemical pump, 10hp 3-phase motor, 3" Flow Max MP pump
- Chemical pump, 5hp 3-phase motor, 1.5" cast iron pump
- 1999 4500-gal Friesen SS Tank, cone bottom, 2" plumbing

**HOPPER BOTTOM TRAILERS**

- 2020 40' Timpette Super Hopper trailer, air ride, commercial hoppers, roll tarp, 11R22.5 tires
- 2017 40' Timpette Super Hopper trailer, air ride, commercial hoppers, roll tarp, 11R24.5 tires
- (4) 2015 40' Timpette Super Hopper trailers, spring ride, ag hoppers, roll tarp, 11R24.5 tires
- 2015 40' Wilson Commander DWH-501C hopper trailer, spring ride, ag hoppers, roll tarp, 11R24.5 tires
- 2011 41' Wilson Pacesetter DWH-500 hopper trailer, air ride, commercial hoppers, roll tarp, 11R24.5 tires
- 2009 40' Timpette Super Hopper trailer, spring ride, ag hoppers, roll tarp, 11R24.5 tires
- 2009 40' Timpette Super Hopper trailer, spring ride, ag hoppers, roll tarp, 11R22.5 tires

**TRAILERS**

- 2017 Gatormade gooseneck trailer, 25' floor w/ 5' beaver tail, tandem axle, tandem duals
- 2015 42' Magnolia trailer, Doyle 6-compartment dry tender bed, Kubota 42' power unit w/ electric start, fuel tank, 20' side discharge auger, roll tarp
- 2014 35' Magnolia trailer, (3) 80-gal SS pods, 4000-gal poly leg tank, cast iron pump, Honda motor, electric start, 3" plumbing, 255/70R22.5 tires
- 2012 35' Magnolia trailer, (4) 80-gal SS pods, 4000-gal poly leg tank, cast iron pump, Honda motor, electric start, 3" plumbing, 255/70R22.5 tires

**2012 41' Behnke Enterprise trailer** with Doyle 6-compartment fertilizer hoppers, 20' side discharge auger, Kubota V3600 diesel power unit, fuel tank, roll tarp

**2012 Coyote gooseneck trailer**, 25' floor w/ 9' beavertail, tandem axle, tandem duals

**2011 Coyote gooseneck trailer**, 23' floor w/ 9' beavertail, 6'x51" top deck, SS side boxes

**2010 36' Behnke Enterprise trailer**, Doyle 6-compartment dry tender hoppers, 20' side discharge auger, Kubota V3600 diesel power unit, fuel tank, roll tarp

**2009 20+5 Corn Pro gooseneck trailer**, tandem axle, tandem duals, single jack, ramps

**1998 40' Fontaine FLT-7-35HBTW trailer**, tandem axle, tandem duals, 102" wide, 29" well with ramps

**1998 14' Belshe Utility trailer**, 76" wide, bumper pull, tandem axle, ramps

**1979 40' Butler tanker trailer**, spring ride, 6000-gal, 2-compartment tank, 3" plumbing

**FORKLIFTS**

- 2004 Hyster H50XM forklift, 4000-lb capacity, enclosed cab, propane, 3-stage, 4486 hrs
- Komatsu 25 forklift, 3700-lb capacity, Nissan propane, 3-stage, 5362 hrs
- Komatsu 25 forklift, 3700-lb capacity, Nissan propane, 3-stage, side shift, 6614 hrs
- Komatsu 25 forklift, 3700-lb capacity, Nissan gas, 3-stage, side shift, 6247 hrs
- 2001 Cat GP25 forklift, 3700-lb capacity, propane, 3-stage, side shift

**MISCELLANEOUS**

- Killbros 375 gravity wagon, 11R22.5 tires
- J&M 250 gravity wagon, 11-L15 tires
- 2020 Cummins Power Unit for Rayman Trailer, Model QSF2.8 T4TC74
- Lincoln Ranger 10000 welder/generator, Kohler Command 20hp motor, 41 hrs
- Master 8600A kerosene torpedo heater, 600,000 BTU
- Aqua Blast power washer, Van Guard 16hp motor, electric start, hot water, high pressure
- RC toolbox, 2-door, diamond plate
- JD toolbox, single door, 3'Wx17"L
- TSC toolbox, single door, 4'Wx15"Lx18"H
- 2016 JD Gator 825i, 4x4, EFI fuel injection, 4' manual dump bed, non-running, 1929 hrs
- Misc pallet racking
- (2) 15,000-gal single wall fuel tanks, 30'Lx10'W, 3" plumbing (*NOTE: These tanks will not be at the auction site. They may be viewed at 753 East Maple Street, Clyde, Ohio. Must be removed by April 17, 2026.*)

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# Richland

FROM PAGE 19B

Volunteers delivered several educational kits to local schools, tailored for different grade levels. For students in grades K-6, the Freddy the Fish program offers an interactive look at water quality. Participants follow Freddy's journey downstream, witnessing the cumulative effects of pollution firsthand. Depending on the age group, students either read the story or participate in a hands-on demonstration by adding "pollutants" to a fishbowl to visualize environmental impact.

For older elementary students in grades 3-5, the Let's Raise a Barn kit focuses on agriculture and engineering. After listening to Barn at Night, students discuss farm life and watch videos on different barn structures. The lesson concludes with a "Hay Barn Engineering" challenge, where students design their own structures to meet the specific needs of various farm animals.

Finally, the Search for the Source program is available for two age groups: K-2 and 3-5. Centered around the book Right This Very Minute, this kit teaches students about the "table-to-farm" journey of their food. Students participate in relay teams to categorize everyday items into source baskets, helping them identify the true origins of the products they use.

The initiative began with a volunteer who originally proposed donating books in response to school districts lacking formal agricultural programs. "She wanted to do a book drive and get agriculturally accurate books into Richland County schools," Dunn said.

After presenting her idea to the Richland County Farm Bureau board, the concept evolved.

Based on feedback from a board member who teaches middle school science and her husband, an FFA adviser and ag teacher, the project shifted from just "giving books" to providing curriculum kits with hands-on activities.

"She understands education and how the curriculum gets introduced in the classrooms," Dunn said. "She told me, 'That's fine, but if you really want them to use it, I think you need to have something more than that.'"

This shift moved the focus from donating books that might remain unused to creating ag literacy kits provided by the Ohio Farm Bureau Foundation and tailored to Richland County educators.

The partnership between the county agencies came about after Dunn

learned that RSWCD was developing its own literacy kit. "I was like, 'Well, they're right next door to us in our office, why don't we just go talk to them. If we're both trying to do the same thing, it makes sense that we would just join forces. And that's what we ended up doing.'"

This partnership allowed them to offer a three-kit package – two focused on agriculture and one on the environment. The joint strategy ensured they weren't competing for teachers' limited time but were instead providing an engaging educational tool. They also ensured that the materials reached the "Library Safety Net," donating kits to the Mansfield Richland County Public Library to reach homeschoolers, 4-H groups and civic organizations.

Even with a great idea, the project faced a major obstacle: funding. "That was one of our biggest challenges," Dunn said. "We didn't already have that in our budget and our plan for the year."

The team embarked on a fundraising phase. They met with local superintendents to ensure genuine "buy-in" and conducted surveys with teachers to determine whether they would use the materials. They then pitched the project to the Gifted Grain Fund via the Richland County Foundation.

"We had to go through a process where they interviewed us... they asked a lot of questions about all of that stuff," she said. Their persistence paid off, securing grants from the Foundation and the Richland County Youth and Family Council, while the Mansfield Richland County Public Library contributed by donating books specifically for our environmental kits.

A year after implementation, the Cultivating Minds program earned national recognition at the American Farm Bureau annual meeting in Anaheim earlier this year. Dunn completed the lengthy application to ensure the project's unique details and extensive community partnerships were showcased effectively.

Drawing on her experience with past winning entries, she chose this project because its approach and impact aligned with the bureau's preference for new programming. Out of hundreds of applications nationwide, it was named one of only 24 County Activities of Excellence, a prestigious award that took the team all the way to Anaheim.

"It's a pretty prestigious award," Dunn said. "They only select 24 in the whole United States... they hand-picked five of us to talk on the trade show floor, and we were one of them."



**Above:** Richland County, Ohio, Farm Bureau member Jill Arnett teaches the Search for the Source agricultural literary kit to second graders at Stingel Elementary School in Ontario, Ohio.



## PREBLE COUNTY FARM & EQUIPMENT AUCTION

**SATURDAY MARCH 21, 2026 @ 10:00AM**  
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**Auction Managers: Nick Cummings • 740-572-0756 & Andy Walther • 765-969-0401**

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# Third-trimester nutrition: Winter weather and calving come together

February is when a lot of things come together in a beef herd, and when small nutritional deficiencies start showing up in big ways. Most spring-calving cows in the Midwest are now in their third trimester of gestation, and this is when winter weather, fetal growth and cow body condition converge.

This is not the month for cows to “get by.” What happens nutritionally in February shows up at calving, rebreeding, and on the scale when calves are weaned.

Roughly 70 percent of fetal growth occurs in the last trimester. At the same time, the cow is trying to maintain herself in cold conditions and prepare for lactation. Energy and protein requirements increase sharply – often faster than we sometimes realize.

A mature cow in late gestation needs more energy, especially during cold stress. She needs adequate protein to support fetal growth and colostrum production, and enough intake capacity to meet both, which can be a challenge with low-quality forages.

Cows that enter February at a body condition score of 5.5 to 6 are set up well. Cows below that are already borrowing from the future.

The cold stretch many of us are experiencing right now changes nutrient requirements immediately. Wind, snow, mud, and wet hair coats push energy

needs up, sometimes dramatically.

The lower critical ambient temperature for a beef cow is 32° F. If the temperature drops to 0° F, a cow would need about 2# DDGs or 2# cracked corn per day in addition to her normal ration so she does not lose weight during the cold snap. Wet or muddy cows can see energy needs increase well above this figure. Wind can also zap their energy, so having a wind break – stacking big round corn stalk bales across the fence can work – is critical. Thin cows feel cold stress sooner than fleshy cows.

During extreme cold, maintaining body condition becomes the priority. Losing condition now almost guarantees problems at calving and delays return to estrus. Short-term increases in energy – through higher-quality hay, additional grain or energy-dense supplements – are often the most economical choice, even if they feel expensive in the moment.

Windbreaks, bedding, and dry lying areas are not “nice extras” in February. They are nutritional tools.

Late gestation rations often fall short on protein, especially when cows are fed corn stalks or average-quality hay. A cow can consume enough dry matter and still come up short if protein is limiting rumen function. An easy test to see if protein is adequate is to look at the manure. Cow manure should form a patty with fresh manure hav-

## BEEF HERD HEALTH

BY W. MARK HILTON, DVM

ing the consistency of pancake batter. If the manure stacks up or has folds in it, this is an almost sure sign that protein is deficient.

Inadequate protein in late gestation affects fetal growth, calf vigor, and colostrum quantity and quality. Cows on protein-deficient diets will not be able to consume enough hay (the rumen bugs are not functioning properly), and they have reduced feed efficiency.

If cows look full but are still losing condition, test your hay for nutrient content.

February is when thin cows stop being a theory and start being obvious. These are often older cows, first-calf heifers, or cows that struggled early in winter.

Thin cows at calving produce less colostrum, have weaker calves, and take longer to breed back.

Sorting thin cows now and feeding them with your bred heifers or open replacement heifers is one of the highest-return management decisions you can make this month. Feeding the whole herd more to accommodate a few thin cows is almost always the wrong answer.

Mineral intake is often inconsistent in winter, and antagonists from corn-based co-products can reduce copper and zinc availability right when immune function matters most.

Poor mineral status in late gestation can show up as weak or slow calves, and increased scours risk.

This is the time to make sure cows are consuming – not just offered – a bal-

anced mineral at appropriate intake levels. If you are feeding anything in a bunk, add the salt-mineral mix to the feed so that every cow consumes an adequate amount of mineral. We know that about 15 percent of cows offered free-choice salt-mineral mix eat almost none.

By the time calves are on the ground, it's too late to fix most nutritional problems. Third-trimester nutrition in February determines whether calving season is calm or chaotic.

A central Indiana producer I worked with last winter thought his cows were “holding their own” through February. They were on decent grass hay, and nothing looked alarming from the road. But when we body condition scored them in early February, over a third of the mature cows were below BCS 5, and nearly all the coming 3-year-olds were thinner than he realized.

We sorted the thin cows and heifers, added DDGS, and improved bedding and wind protection.

That April, calving was noticeably smoother. Fewer weak calves. Better colostrum. And when breeding season rolled around, conception rates were up compared to the previous year. In his words, “It was the first time February feeding showed up as a check instead of a bill.”

Walk through your cows. Body condition score them honestly (or have a neighbor do it). Add feed during extreme cold. Sort cows that need extra attention. These are not complicated steps, but they matter more now than any other time of year.

The most important work now is keeping late-gestation cows in the right shape so that calving and rebreeding seasons are successful.

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**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 Tundra 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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# Mielke

FROM PAGE 14B

al dairy products like milk, cheese, yogurt and cottage cheese. But for dairy processors, the opportunity extends well beyond staple products in the retail dairy case. Dairy-based ingredients are increasingly being used to boost protein content in a wide variety of products including baked goods, protein bars, ready-to-drink protein shakes and whey powders.”

Corey Geiger, lead dairy economist, said, “The dairy industry is in a great position to help consumers meet their protein intake goals. Dairy products have a unique advantage because they contain all nine essential amino acids required in a human diet, making it a complete protein source. We expect more food and beverage manufacturers will take a cue from formulators that have already incorporated dairy-based ingredients into protein-centric product areas outside of the retail dairy case.”

The cash dairy markets moved higher Monday but soon petered out. The Cheddar blocks gained 9 cents, hitting \$1.4450 per pound, highest CME price since the day before Thanksgiving, but then reversed direction Tuesday, falling 4 cents, and was trading Thursday at \$1.3750, 50.25 cents below a year ago, after closing Friday at \$1.3550.

The barrels were bid 10.50 cents higher Monday, hitting \$1.4650 per pound, highest since Dec. 2, 2025. They also reversed course, giving back 5.50 cents Wednesday on 2 sales, slipping to \$1.41, where they remained on Thursday. That’s 40 cents below a year ago after closing Friday at \$1.36.

Super Bowl is characteristically one of, if not the strongest, drivers of

cheese demand and may have contributed to the price rise this week, but was probably more due to weather conditions.

Central region milk output is strong, says Dairy Market News. The winter storm that impacted much of the region over the weekend contributed to lighter demand for spot volumes of milk from Class I and Class III processors. Class III spot milk prices at mid-week ranged from \$5-under to \$1-under.

Poor road conditions hindered movement of milk and negatively impacted production early in the week. Cheese production was steady to lighter this week, though contacts expected busier schedules later in the week. Retail cheese demand is strong, according to DMN, but contacts say food service sales remain lackluster.

Western cheese manufacturers reported that milk production was meeting contractual volumes. Class III spot loads were tighter in the northwestern part of the region, but enough was being secured from outside the immediate area. Cheese manufacturer demand for Class III spot loads was mixed. Cheese output was steady. Domestic demand is moderate. Export demand is stronger.

CME butter was up 2.50 cents Monday, hitting \$1.60 per pound, highest since Halloween, but it had fallen back to \$1.4850 Thursday, 94.75 cents below a year ago, after closing Friday at \$1.5750. 38 loads had made their way to Chicago so far this week.

Central region cream production remains strong, says DMN, and spot volumes were plentiful. Winter weather slowed the movement of some volumes of milk and cream over the weekend and early this week.

# PUBLIC AUCTION

After selling my farm, I have listed the following for public auction on  
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21st at 10:00 AM**  
**4976 W. PROSPECT RD., HANOVER, IN 47243**

**TRACTORS & EQUIPMENT:** John Deere 2640 with 148 loader, bucket & pallet forks; John Deere H; John Deere 430, 3-point; John Deere 60, wide front, 12-volt, power steering, good rubber; John Deere 801 3-pt hitch; Ford 641 Workmaster, one owner, good rubber; John Deere 2-bottom plow; John Deere 709 rotary cutter; 3-point posthole digger; two wagons; John Deere lawn sweep; John Deere Z540R zero-turn mower, 24HP; new 26x12x12 lawn tractor tires.

**TRAILERS:** 2009 Cornpro 16’ dump trailer, 8-lug, 14K GVW; 2007 Cornpro flatbed car hauler trailer; homemade trailer; 2006, 20’ Ponderosa gooseneck stock trailer, new floor, new wiring, new tail lights and brakes work, nice trailer.

**VEHICLES:** 2014 EZGO gas golf cart, lifted and road-ready with lights, turn signals, windshield and rearview mirror; 2007 Yamaha Rhino 660; 1972 Chevy truck, restorable; 1970 Chevy 4x4 parts truck, no bed; 67-72 Chevy short bed frame and sheet metal parts;

1979 CJ7 Jeep, good metal, restorable; two 1992 Chevy S10 parts trucks; 2002 Camry, runs and drives.

**WHEELS & TIRES:** Lots of wheels and tires, including 8 on 6.5” 10” Chevy Rally wheels; 8 on 6.5” stock wheels; 8 on 180 stock wheels.

**SHOP CONTENTS:** Battery charger; metal fuel cans; metal shop cart; ATV tank sprayer; ATV aluminum ramps; tow strap; tool boxes; jacks; log chains & boomers; ratchet straps; DeWalt chop saw; bench vises; shop vacs; hand tools; aluminum ladder; scaffolding.

**HOUSEHOLD & COLLECTIBLES:** Toy tractors, some cast iron; John Deere toy 7720 combine; toy trucks; Tonka toys; antique pedal fire truck; collectible mini toy fuel pumps; two Harley-Davidson train sets, new in box; Dale Earnhardt Jr. jackets, one leather; Dale Earnhardt Sr. clocks in box; beer signs; Cincinnati Reds collector glass sets; natural gas range; Whirlpool dryer; set of four oak kitchen table chairs.

See full listing at [auctionzip.com](https://www.auctionzip.com), auctioneer ID 48878

**TERMS:** Cash or check with valid state-issued ID. This is an on-site auction only

**DIRECTIONS:** Take HWY 62 to Chelsea, turn east on West Prospect Rd. Auction 3 miles ahead.

**ROCKY KING - OWNER**

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Darrell Smith 812-599-6401 AU01031022

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## LIVE/SIMULCAST AUCTION

After 50 years of Farming I have decided to retire and no longer need the following  
Farm Equipment, Trucks & Trailer. Sold at

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**JOHNSTOWN, OHIO 43031**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2026, LIVE ONLY 10 AM**

**SIMULCAST STARTS AT 10:30 AM**

### TRACTORS, TRUCKS & TRAILERS

2007 JD 8330 tractor w/cab, duals, weights & 480/80R50 tires and Green Star ready (4308 Hrs.); 2003 JD 8120 tractor w/cab, duals, weights, 4 dual remotes & Auto Trac Universal 300 & Green Star ready (3675 hrs.); 1961 JD 3010 tractor w/JD 148 loader & 6’ material bucket – Mast quick attachment, new tires (Approx. 5,000 total hours, 500 hrs. on overhaul); Pallet forks, Mast quick attachment; Manure fork bucket, Mast quick attachment; 2020 Ford XL F-250 truck with regular cab and Knapheide utility bed, 4WD, 6.2 engine (51,200 miles); 2003 Freightliner semi-truck w/N-14 Cummins engine – 450Hp, with 10 speed, (NEW 5th wheel plate, turbo, fan clutch, AC compressor & shocks) 540,000 miles (Front tires only 25K and rear 35K miles); 2021 Timpte 40’ alum. hopper bottom trailer w/roll tarp & hopper lights..

### COMBINE & FARM EQUIPMENT

2018 JD S-760 combine with Lankota 4’ auger extension, duals, new bin auger, auto steer ready, ActiveVision with camera’s on clean

grain & tailings, chopper & discharge beater rebuilt (1413 Engine hrs. & 955 separator hrs.); 2018 JD 635FD grain table; 2018 Unverferth AWS-36 header cart with stubble lights; 2017 JD 608C corn head with Pequea 606 header cart; 2014 J&M 1130 grain cart with Grain Storm roll tarp & Digi Star scale; Unverferth 235 gravity wagon with RG-12 gear & roll tarp; Parker & misc. gravity wagons; Blue Jet 11 shank 28% applicator w/John Blue pump, Fold type; 2014 Duo-Lift 1000 gal. nurse trailer w/5th wheel hitch; Duo-Lift 1000 gal. nurse tank w/6.5 Hp B&S motor & pump; 2008 JD 1790 planter (12-24 with 15/30” row spacing) includes Unverferth belt conveyor & CCS seed delivery; Brillion 9 shank Super Soil Builder disc chisel (SB-91); 2022 (25’5”) JD 2660 vertical till tool with Tru Set; 2016 Blue Jet 5 shank sub-tiller 4 with new blades; 12’ JD 110 disc (Disc blades replaced); 2022 JD MX 7 rotary mower, 540 pto; 10”x63” AGI-Hutchinson (HX 10-63) swing away grain auger, pto; 10”x31’ Wheatfield (GHR 100-31) grain auger with 7.5 Hp motor; Poly tanks; Parts & Misc..

**NOTE – Well maintained, complete line of equipment. Misc. sells live only at 10 AM**

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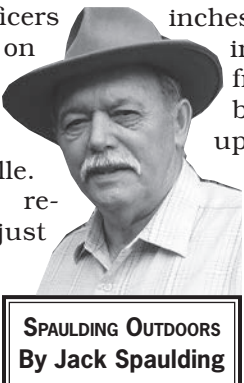
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# Airboat was deployed to rescue fisherman stuck in frozen boat

Indiana Conservation Officers responded to a call for help on the White River on Jan. 24 and rescued five hunters after their boat froze into the White River near Haysville.

At 11:37 a.m., officers responded to the call for help just east of the Haysville bridge.

Not having an icebreaker boat, the officers sent the next best thing – an airboat – to rescue the stranded hunters. Under weather conditions of 12 degrees and snow, with the area of the river nearly frozen from bank to bank, officers deployed an airboat, reached the hunters, and brought them safely to shore.



SPAULDING OUTDOORS  
By Jack Spaulding

inches of ice just a foot and a half in front of me. I immediately froze, carefully lifted the spud bar and began to slowly back up, retracing my steps.

Once I was eight or 10 feet back from the thin ice, I could barely make out a slight darkness to the ice under the light covering of snow. I could make out an area about six feet by 10 feet where the ice looked to be unsafe. The unsafe area of ice was caused by a spring welling up warm water. Later the same year when the pond held only an inch or so of ice, I could plainly see an area where I encountered the thin ice and there was no ice at all! Warm spring water had almost been my undoing.

Another area of questionable ice is any river or stream. My advice is to stay off river and stream ice all together. Areas of current can minimize the amount of ice. Where the water runs fast, the ice will be thin. Again, an unknown spring on rivers or streams can quickly reduce safe ice thickness.

## Firewood for home use at Tippecanoe River State Park

The public is invited to cut up and remove certain downed trees at Tippecanoe River State Park for firewood.

Trees eligible for firewood have fallen because of natural causes or have been dropped by property staff for safety. They are along roadsides or in public areas such as campsites and picnic areas. Permit sales and cutting end March 20. The cost of one pick-up-truck load is \$10. A load is defined as an 8-foot standard pickup truck bed without any modifications including sideboards. Additional charges will be incurred for a larger truck and trailer load. All proceeds will be used for resource management and restoration efforts at the park, including replacement of trees in campgrounds and other public areas.

A firewood permit must be obtained for each load at Tippecanoe River State Park's office between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday.

Permits are not available on weekends and observed state holidays. Wood may be cut and removed between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. ET daily. For more information, call 574-946-3213.

Firewood cut at Tippecanoe River State Park is for personal use only and cannot be sold.

Tippecanoe River State Park (on. IN.gov/tippecanoeriversp) is at 4200 N. U.S. Highway 35 Winamac, 46996.

'till next time  
Jack

Readers can contact Jack by writing to this publication or by email at jack-spaulding1971@outlook.com. Jack's two books, The Coon Hunter And The Kid and The Best of Spaulding Outdoors, are available in paperback or Kindle download at Amazon.com.

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February 11-14, 2026

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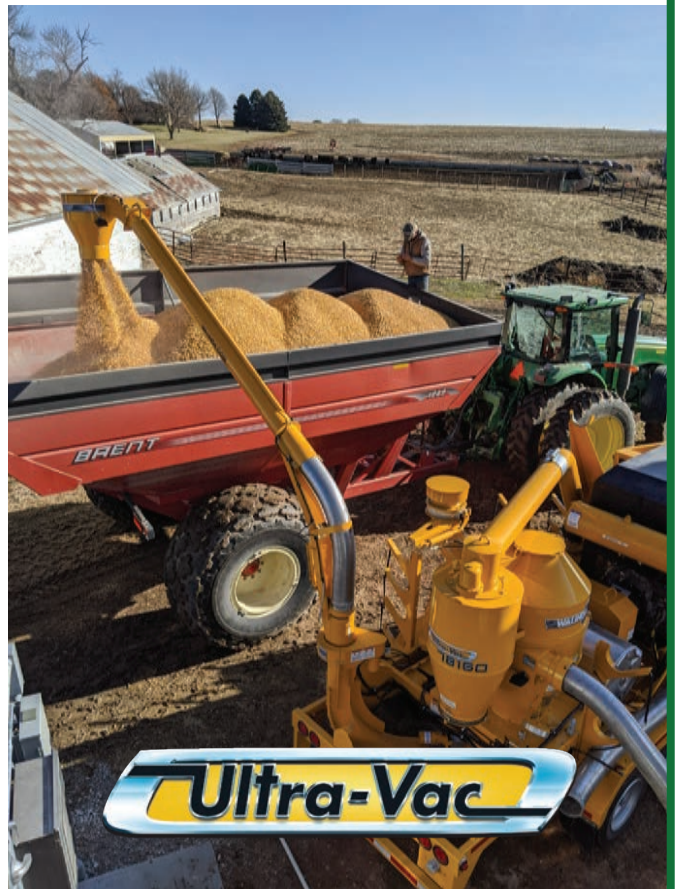
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# National Farm Machinery Show: 60 years of progress, innovation

By DOUG GRAVES  
Ohio Correspondent

LOUISVILLE, Ky. – What started out as a small electrical exhibition for farmers in Kentucky has turned into a giant farm machinery show for the entire country. What began as a farm show with 25,000 attendees and 86 exhibitors has swelled to 300,000 visitors and more than 800 exhibitors.

The National Farm Machinery Show enters its 60th year of showcasing the latest and greatest in farm equipment, technology and services for producers both small and large. Visitors will want to take advantage of special product launches, in-depth demonstrations and informative seminars throughout the show.

This year's show is Feb. 11-14 at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville.

"This show was a success from the very beginning as Louisville is a centralized location where exhibitors can display their ag products, services and equipment," said David Beck, president and CEO of Kentucky Venues. "For the past six decades millions of attendees have explored the ever-growing acreage at the Kentucky Exposition Center to experience the latest farming technology, new-to-market equipment, and groundbreaking ideas in climate-controlled comfort."

From its start in 1966, the National Farm Machinery Show has continued to evolve alongside the industry it serves. Today, the show's maxed out trade show floor and extensive waiting list are a testament to the quality and prestige of this annual tradition.

"Louisville's location in the agriculturally rich Midwest and Southern corridor is accessible and attractive to farm implement manufacturers and dealers from around the nation," Beck added.

Within the sold-out exhibit halls, exhibitors will showcase today's innovations, including agricultural drones and advances in artificial intelligence. Companies such as AGCO, Case IH, John Deere, New Holland and others will be on display throughout the free trade show, along with a series of educational seminars offering practical insight to help farmers prepare for the year ahead.

Organized by Kentucky Venues and recognized globally as a premier trade show, NFMS anticipates its largest attendance ever, including international attendees from Germany, Norway and England.

"Guests will be able to explore state-of-the-art farming technology, equipment and best practices supporting various needs, from large-scale operations to small farms," said Ian Cox, Kentucky Venues executive director of communications. "And the best part is the show is free and open to the public."

Thirty free seminars will be offered throughout the four-day event. They will feature insights from leading industry experts on global markets,

**(60 years continued on page 4S)**

**Right:** More than 300,000 visitors will converge on this four-day agricultural show in Louisville in February. More than 800 exhibitors will be on hand, including enticing seminars and plenty of food. (photo submitted)



**Above:** The National Farm Machinery Show offers visitors the chance to see – and yes, hop into – a multitude of new equipment. (photo submitted)



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# National Farm Machinery Show



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## February 11-14

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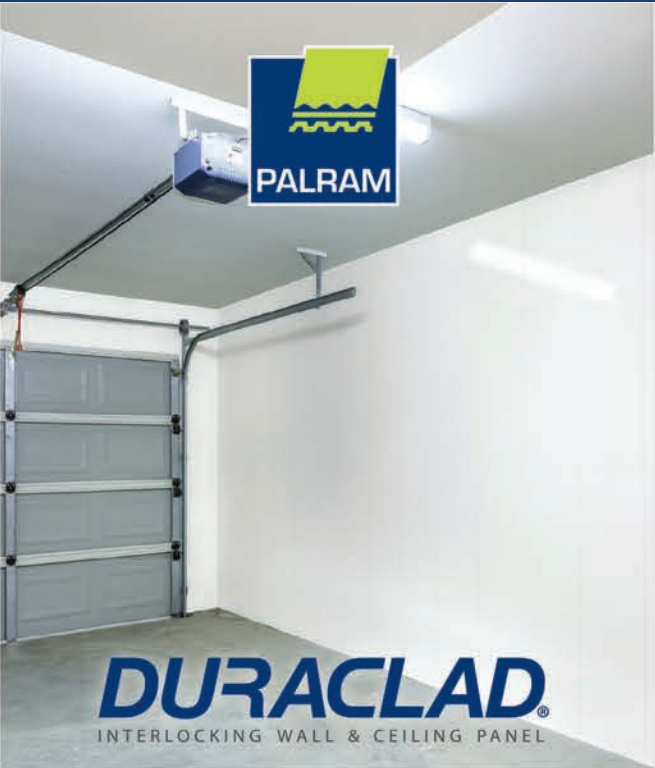






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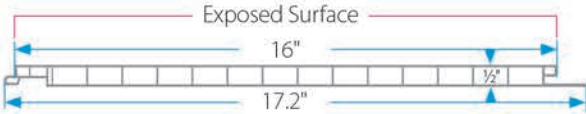
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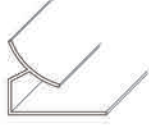


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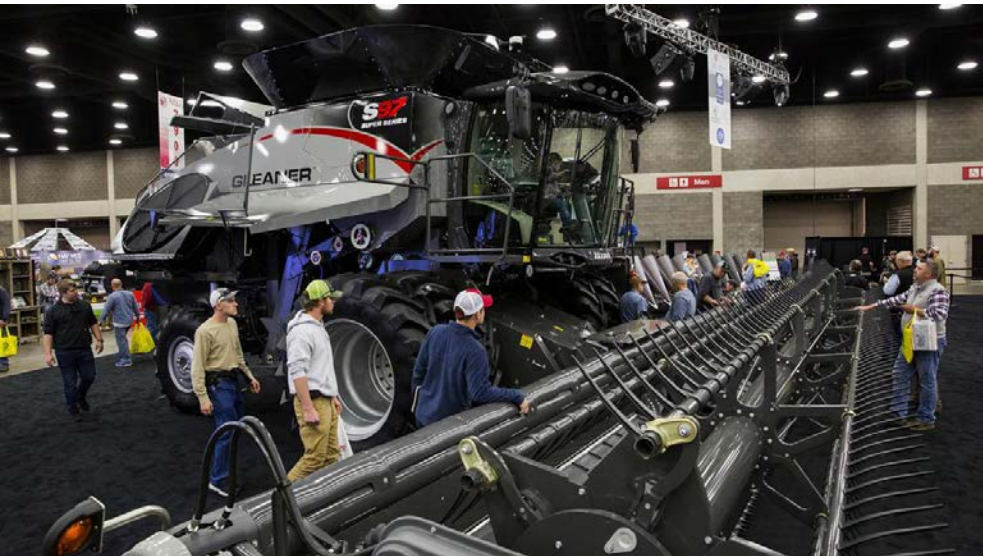
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**Above:** There will be no shortage of equipment at this year’s National Farm Machinery Show in Louisville. The event will take place Feb. 11-14. (photo submitted)



**Above:** New equipment, such as this John Deere S670 combine-harvester, will be available for close-up inspections and purchase. (photo submitted)

## 60 years

FROM PAGE 2S

weather outlooks, drone technology and more.

Cruising alongside the trade show is the Championship Tractor Pull, an invitation-only showdown featuring 191 drivers vying for more than \$300,000 in prizes. Fans can catch five heart-pounding performances in Freedom Hall, with nightly sessions at 7 p.m. from Feb. 11-14, and an additional noon performance on Saturday. Tickets for the event start at \$9. For those who can’t attend in person, a live stream option provides access to each pull and archived footage.

In addition, there is the Gift & Craft Market, an excellent opportunity for attendees to shop for clothing, toys, collectibles and more. When attendees get hungry, the main food court with several restaurant stands celebrating Kentucky-grown goods is centrally located as are other food booths scattered throughout the venue. Dining setups are in the West Wing and South Wing.

“Beyond the expo floor, this annual event brings an estimated economic impact of \$27.7 million to the Commonwealth of Kentucky,” Cox said. “Louisville’s hotels often reach upwards of 90 percent occupancy during the show as exhibitors and guests pour into the city. Kentucky Venues plans future expansions and renovations to accommodate continued growth. A miniature display of the future property is on-site so guests will see a visual of the changes planned over the next few years.”

For complete show information visit <https://farmmachineryshow.org/>.

A list of exhibitors can be found starting on page 12 in this section and maps of the different halls are featured on page 19 of this section.

Be sure and stop by the Farm World Booth and say hello when you visit the show.

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# A glimpse at the history of the National Farm Machinery Show

By DOUG GRAVES  
Ohio Correspondent

LOUISVILLE, Ky. – Not many people can say they’ve attended every National Farm Machinery Show (NFMS). Ray Warren, 81, of Harlan, Ky., can. Warren was 21 when he attended the first show in 1966 and has attended all of the shows with the exception of when the show was closed due to COVID-19.

“I remember dad looking forward to seeing the latest and greatest that agriculture had to offer back then,” Warren said. “We really had no reason going because dad and his brother farmed a mere 46 acres together, tending to just corn and tobacco. Neither of them could afford to upgrade with new machinery of any kind.

“When we got there, we were stunned at the technological advancements of new machinery and how fertilizers and pesticides revolutionized farming practices. Smaller farms were still around, but many of them were being consolidated, reflecting the trend toward large-scale farming. We remained small.”

When the NFMS began in 1966, Lyndon B. Johnson was president of the United States, NASA initiated its Gemini 8 space program, “Bewitched” and “Bonanza” were popular TV shows, John Deere released its “New Generation” of tractors with its 4020, and the Chicago Bulls were granted entry into the NBA.

“That same year the United Farm Workers (UFW) emerged as a major force for farm workers’ rights, ad-

vocating for better pay and working conditions,” Warren said. “In the mid-’60s the number of farms and rural population just began to dwindle. We felt those were tough times.”

Farming for Warren hasn’t changed much over the years, but that doesn’t stop him from making the 220-mile trip to Louisville.

“I just can’t keep up with it all, but it’s fun to see all new innovations out there these days. I can honestly say I’ve grown up with this show,” Warren said.

Warren and his father were two of just 25,000 patrons and just 86 exhibitors at that first show. Today, the NFMS covers 1.3 million square feet of indoor space, offers 850 agricultural displays and attracts 300,000 to the four-day event.

The show actually started in 1963 when the University of Kentucky (UK) sponsored an electricity demonstration and exhibit for farmers across the state. That show eventually expanded to include more types of power, including agricultural power.

In 1964, the Farm Implement Show was formed and farmers converged on 30 acres at the Kentucky State Fairgrounds. Then in 1965 a few hundred farmers, salesmen and crop experts gathered at the Kentucky Fair & Exposition Center to start another farm show. The two shows merged at the Expo Center.

“When the planning committee at that time saw what it all looked like, we wanted to expand it into a larger farm show to include all agricultural areas,” said Blaine Parker, former head of UK’s ag engineering department who coordinated those first electric demonstrations and exhibits. “We wanted to attract farm folk from outside Kentucky so we called it the

National Farm Machinery Show and that all started in 1966.”

In 1967, visitors to the show were bombarded with agricultural products as major ag equipment manufacturers converged, offering new tractors, tractor mirrors, cattle chutes and more. Attendees saw an abundance of seed, corn, soil additives, shirts, clothes and farm toys.

By 1968, seminars were being held, focusing on break-even considerations, capital gains, farm size, tools and more.

The 1969 show highlighted the zero-turn mower. The top machinery at the time was on display, and that included the John Deere 656 Hydro, International Harvester 1256 and Farmall 560. That same year the National Tractor Pull took place and 66 drivers competed in three classes.

Farmers flocked to the 1974 show as Monsanto Co. developed a new herbicide using glyphosate as its active ingredient. Sales of that weed control product skyrocketed.

One of the highlights of the 1975 show was the first twin-rotor system combine, which was created by Sperry-New Holland. This allowed the crop to be cut and separated in one pass over the field. For corn, it not only separated the husk and ears, but shelled the kernels and chopped stalks.

Seminars once again were the rage and in 1978 as farm debt for equipment and land purchases soared. High interest rates and high oil prices were issues facing farmers at that time.

In the early 1980s, record production led to a drop in the price of com-

(History continued on page 6)



Above: This Ford 2000 tractor was the rage at the first-ever National Farm Machinery Show in Louisville. (photo submitted)



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# The NFMS is just one year away from total transformation

By **DOUG GRAVES**  
Ohio Correspondent

LOUISVILLE, Ky. – If visitors to the National Farm Machinery Show (NFMS) notice signs of renovation taking place on the grounds, they’re not just seeing things.

One year ago, Kentucky Venues broke ground during the 120th Kentucky State Fair on the largest expansion and renovation project in its history. Attendees of this year’s NFMS will see Phase I of the Kentucky Exposition Center’s \$460 million transformation well underway.

“Beyond the excitement inside our exhibit halls, guests will notice the largest expansion and renovation in the Kentucky Exposition Center’s history taking shape on the northwest side of the property,” said David Beck, president and CEO of Kentucky Venues.

“By this time next year, our National Farm Machinery Show attendees will be among the first to experience the expanded show footprint of the new

building. This strategic investment by the Kentucky General Assembly to grow the Kentucky Exposition Center into the nation’s fifth-largest facility of its kind underscores our shared commitment to keep these shows thriving for generations to come.”

Phase I, a \$180 million investment, will deliver a 277,225-square-foot multi-purpose facility (equivalent to six football fields) designed to host livestock competitions, equine events, sporting tournaments, trade shows and conventions.

Earlier this year, Newmarket Hall, once home to livestock sales, was demolished to make way for this modern space. The new facility will feature dedicated washrooms, a milking parlor suite, multiple major entrances, food service areas, and flexible meeting rooms to support agriculture and convention clients.

Keys to the building will be handed over on Dec. 31, 2026, just in time for the 61st National Farm Machinery Show.

Visitors to the 2025 Kentucky State



**Above:** Cattle never had it so good. This artist’s rendering shows what a facility for livestock and other animals will look like a year from now. (rendering courtesy Kentucky Venues, HKS and Schmidt Associates)

Fair experienced the first wave of site enhancements. The newly built Gate Four entrance off Crittenden Drive reopened with a 50 percent increase in traffic lanes, expanded areas, digital signage, and the largest on-site queue-

ing capacity of any entrance. Renovation of Gate 2 is nearly complete.

Looking ahead, Phase II will be a \$213 million redevelopment of the West Wing, West Hall and Pavilion. This part of the project will add 249,000 square feet of interconnected Class A exhibit space, expansive pre-function lobbies, additional meeting rooms, and 40,000 square feet of upgraded food and beverage operations. Construction is anticipated to take 18 to 24 months and will follow the completion of Phase I.

The renovation is ideal for livestock shows, Beck said, and will include eight wash stations and one outdoor wash area. The facility will include trench drains for efficient water management, non-slip grooved concrete flooring, permanent tie-rails at multiple heights for different species, radiant heaters for year-round comfort and direct access to outdoor holding pens via overhead doors.

The Expo Hall will bring authentic farm experiences, with an exhibitor milking room with viewing windows, a milk tank room for hygienic storage, small office for supervision and record-keeping, grooved concrete floors for cow traction and multiple wall hydrants for thorough cleaning.

“These improvements go far beyond bricks and mortar, they are an investment in Kentucky’s future,” Beck said. “They open doors for farmers, businesses, athletes and families, while solidifying the Commonwealth’s role as a national leader in agriculture, events and tourism.”



**Above:** This artist’s rendering shows what the main trade floor will look like for the 2027 National Farm Machinery Show and other events. (rendering courtesy Kentucky Venues, HKS and Schmidt Associates)

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# Market analysis, weather outlook among seminars on NFMS agenda

By DOUG GRAVES  
Ohio Correspondent

LOUISVILLE, Ky. – Farmers looking for future weather forecasts for their area, or who are concerned about tariffs or the stability of wheat and soybeans in the U.S. need look no further for answers than the seminars offered at this year's National Farm Machinery Show (NFMS).

The show will feature 30 thought-provoking seminars led by experts in the farm industry.

For starters, members of DTN will be conducting seminars Feb. 11-13 in South Wing C 104. The presenters specialize in analysis and delivery of real-time weather, agricultural, energy and commodity market information.

DTN Lead Analyst Rhett Montgomery will tackle such questions as what will the corn and soybean market look like in 2026? What impact will China or Brazil have on the U.S. market? How are tariffs going to play out?

DTN Ag Meteorologist John Baranick will discuss the kind of spring planting season can producers expect, and if the 2026 planting season will be better than last year? He'll also look at what kind of effect El Nino will have on crops.

Dan Janzen, executive director of Fellowship of Christian Farmers International (FCFI), and his staff will hold discussions aimed at helping farmers during stressful times, with topics such as "Seeking God's Wisdom for Real World Problems through Prayer & Fellowship," "Re-thinking CO2: What the Science Actually Shows about the Impact on Agriculture," "Living Faithfully in Work, Business and Life," "Hope for Farmers, Stewardship and Missions," "When Ideology Replaces Science: The Impact of Farming and Human Flourishing," "A Call to Extension and Kindness" and "From Buzzwords to Bottom Lines: Debunking Agricultural Fads"

"Our goal at FCFI is to be an encouragement to the farming community," Janzen said. "With farming comes lots of stress, uncertainty and worries."

The Illinois-based organization has been in existence since 1985. The group first appeared at a soybean conference in Illinois that year. The group has made many appearances at NFMS. Abroad the group has made mission trips in New Zealand, Philippines, Albania, Romania, Russia, Mexico and Africa. More than 10,000 farmers are in FCFI's database.

"Our goal has always been to be a ray of hope to the farmer, and help them with their spiritual growth," Janzen said. "So oftentimes they feel isolated and overwhelmed."

Janzen and other FCFI members can be found all four days in South Wing C 106.

Beck's, based in Atlanta, Ind., will hold three seminars Feb. 11-13 in South Wing B 103, and the first topic is "Mind Your Pennies and Dollars

Will Come." Beck's Field Agronomist Travis Coleman will be conducting the session.

"It's all about saving some money," Coleman said. "As we come out of 2025 and head into 2026, we're still seeing low commodity prices and higher input costs and for the foreseeable future it doesn't appear there will be much change to the farming economy. I think farmers need to go back to the basics and look at what their inputs really are and what's going to be the return on investment based on those inputs. Farmers might want to cut a product or practice and reinvest the money into something more beneficial for the farm operation."

Coleman will offer cost-saving ideas such as cutting the potassium or phosphorus one is putting on the field.

"The soil on a farm is like a savings account," he said. "We could go a year or two without dry fertilizer, but eventually we'll have to reinvest back into the soil. There are many ways to cut costs on the farm and we'll share these ideas with those in attendance."

Beck's representatives will also present "Root Revival." In this session, Beck's will explain why what goes on underground matters. Their research shows how corn root architecture impacts Nitrogen management, stress management, and population interactions, thus influencing hybrid performance.

Finally, Beck's will discuss practical farm research during its Agronomy Roundtable. Attendees are invited to



**Above:** DTN Ag Meteorologist John Baranick will discuss all things weather at this year's National Farm Machinery Show, including how the upcoming El Nino will affect planting and harvest seasons. (photo submitted)

bring lunch and ask questions of the agronomy experts during the gathering.

"We've performed practical farm research at Beck's for 60-plus years, testing new and innovative products and practices to make sure those products and practices are feasible for the farmer, so we're able to answer any questions the attendees have during our roundtable sessions," Coleman said. "We'll be able to go down the herbicidal path, fertility path, irrigation path – whatever is on the mind of the attendees, we will address."

While the display of new farm equipment and innovative technology are attention-getting at each show, the number of seminars has increased



**Above:** Dan Janzen (shown) serves as executive director of Fellowship of Christian Farmers International. Janzen's background spans agricultural development work across U.S. states, East Africa and South America. His goal is to help farmers thrive amid today's challenges, uplifting them spiritually, emotionally and practically. (photo submitted)

each year.

"We're proud of the success of the National Farm Machinery Show and the seminars allow visitors to the show a chance to meet with experts close-up," said David Beck, president and CEO of Kentucky Venues.

For a complete list of seminars visit <https://farmmachineryshow.org/about/seminars>

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# Veterans and newcomers alike vie in Championship Tractor Pull

By DOUG GRAVES  
Ohio Correspondent

LOUISVILLE, Ky. – This year marks the 58th edition of the Championship Tractor Pull at the National Farm Machinery Show. This invitational-only event stars the nation’s best drivers and their machines – Pro Stocks, Super Stocks, Modified and Alcohol Tractors as well as Two-Wheel and Four-Wheel Drive Trucks.

All 18,000 seats in the Kentucky Exposition’s Freedom Hall have been reserved for this year’s four-day event. Spectators will watch 191 competitors battle for prize money up to \$300,000 and, of course, bragging rights.

It is extremely difficult – though not impossible – to repeat as a Tractor Pull grand champion. One driver, Wayne Sullivan, knows what it’s like to frequent the winner’s circle.

Sullivan, of Warsaw, Ky., is a six-time champion and has competed in the event in Freedom Hall many times. His first competition was in 1973. Sullivan is a pulling ambassador, and his tractor (“Kentuckian”) has become a permanent fixture in Freedom Hall.

A Ford tractor in deadweight-style pulling competitions is where Sullivan initially cut his teeth at age 14. He eventually moved on to pulling a Massey Ferguson 65 with a step-on sled. He got away from pulling for a time, trading dirt for asphalt and exchanging the low and steady pace of the early pulling tractors for a quick Super Stock drag car.

In 1977, Sullivan notched his first win at the Championship Tractor Pull in the 5,000 pound Modified class, and he defended his title with another win in 1978. He would return to the winner’s circle in 1981 and 1982, again



**Above:** Long before drivers take to the track there’s plenty of fine-tuning of the engines. On the day of the events, officials allow patrons to get a close up look at the trucks and tractors. (photo submitted)

in the 5,000-pound Modified class. He earned Grand Championship titles in 2018 and 2023. Wayne and the Sullivan family have 17 wins at the Championship Tractor Pull.

“My most memorable moment at the Championship Tractor Pull was my first in 1977,” he said. “You never forget the first time you win. We didn’t sleep at all the night after I won.

“The tractors are making so much more power now, and we’ve had a big

(Tractor pull continued on page 11)

**Right:** Wayne Sullivan, of Warsaw, Ky., (shown) started competing at this event in Louisville in 1973 and won his first race in 1977. (photo submitted)



**Above:** Bill Casey, of North Baltimore, Ohio (shown with his tractor “Whoopie Maker”), competed in 2025 and returns this year in the event for 9,500-pound Super Farm Tractors. (photo submitted)



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# Miniature farm display is always a crowd pleaser at NFMS

By DOUG GRAVES  
Ohio Correspondent

LOUISVILLE, Ky. – For nearly a decade, a 42-foot-long, 8-foot-wide miniature farm display has anchored the South Wing of the National Farm Machinery Show (NFMS), fascinating onlookers of all ages. The display has changed from one year to the next, so no two shows look the same.

This year's display includes 14,000 scaled acres of customized farm equipment, storage facilities, livestock and crops.

The miniature is the collaborative creation of young Tennessee farmers Colby Counce and Chase Long, and they call their display "The American Dream."

This endeavor started roughly 20 years ago. Counce, now 29, said that he and Long got their first exposure to miniatures when they were roughly 9 years old and Long received a model train set. Model trains led to scenery, which led to farm miniatures.

Fast-forward a few years to when they were teenagers, and both agreed



**Above:** Whether it's using ground coffee to represent soil or toothpicks to represent corn stalks (shown here), two young Tennessee farmers have used farm toys at 1/64-scale to represent farm scenes. (photo submitted)

that a farm setup was more than appropriate. That's when they began working on the new miniature agricultural display on a larger scale using a plywood board at Long's house.

The pair, both of whom were raised on family farms in Lawrenceburg, Tenn., eventually grew out of playing with the toys, but they continued building farm displays to a 1/64-scale. Fun was the driving factor behind this effort and the two enjoyed enhancing their creations to a point that they decided to display their layouts for others to see.

"Our initial display was only about 6 feet by 8 feet, and everyone, old and young, loved looking at it," Long said. "After that, Colby wanted to be more involved and help me put together larger displays, and we've been partners in this ever since. Building these scenes turned into a fun hobby. We loved replicating scenes we saw on the real farm, and before long, I was building things from scratch. If I wanted something and it didn't exist or I couldn't buy it, I'd just make it."

For example, when they wanted



**Above:** Harvest time on the layout of Colby County and Chase Long. Several farm layouts appear on the 42-foot-by-8-foot layout created by the two young Tennessee farmers. (photo submitted)



**Above:** Many visitors to last year's National Farm Machinery Show were impressed with how real the toy farm layouts appear. (photo submitted)

to replicate old matured corn stalks on their large farm layout they purchased more than 1,000 toothpicks to replicate the corn. They worked together on Long's farm design.

Counce, though, wanted a miniature at his place so they built a second one.

In 2015, Long took his display to the Crossroads of Dixie Antique Tractor & Engine Show in Lawrenceburg. Word of their layout reached those at the NFMS and they were asked to display it during the NFMS in 2016. That's when they combined

their layouts.

"We didn't realize it was going to be that big of a hit that first year, and neither did the farm show," Counce said. "So, it was initially kind of a one-year thing, but once the dust settled, they decided that everybody and their brother had talked about it and was interested in it. The show wanted it back the following year. So, the second year we took mine down there and put both layouts together. That's when we united all our

(Miniature continued on page 11)

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## Miniature

FROM PAGE 9S

efforts.”

The two kept expanding on their models. Long's was a 5,000-acre row-crop farm that included cattle, while Counce's is a 15,000-acre operation that has morphed into a commercial granary. They built a creek between each side so that there could be a distinction between each piece of the agricultural vision, without actually feeling like it was two separate entities.

While they have purchased many of the models in the display, Counce said that they like to make as much of it as they can by hand or by using a 3-D printer. The country road, for example, is wood that they have meticulously painted to run almost the full length of the display. Long worked as a machinist coming out of high school, and during his free time he used a lathe to make pieces like the grain bins and barns.

"He still creates things for the display that way," Counce said. "I don't,





# List of Exhibitors

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<b>360 Yield Center</b> Booth 5068	<b>Alkota Cleaning Systems</b> Booth 2415	<b>Bayshore Sales</b> Booth 1003	<b>CALMAR Soil Testing Labs</b> Booth 4254
<b>502 Engraving LLC</b> Booth 3040	<b>Allstate Ag Parts</b> Booth 7558	<b>Bazooka Farmstar</b> Booth 5201	<b>Calmer Corn Heads</b> Booth 4530
<b>A-1 Implements LLC</b> Booth 2776	<b>Altoz/Central Boiler</b> Booth 8213	<b>Beck’s Hybrids</b> Booth 6805	<b>Calmer Corn Heads</b> Booth 5227
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<b>A&amp;I Products</b> Booth 8414	<b>AMADAS</b> Booth 3134	<b>Befco Inc</b> Booth 6413	<b>Capello SRL</b> Booth 8827
<b>A1 Mist Sprayers</b> Booth 5129	<b>AMCO Manufacturing Company</b> Booth 5212	<b>Behlen Country</b> Booth 7565	<b>Capstan Inc</b> Booth 8072
<b>Abilene Machine Inc</b> Booth 1312	<b>American Angus Association</b> Booth 4323	<b>Belltec Industries Inc</b> Booth 6311	<b>Carbo-Tech America, LLC</b> Booth 7459
<b>Abilene Machine Inc</b> Booth 7855	<b>American Farm Mortgage &amp; Financial Ser-vices</b> Booth 4859	<b>Best Bale</b> Booth 2529	<b>Case IH</b> Booth 6449
<b>Accelo Racewear</b> Booth 15	<b>Animat</b> Booth 8800	<b>Bestway Ag</b> Booth 3488	<b>Case IH</b> Booth 6849
<b>Accu-Steel</b> Booth 8146	<b>Apache Palco Henke Buffalo (Global)</b> Booth 2229	<b>Bestway Ag</b> Booth 3589	<b>Cental City Scale Inc</b> Booth 6204
<b>Accurate Ag Drones</b> Booth 1323	<b>Apex Turbo</b> Booth 4772	<b>Better Garden Tools</b> Booth 4341	<b>Central Petroleum Co. - Cen-Pe-Co Lubri-cants</b> Booth 2724
<b>Ace Pump Corporation</b> Booth 4338	<b>Apexx Drone Solutions LLC</b> Booth 3330	<b>Bickett Farm Tiling</b> Booth 8036	<b>CFC Distributors LLC</b> Booth 3224
<b>ACI Distributors</b> Booth 4948	<b>APV America</b> Booth 4232	<b>Bidadoo</b> Booth 1218	<b>CGB Agri Financial Services, Inc</b> Booth 7655
<b>Action Equipment Sales</b> Booth 4930	<b>Aqua Blast</b> Booth 3030	<b>Bierman Sales</b> Booth 7856	<b>Chain Locker</b> Booth 4365
<b>Adorn Permanent Jewelry LLC</b> Booth GC605	<b>ARAG Precision Technology Inc.</b> Booth 4487	<b>BigIron Acution Company</b> Booth 5215	<b>Challenger Lifts</b> Booth 2405
<b>ADS Bulk Seed Buggy</b> Booth 2400	<b>Aran Dovme</b> Booth 4683	<b>Bissell Commercial</b> Booth 2712	<b>Chalmers Innovations</b> Booth 2010
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<b>Ag Express Electronics</b> Booth 7050	<b>Arrowquip</b> Booth 3538	<b>Bluegrass Ag Workers Service</b> Booth 7961	<b>Christianson Systems, Inc</b> Booth 4671
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<b>Alberto G Moro SRL</b> Booth 3610	<b>Bauer North America</b> Booth 4453	<b>Bush Hog, LLC</b> Booth 8672	<b>(Exh. List continued on page 13S)</b>



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# List of Exhibitors

<b>Downhome Collectables</b> Booth GC500	<b>Fellowship of Christian Farmers</b> Booth 6008	<b>Granit Parts USA</b> Booth 3224	<b>Herschel Parts</b> Booth 4661
<b>Doyle Equipment Manufacturing Company</b> Booth 8644	<b>Fennig Equipment</b> Booth 3152	<b>Grasshopper</b> Booth 3166	<b>Heuring Crop Insurance</b> Booth 6412
<b>Drago</b> Booth 6305	<b>Fennig Equipment</b> Booth 7755	<b>GrassWorks Manufacturing</b> Booth 7355	<b>Higgs Welding LLC</b> Booth 2216
<b>Duck Foot Parts Inc</b> Booth 6119	<b>Ferris/PACE</b> Booth 8544	<b>Great Plains Mfg Inc</b> Booth 6827	<b>High Grade Mfg Inc</b> Booth 7654
<b>Dukes A&amp;W Enterprises</b> Booth 4880 <b>Dultmeier Sales</b> Booth 1707	<b>Fertilizer Dealer Supply</b> Booth 7364	<b>Greene Galvanized Stairs</b> Booth 7851	<b>Higher Power Hydraulic Doors</b> Booth 6015
<b>Duo Lift Mfg. Co., Inc.</b> Booth 3356	<b>Firefly Farms Botanical Wonder</b> Booth GC607	<b>Greenleaf Technologies</b> Booth 6715	<b>Hilco Technologies</b> Booth 7562
<b>Dura Products</b> Booth 8086	<b>First Financial Bank - Farm and Ranch Division</b> Booth 4831	<b>Greentech Manufacturing Inc - Crown Royal Stoves</b> Booth 3606	<b>Hillbilly James and Jellies</b> Booth GC303
<b>E-Z Trail</b> Booth 3600	<b>Fish Head Farms</b> Booth 7265	<b>Greenwell MFG LLC</b> Booth 7466	<b>HitchDoc Manufacturing</b> Booth 8050
<b>Eagle Plastics</b> Booth 4524	<b>Flax</b> Booth 6221	<b>Gro-Tec Inc</b> Booth 7155	<b>Holston Gases</b> Booth 3018
<b>EarthGen215</b> Booth 4657	<b>Fleece Performance Engineering</b> Booth 5214	<b>Groupe Anderson</b> Booth 8534	<b>Honey Bee Manufacturing</b> Booth 7405
<b>Easy Farm - Vertical Solutions</b> Booth 4356	<b>Flintec Inc</b> Booth 3089	<b>Growers Mineral Solutions</b> Booth 3011	<b>Honeyville Metal Inc</b> Booth 6812
<b>EkotuningCom</b> Booth 1107	<b>Flitz International Inc</b> Booth 3091	<b>GS3 Quality Seed</b> Booth 4826	<b>Hooker Pumps</b> Booth 4461
<b>Elgin Service Center</b> Booth 1426	<b>Flitz International Inc</b> Booth 7850	<b>Gun Grabber Products, Inc</b> Booth 1808	<b>Horizon Products/Zerk Zapper Tool</b> Booth 4857
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<b>Energy Curve</b> Booth 7351	<b>For-Most/Ellegood Farm Products</b> Booth 2416	<b>H.E &amp; M Inc</b> Booth 4961	<b>Hud-Son Forest Equipment</b> Booth 1123
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<b>Eparts, Inc</b> Booth 4652	<b>Fransgard Maskinifabrik A/S</b> Booth 7067	<b>H&amp;S Manufacturing Co Inc</b> Booth 8903	<b>Hydra Fold Auger, Inc</b> Booth 4590
<b>Equipment Technologies</b> Booth 8176	<b>Freedom Attachments</b> Booth 1122	<b>Haisley Machine</b> Booth 3636	<b>Hydrate with the Hintons</b> Booth GC300
<b>Estes Performance</b> Booth 7669	<b>Freedom Buildings</b> Booth 4375	<b>Halderman Farm Management and Real Estate Svc.</b> Booth 3077	<b>Hyllo Inc</b> Booth 1228
<b>Exapta Solutions</b> Booth 7960	<b>French's Shoes &amp; Boots</b> Booth GC508	<b>Hall Manufacturing</b> Booth 3549	<b>Hytech Marketing</b> Booth 1406
<b>Excel Sportwear</b> Booth 6019	<b>Fritsch Equipment Corp</b> Booth 2320	<b>Halverson Wood Products Inc</b> Booth 3037	<b>Hytech Marketing</b> Booth 7163
<b>Express Steel</b> Booth 3015	<b>Fuel Pro Trailers</b> Booth 2500	<b>Hamilton Systems Inc. – Fantini</b> Booth 8300	<b>I-Beam Sliding Doors</b> Booth 7000
<b>Extrutech Plastics</b> Booth 4836	<b>G&amp;H Petroleum Enhancer</b> Booth 4347	<b>Harbin High Tech Machinery International Co. Ltd.</b> Booth 4378	<b>ICS Consulting Service LLC</b> Booth 7361
<b>Fairbanks Scales</b> Booth 4829	<b>Gardner Inc</b> Booth 5021	<b>HARDI North America</b> Booth 8204	<b>Ideal Farm Equipment</b> Booth 4334
<b>Family Fragrance</b> Booth GC203	<b>Garfield-Tecnomec</b> Booth 5200	<b>Harvest International</b> Booth 7953	<b>Ihle Fabrications, LLC</b> Booth 3274
<b>Farm Bureau</b> Booth 4680	<b>Gator Made, Inc</b> Booth 8444	<b>Harvest Solar</b> Booth 8130	<b>Illinois Grain &amp; Seed Equipment IGSE</b> Booth 2124
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<b>Farm Equipment Plus</b> Booth 1127	<b>GEA</b> Booth 7435	<b>Haybuster/DuraTech Industries</b> Booth 6227	<b>Incinerators by Lewis Repair &amp; Mfg</b> Booth 7164
<b>Farm Power Distribution</b> Booth 1422	<b>Gensco Aircraft Tires</b> Booth 7251	<b>Hays – LTI</b> Booth 3566	<b>Industrial Tech Service LLC</b> Booth 2005
<b>Farm Progress</b> SWA Hallway	<b>Geringhoff</b> Booth 4036	<b>Head Honchos</b> Booth 2716	<b>Intercomp</b> Booth 6605
<b>Farm Talc</b> Booth 4357	<b>Global Track Warehouse</b> Booth 7054	<b>Heartland Clutch</b> Booth 7988	<b>International Harvester Collectors Club - Chpt 10</b> Booth 1013
<b>Farm World Newspaper</b> Booth 3087	<b>Globeius</b> Booth 4447	<b>Heat Smart Plus</b> Booth 1119	<b>International Stock Food</b> Booth 1416
<b>FarmFact Software</b> Booth 1126	<b>GMLS Industries</b> Booth 4885	<b>Heatmasters/Steeltech Inc</b> Booth 1301	<b>Iron Bull Mfg, LLC</b> Booth 1221
<b>FarmTRX</b> Booth 7759	<b>Gorden Harvesting</b> Booth 6705	<b>Helton Inc</b> Booth 2424	<b>IronCraft</b> Booth 4024
<b>FASS Diesel Fuel Systems</b> Booth 1118	<b>GoServ Global</b> Booth 4864	<b>Hensley Feed Transportation Equipment</b> Booth 3340	<b>IUOE National Pipeline Training Fund</b> Booth 6316
<b>Fasse Valves</b> Booth 7997	<b>Graber Post Buildings</b> Booth 4838	<b>Herd Pro</b> Booth 3069	<b>J. Assy</b> Booth 2742
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<b>Fastline Marketing Group</b> Booth 8881	<b>Grain Systems Distribution</b> Booth 8284		<b>Jamison Ag Repair/Upper Wheel Drive</b> Booth 7062 <b>(Exh. List continued on page 15S)</b>



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JCB Inc Booth 4996	John Blue Company Booth 2708	K&S/Bosch Lights Booth 4647	King Kutter Inc/Taylor Pittsburgh Mft. Booth 4438
Jenkins Iron and Steel Booth 3182	Johnson Mfg. Inc Booth 4675	Kaan Ertugrul Booth 1110	Kinze Manufacturing Booth 4406
Jenkins Iron and Steel Booth 5335	Jordan Ag Supply Booth 8038	Kampert Ag LLC Booth 7469	KIOTI Tractor Booth 4200
Jensen Equipment Company Booth 4828	JT Farm Toys Booth GC200	Kann Manufacturing Corporation Booth 2232	KMW Booth 7551
Jet Company Inc Booth 2325	K.A. Group (K-Tec, Ashland) Booth 3236	Kasco Manufacturing Co Inc Booth 3436	Kondex Corporation Booth 7854

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Kencove Farm Fence Supplies Booth 4337	Krone NA Inc Booth 6905
Kenova Kreations Booth GC803	KSCanuck Booth GC306
Kentucky Beef Council Booth 3054	KS Booth 8476
Kentucky Corn Growers Association Booth 2317	Kubota Tractor Corporation Booth 7023
Kentucky Department of Agriculture Booth W2	Kuchar Combine Performance Combine Parts Booth 2141
Kentucky Hoop Barns Booth 6710	Kuhn North America Booth 4000
Kentucky Implement LLC Booth 4282	KZValve Booth 7360
Kentucky Operation Lifesaver Booth W1	Laines Goats and Company Booth GC301
Kentucky Pork Producers Booth 3036	Lambton Conveyor Ltd Booth 8572
Kentucky Soybean Promotion Board Booth 3186	Lanair Products Booth 7852
Kentucky State Police Booth 3049	(Exh. List continued on page 16S)

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<b>Land Luvr</b> Booth 8254	<b>Martin Industries LLC</b> Booth 8566	<b>Natural Resources Conservation Service – USDA</b> Booth 7269	<b>Penta Equipment</b> Booth 3300
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<b>Landoll Company LLC</b> Booth 6659	<b>Mast Productions/Pit Express</b> Booth 8873	<b>NDY Manufacturing</b> Booth 4748	<b>Performance Feeds</b> Booth 8100
<b>Landoll Company, LLC</b> Booth 3400	<b>Mathews Company</b> Booth 8166	<b>Nealy Company</b> Booth 1516	<b>Perma-Column</b> 6104
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<b>Launch Pro Drone Trailers</b> Booth 3530	<b>Maxam Tire NA</b> Booth 7665	<b>Nectar of the Vine</b> Booth GC405	<b>Pik Rite</b> Booth 5105
<b>Lawsen Equipment</b> Booth 2000	<b>Maxco Lubricants</b> Booth 8032	<b>Needham Ag Technologies LLC</b> Booth 7451	<b>Pivot Bio</b> Booth 4448
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<b>Leafguard of Louisville</b> Booth 2764	<b>McCain Bros. Excavating, LLC &amp; Simon Innovations</b> Booth 4400	<b>New Peco Inc</b> Booth 2225	<b>Poly Tech Industries inc</b> Booth 8911
<b>Legacy Steel Buildings</b> Booth 3448	<b>McCormick North America</b> Booth 4456	<b>NewFields Ag</b> Booth 2139	<b>Polymer Industries Inc</b> Booth 1208
<b>Lepp Planter Pipes</b> Booth 4363	<b>McFarlane Manufacturing Co Inc</b> Booth 4972	<b>Nichols Tillage Tools Inc</b> Booth 2135	<b>Poseidon LLC</b> Booth 2768
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<b>Lewis Cattle Oilers</b> Booth 3014	<b>McTavish Steelworks Workbenches</b> Booth 4871	<b>Norden MFG</b> Booth 6808	<b>PowerLift Consultants</b> Booth 7461
<b>Liberty Mutual Insurance</b> Booth 3021	<b>MDS Manufacturing Co. Inc</b> Booth 4638	<b>Norden MFG</b> Booth 6817	<b>PPI Equipment</b> Booth 4477
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<b>Liquitube Marketing International</b> Booth 7753	<b>Micro-Trak Systems Inc</b> Booth 4584	<b>O’Connell Drainage by Legacy Equipment Co</b> Booth 7981	<b>Preslar’s Western Shop Inc</b> Booth 8624
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<b>Loftness Specialized Equipment</b> Booth 3550	<b>Mid-South Pressure Washers</b> Booth 2774	<b>Ohio Valley Insurance</b> Booth 8099	<b>Pride Solutions May Wes</b> Booth 7971
<b>Longshot Enterprises</b> Booth 4651	<b>Midwest Rancher</b> Booth 4572	<b>Oregon Orchardgrass Seed &amp; Clover Commission</b> Booth 6004	<b>Priefert Mfg./CPC</b> Booth 2432
<b>Loup Electronics</b> Booth 1520	<b>Millner Haufen Tool Co.</b> Booth 8044	<b>Oregon Ryegrass Seed Growers Commission</b> Booth 6000	<b>Pro Puller Tires</b> Booth 13
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<b>MacDon Industries Ltd</b> Booth 3206	<b>Monty’s Plant Food Company</b> Booth 7765	<b>Parts Express</b> Booth 6006	<b>PTO Link</b> Booth 4449
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<b>Mandako</b> Booth 3466	<b>My Yield</b> Booth 7977		
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Raisch Farm Supply Booth 1522	Reliance Power Parts Booth 1305	Rostech Electronics Booth 1430	Sentry Pac Pro Booth 2148
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Real Harrows LLC Booth 7250	Ripco Systems Booth 8276	S&S Diesel Motorsport Booth 4686	Shore Measuring Systems Booth 2805

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		Huntington, IN			
		Swayzee, IN			
		Wabash, IN			
		Holbrook Equipment Campton, KY			

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<b>Steinbauer Engineering &amp; Performance</b> Booth 6704	<b>The Midigator</b> Booth 1204	<b>Unverferth Manufacturing Co Inc</b> Booth 7001	<b>Wellnext</b> Booth GC808
<b>Stine Seed Company</b> Booth 4224	<b>The National Hay Association</b> Booth 6012	<b>US Coast Guard</b> Booth 4829	<b>Westendorf Manufacturing</b> Booth 6459
<b>STOR-LOC</b> Booth 2700	<b>The Original Safety Siphon</b> Booth 4371	<b>USC, LLC</b> Booth 7356	<b>Western Kentucky University Department of Agriculture</b> Booth 6216
<b>STOR-LOC</b> Booth 3000	<b>The Rustic Gypsy</b> Booth GC704	<b>USDA</b> Booth 6120	<b>Western Trailers</b> Booth 8614
<b>STOR-LOC</b> Booth 3001	<b>The Toro Company</b> Booth 8432	<b>V &amp; M Company Inc</b> Booth 7751	<b>What's Below LIC</b> Booth 5220
<b>Storm Insurance</b> Booth 4963	<b>Therapeutic Innovations</b> Booth GC106	<b>Vail Products-X Series Attachments</b> Booth 8548	<b>WiggleWow</b> Booth GC404
<b>Strickland Bros Enterprises Inc / Flatland Farmer Innovations</b> Booth 1327	<b>Therapeutic Innovations</b> Booth GC400	<b>Valley Tile, Inc</b> Booth 7354	<b>Wilger Inc</b> Booth 6320
<b>Sudenga Industries Inc</b> Booth 8420	<b>Thunder Creek Equipment</b> Booth 4472	<b>Valmetal USA</b> Booth 4382	<b>Wilkens Manufacturing</b> Booth 3420
<b>Sugar Creek Ag, Inc</b> Booth 7365	<b>Thunderstruck Ag Equipment</b> Booth 6405	<b>Valmont Industries</b> Booth 6205	<b>Willsie Equipment Sales Inc</b> Booth 4328
<b>Sukup Manufacturing Co</b> Booth 8967	<b>Tigeroco/Reese Agri/Aitchison</b> Booth 3220	<b>Ventrac</b> Booth 4825	<b>Windy Hill Farm Toys</b> Booth GC802
<b>Summer Accents</b> Booth 1017	<b>Timac Agro USA - Rainbow Plant Food</b> Booth 6304	<b>Vermeer Mfg. Co.</b> Booth 4296	<b>Wingfield Manufacturing LLC</b> Booth 2235
<b>SunFire Radiant Heaters</b> Booth 6116	<b>Timewell Drainage Products</b> Booth 7983	<b>Versatile</b> Booth 4096	<b>Woods Equipment</b> Booth 8226
<b>Superior Grain Equipment</b> Booth 8815	<b>Timpte Inc</b> Booth 4951	<b>Veteran's Club Inc.</b> Booth 2801	<b>Workman Tobacco Seed Inc</b> Booth 7458
<b>Superior Life Lighting</b> Booth 4335	<b>Titan/Goodyear Farm Tire</b> Booth 4084	<b>Vibatech TVD/Fluidampr</b> Booth 4425	<b>Worksaver Inc</b> Booth 8843
<b>Superior Tire &amp; Rubber Corp</b> Booth 7150	<b>Todd Schaeffer Equipment LLC</b> Booth 4562	<b>Vulcan Equipment</b> Booth 1103	<b>World Wide</b> Booth GC602
<b>SupplyZone LLC – WABAM</b> Booth 1021	<b>Total Ag Industries</b> Booth 4325	<b>Wabash Marine</b> Booth 4985	<b>Worthington Tractor Parts, Inc.</b> Booth 8264
<b>SurePoint Ag Systems Inc</b> Booth 4780	<b>Touch of Fudge</b> Booth GC302	<b>Wagner Farms</b> Booth 3422	<b>Wright Implement Company</b> Booth 6627
<b>Sustain Seed &amp; Soil</b> Booth 4381	<b>ToughAg.com</b> Booth 4989	<b>Wagster Crop Insurance, LLC</b> Booth 5226	<b>WW Paul Scales</b> Booth 4931
<b>Swanson Ag Wraps</b> Booth 8600	<b>TrackFarmer.com Inc</b> Booth 7156	<b>Walinga Inc</b> Booth 3320	<b>Yetter Mfg Co</b> Booth 5001
<b>Swedish Match Tobacco/Brewco</b> Booth 3523	<b>Trackman</b> Booth 7980	<b>Walkabout Mother Bin</b> Booth 4986	<b>Zimmerman Manufacturing</b> Booth 7258
<b>Sweet Manufacturing Co</b> Booth 8076	<b>Traction Ag</b> Booth 4971		
<b>Swinger MFG</b> Booth 3095	<b>Traeger Grills</b> Booth 3022		
<b>Systems by Lar</b> Booth 8254	<b>Travis Burkhart Foundation</b> Booth 6316		
<b>T-L Irrigation Company</b> Booth 5117	<b>Trending Now</b> Booth GC709		
<b>T&amp;S Sales</b> Booth 3626	<b>Tri County Wood Preserving Inc</b> Booth 1604		
<b>Tar River/Manufacturing/Enorossi</b> Booth 3100	<b>Tri-State Fertilizer Equipment</b> Booth 2419		
<b>Tar River/Manufacturing/Enorossi</b> Booth 3120	<b>Trimble</b> Booth 4072		
<b>Tarter Farm and Ranch Equipment</b> Booth 8464	<b>Trinity Trailer MFG</b> Booth 3308		
	<b>Trioliet BV</b> Booth 3126		



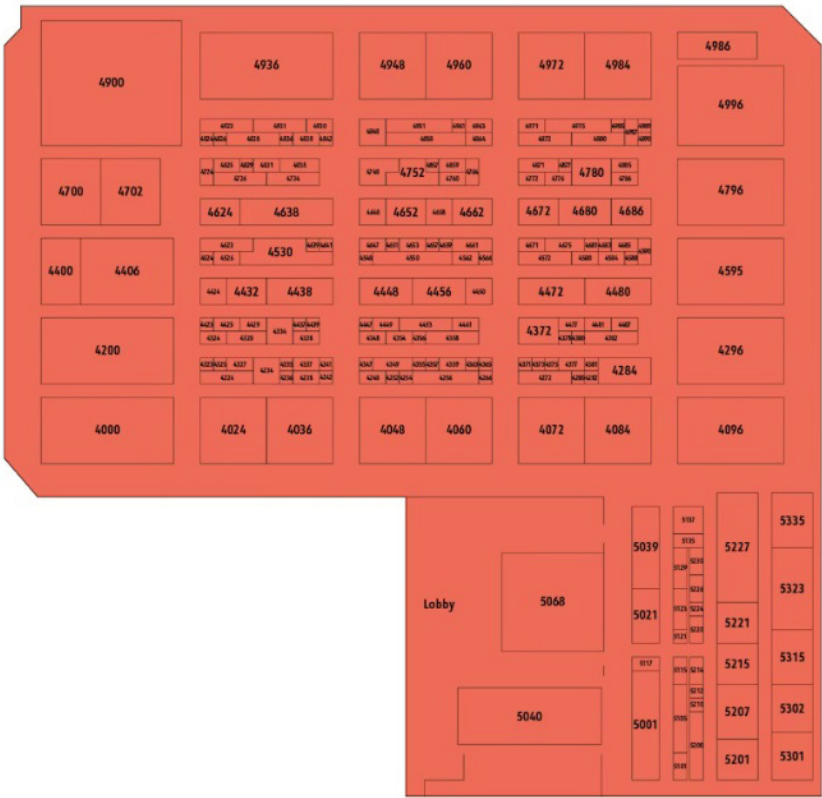


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# Show Maps

For more detailed information on booths and maps for the National Farm Machinery Show visit <https://farmmachineryshow.org/show-map>

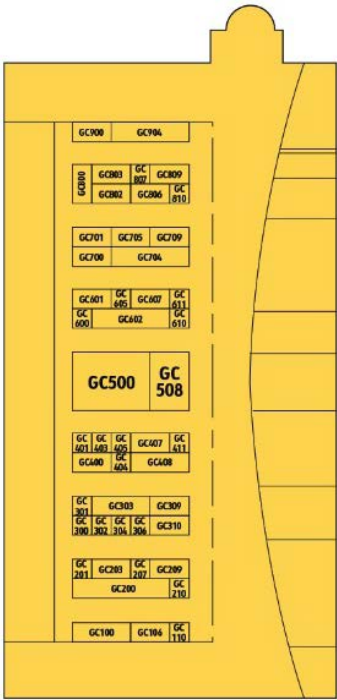
Maps shown here are not to scale

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NORTH WING

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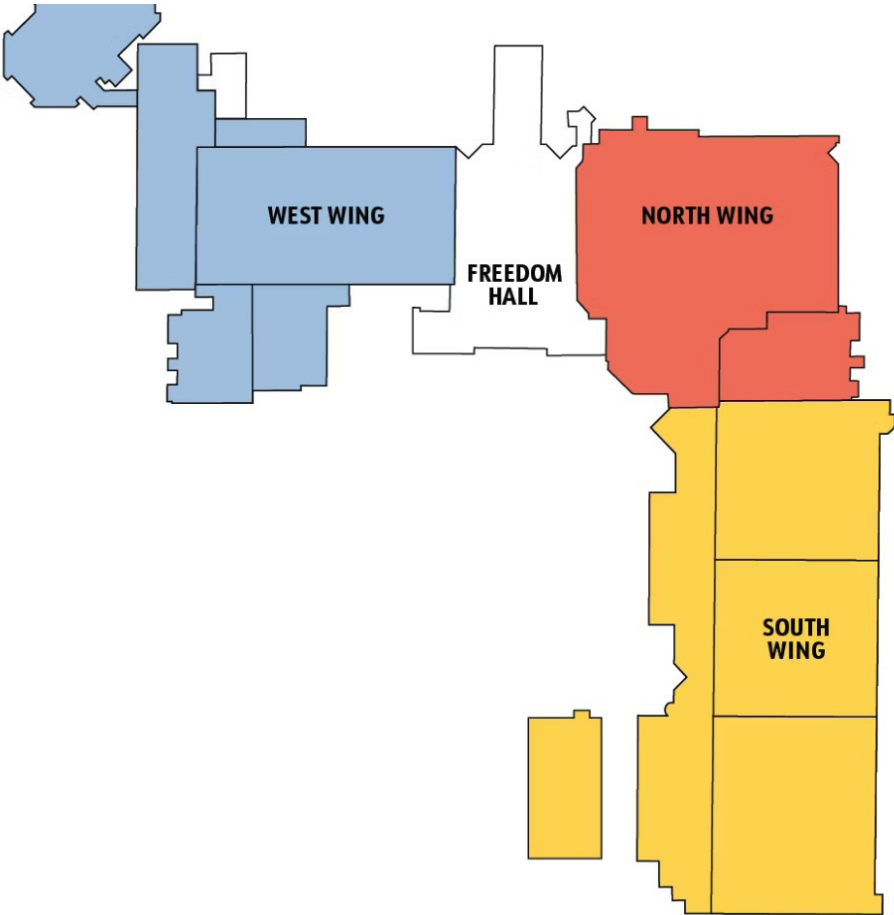
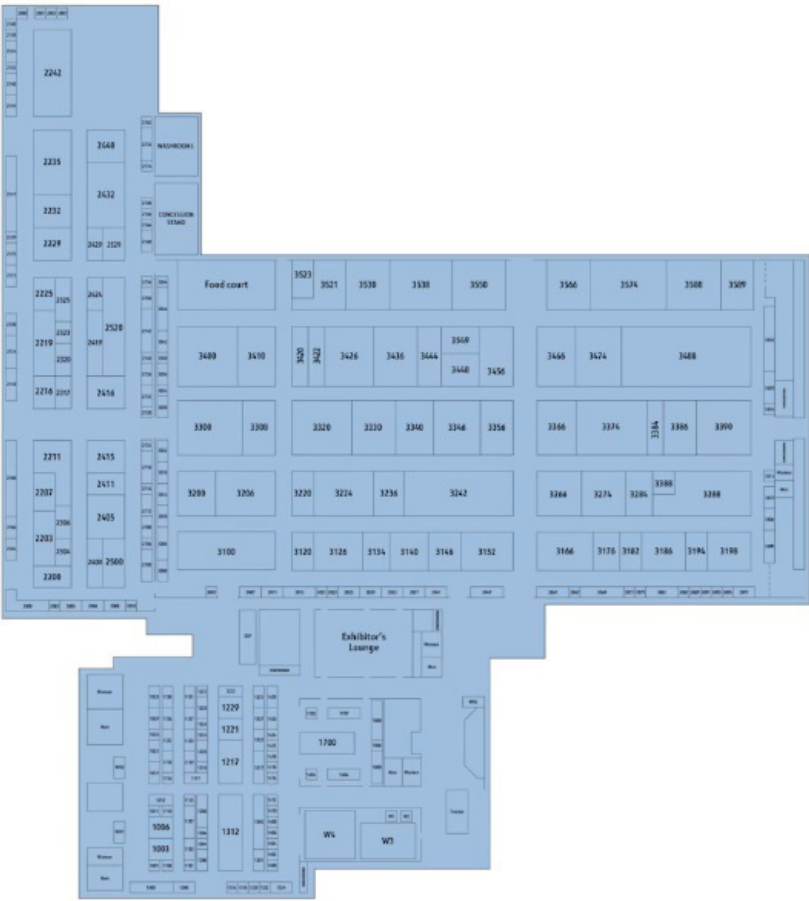
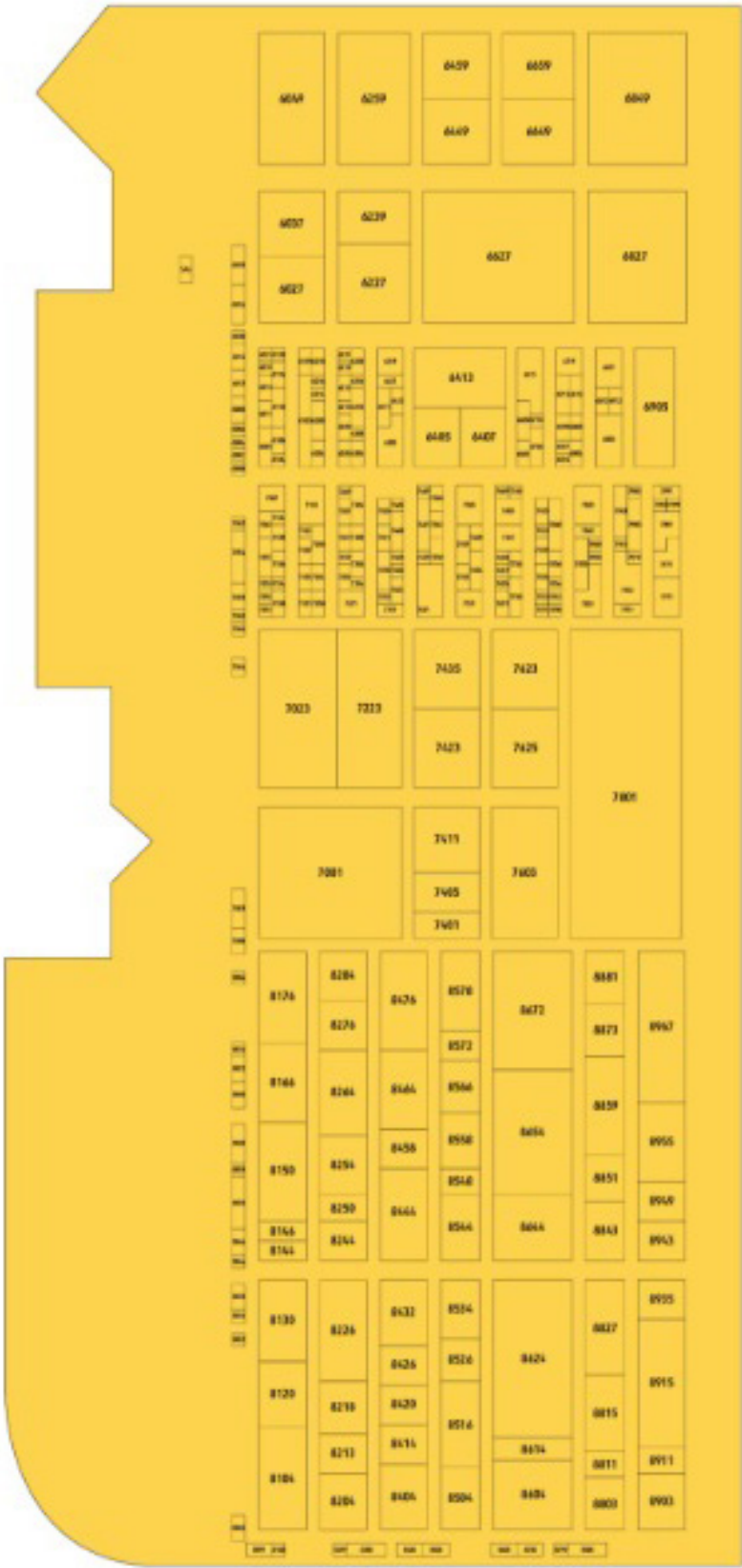
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Seed Genetics Direct 2025 Corn Yield Contest Winners

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



**Seed Genetics**  
DIRECT LLC

***See our 2025 performance results  
and get your 2026 Seed Guide.***

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