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Panel explores ways to restore competition in agri-food chain

By **TIM ALEXANDER**
Illinois Correspondent

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. – How the consolidation and mergers in the agri-food system has impacted the livelihood of farmers along with long-term solutions to the issue was the topic of a July 31 panel discussion hosted by the Illinois Stewardship Alliance (ISA).

"Two companies control 90 percent of the phosphorus and potassium fertilizers in the U.S., and four companies control 85 percent of our beef processing. In addition, just four companies control 65 percent of the grocery stores in the country," said Ed Dubrick, chief policy organizer for the ISA, referring to data from FarmAction's Agriculture Consolidation Data Hub.

"Taylor Farms and the cyclospora outbreak shows us just how large of a reach these consolidated companies have. Fifty-four percent of fresh-cut salad comes from four companies. The food industry is dominated by a few significant players."

According to Dr. John Ikerd, professor emeritus of agricultural economics at the University of Missouri and a globally recognized expert on agricultural sustainability and economics, the consolidation of the U.S. agri-food system began around a half-century ago. The shift began with the public demand of fast food and processed, cheap corporate food in the 1970s according to Ikerd, an author of several books on agricultural sustainability and economics who has also held university positions at North Carolina State, Oklahoma State and Georgia.

"We see it reflected in our focus on cheap food and low food prices. We see it reflected in food that is cheap to produce and high in calories and lacking in nutrition," Ikerd said. "As the retailers push to keep the prices down, we go to

more highly processed foods and junk foods. It's all a consequence of a focus on economic efficiency and keeping food cheap."

As the "big four" food companies continue to put pressure on farmers to sell their commodities for cheaper prices, food prices for consumers have increased faster than the baseline rate for inflation since the year 2000, according to Ikerd. "The whole idea that we are going to have cheaper food by letting these corporations consolidate to achieve economies of scale has turned out to be exactly the opposite," he said. "We've allowed them to build a shared monopoly and raise prices instead."

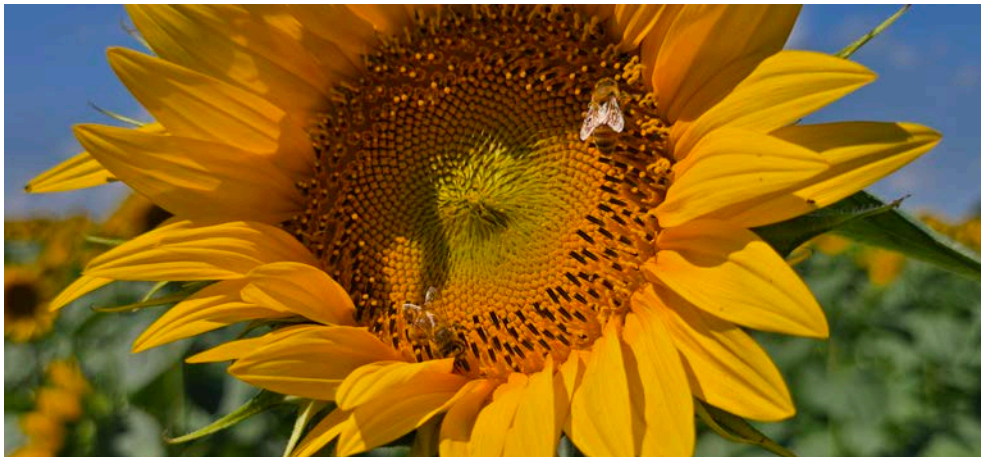
The issue has become so entrenched that the food companies have achieved a status of power that allows them to basically dictate government policy, Ikerd continued: "The only power greater than corporate power today in terms of addressing these issues is the power of the people coming together and acting collectively. We are paying a very high price for cheap food."

Greg Gunthorp, a pastured pork producer and solar grazer from LaGrange, Ind., said the Farm to Table movement, which began around 1976 on the west coast, has been "bastardized and co-opted" by "Big Ag." This has stolen hard-fought market share from small farmers that rely on local sales of products such as produce, fresh eggs, cheese and meat, he said.

"I would argue that now the overwhelming majority of Farm-to-Table comes off the back of the same truck from the same suppliers as the commodity producers. I think the most recent recall is an excellent example of that. When Taylor Farms' recall touches Taco Bell, Chipotle and Whole Foods, I think it's clear that our whole niche marketing and processing has been bastardized and co-opted by the big guys," Gunthorp said. "(Farm to Table) is now coming out of the marketing and advertising departments of Big Ag rather than out of the regenerative, small operations out here in rural America."

"I think that is part of the root cause of this cause of concentration and consolidation; if there were more players in the market the market would police itself. I also believe the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission have all been on vacation regarding antitrust largely since the 1970s."

Gunthorp, whose operation includes an on-farm full USDA-inspected slaugh-



Above: Sunflower fields are in bloom across the region. Photo by Leondia Walchle

INFB conference offers ways for farmers to expand operations

By **Michele F. Mihaljevich**
Indiana Correspondent

NOBLESVILLE, Ind. – The Indiana Farm Bureau (INFB) will host a new conference in September designed to help farm families find ways to expand and strengthen their operations.

The first Farm Business and Diversification Conference is 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sept 10 at the Hamilton County Fairgrounds in Noblesville. The conference is free for INFB members and \$50 for nonmembers.

The conference is an educational opportunity "to help farmers or those in agriculture through tough economic times by diversifying or learning about other income streams for their farming operation," explained Kendell Culp, INFB's vice president. "We hope this event will encourage better investment in agriculture by providing practical business advice and inspiration for entrepreneurial opportunities in rural communities around the state."

Topics include digital marketing, alternative income streams, business funding, direct-to-consumer sales models, insurance and liability protection, and succession planning.

In addition to the experts, Culp said the conference will also include producers who have successfully diversified their own farms.

"Sometimes it's helpful for people to see someone just like them who took a risk and it paid off," he noted. "You may not get all the answers at this event, but you will find out who does have the answers you're looking for."

Culp said INFB hears a lot from farmers that they worry about the financial stability of their farms long term. He said the people they hear are doing the best are the ones who have their hands in more than one commodity or revenue stream, or are using technology to work more efficiently.

"It's no secret that when livestock prices are up, grain prices seem to go down, and vice versa," Culp said. "So there's been more and more farmers who are trying to diversify what they produce to hedge against market downturns for a single crop."

"I've heard lots of great ideas from members about how they want to improve their operations, but sometimes the logistical details like contracts, insurance and liability for something new seem daunting. We'll have experts there to talk about those details and hopefully provide some simple next steps for attendees to take for their operation."

The farm economy lately has discouraged a lot of young people from coming back to the farm, he said, adding that's why INFB wanted to provide resources such as the conference so more farmers can get their operations in a better financial spot to be able to pass them to the next generation.

"By securing your farm operation's financial future, you're supporting your community and allowing it to flourish," Culp said. "The more your local family farms are succeeding, the more our rural communities will thrive and drive more people to live there. It's in all of our best interests to help farmers succeed."

Patrick Nycz, lead food business and marketing administrator for Purdue University's Food Entrepreneur and Manufacturing Institute (FEMI), will share advice on launching a new product.

Before the launch, farmers should research the state's food safety regulations and determine what their short- and long-term goals are, Nycz said. They should also be sure their new product can be scaled and consistent.

"Maybe most importantly, determine whether your product can even be priced in a way that can turn a profit," he noted. "Start very small with direct-to-con-

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Wild weather ride lowers estimates for Michigan fruits. .Page 1B

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Michigan wheat grinder is adding corn to operationsPage 14



Competition

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ter and processing plant, argued that the government must join small farmers in committing to four priorities aimed at busting up agri-food monopolies and prioritizing local and regional foods. “I think we need subsidy reform; we need direct subsidies and indirect subsidies – the crop insurance, the revenue insurance programs, the PRFs, all of the insurance programs. We also need the government procurement dollars that are almost 100 percent directed toward industrial agriculture,” he said.

“We also need anti-trust enforcement that has to include mergers and acquisitions, and breaking some of (the current monopolies) up. It has to include a strong stance on ethics because of the excessive power and control over policy. The influence over the government these

big and powerful corporations have is out of control.”

In addition, past USDA meat and poultry inspection standards under the Packers and Stockyards Act need to be restored to end the “harassment” of small producers attempting to enter the marketplace, according to Gunthorp. “They make it difficult for legal entry into the marketplace for the smallest players. They use the Packers and Stockyard Act to allow any mergers and any activities and are only making sure the scales are working and people are sending out the checks they are supposed to be sending,” he said.

Gunthorp also wants to see Truth in Labeling enforced by the USDA and FTC. “They need to ensure there is some label of transparency in the words and the advertising used in products.”

The ISA panel discussion, “Cultivating Competition,” is archived at <https://il-stewards.org/>.

Biennial Poultry Sustainability & Welfare Summit will be held Sept. 21-23 in Atlanta

ATLANTA – The U.S. Roundtable for Sustainable Poultry & Eggs (U.S.-RSPE) and the International Poultry Welfare Alliance (IPWA) have announced the keynote speakers and student award winner who will be featured at the 2026 Poultry Sustainability & Welfare Summit, Sept. 21-23 at the Loews Atlanta Hotel.

The biennial summit brings together leaders from across the poultry and egg value chain, academia, government, civil society and allied industries to examine emerging challenges and identify practical, science-based opportunities to advance poultry sustainability and welfare.

Dr. Chavonda Jacobs-Young will deliver the summit’s Sustainability Keynote. Jacobs-Young previously served as the USDA’s undersecretary for research, education and economics and as USDA’s chief scientist. Confirmed by the U.S. Senate, she led a research enterprise spanning five national science agencies and helped shape strategies addressing agricultural innovation, food and nutrition security, climate resilience and global scientific collaboration.

The Welfare Keynote Session will feature a recorded conversation sponsored by American Humane with Dr. Temple Grandin, professor of animal sciences at Colorado State University and one of the world’s most influential authorities on animal behavior, handling and welfare. Grandin’s pioneering research, facility designs, and practical approaches to welfare assessment have contributed to significant improvements in the care and handling of farm animals around the world.

“Bringing together Dr. Jacobs-Young, Dr. Grandin and the next generation of poultry researchers reflect exactly what this summit is designed to accomplish,” said Andy Vance, executive director of U.S.-RSPE and IPWA. “Meaningful progress requires visionary leadership, credible science and practical collaboration across the full poultry value chain. These speakers will challenge attendees to consider both the progress already achieved and the opportunities still ahead of us.”

IPWA also announced that Domenica Medina, a researcher in the University of Saskatchewan’s College of Agriculture and Bioresources, has been selected as the winner of the 2026 IPWA Student Award of Excellence.

The IPWA Student Award of Excellence recognizes outstanding student research that advances poultry welfare knowledge, practices or outcomes. Submissions were evaluated for their relevance to poultry welfare, scientific merit, clarity, organization, and presentation quality.

Medina will be recognized during the summit and will present her research as part of the student award program.

“Supporting emerging researchers is essential to the future of poultry welfare,” Vance said. “Domenica’s work demonstrates the value of examining management decisions through measurable bird health, welfare and production outcomes. We are pleased to recognize her achievement and provide a platform for her research at the summit.”

Conference

FROM PAGE 1

sumer sales. Try selling your product at a farm stand or your local farmers markets to establish that there is a market for your new product.”

FEMI has assisted Indiana agribusiness entrepreneurs with a range of products as diverse as their crops and imaginations, Nycz said. Those products include beef tallow steak butter, lavender honey simple syrup, freeze dried candy, artisan jams and lentil flour dry mixes.

He said it’s been his experience that most farmers are entrepreneurial by nature. Farmers shouldn’t, however, work in a vacuum, Nycz said.

“I recommend leveraging resources like the Purdue Extension for wholesale

and commodity sales programs, Purdue Food Sciences and FEMI when it’s time to scale, Indiana Grown for community, networking and visibility, and Indiana’s regional small business and entrepreneurial hubs.”

Your brand is your reputation, he added.

“Branding is not a logo; it’s what people say when you’re not there. When potential customers are considering buying local, they want to know who you are, why you farm and how you do it differently. They want to know all of that without reading or listening to corporate language.”

The conference is at the Silos at 37 event center at the fairgrounds. Registration is required. Visit www.infb.org/events for more information and to register.



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Ukraine’s grain exports twice the volume of last year

Crop progress is starting to become more of a factor in price discovery. This is primarily the case with soybeans where pod setting is running 10 percent ahead of last year. This is giving the cash market the indication that new crop soybeans will likely be available earlier than normal as well. As a result, some buyers have started to soften new crop bids, mainly in areas where farmer engagement has been higher. A question this early maturity brings is if weather stress has had more of an impact at this time of the season than usual as well.

Despite the elevated fighting in the Black Sea between Ukraine and Russia, Ukraine grain exports to start the 2026/27 marketing year are twice the volume to start last year. This is a re-

sult of elevated rail movement into the European Union. Initially it was suspected this was to reach the export market through land routes. While this is partially true, drought losses are building in the EU, and grain imports are needed to cover production shortfalls.

Ukraine commodity exports have seen less of an impact recently than those out of Russia. Russia has seen major attacks on its infrastructure in recent weeks, leading to the close of three of the country’s main export terminals. Not only is Russia seeing its exports decline in the Black Sea, but the Sea of Azov is now closed to vessel traffic. Even if these terminals



MARKET ANALYSIS
By Karl Setzer

were open, Russian ports are seeing very few deliveries in fear of attacks from Ukrainian forces. If Russian grain sales remain stifled it will soon start to impact the country’s economy, and war fund.

The July cattle on feed report showed a July 1st inventory of 11.4 million head, a 2 percent increase from last year. Steers on feed totaled 7.12 million head and heifers were 4.25 million head. This was in line with trade expectations, as were placements and marketings. June cattle placements were down 3 percent from last year at 1.4 million head. June marketings were also down 3 percent on the year at 1.66 million head. June marketings were the lowest for the

month since data collection began in 1996.

The semi-annual cattle inventory has also been released with a total U.S. cattle herd of 94.2 million head. This was just slightly higher than the 94 million on July 1st, 2025. Beef cows were down 1 percent at 28.5 million head, while the dairy herd was up 2 percent at 9.65 million head. The USDA is now forecasting a 2026 calf crop of 32.5 million head, -2 percent from last year.

The U.S. cold storage report for June 30th was mixed. The U.S. frozen beef supply was 389.23 million pounds, down 3 percent from the prior month and last year. The frozen pork

(Setzer continued on page 4)

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UK studying alfalfa as a way to prevent fescue toxicosis in cattle

LEXINGTON, Ky. – According to University of Kentucky experts, beef producers across the Eastern United States lose an estimated \$2 billion each year to fescue toxicosis, a condition caused by cattle eating tall fescue infected with a toxin-producing fungus. Heat stress piles on another \$370 million in losses. Now, a new research project involving the Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment (CAFE) is asking whether alfalfa, long prized as livestock feed, might also be part of the solution.

The three-year study, which runs through September 2028, brings together researchers from Martin-Gatton CAFE, the USDA Agricultural Research Service's Forage-Animal Production Research Unit (FAPRU) and Auburn University. The project is directed by Britany Davis, Ph.D., a research animal scientist with FAPRU, with UK contributing much of the animal, plant and Extension work.

"Alfalfa, both today and over the last 3,000 years, has been the most important, most valuable forage crop in the world," said Ray Smith, Ph.D., Department of Plant and Soil Sciences Extension professor, who serves as UK's principal investigator on the project. "It's often called the Queen of the Forages, with corn silage being the King of the Forages. Alfalfa is known to be an outstanding

crop for how much it can produce and how nutritious it is for animals."

The new study takes that reputation a step further.

"We're realizing that alfalfa has compounds that make it more than just a feed," Smith said. "You can think of it as a nutraceutical or what we call a functional feed – one that supports animal health beyond simply meeting nutritional requirements."

Tall fescue is the workhorse pasture grass across much of the Eastern U.S. The problem is that nearly 95 percent of that fescue carries an endophytic fungus that produces ergot alkaloids. When cattle eat the infected grass, the alkaloids constrict blood vessels, making it difficult for the animal to shed heat, eat well, gain weight or reproduce.

"Fescue toxicosis and heat stress compound each other, especially here in the Southeast," Smith said. "Producers have been asking for practical solutions for a long time, and we think alfalfa has real potential."

Alfalfa contains a group of natural plant compounds called flavonoids. Preliminary work by the UK and FAPRU team suggests those compounds can relax blood vessels, improve blood flow and help cattle better tolerate heat – the opposite of what fescue toxins do.

The project has four main goals. First,

the team will test which specific alfalfa flavonoids, and at what doses, most effectively prevent fescue toxicosis in cattle. Second, researchers will profile flavonoid concentrations across alfalfa varieties grown in Kentucky and Alabama, looking at how genetics, plant maturity, plant part and environmental conditions influence the compounds. Third, they will feed whole alfalfa to beef steers during controlled fescue toxicosis and heat stress challenges. Finally, an Extension component will translate the findings into practical recommendations

for producers.

Alfalfa production has historically been concentrated in the Western and North-Central U.S., with limited adoption across the Southeast. Demonstrating a new, high-value use for the crop could give regional producers a reason to plant more of it and potentially reduce their reliance on nitrogen fertilizers along the way. UK experts currently encourage frost seeding red and white clover into pastures to reduce fescue toxicosis and alfalfa would provide a useful option.

Setzer

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supply was 458.22 million pounds, up 1\$ from May and 9 percent more than June 2025. The pork belly inventory was 52.22 million pounds, down 3 percent from last month but 18 percent more than last year. The total U.S. red meat supply was down 1 percent from the prior month and up 3 percent from a year ago.

The Argentine soybean harvest is well underway, but farmers in the country are not marketing new crop inventory. In fact, inbound soybean deliveries are so low Argentine crushers have turned to imports from Paraguay to satisfy demand. This has dropped Argentine crush margins into negative territory for some processors, especially with elevated transit costs. This is the primary cause of the strength we have seen in U.S. soy meal values, and in turn, U.S. crush margins. While price is the reason given for the low soybean sales in Argentina, some doubt is being cast over crop size.

The Brazilian soy crusher ABIOVE is now forecasting the country will export 115.4 mmt of soybeans this year, a 2 mmt increase from their prior estimate. ABIOVE is also predicting soy meal exports of 24.9 mmt this year, almost steady from the prior estimate. The country is forecast to have a soybean carryout of 6.58 mmt this year, down 1.3 mmt from the prior estimate.

While much of the attention on Brazil ag production is centered on corn and soybeans, the country is expanding its pork production as well. Brazil's 2026 pork production is now forecast at 5.87 mmt compared to 5.59 mmt in 2025. Brazil is forecast to export 1.6 mmt of pork this year, up 100,000 mt from last year. For 2027 Brazil is expected to produce 6.05 mmt of pork and export 1.7 mmt.

Mexico is rapidly becoming one of the world's leading commodity importing countries. Mexico imported 23.9 mmt of grain and oilseeds in the first half of 2026, the highest volume in 11 years. The largest imports were on corn at 12.3 mmt, up 8 percent from the same period in 2025. The United States was the source for 11.7 mmt of yellow corn imports, mainly for feed.

The lack of feeder cattle exports to the U.S. led to elevated feed demand domestically, helping raise these totals. Mexico also reported 5.08 mmt of soybean imports to start 226, an increase of 15 percent. Mexico has imported 4.2 percent less wheat though due to elevated prices.

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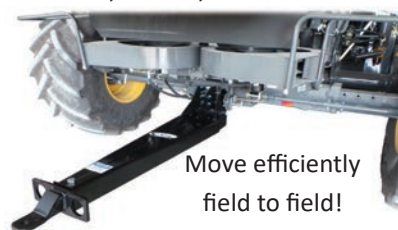
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Farmer sentiment shows improvement after 3 months of decline

By Michele F. Mihaljevich
Indiana Correspondent

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. – After three months of decline, farmer sentiment improved 13 points in July thanks to higher corn and soybean prices, according to the latest Purdue University-CME Group Ag Economy Barometer. Indices gauging current conditions and future expectations also increased.

“This isn’t a story about farmers losing confidence,” explained Michael Langemeier, director of Purdue’s Center for Commercial Agriculture. “It’s really a story about recognizing where the biggest challenges are likely to come from. Even with better sentiment, producers understand that long-term profitability depends heavily on managing through volatile commodity markets.”

Langemeier discussed the barometer’s results during the Aug. 4 Purdue Commercial AgBrief, released the same day as the July barometer. For the latest barometer, 405 farmers were surveyed nationwide July 13-17.

Farmer sentiment rose to 126 in the July barometer. A value of great-

er than 100 shows positive sentiment toward the economy, while values lower than 100 indicate negative sentiment. The current conditions index was up 20 points to 122 and the future expectations index increased 11 points to 129.

The improvement in farmer sentiment is “certainly good news but what caught our attention wasn’t the improvement in sentiment, it was what farmers identified as the biggest challenge facing their operations over the next five to 10 years,” explained Langemeier, also a professor of agricultural economics. “Thirty percent said crop and livestock prices. That’s an important shift because it tells us where producers think profitability will be won or lost in the years ahead.”

After commodity prices, producers listed farm transition (17 percent), cost control (16 percent), financial considerations (13 percent) and weather (13 percent) as concerns.

“That doesn’t mean that those (other) issues aren’t important but producers are telling us that maintaining profitable prices or managing their periods of lower prices is there

biggest concern,” he said. “Given today’s margin environment, that’s very understandable. We’re in a period where costs remain historically high while commodity prices, particularly those for crops, have come off the highs we saw a few years ago. That combination leaves much less room for error.”

The survey asked producers what type of risk management education would help them the most in the upcoming year. Forty-four percent named marketing over such options as financial management (17 percent) and strategic planning (14 percent).

“That was true for both crop and livestock producers but it was particularly true for crop producers,” Langemeier pointed out. “When farmers identified commodity prices as their biggest long-term challenge, it makes sense that improving marketing decisions becomes their highest educational priority. Marketing is one of the few tools producers have to actively manage price risk. You can’t control the market but you certainly can try to mitigate risk associated with the market.”

Producers can control such things as when they market grain, how they spread sales over time and whether they use contracts or other marketing tools like options, he said. Those decisions become increasingly important when profit margins are tight, Langemeier added.

The barometer’s farm capital investment index also improved, “suggesting producers felt somewhat more comfortable making major investments than they did just a month earlier,” he said.

“Higher grain prices helped sentiment this month but the question is whether stronger prices can be sustained and whether they increase even more,” Langemeier said. “The July Ag Economy Barometer reminds us that confidence can improve quickly when markets move in the right direction but it also highlights something much more fundamental.

“Farmers believe the biggest challenge over the next decade isn’t simply producing a good crop, it’s earning a profitable price for it. And that’s why marketing continues to be one of the most valuable management tools producers can develop.”

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Slaughter Cattle:	80(21.9%)	71(15.5%)	103(16.2%)
Replacement Cattle:	4(1.1%)	6(1.3%)	2(0.3%)

Compared to last Monday the feeder market was spotty with an average quality offering. Feeder steers 300-600 lbs and under were mostly steady to 5.00 lower in spots with a limited supply and spotty demand. Yearling steers appeared sharply higher but with a lite test. Feeder heifers 600 lbs and under were mostly steady except for the 400-500 lbs heifers who were 5.00 to 8.00 lower with moderate demand. Buyers were active today and willing to pay premiums for quality cattle, however bawling calves and plainer quality feeders received heavy discounts. Slaughter cows were 4.00 to 6.00 higher with a good demand and slaughter bulls were 3.00 to 4.00 lower with a good supply. Supply included: 77% Feeder Cattle (22% Steers, 60% Heifers, 16% Bulls, 1% Beef/Dairy Steers); 22% Slaughter Cattle (2% Steers, 77% Cows, 21% Bulls); 1% Replacement Cattle (75% Stock Cows, 25% Bred Cows). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 55%.

Groups of 20 Head or More

HEIFERS
83 Hd Black/BWF 636 lbs 403.00

FEEDER CATTLE

STEERS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
2	280-295	288	457.50-480.00	469.04	
2	370-380	375	460.00-482.50	471.40	
3	462-465	463	477.50-485.00	482.49	
1	535	535	405.00	405.00	
5	550-585	578	420.00-422.50	422.02	
10	560	560	438.00	438.00	Thin Fleshed
3	605-645	620	377.50-404.00	391.86	
2	655-685	670	375.00-380.00	377.44	
5	656	656	418.00	418.00	Value Added
1	700	700	369.00	369.00	
1	795	795	336.00	336.00	
3	802-815	806	345.00-349.00	346.35	
1	895	895	315.00	315.00	
1	1185	1185	290.00	290.00	

STEERS - Medium and Large 2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	390	390	420.00	420.00	
2	425-445	435	389.00-412.50	400.48	
1	455	455	430.00	430.00	
7	500-542	515	360.00-385.00	366.89	
1	585	585	389.00	389.00	
1	645	645	372.50	372.50	
1	670	670	362.50	362.50	

STEERS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	450	450	317.50	317.50	

BEEF/DAIRY STEERS - Large 3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	365	365	295.00	295.00	
1	415	415	275.00	275.00	
1	490	490	252.50	252.50	

HEIFERS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
5	310-337	330	412.50-435.00	425.46	
5	370-390	380	367.50-380.00	373.09	
1	420	420	400.00	400.00	
3	455-460	457	355.00-382.50	364.23	
2	465	465	395.00	395.00	Fancy
5	506	506	381.00	381.00	
7	539	539	390.00	390.00	Guaranteed Open
4	557	557	389.00	389.00	Guaranteed Open
3	630-645	640	333.00-336.00	335.02	
83	636	636	403.00	403.00	Value Added
3	655-690	668	305.00-322.50	311.68	
1	710	710	320.00	320.00	
4	781	781	300.00	300.00	
1	895	895	295.00	295.00	
1	1035	1035	270.00	270.00	

HEIFERS - Medium and Large 2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
2	410-440	425	347.50-370.00	358.35	

5	500-525	509	327.50-345.00	332.60	
1	625	625	287.50	287.50	
1	705	705	270.00	270.00	
4	800-832	819	252.50-282.50	272.63	
1	1015	1015	252.50	252.50	

HEIFERS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
2	370-390	380	345.00-355.00	349.87	
3	400-430	410	300.00-325.00	316.26	
2	580-595	588	255.00-262.50	258.80	
1	815	815	247.50	247.50	

HEIFERS - Large 1 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	440	440	322.50	322.50	

BULLS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
6	405-447	424	460.00-497.50	480.39	
1	485	485	452.50	452.50	
5	500-535	507	399.00-423.00	415.77	
2	542	542	440.00	440.00	Fancy
2	550-575	563	390.00-412.50	401.00	
4	610-630	620	386.00-397.00	393.70	
4	665-685	671	357.50-370.00	366.81	
5	705-735	716	318.00-345.00	333.88	
1	760	760	345.00	345.00	
1	835	835	265.00	265.00	

BULLS - Medium and Large 2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	310	310	430.00	430.00	
2	382	382	410.00	410.00	
3	460-477	471	375.00-393.00	387.14	
1	500	500	350.00	350.00	
2	590	590	352.50	352.50	

BULLS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	375	375	360.00	360.00	

SLAUGHTER CATTLE

STEERS - Select and Choice 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
1	1205	1205	249.00	249.00	Average

COWS - Breaker 75-80% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
7	1305-1610	1416	177.00-186.00	182.39	Average
7	1365-1570	1454	189.00-206.00	195.12	High

COWS - Boner 80-85% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
16	1130-1530	1279	169.00-187.00	179.51	Average
1	1375	1375	200.00	200.00	High

COWS - Lean 85-90% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
6	915-1070	991	147.00-168.00	158.81	Average
8	1060-1320	1166	173.00-191.00	179.61	High
2	955-960	958	114.00-132.00	123.02	Low

BULLS - 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
9	1220-1915	1492	213.00-225.00	219.80	Average
3	1960-2075	2007	229.00-236.00	233.04	High
1	1190	1190	196.00	196.00	Low

REPLACEMENT CATTLE

STOCK COWS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)						
<u>Age</u>	<u>Stage</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>Wt Range</u>	<u>Avg Wt</u>	<u>Price Range</u>	<u>Avg Price</u>
2-8	O	9	975-1390	1102	187.00-239.00	202.89

BRED COWS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Unit / Actual Wt)						
Age	Stage	Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
>5	T2	2	1200-1430	1315	3300.00-3750.00	3544.68
>5	T3	1	1415	1415	3700.00	3700.00

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

Kentucky Daily Grain Bids

Grain Report for Thursday, August 6, 2026 - Final

FUTURE SETTLEMENTS

Exchange	Commodity	Closing Settlement Prices (¢/bu) as of 8/6/26							
CBOT	Corn	439.00 (Sep 26)	462.00 (Dec 26)	477.50 (Mar 27)	486.50 (May 27)	492.00 (Jul 27)	482.75 (Sep 27)	490.25 (Dec 27)	
CBOT	Soybeans	1157.25 (Aug 26)	1160.00 (Sep 26)	1177.75 (Nov 26)	1192.75 (Jan 27)	1199.25 (Mar 27)	1207.25 (May 27)	1212.75 (Jul 27)	
CBOT	Wheat	631.25 (Sep 26)	650.50 (Dec 26)	667.25 (Mar 27)	676.00 (May 27)	677.25 (Jul 27)	685.25 (Sep 27)	698.25 (Dec 27)	
CBOT	White Oats	309.75 (Sep 26)	328.00 (Dec 26)	341.00 (Mar 27)	347.00 (May 27)	338.25 (Jul 27)	332.50 (Sep 27)	343.50 (Dec 27)	
KCBT	Wheat	699.75 (Sep 26)	717.50 (Dec 26)	730.50 (Mar 27)	736.50 (May 27)	736.00 (Jul 27)	742.25 (Sep 27)	753.25 (Dec 27)	
MGE	Wheat	671.00 (Sep 26)	694.25 (Dec 26)	711.00 (Mar 27)	721.50 (May 27)	724.75 (Jul 27)	715.25 (Sep 27)	718.75 (Dec 27)	

US #2 WHITE CORN (BULK)

Country Elevators - Conventional	Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Pennyrile		75.00U to 90.00U	UNCH	5.1400-5.2900	UP 0.0225	5.2150
Pennyrile		75.00Z	UNCH	5.3700	UP 0.0200	5.3700

Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional	Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Lower KY		60.00Z to 75.00Z	UNCH	5.2200-5.3700	UP 0.0200	5.2950
Purchase		60.00Z	UNCH	5.2200	UP 0.0200	5.2200
Purchase		60.00Z	UNCH	5.2200	UP 0.0200	5.2200

US #2 YELLOW CORN (BULK)

Country Elevators - Conventional	Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Purchase		0.00U	UNCH	4.3900	UP 0.0225	4.3900
Purchase		-15.00Z	DN 3.00	4.4700	DN 0.0100	4.4700
Green River		15.00U	UNCH	4.5400	UP 0.0225	4.5400
Green River		-10.00Z	UNCH	4.5200	UP 0.0200	4.5200
Pennyrile		-15.00U to 8.00U	UNCH	4.2400-4.4700	UP 0.0225	4.3283
Pennyrile		-40.00Z to -8.00Z	UNCH-DN 3.00	4.2200-4.5400	UP 0.0200-DN 0.0100	4.3317
Louisville		-29.00U to -5.00U	UNCH	4.1000-4.3400	UP 0.0225	4.2200
Louisville		9.00Z	UNCH	4.7100	UP 0.0200	4.7100
Bluegrass		-15.00U	UNCH	4.2400	UP 0.0225	4.2400
Bluegrass		-45.00Z	UNCH	4.1700	UP 0.0200	4.1700

Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional	Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Ohio River - Upper KY		-12.00U to -7.00U	DN 4.00-DN 1.00	4.2700-4.3200	DN 0.0175-UP 0.0125	4.2950
Ohio River - Upper KY		-39.00Z to -37.00Z	UNCH	4.2300-4.2500	UP 0.0200	4.2400
Ohio River - Lower KY		-3.00U to 15.00U	DN 3.00-UNCH	4.3600-4.5400	DN 0.0075-UP 0.0225	4.4540
Ohio River - Lower KY		-24.00Z to -10.00Z	UNCH-UP 1.00	4.3800-4.5200	UP 0.0200-UP 0.0300	4.4483
Purchase		-3.00U to 6.00U	DN 3.00-UNCH	4.3600-4.4500	DN 0.0075-UP 0.0225	4.4000
Purchase		-23.00Z to 8.00U	UNCH	4.3900-4.4700	UP 0.0200-UP 0.0225	4.4350

US #1 SOYBEANS (BULK)

Country Elevators - Conventional	Region/Location	Basic (¢/Bu)	Basis Change	Price (\$/Bu)	Price Change	Average
Purchase		0.00Q	UNCH	11.5725	UP 0.0575	1

MARKETS

Weekly National Sheep Summary
For Week Ending Friday, July 31, 2026

Weekly Trends: Compared to last week woolled and shorn slaughter lambs sold uneven. Ewes sold weaker. Ewes sold steady with a strong undertone. All sheep sold per hundred weight (CWT) unless otherwise specified.

Slaughter Lambs: Choice and Prime 1-3

San Angelo: No test.

New Holland: No test.

Billings: No test.

Ft. Collins: 50-60 lbs 285.00-328.00; 60-70 lbs 270.00-305.00; 70-80 lbs 265.00-312.50; 90-100 lbs 267.50-310.00; 100-110 lbs 287.50-310.00; 120-130 lbs 277.50-292.50; 130-140 lbs 268.00-285.00.

Mount Hope: 40-50 lbs 302.00-355.00; 50-60 lbs 300.00-365.00; 60-70 lbs 300.00-340.00; 70-80 lbs 280.00-330.00; 80-90 lbs 290.00-315.00; 90-100 lbs 275.00-297.50; 100-110 lbs 270.00-287.50; 110-120 lbs 275.00-297.50.

Kalona: 40-50 lbs 300.00-350.00; 50-60 lbs 330.00-365.00; 60-70 lbs 305.00-385.00; 70-80 lbs 255.00-340.00; 80-90 lbs 255.00-325.00; 90-100 lbs 245.00-300.00.

Equity Coop: No test.

Sioux Falls: No test.

Buffalo, MO: 50-60 lbs 240.00-280.00; 60-70 lbs 237.00-270.00; 70-80 lbs 215.00-235.00; 80-90 lbs 210.00-225.00; 100-110 lbs 205.00-215.00.

Missouri: 50-60 lbs 285.00-330.00 ; 60-70 lbs 280.00-305.00; 70-80 lbs 265.00-285.00; 80-90 lbs 240.00-262.50; 90-100 lbs 245.00-275.00; 100-110 lbs 235.00-290.00; 120-130 lbs 280.00-287.50.

Equity Coop: No test.

Slaughter Ewes: Good 2-3:

San Angelo: No test.

New Holland: No test.

Billings: No test.

Ft. Collins: 112.00-180.00.

Mount Hope: 140.00-192.50.

Kalona: 135.00-180.00.

Equity Coop: No test.

Sioux Falls: No test.

Buffalo, MO: 140.00-175.00.

Missouri: 175.00-200.00.

Feeder Lambs: Medium and Large 1:

San Angelo: No test.

Billings: No test.

Sioux Falls: No test.

Buffalo, MO 30-40 lbs 325.00-410.00; 40-50 lbs 305.00-345.00.

Missouri: 30-40 lbs 290.00-359.00; 40-50 lbs 260.00-350.00.

Ft. Collins: No test.

Kalona: No test.

Equity Coop: No test.

Arkansas: No test.

Replacement Ewes: Medium and Large 1-2:

San Angelo: No test.

Billings: No test.

Ft. Collins: No test.

South Dakota: No test.

Kalona: No test.

Missouri: No test.

Arkansas: No test.

Sioux Falls: No test.

Buffalo, MO: No test.

Sheep and lamb slaughter under federal inspection for the week to date totaled 33,000 compared to 32,000 last week and 35,880 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

email: mymarketnews@usda.gov

MISSOURI DIRECT
HAY REPORT

Direct Hay Weighted Average
Report 8/7/2026

Hay harvest has been moving along as producers have had to play catch up most of the season following a late start due to weather delays. Overall progress is back on track and some producers starting to put equipment away now. Pastures across the state are currently rated as some of the best in the nation for the week ending Aug 2nd, 80 percent of the state was rated good to excellent, 17 percent fair, and 3 percent poor. A big jump in highlighted areas of the state showing on the drought monitor this week. Much of the north has received recent rains that may not be reflected yet. There are areas in the southern part of the state that have sure missed out lately though. Lots of hay showing up for sale and supplies are moderate to heavy. Hay prices are steady on grass types of hay and firm to higher on the upper end of Alfalfa. Hay demand is light. The Missouri Department of Agriculture has a hay directory at https://apps.mda.mo.gov/haydirectory or visit the University of Missouri Extension feed stuff finder at https://feedstufffinder.org

HAY (Conventional)

Alfalfa - Supreme (Ask/Per Ton)

Medium Square 3x3 275.00-350.00

Alfalfa - Supreme (Ask/Per Bale)

Small Square 10.00-15.00

Alfalfa - Premium (Ask/Per Ton)

Medium Square 3x3 200.00-275.00

Alfalfa - Good (Ask/Per Ton)

Large Round 150.00-175.00

Alfalfa - Good (Ask/Per Bale)

Small Square 6.00-10.00

Alfalfa - Fair (Ask/Per Ton)

Large Round 125.00-150.00

Mixed Grass - Premium (Ask/Per Ton)

Medium Square 3x3 150.00-200.00

Mixed Grass - Good/Premium (Ask/Per Ton)

Large Round 100.00-150.00

Mixed Grass - Fair/Good (Ask/Per Ton)

Large Round 50.00-100.00

Mixed Grass - Fair/Good (Ask/Per Bale)

Small Square 2.25-7.00

Mixed Grass - Fair (Ask/Per Bale)

Large Round 25.00-50.00

STRAW (Conventional)

Wheat - (Ask/Per Bale)

Small Square 4.00-7.00

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

Weekly Combined Regional
Shell Egg Report

Report for: 07/26/2026 - 08/01/2026

National Shell Eggs - Caged

Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen

Class

Price Range

Average Price

Price Change

Last Reported (7/24/2026)

Extra Large

127.00 - 157.00

145.00

9.00

136.00

Large

126.00 - 148.00

138.94

9.00

129.94

Medium

41.00 - 61.00

51.75

4.00

47.75

Midwest Shell Eggs - Caged

Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen

Class

Price Range

Average Price

Price Change

Last Reported (7/24/2026)

Extra Large

127.00 - 136.00

131.50

9.00

122.50

Large

126.00 - 135.00

130.50

9.00

121.50

Medium

41.00 - 50.00

45.50

4.00

41.50

Delivered Store Door, White, Cents Per Dozen

Class

Price Range

Average Price

Price Change

Last Reported (7/24/2026)

Extra Large

134.00 - 142.00

138.00

9.00

129.00

Large

132.00 - 140.00

136.00

9.00

127.00

Medium

47.00 - 55.00

51.00

4.00

47.00

Paid to Producers - FOB, White, Cents Per Dozen

Class

Price Range

Average Price

Price Change

Last Reported (7/24/2026)

Large

108.00 - 118.00

113.00

9.00

104.00

Medium

23.00 - 27.00

25.00

4.00

21.00

Small

10.00 - 16.00

13.00

0.00

13.00

Northeast Shell Eggs - Caged

Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen

Class

Price Range

Average Price

Price Change

Last Reported (7/24/2026)

Extra Large

140.00 - 157.00

148.50

9.00

139.50

Large

134.00 - 148.00

141.00

9.00

132.00

Medium

44.00 - 57.00

50.50

4.00

46.50

South Central Shell Eggs - Caged

Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen

Class

Price Range

Average Price

Price Change

Last Reported (7/24/2026)

Extra Large

145.50 - 154.00

149.75

9.00

140.75

Large

138.50 - 147.00

142.75

9.00

133.75

Medium

52.50 - 61.00

56.75

4.00

52.75

Southeast Shell Eggs - Caged

Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen

Class

Price Range

Average Price

Price Change

Last Reported (7/24/2026)

Extra Large

146.50 - 154.00

150.25

9.00

141.25

Large

138.00 - 145.00

141.50

9.00

132.50

Medium

50.50 - 58.00

54.25

4.00

50.25

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

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

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



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Livestock Market

MIDWAY

Auction Barn

Market Report

August 5, 2026

This Report is the Actual High and Average

	Hd. Ct.	High	Avg.
Fat Hogs:	1	\$.75	\$.75
Sows HD:	N/A`		
Boars:	N/A		
Feeder Pigs:	N/A		
Beef & X Veal #1:	55	\$1500	\$1291.36
Beef & X Veal #2:	11	\$1025	\$888.18
Dairy Veal #1:	76	\$1200	\$983.75
Dairy Veal #2:	29	\$825	\$451.90
Jersey Cross:	5	\$1000	\$550
Beef Fdrs 200#-550#	3	\$4.40	\$3.42
Beef Fdrs 551#-1000#	N/A		
Beef Feeders HD	1	\$925	\$925
Dairy Fdrs 200#-550#	17	\$3.10	\$1.95
Dairy Fdrs 551#-1000#	2	\$3.00	\$2.08
Cull Cows #1:	5	\$1.73	\$1.62
Cull Cows #2:	4	\$1.19	\$1.02
Fat Cattle Colored:	11	\$2.29	\$2.20
Fat Cattle Holstein:	N/A		
Bulls:	N/A		
Cow/Calf Pair:	N/A		
Breed Cows Colored:	3	\$2600	\$2125
Milk Cows:	1	\$1550	\$1550
Dairy Fdrs Hd	N/A		
Springers:	N/A		
Sheep Ram:	2	\$2.70	\$1.99
Sheep Ewe:	14	\$1.75	
Lamb 0-60:	65	\$3.25	\$3.13
Lamb 61-85:	44	\$3.23	\$3.11
Lamb 86-100:	4	\$3.10	\$3.02
Goat Nannies :	N/A		
Goat Billys :	3	\$135	\$86.67
Goat Wethers:	3	\$160	\$125

Auction Every Wednesday Sale Order

Hay / Straw / Firewood

11:00 AM

Livestock 12:00 PM

Small animals

Last Wednesday/Month

Licensed and Bonded # AC32500012

Hay Lg Sq: 41 \$90 \$75.78

Hay Sm Sq: 189 \$6.25 \$5.98

Hay Rnd Bale: 18 \$75 \$67.78

Straw Lg Sq: N/A

Straw Sm Sq: N/A

Corn Fodder: N/A

Straw Lg Rnd N/A

Rabbits: N/A

Chickens: N/A

Chicks: N/A

Bantys: N/A

Roosters: N/A

Ducks: N/A

Turkey: N/A

Quail: N/A

Pigeon: N/A

Geese: N/A

Eggs: N/A

Peacock Chicks N/A

Pheasants N/A

Billy Goat N/A

Cages N/A

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8/4/2026

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Ducks \$2.00-\$22.00

Pigeons \$2.00-\$27.00

Eggs \$1.25-\$2.00

Rooster \$1.00-\$14.00

Turkey \$20-\$170.00

Peacock \$90.00

Rabbits \$3.00-\$19.00

365(Eggs)

984(Animals)

Veal Calves

Holstein (80# & UP) \$700-\$1150

Beef Cross (80# & UP) \$1200-\$1600

469

Sheep

Ewes \$1.00-\$2.00

40-60# Lambs \$2.90-\$3.85

61-80# Lambs \$2.85-\$3.45

81-100# Lambs \$2.00-\$3.15

286

Goats

Billys \$35.00-\$470.00

Nannies \$45.00-\$410.00

Kids \$40.00-\$185.00

182

Feeder Cattle Dairy and Beef

200-500# \$.80-\$4.60

501-800# \$.70-\$3.40

112

Cows

Cull Cows \$1.15-\$1.85

Bulls \$1.85-\$2.00

38

Fat Cattle

Holstein \$2.25

Colored \$2.30-\$2.42

4

Pigs

Fat Hogs \$.55-\$.85

Sows \$0.60

Boars \$0.10

46

Feeder Pigs

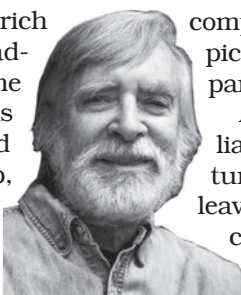
20-45# \$10.00-\$45.00

46-65# \$75.00-\$105.00

70

Black walnut tree leaves shedding; buckeyes, pecans falling to ground

Now comes the time of rich purple in the fields and meadows, denoting not only a time but also a maturity. It is as though the whole Summer had been building toward this deep, strong color to match the gold of late sunlight and early goldenrod. - Hal Borland



POOR WILL'S ALMANACK
By Bill Felker

ALMANACK LITERATURE

Making Our Kite

By Mary Mersereau, Montgomery, Mich.

It was during the Depression days, and we lived in midwestern Kansas. It seemed like those days of long ago things were more peaceful.

The fields were large, and the wind seemed to blow from the south most every day, and not fierce. And there was always time on one's hands, so many out of work. My husband, Ted, was somewhat in this group.

Usually, we lived in town. But sometimes, when work was to be done, we stayed out to the Raymond Rixse farm, 180 acres of wheat. I and two babies and Ted. I did housework, and the lady did chores and took care of stock so the men could work longer in the fields.

Well, there came many days that Ted was out of work. And the man on the corner also. They decided to build a kite.

One could get brown paper at the grocery store by the yard, strong too. We traded some garden stuff for this and made glue - it was paste from flour and water.

Well, the men worked on the kite for several days. It was seven feet high by four feet wide, and it had a big tail besides.

Mr. Rixse gave us some twine, two big balls in fact. And, one nice breezy day out we went with the kite. It drew quite a gathering too, because some thought we wouldn't get it away.

But up and up it went! The end of the first ball of twine was tied to the next ball, and then that was tied to a tree.

We laughed with glee. The twine was so long that soon we couldn't see the kite anymore. Then came word: Wichita, Kans., thought it was a weapon or something the Germans had.

Then after a while, we cut it loose. And later we received a letter from Minnesota about its whereabouts. Cold air and no wind must have brought it down. But, as I remember, the Minnesota man said he'd fix it and send it on its way again.

The Sun

Aug. 22 is Late Summer's Cross Quarter Day, the day on which the Sun reaches halfway to autumn equinox. Almost an hour has been lost from the day's length just since the end of July, almost two hours since the year's longest days in late June.

Having dropped below the celestial equator in the first week of Late Summer, the Sun now leaves the stability of Leo and enters the more volatile sign of Virgo, the first of the most violent periods of change in the second half of the year.

The Weather in the Week Ahead

The weather in the third week of August is somewhat stable, bringing highs in the 90s on 15 to 20 percent of the afternoons, milder 80s 55 percent of the time, and cool 70s the remaining 25 percent. The 19th of the month, however, breaks from the pattern many years, and it has the highest frequency of 90s (35 percent chance) of any other day in the week. Chances of rain increase from 25 percent at the beginning of the period to 30 percent by Aug. 21, then drop abruptly to just 15 percent on the 22nd.

Natural Calendar

Throughout the remainder of the month, high Late Summer still holds sway. Cicadas and katydids and crickets are still boisterous in the night. Fold-wing skippers still chase each other in the morning sun. Great colonies of ants migrate. Beds of false boneset and trellises of virgin's bower bloom. Tall blue bellflower and burdock and euonymus keep their blossoms, and fields glow with seven-foot wingstem, tall coneflowers, early purple ironweed, late bouncing bets and black-eyed Susans.

The latest wildflowers of the year, however, the heralds of Early Fall, are set to open. Bur marigolds, zigzag goldenrod, tall goldenrod, Jerusalem artichokes, broad-leaved swamp goldenrod, New England asters and small-flowered asters are budding.

The weakening sun accelerates its message to the monarchs and swallowtails and the fall webworms. Sparrows form larger flocks. Robins emerge from their Deep Summer retreats. Great murmurations of starlings become more common. Peaches, plums, grapes, blackberries, second-crop raspberries and elderberries sweeten, then close their seasons.

At the transition between Leo's vast plateau of heat and color and Libra's sudden collapse of the forest canopy, Virgo brings the first turning of the leaves and the first chance of frost to Yellow Springs. Hickory nuts, buckeyes and pecans fall to earth. The first black walnut leafturn and leafdrop began in the center of July's Leo, and now the walnut trees are shedding, yards and paths filling with their leaves. The horse chestnuts follow, and then the cottonwoods and then box elders.

The Field and Garden

Scout fields for late-season pests, for larval feeding scars, a sign of rootworm damage, second brood corn borer, second generation of bean leaf beetles, and rootworm beetles.

The potato harvest is usually a fourth

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40x80x21	13x13 door
40x100x21	13x13 door
40x120x21	13x13 door
50x80x23	18x16 door
50x100x23	18x16 door
50x120x23	18x16 door
50x200x23	18x16 door
60x80x25	18x16 door
60x100x25	18x16 door
60x120x25	18x16 door
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'84 JD 4650, ~7,800 hrs, 18.4-38's, axle duals, power shift, 3 rem, 1,000 PTO. \$42,500



'77 JD 4230, 2wd, QR, turbo, two remotes, 540/1000 pto, 18.4-34 rears, T-rail duals, (8) front weights, 6,479 hrs, exceptional tractor!!! \$39,500



'97 JD 7810, 4,952 hrs, 3 rem, 19spd powershift, 18.4-42's, axle duals, front fenders, one owner Iowa tractor. \$104,900



'79 Ford 2600, 2,453 hrs, gas, 38 hp, power steering, nice!! \$4,850



'82 JD 2940, 3,134 hrs, soundguard cab, 2 rem, 3pt, nice Indiana tractor! \$31,900



UM 1245D, drum roller, 31' width, one owner, like new!. \$29,900



'20 Bobcat E165, 45 original hrs, one owner, locally owned, hyd thumb (shearer ready), hyd pin on 36" bucket, close as you can get to new! \$164,500



'83 IH 5288, local trade, 7,763 hrs, 3 rem, 18.4-42's, axle duals. \$31,500



'92 CIH 7150, 6,444 hrs, Indiana tractor, 20.8-42-s, 4 rem, full weights . . . \$59,500



'82 IH 5488, partial PS, 20.8 axle duals, 4,825 hrs, local retired farmer owned, we sold 20 years ago, overhauled at that time, but not many hours since then . . . \$38,900



'08 CIH Magnum 275, 4,188 hrs, PS, QH, 4 rem, 1,000 PTO, 480/80R46 rear / 380/85R34 fronts, nice Ohio tractor. \$114,900



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



'11 CIH Magnum 340, 3,862 hrs, (8) new tires, guidance ready, luxury cab, hi-flow pump, 4 rem, one owner \$154,900



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



'95 CIH 7240, mfd, 4,357 hrs, Trimble guidance & Case screen, full weights, QH, 20.8-42 rears, axle duals, complete LED lights, automotive quality paint, excellent interior, local 2 owner, nicest one in the Midwest!! \$94,500



'80 IH 986, factory original paint, flow control hydraulics, 540/1000 pto, 2 remotes, 18.4-34 axle duals, 4,216 hours. \$27,900



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'23 JD 333G, 1,275 hrs, 2 spd, high flow aux hyd, quick attach, rear camera . . . \$62,900



'24 Case CX30C, 10 hrs, 12" tracks, 5' front blade, 18" bucket, leather seat, master disconnect. \$46,900

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'01 CIH 2366, 2,780/1,964 eng/sep hrs, 30.5-32's, 16.9-26, chopper, chaff spreader, bin ext, AFS Y&M monitor, rock trap, nice. . . \$54,900

'11 CIH 3020, 30' width, been through shop, very nice \$24,900

94 CIH 1666, chopper, rock trap, yield monitor, 3,876 eng hrs, excellent machine! \$31,500

'15 CIH 3162, 30' width, terra flex, flip over reel, 1 pto, hard to find! . . \$34,900

'02 CIH 1020, 25' width, lights, dual pto \$11,500

'05 CIH 1020, grain head, 30' width, fore & aft, field tracker compatible, 3" knife in great shape, very clean late model head, always stored inside . . . \$14,900

'07 McFarlane RD4020RB, 20' reel disc, very clean, low acres, nice!!! \$31,900

'09 Sunflower 6333-22, mulch finisher, one owner, 6 bar flex harrow, rear hitch & hydraulics, converter valve for 3 rem tractor. \$24,900

'21 CIH 335VT, disc, 25' width, 7.5" spacing, 20" front / 20.5" rear blades, hyd baskets, like new condition!!! \$64,900

'01 JD 637, 32' width, 9" spacing, very good paint & blades, rear hitch. \$21,900

'96 JLG 45E, 45' reach, 500 lb capacity, 4wd, battery, works good \$16,900

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'23 Snorkel A38E, telescopic boom lift, 43' height, electric, 4wd, 22x9x16 tires, 475lb capacity, 103 hrs \$24,500

'15 Case 586H, 2wd, 21' mast, 3,688 hrs, good machine!! \$41,900

USDA to reopen southern ports to cattle shipments in wake of NWS starting Aug. 24

By DOUG SCHMITZ
Iowa Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The USDA recently announced it will reopen the Douglas, Ariz., port of entry to cattle shipments in 30 days in the wake of New World screwworm detections, while simultaneously initiating the operational steps necessary for subsequent openings at the Santa Teresa and Columbus, N.M., ports, beginning Aug. 24.

However, the agency added, this coordinated, phased reopening of these southern cattle ports is contingent on Mexico's adherence to the USDA's Joint Action Plan to combat the spread of New World screwworm (NWS). These ports have been officially closed since May 2025 due to NWS detected within 370 miles of the border.

The first case of NWS detected in the U.S. was June 3 in Zavala County, Texas, in a 3-week-old calf. Since then, the USDA has confirmed 41 cases of NWS in Texas, and one in New Mexico, according to the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

On July 24, USDA Secretary Brooke Rollins said every animal entering the United States through these ports will undergo a full USDA inspection to ensure it is free of any signs of NWS: "Protecting the United States from NWS and pushing this pest out of Mexico and back to the Darien Gap is a top priority at the USDA, and has the full attention of the Trump administration."

Rollins said the closure of the southern ports of entry for the last year has been a tough but necessary action to control the spread of NWS in Mexico, and protect the American livestock industry.

"Thanks to the work across the federal government as well as state, local and industry partners, it is now safe to reopen the Douglas, Ariz., port in 30 days to resume the hundreds year old movement of cattle (the cross-border livestock trade between Mexico and the United States)," he said.

For many years, Sonora and Chihuahua have maintained a strong animal health infrastructure program, built on the backs of successful animal disease control measures, the USDA said. While the rest of Mexico has not been able to stop the spread of NWS, or stop legal and illegal movement, the agency added, "Sonora and Chihuahua do have a track record of success in these spaces, giving the USDA confidence that they can do the job."

The USDA said its proposed, phased reopening of Southern ports to livestock trade, if Mexico meets satisfactory progress on priority Action Plan milestones, include Sonora and Chihuahua being identified as the lowest-risk Mexican states for NWS due to their "strong, well-established inspection programs and their geographic distance from southern Mexico, where most cases are concentrated."

The agency added when it reopens the Douglas, Ariz., port, which borders Sonora, to livestock trade Aug. 24, after evaluating the success of the initial reopening and potential impacts, or risk assessment changes, APHIS will then consider reopening the Santa Teresa, N.M., and Columbus, N.M., ports to live cattle, bison and horses. The closest active case to the Douglas, Ariz., port is 325 miles and was detected July 22, the agency said.

The USDA said the reopening timeline will remain flexible and may be adjusted, based on Mexico's progress in meeting these Joint Action Plan milestones and addressing critical issues. The agency added the opening of ports may be paused if the USDA identifies increased risk in Sonora or Chihuahua via post-opening audits, or other observations and information.

In a July 24 media statement, Colin Woodall, National Cattlemen's Beef Association CEO, said the USDA's work to combat NWS – along with the diligence of cattle producers in border states – bought the United States valuable time to improve domestic readiness.

"The whole-of-government response has put us in a strong position to begin safely and gradually reopening our southern border to cattle shipments," he said. "This decision will help normalize business for cattle operations throughout the border states and Southern Plains. We appreciate the continued work of the USDA to support American producers and the U.S. cattle industry."

However, the United States Cattlemen's Association (USCA) said in a July 27 media statement it is disappointed in the USDA's decision to move forward with reopening the southern border to Mexican cattle, while so many unresolved risks remain for the U.S. herd.

Justin Tupper, USCA president, said the USCA underscores that border policy must be driven by science based risk assessment and on the ground capacity: "Any effort to lower beef prices must not come at the expense of U.S. cattle herd health. We've been encouraged to rebuild the domestic herd. That it is of utmost importance, and unnecessary



Above: Colin Woodall, National Cattlemen's Beef Association CEO, said the USDA's work to combat New World screwworm (pictured) – along with the diligence of cattle producers in border states – bought the United States valuable time to improve domestic readiness. (courtesy of the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service)

exposure to animal health threats is a risk we do not need to take."

The USCA outlined three core expectations moving forward: enforcing the highest possible import standards on Mexican cattle; having full transparency and communication from the USDA and Mexico; and having a laser focus on domestic eradication and producer tools.

Tupper said the USCA still has concerns over Mexico's ability to adequately track animal movements across state borders, and to publicly share per state caseload data: "We expect total transparency on those two data points – the same standard the U.S. has adhered to

(Cattle Shipments
continued on page 11)

Cowboys will never admit to doing plumbing work

A wise person once advised me that there was nothing more boring than water and I should never write about it. So here goes...

I would argue that other than massive infusions of cash, water is the thing you need the most. Fences can be built or rebuilt and feed you can grow or buy elsewhere but without a reliable source of water you're ranching dreams will shrivel up and die. Literally. (I guess you could forget about the fences and just let your cows eat your neighbor's grass but as the professors and bureaucrats say, this is just not sustainable.)

It's no fun checking water only to find 100 angry cows standing up to their knees in mud without a drop of water in the trough because some hunter blasted away at your water trough just because you put up some "No Trespassing" signs.

Cowboys won't admit this but there's more to cowboying than bustin' bronzes. Quite often they must step off their high horse to perform some very uncowboy-like things such as driving a baler, cuttin' stove wood, milking a cow, servicing a

tractor and wearin' flat shoes. The one task a cowboy will NEVER admit doing is plumbing, which they often have to do. I know I've done my share. On big ranches they have men who do nothing but plumbing, working on windmills, digging ditches and laying pipe. Such cowboy plumbers are shunned by real cowboys and aren't even invited to join in bunkhouse poker games. If they're even allowed in the bunkhouse at all.

We rented one place that was practically devoid of water and it really tested my plumbing skills. I was forever having to build and clean spring boxes, and I laid a lot of PVC. In the end we were left with one reliable spring that produced what I'd call "chunky style" water. It wasn't even wet and the cows chewed it, but only as a last resort.

Interestingly, long after we'd vacated the place for lack of water, the ranch became awash in the stuff. The town put a sewer plant on the south end of the ranch and every citizen in the community sent their water there. And I do mean ALL of it.

Cowboys are so ashamed about

their occasional plumbing that they dare not be seen in the plumbing section at the hardware store. (I hate to admit this, but I rather enjoy plumbing.) I spent three summers working in the oilfields and one of them was in a compressor plant which was plumbing on steroids. I learned a lot, like the difference between a Stillson wrench and a pipe wrench and "righty tighty, lefty Lucy." I liked it all so much I probably should have been a plumber making \$250 an hour instead of a columnist making \$25.

There's hardly a time I go to the hardware store that I don't drift over into the plumbing section to see what's new. I was shocked out of my shorts recently to see the price for copper fittings. One bin for a copper reducer said they were \$39 bucks. For a two-inch piece of copper and that was if they had it, which they didn't. Several bins were empty because of a supply problem. The prices were so high it was tempting to make me cash in on my world class collection of unions, nipples and tees that I've collected over the past 50 years. Who'd ever guess that plumbing parts would provide a better return on investment than jojoba

beans, silver coins or certificates of deposit?

I try to be real sneaky about checking out the plumbing section but I was recently spotted by a cowboy acquaintance in the plumbing aisle with my basket filled with four-inch plastic elbows and the biggest float valves they had. "What you doin' Pittsy," he chuckled, "don't tell me you've fallen so low that you're doing your own plumbing on the ranch?"

"Oh, no," I lied, to avoid his contempt, "I'm just fixing the toilet at our house."

"That must be some high-powered toilet if it requires a ball valve the size of a basketball and four-inch pipe," he said. "You know, if someone in your family has a problem I could recommend an excellent gastroenterologist."



Cattle Shipments

FROM PAGE 10

from the beginning. We also expect the USDA to be fully transparent about the risk assessment benchmarks they are using to reopen specific ports of entry."

The USCA said now is the time to double down on domestic eradication efforts, not relax them, which it said include: expanding sterile fly production capacity through public private partnerships to supplement the COPEG (Panama-United States Commission for the Eradication and Prevention of Screwworm Infestation in Livestock) facility in Panama; giving U.S. producers access to every tool in the toolbox to stay ahead of infestations – not just treatment options after an infected case is found; and ensuring that federal and state agencies are funded and staffed to respond rapidly and effectively to any NWS movement.

"We appreciate the USDA and APHIS' efforts to eradicate NWS since this pest became a renewed concern," Tupper said. "APHIS personnel are on the ground in both Mexico and the United States and have been proactive in communicating with the industry up to this point. But that hard work cannot be undercut by premature border decisions that increase risk for U.S. producers."

For more information about the USDA's New World screwworm response, visit: www.aphis.usda.gov/animals/animal-health/livestock-and-poultry-disease/stop-screwworm/usda-continues-lead-aggressive-coming-back-you-get-a-better-recovery-or-better-pasture-if-you-run-into-drought.

So managing is important. A producer can do more damage to a pasture in the summer months, during a drought, by not keeping the soil covered, by not keeping enough forage on the ground, than by winter feeding.

"If you overgraze those pasture fields during the summer months when they are dormant, when they are slow growing, you can set those fields back significantly by overgrazing," Hittle said.

It is a combination of things that contribute to reducing the overall pasture health and growth during the summer. Producers should keep a minimum of 4 to 6 inches of growth, keeping the plants actively growing. If there is some thatch on it from mowing, it almost acts like a mulch.

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Believe the Bible is True!

Butler County 4-H offers sensory sensitivity program at the fair

By Celeste Baumgartner
Ohio Correspondent

HAMILTON, Ohio—The Sssh program, created for the Butler County Fair by 4-H member Daniela Gomes, allowed some developmentally disabled kids to enjoy the fair in a way they never could before.

Sssh stands for sensory sensitivity safe haven. For two hours on a recent morning, about 30 developmentally disabled youngsters visited with sheep, goats, bunnies, even a Highland cow; they played games and visited a sensory table. 4-H members assisted so they could enjoy the fair experience in a quiet, calm atmosphere.

“Matthew (age 11) is on the spectrum,” said his mother, Tricia Pickens. “He is autistic. We have a hard time doing the fair. His older sister used to go to the fair, and it was always hard bringing him.

“This event was great,” she said.



Above: Matthew Pickens enjoyed visiting the Highland cow at the Sssh program at the Butler County Fair. There were also sheep, goats and rabbits.

“We walked in; it was quiet. They had several different types of animals. The kids that were there were amazing with the special needs kids. They took their time with them. They talked to them about the animals. My son could just be himself.”

Gomes grew up with two siblings, Joseph and Ruby, with developmental disabilities. She learned about the Animal and Me program at the fair. This program pairs a 4-H member with a developmentally disabled youth. The 4-H member works with that youth and helps them learn to show an animal at the fair.

“I have two siblings; they are both dear to my heart,” Gomes said. “They are both diagnosed with developmental disabilities. I would help my brother get his medicine and brush his teeth. I grew up with this unique worldview. This was my normal. I realized as I got older that that wasn’t normal for everyone.”

Everyone doesn’t realize the wide range of developmental disabilities and their unique needs. Gomes thought the Animal and Me program was wonderful, but she thought of the 4-H motto, “make the best better.”

“I realized not every kid or individual can have the mental capacity or the physical capacity to show an animal,” she said. “My brother Joseph, diagnosed with a severe case of autism, wouldn’t mentally be able to show an animal. I have a friend, Alfonzo, who has a severe case of cerebral palsy. He can’t physically show an animal.

“I am a Christian,” she explained. “I felt the words in my head like, you can know better, you can make a change. So, I started talking with Emily Masters (4-H educator, Butler County) and Erin Sloan (4-H program assistant, Butler County). I did a lot of research, and I talked with professionals.”

(Butler County programs continued on page 13)



Above: Daniela Gomes created the Sssh program to allow developmentally disabled kids to enjoy the fair in a way they never could before. Gomes is not a professional; she did a lot of research.

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Butler County Programs

FROM PAGE 12

She came up with the idea of having a quiet morning at the fair for these young people, with some 4-H youth coming in with calm, small animals, Gomes said. The individuals could come into a quiet atmosphere and interact with animals because it is therapeutic to them.

They could also interact with other youths, their peers, and have some fun activities and games. This took a lot of research.

"I am not a professional, and I am not trained," she said. "I am just someone who grew up with siblings who were diagnosed with developmental disabilities. I had to do a lot of research online and read books. I got with some professionals at the Cincinnati Center for Autism and went over the plan with them."

She reached out to people she had never met and came to appreciate that this tight-knit community of people involved with the developmentally disabled was close and supportive of one another.

"I had people come who I have never met," she said. "They have given me all this advice and been very welcoming. Because again, I am not trained, and I wanted to make sure that this program would be helpful and uplifting and not harmful."

Then Gomes, who is on the junior fair board and this year's Butler County Fair Special Interest Department Queen, had to fill out the requisite paperwork and get all of the required permissions.

"We're hoping some people will be uplifted and encouraged and just blessed," she said.

Laura Holmes brought Chloe and Parker, her 3- and 6-year-old children.

"They really enjoyed it," Holmes said. "They liked being able to pet all different animals, and they loved all the kids and teenagers who had the animals – they were super friendly."

Above: Grant Lyons enjoyed a hug with Speedy, the sheep. Visiting the animals was therapeutic for the kids.

They had a painting station which Chloe really liked."

Before the event, Gomes spoke with the 4-H'ers who helped with the project about what to expect, how to react in certain situations, and the basic rules of interacting with individuals with developmental disabilities. It was an easy fit because 4-H members are encouraged to get involved in leadership and serving the community.

Gomes, who is going into her senior year and is homeschooled, is not finished with her project now that the fair is over.

"I hope to take this to the junior fair board conference in January and get other counties to start having programs of their own so this doesn't stay small," she said. "Every single person can make an impact. People diagnosed with developmental disabilities are the largest minority group in the world, but they are the most unseen. That is what I am trying to change."

Gomes, the daughter of Ed and Maranda Gomes, is a member of the Oxford Creative Clovers 4-H Club. Theresa Davis and Vicky Sherman are the advisers.

Gomes plans to make a career of working with people with developmental disabilities.

"Eventually I want to take that overseas because I saw my parents fight to get help for my siblings here in America," she said. "In other countries it is worse. I want to share the love of Christ, and I want to help them because they don't get the help that they need."

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Above: Ken and Jenny enjoyed playing games at the event. There were games and animals, and a sensory table. They also enjoyed visiting with the 4-H kids who helped with the program.

Michigan wheat grinder adding corn to milling operations

By Stan Maddux
Indiana Correspondent

QUINCY, Mich. – One of the nation’s largest milling companies with locations that include southern Michigan and northern Indiana will start grinding corn for the first time.

Star of the West Milling Co. has unveiled plans to build a six-story, \$79 million corn milling facility in Michigan at the site of its wheat milling operation in Quincy that closed in January.

According to company officials, the former mill – originally constructed in 1863 – along with a warehouse, will be torn down to make way for the new facility with the ability to process up to 21,000 bushels of corn daily.

The new operation will also feature a new feed storage and loadout structure, a bulk truck and rail loadout facility and tote-filling capacity.

One of the reasons cited for the investment was because Michigan does not have a corn milling plant, despite the state annually producing about 340 million bushels of corn, and demand for a variety of food-grade corn products.

Mike Fassezke, president of the company’s flour milling division, said the corn mill represents a chance to expand customer base and serve existing buyers of their wheat flour that also make food products with corn.

The firm, headquartered in Frankenmuth, Mich., already has elevators at multiple locations to store and ship corn purchased from area growers.

“We considered the significant amount of corn that we already receive from our local farmers and saw an opportunity to add additional value beyond just aggregating and shipping out of state,” he said.

Star of the West Milling Co. also has locations in Ohio, New York, North Dakota and Minnesota.

Karina Spencer, executive vice-president of the flour milling division, said the new mill is also an opportunity to meet demand in areas they plan to offer grinded corn.

“Currently, all U.S. dry corn mills are located west or south of our expected market. Our market research would suggest that we can provide a significant logistic advantage to in-state corn ingredient users and customers based in the northeast quadrant of the U.S.,” she said.

The company also processes dry beans and provides agronomy services along with grain handling and merchandising.

Star of the West CEO Jim Howe called the project “an intentional step forward in meeting our strategic objective of partnering with producers and food processors with the goal of feeding the world. Our business model will continue to focus on diversity and vertical integration within the ag sector.”

Seventeen new jobs are projected from the investment.

Star of the West is the 10th largest miller in the U.S and, in 2015, received the Exporter of the Year Award from the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

The new venture comes less than a year after the company shut down wheat mills in Quincy and in Ligonier, Ind., about 70 miles away.

Production at those plants was merged into a new facility in Ligonier that can produce up to 2 million pounds of flour a day or about twice as much as both former operations combined, according to company officials.

A majority of their flour is shipped in bulk to larger makers of cookies,



Above: A digital rendering of the first corn mill planned by Star of the West Milling Co., which has been strictly involved in grinding wheat.

donuts, cake mixes and other similar products within a 300-mile radius of each mill.

The company, which also provides ready-to-eat wheat flakes, was

founded over 150 years ago in Frankenmuth in what was then a small steam-powered mill.

Its agronomy division consists of more than 30 certified crop advisers

that work directly with farmers. Construction of the new mill is expected to be finished in 2028.

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July cattle herds showing signs of stabilization

By DOUG SCHMITZ
Iowa Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C. – U.S. cattle herds are showing signs of stabilization, with total cattle inventory increasing slightly for the first time since 2018, but the beef cow herd falling to 28.5 million head, a record low for the July report, indicates herd rebuilding remains limited.

That's according to American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) Economist Bernt Nelson's July 27 analysis of the July 1 USDA Cattle Inventory Report. According to the report, the inventory of all cattle and calves in the United States totaled 94.2 million head July 1, up 200,000 head, or less than 1 percent, from 94 million head July 1, 2025, marking the first increase in the July cattle inventory in eight years.

Despite the slight increase in total inventory, Nelson said indicators of herd expansion remain mixed: "All cows and heifers that have calved were estimated at 38.1 million head, unchanged from a year ago.

"Within that total, beef cows were estimated at 28.5 million head, down 200,000 head, or 1 percent, from 2025, and the smallest July inventory on record (the data goes back to

1973)," he added. "In contrast, milk cows were estimated at 9.65 million head, up 200,000 head, or 2 percent, from last year."

He said replacement heifer numbers improved, but the calf crop remains historically small: "Beef replacement heifers increased 3 percent, suggesting farmers and ranchers are beginning to retain females for breeding. However, the 2026 calf crop is projected at a record-low 32.5 million head, marking the ninth consecutive annual decline and constraining future herd growth."

Grant Dwell, DVM, Iowa State University beef extension veterinarian, who also holds a master's degree in agricultural economics, told Farm World the one bright spot in the report was this 3 percent increase in replacement heifers from last year.

"That is not adequate to indicate that we are expanding the cattle herd, but at least it is in a positive direction, and there is potential that we have finally reached the bottom and are ready to turn around. If that is the case, I would not expect to see a rapid increase, but more likely a longer drawn-out expansion phase."

Nelson said one of the most closely watched measures in the report is the

inventory of beef replacement heifers weighing more than 500 pounds, which was estimated at 3.8 million head, up 100,000 head, or 3 percent, from 2025.

"This increase represents the first meaningful sign of heifer retention and potential herd rebuilding in nearly a decade," he said. "Meanwhile, other heifers totaled 7.3 million head, down 100,000 head, or 1 percent, from last year. These animals remain a potential source of future breeding stock."

Dwell said the other major number was that the 2026 calf crop is expected to be down 2 percent from 2025, so inventory of cattle available to be on feed for 2027 is going to be lower: "The proposed opening of the port of entry in Douglas, Ariz., may offset this some, but capacity at that area is limited, and will not be able to replace the 1.2 million head that traditionally have been imported from Mexico.

"Traditionally, the Douglas port had less than 200,000 cattle that pass through, and with the increased screening time, import numbers will remain well below that. If there are no problems, there are plans to open ports in New Mexico as well, but that plan is contingent on a successful re-

sult in Douglas. Regardless, there is not enough capacity to replace the lower 2026 calf crop, but this may help feeders slightly with supply."

He said the report estimated the 2026 calf crop at 32.5 million head, down 2 percent from 2025, and the smallest calf crop on record, remains a major constraint on future herd growth: "These calves represent the pool of animals available either for breeding, or for placement into feedlots in 2027 and 2028. As long as calf numbers continue to decline, producers face limitations in expanding the herd, regardless of retention decisions."

Andrew P. Griffith, University of Tennessee professor of agricultural and resource economics, told Farm World the only thing that caught him off guard in the report was the calf crop being 495,600 head smaller this year, compared to last year with the all cows and heifers that calved not changing: "That is essentially one week worth of slaughter, but I have no explanation for this reduction."

Nelson said while the reopening of the border to Mexican cattle imports Aug. 24 will gradually increase feeder cattle availability, supplies are still expected to remain historically tight: "Reduced feeder cattle numbers ultimately imply limited future fed cattle supplies, which should provide some support to cattle prices."

As for the remainder of 2026, Dwell said prices for calves will be slightly higher this fall, but there is not much room for prices to move higher: "The cattle inventory numbers show that cow slaughter decreased and replacement heifer retention had a slight increase, giving us the expectation that we have finally hit bottom, and will potentially begin rebuilding the cow herd.

"However, although much of Iowa received adequate rain this summer to keep pastures in good shape, the situation in the West is showing an increase in drought conditions, especially with the high temperatures experienced the last few weeks," he added.

Although El Nino should increase precipitation in some of these areas later this year, he said that will not help current pasture conditions: "So, I would be watching to see what happens to the cow herd in the West. Will we see an increase in cow slaughter in the last quarter, or is there enough forage supplies elsewhere to prevent another uptick in cow slaughter?"

Griffith said he thinks the rest of the year is going to be ruled by volatility in prices: "Heifer retention will pick up in regions with adequate moisture, which means fewer head entering feedlots, but the breeding herd will be growing. This technically should support prices. I do not think we will see much change in prices other than the volatility."

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Vermont dairy farmers concerned about plant closures

(AP) – Dozens of dairy farmers from across Vermont drove to Grand Isle on July 2 with the intention of talking about a recent dairy plant closure. Instead, a larger issue emerged: Some dairy processors are giving up on Vermont, and the state is failing to cash in on a national investment in dairy amid a craze for protein.

A recent wave of three dairy plant closures in just two months has highlighted pressures facing the local industry, including high overhead costs and aging infrastructure. As large processing plants move west, where land is cheaper and production is more dynamic, Vermont farms are buckling under consolidation, increased prices and low profitability.

The result? Vermont dairy farms are being left in the dust by the competition from states like Texas where the economics of dairy farming are more favorable.

VTDigger analyzed USDA data and found that dairy farming costs exceed sales by the largest margin in Vermont compared with 18 other states. Vermont farmers face a \$8.65 loss per 100 pounds of milk produced, while California farmers, for instance, see \$2.49 in profit.

For one Vermont farmer, the costs of overhead stack up to as high as \$72,000 per month.

“I’ve spent a lot of time trying to figure out how to budget those numbers, and I can’t move them. It’s really just because of where we’re located,” Kylie Chittenden, who operates a family dairy farm in Shoreham, said at the meeting. Lt. Gov. John Rodgers and other elected officials and state agency representatives turned

up to listen to farmers’ concerns.

Chittenden said she pores over the numbers each month when she financially benchmarks her farm against dozens of others across the country. Steep fees unique to operating in Vermont, including transportation surcharges due to poor road quality in the state, leave her at a disadvantage, she said.

As the concerns reach a flash-point, larger questions loom about the future of the hallmark industry in a state built heavily around it, where dairy racks up \$5.4 billion in annual economic impact – nearly 12 percent of the state’s gross domestic product.

“Vermont is definitely at a tipping point, and it’s heartbreaking to see, and I don’t know what the answer is, other than the farmer just can’t meet the demands of the overhead anymore,” said Kassie Stannard, who produces small-scale dairy products for her Vermont homestead.

Dairy in Vermont had a big setback in June when Dairy Farmers of America, a national farmer-owned cooperative, announced that it would shut down operations at its St. Albans milk processing plant and the adjoining St. Albans Creamery & Supply in August, putting roughly 80 employees out of work. The news from the large facility came after similar announcements from other dairy production plants, including HP Hood, which in April closed the Booth Bros. dairy manufacturing plant in Barre, and Franklin Foods, which announced in June plans to shutter its plant in Franklin County. Perrigo, which uses dairy for its products, also said in March that its infant formula production facility in

Franklin County would close, affecting more than 400 workers.

“We potentially may continue to see an exodus of dairies from the state,” said Kevin Kouri, chair of the Vermont Dairy Producers Alliance and director of nutrition and sales at Phoenix Feeds & Nutrition. “And the trickle-down effect that that has not only to local communities and what these dairies bring in terms of employment opportunities in rural Vermont, but also the infrastructure and the allied businesses like mine.”

‘Increasing pressures’

For years, the dairy industry has been on the decline in the state, with the number of cow dairy farms decreasing nearly 50 percent over the past decade.

The trend of consolidation – fewer farms but larger remaining ones – has largely been fueled by high overhead costs, leading smaller farms to struggle from low profitability while larger operations are able to produce milk at a lower per-unit cost.

As farms have consolidated, the cooperatives that market the milk have too. DFA, the large cooperative, is one of a few co-ops that control nearly 85 percent of all milk marketed by U.S. producers, according to one study, and it covers large regions, leaving some members to feel a loss of local control.

American dairy consumption, in pounds, has increased by around 60

percent from 2010 to 2024, according to USDA data on per capita dairy product consumption.

‘What can we do?’

As farmers bring their concerns to the fray, elected officials and local agencies say they are seeking to make reforms to support the local dairy industry.

U.S. Sens. Peter Welch (D-Vt.) and Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) recently introduced legislation aimed at combating consolidation in the industry by creating a government program that helps small and midsize dairy farms manage milk supply and demand. The bill would also match the national dairy production to national demand in an attempt to fight against volatile milk prices.

“The idling of the DFA’s St. Albans plant is heartbreaking news for the plant’s workers, Vermont’s dairy farmers, and this community,” Welch wrote in a statement to VTDigger ahead of introducing the bill. “I’m working with local, state, and federal partners to support plant workers and Franklin County as they navigate next steps.”

Rodgers, the lieutenant governor, said at the Grand Isle meeting that he thinks “there is opportunity sometimes when the door closes,” referring to the national craving for protein, though he didn’t offer a specific plan.

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Pest Management Workshop set

PRINCETON, Ky.— The Kentucky Agricultural Training School (KATS), a University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment (CAFE) program, is hosting a hands-on Pest Management Workshop Aug. 27 at the UK Research and Education Center at Princeton.

Designed for grain producers, crop advisers and industry representatives, the interactive workshop will focus on sprayer calibration, herbicide mode of action identification, corn disease assessment and late-season insect scouting.

“This workshop will give participants a practical look at current pest management tools and decision-making strategies for Kentucky grain crops,” said Travis Legleiter, Ph.D., Extension weed science specialist in the Department of Plant and Soil Sciences. “The goal is to connect research-based recommendations with field situations that producers and advisers are managing now.”

Legleiter will be joined by Kiersten Wise, Ph.D., professor and Extension plant pathologist, and Felipe Colares

Batista, Ph.D., a postdoctoral scholar in entomology at Martin-Gatton CAFE.

“The workshop gives participants a chance to see pest management research in the field and talk directly with specialists about challenges they are seeing in their own crops,” Wise said. “That kind of interaction helps producers and advisers make informed decisions that protect yield and return on investment.”

The workshop will run from 8 a.m. to noon CDT at the newly renovated UK Research and Education Center, 300 Extension Farm Road in Princeton. Sign-in begins at 7:30 a.m., and lunch will follow. The cost to attend is \$65 per person.

Because most of the workshop will be held outdoors in research plots, participants should dress accordingly for various weather and field conditions.

Continuing education credits for Certified Crop Advisers and pesticide applicators have been applied for.

Interested participants may register at <https://katspestmanagement2026.eventbrite.com>.

Lambing School set Sept. 12 at Purdue University

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — The Indiana Sheep Association (ISA) will host their Annual Lambing School on Saturday, September 12 at Purdue University’s Sheep Unit in West Lafayette.

The statewide workshop will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. EST.

Anyone is welcome to register, regardless of experience level, to learn the skills and methods required to successfully manage a lambing ewe during lambing season. Extension Educator Jamie Reed and Purdue Vet School assistant professor Laura May, DVM, will instruct and supervise the workshop.

This year, the Lambing School features:

*Tools and supplies a shepherd needs

to be prepared for the lambing season

- * How to troubleshoot problem births
- * When calling a veterinarian in to help is appropriate
- * Hands-on practice with real fall-lambing ewes

*Dystocia simulators

A registration fee of \$20 will cover the cost of the workshop and lunch. The class will be capped at 15 students, so please RSVP to executive@indianasheep.com to reserve your spot.

Registration forms, found at <http://indianasheep.com>, must be mailed to ISA Executive Director Emma O’Brien at 6840 S 280 E Lebanon, IN 46052.

Seed Genetics Direct adds salesman

JEFFERSONVILLE, Ohio – Seed Genetics Direct is pleased to announce the addition of Eric Heeg to its growing sales team. Heeg joined the company in June and will serve customers throughout Southern Ohio, including Adams, Brown, Clermont, Clinton, Highland, Pike, Scioto and Warren Counties, as well as Northern Kentucky.

Heeg brings a lifetime of agricultural experience and a passion for helping farmers succeed. Raised on his family’s grain, sheep and hog farm near Blanchester, Ohio, he developed an appreciation for production agriculture at an early age. He earned a bachelor’s degree from The Ohio State University in 2004, majoring in agricultural education with a minor in production agriculture.

For the past 20 years, Heeg taught agricultural education at Wilmington and Blanchester high schools, mentoring hundreds of future agricultural leaders while maintaining close ties to production agriculture. Following his teaching career, Heeg spent a year as an independent Golden Harvest Seed dealer before joining Seed Genetics Direct.

Heeg said his decision to join Seed Genetics Direct was driven by the company’s culture and commitment to its customers.

“I was immediately impressed by the family atmosphere and the passion everyone has for helping farmers succeed,” he said. “It’s not just a job for the people who work here. Every employee is as committed to the success of the company and its customers as Chris and Todd are. After spending time with the team, I knew this was where I wanted to build my future.”

Seed Genetics Direct has experienced tremendous growth by providing farmers with a different approach to purchasing seed. As an independent seed company, Seed Genetics Direct offers growers:

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- Greater participation in unbiased third-party yield trials.
- Published yield results that allow growers to evaluate product performance with confidence.
- A company philosophy centered around “Business Built on a Handshake” where honesty, integrity, and long-term relationships still matter.

Todd Jeffries, Seed Genetics Direct vice president, said, “Eric’s agricultural background, classroom experience and passion for helping farmers make him an outstanding addition to our team. He understands the challenges growers face because he has spent his career working alongside farm families. His commitment to customer service fits perfectly with our mission of helping growers become more profitable.”

Farmers throughout Southern Ohio and Northern Kentucky are encouraged to contact Heeg to learn how Seed Genetics Direct’s industry-leading genetics, transparent pricing, localized testing, and personalized service can improve the profitability of their farming operation. He can be reached at 937-302-6035 or erich@seedgeneticsdirect.com.

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Building Materials	200	Harvest Equipment	310	Real Estate Wanted	150
Bush Hogs	101	Hay & Straw	340	Recreational Vehicles	70
Cars	60	Hay Equipment	530	Seed Handling Equip.	370
Cattle	210	Help Wanted	30	Services	180
Combines & Pickers-Headers	490	Horses	290	Sheep	260
Custom Work	120	Industrial Equipment	100	Skid Steer Loaders	420
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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.
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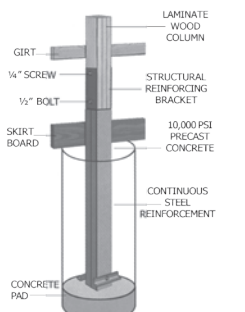
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1974 Chevy C50, dark green, roll tarp, new VAC brake system, original cattle gates, \$7000 obo; 1998 Chevy 3500, 5 spd., dually, 5.7 motor, 12' flatbed, \$11,000 obo; 1989 Chevy 3500, ext. cab, dually, 454 auto., w/8' steel flat bed, GN hitch, \$12,000 obo; 1977 Chevy C60, 466 motor, 5+2 gears, 15' grain dump, newer Michelin radial tires, \$9000 obo. 812-363-6308 Brookville, IN.

1974 Chevy C60, 16' dump bed, \$3000. Leave message 765-520-7578 New Castle, IN.

1979 Ford F850, 20' bed, roll tarp, 48,000 actual miles, 2nd owner, tandem axle, electric lift, (2) new steering tires, (4) new drive tires. \$9000. 317-374-3189 North Salem, IN.

1990 Ford LNT 8000, tandem, dsl., w/3200 gal. SS tank, great cond. Call for details. 765-993-4250 Liberty, IN.

1995 International 8100 single axle semi tractor, with 9 speed trans. and L10 Cummins eng. and 1995 22' Jet grain trailer. \$12,000 for both. 765-561-2680 Rushville, IN.

2016 Mack tandem day cab, air ride, M8 445HP, M drive, auto., nice, clean, low miles, \$27,500. 765-993-4250 Liberty, IN.

2019 Int. LT day cab, 333,000 mi., 450HP Cummins, 10 spd. auto., white, \$34,500. 260-413-0626 Decatur, IN.

2019 Int. MV 4x2 tractor, L9 Cummins, Allison auto., low miles, several to choose from. Neil 260-413-0626 Decatur, IN.

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(26) head beef feeders, 350 lbs., \$2000 ea. 260-273-7018 Bryant, IN.

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753 Bobcat 2300 hrs., back hoe attachment, (2) sets of steel tracks, (2) spare tires and rims, \$15,000 obo. 812-363-6308 Brookville, IN.

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2670 Case, 4WD, 30.5x32 tires, 7123 hrs. 513-797-6517 Batavia, OH.

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Used: 12x61 Mayrath SA new fighting in intake of main auger on up flights is worn but usable. SA is good, unit Runs good, PTO is missing end part of shield: Repair not included yet for \$4950; used MK 13 x67' Westerfeld SA TA less PTO looks fair, needs some minor work to run Fall Harvest \$1800. More items on Ebay. Redelman Bin Service 8-663-3164.

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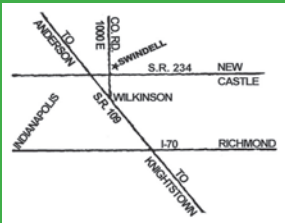
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Michigan fruit harvests underperform due to weather-related issues

By Richard Junger
Michigan Correspondent

MATTAWAN, Mich. – Team leader Kendyll Osbourne looked at the stand of empty peach trees with a feeling of sadness. The entire Schultz Fruitridge Farms peach orchard she has worked was frozen out in the spring, with only a paper sack of fruit left to show by August.

"It's sad to see," she said of her Mat-tawan-based orchard. "We have so many trees, to see them all bare, just nothing on them,"



Above: Montmorency cherry at first-white stage, just before first bloom. (courtesy of Karen Powers, MSU Extension)

Michigan remains a major second-tier fruit-producing state based on temperate fruits rather than citrus and nuts. Due to a variety of weather-related issues, however, the state's tart and sweet-cherry crops were being harvested at 24 percent below last year's crops, and blueberries will finish at some 7 percent lower. Peach losses, yet to be tallied, will vary dramatically from orchard to orchard.

The USDA continues to forecast Michigan's 2026 tart-cherry crop at 83.1 million pounds, down from the 109.3 million pounds in 2025. Sweet-cherry production was forecast at 9,500 tons, compared with 12,290 tons utilized last year.

Nationally, the USDA forecast only 91 million pounds of tart cherries, down 36 percent from 2025. That means Michigan is expected to produce roughly nine-tenths of this year's national crop, an even larger share than usual because other producing states like Utah and New York were also badly damaged.

"We had some challenging weather," said Tim Boring, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development director. "This year there's a number of growers who won't bother sending the shakers into the orchards."

Many Michigan fruit growers endured a one-two-three weather punch earlier this year, according to the Michigan State University Extension. First, winter cold damaged flower buds as they developed. Next, repeated spring warm-ups and freezes encouraged and

then killed blossoms. Finally, cold and wet bloom weather interfered with pollination, further reducing fruit set.

In numbers, most of Michigan's fruit-growing southern and western regions recorded 15 days at or below zero last winter, with a record 33-below in late January at an inland station not far from the fruit belt, according to the National Weather Service. Then March was the warmest in parts since records were started in 1894. Finally western Michigan temperatures bottomed out in the lower 20s to upper 10s in late April, with at least an additional frost in early May in many areas.

As is usually the case, scenarios varied by fruit and grower location. Jack King grows 70 acres of tart and 50 acres of sweet cherries at his Kings Orchard in Central Lake, Mich., in northwestern Lower Peninsula Antrim County.

"We're already finished with our tarts," he told Farm World. "We were able to harvest our entire acreage in just over a week. We thought this was going to be a big year."

"We had a beautiful bloom, the bees were flying, and lots of flowers," he continued. "Then we had a long, frosty spring this year. As the Montmorency tart cherries come out of hibernation they lose their winter hardiness really fast. They're more susceptible to freezing at a higher temp."

King had a short u-pick season this summer, but many other statewide growers canceled their u-picks altogether. Some growers were even left to



Above: Glowingstar peaches from 2023. (courtesy of Bill Shane, MSU Extension)

consider switching to other fruit crops such as apples or strawberries for next season. Inconsistent winter temperatures are problematic for fruit growers, as trees and even blueberry bushes need sustained cold weather periods to remain dormant.

"What people (consumers) want are sweet cherries," King said, but he conceded that he has young trees of both species. "We're totally committed to cherries. That's what we do well."

Beyond farmers, Michigan cher-

(Michigan fruit continued on page 2B)

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FARMWISE Indiana schedules events to connect producers and buyers

FARMWISE Indiana will host two free events in Winona Lake and Logansport in August designed to connect Hoosier farmers and producers with institutional and wholesale buyers such as school food service directors.

The Winona Lake event is Aug. 17 at Miller Sunset Pavilion, and the Logansport event is Aug. 24 at The Kitchen + Pavilion. Both events run from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

FARMWISE in a nonprofit organization that strengthens Indiana's food economy by equipping farmers, buyers and supply chain partners with the connections, knowledge and coordination needed to expand access to locally grown food across the state, according to its website.

With many schools back in session, the school year's first local food opportunities are right around the corner, FARMWISE Indiana said in a release.

"FARMWISE Indiana is bringing both sides of that equation together at two free Regional Wholesale Connect events this August, where Indiana farmers and food producers will meet the institutional and wholesale buyers – including school food service directors – who are actively looking to source local right now," the organization said in the release. "August is prime harvest time for Indiana produce farmers, and it is exactly when school food service directors are planning menus and sourcing decisions for the year ahead."

Early childhood education and school food service staff who attend will receive continuing education and professional development credits at both events, courtesy of FARMWISE Indiana and Indiana Grown for Schools.

FARMWISE Indiana said the events are not trade shows, and that buyers representing K-12 schools, universities, hospitals, restaurants, distributors and food service operators are expected to attend.

Farmers, food manufacturers, value-added producers and food hubs currently selling wholesale or actively preparing to enter wholesale markets should attend, the release said.

Each producer will receive a six-foot table and access to electricity. FARMWISE Indiana is encouraging producers to bring samples.

Registration is required. A brief follow-up conversation with the FARM-

WISE Indiana team is part of the registration process for producers, the release said. To registers as a farmer/producer, visit <https://forms.gle/M5gqvKypGLc3AxTH8>. To register as a buyer, visit <https://forms.gle/Y14uYtLS2NSUqaCr5>. For more information, contact Heather Tallman at Heather@FARMWISEIndiana.org.

80 Acres Farm is closing

By Celeste Baumgartner
Ohio Correspondent

HAMILTON, Ohio—In a surprising move, 80 Acres Farm announced on Aug. 3 that they were closing. The vertical farm, which opened in its Hamilton location in 2020, produced salad kits, blends, microgreens and more.

80 Acres was founded in Cincinnati in 2015 by Mike Zelkind and Tisha Livingston, veteran food industry executives. They purchased a downtown Hamilton building in 2017, and announced the relocation of its headquarters to High Street in 2019.

They opened a newly constructed \$30 million, 70,000 square foot processing facility in 2021. They grew the products in clean soil replacements (because a lot of soil is contaminated), peat mixtures, and other soils.

"It is all hydroponic," Zelkind said. "The soil replacement supplies nutrients in a mix with water, and we recycle it in the system. We have a completely closed-loop system. We recirculate the air, everything. These plants are grown in shipping containers. We also have much bigger grow-zones."

The company was in the midst of negotiations with a potential buyer, according to the Cincinnati Enquirer. However, that did not work out.

Zelkind issued this statement when he announced the closing:

"After an exhaustive effort to find a way forward, 80 Acres Farms is wind-

ing down operations.

"For a decade, our team has proven that vertical farming can work at scale—building and operating indoor farms that ultimately supplied more than 18,000 retail locations across the U.S. We're proud of our work, the problems we solved, and the fresh, clean produce that fed so many people.

"Unfortunately, under current circumstances, we could not secure the capital required to continue that work.

"We are deeply grateful to our employees, our retail partners, and the communities that have supported us. We have seen vertical farming's potential up close, and we still believe that this industry is just getting started, and that we have helped plant the seeds for generations of future harvests.

The city of Hamilton said that while officials there are disappointed by the announcement, "we recognize the challenges facing the vertical farming industry."

"We are grateful for the partnership and commitment that Mike Zelkind and Tisha Livingston have shown to our community, and we appreciate the positive impact they have made during their time in Hamilton," the city said in a statement. "We wish them and the entire team the very best as they navigate this transition and look forward to opportunities to work together again in the future

Michigan fruit

FROM PAGE 1B

ry processors were at risk of facing a second poor tart crop. After two short crops, processors may have too little reserve inventory to keep supplying existing buyers, forcing them to ration product, seek fruit outside Michigan, or surrender business to competitors.

"They're always trying to hustle new products and new markets," said Nikki Rothwell, MSU Extension specialist and Northwest Michigan Horticulture Research Station coordinator. "There's a balancing act of do we have a crop or don't we have a crop, and they don't want to scare away any buyers. They're always trying to walk a tight line."

Meanwhile, about 43 percent of the states' 2025 utilized blueberries went to processing as well, a crop worth twice as much as tart cherries. The Michigan Blueberry Advisory Committee's current estimate of 71 million pounds remained constant going into the harvest's final weeks, down 5.6 million pounds or about 7 percent.

Growers suggested that the same winter injuries and repeated spring frosts impacting other fruits took their toll on blueberries as well. But bushes that looked normally loaded even in late June yielded smaller and unevenly or over ripened berries than in previous seasons. High early July temperatures and humidity at the start of the harvest increased soft and rotten fruit according to MSU Extension.

Michigan peach farmers produced over 24 million pounds of peaches valued at more than \$19 million in 2025.



Above: Blueberry variety Duke photographed July 2025. (courtesy of Carlos Garcia-Salazar, MSU Extension)

While the official 2026 statewide peach production numbers have yet been announced, winter cold and spring freezes are also expected to leave a highly uneven crop, ranging from near-normal production in protected locations to complete losses in other western Michigan orchards.

That leaves Schultz Fruitridge orchard team leader Kendyll Osbourne looking at her stand of empty peach trees with a feeling of sadness.

"There are some other farmers around that have a little bit that we can use," she said in reference to their retail operation, "but it's been bad here."



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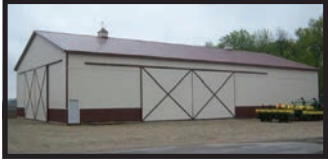
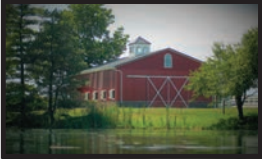
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Some plants may help in fight against mosquitoes

Red crown rot of soybeans is a relatively new fungal disease of soybeans in the Midwest, first di-

Mosquitoes are a bane to people wanting to spend time outdoors in the summer. Although I love to see swallows and bats feasting, they seemingly can never get them all. Mosquitoes are more than a nuisance as there are mosquito-borne diseases such as West Nile virus. And gnats, biting flies, ants and other pests can take the fun out of any outdoor activity. Luckily, strong scents by some common garden plants can somewhat help block the scent of receptors that the bugs use to find us. Plants that are labeled as “insect-repelling” are actually not, but can help if used properly. Lavender, garlic, lemongrass, basil, rosemary and catnip can help due to the strong oil contained within their leaves or crushed and rubbed against the skin or other plant specific details. Plants may indeed help but will not produce the same results as properly using commercial insect repellents.

Wheat performance trial results for Ohio State have been released and Michigan State plans to release their trial results soon. The OSU location in Wood County in northwest Ohio was planted Sept. 27, 2025, and harvested on July 8, 2026. At that location were 69 varieties from 15 companies, plus four public varieties. The high yield was 124.6 bushels per acre, the low was 93.4 bushels per acre, and an average yield of 107.2 bushels per acre. Data is also included for two and three years' results of the same varieties. Information is also included for plant height, seed size, heading date, grain quality for flour and softness and a

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10-26

Export market for dairy included butter and cheese records

The July Federal order Class III benchmark milk price was announced at \$15.52 per hundredweight (cwt.), down 46 cents from June, \$1.80 below July 2025, and the lowest Class III since February. The seven-month average stands at \$15.85, down from \$18.76 a year ago, and compares to \$17.33 in 2024. Wednesday's futures settlements portend an August price at \$16.75; September, \$16.99; October, \$17.31; November, \$17.47; and December at \$17.51 per cwt.

The July Class IV price is \$18.34, down \$2.62 from June, 55 cents below a year ago, and also the lowest since February. The seven-month Class IV average is \$18.66, down from \$18.87 a year ago, and compares to \$20.33 in 2024.

U.S. dairy farmers can be mighty grateful for the export market as 547.8 million pounds left our shores in June, though it was down 4.6 percent from the near all-time high in May, according to HighGround Dairy. Exports to China were down 37 percent.

Cheese exports totaled a record 142.4 million pounds, up 23.9 percent from June 2025, and up 89.9 percent year to date. Mexican imports were up 49 percent in June.

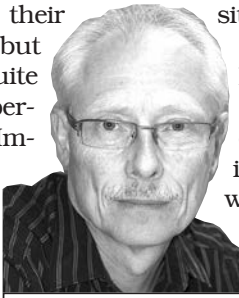
Butter exports, at 19.2 million pounds, were up 35.4 percent, and up 89.9 percent year to date. HighGround points

out, "Butter exports slipped to their lowest mark since October 2025, but historically speaking, were still quite impressive, ranking in the 89th percentile over the past five years. Imports dropped from May but were well above the prior year. Over the last few months, reported butter import levels have moved back toward the big volumes seen in second half 2024."

The overall export decline came from nonfat dry milk (NFDM) and skim milk powder (SMP), whey protein concentrates, and lactose. NFDM/SMP shipments, at 105.8 million pounds, were down 19.1 percent and down 3.0 percent year to date. These sales would have been booked in March and April, says HGD, when U.S. prices were "wildly out of sync with world prices and global buyers shopped elsewhere."

Dry whey exports totaled 56.5 million pounds, up 47.3 percent from a year ago, and up 54.1 percent year to date.

U.S. dairy margins were flat to slightly stronger the last half of July with mixed trends in both milk prices and feed costs, according to the latest Margin Watch (MW) from Chicago-based Commodity and Ingredient Hedging LLC. "Class III milk prices rose initially in late July before selling off at the end of the month while Class IV milk displayed the oppo-



MIELKE MARKET WEEKLY
By Lee Mielke

site trend," the MW stated.

The MW reported June Milk Production data, which I previously detailed. It stated that the U.S. milking herd is the largest in 33 years and warned "Growth in the U.S. dairy herd along with higher component output from the milk being produced has led to strong growth in both cheese and butter production in particular which is starting to weigh on dairy product prices."

The MW also reported June Cold Storage numbers, pointing out that cheese stocks grew 1.1 percent from May: "A larger seasonal increase than normal and the highest inventory build between the two months since 2015."

Meanwhile, lower corn and soybean prices prompted a slight increase in the June milk-feed ratio, despite a drop in the All Milk price. The Ag Prices report showed June at 2.23, up from May's 2.21, but down from 2.34 in June 2025.

The All Milk Price averaged \$21.10 per cwt., with a 4.23 percent butterfat test, down 20 cents from May's \$21.30 on a 4.31 percent test. That compares to \$21.30 a year ago, which had a 4.19 percent test.

The national corn price averaged

\$4.28 per bushel, down 20 cents from May, and 19 cents below June 2025. Soybeans averaged \$11.30 per bushel, down 30 cents from May, but 90 cents per bushel above a year ago. Alfalfa hay averaged \$198 per ton, up \$3 from May, and \$21 above a year ago.

The June cull price for beef and dairy combined averaged \$175 per cwt., up \$3 from May, \$25 above June 2025, and \$103.40 above the 2011 base.

Economist Bill Brooks, of Stoneheart Consulting in Dearborn, Mo., says milk production margins decreased for the first time since January, losing 4 cents per cwt., and was above \$11.00 per cwt. for the third month running at \$11.64.

"Income over feed costs in June were above the \$8 per cwt. level needed for steady to higher milk production for the 34th month in a row," he said. "Input prices were mostly lower in June with one of the three input commodities inside of the top 10 for June all-time. Feed costs were the ninth highest ever for the month of June and decreased 16 cents per cwt. from May."

"Milk income over feed costs for 2026 (using July 31 CME settling futures prices for Class III milk, corn and soybeans plus the Stoneheart forecast for alfalfa hay) are expected to be \$11.19 per cwt.," according to Brooks, "a loss of 25 cents per cwt. versus last month's estimate. Income over feed costs in 2026 would be above the level needed to maintain or grow milk output, down \$1.25 per cwt. from 2025, and 49 cents higher than the 2021-25 average."

Milk income over feed costs for 2027 are expected to be \$11.12 per cwt., a loss of 7 cents versus 2025, Brooks concludes.

It would also be above the level needed to maintain or grow milk production, up 41 cents per cwt. from the 2021-25 average and down 70 cents from the previous month."

Farm real estate value averaged \$4,500 per acre for 2026, up \$150 or 3.4 percent from 2025, according to the USDA's latest Land Values Summary. Cropland value averaged \$6,020 per acre, an increase of \$190 or 3.3 percent. Pasture value averaged \$2,000 per acre, up \$80 or 4.2 percent from 2025.

CME Cheddar block cheese fell to \$1.52 per pound Wednesday, lowest since July 7, but regained 1.50 cents Thursday, climbing back to \$1.5350, 31.50 cents below a year ago. It closed Friday at \$1.5725. The barrels were trading Thursday at \$1.5475, 25 cents below a year ago, and unchanged from Friday's close.

The Daily Dairy Report's Sarina Sharp reported in the July 31 Milk Producers Council newsletter: "Processors were dumping some milk in California, where production has overwhelmed local capacity. Elsewhere there are more than enough cheese vats, butter churns and dryers to absorb summer milk volumes. However, processors are making more dairy products than consumers absorb, putting pressure on prices. American dairy commodities must remain cheap enough to attract international buyers," she warned.

Dairy Market News reports that milk production is still rebounding from the recent heat-wave in the Central region. Spot prices at mid-week ranged \$1-under to \$5-over Class. Interest in barrels is on the rise. Mozzarella continues to be in strong demand ahead of Cheddar but exports were slowing.

Cheese production is steady in the West. Milk production is good, with some contacts reporting availability tightening. The West is experiencing hot, seasonal weather and smoke. Cheese inventory is steady, with production matching demand. Retail and domestic demand remain steady. Strong exports continue.



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August means gardens are in zucchini producing overdrive

There is something about August in the Midwest that makes you wish summer could linger just a little longer.

This past weekend, I took my daughter to our county fair. On America's 250th birthday year, I couldn't help but think about these timeless traditions that have brought families together for generations. Since the earth has finally warmed up, and every evening is filled with the songs of frogs, crickets, and cicadas, the fair naturally fits into this cultural rhythm.

As we walked toward the fairgrounds, families streamed through the gates, I tugged on her hand excitedly as I knew of the adventures that awaited us. The familiar melody of the carousel sang through the air, welcoming everyone with a tune I remembered so well. Colorful metal arms catapulted high into the sky, as delighted screams echoed across midway.

Then came the unmistakable smells of funnel cakes dusted with powdered sugar, buttery popcorn, sizzling corn dogs, grilled onions, and fresh-squeezed lemonade. What an iconic summer fragrance.

We spent the evening doing exactly what a fair is meant for. We scarfed down more sweets than we should have, climbed high into the sky, spun until we laughed so hard our sides hurt, and made memories I'll carry with her far longer than the season itself.

The next morning, our stomachs certainly weren't asking for another funnel cake, but the zucchini growing in the garden wasn't going to wait either. August gardens have a way of producing more zucchini than anyone knows what to do with, and around here, that usually means one thing—fried garden zucchini.

There is something special about slicing zucchini picked just hours before dinner. The crisp coating, the tender center, and that fresh garden flavor seem to capture everything I love about this time of year. It's simple, comforting, and always disappears faster than I expect whenever family or neighbors

ALL ABOUT THAT FOOD

BY ASHLEY MILLER

stop by. With our neighborhood block party just around the corner, I decided it was the perfect excuse to make another batch. After all, every good cook knows you must test a recipe before serving it to everyone else—and if that means enjoying a little extra fried zucchini along the way, well, that's just part of the process.

August never stays long enough. Before we know it, combines will be rolling through the fields, school buses will replace lazy summer mornings, and cool evenings will remind us that autumn is on its way. Until then, I'm soaking up every county fair, every sunset, every evening chorus of crickets, and every zucchini the garden has to offer.

I hope you'll join me by making this recipe for your own family and enjoying one more delicious taste of Midwest August.

Crispy Garden-Fresh Fried Zucchini

Serves: 4-6

Ingredients

For the zucchini:

- 2 medium garden zucchini, sliced into ¼-inch rounds
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 large eggs
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 1½ cups Italian-seasoned breadcrumbs

- ½ cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon onion powder
- ½ teaspoon paprika
- ½ teaspoon black pepper
- Vegetable or canola oil for frying

Directions

1. Slice the zucchini into even rounds and sprinkle both sides lightly



with salt. Let them rest on paper towels for 15–20 minutes to draw out excess moisture. Pat dry.

2. Set up three bowls:
 - o Flour
 - o Eggs whisked with the milk
 - o Breadcrumbs mixed with Parmesan, garlic powder, onion powder, paprika, and black pepper
3. Coat each zucchini slice in flour, dip into the egg mixture, then press into the breadcrumb mixture until evenly coated.
4. Heat about ½ inch of oil in a heavy skillet to 350°F.
5. Fry the zucchini in small batches for 2–3 minutes per side, until golden brown and crispy.
6. Transfer to a wire rack or paper towel-lined plate. Sprinkle immediately with a pinch of salt and a little extra Parmesan while still hot.

7. Stir together all of the dip ingredients and chill until ready to serve.
- Tips for the Best Fried Zucchini
- Fresh-picked zucchini from the garden has the sweetest flavor.
 - Don't overcrowd the pan—fry in batches so each slice stays crisp.
 - Serve immediately for the best texture.
 - Garnish with fresh parsley and lemon wedges for a bright finish.

Ashley Miller is a lifelong Hoosier with a passion for preserving the nostalgic culture of agriculture communities across the Midwest. She believes the best way to bring people together is around the kitchen table. She resides with her daughter and several pets.

She is the owner of AMediasStudios and has built her career of journalism and marketing over the past decade.

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 25TH, 2026 @ 8:00 AM CST

THIS IS A LIST OF UPDATES TO LAST WEEK’S FULL AD IN FARM WORLD. FOR A COMPLETE LISTING, VISIT US AT www.stanneconsignmentauctions.com OR CALL OUR OFFICE TODAY!

TRACTORS: ’12 Challenger MT675D, 7869 hrs, 5 hyds, q-hitch, ISO equipped, 23 frnt wts, 420/25R34 frnt & 480/80R50 rear duals, dual pto, 250 lb rear wt, Ag Ldr Versa; ’93 JD 7800, 5100 hrs, 19 spd, pwrshft, frnt wts, 3 hyds, 540/1000 pto, off sm farm; ’97 CIH 8930, 3680 org hrs, a/c works good.

COLLECTORS: IH Frml H, new tires, steer box, plugs, points, condnsr, alt, starter; IH 560, gas, w/ NI 2R mounted picker, shell-er, hskg bed.

INDUSTRIAL: JD 650G Dozer, 4006 hrs, dsl, turbo, 99hp, pwrshift, tracks; ’09 JLG 8042 Sky Track Telehandler, 12K hrs; FNH L555 Skid Ldr, 3400 hrs, 30 hrs on eng OH, new inject pump & injectrs; Komatsu CK30 Skid Ldr, on tracks.

Ronald Beal Retirement – Newton, IL

’01 CIH MX240, CAH, MFWD, 3700 hrs, 2 ownrs, 4 hyds, lg 1000 pto, EZ Steer, 18.4-46 duals, sharp!; DMI 730b, 7x, sprng reset, hyd rear lvr; ’13 Kongslide 1900, 30’, tine hrw, low use, rear hitch; UM 1225, 31’ dbl roll bskt; ’15 GP 2010, 20’, 7.5” sp, pre-cision plntr, mrkrs, 3” press, bean & wheat plts.

Carl Whaley Retirement– Brook, IN

’75 IH 1466, dsl, cab, 20.8-38, 9 bolt hubs, frnt & rear wts, 3pt, dual hyds, one owner, no pto, never had one; IH 1066, dsl, 5700 hrs, dual hyds, 540/1000 pto, rear wts; ’75 IH 915, dsl, 28L-26 FS, 50%, hydro, Vitta-toe chaff sprdr, clean; IH 863, 6R-30”, good shape; IH 820, 17.5”, 1.5” cut; IH 800, 6R-30”, liquid fert, trsh whls, kept in shed; IH 55, 3pt, hi-clear, gauge whls, sprg shnks; IH 550, 7x-14”, good cltrs & mold boards; IH 470, 18”, 9” sp, w/ cyl & buster bar; JD 400, 15’, good spoons; IH 45, 18’, 3pt, CT hrw; IH 53, 6R-30”, 3pt; (2) 20.8-38 duals, 9 bolt; IH Frnt & Rear Wts.

MECHANIC SPECIALS: FNH L555, no motor; JD 2840, dsl, runs good, no brakes; CIH 3594, MFWD, CAH, 20.8-38, runs good, goes forward, does not back up; IH 966, dsl, no cab, strong runner, good T.A., rear main seal leaks.

CORN & GRAIN HEADS: ’11 Geringhoff North Star 800, 8R-30”, hyd deck plts, roll cones, JD hook up, JD guidance, knife rolls, alum gear bxs, rigid, height cntrl, one ownr; JD 693, 8R-30”, hook ups for spline & hex shfts; JD 925, 25’, fore & aft, full fngr, flex, poly skid plts.

HEAD CARTS: UM HT25, 25’, sm tires; Kory 20”; UM AWS, 36”; KB UT130, adj hitch, ext tongue.

WAGONS: Parker 300 bu, on Kew gear; Parker 6250; (2) Ficklin 4500, 12T gear, ext tongue, bin ext, 400 bu, LH unload.

GRAIN AUGERS: Mayrath 10”x60’, swing away, hyd lift, new hyd hose; Westfield MK100-61, 14”x61’, swing away, hyd lift; Maywrath 10”x71’, swing away, hyd lift; Brandt 1070, hyd swing away, 10”x70’, hyd lift, good tires.

PLANTERS & DRILLS: ’03 Kinze 3600, 16/31R, new center pivot, completely gone thru; JD 1530, 20’, less than 700 acres on NTs, gauge whl arms, disk opnrs & scrprs.

SPRAYERS & APPLICATORS: Hardi 750 Commander, 60’ booms, 750 gal, FS 12.4-42, adj track width, 3 sec shut off, hi cap pto pump, foamer, inductor; John Blue 28%, 500 gal, 4x, ss tank.

TILLAGE: SF 1434 Disk, 30’, 9” sp, cushion gang, walk tands main & wings, rear hitch & hyds, gauge whls; JD Series 555 Plow, 3x; JD 200 Crumbler, 35’, wing wts, dbl fold, ext hitch, lights; Brillion 28’ Cultmulcher, duc-tile rolls, scrprs, Danish tine teeth.

FORAGE: 32”x16.5’ Hay Elvtr, 3 phase; JD 5400 Sil Chpr, 4x4, 4500 hrs; Brillion SS12, 3pt, only 300 acres; 16’ Hay Wgn.

MANURE SPREADERS: JD N, Series 1, pull type; H&S 3127, hyd gate, 540 pto, like new.

TRUCKS & TRAILERS: Donahue 21’ Imp Trlr; ’89 Ford F350 Utility Truck, 66,500 miles, one owner, runs good; ’04 Kenworth Construction T800 Semi, dsl, powertrain, rear tand axle, runs & drives good; ’81 Kann SE Semi Trlr; ’92 IH 9400 Semi, 9 spd, CAT 3406 eng; 7”x30”x10” Trlr, tand axle, 14K lbs cap, elec brakes, 2 ¼ “ oak deck; ’92 IH 9400 Semi, 9 spd, CAT 3406 eng; 2000 Mack CH600 Semi, 245K miles, wet kit; ’65 Fruehauf Drop Deck Trlr; ’87 Wilson Grain Trlr; ’06 Corn Pro 16’ Livestock Trlr, good neck; ’91 IH 4700 Dmp Trk, DT466 dsl eng, 130K miles, hyd disc brakes; IH 4170 Fltbd Trk, side tool bxs, hyd disc brakes, DT466 dsl eng, 309K miles.

TIRES/RIMS/HUBS: (4) FS 23.1-26, on rims, off Ag Chem 854; (2) 18.4-38 Duals, 9 bolt; (2) 9 Bolt Hubs; (3) 425/65R22.5; (1) 30.5L-32, on rim, nicel; (4) 19L-16.1, on rims; (2) 16.5L-16.1, on rims; (1) 23.1-26, on rim.

MISC: Woods BW12 Mower, batwing, 12’, chains; ’07 Can-Am Outlander Max 650 4 Wheeler, works good; Lg Grain Sprdr; 12”x9.5’ Belt Convyr; 20”x4.5’ Belt Convyr; 12”x27.5’ Belt Convyr; Utility Box for PU; (2) 250 Gal SS Mini Bulk Tanks; MTD Snowblwr; Aux Frnt Fuel Tank, w/ brkts; (6) 150lb IH Rear Wts; (7) IH 100lb Frnt Wts; (6) IH 70lb Frnt Wts; Weld-on Semi Sleeper, 42”x84”x60”, needs floor; Headache Rack; Small Trlr Axle; JD, AC, NH, Case Shop Signs.

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Illinois Extension Pumpkin Field Day is scheduled for Sept. 3

URBANA, Ill. – Pumpkins are big business in Illinois. In 2024, the state harvested more than twice the pumpkin acreage of the next five states combined, topping 485 million pounds. As Illinois ranks No. 1 in both production and processing, it serves as a prime location to bring together growers, industry partners and anyone who enjoys talking pumpkins. Illinois Extension will kick off the fall season with Pumpkin Field Day on Sept. 3 at Eckert’s Orchard at 951 S. Green Mount Road, Belleville. The day will begin at 10 a.m., and registration includes lunch. From seasoned commercial growers to those simply curious about Illinois’ signature specialty crop, everyone can enjoy a day centered on pumpkins. Extension educators and university specialists will share the latest research and production insights, giving attendees a close look at how pumpkins are grown, managed, and marketed. Field day activities include:

- Research trial tours
- Topic presentations and speakers
- Pumpkin variety trials
- Commercial pumpkin production updates
- Networking with growers and in-

dustry vendors

Commercial Agriculture Specialist Nathan Johannning has spearheaded Pumpkin Field Day in the region since 2014. He is excited to continue the bi-annual event, which showcases a wide range of specialty pumpkins with over 75 varieties of all shapes and colors, gourds, jack-o’-lanterns, pie-sized pumpkins and a few newly released varieties. “Field day allows growers to ask questions, share what they see at home, and build networks with Extension, fellow growers, industry vendors, and beyond,” Johannning said. There is no cost to attend. Advance registration by Sept. 1 is required to receive lunch. Dress accordingly for outdoor conditions, as the event will go on rain or shine. Register to attend at go.illinois.edu/PumpkinFieldDay. For those who work in the pumpkin crop protection or seed industry and wish to be a vendor program sponsor, contact Johannning at njohann@illinois.edu or 618-939-3434. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, contact Johannning. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to meet access needs.

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JD 4440 TRACTOR: ’82 JD 4440, hrs: 2837 (ACTUAL), IMMACULATE, original paint, CHA, trans: Quad-Range, (6) sets JD rear weights, (12) JD suitcase weights, JD quick-hitch, all new rims & tires (Firestone Radial 20.8Rx38), axle mount matching duals, K&M steps, rebuilt AC system, very late SN, one of the best 4440’s that will come to market this year!!!!

JD 4230 TRACTOR: ’76 JD 4230, hrs: 2728 (ACTUAL), IMMACULATE, original paint, CHA, trans: Quad-Range, (2) sets JD rear weights, (8) JD suitcase weights, all new front/rear rims & tires (Firestone Radial 18.4Rx38), K&M steps, rebuilt AC system!

TRUCK: ’94 IH 2674 tri-axle dump truck, miles: 346K, engine: Cummins L10, trans: Eaton 8-speed LL, Gallion 16’ bed w/tarp, tires: 22.5”

TRAILERS: ’14 Featherlite 24’ CUSTOM-ORDERED enclosed car hauler, one-owner, see photos for build sheets, GVWR: 14K, Warn 8K winch, SHARP; ’03 Featherlite aluminum 8127 24’ livestock trailer, NICE; ’73 Phelan 24’ (22+2) flatbed semi-trailer

HAY EQUIPMENT: NH 575 square baler, Super Sweep pickup, bale chute, wagon hitch; NH 288 tandem axle gear with 20’ composite deck flatbed, very little use; NH 451 3-pt 7” sickle mower; (2) Snowco hay elevators (16’ & 24’-LIKE NEW)

SEEDERS: Brillion SSB-10 Sure-Stand Seeder, one-owner, used on 50 +/- acres since new, width: 10’, light kit; JD 1500 3-pt power seeder, width: 8’, spacing: 8”, all original

FARM/TILLAGE EQUIPMENT: JD 1518 15’ rotary mower, one-owner, nice original paint, rubber guard, solid aircraft tires; NH 155 manure spreader, 2-beater with slop gate, composite floor; IH 496 18’ wing disc, original paint, rock-flex, spacing: 7.5”; Unverferth 225 22’ rolling harrow, leveling bar, light kit; SAF Holland AW1000-2858 3-pt 10’ aerator, one-owner, LIKE NEW; (14) JD suitcase weights; JD weight bracket & extensions

Hrs-2837, Original Paint

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Friday, August 21st & Saturday, August 22nd



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RING 2 @ 9:15 AM EST: Semis – Heavy Duty Trucks & Trailers – Experienced Equipment – Livestock Equipment – Fuel/Bulk Tanks

Saturday, August 15th is the LAST DAY TO CONSIGN!

DAY 2

Saturday, August 22nd @ 9 AM EST

WE WILL HAVE LIVE IN-PERSON & ONLINE BIDDING IN RING 3 & 4. SATURDAY WILL ALSO HAVE RING 5. AN ONLINE ONLY RING THAT WILL INCLUDE EXPERIENCED LAWN AND GARDEN EQUIPMENT, TOOL BOXES, INDUSTRIAL SHELVING, AND MORE! BIDDING FOR RING 5 EXCLUSIVELY ON HIBID.

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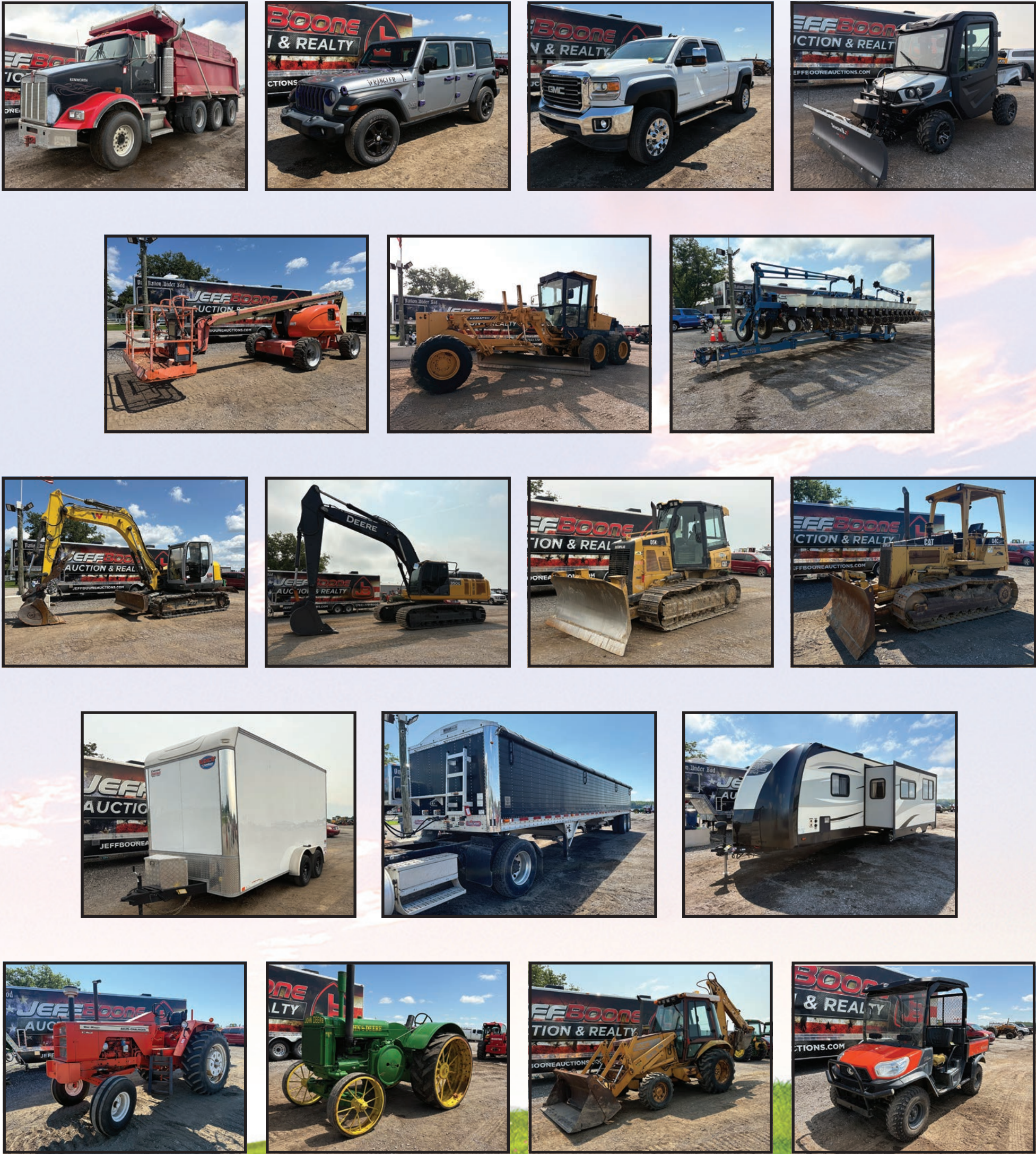
RING 4 @ 9:15 AM EST: ATVs – UTVs – Mowers



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Friday, August 21st & Saturday, August 22nd



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Don't forget how important women are to the farm

We often refer to agriculture being the backbone of America and when we're honest with ourselves, we (in agriculture) all know that the strength of our family farms are the women. Every successful farm I know of either depends on or has depended on the women who are central to the workings of their individual operations.

Many years ago, I worked at a farm doing whatever they could have a 11-year-old through 15-year-old boy help them do; it was Helen Hann who held things together. She took care of her husband, Chuck, who had heart issues and their only son Chris. These folks meant so much more than I'm sure they ever knew to me. Helen was also the secretary of the middle school I attended and would occasionally bring me in to talk and make me feel welcome on their farm because often I felt I was a nuisance. She knew that I looked up to her son who was in his early 20's and suffered picking me up for DeMolay meetings and going out for fast food with his friends. To this day, I think of Helen and the Hann family fondly and thankfully.

During so much of my life, most wives and mothers not only did whatever was needed on the farm/ranch, but also held a full-time job to supplement the family income, often making the difference between survival and failure. I am reminded of a neighbor's wife and mother who worked until retirement at 63 and never cashed her own payroll check. She lived frugally and had no idea of how well off they were until her husband passed.

Another neighbor's farm was financially managed by the wife and mom and, I know for a fact, saved that farm more than once. And when I think of the perfect partnership, I think of Dick and Lois. Lois is awesome and because she can fill in when Dick has health issues, they, in their advanced years, are able to maintain a cow herd, three times the average herd size in Indiana, keep 30 or more breeding ewes, horses and donkeys in a continued sustainable way.

I know in my own life and several friends' families, it is the spouse who believes in her husband when no one else does and gives emotional support unequalled anywhere. The difference makers in a very real way. In a day when so many farmers have reached the end of themselves, just that touch... just that look can make the difference.

When I watch young farmers on YouTube, the most successful farms are those where couples work together, combining their strengths to build a foundation strong enough to withstand challenges from every direction. Too often, when a farmer marries a mate from the city, there is no way to prepare for the long days and nights, the big bank account that all too often disappears with red numbers taking place and "hoping" for next year. I often have said that there's a reason why farmers and ranchers still fill the pews on Sunday... mostly referring to our dependence on the weather but it's quickly being overtaken by marriages in crisis.

If I can suggest two things. First, involve your mate in the day-to-day activities in the farm as well as operationally,

55 YEARS AND
COUNTING FROM THE
TRACTOR SEAT
BY BILL WHITMAN

giving them real responsibility so they feel invested and a true partner in the business. Secondly, and perhaps most importantly, take time ever so often to let your mate know how important they are to you. In our house, for over 25

years it's been a surprise and unexpected "I love you" which always gets my wife to give me a big smile, no matter how sour her mood. Just say "I love you," sometimes, often times, it's the glue that holds things together in the hardest of times.

Horse Sense: I recently took a good crack to the head and sadly it took me two days to realize that I was lucky as it could easily been much worse. I learned the true meaning of "Praise God in all things."

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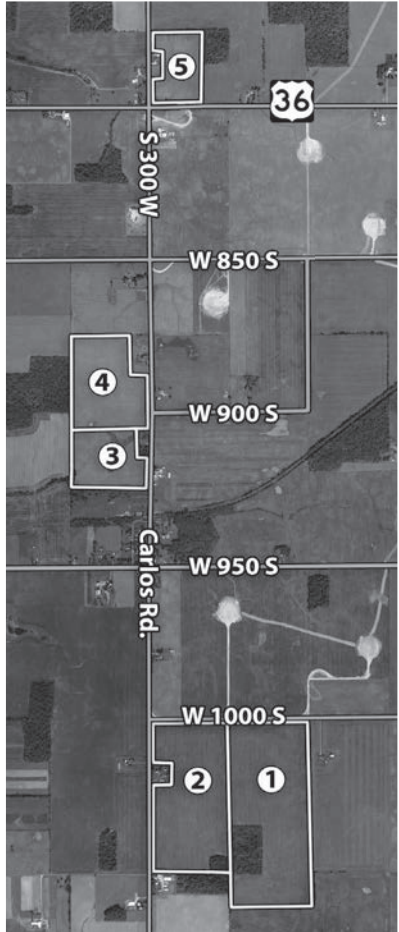
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TUESDAY, AUG. 18TH | 6PM



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Sale Manager: Andy Wagner 765.748.4509

Auction Information: 273.97± Total Acres

Tract 1: 98.33± Acres | 87.66± Tillable

Tract 2: 77± Acres | 73.48± Tillable

Tract 3: 29± Acres | 23.41± Tillable

Tract 4: 45± Acres | 44.13± Tillable

Tract 5: 24.64± Acres | 21.67± Tillable

Property Location: Tracts 1-2: Randolph Co. Rd. 300 W and 1000 S

Tracts 3-4: Randolph Co. Rd. 300 W North of 950 S

Tract 5: Randolph Co. Rd. 300 W and HWY 36

Owner: Joseph Engle & Katherine Dawson

Note: Tracts 1 & 2 cannot be combined with Tracts 3 - 5.

WAGNER

Auctioneering and Real Estate

SALE MANAGER:

ANDY WAGNER 765-748-4509

AU10200074



Lucky Montoya, Auctioneer, & Realtor 937.313.1660

Bob Roach, Auctioneer, & Realtor 937.533.7081 Walnut Harvest Auctions, LLC

Anna Marie Roach Manager, & Realtor 937.657.5626

OwnerLand

REALTY®

金田

WALNUT HARVEST AUCTIONS LLC



BID2LUCKY.COM

ONLINE & LIVE AUCTIONS

PREBLE COUNTY FARM EXPO & EQUIPMENT AUCTION

SATURDAY AUGUST 22, 2026 @ 10:00AM

PCFG - 722 S FRANKLIN ST EATON OH 45320

Consignment deadline

August 14, 2026

Please call early with consignments.

Lucky Montoya 937-313-1660

Bob Roach 937-533-7081



Like to be noticed?

You will be seen in

FarmWorld

FARM RETIREMENT - FARM MACHINERY LIVE & ONLINE AUCTION

OWNERS: BUTTERFIELD BROTHERS OF SHERIDAN, IL

1913 North 40th Road • SHERIDAN, IL 60551

DIRECTIONS: 13.5 miles north of Ottawa, IL (Interstate 80) on Illinois Route 23, or south of U.S. Route 34 roughly 5 miles on IL route 23, then east on N 40th Rd. 1 mile. — WATCH FOR SIGNS! —

SATURDAY • AUGUST 22, 2026 • Starting @ 9:00 am CST

Simulcast Online bidding beginning @ 10:00 am CST

Well maintained line of equipment. Shed kept. John Deere equipment maintained at Heritage Tractor, Mendota, IL.

MANY OTHER ITEMS too numerous to mention. Cleaning out the barns & sheds will find other antique & collectible farm & Ag related items. Some items not yet photographed

COMBINE • TRACTORS • SPRAYER • TRUCKS • CAT TRACK LOADER

2001 JD 9550 combine, ONE OWNER, 2WD, Chopper/spreader, rock trap, 4331 Sep. hrs., 6224 Eng. hrs. bin extensions, GPS yield monitor, frts. 30.5L -32, rears 14.9 -24, 2013 JD 606C, 6 row 30" row poly snouts, with Crop sweeper corn reel, approx. 1,800 acres on rebuild, new stalk rolls chains, & sprockets, 30" rows,2001 JD 925F, bean head with 2001 HT 25 head mover, 2010 JD 8320R, MFWD, power shift, Pre Def, 4 remotes, 3,338 hrs., big shaft 1000 pto., 40hp bump, 16F 3R, Steinbauer weights, 4G MTG JD auto guidance ready, Quick hitch, buddy seat, Ag leader steer command, front hubs & duals, frts. 420/ 85R-34 rears 480/80R-50, 2000 JD 8110, 2-WD, 3 remotes, 7439 hrs. Power Shift, Q/H, Weights, 1000 pto, with NIB extra cab mirrors, rear duals, Rears 480/80R-46, frts. 11.00-24SL, 1989 185F White power frt. assist, 5324 hrs., with duals, Cummins Eng, Weights, Q/H, 3 remotes, 540/1000 PTO, cab, rears 18.4R42, fronts, 16.9R28, 1984 2-135 Series 3 White, 2WD, 8062 hrs., 3 remotes, Q/H, Weights, duals,540/1000 pto rears newer 480/80R38, fronts 11.00-16, Newer A/C pump,1983 2-135 series 3 White, 540/1000 pto, 5615 hrs., Q/H, weights, 3 remotes Engine running needs cylinder repair, MM M5, wide front, fenders, Gas odometer shows 4,496 hrs., Allis D17, NF P/S, Fenders, Gas, odometer not accurate, MM G1355 Cab LP, Odometer shows 2,898 hrs. MM G 1000 Newer rubber, LP open station, AC WD 45 P/S, NF Fenders converted to 12v system, JD 325 Riding lawn tractor 54" deck 820 hrs.,1990 Honda four Trax 300 four-wheeler 2WD, AS IS,1970's CAT 955L Track Loader 88" Buck-et, 1999 RO Gator 854 Chem Sprayer, 80" booms, 5233 hrs., 750-Gal stainless tank, Cummins B-5.9 A engine, Ag leader GPS 7500 Globe, steady steer, Ag Leader In Command sprayer controls, pressure washer,75-gal fresh water rinse system, 2023 New hoses used one season, new pump & plumbing front fill tires

380/90R46, 2021 Nurse tank, on B&B trailer, 1600-gal stainless tank, 390 GX Honda engine, 3" plumbing, 2 rinse balls, air tank, sump drain 1/4 turn valve, with other updates & improvements.

GRAIN HAULING • WAGONS • CART • TRUCKS • PLANTER & DRILLS • AUGERS

2002 Brent 674 grain cart augers reflighted, 1000 pto., Tarp, elect scale, 2 cameras, tire 24.5-32, (2) Brent 544 Grain wagons, tarps, both w spare tires, 1987 Freight Liner FLC 112 Conv., Grain truck, 20' alu box, w tarp, 9 sp., L10 275 hp Cummins Eng. 1979 IH Transtar F-4270 4200 Grain truck 13 speed transmission, 18' dump box, tarp, 1989 Chev 2500 4WD, Pick-up truck miles over, runs, ac not working, 2016 Seed Weigh EF 225 Par-kan seed tender, remote control, KSI Conveyors, 2 bins, electric start Honda GX 390 Eng. Scale tarp, 2013 MF White 8180 corn planter, 12R-30" front fold, Martin Spike closing wheels, row cleaners, planter rebuilt 2022, approx. 2000 ac's on rebuild complete w/ new disc openers, bushings & bolts, Ag Leader Row clutches,2014 Great Plains 1510 NO Till drill, dual gauge wheels, CPH -15, GP markers, Rebuilt harrow, Keeton Seed, Firmers counter not accurate planted roughly 3800 AC. M3 Agri-Tronic monitor, 1996 Great Plains 1510 NO TILL drill, Dual Guage wheels, CPH -15, GP markers, M3 Agri-Tronic monitor rebuilt tine harrow population monitor Keeton Seed Firmers. Feterl 8" 55' Auger 2017 Feterl 10"-62' auger w/ Swing away hopper, 2006 Feterl 10"-62' auger, w swing away hopper & new gear box not yet installed, 2005 Feterl 10"-62' auger Mayrath 72"-10" Hydro lift swing away hopper, Superb Full Heat Grain dryer Model SD375VQ 3- phase on cart w top draw clear wires, stainless steel outer skin. Superb Full Heat/Heat & Cool Grain Dryer Model SA500V 3-phase on cart stainless steel outer skin, 3 ring 1500 bu hopper bin.)

TILLAGE • TOOLS • FARM RELATED USEFUL EQUIPMENT • SEED SIGNS • VINTAGE

BUTTERFIELD BROTHERS - OWNERS

Lunch Available. Comfort Stations. Loader available day of sale.

QUESTIONS CONCERNING EQUIPMENT PLEASE CALL:

DAVID BUTTERFIELD 815-712-1949 or KENT BUTTERFIELD 815-712-2488

Please limit calls to the hours between 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

AUCTIONEERS: CHRIS WEGENER 815-451-2820,

MIKE ESPE 630-669-2667, JOEL PRESTEGAARD 815-761-7426

WWW.GO2WEGENERAUCTIONS.COM

MORE UPDATES AND PHOTOS COMING

FRIEDERSDORF FARMS RETIREMENT ONLINE AUCTION

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26

COMBINE/HEADS: 2011 Case IH 7088 4x4, 3930/ 2825 hrs., newer AFS Pro 700 monitor w/ field tracker, Cummins motor, rock trap, power fold grain ext., pre-emission, 1 year on feeder house chain, grain tank & unload augers have been lined, main unload tube replaced, upper & lower sieves replaced, 18.4 x 42 dual front & 18.4 x 26 rear tires SN YAG004622; 2011 Case IH 2162 40' draper, single point hook-up SN YBZN15431; 2011 Geringhoff NorthStar NS 1200/FB 12R 30" full poly, Insight Header Height Control SN 7298111230/FB; Calmer deck plates; Unverferth HT 36 head cart, adjusted to 41' SN A50 800 442.

FRIEDERSDORF FARMS: 812-614-7657

LOCATION: 9898 S COUNTY ROAD 800 W, WESTPORT, IN 47283

OWENS AUCTION SERVICE, INC. – PH. 812-528-7021

Brian Owens-AU19300185

Brayton Owens 812-662-4099, Chad Carder 812-662-1098

All equipment sold As-Is.

Auction Preview: August 11 from 2-5pm or by appointment calling above numbers.

Auction Pick-Up: Friday August 28 from 11am-4pm.

Follow link on owensauctionserviceinc.com to bid at auctiontime.com

WILSON NATIONAL

A REAL ESTATE & AUCTION GROUP

62.6 ACRES

VACANT LAND

BROWN TWP/FRANKLIN COUNTY

SELLING IN 1 TRACT

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 9 @ 6 P.M.



AUCTION LOCATION: Franklin County Fairgrounds, 4100 Columbia St., Hilliard, OH

LOCATION: Next to 8200 Scioto Darby Creek Road, 4 miles west of downtown Hilliard, OH. (Watch for signs)

45.47 Ac. Tillable | 17 Ac.Wooded | Zoned R Crosby & Kokomo Soils | 1100' Road Frontage

An ideal property for agricultural pursuits or potential development in a high growth area of Central Ohio.

PREVIEWS: FRIDAY, AUG. 28 & FRIDAY, SEPT. 4 FROM 3:00 TO 5:00 P.M.

Sale Manager: Mark Wolfe 740-361-6739

Steven J. Weber Trustee





Mark Wilson 937-402-1961

Brandon Wilson 937-763-1993

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

Southern Delaware Co. IN LAND AUCTION

185.44± ACRES OFFERED IN 3 TRACTS

Inspection Date: By Appointment

Auction Location: Wagner Auction Center

1174 N 675 W Farmland, IN 47340

Auction Information:

185.44 ± Total Acres

Tract 1: 68.11± Acres | 64.28± Tillable

Tract 2: 76.87± Acres | 69.51± Tillable

Tract 3: 40.46± Acres | 35.52± Tillable

Property Location: Delaware Co. Rd 600 S and 800 E

Owner: Janet Jo Holaday



WAGNER Auctioneering and Real Estate

AA AU10200074



Tennessee River barndominium property made waves at Harris auction

Illinois

Hancock County – On July 24, Sullivan Auctioneers conducted a live and online auction of 33.43 surveyed acres, offered in two tracts near Nauvoo. Known locally as Sheridan Creek, LLC, the property along State Route 96 offered Mississippi River building sites and recreational opportunities. Tract 1 included 11.27 acres in hay production with terraces to reduce soil erosion, utilities along the driveway, access via a shared gravel driveway from Schwan Place Road, and development potential overlooking the Mississippi River. Tract 2 included 22.16 acres with hay ground, timber along Sheridan Creek, mature walnut trees, potential pond sites, wildlife food plot locations, utilities, and access from Schwan Place Road. Tract 1 sold for \$92,414 (\$8,200/acre), while Tract 2 brought \$124,096 (\$5,600/acre).

White County – Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management auctioned 111.40+/- acres known as Three Kids Farm in two tracts on July 24. The gently rolling acres, at the intersection of CR-1475 East and 2500 North, featured mainly Henshaw and Sexton silt loam and Montgomery silty clay loam soils. A crop lease remained in place for the 2026 crop year, with the seller retaining that income. An existing SBA Towers communications tower easement conveyed, along with all seller-owned mineral rights. Tract 1 comprised 40+/- acres with approximately 36.7 acres wooded and 2.9 tillable. Tract 2 included 71.4+/- acres with approximately 55.6 tillable and 8.9 wooded. Tract 1 sold for \$80,000 (\$2,000/acre), and Tract 2 for \$390,000 (\$5,462/acre).

Indiana

Fort Branch – Beckort Auctions conducted an online-only auction July 30 of the 281+/- acre Halliburton Farm, offered in three contiguous tracts. The income-producing farm included extensive road frontage, and all seller-owned oil, gas, and mineral rights conveyed. An easement along the north edge of Tract 2 provided access to the existing roadway; all three tracts equally share a Bridge/Roadway maintenance agreement. Tract 1 included 160+/- mostly tillable acres, predominantly in Ragsdale and Uniontown silt loam soils, with approximately 2,700 feet of frontage on SR-168. Tract 2 had 78.792+/- mostly tillable acres, primarily in Ragsdale and Reesville silt loam soils. with frontage on SR-168 and CR-S125W. Tract 3 consisted of 41+/- acres, with approximately 32 tillable, mainly in Ragsdale, Reesville, and Uniontown silt loam soils. The tracts sold combined for \$3,705,000 (\$13,185/acre).

Kendallville – On July 20, Schrader Real Estate and Auction Company conducted a live and online auction of 17.27+/- acres across State Road 3 from Cree Lake, offered in two tracts. Tract 1 consisted of 2.1 acres with a move-in ready 936-square-foot home built in 1997. The 2-bedroom/1-bath residence featured an attached 1-car garage, forced air heat, private well with water softener, and septic, paved driveway, and metal storage shed. Tract 2 was 15.1 acres on State Road 3 and Leighty Road. Approximately 5.14 acres were FSA tillable, with Riddles sandy loam and Miami loam soils. The remainder was in mature woods and natural wetlands, offering good recreation opportuni-

ties or potential homesite. Farming rights transfer in 2027. Tract 1 sold for \$165,000, and Tract 2 brought \$280,000 (\$18,543/acre).

Kentucky

Calvert City – Harris Real Estate & Auction conducted an absolute auction July 9 of 43+/- acres of Tennessee River property with river frontage, mooring rights, living quarters, outbuildings, mature trees, and recreational acreage. The property was offered in five tracts. Tract 1 consisted of 2.5+/- acres with a 32 by 48-foot barndominium-style building featuring a two-car garage and upper-level living quarters with kitchen, bathroom, well water, propane heat, and window A/C. Tract 2 contained 24.43+/- acres west of Shar-Cal Road with a large pond and home-site potential. Tract 3 was 13.47+/- acres fronting the Tennessee River with boat ramp access, mooring and riparian rights, and 786+/- feet of deeded shoreline. Tract 4 was a 2.58-acre building lot, and Tract 5 was a 0.64-acre building lot. A 30-by-30-foot equipment shed and mature fruit trees were also included with the property. Tracts 1 and 2 sold together for \$150,000; Tract 3 sold for \$165,000 (\$12,249/acre); and Tracts 4 and 5 sold combined for \$24,000 (\$7,453/acre).

Henderson – On July 23, Herron Auction & Realty conducted an online-only auction of an income-producing storage facility in Henderson's Gateway District, about three blocks from downtown. The property included 28 units: 16 large (8 by 20 feet), 8 medium (8 by 8 feet), and 4 small (8 by 5 feet). It had a metal roof and recently painted exterior. Current rental income totaled about \$1,050 per month, with projected market-rate income of approximately \$2,500 per month at full occupancy. The facility sold for \$65,500.

Michigan

South Haven – Miedema's LastBid Real Estate conducted an online auction on July 21 of a 4-bedroom/2-bath

REAL ESTATE
AUCTION ROUNDUP
BY WILLIAM FLOOD

older farmhouse on 3.2 acres about 11 minutes from Lake Michigan. The 1,900-square-foot home offered two bedrooms and one bath on each level, a Michigan basement with a newer furnace, and a 36 by 50-foot pole barn with a concrete floor and a 7 by 18-foot overhead door. The township permits short-term rentals, adding investment potential. The property sold for \$161,000.

Ohio

Coshocton – On July 10, Kiko Auctioneers conducted a live and online absolute auction of a 91.48-acre farm with mineral rights, offered in three tracts. Tract 1 consisted of 13.5

acres with a Victorian farmhouse and other outbuildings located along SR-16. Tract 2 was 52.46 acres of wooded and open land with a cabin on CR-6. Tract 3 had 25.52 wooded acres along CR-6, with a mobile home and free gas. Tract 1 sold for \$302,500, Tract 2 for \$522,245, and Tract 3 for \$300,465.

South Solon – Sheridans conducted an online auction July 23 of 31.4 acres of agricultural-zoned land along Federal Road. The two-parcel package included approximately 29 acres of productive tillable farmland with about 937 feet of road frontage. Predominant soils were Miamian and Miamian-Eldean silt loams, Kokomo and Westland silty clay loams, and Crosby-Lewisburg silt loams, with an overall NCCPI of 72.46. The property offered convenient access to State Route 41 and South Salon, with potential for farming, residential development, or investment. It sold for \$510,000 (\$16,242/acre).

2 1/2± miles North of Royal Center

CASS COUNTY, INDIANA

Real Estate AUCTION

Wednesday, September 16th • 6:00 PM Eastern

105.5± acres

offered in 3 Tracts

AUCTION LOCATION:
Rogers Event Center, 109 W North St,
Royal Center, IN 46978.

PROPERTY LOCATION: At the intersection of US 35 & SR 16 in Royal Center, go north on US 35 for 2 1/4 miles to CR 900 N, then go east on 900 N for 1.1 miles to CR 650 W, then north on 650 W for a half mile to Tract 1 on the east side of the road. Continue north on 650 W for Tracts 2 and 3.

INSPECTION DATES: Wednesday, August 19 • 3-5 PM Eastern | Saturday, August 29 • 9-11 AM Eastern | Tuesday, September 8 • 3-5 PM Eastern
Meet a Schrader representative at Tract 3, 9812 N 650 W, Royal Center, IN 46978

OWNER: Gerald L. Bonnell Trust | AUCTION MANAGERS: Jim Hayworth, 765-427-1913 (c) • Matt Wiseman 219-689-4373 (c)

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Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc.
AU08700434 | AU11100128 | AC63001504

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ONLINE BIDDING AVAILABLE

Byron & Linda Kinsinger

PREMIER RETIREMENT AUCTION

WAYNE COUNTY, IN • 2308 N. Jacksonburg Rd., Cambridge City, IN 47327

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST • 10:30AM

JD TRACTORS & JD EXCAVATOR

- 2015 JD 9420R, ONLY 902 hrs - JD PSS engine, E-18 Power Shift trans, 4WD, 1000 PTO, Heavy duty CAT 4 drawbar, hammer strap, 710/70/R42 tires. Wheel weights, equipped with hi-flow hyd's, 5 SVC remotes, premium lighting, leather trim & 4600 processor. Autosteer valve, All PIP updates performed at Reynolds Farm Equipment. 2nd Owner • 2013 JD 8235R MFWD, ONLY 458 hrs - 16F/5R Power Shift trans with Premium View II cab, 5 SCV Remotes, 1 3/4" PTO at 1000 RPM & Cat 4 drawbar. Rear 480/80R46" tires with duals (Firestone), 1300 front axle with 380/85R34" tires. Premium lighting, leather trim, auto steer, (1) pair of 450 lb. rear weights, (12) Front weights, 60 GPM, 85cc hyd. pump. No DEF. ONE OWNER "Gold Key Tractor" • 2002 JD 8420 MFWD, ONLY 1,520 hrs - Power Shift Trans, 14.9R34 fronts w/ fenders & 18.4R46 duals (Firestone tires), with a 15,180 lb. capacity 3-point hitch, 1500 rear wheel weight. (14) Front weights, field vision lights, a 42.5 GPM hyd. pump, 1 3/4" PTO shaft at 1000 RPM, 4 SCV remotes, QH & Hammer strap, Integrated auto-steer valve. ONE OWNER "Gold Key" Tractor • 2008 JD 7230 MFWD, Loader Tractor, ONLY 1,234 hrs - 16/16 Power Guard Trans, Air Seat, 2 SCV remotes, QH, Firestone 460/85R/38 rears, Firestone 380/85R/24 fronts w/fenders, dual-sided doors, #LO7230H595886, sells with JD 673 Loader w/85" material bucket, ONE OWNER! • 2022 JD 60G Compact Excavator, ONLY 86 hrs - Like new, cab, air, heat, sells with 36" heavy duty bucket, Hyd. Thumb, Hyd. Blade, ONE OWNER!

PLANTER & TILLAGE

- 2023 KINZE 3605 16/32 Planter, No-till, Bulk Fill with scales, Hyd. wing down force, Row markers, Heavy Duty Spring Down pressure, Poly Spiked closing wheels, Mechanical Ground Drive, Soybean brush meters, half-rate

sprocket kit, AgLeader 1200 monitor, ONLY 1,025 Acres • 2021 JD 2660VT Vertical Tillage, 30.3' - Used 3 seasons, spring only 1,500± acres, ONE OWNER • 33.5' DMI Tiger-mate Field Cultivator, walking tandems main & wings, 3 bar tine drag, rear hitch & hyd, ONE OWNER • JD 714 Mulch Tiller, walking tandems, straight shank shovels

JD SPRAYER & NURSE TANKS

- 2011 JD 4730 Sprayer, ONLY 785 hrs - 800-gallon stainless steel tank w/stainless steel inductor. 100' stainless steel boom, features 15" spacing, 5-way nozzle bodies, front weight bracket, Command View Cab, Automatic cab leveling. Sells with JD 2630 display & JD 3000 globe. ONLY 785 hrs, ONE OWNER "Gold Key Sprayer" • SCHABEN 1300 gal. tandem nurse trailer with shuttle platform & inductor tank. Honda GX 160 motor & pump, tandem axle, Very Nice • SPRAY WAGON on Unverferth McCurdy G12 Running gear with native flat rack, walking tandem, 265/85R15 tires, 1850 gal. poly tank, Chem-Farm aluminum mix tank, Honda GX 160 motor & pump, valve body, 3" plumbing with 2" rinse & drain lines

JD COMBINE & HEADER

- 2010 JD 9670 STS Combine - Premier cab with variable speed feeder house, Xtra/Hi-cap lift cylinder, & deluxe header control. Round bar concave, extended wear separator, heavy duty final drives, 4WD/2-speed, NEW Firestone Floater tires, chopper, extended wear package, integrated auto steer valve, Mauer Bin Extension, 1,935 engine hrs & 1,409 separator hrs. • 2011 JD 635F Hydra Flex Header - High stone dam, ONLY 1 Season on new poly, new high wear guards & hold downs, new stainless steel feathers, spare knife, fold-around snouts • 2012 UNVERFERTH HT36021G Header Cart - 16' tongue, tie-downs, lights, 11LX15 tires, green



INSPECTION: Friday, August 28th • 10 AM – 2 PM

GRAIN TRUCKS

- 1994 Kenworth T800 - N-14 Cummins engine with a 10-speed Fuller trans. 22' aluminum Riten bed, 102" wide, & a Scott hoist. Forklift rated, roll tarp. 153,613.5 miles • 1975 GMC 6000 Grain Truck - All original, with a 16' bed & hoist, Single axle grain truck, Gas, 5+2 trans., 47,215 miles

DIRT SCRAPER - AUGER - WEIGH WAGON - TRAILER

- 2017 Ashland 950XL2 Dirt Pan, 9 1/2 Yard Ejection Scraper - With dolly wheels, #24476 LIKE NEW • Par-Kan Grain Weigh buggy. Shur-loc roll tarp, Vanguard 18 hp motor, Weigh-Tronix scales • Westfield 10"x36' Swing away auger, 540 pto • 2020 DAVIS CUSTOM TRAILERS, Mod. 721G, Drop deck gooseneck trailer, 7'x 21', tandem axle, 14,000 lb, ramps, titled

JD GATORS & JD TECHNOLOGY

- 2012 JD 8251 Gator, 4x4, Auto Dump bed, side mirrors, Deluxe light kit, front windshield, bucket seats, ONLY 320 hrs • 1997 JD Gator, 6x4, Auto Dump bed, rear hitch, 1,894 hrs • (3) JD 3000 GLOBES, SFI • (1) JD 2630 Display Monitor



OWNERS: Byron & Linda Kinsinger, 765-748-5448
AUCTION MANAGER: Andy Walther, 765-969-0401

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PUBLIC AUCTION

SAT., AUGUST 22nd at 10:00 AM

3978 Orchard Grove Road
SABINA, OH 45169

EQUIPMENT — 1992 Box Trailer with Gutter Equipment (Continuous Gutter Machine installed inside, includes material and ladder, built-in shelves, dual axle and ladder rack), Box Trailer (built-in shelves, dual axle and ladder rack).

TRUCKS - TOOLS - RC TOYS
HORSE TACK & WESTERN HATS
OUTDOOR ITEMS - HARDWARE & MATERIALS
APPLIANCES - HOUSEHOLD

See AuctionZip for full listing! Some items are unseen.

Statements made day of auction take all precedence over any and all written material.

TERMS: Cash, Check with proper identification, Visa/MasterCard accepted.
NO CREDIT CARD FEES, NO BUYER PREMIUMS.
Concessions will be available. Not responsible for accidents

Mike's Auction Service

937-477-8201
Auctioneers: Mike R. Brown, Doug Middleton, Samantha Gilliland
Licensed under the State of Ohio

79th Semi-Annual
Milroy Amish School Consignment Auction
2102 W 900 S, Milroy, IN 46156
SATURDAY, SEPT. 5, 2026 AT 9:00 AM
★★ **CONSIGNMENTS WANTED** ★★
Contact Numbers 765-561-9824 or 765-629-2345

Firearms (All FFI Laws Applied)
Would like to have guns consigned Thursday, Sept. 3rd if possible.
No guns after 4:00 PM on Fri., Sept. 4th.

Other consignments including all types of Farm Equipment, Tractors, Shop Tools, Power Tools, Lawn & Garden Equipment, Lawn Furniture, Antiques & Collectibles, Flowers, Shrubby & Trees, Tack, Horses & Ponies, Small Animals. (No dogs or cats. All horses must have halter & rope.)
Horses and Small Animals Accepted Till 10:00 AM Sat., Sept. 5th.
Other Consignments Accepted Thurs., Sept. 3rd and Fri., Sept. 4th from 8 AM-7 PM.
Small animals have to be in cages. Buyers bring your own cages.
We do not accept fabric upholstery furniture, computers, TVs, rubber tires without rims.
(There will be a \$5.00 disposal charge per unsold wheel with rubber.)
We reserve the right to reject any consignment of little value.

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO OUR MILROY AMISH PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS
Sale conducted by: Homestead Auctions, IN Lic. AU19800111, IN Lic. AU19800140

JMW Absolute Equipment Reduction Auction

**Semi-Trucks
Trailers
Lifts
Excavators
Service Trucks**



Friday, August 21st @ 9:00 AM

Location: Auction will be held on-site located at: 1800 Allen Ave SE Canton, OH 44707.
Equipment: **Excavators:** Komatsu PC300LC, 14,993hrs; Komatsu PC300LC, 14,720hrs; CAT 304C, 6,130hrs; **Skid Steer:** Mustang 2040, 2072hrs; **Lifts:** Grove SM327; Grove 3270; JLG 40HA, 7,229hrs; JLG 600S 5,922hrs; CAT V50DSA; CAT forklift; Yale GLC060B; **Semi-Trucks:** 2015 CAT CT660S, 264K miles; 2020 Peterbilt 389, 348K miles; 2008 Peterbilt 367, 693K miles; 2003 Kenworth T800, 356k miles; 2001 Kenworth T800, 906k miles; 2000 Kenworth T800, 947k miles; 1988 Kenworth T800, 806k miles; **Water Trucks:** 2015 CAT CT660S, 200k miles; 2015 CAT CT660S, 221K miles; International Eagle; **Vac Trucks:** 1988 Freightliner FL80, 9,042hrs; 1987 Mack R686ST, 2100hrs; Mack RD688S Roll-off truck, 31,767hrs; 1986 Freightliner dozer truck, 369k miles; **Trailers:** (30) trailers consisting mainly of aluminum dumps, a few roll-offs, tankers, & bumper pull; **Dumpsters:** (20) ranging in sizes from 20yd to 40yd. **Support Equipment:** Toro Workman 3200 cart; light plants; Onan generator; Argo 680 post driver; skid steer sweepers; excavator buckets; truck rims; truck parts, **Neighbor consignments:** Excavators: Deere 180G, 4,521hrs; Link-Belt 210LX, 8,132hrs; Link-Belt 2700 8,270hrs; Takeuchi TL150 skid steer, 5,283hrs; 1998 Mack CL713, 240K miles; Fontaine Lowboy

Auction Note: John, Mike & Wes have spent the majority of their lives operating construction & construction related businesses within the Canton area, they recently updated some equipment and have decided it was time to reduce their inventory. All items will be selling "absolute" with no minimum or reserve. We will start with the smaller items then move into the construction equipment, followed by trucks, trailers & ending with the dumpsters. Plan to join for what is looking to be a good auction. Online Bidding available through RES. bid. **Preview:** Equipment will be available for inspection on Monday, August 17th 12 Noon – 4 PM & Thursday August 20th 10 AM – 4 PM. **Removal:** Winning bidders may remove their items following the auction Friday, August 21st until 5 PM; Saturday, August 22nd 9 AM – 1 PM; Monday, August 24th 9 AM – 4 PM & Friday, August 28th from 9 AM – 3 PM. A paid-in-full invoice must be presented before any purchased items can be removed from the RES facility, including those picked up by third-party carriers. **Terms:** We accept cash, check, wire transfer, ACH (E-check), and credit cards (up to \$3,000). If bidding in-person, a 5% Buyer's Premium will be applied to each purchase. If bidding through RES.bid, a 7% Buyer's Premium will be applied to each purchase. If bidding through Equipment Facts, an 8% Buyer's Premium will be applied to each purchase.

Andy White - Jake White - Drew Turner - Jack Adelman
Gavin Cooke - Matt Brenner (419) 544-1958

833.SOLD.RES | WWW.RES.BID
LIC# 2022000271 | 5% BUYER'S PREMIUM





Above: 56 tractors at a rest stop

Illinois tractor ride draws 56 tractors, brings back memories

I visited the annual Gene Lane Memorial tractor ride on July 25. He was the co-founder of this ride that started some years ago. He was also a customer of my IH dealership during the 70s and 80s.

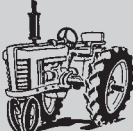
He's gone now, but the ride continues, currently under the leadership of Trent Sanderson, a local third-generation farmer.

This year's ride was well-organized, with a firm start time, proceeded by a rider's briefing, acknowledgement of the county sheriff's department that closed all side roads for the 56-tractor parade; lunch hosted by FFA; and two rest stops. A detailed route map was distributed. One tractor dropped out with engine problems, but rejoined the ride 20 minutes later.

Brands included Cockshutt, Ford, Jacobsen, Deere, Farmall and Inter-

ALL ABOUT TRACTORS

BY PAUL WALLEM



national, including one that brought back memories for me. It was an International 4156, driven by a friend, Mark Hickey. It was sold new from my IH dealership in 1970, 56 years ago.

Another friend trailered his Farmall 656 120 miles from Oneida, Ill., to participate. Rollie Moore can't recall how many rides he's joined. He just enjoys these events.

As I drove home, I thought about the long history of tractor rides. This par-

(Tractors continued on page 14B)



AUGUST 26TH
6:30PM

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AUCTION TO BE HELD AT PROPERTY LOCATION:

Tractors

FROM PAGE 13B

ticular ride raises funds for the Dekalb County Farm Bureau Foundation. Dozens of sponsors chip in each year for the event, as well as tractor drivers. FFA sponsors the noon luncheon. Many other rides also raise funds for different causes.

Only 1 percent of the American public now farms. They drive tractors spring and fall, and some still participate in tractor rides for fundraising and social friendships. This 1 percent raises the food for all of us, yet most members of the public know nothing about farming.

Somehow, we need to tell them they are appreciated.

Some of the electric tractors on the market now

Monarch MK-V Dairy, Utility, Standard - 40 PTO HP, 70 Max HP

Case IH Farmall 75C 65 PTO HP, 74 Max HP

Fendt e107 V Vario 50 KW, 68 HP

Soletrac e25G Gear, under 20HP/15 KW category

Several other brands are in test stages

Hydrogen – tractor fuel?

Hydrogen fuel is being tested in numerous tractor labs, for tractors, trucks and planes. Some tractor manufacturers are marketing models using a hydrogen/diesel mix. Hydrogen has the advantage of zero carbon emis-

sions. Expense to produce is the current barrier to wider use.

Conventional fuels are not cheap to produce, however. Their process requires drilling holes in the ground, transporting it to a refinery where it is broken down into various uses including fuel; then transporting it via pipeline or truck to a distributor where it goes on another truck for local delivery. None of these are inexpensive steps.

Common use of hydrogen keeps getting closer.

Northern Illinois crop conditions

I travelled across three Illinois counties on July 17, all bordering Wisconsin. Some of the differences between corn and soybeans was noticeable. Soybeans in particular varied a lot, from weak to strong, showing the difference between early and late planting. Corn was more consistent in growth; however, even though most had tasseled, some had not. I believe spotty spring rains had much to do with this.

However, less than normal fertilizer could have some effect if the producer had not bought ahead of season and chose not to pay the large spring increases. As always, much will depend on heat and rain the rest of the season.

Paul Wallem was raised on an Illinois dairy farm. He spent 13 years with IH in domestic and foreign assignments. He resigned to own and operate two IH dealerships. He is the author of THE BREAKUP of IH and SUCSESSES & INDUSTRY FIRSTS of IH. Send comments to pwallem9@gmail.com.

Eastern Delaware Co. IN

Land Auction

150.5+ ACRES OFFERED IN 3 TRACTS

INSPECTION DATE: By Appointment

AUCTION LOCATION:
Wagner Auction Center
1174 N 675 W Farmland, IN 47340

TRACT DESCRIPTIONS:
Tract #1: 32± Acres
Tract #2: 111± Acres
Tract #3: 7.5± Acres w/ Improvements

OWNER: Saunders Family Trust

PROPERTY LOCATION:
Tract #1 : Delaware Co Rd 700 E just south of Stanley Rd
Tracts #2 and #3: Stanley Rd just east of Delaware Co Rd 700 E

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Auctioneering and Real Estate

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Wednesday

AUG. 26th

6PM ET

SALE MANAGER:
ANDY WAGNER 765-748-4509
WAGNERAUCTIONEERING.COM

RETIREMENT AUCTION for JOHN & JUDY HUSSEY

True Legends of the Land and our Community

After 6+ decades, John & Judy Hussey are officially hanging up the work gloves at John's incredible age of 82. We are honored to offer at auction, their Equipment, Implements, & Tools of the Trade.

Think about what this auction means. John and Judy have been farming for decades, weathering countless unpredictable seasons, navigating shifting markets, and putting in more sun-up to sun-down hours than most of us can fathom. They haven't just grown crops and raised livestock, John and Judy have grown a legacy!

Over 6 decades, they have seen a lot of changes. The tractors got bigger, technology got faster, and the world shifted beneath our feet. But the heart of farming never changed. It's still about faith, family, and taking care of the land that feeds us.

PUBLIC ON-LINE ONLY SATURDAY, AUGUST 22nd, 2026

In Tipton County @ 2187 North – 600 East, Windfall, IN 46076

BIDDING OPENS: Thursday, August 6th 2026 @ Noon

SOFT CLOSE BEGINS: Saturday, August 22nd 2026 @ Noon

PREVIEW DAYS: Tuesday, August 11th - Thursday, August 13th from Noon - 4pm

NOTE: This is a sale notice only. All Items Sold As-Is, Where-Is. To View the Complete Sale Bill Including Pictures, Descriptions, Terms of Sale, Payment Options, and to Register & Start Bidding: Click the Calendar Link @ www.cripesauction.com

COMBINE, HEADS & CARTS: 2022 John Deere S780 STS Combine (ONE OWNER, 4-WD, 1540 Eng & 1227 Sep. hrs), 2018 John Deere 645FD Hydra-Flex Grain Head, J&M 4WS17 Head Cart, 2016 John Deere 612 FC 12-Row Folding Cornhead, Unverferth HT 30 Head Cart.

TRACTORS: 2020 John Deere 8RT 370 (1228 Hrs), John Deere 8335R (3419 hrs), John Deere 8335R (2900 hrs), John Deere 9530T (3806 hrs), John Deere 7410 (4418 hrs), John Deere 5303 (2060 hrs), John Deere 6125R (2246 hrs), John Deere 7320 (hour meter broken), FarmAll B.

SPRAYER, TANKS & APPLICATORS: 2021 John Deere R4038 Sprayer (889 hrs), Snyder 300-Gallon 3-pt Sprayer w/ 10' Boom, 60' Fast 8224 28% Applicator (24-Row, 2400-Gallon), Case IH 5300 NH3 Pull-Type Toolbar (21 Knives, Raven NH3 Super Cooler), DMI 4250 NH3 Pull-Type Toolbar (15 Knives, Continental), (2) AG Systems 1250 1200-Gallon Nurse Trailers, Tru-Kleen UTV/ATV 100-Gallon Sprayer, (2) 4000-Gallon Ply Tanks, (2) Snyder 1200-Gallon Poly Tanks.

GRAIN HANDLING & WAGONS: (2) Unverferth 3750 Seed Tenders (Scales), 2-DMI Big Little Grain Wagons, J & M 1251 Grain Storm (Rear Camera, Tarp, 20" Unload), 2004 Kongskilde Grain Vac (1000 PTO).

SEMI'S & TRAILERS: 2014 Freightliner Cascadia (399436 Miles, ISX 15 Cummins, 10-sp. Manual Trans.), 2015 Freightliner Cascadia (484041 Miles, Detroit DD13, 10-sp Manual Trans.), 2015 Freightliner Cascadia (480057 miles, Detroit DD13, 10-sp Manual Trans.), 2017 Freightliner Cascadia (284046 miles, Detroit DD13, DT-12 Automatic Trans), 2002 International 9100I (532055 Miles, CAT C-12 10-sp. Manual Trans.), 2020 Wilson DWH-600 Hopper Bottom (34"x72"x96", Elect. Tarp, Air-Ride, AG Hoppers), 2020 Wilson DWH-600 Hopper Bottom (34"x72"x96", Elect. Tarp, Air-Ride, AG Hoppers), 2012 Wilson DWH-500 Hopper Bottom (34"x72"x96", Elect. Tarp, Spring Ride, AG Hoppers), 2007 Wilson DWH-500 Hopper Bottom (34"x72"x96", Elect. Tarp, Spring Ride, AG Hoppers), 2012 Hudson HTD20A 20-Ton Tilt-Top Trailer (24"x96", Air Brakes), 2005 Vitcco Challenger RG50 46" Detach.

VEHICLES & TRAILERS: 2008 Chevrolet Silverado 3500HD SRW 4x4 Service Truck w/ Warner Utility Bed (Duramax Diesel, Automatic, Regular Cab, 79761 Miles), 2004 GMC 2500HD SLE Truck (Duramax Diesel, Automatic, 4x4, Regular Cab, 163552 Miles), 1991 GMC Topkick Dump Truck (104567 Miles, V-8 Gas, Automatic Trans.), 2012 Thunder Creek ADT990UB Fuel Trailer.

PLANTERS & DRILLS: 2022 John Deere DB60 Bean Planter (36-Row, 20" Spacing), 2023 PUK/ 2013 John Deere DB60 Corn Planter (24-Row, 30" Spacing), 24 ProMax 40 Units &

PICK-UP SCHEDULE: Monday, August 24th – Wednesday, August 26th from 10am – 6pm or by appointment only. A telehandler, forklift, and operators will be available during pick-up times.

PREVIEW – PICK UP & PAY @ 2187 North – 600 East, Windfall, IN 46076

For Inquiries & Questions, Please Contact Us: Cripe's Auction Service
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Wade Cripe, Auctioneer #AU11000034

Scott ESTATE AUCTION

South of Elkhart, IN on St. Rd. 19 1 mile to CR 20 (Mishawaka Rd.), then east 2 miles to CR 9, then south 1 block to: 28147 CR 9, Elkhart, IN

Tuesday, August 18, 2026 • 12:00 pm

APPROX. 70 HIT-N-MISS ENGINES • MAYTAG (1 & 2 CYL) • REO & OTHER • JD TRACTORS • MOLINE • IH MODEL A CULT. • GARDEN TRACTORS • MORE

Very nice John Deere unstyled A gas tractor, SN 443448 • John Deere A engine out that's sheet metal, SN 465010 • John Deere H narrow front gas tractor, styled, SN 4384 with one bottom John Deere plow • Minneapolis Moline Z gas tractor, been outdoors many years and needs restored • McCormick Farmall A wide front gas tractor, restorable condition, but been outside • Massey Ferguson No. 10 riding lawn tractor with deck • John Deere 112 riding lawn mower • John Deere 108 tractor • JD 110 parts • early restorable Wheel Horse • nice Hercules 1.5

Hit and Miss open crank gas engine with magneto • Novo upright gas Hit and Miss engine • a large amount of varied Maytag, both single cylinder and double gas engines • lots of Briggs Clinton numerous REO and other gas engines, all stages of condition, some with all the parts and some missing • rare Judson older restoration 1.5 hp Hit and Miss engine with Mag • 2 John Deere 1.5 hp gas engine • International LP 3 hp • International famous upright gas engine • International gas engine • nice Lansing gas engine complete with mag • Stoeger gas engine 2.5 hp with mag • very nice Stoeger 3 hp on cart Hit and Miss with mag • John Deere L gas power unit • International LB 1.5 hp • economy 7.5 hp open shaft with mag • McCormick Dearing horse and a half enclosed crank Hit and Miss gas engine • Cushman approx. 1.5 hp gas engine with mag • McCormick Dearing 1.5 hp Hit and Miss engine • older Maytag washers with no engine • very nice economy 5 hp open crank gas engine with mag • old riding lawn tractor with gas engine • Evinrude 1.5 hp open carve outboard motor • nice Fairbanks 3 hp enclosed shaft gas engine with mag and top sand cooler • 2 other International 1.5 hp gas engine Hit and Miss • numerous Hit and Miss engines in this building that are covered up and you can't hardly tell what they are • (2) two-row early transplanter vintage, both with Fairbanks Model Z gas engines • large amount of varied David Bradley power units plus many David Bradley attachments • David Bradley wooden box manure spreader • varied milk cans • Schwinn ladies bike • men's bike • vintage rolling dye cart forks • 5'x8" single axle trailer • other smaller trailer inside and outside • varied watering cans • baggage carts • small lawn mower • one-bottom 8-12" plows • Ottawa log saw, complete with engine • nice old wind mill, disassembled, height unknown, good tail wheel, good fan • varied aluminum step ladders • varied gas engine parts • varied wind mill pump jacks • old Pleater bench model • varied trunks • Craftsman floor model drill press • nice Grizzly table saw • radial arm saw • wood lathe • shell luber • varied hand tools • chain binders • funnels, misc. old fuel tanks, car parts • front metal of Oliver 70 tractor, Tin • approx. 4' tall double door ice box, partially refinished • very nice 1 gallon sausage stuffer • older vintage 2 gallon sausage stuffer on stand • John Deere floor model #16 hand crank corn sheller • old push garden hoes • steel beamed one bottom walking plow • Craftsman 10" contractors table saw • cross cut saws • lanterns • machinist chest • hand crank corn shellers • enormous old primitives • grinders • coils • planter lids • signs • old 7-Up lift top pop dispenser chest • gas engine parts • real heavy old Craftsman welder box, copper • misc. scrap metal • large high back Victorian burled walnut bed with large dresser and smaller commode • slant front oak secretary bookcase • misc. vintage oak bookcases • older Singer sewing machine with wooden carrying case • twisted metal ice cream chairs loop back

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• 6 PM EST

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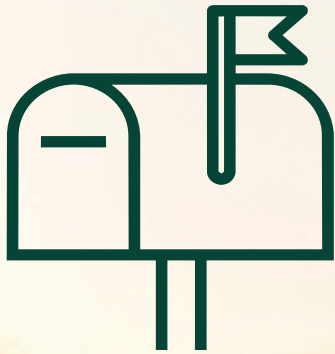
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Medium maturity, smooth line. Strong test weight, keep north of Rt. 36. Good supply.

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Medium maturity, smooth line. Our #1 selling smooth line, consistent, workhorse variety. Strong supply.

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Medium maturity, bearded line. Potential replacement for AGI 310B. **NEW YIELD LEADER!** 4/63 in 2025 OSU wheat trials. Strong supply.

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131.9 BPA: AGI 114
2nd Kannon Jones,
Greens Fork, Indiana
116.2 BPA: AGI 114
3rd Randy Lieb,
Prospect, Ohio
116.0 BPA: AGI 217B

Entries averaged 110.5 BPA & 58.7# test weight

2024

- 1st** Randy Lieb, Prospect, Ohio
117.6 BPA: AGI 217B &
Hartsock Farms, Circleville, Ohio
118.8 BPA: AGI 217B
2nd Nathan & Steve Birkemeier,
Columbus Grove, Ohio
116.9 BPA: AGI 114
3rd Josh Eckstein,
Sunman, Indiana
115.8 BPA: AGI 217B

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