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## Farm injury prevention and treatment topic of web series

By **TIM ALEXANDER**  
Illinois Correspondent

URBANA, Ill. – A University of Illinois (U of I) Cultivating Caution webinar series devoted to farm injury prevention and treatment continued on Aug. 12 with a look at first responder procedures for treatment of tractor rollovers, PTO (power take-off) and auger entanglements and other life-or-limb-threatening events. With farm family members or workers most often the first on the scene after a farm-related injury, expert recommendations for advanced first aid equipment to keep on hand were included in the webinar, which is archived on the U of I farmdoc website under the title “Severe Trauma on the Farm.”

Tractor incidents are the leading cause of death for farmers and farm workers over the past three years, according to Salah Issa, U of I assistant professor of agricultural and industrial safety and health, who tracks on-farm injuries for the university after working in a similar capacity for Purdue University. “We looked at hospital records throughout the U.S., and we found out that tractor-related injuries accounted for about 40 percent of all reported injuries. That’s



**Above:** Tractor and other farm implement rollovers account for about 40 percent of all reported U.S. farm injuries over the past three years, according to University of Illinois researcher Salah Issa. (U of I farmdoc photo)

a big number for a single incident,” he said, adding that his team at U of I identified some 24,000 fatal and non-fatal tractor incidents in the U.S. over the past 50 years.

According to Ed Aukamp, a paramedic field supervisor and former chief of the South Macon, Ill., Fire Protection District, knowing how to quickly respond to rollovers and other farm emergencies can often mean the difference between life and death. “The first thing the first responder must do is ensure that the vehicle is stable. The reason it has rolled is that it was in an unstable situation, and we don’t want to become a victim ourselves. We then have to look for ‘life threats’ to determine if the victim needs transport to a specialty trauma center. The most common injuries we see are typically entanglements, pinch-point (and) crush-type injuries that can lead to tissue asphyxiation,” he said.

Entanglement hazards involving PTOs most commonly involve being pulled into the rotating shaft via loose clothing, shoestrings or hair. Twenty-six percent of farm fatalities in the past three years have occurred as a result of entanglements, according to Issa’s research.

“It all goes back to teaching,” Issa said. “Don’t step over a rotating PTO drive line even if it has a shield; it’s not worth the risk. It’s not worth having something happen to you.”

The primary thing a first responder to such an event must do is to safely disable the power source of the implement the victim has become entangled with, according to Aukamp. Only then can a life threat assessment and extraction be considered.

Issa recommends that kids and farm employees are instructed to keep long hair pulled back, never wear loose or baggy clothes around augers, PTO or any other farm equipment and eschew the wearing of hoodies, sweatpants and any clothing with strings or loose fringe to prevent entanglements. “A tractor PTO running at 500 rpm will pull in a seven-foot length of anything in one second,” he said.

Issa further recommends placing physical signs or stickers on potentially dangerous farm equipment so that young family members and employees are “weaned” with the knowledge that certain implements and items on the farm can maim or kill.

As part of the hourlong webinar, Aukamp offered step-by-step instruction on applying commercial tourniquets correctly in a field setting. He advised families and employers to purchase

( See Farm injury on page 2)



**Above:** Parts of the Midwest experienced massive flooding and high winds recently. This corn field is near Mt. Orab, Ohio, on State Road 68. While the outer sections of the field were standing, a swath of corn was flattened. Photo by Doug Graves. If your farm experienced recent storm damage, send photos and information to connie@farmworldonline.com for possible inclusion in an upcoming issue.

## Experts offer tips on how to resolve issue of mucky, aging farm ponds

By **Celeste Baumgartner**  
Ohio Correspondent

BUTLER COUNTY, Ohio – Aging ponds can get messy with weeds and algae, leaving the pond owner wondering what happened and how to fix it. What was once a beautiful recreation area now has people saying, “Yuck!”

Pond experts Brady Smith, Butler Soil and Water Conservation District rural specialist, and Matt Megois, branch manager of Jones Lake Management’s Miamisburg office, both had suggestions on how to resolve the issue.

“Aging ponds can get messy,” Smith said. “I always compare it to a big sink that never really drains. You have overflow coming off, but in the bottom of the pond there can be sometimes decades worth of sediment or other organic material.”

That material could be dead and decaying algae, plants, other aquatic life, even fish, Smith said. If the pond is in a wooded area, a lot of dead leaves have probably created a mucky mess. Over time, all of that will decrease the depth of the pond.

“It also adds a lot of nutrients to the pond,” Smith said. “That can fuel algal blooms and cause a lot of other issues, and it never really gets better. Usually in smaller ponds the issues are accelerated. If you have a bigger pond, those typically last longer, but over time they all get that muck on the bottom.”

If the pond has a lot of sediment, the owner should check the watershed uphill from the pond. If there is erosion, sometimes just adding a grass buffer around the pond can help stop the erosion; the grass catches the sediment before it can enter the pond.

“Another effective thing I have seen people do is to build a sediment trap,” Smith explained. “A sediment trap can be a smaller pond, like a feeder pond. The water has to enter that pond before it enters your larger pond.”

The sediment trap can also be an artificial wetland with aquatic plants. That will not only stop the sediment, but the plants will be able to collect excess nutrients to prevent them from entering the pond.

“We also recommend aerators for a lot of reasons,” Smith explained. “They can help prevent fish kills by adding oxygen to the water; they can also help create a more active bacterial environment, so hopefully those bacteria will be more active and would be able to digest that muck faster.”

An electric-powered aerator is best, but if the pond is in a remote area, then wind or solar may be the only options. In that situation, Smith said he often recommends solar powered because the technology has gotten so much better.

“The aerator needs to be able to get to the bottom of the pond in the water column,” Smith said. Then it will be able to force air bubbles all the way up from the bottom to the top.

“A lot of people think that a fountain is going to do the same thing that an aerator can do,” he explained. “If you want to see the fountain shooting up, that’s fine, but the fountain is not doing the same job that an aerator would do. The fountain is just cycling the warm water from the top of the pond right back to the top of the pond.”

Both pond experts agreed that too many nutrients are the biggest prob-

(See farm pond on page 8)



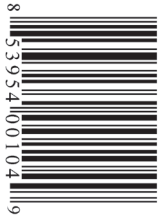
**Farm Girl Adventures**  
A compilation of blogs and adventures of a farm girl over the years

**In this Farm World:**

Farm World columnist has new book available . . . . . **Page 1B**

Indiana joins other states in proclaiming Antique Tractor Day.....**Page 14**







# Indiana farmer dies after becoming overcome by smoke in grain bin

By Stan Maddux  
Indiana Correspondent

ARGOS, Ind. —The death of a farmer inside an Indiana grain bin on August

10 is under investigation. According to the Marshal County Coroner's Office, the victim, Jonathon Hayn, 47, was working inside the grain bin on the family farm when he was apparently

## Farm injury

FROM PAGE 1

tourniquet kits that can be found on the internet or at local medical supply stores. "Exsanguinating bleeds in extremities have high potential for (death)," he said. "In addition to a regular first aid kit a lifesaving tool to have on hand is a tourniquet. They are very easy to use; you snug it up as tight as you can with the velcro, and then use the windlass to twist and turn."

Agricultural workers are seven times more likely to die on the job than the average U.S. worker across all industries, according to Scott Heiberger, Upper Midwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center (UMASHC) of Minneapolis, Minnesota. He cautioned that children are

perhaps the most vulnerable ag community members when it comes to the potential for on-farm injuries.

"We know that more children and youth die working in agriculture than all other industries they might work in combined.

Heiberger's UMASHC is devoted to farm safety preparedness and relates first-hand stories of survivors of farm accidents through a series of injury prevention videos at: <https://umash.umn.edu> › spotlight-telling-the-story. The U of I Cultivating Caution webinar "Severe Trauma on the Farm" can be accessed at [farmdoc.illinois.edu/webinars](http://farmdoc.illinois.edu/webinars).

Additional Cultivating Caution webinar dates and topics are:

Sept. 9: Field Fires  
Oct. 14: Farmer Mental Health  
Nov. 11: Manure Pit Gases

overcome by smoke from burning grain. Emergency responders found Hayn deceased inside the grain bin at the farm in the 14000 block of Maple Road near Argos.

Bill Field, a longtime farm safety expert at Purdue University, said grain bin fires are not uncommon and happen when corn or soybeans contain too much moisture when stored after the fall harvest. Field said the high moisture level causes grain to rot and while decomposing produce heat that can become hot enough to ignite.

Field said hay and other organic materials are also at risk of catching fire when stored at a higher moisture level.

"If you took a bag of lawn clippings and put them in a plastic bag, the next day it's going to be hot because the biological process generates heat as it breaks down," he said.

Over time, Field said grain stored above a 14-percent moisture level forms clumps that stick to the inside walls. A farmer might be tempted to break up those clumps.

Field said the best thing to do when discovering burning grain is allow fire-fighters to handle the situation since they have breathing equipment and training to safely address those situations.

He said one of the best ways to prevent grain bin fires is to store corn and soybeans when they're basically dry. "If stored at the proper moisture level, you can store it for two to three years," he said.

Field also recommends farmers fix any leaks they might have in their grain bins to keep out moisture.

Indiana had five grain bin entrapments last year, which led the nation.

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# Russian grain flow all but shut down due to war with Ukraine

We are starting to see more of the seasonal shift in the market from old crop to new crop. This is not uncommon as the old crop year comes to an end and the U.S. harvest approaches. Not only are futures impacted by this, but so are basis and spreads, even processing margins. Board crush on soybeans has fallen considerably in recent weeks and is now holding near \$2.50 per bushel. While still a very attractive return, it is over \$1 off its peak. Spot crush margin has now receded to a point where it is nearly equal to new crop. This once again shows how old crop values tend to gravitate toward new crop as the marketing year progresses.

The latest Census export data for the month of June was mixed. Corn exports for the month totaled a record 7.93 million metric tons, an increase of 9.3 percent from last June. Distiller grain exports were an 11-year high at 1.09 mmt. Ethanol exports in June were record large at 206.06 million gallons, an 8.65 percent increase from June 2025. Soybean exports were a 4-year high at 1.9 mmt, although this was a 14.35 percent decline from May. June soy meal exports were a monthly record at 1.5 mmt. Wheat exports in June were 3-year low at 1.47 mmt, an 8.5 percent decline from May.

June beef exports totaled 199 million pounds, a 6-year low for June but the highest volume in three months. Pork exports were down 3.2 percent from 2025 and down 10.3 percent from May with 540.19 million pounds.

The escalation in fighting between Ukraine and Russia has all but shut down Russian grain flow. Nearly all ports in the Black Sea and Sea of Azov are now closed for loading as Ukraine continues to attack both terminals and vessels in the region. As a result, Russia has now turned to the Baltic states for export loadings.

While this has been favorable for global grain values, it has generated concerns over rising food values. Both wheat and corn have rallied on the lack of Russian competition, and this has started to dive up some food costs as well. Nearly 25 percent of the world's grain needs come from the Black Sea, and this has now been halted. When added to high-priced beef, this only strains a global consumer even more.

May biofuel manufacturing capacity in the United States totaled 4.97 billion gallons. This led to a record soy oil consumption total of 1.43 billion pounds, a year-to-year increase of 17.1 percent from last year. Biodiesel consumed 747 million pounds, an increase of 8.9 percent from 2025. Renewable diesel consumption was 687 million pounds, an increase of 28 percent. Both of these consumption totals were record high.

Soybean crush for the month of June 2026 was as expected by trade. A total of 218 million bu of soybeans were crushed in the month, 5 mbu more than in May and 21 mbu more than June 2025. Crude soy oil production totaled 2.53 billion pounds, up 3 percent from May and 8 percent more than June 2025. End of June soy oil stocks totaled 2.09 billion pounds versus the 2.32-billion-pound estimate. Meal stocks at the end of June were 433,277 tons, down 4,000 tons from May. Year-to-date crush now totals 2.216 billion bu, an increase of 8.5 percent from last year. This is slightly higher than the USDA estimate for the year.

Ethanol demand for corn in June was as expected as well. A total of 467 mbu of corn was consumed for ethanol in the month, 1 percent less than in May, but 4 percent more than June



MARKET ANALYSIS  
By Karl Setzer

2025. Dried distiller grain production totaled 1.82 million tons, up 3 percent from May and down 3 percent from last June.

An interesting situation is starting to develop in the Panama Canal. The El Nino weather pattern has brought drought conditions to several regions of the globe, and one getting more attention is the Panama Canal. Drought has dropped water levels far enough at the canal that draft restrictions have been enacted and are starting to impact global trade. As of July 24th, a draft restriction of 49 feet was placed, and this is expected to be lowered in August. Officials have also suspended some booking slots, lowering daily traffic from 36 vessels to 34. As the El Nino strengthens these low water levels will become more of an issue.

Crop loss in the European Union is becoming more of a market concern, primarily on corn. Total EU corn production is now forecast at 48 million metric tons, a 20 percent decline from last year. Record heat and drought conditions have caused this loss. One of the countries impacted the most has been France with a projected crop of 6.9 mmt, the smallest crop in fifty years. Other members are seeing even greater losses such as Germany and Spain.

Brazil has started to load out sorghum for China. China imported a small volume of Brazil sorghum in January to see if it made it through inspections. China now has 407,000 metric tons of sorghum enroute to help compensate for grain losses in that country. Chinese importers favor sorghum over corn as the import safety procedures are less strict, mainly due to corn's GMO traits. While this dampens hopes for U.S. corn exports to China, it does create demand in the global market regardless of who the source is.

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## US records hottest month ever in July

KENSINGTON, Maryland (AP) – The contiguous United States sizzled to its hottest month ever in July, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

July averaged 76.89 degrees Fahrenheit across the Lower 48 states, eclipsing the Dust Bowl's July 1936 by an eighth of a degree. Records go back to 1895.

"It's not good when you're breaking records from the Dust Bowl, which we are in this case," said meteorologist Jeff Masters, of Yale Climate Connections. Although it was unusually cool in Alaska, hotter-than-normal conditions blanketed the Lower 48, with the most excessive heat in the Mountain West, Southwest, Northern Plains and Southeast. The heat was so widespread that every one of the Lower 48 states was at least 1 degree Fahrenheit warmer than the 20th century average, said Russ Vose, chief of monitoring at NOAA's National Center for Environmental Information.

The heat in the Dust Bowl years was more concentrated in parts of the Midwest and was aggravated by agricultural practices at the time, Vose said.

"Extremely high temperatures across the continental U.S. this summer, along with intense drought and fire conditions, are absolutely consistent with the climate change signal," said Katharine Jacobs, a climate scientist at the University of Arizona.

The biggest driver of the record heat was nighttime lows that smashed the old mark for hottest minimums by 0.7 degrees, NOAA said. NOAA's calculation is based on averaging 24 hours of temperature, not just highs or lows.

"If you're talking heat waves, that

nighttime low is incredibly important for determining total heat stress," Masters said. "So, if it doesn't cool off at night, your body doesn't have time to readjust to all the heat."

The years 2021 and 1936 tie for America's hottest summer, which is June through August. Through July, 2026 is a shade cooler than 2021, which was powered by record heat in June.

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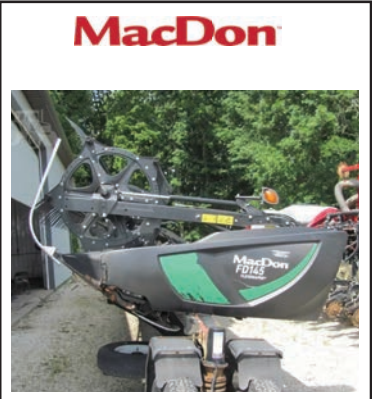
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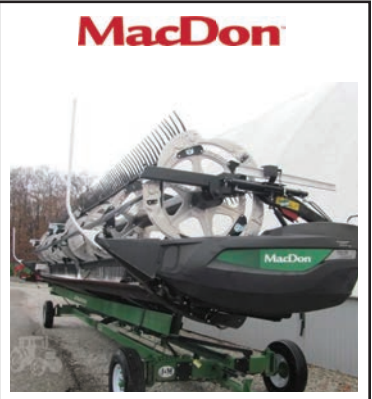
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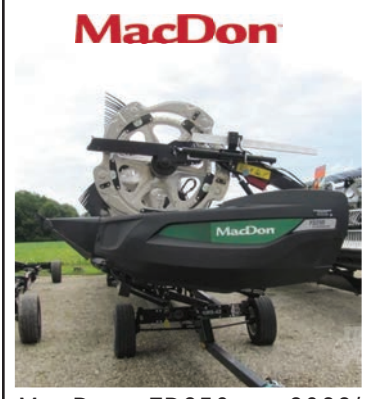
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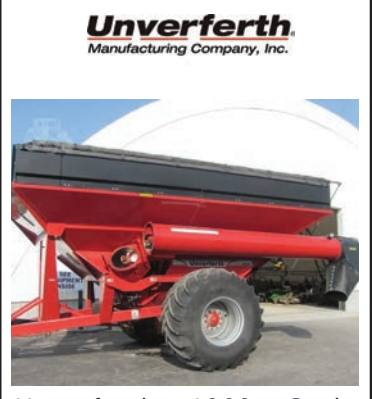
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# MARKETS

## Blue Grass Stockyards

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Livestock Weighted Average Report for 8/10/2026 - Final AUCTION

|                     | This Week  | Last Reported<br>8/3/2026 | Last Year  |
|---------------------|------------|---------------------------|------------|
| Total Receipts:     | 927        | 366                       | 534        |
| Feeder Cattle:      | 877(94.6%) | 282(77.0%)                | 427(80.0%) |
| Slaughter Cattle:   | 46(5.0%)   | 80(21.9%)                 | 93(17.4%)  |
| Replacement Cattle: | 4(0.4%)    | 4(1.1%)                   | 14(2.6%)   |

Compared to last Monday the feeder market was stronger with a good quality offering. Feeder steers 600 lbs and under were sharply higher with a moderate supply and strong demand for weaned and harder conditioned calves. Feeder heifers 550 lbs and under were sharply higher as well while the 600-650 lbs heifers were mostly steady to 2.00 lower with a good supply and good demand. Yearling steers and heifers appeared stronger with a good supply, but limited head to comparisons. Slaughter cows were 2.00 to 4.00 lower with a moderate supply and slaughter bulls were steady with good demand. Supply included: 95% Feeder Cattle (54% Steers, 0% Dairy Steers, 34% Heifers, 11% Bulls); 5% Slaughter Cattle (5% Heifers, 67% Cows, 28% Bulls); 0% Replacement Cattle (60% Stock Cows, 20% Cow-Calf Pairs, 20% Bulls). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 76%.

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| 23 Hd Black/FEWCHRX 745 lb 382.50   | 83 Hd Black/BWF 637 lbs 398.90 |
| 29 Hd Black/1CHRX 958 lbs 321.00    |                                |
| 34 Hd 80% Black/XBRD 960 lbs 320.00 |                                |
| 53 Hd Charx/FEWBLK 979 lbs 320.25   |                                |
| 57 Hd Black/BW 988 lbs 319.25       |                                |
| 51 Hd 70% Black/XBR 1043 lbs 310.00 |                                |

### FEEDER CATTLE

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

| Head | Wt Range | Avg Wt | Price Range   | Avg Price          |
|------|----------|--------|---------------|--------------------|
| 1    | 285      | 285    | 530.00        | 530.00             |
| 1    | 290      | 290    | 645.00        | 645.00 Fancy       |
| 2    | 330-335  | 333    | 480.00-487.50 | 483.72             |
| 1    | 340      | 340    | 615.00        | 615.00 Fancy       |
| 1    | 380      | 380    | 507.50        | 507.50             |
| 2    | 387      | 387    | 590.00        | 590.00 Fancy       |
| 6    | 420-438  | 434    | 500.00-525.00 | 511.58             |
| 3    | 405-415  | 410    | 535.00-545.00 | 539.21 Fancy       |
| 4    | 462-490  | 476    | 457.50-482.50 | 469.63             |
| 8    | 523-541  | 532    | 430.00-440.00 | 436.32             |
| 7    | 505-530  | 526    | 455.00-467.00 | 465.36 Value Added |
| 3    | 582-590  | 585    | 385.00-397.00 | 392.96             |
| 4    | 555      | 555    | 443.00        | 443.00 Value Added |
| 2    | 620-645  | 633    | 385.00-412.50 | 398.48             |
| 5    | 607-618  | 614    | 431.00-437.00 | 434.63 Value Added |
| 14   | 678-680  | 680    | 369.00-391.00 | 386.30             |
| 21   | 650-673  | 656    | 397.00-418.00 | 405.79 Value Added |
| 9    | 701-730  | 707    | 351.00-370.00 | 364.23             |
| 23   | 745      | 745    | 382.50        | 382.50 Value Added |
| 11   | 750-793  | 769    | 351.00-370.00 | 364.13             |
| 173  | 958-988  | 975    | 319.25-321.00 | 319.99 Value Added |
| 1    | 1035     | 1035   | 304.00        | 304.00             |
| 51   | 1043     | 1043   | 310.00        | 310.00 Value Added |
| 1    | 1055     | 1055   | 302.00        | 302.00             |

STEERS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

| Head | Wt Range | Avg Wt | Price Range   | Avg Price |
|------|----------|--------|---------------|-----------|
| 1    | 380      | 380    | 450.00        | 450.00    |
| 1    | 440      | 440    | 431.00        | 431.00    |
| 1    | 470      | 470    | 422.50        | 422.50    |
| 3    | 530-545  | 535    | 392.50-401.00 | 398.11    |
| 1    | 715      | 715    | 330.00        | 330.00    |
| 1    | 760      | 760    | 319.00        | 319.00    |
| 1    | 1170     | 1170   | 221.00        | 221.00    |

| Head | Wt Range | Avg Wt | Price Range | Avg Price |
|------|----------|--------|-------------|-----------|
| 1    | 520      | 520    | 327.50      | 327.50    |
| 1    | 835      | 835    | 285.00      | 285.00    |

STEERS - Large 1 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

| Head | Wt Range | Avg Wt | Price Range | Avg Price |
|------|----------|--------|-------------|-----------|
| 1    | 565      | 565    | 372.00      | 372.00    |

DAIRY STEERS - Large 3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

| Head | Wt Range | Avg Wt | Price Range | Avg Price |
|------|----------|--------|-------------|-----------|
| 1    | 305      | 305    | 255.00      | 255.00    |

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

| Head | Wt Range | Avg Wt | Price Range   | Avg Price          |
|------|----------|--------|---------------|--------------------|
| 1    | 275      | 275    | 462.50        | 462.50             |
| 2    | 297      | 297    | 502.50        | 502.50 Fancy       |
| 5    | 360-390  | 373    | 400.00-450.00 | 426.20             |
| 7    | 415-445  | 432    | 400.00-432.50 | 415.76             |
| 10   | 450-495  | 472    | 400.00-423.00 | 406.27             |
| 4    | 526      | 526    | 390.00        | 390.00             |
| 28   | 513-540  | 527    | 400.00-422.50 | 416.10 Value Added |
| 1    | 555      | 555    | 375.00        | 375.00             |
| 19   | 552-588  | 572    | 400.00-422.50 | 416.80 Value Added |
| 7    | 607-642  | 618    | 370.00-379.00 | 373.58             |
| 113  | 610-637  | 632    | 397.50-401.00 | 399.17 Value Added |
| 1    | 660      | 660    | 345.00        | 345.00             |

|    |         |     |               |                    |
|----|---------|-----|---------------|--------------------|
| 6  | 651     | 651 | 372.00        | 372.00 Value Added |
| 13 | 712-720 | 715 | 307.50-333.00 | 330.87             |
| 3  | 780-792 | 788 | 305.00-311.00 | 309.02             |
| 2  | 882     | 882 | 267.50        | 267.50             |

HEIFERS - Medium and Large 2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

| Head | Wt Range | Avg Wt | Price Range   | Avg Price |
|------|----------|--------|---------------|-----------|
| 1    | 325      | 325    | 432.50        | 432.50    |
| 1    | 455      | 455    | 380.00        | 380.00    |
| 4    | 510-535  | 527    | 350.00-360.00 | 354.32    |
| 2    | 627      | 627    | 345.00        | 345.00    |
| 1    | 730      | 730    | 280.00        | 280.00    |
| 1    | 880      | 880    | 232.50        | 232.50    |

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

| Head | Wt Range | Avg Wt | Price Range   | Avg Price    |
|------|----------|--------|---------------|--------------|
| 1    | 325      | 325    | 545.00        | 545.00       |
| 1    | 320      | 320    | 590.00        | 590.00 Fancy |
| 1    | 350      | 350    | 600.00        | 600.00 Fancy |
| 1    | 415      | 415    | 510.00        | 510.00       |
| 1    | 400      | 400    | 547.50        | 547.50 Fancy |
| 3    | 470-495  | 482    | 447.50-472.50 | 456.62       |
| 6    | 507-540  | 524    | 407.00-420.00 | 412.90       |
| 1    | 535      | 535    | 435.00        | 435.00 Fancy |
| 4    | 577-585  | 581    | 397.50-417.00 | 407.32       |
| 3    | 615-620  | 618    | 389.00-402.50 | 398.02       |
| 23   | 670-691  | 679    | 339.00-369.00 | 356.20       |
| 6    | 728      | 728    | 336.00        | 336.00       |
| 5    | 809      | 809    | 302.00        | 302.00       |
| 1    | 810      | 810    | 330.00        | 330.00 Fancy |
| 1    | 960      | 960    | 241.00        | 241.00       |
| 1    | 1005     | 1005   | 231.00        | 231.00       |
| 1    | 1060     | 1060   | 230.00        | 230.00       |
| 1    | 1125     | 1125   | 223.00        | 223.00       |
| 1    | 1195     | 1195   | 211.00        | 211.00       |

BULLS - Medium and Large 2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

| Head | Wt Range  | Avg Wt | Price Range   | Avg Price |
|------|-----------|--------|---------------|-----------|
| 1    | 395       | 395    | 450.00        | 450.00    |
| 4    | 407-440   | 424    | 447.50-450.00 | 448.70    |
| 2    | 497       | 497    | 420.00        | 420.00    |
| 1    | 645       | 645    | 317.50        | 317.50    |
| 2    | 715       | 715    | 260.00        | 260.00    |
| 1    | 840       | 840    | 265.00        | 265.00    |
| 1    | 885       | 885    | 260.00        | 260.00    |
| 2    | 1020-1025 | 1023   | 207.00-211.00 | 209.00    |

### SLAUGHTER CATTLE

HEIFERS - Select and Choice 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

| Head | Wt Range  | Avg Wt | Price Range   | Avg Price | Dressing |
|------|-----------|--------|---------------|-----------|----------|
| 2    | 1180-1260 | 1220   | 211.00-217.00 | 214.10    | Average  |

COWS - Breaker 75-80% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

| Head | Wt Range  | Avg Wt | Price Range   | Avg Price | Dressing |
|------|-----------|--------|---------------|-----------|----------|
| 4    | 1260-1760 | 1501   | 170.00-183.00 | 177.34    | Average  |
| 5    | 1440-1720 | 1584   | 187.00-192.00 | 189.20    | High     |

COWS - Boner 80-85% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

| Head | Wt Range  | Avg Wt | Price Range   | Avg Price | Dressing |
|------|-----------|--------|---------------|-----------|----------|
| 6    | 1215-1410 | 1320   | 174.00-181.00 | 177.32    | Average  |
| 1    | 1220      | 1220   | 197.00        | 197.00    | High     |

COWS - Lean 85-90% (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

| Head | Wt Range  | Avg Wt | Price Range   | Avg Price | Dressing |
|------|-----------|--------|---------------|-----------|----------|
| 5    | 970-1255  | 1082   | 145.00-168.00 | 155.90    | Average  |
| 4    | 1010-1625 | 1295   | 166.00-179.00 | 174.81    | High     |
| 1    | 830       | 830    | 122.00        | 122.00    | Low      |

BULLS - 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

| Head | Wt Range  | Avg Wt | Price Range   | Avg Price | Dressing |
|------|-----------|--------|---------------|-----------|----------|
| 7    | 1240-2015 | 1493   | 207.00-224.00 | 218.67    | Average  |
| 1    | 1890      | 1890   | 234.00        | 234.00    | High     |
| 3    | 1080-1195 | 1123   | 181.00-195.00 | 189.86    | Low      |

### REPLACEMENT CATTLE

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

| Age | Stage | Head | Wt Range | Avg Wt | Price Range   | Avg Price |
|-----|-------|------|----------|--------|---------------|-----------|
| 2-8 | O     | 3    | 965-1260 | 1082   | 243.00-270.00 | 252.83    |

COW-CALF PAIRS - Small and Medium 1-2 w/ 150-300 lbs calf (Per Unit / Actual Wt)

| Age | Stage | Head | Wt Range | Avg Wt | Price Range | Avg Price |
|-----|-------|------|----------|--------|-------------|-----------|
| >5  | O     | 1    | 805      | 805    | 2150.00     | 2150.00   |

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

| Age | Head | Wt Range | Avg Wt | Price Range | Avg Price |
|-----|------|----------|--------|-------------|-----------|
| <2  | 1    | 175      | 1175   | 245.00      | 245.00    |

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 13, 2026 - Final

### FUTURE SETTLEMENTS

| Exchange | Commodity  | Closing Settlement Prices (¢/bu) as of 8/13/26 |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |  |  |  |
|----------|------------|------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--|--|--|
| CBOT     | Corn       | 448.00 (Sep 26)                                | 472.00 (Dec 26)  | 487.75 (Mar 27)  | 496.25 (May 27)  | 500.25 (Jul 27)  | 485.50 (Sep 27)  | 492.00 (Dec 27)  |  |  |  |
| CBOT     | Soybeans   | 1168.25 (Aug 26)                               | 1166.00 (Sep 26) | 1182.25 (Nov 26) | 1197.75 (Jan 27) | 1205.50 (Mar 27) | 1212.50 (May 27) | 1217.75 (Jul 27) |  |  |  |
| CBOT     | Wheat      | 652.75 (Sep 26)                                | 668.25 (Dec 26)  | 685.25 (Mar 27)  | 692.50 (May 27)  | 692.50 (Jul 27)  | 700.25 (Sep 27)  | 713.25 (Dec 27)  |  |  |  |
| CBOT     | White Oats | 316.50 (Sep 26)                                | 340.25 (Dec 26)  | 353.50 (Mar 27)  | 359.50 (May 27)  | 350.75 (Jul 27)  | 345.00 (Sep 27)  | 355.25 (Dec 27)  |  |  |  |
| KCBT     | Wheat      | 720.50 (Sep 26)                                | 734.75 (Dec 26)  | 748.75 (Mar 27)  | 755.50 (May 27)  | 754.75 (Jul 27)  | 760.75 (Sep 27)  | 771.25 (Dec 27)  |  |  |  |
| MGE      | Wheat      | 669.25 (Sep 26)                                | 693.75 (Dec 26)  | 712.50 (Mar 27)  | 724.25 (May 27)  | 731.75 (Jul 27)  | 725.00 (Sep 27)  | 731.25 (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         | 5.2300-5.3800 | DN 0.0900    | 5.3050  |
| Pennyrile                        | 75.00Z           | UNCH         | 5.4700        | DN 0.0875    | 5.4700  |

| Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional |                     |                     |                      |                     |                |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| <u>Region/Location</u>                 | <u>Basic (¢/Bu)</u> | <u>Basis Change</u> | <u>Price (\$/Bu)</u> | <u>Price Change</u> | <u>Average</u> |
| Ohio River - Lower KY                  | 69.00Z to 75.00Z    | UP 4.00-UNCH        | 5.4100-5.4700        | DN 0.0475-DN 0.0875 | 5.4400         |
| Purchase                               | 60.00Z              | UNCH                | 5.3200               | DN 0.0875           | 5.3200         |
| Purchase                               | 60.00Z              | UNCH                | 5.3200               | DN 0.0875           | 5.3200         |

### US #2 YELLOW CORN (BULK)

| Country Elevators - Conventional |                     |                     |                      |                     |                |  |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------|--|
| <u>Region/Location</u>           | <u>Basic (¢/Bu)</u> | <u>Basis Change</u> | <u>Price (\$/Bu)</u> | <u>Price Change</u> | <u>Average</u> |  |
| Purchase                         | 0.00U               | UNCH                | 4.4800               | DN 0.0900           | 4.4800         |  |
| Purchase                         | -15.00Z             | UNCH                | 4.5700               | DN 0.0875           | 4.5700         |  |
| Green River                      | 10.00U              | UNCH                | 4.5800               | DN 0.0900           | 4.5800         |  |
| Green River                      | -10.00Z             | UNCH                | 4.6200               | DN 0.0875           | 4.6200         |  |
| Pennyrile                        | -15.00U to 0.00U    | UNCH-DN 3.00        | 4.3300-4.4800        | DN 0.0900-DN 0.1200 | 4.4050         |  |
| Pennyrile                        | -40.00Z to -12.00Z  | UNCH-DN 4.00        | 4.3200-4.6000        | DN 0.0875-DN 0.1275 | 4.4250         |  |
| Louisville                       | -38.00U to -5.00U   | DN 9.00-UNCH        | 4.1000-4.4300        | DN 0.1800-DN 0.0900 | 4.2650         |  |
| Louisville                       | -38.00Z             | DN 47.00            | 4.3400               | DN 0.5575           | 4.3400         |  |
| Bluegrass                        | -15.00U             | UNCH                | 4.3300               | DN 0.0900           | 4.3300         |  |
| Bluegrass                        | -45.00Z             | UNCH                | 4.2700               | DN 0.0875           | 4.2700         |  |

| Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional |                    |                 |               |                     |         |  |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------------|---------|--|
| Region/Location                        | Basic (¢/Bu)       | Basis Change    | Price (\$/Bu) | Price Change        | Average |  |
| Ohio River - Upper KY                  | -14.00U            | UNCH            | 4.3400        | DN 0.0900           | 4.3400  |  |
| Ohio River - Upper KY                  | -40.00Z to -33.00Z | UNCH-DN 1.00    | 4.3200-4.3900 | DN 0.0875-DN 0.0975 | 4.3550  |  |
| Ohio River - Lower KY                  | -3.00U to 3.00U    | DN 2.00-DN 3.00 | 4.4500-4.5100 | DN 0.1100-DN 0.1200 | 4.4920  |  |
| Ohio River - Lower KY                  | -23.00Z to -15.00Z | UP 5.00-DN 1.00 | 4.4900-4.5700 | DN 0.0375-DN 0.0975 | 4.5350  |  |
| Purchase                               | -3.00U to 3.00U    | DN 2.00-UNCH    | 4.4500-4.5100 | DN 0.1100-DN 0.0900 | 4.4800  |  |
| Purchase                               | 3.00U to -20.00Z   | UNCH-DN 5.00    | 4.5100-4.5200 | DN 0.0900-DN 0.1375 | 4.5150  |  |



MARKETS

Weekly National Sheep Summary  
For Week Ending Friday, August 7, 2026

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |  |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
| Weekly Trends: Compared to last week slaughter lambs 4.00 to 10.00 higher. Feeder lambs sold with higher undertones. Slaughter ewes mixed.                                                                               |  |  | Ft. Collins: 125.00-162.50.                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |  |
| All sheep sold per hundred weight (CWT) unless otherwise specified.                                                                                                                                                      |  |  | Mount Hope: 140.00-192.50.                                                                                                                                                                                      |  |  |
| Slaughter Lambs: Choice and Prime 1-3                                                                                                                                                                                    |  |  | Kalona: 150.00-185.00.                                                                                                                                                                                          |  |  |
| San Angelo: 80-90 lbs 297.00; 100-110 lbs 259.00-282.00.                                                                                                                                                                 |  |  | Equity Coop: No test.                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |  |
| New Holland: 50-60 lbs 300.00-375.00; 60-70 lbs 310.00-360.00; 70-80 lbs 290.00-340.00; 80-90 lbs 285.00-315.00; 90-100 lbs 285.00-350.00; 100-110 lbs 275.00-310.00; 110-120 lbs 295.00-315.00.                         |  |  | Sioux Falls: 125.00-185.00.                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |  |
| Billings: No test.                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |  | Buffalo, MO: No test.                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |  |
| Ft. Collins: 50-60 lbs 295.00-345.00; 60-70 lbs 292.50-355.00; 70-80 lbs 280.00-330.00; 80-70 lbs 315.00-330.00; 100-110 lbs 267.50-280.00.                                                                              |  |  | Missouri: No test.                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |  |
| Mount Hope: 40-50 lbs 305.00-395.00; 50-60 lbs 322.50-432.50; 60-70 lbs 315.00-375.00; 70-80 lbs 302.50-345.00; 80-90 lbs 290.00-325.00; 90-100 lbs 277.50-340.00; 100-110 lbs 270.00-320.00; 110-120 lbs 275.00-297.50. |  |  | Feeder Lambs: Medium and Large 1:                                                                                                                                                                               |  |  |
| Kalona: 70-80 lbs 350.00-390.00; 80-90 lbs 290.00-315.00; 90-100 lbs 275.00-305.00.                                                                                                                                      |  |  | San Angelo: No test.                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |  |
| Equity Coop: No test.                                                                                                                                                                                                    |  |  | Billings: 40-50 lbs 352.00; 50-60 lbs 347.00-358.00; 60-70 lbs 344.00-355.00; 70-80 lbs 336.00-348.00; 80-90 lbs 329.00-344.00; 90-100 lbs 280.00-329.00; 100-110 lbs 299.00-315.00; 110-120 lbs 291.00-300.00. |  |  |
| Sioux Falls: 90-100 lbs 315.00; 100-110 lbs 285.00-310.00; 110-120 lbs 295.00-317.00; 120-130 lbs 295.00-316.00; 130-140 lbs 301.00-317.00; 140-150 lbs 306.00-317.00; 150-160 lbs 311.00-315.00.                        |  |  | Sioux Falls: 40-50 lbs 475.00-575.00; 50-60 lbs 385.00-460.00; 60-70 lbs 360.00-405.00; 70-80 lbs 350.00-380.00; 80-90 lbs 312.50-355.00; 90-100 lbs 325.00-332.00.                                             |  |  |
| Buffalo, MO: No test.                                                                                                                                                                                                    |  |  | Buffalo, MO: No test.                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |  |
| Missouri: 100-110 lbs 215.00.                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |  | Missouri: No test.                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |  |
| Equity Coop: No test.                                                                                                                                                                                                    |  |  | Ft. Collins: No test.                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |  |
| Slaughter Ewes: Good 2-3:                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |  | Kalona: No test.                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |  |
| San Angelo: 129.00-160.00.                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |  | Equity Coop: No test.                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |  |
| New Holland: 175.00-205.00.                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |  | Arkansas: No test.                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |  |
| Billings: 105.00-120.00.                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |  | Sioux Falls: No test.                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |  |  | Buffalo, MO: No test..                                                                                                                                                                                          |  |  |

Sheep and lamb slaughter under federal inspection for the week to date totaled 35,000 compared to 32,000 last week and 34,886 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

Weekly Combined Regional  
Shell Egg Report

|                                                 |                 |               |              |                      |  |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|----------------------|--|
| Report for: 08/02/2026 - 08/08/2026             |                 |               |              |                      |  |
| National Shell Eggs - Caged                     |                 |               |              |                      |  |
| Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen     |                 |               |              |                      |  |
|                                                 |                 |               |              | Last                 |  |
| Class                                           | Price Range     | Average Price | Price Change | Reported (7/31/2026) |  |
| Extra Large                                     | 124.00 - 154.00 | 142.00        | -3.00        | 145.00               |  |
| Large                                           | 123.00 - 145.00 | 135.94        | -3.00        | 138.94               |  |
| Medium                                          | 41.00 - 61.00   | 51.75         | 0.00         | 51.75                |  |
| Midwest Shell Eggs - Caged                      |                 |               |              |                      |  |
| Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen     |                 |               |              |                      |  |
|                                                 |                 |               |              | Last                 |  |
| Class                                           | Price Range     | Average Price | Price Change | Reported (7/31/2026) |  |
| Extra Large                                     | 124.00 - 133.00 | 128.50        | -3.00        | 131.50               |  |
| Large                                           | 123.00 - 132.00 | 127.50        | -3.00        | 130.50               |  |
| Medium                                          | 41.00 - 50.00   | 45.50         | 0.00         | 45.50                |  |
| Delivered Store Door, White, Cents Per Dozen    |                 |               |              |                      |  |
|                                                 |                 |               |              | Last                 |  |
| Class                                           | Price Range     | Average Price | Price Change | Reported (7/31/2026) |  |
| Extra Large                                     | 131.00 - 139.00 | 135.00        | -3.00        | 138.00               |  |
| Large                                           | 129.00 - 137.00 | 133.00        | -3.00        | 136.00               |  |
| Medium                                          | 47.00 - 55.00   | 51.00         | 0.00         | 51.00                |  |
| Paid to Producers - FOB, White, Cents Per Dozen |                 |               |              |                      |  |
|                                                 |                 |               |              | Last                 |  |
| Class                                           | Price Range     | Average Price | Price Change | Reported (7/31/2026) |  |
| Large                                           | 105.00 - 115.00 | 110.00        | -3.00        | 113.00               |  |
| Medium                                          | 23.00 - 27.00   | 25.00         | 0.00         | 25.00                |  |
| Small                                           | 10.00 - 16.00   | 13.00         | 0.00         | 13.00                |  |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                 |               |              |                      |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|----------------------|--|
| Northeast Shell Eggs - Caged                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                 |               |              |                      |  |
| Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                 |               |              |                      |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                 |               |              | Last                 |  |
| Class                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Price Range     | Average Price | Price Change | Reported (7/31/2026) |  |
| Extra Large                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 137.00 - 154.00 | 145.50        | -3.00        | 148.50               |  |
| Large                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 131.00 - 145.00 | 138.00        | -3.00        | 141.00               |  |
| Medium                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 44.00 - 57.00   | 50.50         | 0.00         | 50.50                |  |
| South Central Shell Eggs - Caged                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                 |               |              |                      |  |
| Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                 |               |              |                      |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                 |               |              | Last                 |  |
| Class                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Price Range     | Average Price | Price Change | Reported (7/31/2026) |  |
| Extra Large                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 142.50 - 151.00 | 146.75        | -3.00        | 149.75               |  |
| Large                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 135.50 - 144.00 | 139.75        | -3.00        | 142.75               |  |
| Medium                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 52.50 - 61.00   | 56.75         | 0.00         | 56.75                |  |
| Southeast Shell Eggs - Caged                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                 |               |              |                      |  |
| Delivered Warehouse, White, Cents Per Dozen                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                 |               |              |                      |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                 |               |              | Last                 |  |
| Class                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Price Range     | Average Price | Price Change | Reported (7/31/2026) |  |
| Extra Large                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 143.50 - 151.00 | 147.25        | -3.00        | 150.25               |  |
| Large                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 135.00 - 142.00 | 138.50        | -3.00        | 141.50               |  |
| Medium                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 50.50 - 58.00   | 54.25         | 0.00         | 54.25                |  |
| 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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                 |               |              |                      |  |

Daily Livestock and Poultry Slaughter

|                                                                                             |            |            |             |               |               |               |               |        |          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------|----------|
| Report For Thursday, August 13, 2026 - Final                                                |            |            |             |               |               |               |               |        |          |
| Current Day Slaughter                                                                       |            |            |             |               |               |               |               |        |          |
| Thur., Aug 13, 2026                                                                         | Week Ago   | Year Ago   | WTD         | Prev Week WTD | Last Year WTD | 2026 YTD      | 2025 YTD      | YTD    | % Change |
| Calves 1,000                                                                                | 1,000      | 316        | 4,000       | 4,000         | 1,640         | 58,738        | 76,615        | -23.3% |          |
| Cattle 106,000                                                                              | 107,000    | 115,052    | 416,000     | 413,000       | 450,200       | 16,782,878    | 18,268,598    | -8.1%  |          |
| Hogs 484,000                                                                                | 482,000    | 475,973    | 1,906,000   | 1,862,000     | 1,917,165     | 77,482,108    | 77,921,830    | -0.6%  |          |
| Sheep 8,000                                                                                 | 8,000      | 6,967      | 31,000      | 30,000        | 32,299        | 1,162,839     | 1,207,023     | -3.7%  |          |
| Chicken (Young) 35,863,000                                                                  | 35,799,000 | 35,427,000 | 142,563,000 | 143,064,000   | 140,505,000   | 5,959,586,000 | 5,881,078,000 | 1.3%   |          |
| Previous Daily Slaughter                                                                    |            |            |             |               |               |               |               |        |          |
| Wed., Aug 12, 2026                                                                          | Week Ago   | Year Ago   | WTD         | Prev Week WTD | Last Year WTD | 2026 YTD      | 2025 YTD      | YTD    | % Change |
| Calves 1,000                                                                                | 1,000      | 446        | 3,000       | 3,000         | 1,324         | 57,738        | 76,299        | -24.3% |          |
| Cattle 106,000                                                                              | 106,000    | 117,096    | 310,000     | 306,000       | 335,148       | 16,676,878    | 18,153,546    | -8.1%  |          |
| Hogs 484,000                                                                                | 484,000    | 477,978    | 1,422,000   | 1,380,000     | 1,441,192     | 76,998,108    | 77,445,857    | -0.6%  |          |
| Sheep 6,000                                                                                 | 6,000      | 7,070      | 23,000      | 22,000        | 25,332        | 1,154,839     | 1,200,056     | -3.8%  |          |
| Chicken (Young) 35,982,000                                                                  | 35,711,000 | 34,744,000 | 106,700,000 | 107,265,000   | 105,078,000   | 5,923,723,000 | 5,845,651,000 | 1.3%   |          |
| Previous Day Breakdown                                                                      |            |            |             |               |               |               |               |        |          |
| Wed., Aug 12, 2026                                                                          |            |            |             |               |               |               |               |        |          |
| Cattle Steers/Heifers ... 87,000 Cows/Bulls ... 19,000                                      |            |            |             |               |               |               |               |        |          |
| Explanatory Notes: Livestock Species listed consists of young and mature animals.           |            |            |             |               |               |               |               |        |          |
| Poultry references young only. Year to Date calculation is based on week 1 of calendar year |            |            |             |               |               |               |               |        |          |
| R = Revision WTD = Week to Date YTD = Year to Date                                          |            |            |             |               |               |               |               |        |          |
| USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News                                             |            |            |             |               |               |               |               |        |          |
| Washington, DC   (202) 720-1990   https://ams.usda.gov/lpgmn                                |            |            |             |               |               |               |               |        |          |
| https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/   https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/viewReport/3208      |            |            |             |               |               |               |               |        |          |

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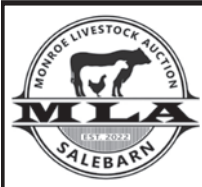
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\*please note that our market report is an overall average price-they are not always the highest and lowest price.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Small Animals</b><br>Chickens \$2.00-\$9.00<br>Bantys \$1.00-\$8.00<br>Ducks \$5.00-\$10.00<br>Pigeons \$4.25-\$5.00<br>Eggs \$1.25-\$2.25<br>Rooster \$1.00-\$13.50<br>Turkey \$47.50<br>Rabbits \$3.00-\$16.00<br>Veal Calves \$850-\$1190<br>Holstein (80# & UP) \$1200-\$1600<br>Beef Cross (80# & UP) 412 | <b>Sheep</b><br>Ewes \$1.25-\$2.25<br>40-60# Lambs \$2.90-\$3.95<br>61-80# Lambs \$2.85-\$3.80<br>81-100# Lambs \$2.00-\$3.20<br>295<br>Goats \$50.00-\$440.00<br>Billys \$35.00-\$325.00<br>Nannies \$40.00-\$150.00<br>Kids 245<br>Feeder Cattle Dairy and Beef 200-500# \$0.80-\$3.40<br>501-800# \$0.70-\$2.90<br>149 | <b>Cows</b><br>Cull Cows \$1.20-\$1.99<br>Bulls \$1.90-\$2.15<br>21<br>Fat Cattle \$1.90-\$2.05<br>Holstein \$2.27-\$2.30<br>Colored 14<br>Pigs \$0.50-\$0.80<br>Fat Hogs \$0.43-\$0.59<br>Sows \$0.12-\$0.50<br>Boars 51<br>Feeder Pigs 20-45# \$10.00-\$65.00<br>46-65# \$25.00-\$85.00<br>29 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|



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Market Report  
August 12, 2026  
This Report is the Actual High and Average

Auction Every Wednesday Sale Order

|                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Hay / Straw / Firewood | 11:00 AM             |
| Livestock              | 12:00 PM             |
| Small animals          | Last Wednesday/Month |
| Licensed and Bonded #  | AC32500012           |

|                          |           |           |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Fat Hogs: 7              | Hd. Ct. 7 | High \$67 | Avg. \$50 |
| Sows HD: N/A             |           |           |           |
| Boars: N/A               |           |           |           |
| Feeder Pigs: 8           |           | \$95      | \$49.25   |
| Beef & X Veal #1: 53     |           | \$1500    | \$1342.17 |
| Beef & X Veal #2: 12     |           | \$1050    | \$700     |
| Dairy Veal #1: 50        |           | \$1100    | \$1024    |
| Dairy Veal #2: 13        |           | \$800     | \$408     |
| Jersey Cross: 3          |           | \$350     | \$325     |
| Beef Fdrs 200#-550#: 12  |           | \$5.15    | \$3.75    |
| Beef Fdrs 551#-1000#: 1  |           | \$1.95    | \$1.95    |
| Beef Feeders HD: N/A     |           |           |           |
| Dairy Fdrs 200#-550#: 7  |           | \$2.52    | \$1.98    |
| Dairy Fdrs 551#-1000#: 1 |           | \$1.95    | \$1.95    |
| Cull Cows #1: 1          |           | \$1.64    | \$1.64    |
| Cull Cows #2: 2          |           | \$1.23    | \$1.14    |
| Fat Cattle Colored: 1    |           | \$2.30    | \$2.30    |
| Fat Cattle Holstein: N/A |           |           |           |
| Bulls: 3                 |           | \$2.10    | \$2.10    |
| Cow/Calf Pair: N/A       |           |           |           |
| Breed Cows Colored: N/A  |           |           |           |
| Milk Cows: N/A           |           |           |           |
| Dairy Fdrs Hd: N/A       |           |           |           |
| Springers: N/A           |           |           |           |
| Sheep Ram: 5             |           | \$3.00    | \$2.03    |
| Sheep Ewe: 12            |           | \$4.80    | \$2.10    |
| Lamb 0-60: 75            |           | \$4.80    | \$3.25    |
| Lamb 61-85: 104          |           | \$3.30    | \$3.04    |
| Lamb 86-100: 10          |           | \$2.85    | \$2.50    |
| Goat Nannies: 48         |           | \$390     | \$172.19  |
| Goat Billys: 3           |           | \$600     | \$174.24  |
| Goat Wethers: 5          |           | \$290     | \$188     |

Hay Lg Sq: 26 \$80 \$80  
Hay Sm Sq: N/A  
Hay Rnd Bale: 17 \$32.50 \$32.50  
Straw Lg Sq: N/A  
Straw Sm Sq: N/A  
Corn Fodder: N/A  
Straw Lg Rnd 25 \$30 \$30



# Farm Pond

FROM PAGE 1

lem in a mucky, mossy pond. Jones and other lake management companies offer phosphorus reduction agents, which they will apply, or the pond owner can purchase and use. Those companies offer water testing so the owner can figure out how much phosphorus is in their pond.

“Essentially you’re going to try to spread that phosphorus reduction agent throughout the pond,” Megois said. “If they just want to do it themselves, they can buy a bag every once in a while, and it is going to help over-all in the pond. That’s a good thing to do even before you have a problem because you are going to have nutrients in the pond, and that product will stay around until it has something to bind to.



Above: Aging ponds can get messy with weeds and algae, leaving the pond owner wondering what happened and how to fix it.

“A lot of folks wait until it is too late, until they have a problem instead of being ahead of it,” Megois explained. “If you put some (phosphorus reduction agent) in before you have a problem, you are less likely to have a problem in the future, and if you do, it is going to be less of a headache.”

A problem with people treating their pond themselves is that they don’t read the product label carefully, use way too much, and end up with a fish kill, Megois said.

Also, putting in rip rap or native wetland plants will cut down on erosion, Megois said. Any pond over 10 years old is going to have some sediment from erosion. Those plants will uptake both sediment and nutrients.

“We sell the packages of the plants in the spring, or someone can pay for us to put in a package,” he said. “We have a couple of different species, all plants native to this area.”



# HOOP BUILDINGS

Peaked storage buildings with galvanized, double-truss frame and 22 ounce PVC fabric.

|           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| 30x40x20  | 14x13 door |
| 30x60x20  | 14x13 door |
| 40x60x21  | 13x13 door |
| 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 |
| 60x150x25 | 18x16 door |

Round storage buildings with galvanized, single-tube frame and 22 ounce PVC fabric.

|          |            |
|----------|------------|
| 30x40x15 | 11x11 door |
| 30x65x15 | 11x11 door |
| 30x85x15 | 11x11 door |

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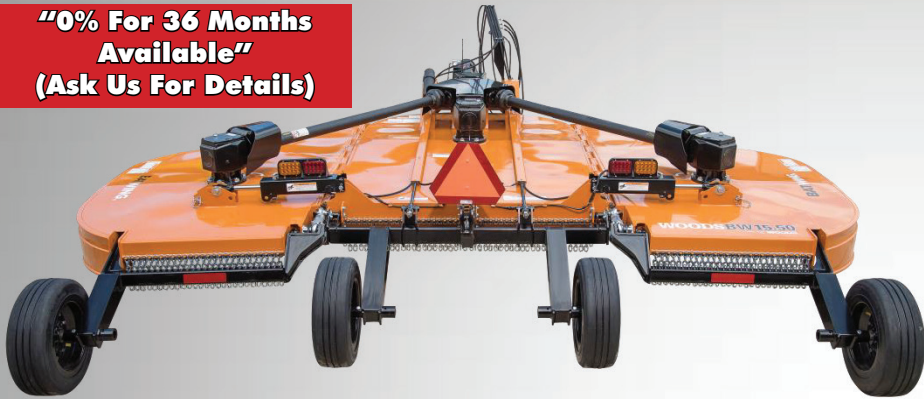
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| TBW 180 15'   | BB 72 6'   |
| BW 15.50 15'  | RC 4 4'    |
| BW 12 12'     | RC 5 5'    |
|               | RC 6 6'    |

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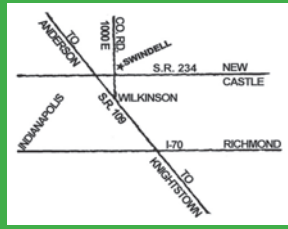
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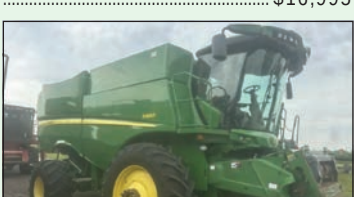
New Hayliner 37' & 42' hay trailers, 3 in Stock.... Starting at \$7,695



New 2025 Burchland GSX130, hyd. drive, hyd. lift, 13" drive over hopper, Several in Stock ..... \$16,995



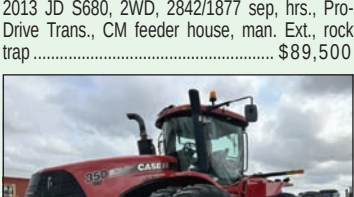
New Danuser Intimidator, skid steer mount tree puller, 3 in Stock ..... \$3,950 Ea.



2013 JD S680, 2WD, 2842/1877 sep. hrs., Pro-Drive Trans., CM feeder house, man. Ext., rock trap ..... \$89,500



2012 JD 9410R, PS, PTO, 710/70R42 Michelin duals, 4127 hrs., leather seat, Central IL tractor, very nice ..... \$177,500



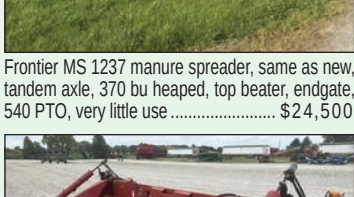
2011 Case IH Steiger 350HD, 4WD, 4601 hrs., PS, 5 hyd. outlets, 1000 PTO, 480/80R50 Michelin rubber, HID lights, Pro 700 Disp., Luxury cab, very sharp ..... \$147,500



Frontier MS 1237 manure spreader, same as new, tandem axle, 370 bu heaped, top beater, endgate, 540 PTO, very little use ..... \$24,500



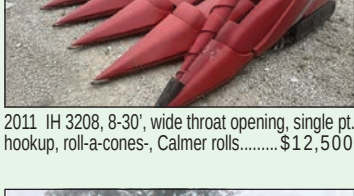
New Holland 130 manure spreader, single beater, 540 PTO, low use and clean spreader .... \$6,750



2011 IH 3208, 8-30", wide throat opening, single pt. hookup, roll-a-cones-, Calmer rolls ..... \$12,500



2016 JD 640FD, very nice, low acre header ..... \$39,500



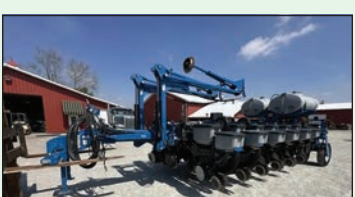
John Deere HX15 batwing, lrg 1000 pto, good used mower ..... \$16,000



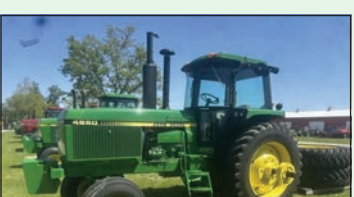
2024 JD 5050E, Only 3 actual Hours, local tractor, same as new ..... \$29,900



2023 Massey Ferguson 1393, center pivot disc mower conditioner, 2 pt., 1000 PTO, like new ..... \$34,900



2015 Kinze 4900, 16-30", narrow trans., liq. Fert., single disc openers, KPM3 mon., finger pu, individual boxes, local planter ..... \$65,000



1983 JD 4650, very sharp local tractor, 3 rear hyd., 1000 PTO, 15 spd., PS, 10 bolt rear duals, eng overhaul & many new parts ..... \$42,500



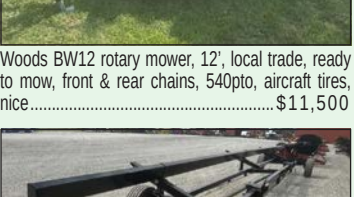
1992 Case IH 1640, 3341 hrs., 2WD, chopper, chaff spreader, last year made 1640s, very sharp ..... \$16,500



Woods BW12 rotary mower, 12", local trade, ready to mow, front & rear chains, 540pto, aircraft tires, nice ..... \$11,500



New Unverferth AWS 36 head cart, 36", all wheel steer, in stock, ready to go ..... CALL

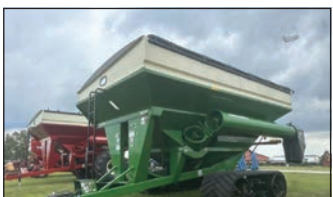


New Unverferth AWS 48 head cart, 48", all wheel steer, in stock, ready to go ..... CALL



New 2026 Unverferth 3755XL seed tender, 375 unit capacity, 8'x21' conveyor, 3 axle bumper pull ..... CALL

— Killbros Inventory Sale —



New 2024 Killbros 1035, tracks, 1000 bu., 20' corner aug, hyd. spout, factory installed scale pkg w/410 indicator & weather guard roll tarp, 36"x112' hyd tension tracked undercarriage . . . . CALL



New 2023 Killbros 1035, 1000 bu. corner auger grain cart, 1050/50R32 tires, factory installed scales w/410 indicator, installed weather guard roll tarp. . . . CALL



New 2023 Killbros 1055 gravity wagon, 550 bu., 2 wheel surge brakes, 60" door, work light, factory installed weather guard roll tarp . . . . . CALL



New Killbros 1055 wagon in stock, roll tarp, lights and brakes, 500 bu. . . . . CALL



New Killbros 1055 wagon in stock, roll tarp, lights and brakes, 500 bu. . . . . CALL

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New Holland Hayliner 311, twine tie, chute and hitch ..... \$4,950



2004 Deere 320 skid steer, hand & foot controls, 78" bkt, pre emissions, exc. Running ldr., all orig paint, super clean ..... \$20,500



2025 Unverferth 1645D, 32", 12' fold base, 10' wing, pull type, 9.5x15 tires ..... Call



1997 Fontaine, spread axle step deck w/beaver tail & ramps ..... \$15,000



2007 Case CX210B, mechanical thumb, 6100 hrs., used on our farm ..... \$45,500



# Low water levels on the Danube River causing problems across central, eastern Europe

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) – Numerous governments across Central and Eastern Europe are taking steps to conserve electricity and avert an energy crisis as record low water levels on the Danube River have forced power plants to the brink of shutting down.

Persistent drought and successive extreme heat waves have deprived one of Europe’s largest rivers of water, pushing the Danube’s levels in Hungary’s capital Budapest to around 4 inches on Aug. 3, well below the previous all-time low of 13 inches set in 2018.

Water levels are not expected to rise on the Danube in the coming days or even weeks as no significant rainfall is forecast, and as a renewed extreme heat wave bears down on the region with daytime highs topping 100 degrees Fahrenheit, electricity and water use are on the rise.

Hungary’s Paks nuclear plant on brink of shutdown

The Danube’s record low levels have pushed Hungary’s only nuclear power plant, the Soviet-built, four-reactor plant at Paks, to the brink of powering down entirely for the first time in its 44 years in service.

The Paks plant, which uses water from the Danube to cool its reactors, on Aug. 3 was producing only 240 megawatts of power rather than the usual 2,000. In video posted to Facebook, Hungarian Prime Minister Péter Magyar said engineers had managed to keep the plant’s final operating turbine temporarily running, averting an expected shutdown on the weekend.

“This is very good news, because the complete shutdown of the Paks power plant can still be avoided, at least temporarily, on one of the biggest consumption days,” he said, adding that a full power-down was likely over the next day or so.

The Paks plant, located around 55 miles south of Budapest, accounts for nearly half of Hungary’s electricity production and around a third of its consumption. Hungary has relied on regional electricity imports as well as renewable sources to try to make up for the deficit from the Paks plant.

Hungary’s government recently asked major industrial users to curb their electricity consumption and sought voluntary savings from households to conserve supply, particularly in peak demand hours between 5 p.m. and 10 p.m.

It also announced that electric-pow-

ered freight trains would not be permitted to run during peak hours beginning on Aug. 3 to conserve an estimated 70 to 90 megawatt-hours of electricity per day.

While conservation measures were initially voluntary, Magyar’s government on Aug. 1 issued a decree allowing them to be made mandatory for large industrial or commercial consumers.

He said Aug. 3 that the conservation push had resulted in 700 fewer megawatts of electricity being used the previous day, and thanked Hungarians for their efforts.

Serbia and Romania grapple with low Danube levels

Meanwhile, plants in neighboring countries have also seen dramatic drops in power generation, as well as disruptions to shipping and agriculture.

Romania’s military on Aug. 3 used 180 kilograms (397 pounds) of explosives to blast rock near the Danube’s Bala Canal in order to redirect water into the river’s main channel and toward the state-owned Cernavoda nuclear power plant.

The Danube’s water flow has fallen to 1,500 cubic meters per second in Romania, less than a third of its July average. Authorities have already shut down one reactor unit at the Cernavoda plant, which is operating at about half its normal capacity.

Acting Prime Minister Ilie Bolojan announced a nationwide state of alert in the energy sector on July 31, and warned that the Danube’s low water levels threatened the shutdown of Cernavoda’s second reactor. He appealed to citizens to voluntarily limit electricity usage in peak evening hours.

After meeting with major industrial consumers on Aug. 3, Bolojan said carmakers Dacia and Ford had gone into maintenance and halted auto production until Aug. 19, while other companies agreed to reduce their energy usage during peak hours.

In Serbia, record-low Danube levels have pushed the country’s key hydroelectric plant to operate with only 20 percent of its capacity, prompting Prime Minister Djuro Macut to preside over an emergency meeting focusing on energy problems.

Macut appealed to residents to “minimize the use of big consumers of electricity in their homes, such as air conditioners.” He described the situation in an Aug. 2 statement as “serious and demanding.”



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# Indiana proclaims Antique Tractor Preservation Day on July 31

By DOUG GRAVES  
Ohio Correspondent

HUTCHINSON, Kan. – Late last month, Indiana Gov. Mike Braun officially proclaimed July 31, as Antique Tractor Preservation Day, joining Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Illinois in recognizing the importance of preserving America’s agricultural heritage.

The proclamation honors generations of Hoosier farmers whose dedication, innovation and hard work helped established Indiana as one of the nation’s leading agricultural states. It also recognizes antique tractors and historic farm equipment as enduring symbols of the ingenuity, perseverance and values that continue to define rural communities and American agriculture.

This national initiative was founded by Michael Hinton, a small farm producer who grew up in the middle of a Kansas wheat field. Hinton has dedicated more than 17 years to preserving and promoting America’s agricultural heritage, becoming one of the nation’s foremost advocates for antique tractors and those in rural America. Some refer to him as “America’s Antique Tractor Ambassador.” Hinton says he owes it all to a small, 1949 Farmall Cub tractor.

“This all began in 2008,” Hinton said. “My wife and I bought a house

(Antique Tractor Preservation Day continued on page 15)



Above: Michael Hinton grew up on a small farm in Missouri where they had a few ducks, goats and pigs. A small tractor changed the trajectory of his life completely. (photo submitted)



Above: In 2024, Michael Hinton launched TalkingTractors.com. He also spearheaded many tractor shows over the years. (photo submitted)

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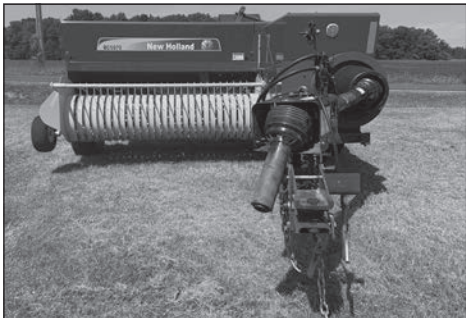
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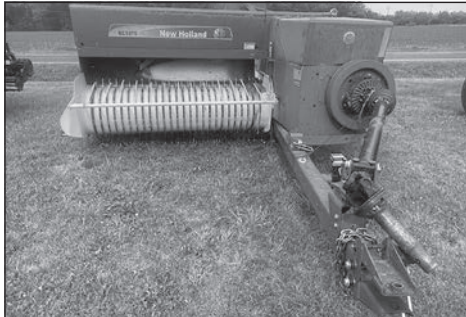


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NEW IDEA



# Antique Tractor Preservation Day

FROM PAGE 14

on 2.5 acres in the Mark Twain National Forest in Missouri. Our house was on a hill and we had more rocks than grass.”

Wanting to fit in with his neighbors, he purchased a 1949 Farmall Cub Tractor with a bell-mount mower.

“I just wanted a small tractor and my father-in-law loves and works on Farmalls, so when he came by it would give us something to do,” Hinton said. “He had a collection of about 18 Farmall tractors in all different stages of restoration. That kinda got me going.

“That Farmall never mowed a single blade of grass. It ran well and was in perfect condition, but I just couldn’t see getting it dirty. That

started my love and collection for old tractors. I then wanted something bigger, so I reached out to a farm family in Iowa who had a 1946 Farmall H tractor and purchased that. Now I had two.”

Six months later he wanted a bigger tractor so he purchased a 1960 International 340 tractor.

“After obtaining a third tractor, my goal was to build a barn, build a museum on our property and start a heritage,” he said, “so I created a website for the reason of reaching out for parts for these tractors. I then put photos on the website.”

That site caught the eyes of the tourism folk in West Plains, Mo., who reached out asking Hinton about creating a tractor show in that city for the purpose of bringing people into the town. He obliged and became the initial director of this show. This effort attracted many

tractor clubs to West Plains.

“And this all started with a little Farmall Cub tractor,” Hinton laughed.

Hinton had a vision to grow this momentum even bigger, with the goal of raising awareness statewide about the impact tractors have made on the American farm.

His goal was to coin “Antique Tractor Preservation Day” – it got launched with the help of Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon, who proclaimed the day in 2013. He also received a Congressional Record Mention for his efforts for antique tractor preservation and received a U.S. Postal Service tractor pictorial postmark in the form of a first day cover.

Hinton started a letter campaign. In 2024, Kansas Gov. Laura Kelley officially designated the day and the U.S. Postal Service once again issued a special commemorative postmark

in support of preservation of antique tractors. By 2025, Kansas Sen. Roger Marshall gave him two more Congressional Record Mentions, as did U.S. Rep. Tracey Mann.

Last winter, the Illinois House of Representatives officially recognized National Antique Tractor Preservation Day. Earlier this year, Nebraska officially recognized the observance, further solidifying its national significance.

“I know we can put on shows year after year, but it was my goal to do something on a national level because there are hundreds of tractor clubs across the United States,” Hinton said. “My goal is to carry National Antique Tractor Preservation Day across the entire nation, and I’ve already reached out to other states. I have letters out to those in Iowa and Texas. I’m building this on a national level. It’s been a blessing and it’s been growing for the past 17 years.”

Hinton was among those who attended the Greater American Ag Celebration in Washington, D.C., in March and there he and his wife, Tonya, met President Donald Trump, who sent him a signed letter acknowledging his National Antique Tractor Preservation efforts. The high-profile event recognized the essential role of agriculture in the U.S., celebrating farmers, ranchers and producers who sustain the nation’s food, fiber and rural communities.

In 2024, Hinton launched Talking-Tractors.com, an online platform celebrating the history of rural life and agricultural innovation.

“Tractors have a story to tell,” Hinton said. “I’m finding others are restoring their family’s farm tractors, keeping stories and tales about the family history alive. Preserving and showcasing the tractors, implements and machinery that helped feed and build American provides a meaningful way to honor the nation’s agricultural legacy.”



Above: Michael Hinton and his wife, Tonya, attended the Greater American Ag Celebration in Washington, D.C., in March. (photo submitted)

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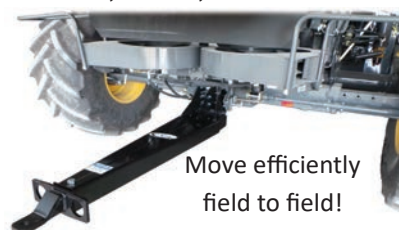
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Above: A family farm belonging to Tracy Wilson has become a destination for people wanting to enjoy nature along with exotic and traditional farm animals.

# Family farm turns from tradional to producing smiles from visitors

By Stan Maddux  
Indiana Correspondent

CLINTON, Ind. — What was once a traditional family farm in Indiana is now used to produce smiles and joy from visitors doing things like mingling with llama, chickens and other animals.

Aris Farm is the creation of Tracy Wilson, who inherited the property

near Terre Haute about 20-years ago from her grandmother. Eight years ago the 55-year old U.S. Navy veteran decided she wanted to “share my animals.”

At the time, she was training horses and spent 15 years managing a herd of alpacas for the nearby White Violet Center for Eco-Justice.

Wilson, a current 4-H leader in

(Family Farm continued on page 17)



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# Family Farm

FROM PAGE 16

Vermillion County for more than a decade, said she already knew about the mood uplifting benefits of being around animals and wanted to give other people that chance.

“I know how much of a big difference it makes. If I can change one life, it’s worth it,” she said.

She began adding animals to the horses already kept on the 20-acre property. She now has 16 alpacas, seven llamas, 25 chickens, six goats and three pot-bellied pigs along with a miniature donkey and miniature horse.

She opened the grounds to visitors who are welcome to interact with the animals and take her llamas and alpacas for walks on a nature trail. Wilson said most of her visitors are grade school children on field trips but people in nursing homes and adult daycare facilities also show up in buses. Families and individuals also stop in for visits.

Youth camps for three days twice during the summer are also offered and feature activities such as games, rock painting and gardening. Children at camp also remove animal waste from the grounds and carry it in shovels to a compost pile for disposal.

“There’s just a need for a place for people or kids or anybody to go that can experience all of these things,” she said.

In addition, there’s a barn on the property available for hosting family events like birthday and graduation parties along with weddings. Camping is offered in multiple areas designated for tents.

“They can pop a tent right in the alpaca pasture and there’s a fire pit



**Above:** The faces of children light up from one of the alpacas and other animals at an Indiana farm turned into a agritourist attraction.

there,” she said.

The farm also keeps animals for leasing to 4-H youth for showing during the county fair and educates the children on how to care for them properly. Instruction is provided on showmanship and getting the animals to clear obstacles in a practice course.

Wilson said she named the farm after Aris, her beloved Arabian filly horse she obtained in the sixth grade. After a six-year stint with the Navy, she temporarily moved the horse to a stable at Indiana State University where she majored in equine studies.

Aris died in 2015 at the age of 25 and is buried on the farm beneath a maple tree.

Wilson said one of the things she enjoys most about the farm is watching children react to her chickens and hold their eggs. She said some



**Above:** Alpacas and other animals are a hit with children at a once traditional family farm converted into an agritourist destination.

of the kids didn’t know eggs came from chickens or the carrots she pulled out of the ground are actually roots until after she tells them.

Her future plans call for building a pavilion and hiring her first person at the farm, which recently had a half dozen ISU students on a summer internship program remove an overgrowth of invasive plants.

The slogan at Aris Farm is “connecting humans to nature and animals. Healing hearts, one soul at a time.”

“We’re not a therapy center but the visits can be therapeutic,” she said.

The farm, which once raised cattle along with corn and soybeans has been in her family for over 100-years.

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# Some restaurants see drop in sales due to cyclospora outbreak

(AP) – It's been a choppy year for restaurants that lean into lettuce.

Lettuce prices rose sharply in the first half of 2026 due to hot weather in Arizona, where about one-third of America's lettuce is grown. Now, restaurants are dealing with the fallout from a cyclospora outbreak linked to shredded lettuce that has sickened thousands of Americans.

Yum Brands, the parent company of Taco Bell, said July 30 that Taco Bell's U.S. same-store sales are down 2 percent so far in the July-September period due to customers' concerns over the outbreak. That compares to a 7 percent same-store sales increase in the April-June period.

Federal health officials first tied the diarrhea-causing outbreak to shredded iceberg lettuce served at Taco Bell restaurants in Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and West Virginia. Later, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) said customers in Illinois, Kansas, Oklahoma and Pennsylvania were also affected.

Taco Bell removed shredded iceberg lettuce supplied by Taylor Farms from its U.S. restaurants on July 17. The following day, Taylor Farms recalled iceberg lettuce grown in central Mexico.

Taco Bell's sales bottomed out the weekend of July 18-19 but have been steadily improving since then, Yum Brands Chief Financial Officer Ranjith Roy said in a conference call with investors. Over the last four days, Taco Bell's U.S. sales have climbed halfway back to their year-ago level, he said.

Yum Brands CEO Chris Turner said Taco Bell's quick action to contain the issue and its clear communication on social media helped bring diners back. The brand also enticed fans with daily specials like \$1 Mexican pizza.

"With respect to the consumer sentiment, we've seen real improvement as consumers have understood better the nature of the issue," Turner said. "They understand that it is not a Taco Bell specific issue."

Yum Brands shares rose 3.3 percent July 30.

Other chains are also feeling some impact from the outbreak even though they haven't been named in government investigations. Chipotle Mexican Grill said it expects its same-store sales to rise only 1 percent in the July-September period because of lower traffic due to the outbreak. It had previously expected same-store sales to rise 3 percent in that period.

Foot traffic at Chopt, a salad-focused chain with 105 locations, plunged 24 percent on July 18 compared to the normal average for a Saturday, according to Placer.ai, a market research company. M Science, another market research firm, found that weekly spending at the salad chain Sweetgreen dropped 10 percentage points compared to last year during the first half of July.

Chopt didn't respond to a request for comment from The Associated Press. Sweetgreen, which has 285 U.S. locations, did not confirm a drop in sales and said in a statement that its food hasn't been connected to the current cyclospora outbreak.

"We follow rigorous food safety standards and can trace our ingredients from restaurant to farm," the company said.

Cyclospora cases have continued to grow. As of July 27, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said it has received reports of 6,707 laboratory-confirmed cases. It's investigating multiple clusters, including a new outbreak involving 72 people that was recently announced. As the FDA investigation progresses, officials should get a better understanding of which illnesses are connected and "how complex this outbreak actually has become," said Craig Hedberg, a food safety researcher at the University of Minnesota.

The outbreak came on top of an already difficult year for the lettuce industry and people who love eating salads. The retail price of a pound of iceberg lettuce jumped nearly 20 percent from January to June of this year, according to government data. Consumers paid an average of 33 percent more last month for all fresh lettuce compared to a year earlier, the USDA said.

Lettuce prices advertised by major grocery stores last week averaged \$1.86 for a head of iceberg, 25 cents more than the same week a year earlier, according to the USDA. A head of red leaf lettuce cost 52 cents more at \$1.66, and a bunch of romaine had an advertised price of \$2.49, which was \$1.55 higher, the department reported.

Shoppers caught a break with some types of salad mixes, though, which stores advertised at prices 7 to 24 cents cheaper than a year prior, the USDA said.

Elizabeth Canales, an associate professor of agricultural economics at Mississippi State University, said unusually hot weather in Arizona early in the year caused crops to mature too early. That caused big supply gaps until California production began in late April.

Fuel costs, which increased after the U.S. and Israel launched strikes on Iran and Iran blocked most oil tankers from leaving the Persian Gulf, have also been an issue, according to Canales. Lettuce is especially perishable and requires energy for cooling from the time it's picked to the time it's sold, Canales said.

"The cold chain needs to be maintained. Cooling and transporting it is very important," Canales said.

Lettuce has been linked to multiple food poisoning outbreaks in the past, including two in 2018 involving E. coli linked to romaine lettuce grown in Arizona and California.

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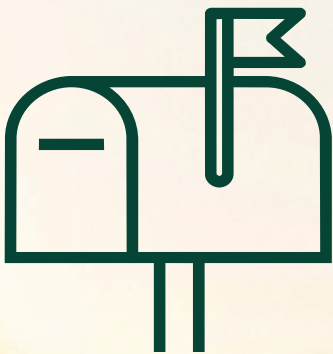




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### Ladage gains writing insight from tractors, people, small towns

By DOUG GRAVES  
Ohio Correspondent

VIRDEN, Ill. – Cindy Ladage, Farm World columnist and freelance writer, has released a new book, “True Farm Girl Adventures,” a compilation of Traveling Adventures of a Farm Girl’s blog posts, including adventures along the way.

The book details years of humorous and heartwarming stories from life on the farm. The book features a special foreword written by legendary farm broadcaster Max Armstrong.

True Farm Girl Adventures is available directly from the author (email [cindy.ladage@royell.org](mailto:cindy.ladage@royell.org)), as well as in paperback and Kindle formats on Amazon. It joins Ladage’s previously published short story collection, Farm Girl Adventures, expanding a growing library of rural American storytelling.

Ladage is a freelance writer who contributes mostly to rural, farm-related publications. She provides features and travel stories for Farm World and is a staff writer for several collectible farm related publications such as Toy Farmer. She even co-authored three children’s books, including My Name is Huber, a Tractor’s Story. She won the “Content Creator Beyond Expectations” award at the 2026 Midwest Travel Network conference.

Ladage, who wasn’t raised on a farm, had no interest in farming growing up. But when she married a farmer at age 21, her life made a surprising U-turn. “Back in the day, the schools would



give you this ‘career test’ and it showed that I should be a farmer,” Ladage laughed. “I ended up a biology major working for the State of Illinois and always wanted to write. I worked in communications but wasn’t trained as a journalist.”

Ladage has been a columnist for Farm World the past 18 years. Her current column, Wrenching Tales, focuses on antique tractors, literature, farm toys, memorabilia and related agricultural history. Her work blends storytelling with preservation, reflecting her passion for agricultural heritage.

“I married a farmer who happened to like ‘old iron’ and he started go-



**Above:** Tractors are Cindy’s lure, and here tractor owner Mark Berkel allowed her to drive his Waterloo Boy tractor. (photo submitted)

ing to old antique tractor shows and I was doing other things,” she said. “Before long, I found that he was going one way and I was going another. I thought, this was crazy so I decided to join him. At the time there was a guy named Kurt Aumann who started a magazine called Belt Pulley. I always wanted to write, and Kurt gave me that chance.”

Belt Pulley was a magazine dedicated to antique farm tractors of all brands and makes. Belt Pulley and Ladage were a perfect match.

“I accompanied my husband and be-

gan writing, but not about the technical aspect of tractors,” she said. “Rather, I wrote about the people aspect of the tractors. These tractors bring back memories for these owners and mean a lot to them. Behind each farm relic is a story to tell.

“There’s a lot of searching to all this. These relics might have belonged to grandpa or grandma and they slipped away from the family, but maybe they were able to buy it back. In other in-

(Ladage book continued  
on page 2B)

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# Ladage book

FROM PAGE 1B

stances, there are those who have kept them in the family all these years. I found that the sentimentality is important to them when you come right down to it. Not knowing, they might have a collection of the rarest tractors in the world. These pieces of machinery are more than just a hunk of metal. It's all the memories that are attached to them."

Ladage is not your sit-at-a-desk writer. She racks up the miles on the family car, searching for an interesting angle while attending tractor shows, farmers markets, flea markets and more. Recently, she attended the Model T Ford Club of America's Homecoming in Richmond, Ind.

"People may not know, but back then they took Model-A's and Model-T's and made tractors out of them," she said. "I've learned so much about tractors because of all the interviewing I've done all these years. I know enough about tractors just to be dangerous."

Ladage also enlightens readers about agri-tourism experiences, hidden museums, historic figures, country fairs, unexpected backroad discovers and road trips. Ladage recently finished a road trip along famous Route 66. Ladage, who lives five miles from Route 66, traveled the Illinois leg of this route with her friend, Dannelle Gay. Ladage wrote a blog about her experiences along the route.

"This excursion was great for three reasons," she said. "First, it's the adventure of taking this trip. Second is meeting the people and all the unexpected things you find along the way. Third, I enjoy telling readers about things they should know about these interesting stops."

Ladage has become an expert in authenticating experiences that connect travelers to America's heartland.



Above: Pictured are Cindy Ladage (left) and her friend, Dannelle Gay, as the two were preparing to embark on their Route 66 road trip. Their trip started at a car rental at Midway Airport in Chicago. (photo submitted)



Above: Ladage stopped at Dan Agee's Farmall Museum in Nevada, Mo., during her Route 66 tour. Behind Ladage is a decorated Route 66 truck door panel. (photo submitted)

"I've had the opportunity over the years to attend a lot of tractor shows, travel through all the small towns and at times the larger cities, interviewing a lot of interesting people and it's just a joy to profile some of the people I've met over the years," she said. "Almost every place you go you find the town might have started because they created, say, plows in the town or some other farm-related item. There's almost always an agricultural hook everywhere you go."

Next up for Ladage is the book entitled Unique Eats and Eateries of Illinois: The People and Stories Behind the Food. She co-authored this book with her cousin, Carrie Steinweg. This 192-page travel and food guide explores the diverse culinary landscape of Illinois, from upscale dining to rural roadside favorites. Ladage's Route 66 dining experiences included a stop at Dell Rhea's Chicken Basket (nearly a century of the same fried chicken recipe) and the famous Coz Dog Drive-In. One of her stops included the Ariston Café, the oldest restaurant on Route 66.

"It was hard because I had to eat my way through the state," Ladage laughed.

Ladage received the Best Rural & Urban Travel Writer award from Luxe Magazine in 2020 and twice won the American Women in Communications Clarion Award (2016 and 2018)



Above: Along her path on Route 66, Ladage (right) stopped at Tom's Farm Market in Huntley, Ill. To Ladage's left is friend Carla Rupp. (photo submitted)

# Trump extends waiver for foreign ships to transport goods to US

WASHINGTON (AP) – President Donald Trump on Aug. 10 extended a waiver for 90 days for foreign ships to transport goods, including oil, fertilizers and other fossil fuel products, among U.S. ports.

The president first waived the Jones Act on March 17 so that it would be easier to transport oil and refined fuels among ports, reducing price pressures after the start of the war with Iran.

The latest extension was scheduled to take effect Aug. 17 and suggests that the U.S. might be preparing for continued price pressures as the Strait of Hormuz, a primary waterway for shipping oil and natural gas, remains effectively closed because of the war.

Unlike previous extensions, the Pentagon will consult with the Maritime Administration to decide which voyages are exempt from the 1920 law containing the Jones Act. The new waiver will only apply to cargo that are sources of energy and commodities related to agriculture such as fertilizers and soybean oil.

Taylor Rogers, a White House spokeswoman, said the administration extended the waiver "to ensure our military and key industries maintain uninterrupted access to critical resources." Rogers added that the waiver has increased domestic deliveries of gasoline, diesel and jet fuel.

# Tennessee communities offered financial assistance to expand tree canopies

NASHVILLE – A funding opportunity from the Tennessee Department of Agriculture Division of Forestry (TDF) provides financial assistance to communities to expand tree canopy coverage and support sustainable urban ecosystems statewide.

"Our Urban and Community Forestry Program partners with Tennessee's communities, helping them enhance the well-being of residents by cultivating and sustaining healthy urban and community forests," State Forester Heather Slayton said. "One way we do that is through financial assistance that expands access to the benefits trees provide, including stormwater mitigation, cleaner air and reduced heat."

The Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program (TAEP) Community Tree

Planting Program grant is funded by the state of Tennessee. This grant's goal is to increase tree canopy cover in urban and suburban areas. Eligible expenses include trees and shipping costs, contracted planting, mulch, irrigation devices, tree labels and signage. Eligible applicants include local governments, nonprofits and public educational institutions. Awards range from \$500 to \$20,000.

Applications must be submitted online by 5 p.m. Central time on Sept. 4, 2026, at Tennessee Urban and Community Forestry Program <https://tnforestry.submittable.com/submit>

For proposal assistance, contact Urban and Community Forestry Program Coordinator Ashley Kite-Rowland at [Ashley.Kite-Rowland@tn.gov](mailto:Ashley.Kite-Rowland@tn.gov).

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# Too early for soybean yield estimates

The National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center's to Aug. 25, 2026 is calling for leaning above normal temperatures and near normal precipitation. MSU Enviroweather, on Aug. 12, at the Blissfield/ Deerfield location, recorded 3.14 inches of rain since Aug. 1, compared to none last year and a five-year average of .76 inch. Looking back in 2026, January, June and July have been consistently 3 to 4 inches more than the five-year average precipitation. The Climate Prediction Center outlook through Sept. 4, 2026, predicts normal temperatures and leans to below normal precipitation. Although astronomical fall begins at 8:04pm EDT on Sept. 22, meteorological fall is September, October and November, which is forecast to have equal to leaning above normal temperatures and normal precipitation. Meteorological winter (December through February) is forecast to be above normal temperatures but normal precipitation.

2026 MSU Wheat performance trial results have been released in partnership with the Michigan Wheat (checkoff) Program. This is the 31st year for the MSU trials and 14th year for a high-management component, which looks at comparative yield, disease resistance and quality parameters for emerging new wheat varieties. The 2026 trials included 129 varieties, including 52 commercially available varieties and 77 experimental lines supplied by 10 seed companies and the MSU wheat breeding program. New is an Excel spreadsheet tool for farmers to compare and sort information. Overall yields for soft red wheat varieties ranged from 117.6 to 102.7 bushels per acre. Michigan has nearly 8,000 wheat farmers who grow about 40 million bushels on 450,000 acres.

Corn yields can be estimated after the number of kernels is fixed, about two weeks after the end of pollination. Ear

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

size determination begins when a corn plant is knee-high and finishes 10 to 14 days prior to silk emergence. The number of harvestable kernels per ear is an important contributor to the grain yield potential of a corn plant. Severe stress during ear formation may limit the potential number of kernels and yield before pollination has even occurred. Although kernels per bushel can vary from about 72,000 to 108,000 for smaller size kernels, estimates normally assume the average number of kernels per bushel at 90,000. Some seed companies and the Michigan Corn Growers Association have handy slide rule calculators to do these estimates. It is wa-a-ay too early to do soybean yield estimates, and plant size is NOT a reliable indicator of yield.

Fall vegetable gardens can be planted starting now, in late summer, as temperatures begin to moderate and rain-fall may be more plentiful. Cool season crops include spinach, lettuce, radishes, broccoli, green onions, carrots, cabbage, Brussels sprouts, cauliflower and turnips. Fall gardening is easier as soils are already warm, annual weeds and many insects have finished their life cycle.

Just a reminder that the "new" fall frost (32°F) date is around Oct. 25 and freeze (28°F) date is about Nov. 4, depending on your exact location. Based on 30 years of records (1980-2010), MSU has calculated the spring frost/ freeze dates are one week earlier and fall frost/ freeze dates are one week later than the previous calculations (1950-1980).

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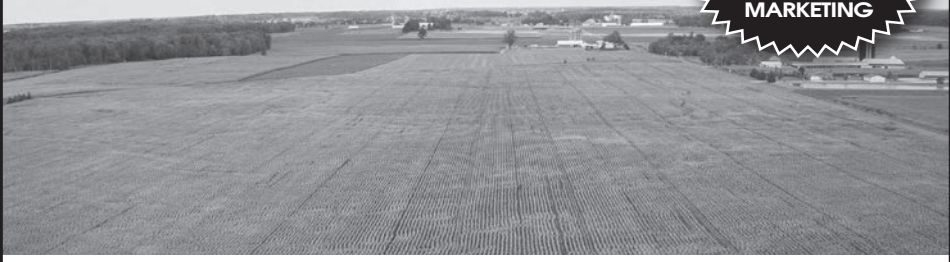
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# Kids and adults can learn about dealing with loss in new books

Kids' books on loss by various authors and illustrators  
c.2026, various publishers, \$18.95 - \$19.99, various page counts

Most of the time, you're a pretty happy kid.  
You're busy, you love to play and be with your friends. But sometimes, bad things happen, there are people or things you'll miss, and that makes you sad. Maybe you can find comfort in one of these heartfelt books to help you start to feel better...

For the kid whose loss was a long-awaited dream, "Where Is My Sister?" by Shannon Gibney, illustrations by Hyy Voun Lee (University of Minnesota Press, \$18.95) is a good choice.  
Salome had a sister. She just

didn't know her because, while mama's tummy grew bigger and bigger, mama came home from the hospital with empty arms. The whole family was quiet, and "Salome didn't like it." She didn't like that mama cried in the bathroom, either. Everybody gave Salome a different answer when she asked where her sister was, but the final answer was a comfort. This is a wrenching book that's meant for 5-to-8-year-olds, but also for grieving parents who need to read it.  
All good things must come to an end. That's a hard lesson to learn, especially if you're a kid, and "Lucky & Norman" by Susan Cain & Three



THE BOOKWORM SEZ  
Terri Schlichenmeyer

Generations of the Cain Family, pictures by Stella Lim (Rocky Pond, \$19.99) shows children that "goodbye" is natural, even when it really hurts.  
Sam and Eli were very happy: the farm vacation their family was on included animals – donkeys, specifically, and the boys were very excited to make friends with the animals, although Lucky and Norman weren't quite as eager, and that was sad. One day, though, Sam and Eli won the donkeys over. It started out slow – just a few pets – and the donkeys began to trust the boys. That was the day when they all started having lots of fun playing together.  
But vacations end, and so do friendships. Sam and Eli's family had to go home for the summer, and the boys had to say goodbye to their furry playmates. How can a 5-to-8-year-old ever learn to leave a friend without breaking their heart? Parents will want to find out, too.  
Along the same lines, but for slightly smaller children, "Goodbye, Koi" by Jack Wong (Orchard Books, \$19.99) is a great farewell for the younger set.  
The family's packed. There are



boxes everywhere, and a small boy must leave his Koi fish behind as the family embarks on a new chapter in their lives. What will his fish think of the move to another aquarium? Will they get along with other fish? This is a gentle, bittersweet book for kids ages 3-to-5, especially if they must relinquish a pet.  
If these books are not quite right for your little one, or if they don't exactly fit the situation, then head to your favorite bookstore or library and ask the staff there for help. They'll be able to find just what you need to read to your child, to explain, to prepare, or to comfort. They'll help any kid start to feel better.

## SMITH FARMS INVENTORY REDUCTION AUCTION HELD LIVE & ONLINE



### FRIDAY, AUGUST 28TH, 2026 • 10:30AM

Live Auction Location: 17130 McClelland Rd, Laurelville, Ohio 43135

- John Deere 9230 Tractor, 4WD, 480/80R46 duals, (5) hyd remotes, 1000 PTO, 3-pt, quick hitch, 3,673 hrs, SN: 1RW9230PCAP016483
- John Deere 8420 Tractor, MFWD, 420/85R30 fronts, 480/80R46 rear duals, (4) hyd remotes, 1000 PTO, 3-pt, quick hitch, 625KG inside rear wheel weights, (20) front suitcase weights, 7,541 hrs, SN: RW8420P004979
- John Deere 1790 Planter, 16/32, CCS Seed Delivery, center-fill, 500-gal poly fertilize tank, in-furrow on corn rows, vacuum, 2-pt hitch, hyd markers, fold box, Brown box, SN: A01790C715144
- 15' John Deere 750 Drill, Yetter hyd markers, dolly wheel, lights, walk rail, SN: N00750X019571
- 15' John Deere FC15 M Rotary Mower, 1000 PTO, front & rear chain guards, lights, (8) pneumatic tires w/ double tires on frame and wings, spring suspension, SN: 1P0FC3MGLPF003242
- 60' 3-Pt Spray Booms, hyd fold, height adj, TeeJet 3-nozzle body
- John Deere S680 Combine, 650/85R38 front duals, 750/65R26 rears, pwr folding grain tank ext, pwr tailboard, 26' unload auger, GreenStar 3 ready, contour master lateral tilt fore-aft feeder house, 2,935 engine hrs, 1,989 sep hrs, SN: 1H0S680SPG0786217
- 40' John Deere 640FD Hydraflex Draper Head, flip over reel, single point hookup, poly tine pickup, poly skid plates, dual knife drive, stubble lights, SN: 1H0640FDLF0775744

- John Deere 608C Corn Head, 8R30", poly snouts, header height, (6) Lankota stalk stompers, SN: 1H00608CTHX795397
- 42' Unverferth AWS-42 Header Cart, all wheel steer, lights, 280/70R15 tires, ext hitch, SN: A69910128
- 25' Unverferth HT-25 Header Cart, lights, 22.5x8.00-12 tires, ext tongue, SN: A53630584
- Killbros 1950 Grain Cart, 900/60R32 tires, 1000 PTO, sight windows, hyd adj spout, roll tarp, lights, rear camera, SN: 050 100 157
- 2001 34' Timpette Hopper Bottom Trailer, Super Hopper, Thunder 6000XR pwr roll tarp, spring ride, 11R24.5 tires, outer alum wheels, VIN: 1TDH335291B098960
- 29' 3" John Deere 2623VT Vertical Tillage, walking tandems on frame & wings, gauge wheels, lights, 20" smooth front blades, 20.5" wavy rear blades, scrapers, 7" spacing, hyd depth control, rolling basket
- John Deere 850 Dozer, 24" tracks, rear hitch, 2,429 hrs, SN: T00850E381895
- Komatsu PC288 USLC3 Excavator, 30" tracks, tight tail swing, 48" bucket, 24" bucket, heat/air, 8,804 hrs, SN: KMTPC161C02041268
- John Deere 60G Mini Excavator, 6' backfill blade, 30" bucket, 16" rubber tracks, enclosed cab w/ heat/air, aux hyd, 2,508 hrs, SN: 1FF060GXALJ291938
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- J&M TF215 double rolling baskets, 45' & 47'
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- 2018 Peterbilt day cab semi, Paccar MX-13, Eaton Automatic, 339,600 miles
- 2018 Timpette 40' Super Hopper, electric tarp, ag hoppers, air ride
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### Bobby Lee "Curly" Carr Estate



#### MON, AUG. 24, 2026, 10AM EST



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- Case 730 diesel tractor, 3,804 hours
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# USDA’s 2026 milk production estimate unchanged, lowered for 2027

The USDA left its 2026 milk production estimate unchanged in the latest World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) report, but lowered its 2027 estimate. Based on the latest Milk Production report, cow inventories were raised for 2026 and unchanged for 2027. Output per cow was reduced slightly for both 2026 and 2027.

2026 production and marketings remained at 236.6 and 235.6 billion pounds respectively. If realized, both would be up 4.9 billion pounds or 2.1 percent from 2025.

2027 production and marketings were projected at 238.0 and 237.0 billion pounds respectively, down 100 million pounds on both. If realized, both would be up 1.4 billion pounds or 0.6 percent from 2026.

Commercial export forecasts for 2026 were lowered on a skim-solids basis primarily on reduced shipments of lactose and nonfat dry milk (NDM) but increased on a fat basis on increased shipments of butter. Exports for 2027, on a skim-solids basis, were lowered on reduced shipments of NDM, while exports on a fat basis were raised on increased shipments of butter and cheese.

Imports were increased on both a fat and skim-solids basis for 2026 due to increased shipments of butter, cheese, and milk proteins. Imports were also increased on a skim-solids basis for 2027 on increased shipments of milk proteins and prepared foods. Imports, however, were decreased on a fat basis on the expectation of reduced imports of butter in 2027.

Price forecasts for 2026 were decreased for butter and NDM but increased for cheese and whey. As a result, the Class III milk price forecast was raised, and the Class IV price was lowered. The Class III is now projected to average \$16.25 per cwt., up a dime from last month’s report, and compares to \$18.01 in 2025 and \$18.89 in 2024. The 2026 Class IV is estimated at \$18.15, down 25 cents from a month ago, and compares to \$17.38 in 2025 and \$20.75 in 2024.

Price forecasts for 2027 were lowered for butter, increased for whey, and unchanged for cheese and NDM. Consequently, the Class III price was increased and the Class IV price was lowered. The 2027 Class III is expected to average

\$17.25 per cwt., up 20 cents from last month’s estimate. The Class IV was projected at \$17.20, down 20 cents from last month’s projection.

The Daily Dairy Report’s Sarina Sharp wrote in the Aug. 7 Milk Producer Council newsletter, “Regular rains and a break from the heat dragged on crop values once again this week. This year’s harvest isn’t likely to top last year’s bumper crop; yields are expected to be the second highest ever. But exports are booming and, with Russia and Ukraine attacking one another’s export infrastructure and drought in Europe, the U.S. may be called upon to supply a greater share of the world’s grain.”

USDA’s weekly slaughter report shows 51,500 dairy cows were sent to slaughter the week ending July 25, up 100 or 0.2 percent from a year ago. Year-to-date data has 1,547,700 head culled from the herd, up 67,700 or 4.6 percent from a year ago.

You’ll recall June milk production was up 2.3 percent from a year ago, leaving plenty to process. Starting with cheese, USDA’s latest Dairy Products report shows production hit 1.231 billion pounds, down 4.1 percent from May, but 1.1 percent above June 2025. Output for the six-month period hit 7.5 billion pounds, up 2.4 percent from 2025.

Wisconsin produced 307 million pounds of the June total, off 0.2 percent from May, but up 4.1 percent from June 2025. California provided 197.6 million pounds, down 5.3 percent from May, and 9.1 percent less than a year ago. Idaho cheese, at 86.1 million, was down 4.4 percent from May, but 1.4 percent more than a year ago.

Italian style cheese totaled 521.6 million pounds, down 6.8 percent from May, and off 0.3 percent from a year ago, putting YTD output at 3.2 billion pounds, up 4.2 percent.

Mozzarella totaled 405.7 million pounds, down 2.4 percent from a year ago. Year to date, 2.5 billion pounds had been produced, up 2.3 percent from 2025.

American cheese, at 484.9 million pounds, was down 2.6 percent from May, but up 1.1 percent from a year ago. YTD 2.9 billion pounds have been pro-

duced, up 0.2 percent. Cheddar output fell to 338.1 million pounds, down 8.3 million or 2.4 percent from May’s total which was revised down 4.1 million pounds, but was up 3.2 million or 1.0 percent from a year ago. YTD Cheddar hit 2.0 billion pounds, up 0.3 percent from a year ago.

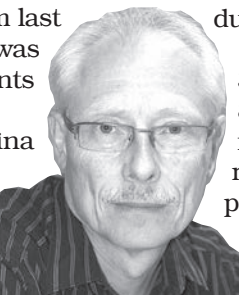
Butter production dropped to 208.2 million pounds, down 16.1 million pounds or 7.2 percent from May, but up 16.4 million pounds or 8.5 percent from a year ago. YTD, 1.3 billion pounds had been churned, up 6.0 percent from a year ago.

Yogurt production totaled 446.3 million pounds, up 2.2 percent from a year ago, with YTD output hitting 2.8 billion pounds, up 5.5 percent. Hard ice cream came in at 68.7 million pounds, up 5.2 percent from a year ago, with YTD output hitting 381.6 million pounds, up 3.9 percent.

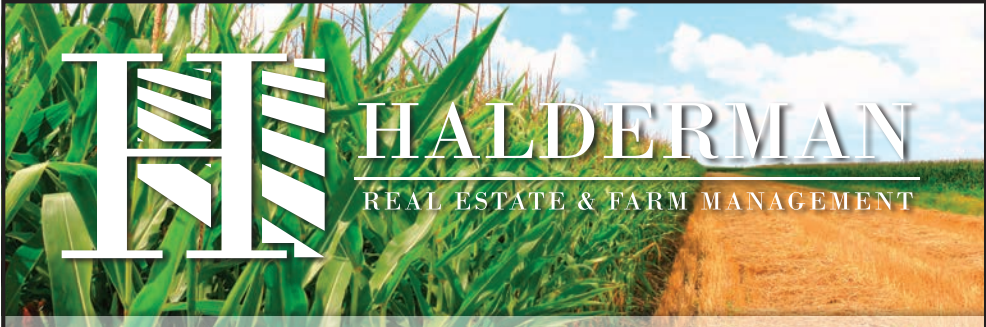
Dry whey production slipped to 80.9 million pounds, down 1.3 million pounds or 1.6 percent from May, but was up 5.5 million pounds or 7.3 percent from a year ago, due to the higher cheese output.

YTD 463.6 million pounds had been produced, up 6.9 percent. Whey stocks grew to 65 million pounds, up 1.9 million or 3.1 percent from May, and up 7.7 million pounds, or 13.5 percent from a year ago.

Nonfat dry milk output fell to 164.9 million pounds, down 8.4 million pounds or 4.8 percent from May, but was up 20.5 million or 14.2 percent



MIELKE MARKET WEEKLY  
By Lee Mielke



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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH



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God answers prayer: What Peter's escape from prison teaches us

Acts 12:5 “So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him.”

Some Bible stories stay with us for a lifetime. The account of Peter's miraculous escape from prison in Acts 12 is one of those stories. Not only did God demonstrate His power to advance the gospel despite human opposition, but He did so in answer to His people's prayers, even though they didn't recognize His answer at first.

The gospel was spreading rapidly throughout Jerusalem. Lives were being transformed, but not everyone rejoiced over what God was doing. King Herod, determined to persecute the growing church, arrested several believers and even had James executed. When he saw that the Jewish religious leaders approved of his actions, he arrested Peter as well.

Yet while Peter sat chained in a prison cell under heavy guard, the church was earnestly praying for him.

Unbeknownst to the praying believers, God sent an angel to rescue Peter. A brilliant light filled the prison cell as the angel woke Peter and his chains fell from his wrists.

Still groggy, Peter obeyed the angel's instructions to get dressed and followed him out of the prison. The guards slept on as the iron gate opened by itself, allowing Peter to walk out into the darkness a free man.

At the end of the street, the angel suddenly disappeared, and Peter came to his senses. He realized that the Lord had sent the angel to rescue him from the evil plans of those who opposed the gospel.



VERSES FROM MAMA  
By Sandra Sheridan

After collecting his thoughts, Peter made his way to the house of Mary. Even though it was late into the night, believers were gathered there praying for him.

When Peter knocked, a servant girl came to answer the door. The moment she recognized Peter's voice, she was so overwhelmed with joy that she forgot to open the gate. Instead, she ran back inside to tell everyone that Peter was standing outside.

But no one believed her. Meanwhile, Peter kept knocking.

Finally, they opened the door and stood speechless as Peter stood before them in the flesh.

After explaining how the Lord had rescued him, Peter left Mary's house to stay somewhere out of harm's way.

What an incredible reminder of God's sovereignty and power! Nothing and no one could stop His plans then, and nothing can stop them now.

Like the believers in Jerusalem, we have the privilege of participating in what God is doing when we faithfully bring our requests to Him. God answers prayer, often in ways we never expect. Even when we cannot see Him at work, we can trust that He hears every prayer and is already accomplishing His perfect will.

Are you facing a situation that seems impossible? Do you wonder whether God hears your prayers?

Read Acts 12 again. Remember the God who opened prison doors, broke chains, and answered the earnest prayers of His people.

Keep praying. Keep trusting. And stay alert. Your answer may be knocking at the door even now.

NOBLE QUALITY FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION

JD 4440 TRACTOR - 2837 HRS (ORIGINAL) - JD 4230 TRACTOR - 2728 HRS (ORIGINAL) -FEATHERLITE TRAILERS (CAR HAULER & LIVESTOCK) - HAY & FARM EQUIPMENT

ONLINE ONLY-BIDDING ENDS AUGUST 31

ADDRESS: 3099 W CR 800 N, ORLEANS, IN 47452

LOCATION: 60 miles NW of Louisville KY or 90 miles S of Indianapolis IN!

NOTE: Visit [beckortauctions.com](http://beckortauctions.com) to view complete catalog, photos, & videos!  
An OUTSTANDING lineup of well cared for tractors, trailers, & equipment!  
INSPECTION: THURSDAY AUGUST 27 3-5 PM

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 sloop 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



Hrs-2728, Original Paint



50 Total Acres

Auction Manager: CJ Fleenor (812) 797-2073

BECKORT Auctions LLC

(812) 738 - 9476

beckortauctions.com

LICENSE #AU19800105

SUMMER EQUIPMENT AUCTION

FARM & CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT

ONLINE ONLY-BIDDING ENDS AUGUST 25

ADDRESS: 1743 IN-135 SW, Corydon, IN 47112

LOCATION: Just 3 miles S of Corydon or 12 miles N of Brandenburg KY!  
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INSPECTIONS: FRI. AUG. 21, 12-2 PM & MON. AUG. 24, 2-5 PM

LATE MODEL ZERO TURN MOWERS (25+ units): Grasshopper; Hustler; Spartan; Ferris; Big Dog; Bob-Cat; JD; (2) NEW Hustler power washers **ATV/UTV:** '17 Yamaha 1000RSS with '17 Cherokee 12' alum trailer; '13 Polaris Sportsman 500 ATV; '09 Polaris Ranger Crew 700 UTV **TRACTORS:** '10 AGCO Challenger MT665C 4x4, hrs: 5241, HP: 290, front/rear duals; '92 JD 4760, hrs: 8375, CHA, rears: 42" w/duals, field ready; '01 JD 5410 4x4 tractor w/JD 541 loader, one-owner; '81 IH 5088, hrs: 3673, original; '12 Kubota MX5100 4x4 w/loader, hrs: 737, HP: 52; '19 Kubota BX1880 4x4, hrs: 397, HP: 18; JD 6405, HP: 85; JD 2950 w/JD 720 loader; Case 2670 4x4, hrs: 3970; **VINTAGE TRACTORS:** '66 JD 3020D, HRS: 5850, SHARP; JD 4020D; JD 4010D; Ford 5600; Ford 4000; Ford 3000; Case VAC; JD A **FARM/HAY/TILLAGE EQUIP:** JD 582 silage special round baler; MF/AGCO 2-basket hay tedder (LIKE NEW); Big A 2800 self-propelled sprayer; '03 Kinze 640 grain cart; '13 J&M 375 ST seed tender; Progressive 2450 16-row applicator; Aerway 15' aerator; '18 Frontier 60" 3-pt conservation seeder; Unverferth 332 3-pt Ripper Stripper w/fertilizer; Land Pride 12' 3-pt blade; JD 3-pt 2-row planter (NICE); 3-pt discs/blades/seeders/plows; 10+ rotary mowers (5-15"); like new Land Pride 3-pt equipment; Killbros 350 box w/10-ton gear (NICE); tillage equip **COMBINE/HEAD:** '02 JD 9650 STS 4x4 combine, hrs: 3079/4888, duals, farmer retirement; JD 930F 30' head w/Unverferth HT36 cart **PORTABLE SAWMILL:** '25 LumberPro HD36V2, one-owner, low hrs-estate owned **CONSTRUCTION/MATERIAL HANDLING EQUIP:** '19 SANY BL70C 4x4 backhoe/loader, hrs: 200; '17 Takeuchi TB290 excavator, hrs: 1729, one-owner & (5) buckets; '15 Toro Dingo mini skid steer; Gehl SL6635 SXT skid steer, new engine; CAT sheepsfoot 10' roller; 15+ skid steer attachments **HEAVY TRUCKS:** '16 Navistar Prostar semi, miles: 156K, engine: Cummins X-15, single axle; '99 Mack RD600 tandem dump truck; '83 Peterbilt 359 semi, \$40K+ in new parts; '12 Int 4300 bucket truck; '99 Int 9400 semi; '01 Sterling M6500 Acterra flatbed; '77 Chevy C60 asphalt sealer truck; '84 GMC tandem axle dump truck **GRAIN TRUCKS:** '00 Int Pystar 5600I grain truck, miles: 277K, engine: Cummins ISM, bed: Reiten 22' alum, SHARP; '87 Ford 8000F grain truck; '82 Ford 9000 grain truck, engine: Cummins; '74 Chevy C60 grain truck, bed: Midwest 14', original **SEMI TRAILERS:** '24 Kaufman 55K 41' lowboy semi-trailer; (2) '09 Utility 3000R Reefer/Thermo King SB-210 trailers; (2) '05 Utility 3000R Reefer/Thermo Kings X2500A trailers/67 Rogers Phelan 24' low-boy; '88 Great Dane 43' flatbed; '01 Utility 48' flatbed **GN/BUMPER TRAILERS:** '21 Better Built GN 25' trailer (NEW-NEVER USED-GARAGE KEPT); '19 Big Tex 25GNHD GN 33' trailer; '05 Kaufman GN 28' trailer; '03 Liberty 5K dump trailer; 18' Forest River enclosed trailer **PICK-UP TRUCKS:** '15 Ford F250 Lariat 4x4, miles: 167K; '07 Ford F250 4x4, miles: 85K; '05 Ford F250 King Ranch 4x4, miles: 236K



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# The export of Mexican avocados to the US stopped

MEXICO CITY (AP) – Mexico recently began sending 1,500 more troops to the western state of Michoacan a day after the U.S. announced the suspension of government operations in that region – including halting avocado inspections required for their export – because of a non-specific threat to U.S. interests.

Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum announced the increase of security in avocado production areas to spur the resumption of the exports as soon as possible and to prevent any serious impact on Mexico's economy or U.S. supply.

The United States is a major consumer of Mexican avocados: More than 80 percent of the avocados consumed come from its southern neighbor, amounting to \$3.7 billion in sales for Mexico in 2025.

But before export, USDA inspectors

verify the quality on-site to prevent pests from entering the country. Without inspections, imports stop and prices in the U.S. may increase.

These agricultural inspections were suspended for security reasons in Michoacan, the main avocado producer and an area with high cartel activity.

It's not the first time the exports have been halted – a pause in early 2022 on the eve of the Super Bowl lasted a week, though it didn't impact game day guacamole consumption because those avocados had already been shipped.

Numerous cartels operate in Michoacan, which is the main state exporting avocados to the United States and one of just two states authorized to do so. In Michoacan, the cartels produce and traffic drugs and engage in violence and extortion across multiple industries, including the avocado industry where

payments to the cartels can impact prices of the fruit.

Previous pauses on exports were triggered by violence against U.S. inspectors – in 2024, two USDA employees were assaulted and temporarily held by assailants in Michoacan. This time, no specific incident was reported, and Michoacan authorities stated that the suspension was “preventive” due to recent arrests linked to extortion cases.

The California Avocado Commission, which supports the state's avocado industry, called for stronger monitoring of fruit headed to the U.S. after a pest was reported at a Mexico packinghouse and said cartels shouldn't be allowed to intervene in the industry.

“The Trump administration is right to protect American personnel and confront the cartels,” Ken Melban, the commission's president, said in a statement, adding that “cartels cannot be allowed to exploit the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement to undercut American growers and destroy domestic production.”

Avocado consumption has soared in

the United States in recent decades, and California grows only a fraction of the avocados needed to meet that demand.

Mexican analyst David Saucedo believes that issues with avocado exports are among the reasons the Trump administration has designated four cartels operating in Michoacán as terrorist organizations.

The suspension solely affects avocados grown in Michoacan, but only one other Mexican state, Jalisco, is authorized by the USDA to export to the United States since 2022, and its volume is much smaller.

Generally, the situation is resolved within a matter of days because export pauses hurt both Mexico and the U.S. – and the cartels. In Michoacan, the main producer, the industry employs about 200,000 people. Lengthy pauses could lead to shortages or price increases. And if the avocados aren't moving, criminals can't collect their extortion payments.

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



AU10200074

Wednesday  
AUG. 26th  
6PM ET

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



Important Ohio  
LAND AUCTION

Celina, OHIO - MERCER COUNTY

97.46± Acres

OFFERED IN 2 TRACTS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> • 10AM

PROPERTY LOCATION: Located 4.5 miles northwest of Celina, OH. From Celina, travel north on US 127 4.5 miles to Oregon Rd. Then left (west) 1.5 miles to the farm. Watch for Signs! *For GPS purposes use: 8987 Hoenie Rd., Celina, OH 45822*

AUCTION SITE: MERCER COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS (PBS Animal Health Building) located at 1001 W. Market St., CELINA, OH 45822.

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Inventory in this part of Ohio is very scarce.

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INSPECTION TIMES: 10 AM – 11 AM  
Thurs, August 20<sup>th</sup> • Thurs, September 3<sup>rd</sup>

OWNER: Padua Acres LLC • AUCTION MANAGER: Andy Walther • 765-969-0401



800-451-2709 • SchraderAuction.com

The auction will be offered in individual tracts, combinations of tracts, and as a whole.  
Andrew M. Walther, SAL.2012001611, 57199875479 | Schrader Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc., REC.0000314452 (Jeffersonville, OH), 63198513759

LEFFEW TRUST PUBLIC AUCTION

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29, 2026 - STARTING AT 10:00 A.M. (CDT)

LACROSSE, INDIANA

DIRECTIONS: Located 3 miles south of LaCrosse, Ind. on US 421 to W 2300 S, then east 2 miles to 8308 W 2300 S, LaCrosse, Ind. 46348. Watch for auction signs.

TRACTORS • SKID STEER • PICKUP  
LIVESTOCK TRAILER • GATOR

1996 JD 6400 MFWD D tractor, canopy, 3 pt, 18.4-34 rear rubber, 380-85R-24 front rubber, 7853 hrs • 1976 Case 1175 Agri-King D tractor, 3 pt, 10 front weights, 18.4-38 rubber w/duals, 2,930 hrs showing on tach • 1948 Case SC tractor • (2) Case SC tractors (parts) • Co-Op E4 tractor (parts) • Case 1835 C gas skid steer loader, w/material bucket, 5,204 hrs showing • 2007 GMC 2500 HD Duramax diesel pickup, regular cab, 8 ft. bed, new tires, 194,170 miles, gray in color • 2002 Cornpro SG-20 7S 20 ft. steel, tandem axle, gooseneck livestock trailer • JD TS 4x2 Gator, 3,618 hrs showing.

COMBINE • GRAIN TABLE • CORN HEAD  
HAY EQUIP • IMPLEMENTS

1978 JD 6600 D combine, 23.1-26 rubber, 3,314 hrs. showing • JD 444 (4 row wide) corn head • JD 215 15 ft. grain table • 2009 JD 458 4x5 round baler, good • 2008 JD 630 10 ft. MoCo discbine (good) • 1987 JD 328 square baler (good) • JD 84 3 pt hydraulic round bale mover • Kuhn GA 3200 GT hay rake • Kuhn GA 300 6M 3 pt hay rake • Gehl forage blower • 3 pt hay forks • JD 915 7 shank V ripper • JD 714 9 shank tandem axle disc chisel • New Idea 3618 double beater PTO manure spreader (good) • JD 8000 14 ft double disc grain drill • fork attachment for skid steer loader • Case IH 6500 9 spring shank conser-till • Kewanee 1020 20 ft. hyd. fold disc • 13 ft. heavy duty offset disc

Feedmaster 815 grinder/mixer • IH 70 4-16" pull plow • Case 6-16" 3 pt plow • Case 5-16" 3 pt plow • JD 2-bottom steel wheel plow • Ford-Dearborn 3-16" 3 pt plow • 9 ft. cultmulcher • 3 pt subsoiler • Super Rhino 8 ft. 3 pt heavy duty blade • JD 400 15 ft. rotary hoe • JD RM (8 row W) 3 pt cultivator w/end transport • JD 825 (4 row W) 3 pt cultivator • (2) Killbros Model 350 gravity wagons w/10 ton gears • Bradford 250 bushel gravity w/10 ton gear • Flat Rack wagon w/ Gehl 8 ton gear • (2) Flat Rack wagons w/8 ton gears • wagon w/ hoist and 6 ton gear • Kewanee Model 500 portable hay elevator • Hutchinson 50"8" PTO auger • 55 ft. 8" PTO auger • 35 ft. 8" portable auger w/gas engine • Model B 16 ft. portable auger • 7"x4' 3 pt carryall • 6 ton running gear • horse drawn 4 steel wheel ground driven manure spreader.

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NOTE: (Bub) Leffew was a well known farmer/cattleman in the LaCrosse area. He attended many auctions in the past years in which some of the items were purchased. Make plans to attend this auction!

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TERMS: No buyer's premium for onsite bidding. Cash or Good Check w/proper ID. Credit Cards w/4% fee. Settlement day of auction. Announcements made day of auction take precedence over printed matter. Not responsible for accidents or articles after sold.

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SATURDAY,  
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TILLAGE • HARVEST • HAY EQUIPMENT  
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AUCTION LOCATION:  
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AU10200074







# Robins congregating in woodlots, gathering for migration

I used to sit on the Spring Slough Trestle to read and write and dream, spending time as wisely as I knew, watching the years pass, at first slowly, and then with increasing swiftness, and never counted a moment there ill spent. – August Derleth

The Phases of the Moon  
Aug. 26: The Field Cricket Moon is full.

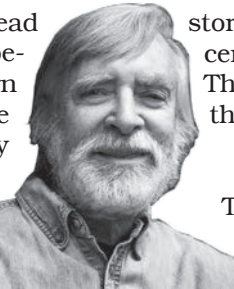
The Weather in the Week Ahead  
This is the week that frost becomes possible in the northern states; snow even occurs at the upper elevations in the Rocky Mountains and in Canada. Here in the Midwest, the third major high-pressure system of the month brings chances of highs in the 70s a full 40 percent of the time on Aug. 24, the first time since July 6 that odds have been so good for milder weather.

As that cool front moves east, the period from Aug. 25 to 27 usually brings a return of warmer temperatures in the 80s or 90s. The 26th, 27th, 28th and 29th each carry a 30 percent chance of highs in the 90s, and the 25th and 26th are the last days of the year on which there is only a 10 to 15 percent chance of mild weather in the 70s.

On the 28th, however, the final cool wave of August approaches, and even though chances of 90s remain strong, the likelihood for chilly highs only the 60s or 70s jumps to 30 percent. Aug. 30 is typically the coldest day of the month, and it brings a 50 percent chance of a high just in the 70s, the first time chances of that have been so good since the last day of June.

Nights in the 40s or 50s continue to occur an average of 40 percent of the time, and the morning of the 29th brings the slight possibility (a 5 percent chance) of light frost, for first time since the beginning of June. Chances of rain are typically 35 percent per day now, with the exception of Aug. 28, on which date thunder-

storms cross the region 65 percent of the years in my record. The 25th and 26th are usually the sunniest days this week.



POOR WILL'S ALMANACK  
By Bill Felker

Natural Calendar  
The lowering sun accelerates its message to the monarchs and swallowtails, to the fall webworms and to the Hickory Horned Devils (the caterpillars of the Citheronia regalis moth). It is high Late Summer: Beds of false boneset and trellises of virgin's bower break into 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 autumn crop of raspberries darkens.

The latest flowers of the season are getting set to open. Bur marigolds, zig-zag goldenrod, tall goldenrod, Jerusalem artichokes, broad-leafed swamp goldenrod and small-flowered asters are budding. Plums and grapes and elderberries sweeten. Insects still are everywhere. Cicadas and katydids and crickets are still loud. Fold-wing skippers still chase each other in the morning sun.

The very first of the black walnut leaf turn and leafdrop began in the middle of Leo, and now the walnut trees are quickly yellowing. Yards and paths fill with their leaves. Sometimes the black walnut trees are completely bare by the first days of September. The horse chestnuts follow, then the cottonwoods, then box elders. Judas maples, betraying the messiah of June with red and orange, foretell October.

Yellow jackets come to feed in the fallen fruit, and ground hornets build nests. Murmurations of starlings sweep over the fields, and long flocks of grackles and blackbirds follow the harvest. Robins congregate in the woodlots, gathering for migration. Peaches, blackberries, second-crop raspberries, plums and elderberries sweeten, then close their seasons. Hickory nuts, buckeyes and pecans fall to earth.

# AUCTION

## 104 ACRE GRAIN FARM

### THURSDAY, SEPT. 3 @ 6 P.M.

DELAWARE & MARION COUNTY LINE

**AUCTION LOCATION:** Grange Hall, 31378 State Route 37, Richwood, OH, 2 miles N. of Richwood.  
**LOCATION:** 2 miles SW of Prospect, OH, 5 miles E. of Richwood, OH off Rt. 4 on Davis Kirk Road. (Watch for signs)

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# 80 ± ACRE FARMLAND AUCTION

## WOOD COUNTY | JACKSON TOWNSHIP

**AUCTION DATE & TIME:**  
SEPTEMBER 3, 2026  
6:00 PM

**AUCTION LOCATION:**  
DESHLER AMERICAN LEGION  
505 S STEARNS AVE,  
DESHLER, OH 43516

**DYE**  
REAL ESTATE & LAND COMPANY

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ALMANACK LITERATURE  
Always Look Where You're Going  
By Eunice Hicks, Willard, Ohio  
One evening when she came back from the outhouse, mom told dad, "Tommie, there's got to be another outhouse built."

Dad said then he would build another one beside the old one. He would tear the other one down later.

So, one morning, mom and I and little Sister Polly walked up to the barn, and mom found out one of her hens had hatched out a gang of little chickens, or bitties, as mom said.

Then Mom said, "I can't let the hen and little bitties stay at the barn. Some varmint will get them," meaning some animals.

So she said, "I know where I will put them," and she took them to the old outhouse beside the new one, but she didn't tell dad.

Then one morning early, dad walked out to the outhouse, and he went into the old outhouse instead of the new one. That old hen flogged him so badly he didn't take time to get his pants all the way up.

He came back to the house and said, "Rose, why did you put the old hen and her chicks in that old outhouse? Darn near scared the wits out of me!"

Mom laughed and laughed and said to dad, "The next time, look where you're going."

Then all our family laughed together.







ONLINE EQUIPMENT  
CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

JOHN DEERE, FARMALL, INTERNATIONAL,  
TIRES & PARTS

More consignments coming in!

SOFT CLOSING BEGINS

MONDAY, AUGUST 24TH @ 6:00PM

Items can be viewed at  
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or online @ burkeauctionrealty.com

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SURPLUS EQUIPMENT AUCTION

8/29/26 @ 10 A.M.

THOMAS PLASTICS

732 S Boatman Rd., SCOTTSBURG, IN 47170

SEMI TRACTORS:

1995 Kenworth #163 750,061 miles, 1997 Freightliner #180 622,746 miles, 1999 Mack #7 141,154 miles, 2001 Kenworth #284 320,429 miles, 2005 International #271 815,786 miles, 2005 Mack #21 371,054 miles.

TRUCKS:

2001 Ford F350 #176 212,862 miles, 2004 Ford F450 #20 299,233 miles, 2005 Ford F450 #269 266,740 miles, 2005 Ford F550 #605 142,798 miles, 2006 Ford F450 #250 251,540 miles, 2006 Ford F450 #262 320,610 miles, 2007 GMC 5500 #279 297,524 miles.

SUV:

2005 Toyota Highlander #620 260,963 miles.

TRAILERS:

1974 Load Craft Step Deck #086, 1980 International Step Deck #087, 1987 Siebert Tri-Axle #023, 2001 Trail King Folding Neck #053, 2013 Peerless #069, Trail King Tri-Axle #053, Doonan Tri-Axle #026, 125-ton trailer #055 W/ Jeep Attachment #055-1.

EXCAVATOR:

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Above: IFAL attendees feel the sheep wool with UK professor at the University of Kentucky Sheep Unit. (Photo by Jacob Rudy)

## Kentucky high school seniors attend Institute for Future Agricultural Leaders

LEXINGTON, Ky. – A group of rising high school seniors representing more than 30 Kentucky counties gathered on the University of Kentucky’s campus in June for the 41st annual Institute for Future Agricultural Leaders (IFAL). IFAL is a leadership development program hosted by Kentucky Farm Bureau in partnership with the Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment and Murray State University.

Throughout the week, students lived in residence halls, explored campus, toured UK research farms, participated in leadership development sessions, networked with agricultural professionals and experienced college life firsthand. Students also competed

in the IFAL discussion meet competition and participated in a team building ropes course and the annual barnyard Olympics.

Taylor Nash, director of Young Farmer Programs at Kentucky Farm Bureau, said IFAL was created to help students discover the opportunities available within Kentucky agriculture while building the relationships that will shape their futures.

“IFAL is a farm bureau program that’s been going on for four decades with the goal of bringing together upcoming seniors and helping them get connected with agriculture in the industry and see what their future might look like here in Kentucky agriculture,” Nash said.

Hosting IFAL on UK’s campus is an intentional part of the experience, Nash said.

“For a lot of students, they hear about college, but they get very few opportunities to really see what college life looks like,” he said. “This is an opportunity to bring them to campus, put them in a dorm, let them eat at the dining hall, get to explore campus and really begin seeing the importance of keeping Kentucky’s talent in Kentucky.”

That immersive experience left a lasting impression on attendees, including Addie Baker from Adair County.

“Being on a college campus had so many benefits, especially giving me a taste of what my future college experience could be like,” Baker said. “Seeing the proximity of classes to the dorms, the study rooms and the security that each building on campus had made me feel much more comfortable with the college experience as a whole.”

For Baker, the week also clarified

(Future leaders continued on page 15B)

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- 23 383± ACRES IN 10 TRACTS. Huntington County, IN (Huntington, IN). 371.47 FSA Tillable Acres • High Quality Soils • Excellent Historical Yields • Tracts Ranging from 20-59± Acres. Contact Luke Schrader 260-229-7089 or RD Schrader 800-451-2709.

## FARM EQUIPMENT & PERSONAL PROPERTY

### AUGUST

- 23 PERSONAL PROPERTY - TIMED ONLINE ONLY. Kendallville, IN. Contact Daniel Days 260-233-1401 or Dean Rummel 260-343-8511.
- 24 PERSONAL PROPERTY - TIMED ONLINE ONLY. Monroeville, IN. Contact Reid Yoder 260-402-0895 or Mike Roy 260-437-5428.
- 26 PERSONAL PROPERTY - TIMED ONLINE ONLY. Fort Wayne, IN. Contact Mike Roy 260-437-5428.
- 28 PERSONAL PROPERTY - TIMED ONLINE ONLY. Columbia City, IN. Contact Phil Wolfe 260-248-1191 or Daniel Days 260-233-1401.
- 29 PERSONAL PROPERTY. Columbia City, IN. Contact Ritter Cox 260-609-3306.

### SEPTEMBER

- 1 FARM EQUIPMENT. Cambridge City, IN. Contact Andy Walther 765-969-0401.
- 12 FARMEQUIPMENT. New Haven, IN. Contact Mike Roy 260-437-5428 or Eric Ott 260-413-0787.
- 15 FARM EQUIPMENT. Edon, OH. Contact Eric Ott 260-413-0787.
- 26 FARMEQUIPMENT. Ligonier, IN. Contact Robert Mishler 260-336-9750.

### OCTOBER

- 8 FARM EQUIPMENT CONSIGNMENT - VIRTUAL AND TIMED ONLINE. Various Locations. Contact Eric Ott 260-413-0787, Robert Mishler 260-336-9750 or Mark Schroeder 260-564-0570.

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# 2026 MSU Wheat Performance Trial results are released

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Wheat Program has announced the release of the Michigan State University 2026 Wheat Performance Trial results. The trials, supported in part by the Michigan Wheat Program, have been conducted for over 31 years. And for the last 14 years, the Michigan Wheat Program has provided funds and resources to provide growers with comparative yield, disease resistance and quality parameters for emerging new wheat varieties.

The Wheat Performance Trials are a key piece of the Michigan Wheat Program's research agenda, and are directed by MSU wheat breeder Dr. Eric Olson and MSU wheat systems specialist Dennis Pennington.

Farmers planting wheat this fall should consult the report to learn more about the commercial lines for planting and experimental varieties to see what is on the horizon for those tested in the 2025-2026 growing season. Trials were conducted on MSU research farms and private farms in seven counties: Allegan, Gratiot, Huron, Ingham, Monroe, Sanilac and Tuscola. The Monroe County plot is not included in the data.

The 2026 trials included 129 wheat varieties, including 52 commercially available varieties and 77 experimental lines supplied by 10 seed companies and the MSU wheat breeding program directed by Olson. The participating seed companies are AgriMAXX Wheat Company, Albert Lea Seed, DF Seeds, Inc., Dyna-Gro Seed, GROWMARK, Inc.-FS Inspire, Irrer Seed Farm, KWS Cereals USA, Michigan Crop Improvement Association, Synergy Ag and Virginia Tech.

"Breeders at MSU and in private business are constantly developing

new wheat varieties that could provide many benefits to the Michigan wheat farmer," said Jeffery Krohn, Michigan Wheat Program chairman and wheat farmer from Owendale. "The trial data gives producers early information on how that new variety will perform in the field in multiple locations with slightly different Michigan weather and soil types, but grown under the same cultural practices. Observing a few years' data, we get an idea of what variety we think might work for our own farms – before we make 2026-2027 planting decisions."

Pennington said, "A new tool to assist wheat growers in considering and selecting among new varieties is being introduced this year. The 2026 Wheat Performance Trials will be available as a pdf as usual, but also available in Excel format. This allows growers to search and sort through the information and make comparisons to select the best varieties for their farm and their management style."

Contributing to the Variety Trials with funding targeted to high-management cultivation of new varieties has been the focus for the Michigan Wheat Program, according to executive director Jody Pollok-Newsom. "Our board invests in this research to keep our industry actively growing its yields and improving quality. High management and new varieties are key to the higher per-acre yields that Michigan wheat farmers are seeing in the last decade."

Olson commented on the weather challenges to the 2025-2026 Variety Trials including a very dry fall and early winter with limited tillering, but good overwintering conditions due to mostly good snow cover. As spring arrived, there was some ponding due to snowmelt, but mostly low disease

pressure and minimal Fusarium head blight. Armyworm was a bit of a surprise, Olson noted.

**Choosing varieties**  
Research experts caution that variety selection is best made using at least three years of data. Varieties selected using data across all locations and multiple years will likely perform well under a wide range of conditions; although performance of a given variety will vary based on testing location. When selecting varieties for a specific farm, it's important to identify seed

lines that perform well near the location where the variety will be grown. The 2026 Michigan State Wheat Performance Trials can be an important tool in reviewing this information. The complete report is available on the home page of miwheat.org under news and announcements and grower resources. And also at miwheat.org by going to the Research Results tab and clicking on the High Management Results tab which not only has the 2026 report, but previous years' reports for more comparisons.

Huntington County, Indiana

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## Future Leaders

FROM PAGE 13B

her future.

"I had been going back and forth between the medical field and the agriculture industry, and this made me realize that I wanted to continue to be a voice for agriculture long after I graduate high school," she said. "Seeing the difference that the advocates, farmers and instructors make at the University of Kentucky was eye-opening and absolutely outstanding."

Baker described IFAL as a "program immersed in agriculture and leadership skills, but also a sense of lifelong relationships that help us create our future pathways." Participants and organizers alike agreed that those relationships are what make the program truly unforgettable.

"When I think about when I did IFAL 12 years ago, the people I met then are still friends and important people in my life," Nash said. "I think it's the most special part about IFAL. The people who are mentors here will be mentors in the future, but also peers and will soon be friends and colleagues."

Wayne County attendee Collin Ramsey said his favorite part of IFAL was meeting students from across Kentucky while learning from agriculture professionals. Ramsey said the pro-

gram also strengthened his confidence and leadership abilities.

"I learned the importance of leadership, communication, teamwork and how agriculture impacts our communities," he said. "I also gained confidence in working with others and stepping outside of my comfort zone."

Although many participants come from farming backgrounds, Nash emphasized that IFAL welcomes everyone with an interest in agriculture.

"It's open to everyone," he said. "It's open to anyone in that age range who has an interest in agriculture and wants to explore more of what their future could look like in it."

For Baker, the impact of the week extends beyond leadership workshops and campus tours.

"My favorite part about IFAL was the people," she said. "Seeing people with so many different interests, backgrounds and dreams all coming together to share their love for the agriculture industry gave me hope for the future of agriculture."

As another class of students left UK's campus with new friendships, expanded professional networks and a clearer vision for their futures, IFAL once again demonstrated how a single week can inspire Kentucky's next generation of agricultural leaders.

To learn more about our students at Martin-Gatton CAFE, visit <https://www.mgcafe.uky.edu>.

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