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## Diverse Corn Belt Project looks at agricultural diversification

By **DOUG SCHMITZ**  
Iowa Correspondent

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. – A five-year, multi-state research project, which is focusing on Indiana, Illinois and Iowa, has been looking at alternative crops.

The Diverse Corn Belt Project's more than 30 partners are exploring diversification at the farm, market, and landscape level that can broaden new opportunities for Midwest farmers and rural communities, said Linda Prokopy, Purdue University adjunct professor of horticulture and landscape architecture, who leads the five-year, \$10 million project.

J. Arbuckle, Iowa State University professor of rural sociology, who is one of the 30-plus project partners, told Farm World, the social science component of the project consists of agricultural economists, planners, rural sociologists, and other social scientists.

The Diverse Corn Belt team first came together through a shared recognition that advancing more diverse, resilient cropping systems in the Midwest requires coordination across disciplines, sectors, and geographies, said Emily DeaKyne, Diverse Corn Belt project manager.

"The project builds on long-standing relationships among researchers at land grant universities, nonprofit partners, extension professionals, and farmer networks across Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa," she told Farm World. "Many team members had previously collaborated on USDA-funded projects related to conservation and soil health, creating a track record of working effectively across institutions."

She said the 30-partner team was intentionally assembled to bridge research, practice, and policy, ensuring the work is both scientifically rigorous and grounded in real-world application:

"At its core, the goal of Diverse Corn Belt is to inform the ongoing conversation about agricultural diversification with stakeholder-informed and science-based information."

She added, "Many members of the team have spent years working in the agricultural conservation sector, and came to this effort with a shared concern: the current state of conservation agriculture is not moving the needle at the scale or speed needed."

"Incremental changes alone are not enough," she said. "Commodity production has become increasingly risky, with farmers facing rising input costs, low and volatile prices, extreme weather, and unstable markets. These pressures expose a lack of resilience and diminishing returns in systems largely built on monocultures." According to Practical Farmers of Iowa, a monoculture is the dominant, industrial agricultural practice of growing a single crop, specifically corn or soybeans, over large areas of land.

In response, she said, the Diverse Corn Belt effort is grounded in a more transformative, systems-based approach, one that explores how agricultural diversification can improve farm resilience; strengthen local and regional food systems; support rural community vitality; and reduce the ecological impacts associated with monoculture-based cropping systems.

"Diverse Corn Belt research is designed to meet a clear need for more systematic analysis and assessment of pathways toward what we describe as resilient intensification at both the farm and landscape scale," she added.

Last November, for example, the Diverse Corn Belt Project's Reimagining Agricultural Diversity (RAD) Teams in Iowa used AI (artificial intelligence) to turn rural landscape words and concepts into images that foster understanding and depth of discussion.

After years of discussion and analysis, the project's focus group of Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa farmers recently outlined four key policy pathways: improving crop insurance; updating conservation programs; investing in processing and market infrastructure; and expanding public purchasing of diverse local food, project officials said.

Arbuckle said a major finding of the project was that both farmers and major agricultural and rural stakeholders said they believe additional diversification of crop and livestock systems would be highly beneficial to the Corn

(See Diversification on page 2)



Above: April showers not only bring much needed rain; they also shower area farms with rainbows. Photo by Leondia Walchle

## Deere settles right-to-repair lawsuit for \$99 million; judge still has to approve the deal

By **Michele F. Mihaljevich**  
Indiana Correspondent

MOLINE, Ill. – A proposed settlement of a right-to-repair lawsuit against Deere & Company has been met with skepticism by the executive director of The Repair Association.

The class action lawsuit was filed Jan. 12, 2022, in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois Eastern Division. The proposed settlement, announced April 6, must be approved by a judge.

The proposed settlement calls for Moline-based Deere to pay \$99 million into a fund for settlement class members who paid Deere's authorized dealers for repairs to their large farm equipment from Jan. 10, 2018, until the date of preliminary approval. Under the agreement, Deere will make available, for 10 years, "the digital tools required for the maintenance, diagnosis and repair of such equipment without the need to use an authorized dealer."

In the lawsuit, Deere was accused of deliberately monopolizing the market for repair and maintenance services of its agricultural equipment. By using onboard central computers known as engine control units (ECUs), the lawsuit said Deere made "crucial software and repair tools inaccessible to farmers and independent repair shops."

The lawsuit also said Deere's network of independent dealerships was not permitted through their agreements with the company to provide farmers or repair shops with access to the same software and repair tools

the dealerships have.

"As a result of shutting out farmers and independent repair shops from accessing the necessary resources for repairs, Deere and the dealerships have cornered the Deere Repair Services Market in the United States for Deere-branded agricultural equipment controlled by ECUs and have derived supracompetitive profits from the sale of repair and maintenance services," the lawsuit reads.

Deere said in a statement the settlement addresses the issues raised in the complaint and brings the case to an end with no finding of wrongdoing.

"As we continue to innovate industry leading equipment and technology solutions supported by our world-class dealer network, we are equally committed to providing customers and other service providers with access to repair resources," Denver Caldwell, Deere vice president of aftermarket & customer support, said in the statement. "We're pleased that this resolution allows us to move forward and remain focused on what matters most – serving our customers."

Gay Gordon-Byrne, of The Repair Association, told Farm World the settlement is far too little considering the duration and scale of the abuse.

"Deere has been blocking repair access since at least 2015 when they told us that 'farmers don't really own their equipment – they just have a license to use it,'" she said. "Twenty years later, nothing has changed. If

(See Deere on page 2)



**YEDA brings horses to youth who may not be able to own one.....Page 1B**

### In this Farm World:

**Kraft auction brings vintage farm equipment and toys to bidders..... Page 19**





**Above:** Last November, the Diverse Corn Belt Project's Reimagining Agricultural Diversity (RAD) Teams (pictured) in Iowa used AI to turn rural landscape words and concepts into images. (photo courtesy of Diverse Corn Belt Project).

## Diversification

FROM PAGE 1

Belt's farming and rural communities, especially concerning economic, environmental, and quality of life outcomes.

However, he said participants in the research and stakeholder engagement activities also identified numerous barriers to diversification, including lack of markets and facilitating policies, and resistance from entities that benefit from the status quo.

"The project recently published a policy brief based on the research and stakeholder engagement activities that presents findings and outlines potential opportunities to support diversification of crop and livestock systems, and development of associated supply chains," he said. The policy brief can be found at: [publications.cast-science.org](http://publications.cast-science.org).

DeaKyne said what's important is this work is not about replacing corn

and soybean systems, which will continue to play a central role in Midwestern agriculture: "Rather, it is about identifying practical opportunities and acknowledging real challenges for integrating more diverse agricultural systems into the existing commodity landscape in ways that work for farmers, markets, and ecosystems."

"Ultimately, this approach ensures that our policy pathways are not developed in isolation, but are co-informed by the people most directly impacted, leading to recommendations that are both actionable and scalable across the Corn Belt," she said.

"As the project moves forward, the team will focus on engaging policymakers and decision makers in Washington, D.C., and across state governments to share findings, and elevate the voices of the farmers and stakeholders who helped shape these recommendations, helping to ensure that future policy is grounded in on the ground realities," she added.

## Deere

FROM PAGE 1

Deere plays nice for 10 years, it still won't justify being stuck with John Deere repair for another 10 years."

Deere made the claim that farmers don't own their equipment (but rather receive an implied license for the life of the vehicle to operate it) to the U.S. Copyright Office in April 2015. Later that year, Gordon-Byrne said the office clarified that farmers could fix their equipment without violating copyright law.

After the clarification from the Copyright Office, Deere rewrote its entire end user licensing agreement to block repair of their product line, she said. "A decade of deception does not lead me to trust anything they say," Gordon-Byrne noted. "So there is a basic problem of trust."

"Then there is money. Big tractors can run more than \$1million each. (The) \$99 million doesn't begin to defray the excess repair costs being paid by 200,000 customers that already forked over \$2 billion for the initial purchases. Please correct my math, but I think a roll of stamps has more value."

Buyers shouldn't have to beg for permission to use their property any way they see fit, she said. The vendor (and former owner) gave up their control as a part of the purchase, Gordon-Byrne said.

"We are using the brand name Deere, but we mean all ag original equipment manufacturers (OEMs)," she pointed out. "Some have better policies than others. We want the standard to be, 'you bought it - you own it. It's yours to use, repair, customize or resell as you see fit.'"

Anything that restricts these basics harms the basic concepts of ownership, liability, accounting, taxation, investment and more, Gordon-Byrne said.

A separate lawsuit, filed in 2025 by the Federal Trade Commission and attorneys general in Illinois and Minnesota, accused Deere of unfair practices that have driven up equipment repair costs for farmers while also depriving farmers of the ability to make timely repairs on critical farming equipment, including tractors. The FTC suit is still ongoing.

Gordon-Byrne said federal right-to-repair legislation seems inevitable after a few states have set their own rules. She said The Repair Association has worked on 16 bills so far in 2026, "so we know there is demand for right to repair. The challenge isn't how bills are written - it's how much pressure the OEMs can put on legislators to kill bills. It will only take a handful of laws to break the stranglehold of dealership repair."

She urged farmers to contact their state representatives and senators asking for their help in passing agriculture-related right-to-repair legislation.

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# AFBF: Farmers may not be able to afford all fertilizer they need this year

A survey conducted by the American Farm Bureau Federation shows 70 percent of U.S. farmers claim fertilizer costs have risen to a point where they will not be able to afford all this season's needs. Farmers in the Midwest had the most coverage, but even there, 48 percent of producers cannot afford all the year's needs. Farmers in Southern States are the worst off with 80 percent unable to purchase this year's fertilizer needs.

There are hopes that prices will fall, allowing for applications later in the season. Given the fact this will be when South America is drawing down needs, prices may not recede at all, and could be even higher. The White House is predicting elevated energy costs through November, indicating little relief for fertilizer values either, particularly nitrogen products.

Even farmers that had their price locked in on needs may not see delivery of all products booked due to supply line disruptions. More farmers are also reporting that they will likely apply one pass of fertilizer this year as additional applications may be cost prohibitive. Record diesel costs are also going to impact this year's tillage programs. This alone would jeopardize U.S. yields regardless of growing season weather.

The country seeing the most impact from input costs is Australia. Sources in Australia claim farmers will cut back on nitrogen demanding crops this year, with wheat likely seeing the biggest reduction. Australia is also expected to see a smaller canola crop this year with 2026/27 production estimated at 6.7 million mt. This is a full 1 mmt less than the 2025/26 crop. Australia is forecast to export 4.7 mmt of canola this year, down 16 percent from a year ago. What may be a greater concern in Australia is a potential diesel fuel shortage that may cut acreage if farmers cannot get to fields.

China's customs department listed March soybean imports of 4.02 million metric tons. This was a 14.9 percent increase from March 2025, but well beneath the 6.5 mmt trade was expected. The disruptions to Brazil exports due to contamination concerns was the primary factor for the low import total.

The Brazilian firm CONAB recently released its April crop update. For soybeans, CONAB is now predicting a crop of 179.15 mmt, up from the March estimate for 177.85 mmt.

CONAB also bumped its export forecast from 114.39 mmt to 115.4 mmt, and ending stock from 9.538 mmt to 9.96 mmt.

Brazil's corn crop estimate was also increased to 139.57 mmt, up 1.3 mmt from March.

Corn exports were left unchanged at 46.5 mmt, but ending stocks rose from 11.595 mmt to 12.813 mmt.

Brazil's wheat crop was lowered from 6.9 mmt in March to 6.616 mmt this month. Brazil's 2026 wheat imports are forecast at 6.65 mmt, also down from the 6.772 mmt in March. Brazil's wheat carryout is now estimated at 1.73 mmt, down from last month's 2.153 mmt.

The USDA is using crops of 180 mmt on soybeans, 132 mmt for corn, and 7.78 mmt on wheat in balance sheets.

One of the most overlooked numbers in the market right now is the global corn carryout estimate. The USDA is currently predicting world ending stocks of corn to total 294.8 mmt this year. While an adequate volume, it is down from recent years. Corn carryover at the end of the 2024/25 marketing year was 296.3

mmt, and at the end of 2023/24 it was 315 mmt. Added demand from the ethanol industry is the primary cause for the elevated consumption and lower ending stocks. These numbers indicate how important it is to see large world corn crops in today's market environment.

Drought conditions continue to impact much of the United States. Through April 14, the only region of the U.S. not seeing drought stress was the Great Lakes. The remainder of the United States is seeing drought conditions, including nearly the entire western half of the country. The entire Southeast is also seeing drought conditions, along with the Delta region. The greatest concern is in winter wheat, with 68 percent of the crop drought stressed. This is twice the area from last year. U.S. pasture conditions are also stressed with 63 percent in drought compared to 38 percent last year. Corn and soybean regions are better off at 26 percent and 29 percent in drought, respectively.

The Brazilian firm Datagro has released its ethanol production estimates for the country for the 2026/27 marketing year. Total Brazilian production is forecast at 41.6 billion liters, an increase of 5.3 billion liters from the 2025/26 year. Datagro numbers indicate Brazil will produce 28.9 billion liters of sugar-based ethanol, up 2.3 billion from last year. Corn based ethanol is forecast at 12.8 billion liters, a 3 billion year to year increase.

Chinese pork production to start 2026 was well above the start of 2025. Chinese pork production for the first quarter of 2026 was up 4.2 percent from a year ago as herd reduction efforts continue. Hog slaughter to start 2026 totaled 200.26 million head, an increase of 2.8 percent from the same period last year. Even with this increase, China's hog inventory at the end of the quarter was 1.5 percent greater than last year at 423.58 million head. Poultry production in China was also up 9.3 percent over the past three months. China did see its beef production decline by 1.4 percent though as down-sizing in the nation's cattle herd slowed.

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**MARKET ANALYSIS**  
By Karl Setzer

 <p><b>2004 Gehl DL10L-44</b>, EROPS w/Heat, Missing Upper Door, JD Dsl. 4 Spd., PS, 10K Capacity, 44' Reach, Foam Filled Tires, 48" Forks, Work Rdy... <b>\$26,500</b></p>	 <p><b>2015 Sunflower 5056-45 Field Cultivator</b>, 45' VG 9" Sweeps, 3 Bar Spike, Drag w/Baskets, Shank Protectors, Very Nice... <b>\$39,500</b></p>	 <p>2008 Case IH ADX 2230, Cart Fill Auger, Stored Inside, Good Condition... <b>\$5,450</b></p>	 <p>McFarlane 45' Drag Cart, 8 Bar, Hyd. Fold, Good Spikes... <b>\$4,950</b></p>	 <p>2013 Case IH Magnum 290, CAH, PS, 3 Pt., PTO, 3330 Hrs., Very Nice, 1 Owner Tractor, Has Been Deleted... <b>\$122,500</b></p>
 <p>2014 CASE IH 1255, 24-30 Bulk Fill, Clean Sweeps, 20/20 Gen 2 Monitor, Cable Drives w/ Elec. Shutoffs, Insecticide, Completely Rebuilt, Field Ready, Local Farmer... <b>\$49,500</b></p>	 <p><b>2020 EZ-LOAD 4B</b>, 4 Box Tender, Tandem Axle, Lo-Pro, Honda Engine, Good Condition... <b>\$11,500</b></p>	 <p>DMI 50' Crumbler, Very Good Condition, Hydraulic Fold... <b>\$6,950</b></p>	 <p>2005 JD 1790, 16/32 No-Till Bulk Fill, 20/20 Mon., Yetter Twister Closing Wheels, Press Wheels, Pneumatic Down Pressure, CCS Seed Delivery, Vac, Metering Markers, Good Cond., Field Rdy... <b>\$32,500</b></p>	 <p>2001 JD 8410T, CAH, 7890 Hrs., PS Trans., 3 Pt. w/QH, 1000 PTO, 4 Rem., Drawbar, w/Hammer Strap, Full rack of Wts, good Tracks, Work Ready... <b>\$47,500</b></p>
 <p><b>Massey Ferguson 175 Loader Tractor</b>, Gas, WF, 3 Pt., PTO, New 18.4x30 Tires... <b>\$4,950</b></p>	 <p>2012 Case IH Tigermate 200, 50' 5-Bar Harrow, New Sweeps, Paint Slightly Faded, No Welds, Work Ready... <b>\$24,500</b></p>	 <p><b>2016 Landoll 7832-35</b>, High Speed Disc, 3 Section Single Fold Frame, 24" Fronts, 21.5" Rears, Wing Gauge Wheels, Drawbar Hitch, Steel Spring Roller On Rear, Field Ready <b>\$57,500</b></p>	 <p><b>1970 John Deere 4020</b> Dsl., WF, Side Console, 3 Pt., Dual, PTO, 1 Remote... <b>\$13,500</b></p>	 <p>Case 870 Diesel, WF, 3 Pt. PTO, Runs and Drives, All Original... <b>\$5,450</b></p>
 <p><b>Easiload 3 Box Tender</b>, Tandem Axle, Honda Engine, Good Cond... <b>\$9,500</b></p>	 <p>2008 JD 2310, 33"9" Soil Finisher, VG, Blades &amp; Sweeps, 3 Bar Spike w/Rolling Basket, Field Ready... <b>\$34,500</b></p>	 <p>Gehl 175 Manure Spreader, Single Axle, Slop Gate, Single Beater, 540 PTO... <b>\$4,250</b></p>	 <p><b>John Deere 750</b> 10' No-Till Drill, 7.5" Spacing, Draw Bar Pull, Good Condition... <b>\$12,500</b></p>	 <p><b>2024 John Deere FC20R</b>, 20' Batwing, Like New, 1000 PTO, Stump Jumpers, Work Ready... <b>\$34,500</b></p>
 <p>2011 JD 9330, 5956 Mi., CAH, PS, PTO, 4 Rem., 480/50 Michelin Tires w/Duals, Very Nice, 2 Owner Tractor... <b>\$128,500</b></p>	 <p>2015 H&amp;S 3127 Manure Spreader, 540PTO, 270 Bu., Stop Gate, Like New, Only Done 5 Loads of Saw Dust, No Manure... <b>\$16,500</b></p>	 <p>CIH 5500 Drill, 30' Wide, 15" Spring, Front Fold, Fold Control Box, Press Wheels, Markers, Requires 3 Set of Remotes, Nice Original, Field Ready... <b>\$9,450</b></p>	 <p><b>2016 John Deere 8345RT</b> CAH, IVT, 3 Pt., 4 Remotes, New 18" Tracks, Very Nice... <b>\$99,500</b></p>	 <p><b>2008 John Deere 1790</b>, 12/23, Bulk Fill, No Till, Coulters, Pneumatic Down Pressure, Rear Fill Auger, Very Nice, Farmer Retirement... <b>\$38,500</b></p>



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# Bushel Report shows younger farmers seek more digital ag tools

By DOUG SCHMITZ  
Iowa Correspondent

FARGO, N.D. - According to Bushel, one of the nation's largest agricultural software technology companies, its 2026 State of the Farm Report revealed a significant demographic shift, with the younger farmer population developing an accelerated desire for digital-first financial and marketing tools.

Released April 2, the annual study, which had responses from more than 1,400 farmers across the United States and Canada, said, "For the first time in the report's history, farmers under the age of 50 represent nearly 38.4 percent of the respondent pool, a sharp increase from 28.8 percent just one year ago. This younger demographic is bringing a new level of technological maturity to the farm, with a strong focus on efficiency and mobile-first operations," the report said.

Julia Eberhart, Bushel director of marketing, told Farm World the company's survey is mainly sourced from its e-mail database that includes current subscribers, but also anyone that has started a free trial in the past five years, or signed up for the newsletter.

"Additionally, we did send out a push notification to farmers that are using a white-labeled app from one of our grain or ag retail customers," she said.

She added, "The sample from our survey does come from larger farms. The USDA Census of Agriculture cites that 85 percent of farmers are under 500 acres, while our survey shows only 30 percent of respondents are under 500 acres. This is why I position this survey as how leading farmers are thinking as they tend to be larger operations."

The report said AI tools are being used in farm management, with 14 percent of farmers currently applying them. Larger farms mainly use AI for financial and business analysis (50 percent), while in-field use like yield prediction or agronomy remains limited (25 percent), indicating AI adoption starts in office operations rather than field work.

Under the report's category of Tech Innovators (Willingness to Experiment), the overall U.S. average is 22.2 percent. Eberhart said: "When asked if they are willing to experiment with new technologies, Iowa leads the pack by a massive margin, with 31 percent of respondents considering themselves early innovators.

"Indiana (22.5 percent) and Michigan (22 percent) track almost perfectly with the national average," she said. "Meanwhile, Tennessee (11.1 percent) shows

the highest reluctance to be the first to try something new."

Under the report's category of Heavy Digital Tool Adoption (Uses Three or More Farm Apps), the overall U.S. average is 34.3 percent. She said Indiana is highly digitized, with 47.5 percent of farmers relying on three or more software apps to run their operations.

She added, "Kentucky (45.5 percent) also heavily outpaces the national average in app adoption. Conversely, Ohio (26.7 percent) and Tennessee (5.6 percent) prefer a much more streamlined or traditional approach, keeping their software stack minimal."

Under the report's category of Current Artificial Intelligence (AI) Usage, the overall U.S. average is 7.7 percent. She said while AI on the farm is still in its infancy nationally, Iowa (13.8 percent) and Indiana (12.5 percent) are already adopting it at nearly double the national rate.

She said, "Overall, Iowa and Indiana consistently act as the technological pioneers. They are the most willing to experiment, the most heavily app-reliant, and the quickest to adopt emerging tools like AI and digital grain marketing. On the other end of the spectrum, Ohio and Tennessee lean much more traditional, consistently acting as the 'wait and see' states before bringing new technology

into their operations."

Andrew P. Griffith, University of Tennessee professor of agricultural and resource economics, told Farm World, "I am probably more pragmatic in my thinking than some. AI is just another tool to assist the agricultural community. AI tools do not have the ability to think or reason despite what some may think. There is no way it works like the human brain."

He said AI may be able to solve problems faster than the human brain in many instances because it can run through iterations so quickly.

"However, its ability to think beyond known information does not seem realistic to me," he said. "It will certainly contribute to efficiency, labor savings, and quicker advancements in technology."

The report said online grain marketing is expanding, with digital adoption rising from 21 percent in 2024, to over 31 percent in 2026, and 56 percent of farmers now using apps or software for grain sales. Among farmers under 50, over half plan to use online platforms to submit offers, or sell grains when available.

In addition, the report said financial trends showed increased reliance on loans, with equipment financing increasing to 39.1 percent, operating

loans to 38.9 percent, and real estate loans to 31.2 percent. The report added that farmers using agricultural retailer financing placed higher importance on digital tools when choosing lenders.

The report said farmers under 50 showed the biggest disconnect in how they get paid for grain versus how they want to get paid. While most young farmers receive paper checks (82.8 percent), only 54.9 percent prefer this method, highlighting a demand for digital payments. That 27.9-point gap was the largest of any demographic, the report added.

Eberhart said, "What we see in technology adoption is a reflection of our overall customer experience."

She said anything that can help remove friction in doing business is a welcome technological change: "One example that one of our grain elevators shared with us is that the farmer will have a conversation with them about grain markets, and potentially making grain offers.

"But then, the farmer wants to think about it," she added. "They find they have a higher success rate when the farmer can submit that offer digitally on their own time, versus calling back, or waiting for a call back. Technology should help strengthen relationships in the supply chain, not just be noise."



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# Pediatric medication may be easier to swallow thanks to milk protein

By Hayley Lalchand  
Ohio Correspondent

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. – Food scientists at Pennsylvania State University are experimenting with casein, the main protein found in milk, to help make certain medications more child friendly.

Medication for infants and children often need to be available in liquid form. However, not all drugs are dissolvable in water. This can pose issues when making medications accessible for children. For example, the drug Ritonavir, an effective antiviral used to treat acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), is insoluble in water and its liquid formulation requires 43 percent, said Federico Harte, professor of food science at Penn State. And not only that, but the drug tastes awful.

“An infant doesn’t have the metabolic pathways to metabolize ethanol,” he said. “There are two issues in this case – one is that some drugs require solvents that are aggressive to young populations. For you and I, flavor may not be an issue. But there is no convincing argument to a 4-month-old that flavor is not a problem.”

Casein may provide a novel way to deliver drugs that are poorly soluble in water to children. Caseins are great emulsifiers, Harte explained. Emulsifiers help to stabilize mixtures of liquids that are unable to mix by reducing surface tension, which allows them to blend into consistent emulsions. Harte and his group are working to replace solvents like ethanol with casein-based amorphous solid dispersions, materials “in which a drug is evenly distributed at the molecular level in a carrier that dissolves easily in water,” according to a press release published by Penn State.

The group recently received funding from the National Institutes of Health to create and optimize casein-based dispersions and demonstrate proof-of-concept. The goal of the work is to understand how the casein-based dispersions react under different pH conditions, how the drug is released during simulated digestion, and what environmental triggers prompt the drug to leave the casein matrix. The team will work with three compounds: Ritonavir, Furosemide (a diuretic), and a natural fat compound called Tristearin.

Although casein can be created in the lab, Harte sees potential for dairy producers.

“Every time we can bring together a technological advancement that involves milk, we are benefiting the dairy farmer,” he said. “One discovery leads to other things, too. Whether this is going to change the price of milk, that I don’t know. But what we are pursuing is very novel in our perspective.”

Harte’s research group has largely focused on novel uses of casein and milk products, especially in response to the “clean label” movement, or the idea that consumers want ingredients in processed food to be as minimal and recognizable as possible. To that end, Harte has explored casein as an emulsifier and stabilizer for dairy products like chocolate milk and ice cream, which often have added ingredients such as carrageenan.

Previously, the group developed edible, biodegradable fibers, created by combining casein with a type of cellulose. These fibers can be woven into mats and have the potential to be used as biodegradable food packaging and even has biomedical applications such as wound dressings.

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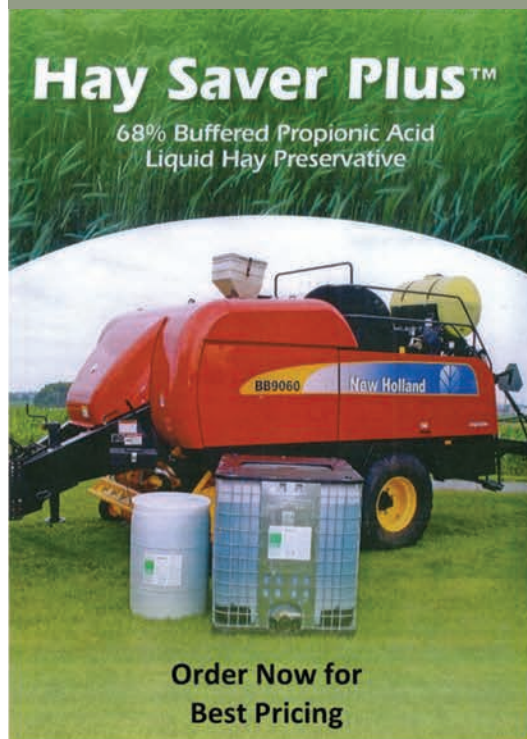
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# MARKETS

## Blue Grass Stockyards Lexington, KY

**Livestock Weighted Average Report for 4/20/2026 - Final AUCTION**

	This Week	Last Reported 4/13/2026	Last Year
<b>Total Receipts:</b>	1,148	1,269	782
<b>Feeder Cattle:</b>	1,031(89.8%)	1,055(83.1%)	681(87.1%)
<b>Slaughter Cattle:</b>	105(9.1%)	179(14.1%)	94(12.0%)
<b>Replacement Cattle:</b>	12(1.0%)	35(2.8%)	7(0.9%)

Special Note: Beef Calf: 700.00. Compared to last Monday the feeder market was spotty with an average quality offering. Feeder steers and heifers 600 lbs and under were unevenly steady ranging from 4.00 higher to 4.00 lower in spots with a good supply and good demand for weaned and harder conditioned calves. Yearling steers and heifers appeared firm with a good supply and good demand. Buyers were active today and willing to pay premiums for quality cattle, while discounting the fatter bawling calves severely and increasing the price spread in most weight classes. Slaughter cows were 1.00 to 2.00 lower with a good supply and slaughter bulls were steady with good demand. Supply included: 90% Feeder Cattle (44% Steers, 0% Dairy Steers, 38% Heifers, 18% Bulls); 9% Slaughter Cattle (1% Steers, 81% Cows, 17% Bulls); 1% Replacement Cattle (53% Stock Cows, 41% Bred Cows, 6% Cow-Calf Pairs). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 28%.

Groups of 20 Head or More.

STEERS	HEIFERS
49 Hd Black/BWF 568 lbs 488.50	50 Hd 80% Black/XBRD 528 lbs 441.00
27 Hd Black/BWF 690 lbs 416.00	
59 Hd Black/BWF 921 lbs 346.00	

### FEEDER CATTLE

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2	255-255	255	760.00	760.00 Thin Fleshed
2	315-345	330	585.00-602.50	594.15
2	310-325	318	695.00-710.00	702.68 Fancy
7	370-391	385	600.00-610.00	607.25
2	352	352	655.00	655.00 Fancy
9	410-443	429	537.00-560.00	548.40
8	401-430	412	585.00-597.50	593.54 Fancy
6	422	422	635.00	635.00 Thin Fleshed
35	456-490	474	499.00-523.00	504.72
6	450-472	459	537.50-550.00	544.16 Fancy
19	507-547	529	462.50-490.00	474.00
18	511-515	512	507.00-535.00	529.47 Value Added
41	550-593	572	445.00-473.00	460.12
1	575	575	410.00	410.00 Fleshy
64	550-568	566	483.00-532.50	488.80 Value Added
18	600-632	612	412.50-430.00	423.42
31	670-695	688	410.00-417.00	415.90
3	671	671	470.00	470.00 Value Added
11	720-745	739	382.50-400.00	390.76
5	772	772	369.00	369.00
5	800-842	831	345.00-361.00	348.89
6	868-880	872	333.00	333.00
59	921	921	346.00	346.00 Value Added
1	1090	1090	310.00	310.00

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2	375-395	385	537.50-547.50	542.63
1	430	430	505.00	505.00
1	470	470	495.00	495.00
12	565-591	585	430.00-432.00	431.52
1	620	620	362.50	362.50
3	675	675	379.00-380.00	379.67
5	795-798	797	320.00-332.50	330.01

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	440	440	400.00	400.00
1	535	535	380.00	380.00

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1535	535	405.00	405.00	

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2	325	325	295.00-300.00	297.50
1	645	645	207.50	207.50

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	215	215	540.00	540.00
1	205	205	620.00	620.00 Fancy
5	275-298	291	510.00-530.00	519.93
2	255-265	260	570.00-585.00	577.36 Fancy
12	315-335	328	525.00-560.00	549.28
3	330	330	577.50	577.50 Fancy
19	355-385	372	507.50-535.00	523.74
3	376	376	547.50	547.50 Fancy
1	375	375	485.00	485.00 Fleshy
28	400-445	429	457.50-492.50	473.79
13	412-415	413	505.00-517.50	511.71 Fancy
23	460-495	486	437.50-460.00	448.95
28	458-497	477	467.50-477.50	470.54 Fancy
19	500-545	526	410.00-423.00	418.22
55	500-540	527	430.00-441.00	440.37 Value Added
22	555-596	580	385.00-407.50	393.68
2	572	572	360.00	360.00 Fleshy
4	565-567	566	412.50-413.00	412.75 Value Added
16	600-644	626	370.00-393.00	384.00
2	627	627	421.00	421.00 Value Added
12	650-682	664	362.50-385.00	378.14
1	660	660	390.00	390.00 Guaranteed Open
6	720	720	359.00	359.00
5	752-775	761	330.00-352.00	345.23
2	820-840	830	322.50-333.00	327.69
1	950	950	295.00	295.00
1	1065	1065	285.00	285.00

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	235	235	452.50	452.50

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
3	300-330	320	475.00-490.00	485.31
6	375-395	385	455.00-495.00	476.64
4	400-430	418	421.00-435.00	428.30
5	490-495	494	412.50-428.00	422.72
4	565-591	585	365.00-381.00	377.13
6	600-642	626	340.00-357.50	349.32
3	695	695	331.00-347.50	342.00
2	720	720	292.50	292.50
6	822	822	280.00	280.00
4	866	866	270.00	270.00

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	370	370	345.00	345.00
1	440	440	370.00	370.00
2	455-465	460	380.00-395.00	387.42
1	550	550	345.00	345.00
1	835	835	225.00	225.00

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2	240	240	600.00	600.00
4	267	267	650.00	650.00 Fancy
5	310-345	330	600.00-605.00	601.05
1	325	325	665.00	665.00 Fancy
5	306-315	309	685.00-695.00	690.95 Thin Fleshed
8	355-390	372	570.00-600.00	585.98
8	350-380	363	610.00-630.00	618.23 Fancy
1	360	360	655.00	655.00 Thin Fleshed
18	416-445	428	530.00-565.00	550.22
2	400-415	408	587.50-595.00	591.18 Fancy
1	410	410	620.00	620.00 Thin Fleshed
19	450-495	475	485.00-525.00	498.06
11	503-520	507	477.50-501.00	491.23
5	575-591	587	410.00-437.50	420.39
3	560-575	568	442.50-449.00	445.53 Fancy
8	610-645	624	385.00-405.00	393.12
4	625-645	633	410.00-415.00	412.88 Fancy
9	670-683	677	390.00-407.00	398.82
4	702-745	721	360.00-380.00	367.71
1	720	720	400.00	400.00 Fancy
1	755	755	373.00	373.00
1	805	805	345.00	345.00
2	987	987	250.00	250.00
1	1005	1005	227.50	227.50

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
11	415-440	427	490.00-512.50	506.81
4	490-497	494	452.50-465.00	458.71
10	502-536	518	455.00-465.00	457.47
3	570-590	583	389.00-393.00	391.70
1	625	625	371.00	371.00
1	740	740	300.00	300.00
1	945	945	220.00	220.00

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	445	445	290.00	290.00
2	525-535	530	390.00-400.00	395.05

### SLAUGHTER CATTLE

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
1	1355	1355	237.50	237.50	Average
9	1355-1720	1556	171.00-180.00	175.75	Average
8	1310-1680	1486	184.00-195.00	187.22	High

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
16	995-1380	1156	164.00-183.00	175.15	Average
4	1100-1465	1254	187.00-190.00	188.33	High
4	1000-1150	1094	156.00-160.00	158.69	Low

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
6	750-1060	899	137.50-152.00	146.83	Average
8	915-1085	1014	156.00-176.00	162.98	High
2	815-985	900	132.50-133.00	132.77	Low

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
2	1370-1495	1433	189.00-203.00	196.31	Average
9	1075-2205	1689	209.00-229.00	218.79	High
1	1610	1610	174.00	174.00	Low

### REPLACEMENT CATTLE

Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2-4	O	2	900-1305	1103	195.00-221.00	205.61
>5	O	7	991-1350	1114	178.00-200.00	187.92

Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
>5	T1	3	1300-1445	1387	2150.00-2700.00	2392.07
>5	T2	2	1255-1310	1283	2750.00-2900.00	2826.61
>8	T2	1	1175	1175	2100.00	2100.00

Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
>5	T2	1	1085	1085	2100.00	2100.00

Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
>5	O	1	1695	1695	3600.00	3600.00

Please Note: The above USDA LPGMN price report is reflective of the majority of classes and grades of livestock offered for sale. There may be instances where some sales do not fit within reporting guidelines and therefore will not be included in the report. Prices are reported on an FOB basis, unless otherwise noted.

Explanatory Notes:  
Stage (Cattle) - Represents pregnancy stage (O = open; T1 = 1st Trimester, 1 to 3 months; T1-2 = 1st/2nd trimester, 1 to 6 months; T2 = 2nd Trimester, 4 to 6 months; T2-3 = 2nd/3rd Trimester, 4 to 9 months; T3 = 3rd Trimester, 7 to 9 months; T1-3 = all trimesters, 1 to 9 months)  
Age - Numerical representation of age in years.

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

## Daily Livestock and Poultry Slaughter

# MARKETS

## Weekly National Sheep Summary For Week Ending Friday, April 17, 2026

Weekly Trends: Compared to last week Slaughter lambs under 110 lbs mostly steady, over 110 lbs saw instances of 35.00 to 60.00 higher. Feeder lambs sold with steady to higher undertones. Slaughter ewes 15.00 to 20.00 higher.

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

<b>Slaughter Lambs: Choice and Prime 1-3</b>	
San Angelo:	40-50 lbs 357.00; 50-60 lbs 365.00-366.00; 60-70 lbs 368.00; 90-100 lbs 365.00.
New Holland:	40-50 lbs 350.00-430.00; 50-60 lbs 365.00-430.00; 60-70 lbs 375.00-445.00; 70-80 lbs 360.00-425.00; 80-90 lbs 360.00-435.00; 90-100 lbs 365.00-415.00; 100-110 lbs 375.00-410.00.
Billings:	No test.
Ft. Collins:	50-60 lbs 390.00; 60-70 lbs 377.50; 70-80 lbs 345.00-350.00; 90-100 lbs 355.00-385.00.
Mount Hope:	40-50 lbs 400.00-430.00; 50-60 lbs 395.00-430.00; 60-70 lbs 402.50-445.00; 70-80 lbs 412.50-432.50; 80-90 lbs 395.00-432.50; 90-100 lbs 415.00-425.00; 100-110 lbs 375.00-410.00.
Kalona:	40-50 lbs 390.00-425.00; 50-60 lbs 375.00-415.00; 60-70 lbs 375.00-410.00; 70-80 lbs 370.00-420.00; 80-90 lbs 380.00-425.00; 90-100 lbs 390.00-405.00.
Equity Coop:	No test.
Sioux Falls:	60-50 lbs 385.00-405.00; 70-80 lbs 370.00-410.00; 80-90 lbs 355.00-405.00; 90-100 lbs 380.00-415.00; 100-110 lbs 350.00-360.00; 140-150 lbs 275.00-315.00; 150-160 lbs 270.00.
Buffalo, MO:	No test.
Missouri:	60-70 lbs 380.00; 70-80 lbs 380.00-385.00.
Equity Coop:	No test.
Slaughter Ewes: Good 2-3:	
San Angelo:	120.00-170.00.

New Holland:	115.00-200.00.
Billings:	No test.
Ft. Collins:	125.00-190.00.
Mount Hope:	125.00-160.00.
Kalona:	115.00-195.00.
Equity Coop:	No test.
Sioux Falls:	120.00-160.00.
Buffalo, MO:	No test.
Missouri:	155.00-172.50.
<b>Feeder Lambs: Medium and Large 1:</b>	
San Angelo:	No test.
Billings:	No test.
Sioux Falls:	30-40 lbs 460.00-585.00; 40-50 lbs 460.00-550.00; 50-60 lbs 430.00-455.00; 60-70 lbs 390.00-435.00; 70-80 lbs 395.00-405.00.
Buffalo, MO:	No test.
Missouri:	40-50 lbs 330.00-385.00.
Ft. Collins:	40-50 lbs 375.00.
Kalona:	No test.
Equity Coop:	No test.
Arkansas:	No test.
<b>Replacement Ewes: Medium and Large 1-2:</b>	
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 34,000 compared to 30,000 last year and 44,791 last year.

Source: USDA Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News  
General inquiries, please call: (202) 720-1990  
[https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/sa\\_ls855.txt](https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/sa_ls855.txt)  
email: [mymarketnews@usda.gov](mailto:mymarketnews@usda.gov)

## Kentucky Daily Grain Bids

Grain Report for Thursday, April 23, 2026 - Final

### FUTURE SETTLEMENTS

Exchange	Commodity	Closing Settlement Prices (¢/bu) as of 4/23/26							
CBOT	Corn	455.50 (May 26)	463.75 (Jul 26)	468.50 (Sep 26)	483.50 (Dec 26)	496.50 (Mar 27)	503.75 (May 27)	507.00 (Jul 27)	
CBOT	Soybeans	1159.75 (May 26)	1174.75 (Jul 26)	1169.00 (Aug 26)	1149.25 (Sep 26)	1155.00 (Nov 26)	1167.00 (Jan 27)	1165.50 (Mar 27)	
CBOT	Wheat	610.75 (May 26)	620.25 (Jul 26)	633.25 (Sep 26)	651.75 (Dec 26)	667.25 (Mar 27)	674.25 (May 27)	669.25 (Jul 27)	
CBOT	White Oats	320.50 (May 26)	333.50 (Jul 26)	340.00 (Sep 26)	339.75 (Dec 26)	343.25 (Mar 27)	349.25 (May 27)	339.75 (Jul 27)	
KCBT	Wheat	666.75 (May 26)	679.25 (Jul 26)	690.75 (Sep 26)	704.50 (Dec 26)	714.00 (Mar 27)	716.75 (May 27)	707.25 (Jul 27)	
MGE	Wheat	674.50 (May 26)	691.50 (Jul 26)	706.25 (Sep 26)	718.75 (Dec 26)	727.50 (Mar 27)	725.00 (May 27)	720.25 (Jul 27)	

### US #2 WHITE CORN (BULK)

Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Pennyrile	75.00K to 155.00K	UNCH	5.3050-6.1050	UP 0.0125	5.7050
Pennyrile	58.00Z	UNCH	5.4150	UP 0.0125	5.4150

### US #2 YELLOW CORN (BULK)

Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Pennyrile	20.00K	UNCH	4.7550	UP 0.0125	4.7550
Pennyrile	-20.00U	UNCH	4.4850	UP 0.0150	4.4850
Green River	35.00K	UNCH	4.9050	UP 0.0125	4.9050
Green River	-10.00Z	UNCH	4.7350	UP 0.0125	4.7350
Pennyrile	-10.00K to 32.00K	UNCH	4.4550-4.8750	UP 0.0125	4.5667
Pennyrile	-30.00Z to -10.00Z	UNCH-DN 5.00	4.5350-4.7350	UP 0.0125-DN 0.0375	4.6183
Louisville	-17.00K	UNCH	4.3850	UP 0.0125	4.3850
Louisville	-17.00K	UNCH	4.3850	UP 0.0125	4.3850
Bluegrass	10.00K	UNCH	4.6550	UP 0.0125	4.6550
Bluegrass	-25.00Z	UNCH	4.5850	UP 0.0125	4.5850

### Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional

Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Upper KY	22.00K to 23.00K	UNCH	4.7750-4.7850	UP 0.0325-UP 0.0125	4.7800
Ohio River - Upper KY	-30.00Z	UNCH	4.5350	UP 0.0125	4.5350
Ohio River - Lower KY	23.00K to 36.00K	UP 1.00-UNCH	4.7850-4.9150	UP 0.0225-UP 0.0125	4.8733
Ohio River - Lower KY	-27.00Z to -13.00Z	UNCH	4.5650-4.7050	UP 0.0125	4.6390
Purchase	21.00K to 35.00K	UNCH	4.7650-4.9050	UP 0.0125	4.8183
Purchase	-10.00U to -20.00Z	UNCH	4.5850-4.6350	UP 0.0150-UP 0.0125	4.6100

### US #1 SOYBEANS (BULK)

Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Pennyrile	15.00K	UNCH	11.7475	DN 0.0475	11.7475
Pennyrile	-15.00X	UNCH	11.4000	DN 0.0100	11.4000
Green River	-20.00K	UNCH	11.3975	DN 0.0475	11.3975
Green River	-40.00X	UNCH	11.1500	DN 0.0100	11.1500
Pennyrile	-40.00K to 32.00K	UNCH-UP 2.00	11.1975-11.9175	DN 0.0475-DN 0.0275	11.3646
Pennyrile	-60.00X to -11.00X	UNCH	10.9500-11.4400	DN 0.0100	11.0771
Louisville	-78.00K	UNCH	10.8175	DN 0.0475	10.8175
Louisville	-78.00K	UNCH	10.8175	DN 0.0475	10.8175
Bluegrass	-40.00K	UNCH	11.1975	DN 0.0475	11.1975
Bluegrass	-75.00X	UNCH	10.8000	DN 0.0100	10.8000

### Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional

Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Upper KY	1.00K to 16.00K	DN 13.00-UNCH	11.6075-11.7575	DN 0.1775-DN 0.0475	11.6825
Ohio River - Upper KY	-36.00X to -35.00X	UNCH	11.1900-11.2000	DN 0.0100	11.1950
Ohio River - Lower KY	16.00K to 40.00K	UP 2.00-UNCH	11.7575-11.9975	DN 0.0275-DN 0.0475	11.8925
Ohio River - Lower KY	-27.00X to 15.00X	UP 1.00-UNCH	11.2800-11.7000	UNCH-DN 0.0100	11.4650
Purchase	15.00K to 30.00K	UP 1.00-UNCH	11.7475-11.8975	DN 0.0375-DN 0.0475	11.8008
Purchase	-28.00X to -17.00X	UNCH	11.2700-11.3800	DN 0.0100	11.3275

### US #1 MILLING SOFT RED WINTER WHEAT (BULK)

Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Pennyrile	-5.00K	UNCH	6.0575	UP 0.1150	6.0575
Pennyrile	-5.00N	UNCH	6.1525	UP 0.1325	6.1525

### US #2 SOFT RED WINTER WHEAT (BULK)

Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Pennyrile	-10.00N	UNCH	6.1025	UP 0.1325	6.1025
Green River	-75.00N	UNCH	5.4525	UP 0.1325	5.4525
Pennyrile	-40.00K to -30.00K	UNCH	5.7075-5.8075	UP 0.1150	5.7575
Pennyrile	-60.00N to -4.00N	UNCH-UP 5.00	5.6025-6.1625	UP 0.1325-UP 0.1825	5.7875
Louisville	-16.00K	UNCH	5.9475	UP 0.1150	5.9475
Louisville	-79.00N to -14.00N	UNCH	5.4125-6.0625	UP 0.1325	5.7375
Bluegrass	-55.00N	UNCH	5.6525	UP 0.1325	5.6525

### Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional

Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Upper KY	-28.00N	UNCH	5.9225	UP 0.1325	5.9225
Ohio River - Lower KY	-14.00N to -4.00N	UP 1.00-UNCH	6.0625-6.1625	UP 0.1425-UP 0.1325	6.1265
Purchase	-8.00K to -15.00N	UNCH	6.0275-6.0525	UP 0.1150-UP 0.1325	6.0400
Purchase	-15.00N to 0.00N	UNCH	6.0525-6.2025	UP 0.1325	6.1325

Explanatory Notes: Price & Basis Values quoted are for Current Delivery, unless otherwise noted.  
CBOT/KCBT/MGE Trade month symbols: F January; G February; H March; J April; K May; M June; N July; Q August; U September; V October; X November; Z December. FOB: Freight On Board. CIF: Cost, Insurance, and Freight. T: Truck, R: Rail, B: Barge, T/R: Truck/Rail, R/B: Rail/Barge, T/R/B: Truck/Rail/Barge, OV: Ocean Vessel

USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News

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Market Report  
April 22nd 2025  
This Report is the Actual High and Average Prices.

	Hd. Ct.	High	Avg.
Fat Hogs:	15	\$1.02	\$ .83
Sows:	N/A		
Boars:	N/A		
Feeder Pigs:	2	\$15	\$10
Beef & X Veal #1:	41	\$2000	\$1846.59
Beef & X Veal #2:	12	\$1275	\$995.83
Dairy Veal #1:	62	\$1825.	\$1442.98
Dairy Veal #2:	4	\$1000	\$675
Jersey Cross:	1	\$325	\$325
Beef Fdrs 200#-550#	6	\$5.05	\$4.52
Beef Fdrs 551#-1000#	2	\$3.45	\$2.44
Dairy Fdrs 200#-550#	3	\$3.10	\$2.62
Dairy Fdrs 551#-1000#	2	\$1.10	\$1.10
Cull Cows #1:	2	\$1.60	\$1.52
Cull Cows #2:	2	\$1.35	\$1.24
Fat Cattle Colored:	N/A		
Fat Cattle Holstein:	N/A		
Bulls:	1	\$1.84	\$1.84
Cow/Calf Pair:	1	\$4300	\$4300
Breed Cows Colored:	N/A		
Milk Cows:	N/A		
Springers:	N/A		
Sheep Ram:	1	\$1.20	\$1.20
Sheep Ewe:	1	\$1.00	\$1.00
Lamb 0-60:	N/A		
Lamb 61-85:	1	\$3.35	\$3.35
Lamb 86-100:	N/A		
Goat Nannies:	N/A		
Goat Billys:	N/A		
Dair Feeders #2:	9	\$1250	\$500
Total Hd. Cnt:	168		

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Sale Order

Hay / Straw / Firewood 11:00 AM  
Livestock 12:00 PM  
Small animals 5:00 PM.  
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Hay Lg Sq: 397 \$7 \$2.90  
Hay Sm Sq: 37 \$75 \$50.27  
Hay Rnd Bale : 37 \$75 \$50.27  
Straw Lg. Sq: N/A  
Corn Fodder: 94 \$2.50 \$2.24  
Straw Sm. Sq: N/A  
Rabbits: N/A  
Chickens: 151 \$15.00 \$2.49  
Chicks: N/A  
Bantys: N/A  
Roosters: 3 \$13.00 \$9.33  
Ducks: 21 \$10.00 \$7.14  
Turkey: N/A  
Quail: N/A  
Pigeon: N/A  
Guinea: N/A  
Guinea Pig: 43 \$1.00 \$ .71  
Geese: N/A  
Peacocks and Hens : N/A  
Eggs: 112 \$2.00 \$1.85

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

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

Small Animals	4/21/2026	Sheep
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# Books about gardening, birds get you ready for spring

Books about Gardening by various authors c.2026, various publishers, \$28-\$35, various page counts



**THE BOOKWORM SEZ**  
Terri Schlichenmeyer

It's almost time to dig in the dirt.

For months, it was too cold, too wet, too early to get to your garden patch but now you can hardly wait. You've been through the seed catalogs and picked your plants, but you need to be patient a little longer. So, pass the time with these great new books...

Let's start with something different that makes gardening even more pleasurable: bird song. Imagine a world without it and how much you'd miss it - and then read "The Feather Wars and the Great Crusade to Save America's Birds" by James H. McCommons (St. Martin's Press, \$33).

In very early America, immigrants simply assumed that the abundance they found on this continent would last forever. We know better now, and so did a lot of scientists, nature-lovers, society folks, hunters and others who worked hard to ensure that wild birds thrived, despite the bad guys you'll also find inside this book. It's a story for anyone who enjoys birdsong and has feathered friends.

So, you're going to spend the rest of the spring, all summer, and maybe into fall, growing beautiful blooms. You don't want to just leave them outside that whole time, do you? Of course not, so "A Year of Cut Flowers: A Life of Growing and Arranging for All Seasons" by Sarah Raven (Bloomsbury, \$35) is a book that will guide you in bringing those blooms inside properly.

Spring isn't just for planting, Raven says. It's also for cultivating, nurturing, mulching, and taking time to see how you can make your home (and that of others) beautiful and wonderfully scented with the blooms you'll grow in your garden.

Here, you'll learn which go-to plants to have in your plot, how to make sure you've got color in your garden from early until frost, how to get the most of your plants, and how to keep them fresh-looking and gorgeous for a lot longer inside. Bonus: photos. Lots of them, which will help keep you inspired while your greenery still slumbers awhile.

And when you need a welcome break from all that work, grab "Bloom," a novel by Robbie Couch (Gallery Books, \$28). It's a rom-com about Morris, who lost his husband and his zest for life, and who's narrowed his entire existence to the history books he owns and his TV. Then there's Sloan, Morris's stepdaughter, who is stuck with the grief she has for her father's death and a mother who tends to take over. And there's Jade, a houseplant who desperately needs water, attention, and for Morris to wake up and live again. It's a cute book, perfect for relaxing in the sun.

If these gardening books aren't enough for you, then head to your favorite bookstore or library and ask for the gardening section. There, you'll find books about vegetables, plants, butterflies and birds, dirt and composting and everything you need to grow something green, flowery or edible. And be sure to look for the books, above. You'll really dig 'em.






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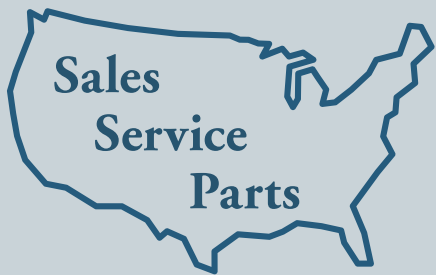



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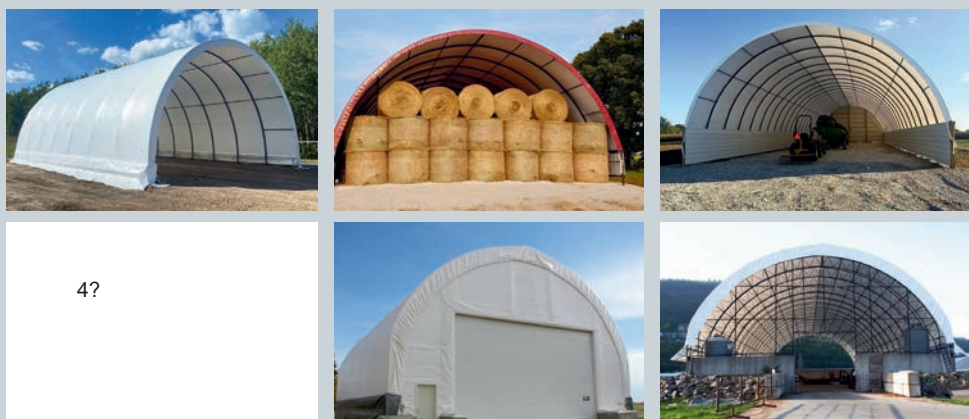
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# Solutions to help resolve predator problems on farms

By **DOUG GRAVES**  
Ohio Correspondent

FRANKFORT, Ky. - According to the Kentucky Division of Fish & Wildlife, coyotes, wolves, foxes, bobcats and raccoons are the primary predators affecting livestock operations in Kentucky and surrounding states.

Experts suggest rather than trying to remove dangerous wildlife entirely (an approach many experts say is rarely practical), farmers should adopt management strategies that limit conflicts with wildlife while allowing animals to follow their natural behaviors at a safe distance from people and their livestock.

Matt Springer, associate extension professor of Wildlife Management at University of Kentucky, explained that wildlife is a natural part of Kentucky's landscape, meaning farms often share space with many animal species.

"The first step is identifying the problem and determining which animal may be responsible. Farmers should assess whether the situation causes real damage or is simply an inconvenience," Springer said. "Issues such as crop loss, property damage, or safety risks may require action, while harmless encounters may only call for patience."

Various predators may attack in different ways.

"For instance, coyotes typically attack the throat of sheep, while birds of prey target small poultry," Springer says. "Understanding predator behavior patterns, including seasonal variations and hunting times, is

crucial for anticipating when your animals are most vulnerable. Most predators are active at dawn and dusk, others nocturnal, making these high-risk periods for livestock.

"Clues like tracks, droppings, bite marks and the type of habitat can help narrow down the species involved. Tools such as trail cameras, field guides or advice from wildlife specialists can also help confirm the culprit."

Learning what type of predator is involved is the first step. Then, protection from that predator is the next step, Springer said.

"Protecting your farm animals from predators doesn't always require traps, poison or firearms," he said. "Natural predator control methods offer sustainable, environmentally friendly alternatives that maintain the delicate balance of your local ecosystem while keeping your livestock safe."

The Kentucky Division of Fish & Wildlife offers various suggestions at keeping livestock from predators. Tops on their list for protection was guarding animals. For example, using livestock guardian dogs offers exceptional protection against predators like coyotes, wolves and bears. Breeds such as Great Pyrenees, Anatolian Shepherds and Maremmas are genetically programmed to bond with livestock and defend them. These dogs work by patrolling perimeters, marking territory with scent, and using intimidating barks to deter predators. Most farms need one-two dogs

**(Predator Problems continued on page 10)**

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# Predator Problems

FROM PAGE 9

per 100 animals, depending on predator pressure and terrain challenges.

Many farmers employ donkeys and mules as protective companions. Donkeys possess natural aggression toward canine predators, making them effective guardians against coyotes and foxes. Their territorial nature drives them to chase, stomp and bite intruders that threaten their herd. Donkeys work best in open pastures where they can spot approaching threats. One donkey can typically protect 50-100 sheep or goats, requiring minimal specialized training and integrating well with daily farm operations.

Llamas and alpacas make excellent sentinels, especially against smaller predators like foxes and coyotes. Their natural herding instincts and territorial behavior enable them to spot threats and respond with alarm calls, charging and even striking with their front feet. Gelded males typically make the best guardians, offering protection without the aggression issues of intact males. One llama can effectively guard up to 200 sheep in open pasture settings. Their additional benefits include fiber production and minimal maintenance compared to guardian dogs.

If protective animals aren't available, the Kentucky Division of Fish & Wildlife said barriers and secure enclosures are useful.

Effective predator-proof fencing requires both height and depth considerations. Install fencing at least 5-6 feet tall with an additional 12 inches underground to prevent digging predators. Use heavy-gauge wire mesh with openings no larger

than four inches and add electric wire at the top and bottom for enhanced protection. Consider installing fladry (flags attached to wire) as a temporary deterrent for wolves and coyotes, creating a psychological barrier that many predators hesitate to cross.

Secure night enclosures provide essential protection when predators are most active. Construct shelters with solid walls, predator-resistant doors, and secure latches that can't be manipulated by clever animals. Motion-sensor lighting around enclosures can startle nocturnal predators. For poultry, ensure coop floors are reinforced with hardware cloth to block burrowing predators like foxes and weasels.

Motion-activated lights create sudden brightness that startles and disorients predators approaching your farm animals at night. Install solar-powered LED floodlights around animal enclosures, positioning them 8-10 feet high facing outward to illuminate approaching threats. Focus coverage on entry points and vulnerable areas where predators might attempt access. These systems require minimal maintenance - just keep solar panels clean and test monthly to ensure reliable operation when predators approach.

Strategic sound deterrents create an uncomfortable environment for predators while alerting you to potential threats. Install motion-triggered alarms that emit irregular sounds predators can't easily habituate to, such as recordings of human voices, barking dogs or random mechanical noises. Place battery-powered units at 50-foot intervals around perimeters, changing sound patterns monthly to prevent adaptation. Wind chimes and aluminum pie plates also create unpredictable noise de-



**Above:** Foxes are a huge threat to any poultry farm, as are coyotes, wolves, bobcats and raccoons. (courtesy Kentucky Division of Fish & Wildlife)

terrents when hung from fence lines, providing constant low-level auditory protection.

Strategic landscape management creates natural barriers against predators while maintaining a productive farm environment. Thoughtful pasture design and vegetation control significantly reduce predator encounters without relying on lethal methods.

Remove carcasses, afterbirth, and food waste promptly from your property to avoid attracting predators. Clear dense brush, tall grasses, and debris piles within 100 feet of animal enclosures that serve as hiding spots for coyotes and foxes.

Visual deterrents exploit predators' natural wariness of new objects and perceived threats. Strategically place scarecrows, owl decoys and reflective tape around livestock areas,

moving them regularly to prevent habituation. Motion-activated flags and streamers create unpredictable movements that startle approaching predators. Solar-powered predator deterrent lights mimicking watchful eyes at night effectively ward off nocturnal hunters. For best results, combine multiple visual tactics and rotate them weekly to maintain their effectiveness against adaptable wildlife.

Strategic timing of breeding and birthing seasons offers one of your strongest defenses against predators. Most predators target vulnerable young animals, so planning when your livestock gives birth can significantly reduce predation risks. Schedule breeding so births occur during safer seasons - typically when natural prey is abundant and predator pressure on your farm decreases.

## "It just flat-out works."

— Garrett Madland



**LYNDELL DAIRY, LYNDON STATION, WISCONSIN**  
The Madland Family, Garrett Madland, herdsman  
500 cows, 103 lbs (3x) 4.4F 3.3P 37,000 SCC



*(Left) Mark Comfort with Garrett Madland. (Right) Troy and Sandy Madland (center) are flanked by son Garrett and daughter Theresa. Dairy Star photo, Abby Weidmeyer*

"We've been using Udder Comfort™ for probably close to 15 years," says Garrett Madland, second generation family and herdsman at Lyndell Dairy, Lyndon Station, Wisconsin. He relies on Udder Comfort as a routine part of udder management on their 500-cow dairy with high production, strong components, and excellent milk quality, earning premiums on the milk check.

"We use Udder Comfort on all of our fresh cows for about the first 2 to 3 days after they're fresh, and on mastitis cases too. You really see the benefits in milk quality. We've seen counts come down, just terrific," he says, preferring the spray for fast, consistent application. The herd averages 103 pounds of milk, 4.4F, 3.3P and SCC averaging around 37,000.

For Garrett, dairying is about working with family and working the land.

**It's also about making decisions, and having dependable tools that support cow comfort and keep the herd moving forward. As for Udder Comfort, the decision is simple, he says: It's a very consistent product, and it just flat-out works."**



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COMBINES	CONSTRUCTION
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# Huntington University's ag program to welcome new director June 1

By Michele F. Mihaljevich  
Indiana Correspondent

HUNTINGTON, Ind. - About 10 years ago, Dr. Jessica Graves learned about Huntington University's (HU) Hauptert Institute for Agricultural Studies while attending a National FFA Convention.

At the convention, she met Nate Perry, managing director of the institute. Since their meeting, she kept up with the university's agriculture program and how it was progressing. Fast forward to 2026, and in a few weeks, Graves will take over as the institute's director.

"Over the last decade, I have watched the HU ag program grow and help students flourish as they are launched into their professional lives, equipped through the spiritual formation and technical training provided by HU faculty and staff," she explained. "I've always admired the opportunity provided at HU for faculty to lead, mentor and educate students with a Christ-centered approach, so when the opportunity came to join the team, I jumped in with confidence."

HU is a Christian college of liberal arts offering undergraduate and graduate degree programs in more than 70 areas of study. The Hauptert Institute began in fall 2015 with about a dozen students. This academic year, 124 students are enrolled in the program, a university representative said.

Graves has been an adjunct professor for the university's MBA-International Agriculture program and the institute since 2024.

"Huntington University, but specif-



Dr. Jessica Graves

ically the HU ag program, has occupied a special place in my heart since I first met the team," she noted. "My adjunct role provided a platform for me to build inter-departmental relationships with those beyond the HU ag program. I have enjoyed my time teaching international agriculture courses online and have seen firsthand the caliber of students that HU attracts."

By the time she knew the director role was available, Graves said she had led two HU agricultural mission trips with students alongside Dr. Raymie Porter and his wife, Natalie. Graves said it was a special opportunity to travel and work alongside students as they bring their knowledge, skills, gifts and passion to serve, a vision that she had when she first met Perry at the FFA convention.

Porter, the current director, is

(New Director continued on page 13)

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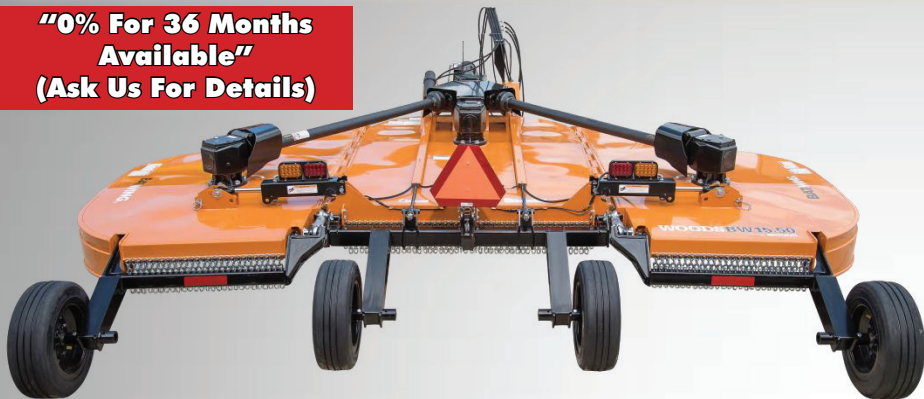
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## New Director

FROM PAGE 12

retiring. Graves will begin her role June 1.

"When I learned of the director role opportunity, it seemed like a role crafted for my skill set and passion," she said. "I am often noted as a 'people person' and I find myself a natural connector. I thrive in collaborative work environments, and look forward to finding ways to lead the HU ag program well through my existing networks while building new relationships to support the faculty, students and our stakeholders."

Graves was an academic adviser and instructor at Mississippi University for more than 14 years before joining the M4 Institute as director of international capacity development in 2023. M4 is an international development organization. She plans to continue working with M4.

"I will continue my graduate-level teaching (at HU) and look forward to seeing more undergraduate students complete the International Ag certificate as a way to expand their global agricultural knowledge and skills, which is often of particular interest to those who seek to utilize their agricultural degree in missions and ministry efforts."

HU's ag program celebrated its 10-year milestone last year. Graves said the program's growth speaks volumes about the university's leadership to invest in a new program, like agriculture, at a liberal arts institution. It also demonstrates the interdisciplinary nature of agriculture, as it connects disciplines from history to medicine, she added.

It's been fun to see that growth, she said, but it's not just about numbers.

"The HU ag students are leaders in their residence halls, Bible study small groups and athletics teams," Graves said. "The support of the HU ag program has probably been one of the most impressive attributes. I believe the current administration is excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for HU ag, and the ripple effect of that mindset will lead to more collaborations with colleagues across the HU family and beyond."

The institute's agricultural education program has great potential for growth and impact, she said.

"I would love nothing more than to see students who desire to be agricultural educators join us for opportunities that set them apart as top-notch educators, equipped with practical skills and fueled by passion," Graves said. "We all know that ag teachers across the world are highly valued, as they bring life to

theoretical concepts through hands-on learning. Prioritizing agricultural education also serves as a platform to mitigate the national agricultural labor challenges that we are facing by raising a generation of youth who value and seek agricultural jobs."

Graves, from Vance, Ala., grew up on her family's farm where they raised commercial beef cattle and vegetables. For a time, her mom grew cut flowers for wholesale. She and her husband raise beef cattle on a micro-scale in Mississippi and direct market beef to those in their community.

She said there are things she's looking forward to - and one she's not - in her new role: "Well, not the snow and cold weather! This Southern gal has some adapting to do."

"On a serious note, I am truly just looking forward to the opportunity God has given me to lead and serve the HU ag program, and more broadly, the HU family," Graves said. "The opportunities are boundless, but I am looking forward to hearing more from the faculty, students and stakeholders to help us shape the next chapter of HU ag."

"I have said it before, but 'faith-family-farming' is more than just a tagline. It truly describes those in the HU ag community and those who support it."

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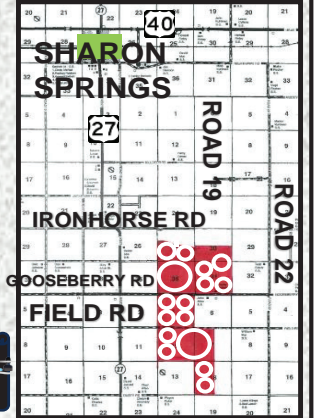
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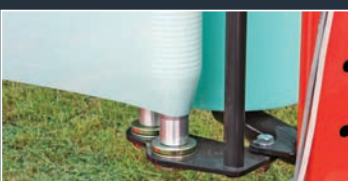
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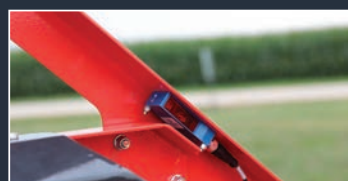


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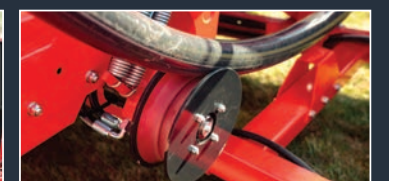
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# Portable biosensor device has multiple agricultural applications

By Hayley Lalchand  
Ohio Correspondent

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. - Researchers at Purdue University have designed and developed a portable biosensor device that can rapidly detect pathogens in agricultural environments.

"The original motivation for developing a biosensor device for on-farm use was a networking event where I was sitting next to a beef cattle farmer who was mentioning his challenges in managing bovine respiratory disease," said Mohit Verma, associate professor of agricultural and biological engineering at Purdue. "He mentioned that if he knew which bacteria or virus was causing the disease with a quick on-farm test, his management decisions would be much better."

In 2020, a team of researchers led by Verma was awarded a \$1 million USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture Inter-Disciplinary Engagement in Animal Systems (IDEAS) grant to develop a technology that could reduce the diagnosis time of bovine respiratory disease to 30 minutes. Since then, the group has published multiple papers demonstrating the technology's ability to detect bacteria in bovine nasal samples among other applications, such as the detection of COVID-19 in saliva samples and the ability to identify genetically modified corn and soybean.

The latest application of the technology is food safety on produce farms with the ability to detect aerosolized fecal contaminants. Research published by the team in 2024 found that the biosensor technology delivered 100 percent accurate results within an hour of in-field sample collection.

The biosensors are based on a technology known as loop mediated isothermal amplification (LAMP), which can detect DNA or RNA by heating the sample to a temperature of 65 degrees Celsius, Verma said.

"When the heat is provided, the nu-

cleic acids amplify and cause a color change if the target is present. The target could be a pathogen, indicator bacteria, or genes (such as those for antimicrobial resistance or genetically modified traits)," he continued. "The heater device allows the heating process to take place in a simple manner."

To that end, the goal is for the biosensor devices and assay tests to be operated by farmers or veterinarians with minimal training. The workflow involves collecting a sample, resuspending the sample in water, transferring the sample to the biosensor paper pads and sealing the pads, placing the biosensors in the heating device, and observing the color changes visually or by a camera, Verma explained.

Verma and his group's new research development is IsoHeat, the device that provides the heat needed

for LAMP assays in the field. IsoHeat can reach 65 degrees Celcius in just 12 minutes, whereas a commercially available precision cooker tested against IsoHeat took 36 minutes to reach the same temperature. Verma, alongside doctoral students Nafisa Rafiq and Bibek Raut, recently submitted a patent application for related technologies.

"The device really helps to bring lab-quality results to the farm and provide quicker actionable information. Such capabilities don't currently exist and most of the time such testing is not done due to slow turnaround," Verma said.

Verma and his research group are currently working on increasing the user-friendliness of the device and are working with improved versions of the device in the field to provide data in

a real-world setting. Additionally, the group is working on integrating automated image analysis to simplify the interpretation of results.

Beyond the lab, Verma serves as the chief technology officer of Krishi, a startup company focused on developing molecular assays that provide actionable insights for agriculture and animal health markets. The company's website states that there are "hundreds of potential applications" for Krishi's proprietary platform and it "may replace diagnostics currently conducted only in a laboratory or provide valuable insights through entirely new applications." The website immediately lists antimicrobial resistance, bovine respiratory disease, African swine fever and crop pathogens as applications.

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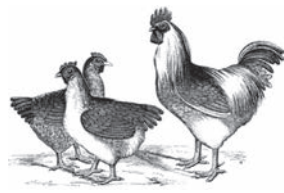
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**ALERT! ALERT! ALERT!**

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

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

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

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

A scammer will often try to pressure you into making a quick decision and to pay up front. These are warning signs that should not be ignored!

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

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Case IH 7110, MFWA, 6000 hrs., \$24,000. 574-336-5106 Walton, IN.

IH 666 gas, runs gd., has hyd. issues, \$3800. No texts. 260-729-7695 Pennville, IN.

JD 4960, nice tractor until head gasket blew out, \$40,000. 765-993-1933 Connersville, IN.

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# Olivia Robinson joins Ohio Farm Bureau

By Mike Tanchevski  
Ohio Correspondent

LICKING COUNTY, Ohio - From managing her own Jersey herd at age 12 to serving in the Ohio Air National Guard and working as a nurse, Olivia Robinson brings a uniquely diverse perspective to her new role as organization director for the Guernsey, Morgan, Muskingum and Perry County Farm Bureaus.

The makeup of the farms in the four-county area is wide and varied, according to Robinson. "Lots of crop farming, animal husbandry, and even timber, because of the wooded acreage."

Robinson started her own Jersey herd at age 12, and looking back at that early responsibility, she still carries what she learned about the business of farming to this day.

"I learned a lot of responsibility at a very young age - and the hardships of owning your own herd," she said. "My first couple of rounds of calves actually didn't make it. I learned right off the rip

how hard farming truly can be. When I finally had a calf that grew up and was milking, it was so nice to see that reward. It taught me about the cycle of life and the ups and downs."

Her love of Jersey cattle grew from a long family tradition, dating back generations.

"My great-great-grandparents had a Jersey farm," Robinson said. "My great-grandma, grandma, and mom all had Jerseys and an undying love for them. I loved their temperament; they were like my puppy dogs."

She grew up participating in 4-H and FFA in Licking County. That experience developed her values and her desire to help others.

"I'm still an adviser, and I love it," she said. "I was shaped by my mentors, and I've always had a large desire to help shape the next generation."

Her transition from student member to adviser and now to regional director allows her to work across generations.

"Now I get to work alongside my generation and those before me to help

guide them with whatever they need," she said. "I've been part of the Licking County Jersey 4-H Club since I was 9; it has a piece of my heart."

Robinson's six-year tenure in the National Guard exposed her to diverse groups of people and helped her develop leadership and problem-solving skills, which translate to the ag sector.

"Joining the military, you get thrown into such a diverse world of cultures and communities," she said. "You learn how to adapt and work with multiple different personalities. No two farmers act or think the same, so having that wide variety of experience helps me when looking at multiple counties and farms."

Working for five years as a nurse gives her some insight into rural wellness and mental health issues in her four-county area. She also works closely with the county mental health specialist.

"I work closely with Mattea Shockling, our agriculture navigator for Morgan and Guernsey counties, regarding mental health," she said. "Having a nursing background - and having worked in assisted living - helps me bond with her and guide our members. They know they have someone who will listen to farming issues, but also family health issues, like a grandfather's health deteriorating. They don't have to feel alone."

Her last job, a contract specialist for the U.S. Defense Logistics Agency, gives her a leg up when it comes to the legal aspects of her new job.

"I wrote contracts for the Navy," Robinson said. "Reading and writing contracts helps with the 'legal jargon.' When counties want to write new policies or push things through to the government, it gives me an edge to help them do that."

As the organization director for four counties, her main priority is getting the word out on what the farm bureau does.

"I posted on my personal Facebook asking what people knew about it, and it was very minimal unless they were already involved," she said. "My goal is to open our events to the community so



Above: Olivia Robinson, of Hanover, has been named organization director for Ohio Farm Bureau and will serve members in Guernsey, Morgan, Muskingum and Perry counties.

more people know we are here to support them."

Spreading the Ohio Farm Bureau message any way she can is a must for Robinson.

"Face-to-face, word of mouth, social media, postcards, radio, and flyers at local restaurants," she said. "Just any way we can get our name out there."

Robinson's involvement in what she calls a "hobby farm" helps her relate to what the situations farmers she meets face.

"It's about balancing family life and farming," she said. "For example, I know there is a big need for affordable meat right now, but the market is rough. I try to help connect people who want farm-fresh produce and beef with the farmers who have it."

Looking into the future, Robinson feels that a successful first year in her new position means she has the full support of the people she represents and works for.

"More than anything, just to know that my boards are proud of the work I've done in helping their communities," she said. "Knowing my board supports me and approves of the direction we've taken."

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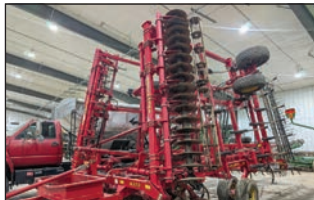
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## YEDA: From a kitchen table to a national movement

By DOUG GRAVES  
Ohio Correspondent

MIDDLETOWN, Ind. – There is an abundance of equestrian riding programs across the country, but not many of them offer broad opportunities for the first-time rider. And fewer offer competition to those who don't own a horse.

The Youth Equestrian Develop-



**Above:** Every rider shows in a YEDA branded, oxford shirt in a variety of colors, leveling the playing field for all participants. (photo submitted)

ment Association (YEDA) was founded by four horse enthusiasts. The foursome developed this structured, team-based program that emphasizes horsemanship, sportsmanship and personal growth. Today, the program is a pipeline into the equine industry across Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Michigan, Kentucky and 20 other states.

"The favorite thing about YEDA is seeing riders that do not own horses have the opportunity to fulfill a dream," said Debbie Arnold, one of the four founders who has been a quarter horse trainer for more than 40 years. "These riders learn to work together, work hard, take on leadership roles and make decisions. They learn that winning isn't the end goal and that learning to do their best is important, accepting victory and defeat with a grateful heart."

The YEDA movement has taken root in 25 states and each team in each state is headed up by highly experienced equestrians.

"Across Indiana and across the country, where agriculture remains the backbone of local communities, YEDA has created a new pathway into the equine and agricultural industries," said Stephanie Huffman-Wilson, founder and CEO of Bridlewood Crossings, an equestrian learning community in east central Indiana where she works with riders, families and communities to develop confidence, communication and life skills through the horse.



**Above:** Even the horse receives an honor now and then. Lynne Puthoff's lesson horse, Gus, won Horse of the Day at YEDA's SPRING IT ON horse show in Springfield, Ohio, on the weekend of March 7-8. (photo submitted)

Huffman-Wilson also serves as a coach within YEDA and as director of outreach and communications for the organization, leading national visibility and engagement efforts.

Huffman-Wilson is a lifelong equestrian and passionate educator with decades of experience in both the horse industry and higher education. She grew up managing her family's performance horse opera-

tion, helping youth riders achieve state and national honors.

She served as associate dean of equine studies at Lake Erie College, where she launched a degree in equine entrepreneurship and coached a semi-national championship IHSA Western Rider. Today, she's entrenched in getting young

(YEDA continued on page 2B)

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# YEDA

FROM PAGE 1B

people engaged in horsemanship in YEDA.

YEDA promotes Western, catch-draw style riding, giving youth in grades 4-12 (and young alumni), and equestrians with disabilities from age 10 through adult, giving them the chance to compete even if they don't own a horse.

Each team has a coach and has a minimum of three riders per team. Competition is divided into elementary school, junior high, senior high, equestrian with disabilities and alumni division.

YEDA's unique point system counts only a rider's top six scores from a 12-show limit, making national qualification more accessible. In less populated regions, top individuals can qualify through state invitations held before nationals.

Now in its 10th season, YEDA includes 61 teams, nearly 1,000 members (including international riders) and has awarded more than \$1.6 million in scholarships. The season concludes at the 10th Annual National Championship, June 4-7 at the Virginia Horse Center in Lexington, Va.

"This year's event in Virginia not only marks a major milestone for the organization, but also highlights the strength of the youth pipeline into the performance horse industry," Huffman-Wilson said.

Keith Ceddia, of Centerburg, Ohio, coaches Buckeye Riders, one of the 25 YEDA teams in the state.

"The most fun about this horse organization is working with all the kids and getting them to all the horse shows," Ceddia said. "As a coach it's a good way to build relationships and



**Above:** Julia Stone, of Knightstown, Ind., qualified for the YEDA National Championship in June in Virginia. "Julia's journey reflects a great mix of local pride, perseverance, and the kind of youth development that resonates with our community," coach Stephanie Huffman-Wilson said.

a nice way to earn a second income." Alyssa Freitas, of AF Horse Shows in East Hampton, Conn., enjoys working with first timers and those new to YEDA. Hers is one of four teams in Connecticut.

"Our YEDA team offers a lot of new opportunities for those who don't own their own horse yet can still compete, and this allows them to travel to the larger horse shows. It also offers the riders the chance to obtain scholarships and eventually compete in college."

YEDA is not only good for horse enthusiasts but a boon for the economy. According to Huffman-Wilson, YEDA participation generates roughly \$400 to \$1,200 per rider per month in local agricultural spending



**Above:** Lynne Puthoff and her Puthoff Equestrian Team from West Milton, Ohio, was reserve high point senior high team at YEDA's SPRING IT ON horse show in Springfield, Ohio. As her group's coach, Puthoff has helped shape the YEDA for nearly a decade while mentoring an estimated 225 youth riders in the program. (photo submitted)

(lessons, feed, farrier and veterinary services). Lesson barns, boarding operations and small farms benefit from the consistent income streams tied to this youth participation.

"In addition, many riders are entering agriculture without a farming background, gaining hands-on experience with livestock, responsibility and land stewardship," Huffman-Wilson said.

For more information about YEDA, contact Stephanie Huffman-Wilson at 765-591-3314 or go to <https://bridlewoodcrossings.com>



**Above:** Riders compete in rail and pattern work in YEDA. Horses are provided by each team. (photo submitted)



**Above:** Horses' abilities are determined by their height and weight capacities, allowing for riders to be matched to the mount that best suits them. (photo submitted)



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# Kraft spring auction featured hundreds of vintage tractors, farm toys

By William Flood  
Ohio Correspondent

VALPARAISO, Ind. - The Fourth Annual Kraft Spring Antique Truck and Tractor Auction was April 10-11, bringing bidders both in person and online for the extensive event. The sale was split into dedicated sessions: one day highlighting farm toys and memorabilia; the other featuring antique and vintage machinery, pedal tractors, agricultural advertising, and assorted contemporary items.

Things opened April 10 with approximately 900 lots of farm toys and ag memorabilia, including farm and construction die-cast and other models. The day's high reached \$5,500 for a good-condition Luke Clement custom 1/16-scale Wagner WA-17 4WD tractor. The hard-to-find piece featured yellow paint, good detail and heavy construction.

Taking second at \$4,250 was a custom 1/16-scale blue Big Bud 370 Power Shift tractor with some scuffing and wear. Close behind at \$4,100 was a 1/8 Scale Models Case 730 Comfort King Black Knight demonstrator narrow front, in original box, #3 of 4 from the 100th Pennsylvania Farm Show in 2016.

Twenty-eight additional farm toys saw four figures. Among them, a rare 1/16-scale resin model SpecCast International 7788 4WD tractor in gold, #3 of 12 produced. It brought \$3,750 despite two broken parts. A Luke Clement custom 1/16-scale Massey Ferguson 5200 4WD tractor with triples followed at \$2,750. Meanwhile, two vintage 1/16 Eska Allis-Chalmers D17 Series II tractors got \$2,100 each, both in excellent overall condition, but with aged boxes.

High three-figure bids were common on quality pieces, including \$900 for an unopened 1/16 Ertl John Deere



**Above:** The top-selling pedal tractor was a well-preserved Ertl John Deere 4430 that left for \$1,300.

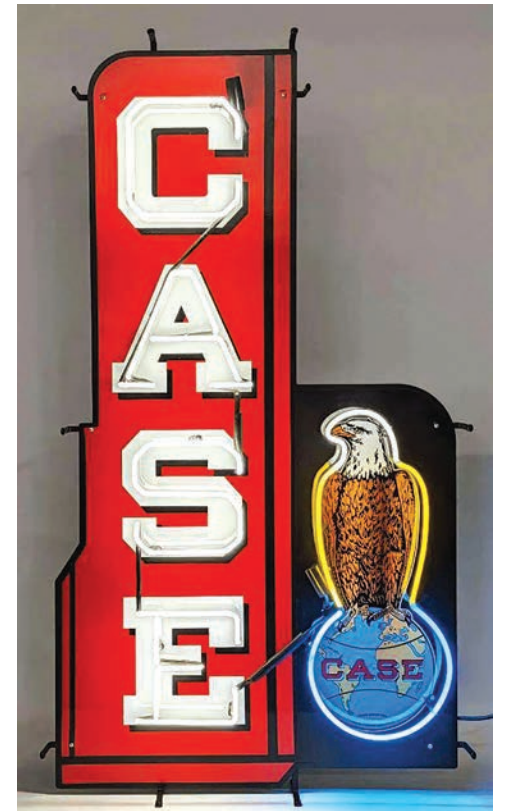
S780 combine from the Prestige Select Series. An \$800 offer won a custom chrome 1/8-scale Farmall 806 diesel narrow front with only light wear. And, a good-condition 1/16-scale Universal Hobbies Big Bud HN320 tractor with William Brothers signed rear fenders hit \$750.

More modest catches included \$250 for a new-in-box 1/64-scale DCP Eilen & Son's Peterbilt Model 379 with MAC dump trailer from the 2011 National Toy Truck 'N Construction Show. A pair of 1/16 Scale Models Case steam engine tractors, both in good condition with light wear, sold for \$190, while a scratch-built 1/16-scale Gehl forage/silage wag-

on, with chain damage, got \$150.

Quality scores even fell below \$100, like a new-in-box 1/16 SpecCast Oliver 88 orchard diesel tractor, with light wear (\$70), a 1/32-scale Ertl Peterbilt Model 367 grain truck with grain bin and auger, also boxed and light wear (\$60), and a vintage 1/16 Tru-Scale 401 narrow front, showing play wear (\$25).

The second day featured antique and vintage machinery, many sold without reserve. More than 75 tractors were offered, including selections from the Steve Just John Deere collection, plus a 1919 General Ordinance 14-28 "GO" tractor from the Jerred Ruble collection. Also featured were 10 vintage trucks, 20-



**Above:** A three-color Case farm equipment sign featuring an eagle motif led the memorabilia sales at \$550.

plus antique engines, 32 pedal tractors, and more agricultural memorabilia.

Tractors were led by a 1972 John Deere 4020 Diesel Powershift, topping the day at \$70,000. The fully restored machine, with over \$50,000 invested in refurbishing, was described as "better than new." It featured dual hydraulics, ROPS, canopy, 3-point hitch with heavy-cast quick hitch, differential lock, PTO, two wheel-weight sets, new 18.4-38 Firestone radial tires, and many new parts

(Kraft continued on page 5B)

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**Above:** A hard-to-find Luke Clement custom 1/16-scale die-cast Wagner WA-17 4WD tractor in good condition bid to \$5,500.

## Kraft

FROM PAGE 3B

and repairs.

A 1940 John Deere Model BWH-40 from the Steve Just collection, offered without reserve, followed at \$45,500. One of just 12 built, it was originally constructed as a BNH model before being converted to a BWH-40. The operating unit was equipped with a two-cylinder engine, electric start, four-speed transmission, 40-inch round-spoke rear wheels, fenders, lights, power lift, and a 540 PTO. The showcased 1919 "GO" tractor came close at \$40,000. The running/driving four-cylinder gas-powered machine featured a friction drive transmission and belt pulley.

Among other antique tractors was a running/operating 1932 Deere GP wide-tread top steer from the Steve Just

collection. It featured a two-cylinder engine, three-speed transmission, PTO with power lift, and full steel wheels. Even without a reserve, it reached \$27,500. Meanwhile, a running Rumely oil-pull Model M landed \$15,000. It was equipped with a two-cylinder engine, two-speed transmission, solid fly-wheel, full set of lugs and skid rings, belt pulley and complete air cleaner. Hammering more modestly at \$7,500 was a 1935 Deere 4-Bolt B. Not running but described as a stunning original, it had a two-cylinder engine, four-speed transmission, PTO, loop drawbar, and all steel wheels.

Other pieces of antique machinery included 20 antique engines, like an International Harvester 10 hp hit-and-miss engine on skids, running but needing a cooling tank, bringing \$7,100. A highlighted Waterloo Boy 7 hp hit-and-miss engine, configured as a buzz saw rig, with factory saw, from



**Above:** A fully restored 1972 John Deere 4020 Diesel Powershift, described as "better than new," commanded the auction's top price of \$70,000.

the Steve Just collection, got \$3,500 despite needing engine work.

Vintage trucks attracted attention, led by an \$8,250 bid on a 1949 Mack EF with a 97.5 hp EN 209 Continental flathead six-cylinder engine. It was equipped with a Chelsea PTO, Tulsa Winch Company winch, tilting bed, and operational original Mack gauges inside. Stored indoors, it was in good condition but needed light repairs. More unusual was an untitled Indiana Motor Truck well drilling rig that left for \$2,000. The non-running outfit was retrofitted with a Ford Model A four-cylinder engine and transmission, had solid tires, and an original Indiana

radiator.

Then came nearly three dozen pedal vehicles. Separate highs of \$1,300 won a good-condition Ertl John Deere 4430 pedal tractor and a hard-to-find Eska Case VAC pedal tractor, nicely restored, but displaying some surface defects.

From there, bids dropped into the hundreds, like the \$850 offered for a custom International 1568 V8 pedal tractor. The good-condition piece featured a custom wide front, fenders, and stacks. A \$400 bid scored a good condition Scale Models Case IH 7088 axial-flow pedal combine with corn head.



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## Below normal temperatures, near normal precipitation expected through May 5

The National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center's outlook through May 5 is calling for likely below normal temperatures and a near normal outlook

for precipitation. The MSU Enviroweather station at Deerfield recorded the low soil temperature at the 2-inch level for April 22 was 47.3°F, was 43.8°F on April 21, 48.3°F on April 20, and 54.7°F on April 18. Toledo reported that more rain has come in March and April 2026 than the previous seven-month period of August 2025 through February 2026. March and April had 10.33 inches compared to 4.34 inches normally, whereas August through February had 8.65 inches compared to 18.41 inches normally. We are no longer in drought status, according to The Drought Monitor.

Soft red and white winter wheat was at the critical Feekes growth stage 6, at the first node when elongation begins. Now is the time to apply the second half of top dressing of nitrogen and when weed control becomes more precise. The recent freeze, prior to Feekes stage 6, had no effect as the growing point was protected below ground.

Alfalfa weevils are now active so farmers should get out their sweep nets to begin scouting. Leaf symptoms appear as tip feeding and small holes in leaves, leading to a skeletonized "frosted" appearance. Older stands may have higher populations because of overwintering adults. The MSU guidelines for spraying are if the cutting is more than two weeks away and more than 40 percent of stems have feeding. If closer to harvest, then the recommendation is to simply harvest. The MSU Guide lists 11 insecticides labeled for alfalfa weevil, but if the stand is mixed grass and alfalfa, then both crops must be listed on the label.

Ohio State monitoring for Black cutworm and true armyworm in corn fields

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

had the highest counts in Lucas County (Toledo). Farmers in areas of high counts should plan to scout for larvae after corn is planted until the V6 growth stage.

No-till fields with grassy areas or that had rye cover crops should be especially scouted for true armyworms.

When deer start damaging garden plants, it can feel frustrating. But by combining safe, sustainable sprays, fencing, and other deterrents, you can significantly reduce deer browsing damage while working with nature rather than against it. One trick may be to simply overseed a grass lawn with clover - which deer love - so they graze there instead of heading straight for the garden. A simple garden cleanup in autumn also helps. Removing fallen fruit, old vegetables, and plant debris eliminates easy food sources that may attract hungry deer. If deer frequently browse your plants, companion planting scented herbs like rosemary, oregano and lavender nearby may help. Planting deer-resistant species around garden beds or along the edges of your landscape can also help discourage browsing.

No plant is completely deer-proof, but some are far less attractive to browsing deer. Deer favorites include hostas, roses, arborvitae and many vegetable crops. Hostas are sometimes called "deer candy" because deer browse them so readily. Deer tend to avoid plants with fuzzy leaves, prickly stems, strong fragrance or bitter taste. Daffodils, foxglove, St. John's wort, catmint, butterfly weed, Lily of the valley, snapdragons, Lamb's ear, Bee balm, marigolds or yucca are plants that may help reduce browsing pressure in gardens where deer are common. Planting these around vulnerable crops or ornamentals can help make the garden less appealing to deer.

## Tennessee launches \$34 Million Hurricane Helene relief program for farmers, forest landowners

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - The Tennessee Department of Agriculture has opened applications for the Hurricane Helene Agricultural and Timber Relief Fund for eligible farmers and forest landowners in northeast Tennessee.

The block grant funding is supported by the USDA through the American Relief Act of 2025 and will provide approximately \$34 million in financial assistance to eligible agricultural producers and forest landowners who experienced losses due to Hurricane Helene.

"Hurricane Helene was an unprecedented natural disaster for our state and placed a heavy burden on Tennessee's rural agricultural and forestry communities," Gov. Bill Lee said. "We're grateful for strong partnerships with USDA and TDA that will allow us to deliver resources to help producers recover losses, rebuild operations and continue driving our state's agricultural economy forward."

Agriculture Commissioner Andy Holt said, "This funding aims to restore farm productivity, support forest

recovery and strengthen the long-term resilience of Tennessee's agricultural economy following the devastating impacts of Hurricane Helene. "We encourage (eligible producers and forest landowners) to take advantage of the resources TDA is providing to help them apply."

The Hurricane Helene Agricultural and Timber Relief Fund is designed to offset a portion of verified losses for eligible agricultural producers or forest landowners who operate in Carter, Cocke, Greene, Hamblen, Hawkins, Johnson, Unicoi or Washington counties.

Applications will be open for 90 days, with a deadline of July 21 at 5 p.m. Eastern (4 p.m. Central).

An informational webinar is scheduled for April 28 at noon Eastern (11 a.m. Central) to provide program details, eligibility requirements and guidance on the application process.

For questions, email Ag.Recovery@tn.gov or call toll-free at 833-616-6700 or locally at 615-837-5241.

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# Milk production up in March; more cows, milk per cow credited

Increased cow numbers and more milk per cow nudged March milk production higher for the 13th month in a row. USDA's preliminary data showed March output at 20.391 billion pounds, up 2.3 percent from March 2025, and followed a 2.9 percent gain in February. The 24-state March total hit 19.591 billion, up 2.4 percent.

February output was revised up 7 million pounds to 18.262 billion, still 2.9 percent above a year ago. The 24-state total was revised down 13 million pounds, to 17.546 billion, up 3.0 percent instead of the 3.1 percent originally reported.

Cow numbers totaled 9.621 million head, up 8,000 from the February count, which was revised down 2,000 head, but was up 187,000 or 2.0 percent from a year ago. The 24-state count, at 9.183 million, was up 8,000 from February's total, which was revised down 8,000 head, and 188,000 or 2.1 percent above a year ago.

March output per cow averaged 2,119 pounds in the 50 states, up 7 pounds or 0.3 percent from a year ago. The 24-state average, at 2,133 pounds, was also up 7 pounds or 0.3 percent from 2025. The February average was revised up 1 pound in the 50 States and was unchanged in the 24 states.

StoneX says, "Milk production per cow was weaker than expected with growth slowing from 2.4 percent back in November (lapping over bird flu impacts) to up 0.3 percent in March, marking the 4th month of decline. Fat and protein in the milk were up from last year and from last month, however fat content is still below trend. All together this puts component adjusted milk production up 3.3 percent," says StoneX.

Dairy culling remains above a year ago. USDA data shows 50,400 cows sent to slaughter the week ending April 4, down 2,200 from the previous week, but 1,100 or 2.2 percent above that week a year ago. Year to date, 787,700 head had been culled, up 44,800 head or 6.0 percent from a year ago.

The 2025 Livestock Summary reported 2.641 million head of dairy cattle were slaughtered in 2025, down 84.1 million or 3.1 percent from 2024.

The May Federal order Class I base milk price was announced by the USDA at \$20.15 per hundredweight, up \$1.49 from April, \$1.78 above May 2025, and the highest Class I price since March 2025. It equates to \$1.73 per gallon, up from \$1.58 a

year ago, and put the five-month Class I average at \$17.07, down from \$20.12 at this time a year ago, and compares to \$18.58 in 2024.

Chinese dairy imports were higher in March. China Customs Statistics showed cheese imports totaled 51.8 million pounds, up 40.6 percent from March 2025, an all-time high on a 30-day adjusted basis, according to HighGround Dairy's analysis, and "Surpassed 22,000 metric tons in a single month for the first time ever." New Zealand benefited the most, according to HighGround, with sales up 40 percent from a year ago. Year to date China's overall cheese imports are up 33.9 percent.

Butter imports, at 32.1 million pounds, were up 38.8 percent from a year ago, and up 4.4 percent year to date, primarily coming from New Zealand, according to HGD.

Chinese whole milk powder imports soared to 127.8 million pounds, up 34.1 percent from a year ago, highest volume on a 30-day adjusted basis since January 2025, says HGD. Imports YTD however are down 8.5 percent. Skim milk powder imports totaled 43.2 million pounds, down 23.8 percent from a year ago.

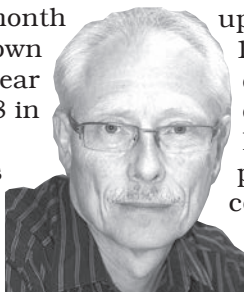
Whey product imports fell to 112.1 million pounds, down 25 percent from a year ago and down 13.1 percent YTD.

HighGround blamed China's aggressive push to downsize their hog population. The government is attempting to support pork prices and that effort has impacted U.S. sales. China's U.S. purchases were down 6.0 percent from 2025.

HighGround also reported "In early April China's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs confirmed the country's first-ever outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease."

In other trade news, fat weighed down the Global Dairy Trade auction this week. The weighted average was down 2.7 percent, following a 3.4 percent decline on April 7. Volume fell to 33.1 million pounds, down from 36.4 million on April 7. The average metric ton price slipped to \$4,143 US, down from \$4,228 on April 7.

Butter led the declines again, down 7.9 percent following an 8.1 percent decline on April 7. Anhydrous milkfat was down 9.6 percent, after dropping 7.1 percent. Whole milk powder was off 0.6 percent, after slipping 0.7 percent, while skim milk powder was



**MIELKE MARKET WEEKLY**  
By Lee Mielke

up 3.2 percent, after dropping 1.6 percent last time. Cheddar was up 1.1 percent, after dropping 3.1 percent, and Mozzarella was down 3.1 percent, following a 6.2 percent dip. Lactose was up 7.2 percent, after slipping 0.6 percent.

StoneX says the GDT 80 percent butterfat butter price equates to \$2.5233 U.S. per pound, down from \$2.7354 on April 7. Cheddar equated to \$2.1765, down from \$2.1617 last time. GDT skim milk powder averaged \$1.5641 per pound, up from \$1.5337, while whole milk powder averaged \$1.6629, down from \$1.6724.

North Asia purchases increased from the last event, says StoneX, and took some market share back from SE Asia. "North Asia's strength in purchase volume led to the region once again posing the largest market share of any buying group. The increase came largely from SMP and WMP purchases. Middle East, Europe, and African purchases also bounced back from the last event," says StoneX.

Checking Chicago, block Cheddar was trading Thursday at \$1.6350 per pound, 6.50 cents below a year ago. It closed Friday at \$1.5775. The barrels, after holding at \$1.5750 since April 10, gained 4 cents Thursday, hitting \$1.6150, 9 cents below a year ago.

Central region milk output is steady, according to Dairy Market News. Spot trades were lighter and

prices ranged \$5-under to flat Class at mid-week. Cheese production is strong in the region though some plants were down for maintenance this week. Retail cheese demand was unchanged and food service sales somewhat light. Export demand was mixed with some reports of steadily moving loads while others reported lighter interest.

Milk output continues to provide cheese makers with ample volumes in the West. Cheese production is generally steady seven days a week. Cream cheese production is also very active. Spot loads of cheese were tighter this week.

Domestic demand is steady, but demand from retail and other food industry stakeholders is reported to be more robust than demand from food service. Exports are steady to strong, according to DMN.

Lots of butter made its way to Chicago this week, 89 loads so far, 49 on Monday alone, and the price dropped to \$1.6450 per pound Thursday, lowest since Feb. 10, and is 63.59 cents below a year ago. It finished Friday at \$1.69.

Cream production is strong in the Central region with strong demand from Class II and Class III processors. Butter production is strong and processors are running busy schedules. Retail butter demand is steady, but contacts report light food service sales. Export interest is softening somewhat, says DMN.

Spring milk and cream output is sufficiently accommodating butter producers in the West.



## UPCOMING AUCTIONS

**PULASKI CO, IN: MAY 18 (ONLINE) 131.798+/- Acres**

**2 Tracts • Investment Property • Tillable • Hunting** Contact: Josh Wagenbach: 219.863.0870, AJ Jordan: 317.697.3086 or Larry Jordan: 765.473.5849

**CLINTON CO, IN: MAY 20 (ONLINE) 4.749+/- Acres**

**Rare Wooded Retreat • Located Near Frankfort, IN**  
Contact: Sam Clark: 317.442.0251 or Jim Clark: 317.627.6928

## PRIVATE SALES

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**Potential Home Site** Contact: Sam Clark: 317.442.0251

**LAPORTE CO, IN: 8.9+/- Acres • Multi-Use Estate Parcel**

**Homesite Potential • Recreational Seclusion • Woods • Wildlife**  
**Desirable Location Near IN-94** Contact: Nolan Sampson: 219.575.1486 or Abigail Heaps (MTM Realty Group) 219.393.8149

**NEWTON CO, IN: 173.36+/- Acres • Tillable Farmland**

**Pole Building** Contact: John Bechman: 765.404.0396

**CLINTON CO, IN: 53.43+/- Acres • Rural Estate Potential**

**Productive Tillable Farmland • Wooded Acreage • Recreational**  
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Appraisal | Real Estate | Farm Management | Auction | Farm Investment

**MONDAY, MAY 18<sup>TH</sup> | 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM ET**

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# AUCTION

**131.798+/- ACRES | 2 TRACTS | PULASKI CO, IN**

**INVESTMENT PROPERTY | TILLABLE | HUNTING**

**PROPERTY LOCATION: 3754 S 200 W, Winamac, IN 46996**  
in Monroe Township, Pulaski County.

**Josh Wagenbach: 219.863.0870 | AJ Jordan: 317.697.3086 | Larry Jordan: 765.473.5849**

Auctioneer: Russell D. Harmeyer IN Auct. Lic. #AU10000277, HRES IN Auct. Lic. #AC69200019, HLS#JPW-13215, Seller: Dr. Edward O'Connor and Colleen O'Connor Farms

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

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# Waterloo bed and breakfast tells story of agricultural entrepreneur

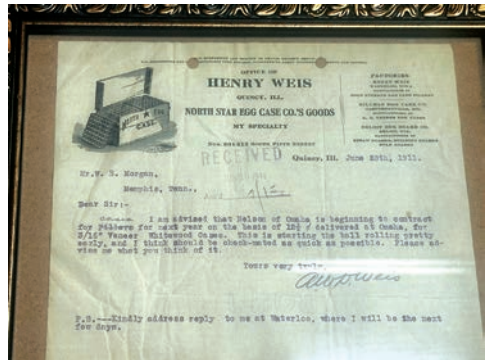
WATERLOO, Iowa – When collectors think of Waterloo, John Deere is what comes to mind. The factory history, the John Deere Tractor and Engine Museum and more are entrenched with the agricultural giant. However, at the Weis Mansion Bed & Breakfast, the story of another agricultural entrepreneur comes to light.



**WRENCHING TALES**  
By Cindy Ladage

Henry Weis built his mansion in 1902. Designed by the architectural firm of Murphy & Ralston, this lovely bed and breakfast is a Queen Anne style with Colonial Revival Elements. Owned by Christopher and Kelly Schmitz, the couple originally resided in Minnesota and made the move to Iowa when they found the property on Zillow.

There is a lot to love at the Weis Mansion, the wraparound porch, stained glass windows and six suites to choose from. But for a collector, the agricultural history is a huge draw. Weis was a factory owner that produced egg case fillers that protected eggs during shipping. In 1891, he opened the North Star Co. in Waterloo. The egg fillers were made from cottonwood slats and met the need for farm fresh eggs.



**Above:** Framed advertisement for Henry Weis's manufacturing company.

A picture of Weis is in a place of honor in the house along with early egg filler advertisements. Weis born in Germany and first grew up in Burlington, Iowa. His inventive character was inherited from his father, Paul Weis. Paul Weiss patented an egg case design. This kickstarted Henry's idea. An article from The Egg Reporter from March 6, 1924, that

Kelly Schmitz has, states, "Henry is credited with perfecting the special machines needed to produce the paper fillers, and his eventual success funded an expansion north to Waterloo."

Henry Weis and his wife Sophia had four children, while they moved to Waterloo in 1891, it wasn't until 1902 that they built their mansion. Kelly Schmitz said that this was a high-end house that cost \$16-\$18,000 when most houses sold for around \$600. In an article that Schmitz had, they state that the spot where the house was built, "was on the corner of 4th & Wellington...touted as 'getting to be one of the greatest residence streets in the city.'"

One point of wealth Schmitz shared was on the stairs. While most steps had two spindles, the Weis house has three. Most windows have stained, or leaded glass. There are parquet floors, the wrap around porch and a small sitting porch on the 2nd floor. The house was built for Weis, his wife Sophia and daughter Laura. His sons were already on their own. "She got married in this house," Schmitz said.

While researching the house and family she learned after marrying a Gholson, Laura moved to Colorado, then returned and lived in the house until her death in 1934. Over time the house was converted into apartments for 50 years. It fell into neglect, then in the 1980s found new life as a bed and breakfast.

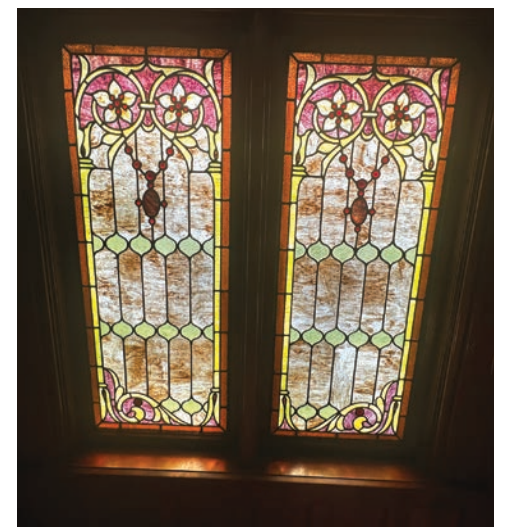
After moving to Waterloo, Weis' business grew and Henry Weis experienced a lot of international trade with shipments to Germany and even Cape Town, South Africa. Business expanded in the spring of 1897 with the promotion of beet processing. While this was not as successful as his egg fillers, the business continued to expand, and in 1897, the business was incorporated into the Weis-Peterson Box Company in Cai-



**Above:** The Beautiful Weis Mansion built by Henry and Sophia Weis.



**Above:** The mansion is on the National Historic Register.



**Above:** Stained glass windows are one of the features of the lovely mansion built with money from their egg liner manufacturing company.

ro, Ill.

The business expanded to production of wood cases in Quincy, Ill. While the business grew, Henry Weis stayed put with the administration of the businesses remaining in Waterloo. By 1921, Henry decided to retire and sold his business to employees led by E.A. Sohm of the Quincy location, although he kept an office in Waterloo. He passed not long after his 83rd birthday in 1927.

What happened to the business? The Waterloo North Star merged with four other firms into the Central Fiber Products Company in 1931.

In 2022 Christopher and Kelly bought the home. "We were looking for a historical house to run as a bed and breakfast."

Finding this on Zillow, it seemed perfect. "I like that it has lots of bathrooms and already had permits."

With years of rental properties, the Schmitz's were ready for this next big project. An adult only bed and breakfast, they offer six suites and an amazing breakfast featuring only farm fresh eggs. To find out more about what they have to offer at this agricultural piece of history, visit [www.theweismansion.com](http://www.theweismansion.com).

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# Chronic wasting disease detected in Indiana's wild white-tailed deer

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources confirmed three positive cases of chronic wasting disease (CWD) in wild white-tailed deer during the 2025-2026 hunting season in Noble, Franklin and Rush counties. CWD is a neurological disease affecting deer, resulting in their eventual death.

"Hunters play an important role in helping Indiana DNR monitor CWD in the deer herd. With their support, we are gaining a better understanding of the extent of this disease across the state," said Joe Caudell, Indiana DNR deer biologist.

There have been no reported cases of CWD infection in humans. As a precautionary measure, DNR offers the public free testing of their legally harvested deer and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends not consuming CWD-positive meat.

Indiana's DNR oversees both CWD Positive Areas, where CWD has been detected and is known to be in the deer population, and CWD Enhanced Surveillance Zones, where CWD has been detected but more information is needed to determine the best deer management actions.

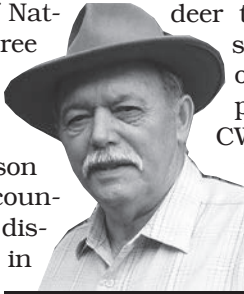
The Noble County positive deer was found at the edge of the state's current CWD Positive Area. This prompted DNR biologists to expand the area because it is likely there are additional deer in the neighboring counties with undetected CWD. The CWD Positive Area now includes LaGrange, Steuben, DeKalb, Noble, Allen and Whitley counties.

Because of the positive cases in Franklin and Rush counties, DNR will enhance its surveillance efforts in both counties and surrounding counties. Enhanced surveillance relies on voluntary CWD testing of hunter harvested deer.

CWD is caused by a misfolded prion causing damage to the animal's nervous system. CWD can spread from deer-to-deer contact or through contaminated environments. It remains in the soil for many years. Animals in the late stages of CWD can experience drastic weight loss and show abnormal changes in behavior. If you see any sick or dead wildlife, please report it at [on.IN.gov/sickwildlife](http://on.IN.gov/sickwildlife).

Indiana's various deer hunting seasons run from mid-September until the end of January.

Hunters can have their harvested



**SPAULDING OUTDOORS**  
By Jack Spaulding

deer tested for free by voluntarily submitting a sample via one of DNR's head drop coolers or participating businesses. All CWD sampling locations can be viewed through an interactive map. Alternatively, people may submit samples directly to the Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (ADDL) at Purdue University for a fee. More information and submission forms are available on the ADDL website.

For more information about CWD visit [on.IN.gov/CWD](http://on.IN.gov/CWD).

## Trout stockings in Indiana

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources plans to stock nearly 52,000 trout this spring in anticipation of the trout fishing season. Trout will be stocked in 37 bodies of water across 22 Indiana counties.

The Indiana DNR will stock streams with 20,850 rainbow trout in the weeks leading up to April 25, which is opening day of trout season for inland streams.

In addition to the rainbow trout stockings, several bodies of water in the north and one southern stream are getting additional brown trout stockings. More than 11,000 brown trout should be stocked in early May.

The stocked trout are from Curtis Creek Trout Rearing Station near Howe in LaGrange County and average roughly 11 inches in length.

Anglers may fish for trout in lakes year-round, so there's no need to wait; all lake stockings were completed in February and March.

Trout will bite on a variety of artificial baits such as spinners and flies, but natural baits such as worms and bee moths tend to have the most success.

The bag limit for trout in inland waters, which are bodies of water other than Lake Michigan and its tributaries, is five per day with a minimum size of 7 inches. No more than one of an angler's catch can be a brown trout. Additionally, any harvested brown trout caught below the Brookville tailwater, Oliver, Olin or Martin lakes must be 18 inches or larger to be kept.

To fish for trout, anglers age 18 and older need an Indiana fishing license and a trout/salmon stamp. Both may be bought at [GoOutdoorsIN.com](http://GoOutdoorsIN.com). To find a stocked stream near you, see the 2026 trout stocking plan at [on.IN.gov/fish-stocking](http://on.IN.gov/fish-stocking).

## Juvenile dies in ORV accident

Indiana Conservation Officers were investigating a fatal off-road vehicle accident occurring on the afternoon of April 20 in Madison County.

At 4:50 p.m., Indiana Conservation Officers, along with the Madison County Sheriff's Department, were dispatched to the area near the 15300 block of North 100 West in Summitville for a single vehicle ORV accident with injuries.

The initial investigation revealed a 10-year-old juvenile was operating an ORV on private property when the 13-year-old passenger was ejected from the machine. The passenger was pronounced dead on the scene.

Neither the operator nor the passenger were wearing helmets or protective equipment at the time of the accident.

Indiana Conservation Officers urge owners, operators and passengers of ORVs to follow all manufacturers' safety recommendations and to properly use all safety equipment, including seatbelts and helmets. For information on ORV laws and safe operating procedures, please visit [offroad-ed.com/IN/handbook/](http://offroad-ed.com/IN/handbook/) and [on.IN.gov/offroading](http://on.IN.gov/offroading).

'till next time,  
Jack

Readers can contact the author by writing to this publication or e-mail Jack at [jackspaulding1971@outlook.com](mailto:jackspaulding1971@outlook.com)

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

## FARM EQUIPMENT CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

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Mower, John Deere 350 Sickle Mower, New Holland 450 Sickle Bar Mower, New Round Bale Wagon Beds, Industrias America 625 Bale Wagon, 9x21 Flatbed Wagon w/Pequea 806 Running Gear, Hayrite 28' Bale Elevator w/Transport, 14' Hay Elevator, John Deere Corn Sheller, Kasco Poly 12' Auger, J&M 250 Gravity Wagon (2), Killsbro 350 Gravity Wagon, Killsbro 385 Gravity Wagon, John Deere 14' Stalk Chopper, Owatana Feed Grinder, New Idea Corn Elevator, New Holland FP230 Chopper w/Grass Head, International 550 Manure Spreader, International 101 Manure Spreader (Unused), Minneapolis Moline 300 Manure Spreader, New Idea 3618 Manure Spreader w/Slop Gate, Gehl Tandem Axle Spreader, New King Cutter 500 Steel Spreader. **MISC.:** (2) 18x18x60 Aluminum Tool Boxes, 3 pt. Log Splitter, Vermeer 1250 Chipper, 66" Rock Bucket, 74" Quick Attach Bucket, 5' Quick Attach Manure Fork, TPM 72" Rototiller, Rayco Quick Attach Rototiller, New Bush Hog BH115 Rotary Mower, Landpride 6' 3 pt. Brush Hog, Woods Ditch Bank Mower, Woods RM372 Finish Mower, 10" Post Driver, Quick Attach Shaver Post Driver, 3 pt. Axis Boom, Quick Attach Tree/Post Puller, Kewanee 8' 3 pt. Blade, Quick Attach 1 Prong Bale Spear, Kivel 2000# Quick Attach Forks, 13K Electric Winch, (4) 445/22.5 Super Singles, 14' Drive Way Gates, 4x6 & 6x8 Chicken Houses, 8x16' Backyard Storage Barn, 8x16' Run in Shed, 6x8 Run In Shed, 6x8 Garden Shed, 14' Driveway Gates. **NEW CONTAINERS-MINI EXCAVATORS-CARPENTS & MISC.:** 40' Container, 20' Containers, New 10' Container, FT13 Mini Excavator, FT36C Mini Skid Steer Loader, FT323W Mini Skid Steer Loader, Massage Chairs, Laser Levels, Jumper Cables, Seats, Shooting Targets, Mounting Plates, Mini Excavator Hyd Hoses, 10-16.5 Skid Steer Tires, 12-16.5 Skid Steer Tires, Quick Attach Trailer Movers, 72" & 78" High Capacity Snow/Material Buckets, 10' (100) Sheets Galvalume Steel Siding, Road Bed Protection Pads, 40' 6 Section HD Metal Storage Shelving, Remote Lawn Mowers FT800, 20X30' All Steel Car Ports, Excavator Attachment Sets, Fork Lift Telescopic Boom, Excavator Extended Trencher, Skid Steer Extended Trencher, Skid Steer Auger, Skid Steer Vibratory Roller, Skid Steer Compactor Wheel, Skid Steer Sweeper, 72" Skid Steer Grapples, Mini Skid Steer 4&1 Buckets, Skid Steer 66" Rock Buckets, Skid Steer Flat Riper, Skid Steer Breakers, Skid Steer Screening Buckets 59", Skid Steer Stump Grinders, Skid Steer Hollow Wood Grabber, Skid Steer Post Driver, Skid Steer Breaker, Skid Steer Mini Disc Mulcher, Skid Steer Pile Hammer, Skid Steer Side Shift Forks, Skid Steer Horizontal Log Splitter, Cat 305 Excavator Buckets, Cat 305 Rippers, Cat 305 Excavator Rake w/Teeth, Mini Skid Steer Land Leveler, Mini Skid Steer Plate Grabber, Mini Skid Steer Trencher.

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FARM LOCATION: Just north of Chillicothe, Ohio, 2 miles from Rt. 23 commercial district, Kenworth Plant and Adena Health at 5701 Marietta Pike, Chillicothe, OH (Watch for signs)


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# Spring has sprung, bringing with it hope for the season

Here it is, Spring. Spring brings with it something that we all need, hope. We hope that Spring brings weather that will allow us to put a crop in the ground, and we hope that our equipment holds up, and that rain gives our crops the vital nutrients our crops need to survive. Then we have renewed hope that our crops can be harvested and the yields are good and prices will pay the bills.

Hope drives almost everything in our lives. It is the thing that has been the foundation of the generations of farmers and ranchers that have gone before us. I remember stories about the drought years of the 1930s. Combined with the Depression, so many farmers and ranchers were brought to their knees. But American agriculture survived and even learned

from the experiences and grew. We learned to put environmental practices that saved the soil and livestock practices regarding pasture management in place and we continue to learn. That's what is one of agriculture's most vital assets, our ability to learn.

It's easy to get discouraged about everything that's going on in the world. I often regret that I no longer live in a world that is defined within the perimeters of my relationships. Now, within one day, something that happens in the Middle East can have a direct effect on the price we get for our crops, the price we must pay for inputs, the price of groceries, gaso-

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

line, etc. I thought a discussion about how "hope" is vital to motivating us in agriculture to try again. Most

through. Each year, especially the last three years when prices and inputs left no chance of seeing a profit, Matt and Kelly trust in God and hope that their hard work will be rewarded with another year.

The last example I have with "hope" is Norwood Centennial Farms, a small dairy in northern Michigan. I've written how a major agriculture manufacturer and their dealership have abused this family repeatedly through a legal process that should have been resolved long ago. What I haven't mentioned is that the dealership was aware of the owner's health challenges, and I believe they were delaying until his challenges won. This hard-working family "believed" and hoped that Doug would overcome his health challenges, and the family farm survive despite the financial hardships they faced. I'm happy to say that their belief and hope was rewarded and Doug is surviving against the odds with a renewed energy to continue the fight and right the wrong perpetrated against his family.

So, each year, use hope as your motivation and don't be afraid to lean on hope in times where it appears that all is lost. What's the Bible say, "faith is the hope of things unseen?" It's worked for centuries and it will work for centuries to come.

Horse Sense: Every day we have the choice between smiling and frowning. Care to guess which one takes less effort?

IndianaAg@bluemarble.net

know that I watch several YouTube videos, primarily family farm videos. Over the years I have enjoyed the relationship(s) developed by watching and interacting with farms and ranches across the country. What I have learned is that "wisdom" can be found everywhere and anywhere. Life lessons almost always accompany experience.

Several years ago, I watched the Larson Family in Minnesota experience the young wife of Doug Larson's son, Chet, fight a losing battle with cancer. The strength of Doug and Amy Larson was experienced by everyone that went through this alongside them. I reached out to Doug on Instagram and asked what we could do for them. His response was pure wisdom, "pray for God's will and pray for a miracle." He recognized who was in charge but also reached out for hope in a miracle. I have watched as the "miracle" has unfolded as the family worked their way through the experience to the other side.

Many are aware of Matt Griggs going through the windshield of his combine. Matt often expresses his faith in God and at the conclusion of planting and harvest speaks his appreciation for God seeing them

## RETIREMENT AUCTION



**AUCTION LOCATION:** Due to limited space at business location, auction will be held on vacant lot at 9730 Suspension Bridge Road, Harrison, OH. Location for preview is at business location. See preview info below. (Watch for signs.)

**LIVE ON SITE**  
ONLINE BIDDING ON SELECT ITEMS

### SATURDAY, MAY 9, 11 AM

**AUCTIONEER'S NOTE:** ACME Tree Service has had an excellent reputation for 85 years. They have taken very good care of their equipment. You will find equipment ready to go to work the day you buy it. A great opportunity to purchase at retirement auction.

#### TRUCKS & TRAILER | FORESTRY EQUIPMENT CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT | NURSERY STOCK

2008 Ford F-550 w/wood chipper bed; 2009 Ford F-550 Dump Truck; 2001 Ford F-550 w/wood chipper bed; 1997 Ford Super Duty Dump Truck; 2005 Int. 4300 Bucket Truck; 2004 Ford Ranger Super Cab; Premier Dump Trailer; Bobcat 743 Skid Steer; Skid Steer Attachments; 2014 Vermeer BC 1500 Wood Chipper; Vermeer BC1230A Wood Chipper; Hawk Stump Grinder; Stihl 075 AV Chainsaw; Stihl 040 Chainsaw; DR Power Wagon; Muck-Truck 1/4 Ton Dumper; Turfco Edge-R-Rite II Bed Edger; (2) Magliner Alum. Walk Ramps; Duerr Wood Splitter; 60 Polar Gold Arborvitae Trees; 300 Fluffy Western Arborvitae Trees; 300 Spring Groves Western Arborvitae Trees; Miscellaneous signs, saddles, spurs, carabiners, loop runners, other tree climbing gear, rigging bag, Bobcat tire; and other items.

**PREVIEW: FRIDAY, MAY 1 FROM 10 AM TO 3 PM**  
AT 7082 TAYLOR ROAD, CINCINNATI, OH

FOR DETAILED BROCHURE CALL  
**800-450-3440 or www.wilnat.com**



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Mark Wilson  
Brandon Wilson  
& James Craycraft  
Auctioneers

## PUBLIC AUCTION

Real Estate - 7 Room home w/outbuildings  
3.269 Acres in 1 Parcel  
*Plus*  
5th Wheel Travel Trailer, 3 Tractors, 2 Pickup Trucks, Auto, Golf Cart, Quad runner, 2 JD Riding Mowers & Several Power Tools & Other Personal Property

**1567 S BASE RD, RUSHVILLE, IN 46173**  
Auction held on location


### SATURDAY, MAY 16th, 2026 - 9:00 AM

**REAL ESTATE TO SELL PROMPTLY AT 9:45 AM**

Real Estate Sold as **ONE** 3.269 Acre parcel w/a concrete block & wood siding home (built in 1949 - remodeled in 1975) w/7 rooms 1000 sq. ft. of living area, w/a 1 one car attached (gas heated) garage w/automatic opener, and a chain link fenced area in the back yard. Home has central air conditioning, a natural gas furnace and an individual well w/separate well house (Municipal water is also available on the property). There is a built-in Frigidaire dishwasher included w/the home and the GE Stack washer & dryer, a Frigidaire refrigerator and a Frigidaire electric stove will sell separately after the home. Also on the property is a 40'x30' pole barn (built in 2020) w/2 lean-tos w/640 sq. ft. each (both built in 2021). The barn has a small loft area & an elevator for loft access. This property is Zoned Commercial and has road frontage on both Base Road and State Road # 3.

**PERSONAL PROPERTY:** 2004 Forest River - Cedar Creek 5th Wheel Travel Trailer w/3 slide-outs (used one time- very clean), 2005 Dodge Crew cab pick-up w/5th wheel, 2002 Ford Ranger (extended cab) pick-up Truck, 2005 Jeep Grand Cherokee (4x4 Laredo, w/leather interior), JD # 1530 diesel tractor w/JD#145 front-end loader (S# 143730), 2- Ford 8-N Tractors, Yamaha gas Golf Cart, JD-D 170 Riding Mower (like new), JD 320 Riding Mower, Kawasaki 300 4x4, Big Red 4x4, Country Way sprayer, wheelbarrow, 2- battery chargers, RIL band saw, new 2-man post-hole auger, new rototiller, new chipper, 2- yard trailers, yard roller, aluminum extension ladder, air compressor, wood stove insert, refrigerator 46173cart, garden stool w/JD seat, lots of DeWALT power tools, hand tools, numerous other shop tools.

**Open House (Real Estate) - Sunday, May 3rd 1-3 PM**  
**ESTATE OF VERNON R GRIZZEL - OWNER**



AUCTIONEERS

Dave Jonathan Burke Adam  
**WHITE WHITE THOMAS TEBBE**  
AU01015949 AU0102200103 AU0010100106 AU11600009

**765-647-1922**

More information @ WHITESWEBSITE.COM

## LAND AUCTION 123.28 ACRES





**1838 E Holiday Lake Rd., FERDINAND, IN**  
**THURSDAY, MAY 21ST AT 6:00 P.M.**  
Auction Held at the Ferdinand American Legion  
*Both live and online bidding!*  
**Go To: farm2country.com**

This property has it all with a 2880 Sq Ft Brick home a 1352 Sq Ft double wide, recreational/party building. Garages, barn and storage buildings. Approximately 86 acres tillable plus approximately 26 acres wooded and an 11-acre homesite.

Call Fred Brockman 812-630-5722  
Marcus Marner 812-585-0634 or Levi Raber 812-486-6197

**Terms:** 10% down day of auction, balance due in 45 days. Seller will provide Owners Title Insurance in the amount of the purchase price and will pay property taxes due in 2026, buyer will assume property taxes thereafter. Seller possession 60 days after closing.  
**PROPERTY IS BEING SOLD AS IS AND IS NOT CONTINGENT ON INSPECTIONS.**  
Auction is not contingent on financing, so please make financial arrangements prior to the auction.  
Once in a lifetime opportunity to own 123+ acres next to the Town of Ferdinand.

Farm2Country.com AC32300015  
Fred Brockman AU10000281, Levi Raber AU10100105

Statements made day of Auction take precedence over all previous information, both printed and verbal. For more information to Farm2Country.com.

**OWNER: MUNDY CORP**  
Farm2Country.com Realty/ Auction,  
269 US 231 S., Jasper IN 47546





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FarmWorld

# Metzger Auction Calendar

Featured



www.BidMetzger.com

## Metzger's Equipment & Vehicle LIVE Auction!

Vehicles • Tractors • Farm & Livestock Equipment • Trailers More!

**CALL NOW TO CONSIGN!**

**Saturday, May 2nd, 2026 • 9:00 AM**

**Metzger Market**  
1582 W. State Road  
North Manchester, IN

**Metzger**  
PROPERTY SERVICES  
AC81500015

## ONLINE LAND AUCTION!

**24+/- Acres of Land**  
- Potential Building Sites -  
Recreational Woods & Pasture Ground

**May 5th at 6 pm**  
Henry Twp., Fulton Co., IN

**BidMetzger.com**

## SILVER SUNDAY

THE OUTSTANDING MARVIN DAVIS ESTATE  
ONLINE AUCTION #11

**GOLD**  
• CARSON CITY COINS  
• SILVER DOLLARS & ROUNDS  
• CAPPED & DRAPED BUSTS & MORE!

**MAY 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2026** | NORTH MANCHESTER, IN | **BidMetzger.com**

## ONLINE ONLY AUCTION!

**BMW CONVERTIBLE • FORD EDGE  
QUALITY APPLIANCES &  
FURNITURE & MORE!**

**MAY 13, 2026** | BLUFFTON, IN | **BidMetzger.com**

## METZGER ONLINE REAL ESTATE AUCTION!

4 BR, 2.5 BA, EXECUTIVE HOME &  
3-CAR ATTACHED GARAGE!

**MAY 13, 2026 • 6 PM**  
1312 BELL BROOK BLVD., BLUFFTON, IN 46714  
OPEN HOUSE: WED. MAY 6<sup>TH</sup> - 5:30-6 PM | **BidMetzger.com**

## WEEKLY OVERSTOCK AUCTIONS!

Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday!

Warsaw & Huntington, IN

**BidMetzger.com** METZGER PROPERTY SERVICES

## ONLINE REAL ESTATE AUCTION!

RANCH HOME FEATURING  
3 BR, 1.5 BA, FULL BASEMENT & 2-CAR ATTACHED GARAGE!

**MAY 20, 2026**  
1315 ROCHESTER BLVD., ROCHESTER, IN 46975  
OPEN HOUSE: TUES. MAY 12, 2026 FROM 5:30-6PM | **BidMetzger.com**

## THE REITZ FAMILY ONLINE AUCTION!

STERLING SILVER & SILVERPLATE - LAWN EQUIPMENT  
JEWELRY, WATCHES - QUALITY FURNITURE & MORE!

**MAY 20, 2026** | ROCHESTER, IN | **BidMetzger.com**

## Metzger Market Monday Online Auction!

Every Monday!

**Antiques, Household, Tools & More!**

## ONLINE ONLY AUCTION!

**GMC CANYON TRUCK • JAYCO CAMPER  
POLARIS RANGER • JOHN DEERE  
GARDEN TRACTORS & MORE!**

**MAY 14, 2026** | HUNTINGTON, IN 46750  
Auction Manager: Brent Ruckman  
call/text: 260-609-2155 | **BidMetzger.com**

## ABSOLUTE ONLINE REAL ESTATE AUCTION

~ PROPERTY WILL SELL REGARDLESS OF PRICE!

**MAY 21<sup>ST</sup>**  
4312 N. STATE ROAD 17, ROCHESTER, IN 46975  
OPEN HOUSE: TUESDAY, MAY 12<sup>TH</sup> FROM 7-7:30 PM | **BidMetzger.com**

## ONLINE REAL ESTATE AUCTION!

CHARMING 2-BEDROOM RANCH  
IN THE COUNTRY

**MAY 27, 2026**  
12500 S. CR 700 EAST,  
LOSANTVILLE, IN  
OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY, MAY 23<sup>RD</sup> FROM 1-2 PM  
AUCTION MANAGER: TIM HOLMES, 260.580.5473 | **BidMetzger.com**

### Auctioneers & Realtors...

- |   |                                       |  |   |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| Chad Metzger, N. Man., IN, 260-982-0238   | Rod Metzger, Ossian, IN, 260-982-0238 | Tim Holmes, Churubusco, IN, 260-580-5473       | Brent Ruckman, Larwill, IN 260-609-2155 |
| Tim Pitts, Fort Wayne, IN 317-714-0432    | Jason Conley, Warsaw, IN 574-527-2247 | Rainelle Shockome, Col. City, IN, 260-341-4801 | Dustin Dillon, Warsaw, IN 574-265-9215  |
| Michael Gentry, LaCrosse, IN 219-754-2237 | Tiffany Reimer, Realtor 260-982-0238  | Brian Evans, Lagro IN 219-754-2237             | Dodie Lambright Hart, Howe 260-463-1717 |
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