

Farmer's Pride

Young Farms, Trimble County, 5th generation farmers Abigail and Christopher

JUNE 19, 2014

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State, tobacco cos settle

Beshear, Conway announce release of \$110.4 million of MSA funds

Kentucky has reached a settlement with tobacco manufacturers that ends a decade-long dispute and releases \$110.4 million of Master Settlement Agreement

Gov. Steve Beshear and Attorney General Jack Conway held a press conference last Thursday to announce the agreement.

Under the agreement, Kentucky receives \$110.4 million in disputed payments. Combined with the \$48.3 million in payments already received this fiscal year, the total MSA payments for fiscal year 2014 total is \$158.7 million, which is \$67.9 million more than budgeted.

Estimated receipts for fiscal year 2015 are \$26.6 mil-

lion less than budgeted, and fiscal year 2016 are \$15.9 million more. Overall, Kentucky stands to receive \$57.2 million more in MSA payments over the next three years than budgeted.

"Our first priority with this money is to fully restore

SEE STATE, PAGE 14



Photo by Sharon Burton

John McLean welcomed the Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation board to his farm recently and explained how an anaerobic digester converts poultry manure into methane gas and an organic liquid fertilizer. Shown behind McLean is a 270,000-gallon digester.



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Poultry producer uses litter to make energy

CAMPBELLSVILLE, Ky. - John McLean dreams of a renewable energy campus on his farm. To make his dream a reality, he added poultry houses and is growing bacteria.

McLean invested in a \$1.4 million project for an anaerobic digester where poultry litter and other feedstock will go through a series of processes and be converted to methane gas.

Ultimately, McLean plans to sell energy to East Kentucky Power. For now, he is processing enough energy to operate a digester, making the 270,000-gallon tank self-sufficient.

McLean recently hosted the Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation board of directors on his MAC Farm in Taylor County, KAFC helped McLean get started with a \$250,000 beginning farmer loan. Since then, he has also received two grants totaling \$25,000 through the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund.

McLean started the project three years ago. In April 2013, he resigned his fulltime banking position after realizing the project would not be completed without his full attention. He added two

SEE POULTRY, PAGE 2



KENTUCKY FFA CONVENTION: New officers elected;

stars awarded. 3

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1 CONNECTION News from the Kentucky Corn Growers Association and Kentucky Corn Promotion Council

Big Win for Waterways Transportation, but

Work Still Needed

The Kentucky Corn Growers Association is thankful for President Obama's signature on the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014. This final reauthorization bill, which will improve the reliability and efficiency of the U.S. inland waterways system, was passed by the House on May 20 and the Senate on May 22.

"WRRDA is vital to the grain industry because it contains measures on inland waterways navigation and transportation," said Russel Schwenke, KyCorn president. "As corn farmers continue to excel in producing more grain and enhancing our global trade initiatives, the pipeline for delivering this grain to our harbors has to be improved. Many of the measures in the WRRDA bill allow for those needed improvements."

WRRDA will bring a greater degree of accountability to the Army Corps of Engineers project delivery system by prioritizing authorized improvements based upon risk of failure and economic return to the nation. The report includes four recommendations originally issued in the Capital Development Plan which was developed in concert with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and unanimously endorsed by the Congressionally-chartered Inland Water Users Board in 2010:

- Federalize the project at the Olmsted Locks and Dams. This would create a permanent cost-sharing arrangement for the remaining cost of the project, with 85 percent of funding taken from the general fund and 15 percent taken from the Inland Waterways Trust Fund. This would make approximately \$105 million per year available for funding other Trust Fund priority projects.
- Redefine major rehabilitation projects eligible for funding through the Inland Waterways Trust Fund, increasing the current level defined in law from \$14 million to \$20 million. The level would also be adjusted annually to account for inflation.

- Prioritize projects solely upon the basis of risk of failure and economic benefit to the United States.
- Reform project delivery to achieve ontime and on-budget performance.

With this final reauthorization bill signed into law, KyCorn urges Congress to quickly move to address the proposed increase to the diesel fuel user fee which would provide additional revenue to the Inland Waterways Trust Fund. By increasing this tax between six and nine cents per gallon of fuel, the industries using the waterways would be able to provide needed funds for the improvement and maintenance of the infrastructure on which they rely. Notably, all parties which would be subject to this tax have publicly stated their support and recognition that the revenue raised would play a vital role in maintaining infrastructure key to their economic well-being.



KyCorn Revs Up for Ethanol Promotion at Kentucky Speedway

KyCorn will be promoting corn and ethanol to the 100,000+ race fans who will be attending the NASCAR series races at Kentucky Speedway, June 26-28.

In addition to providing an educational experience outside the track with the presence of the Biofuels Mobile Education Center exhibit and race car simulator, fans will see Sunoco Green E15 power the world's best drivers through their paces with the clean burning, high-powered consistency that has been the hallmark of American Ethanol.

The fuel has provided six million trouble-free miles since the NASCAR partnership began in 2010.

We hope to see you there!

Mark Your Calendars for the Next Precision Technology Workshop

August 4-5 Louisville, KY

Be sure to save the date and register for the third Precision Technology Workshop sponsored by KyCorn and the Kentucky Small Grains Growers Association.

The workshop will be held in Louisville, Ky., and will be led once again by Dr. Joe Luck of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. Workshop agenda and location details will be provided at www.kycorn.org.

If you would like additional information or to pre-register, please contact Adam Andrews at adam@kycorn.org or at 502-742-2036. Registration is required for participation.

Corn Utilization and Technology Conference Showcased Bourbon and New Uses The National Corn Growers Association held the 2014 Corn Utility



Kentucky Distiller's Association Kristin Meadors and NCGA President Martin Barbre share a bourbon toast.

The National Corn Growers Association held the 2014 Corn Utilization and Technology Conference (CUTC) in Louisville, Kentucky earlier this month, bringing focus to cutting-edge technologies and new uses that continually improve and dynamically change the corn industry.

KyCorn sponsored the CUTC and opening bourbon reception to showcase Kentucky's most unique and celebrated corn market. Keynote speaker Kristin Meadors of the Kentucky Distillers Association provided a fascinating talk about bourbon production and marketing efforts.

The conference featured sessions on: biopolymers; grain quality and mycotoxin; nutraceuticals; new technologies which will improve profitability and productivity in the production of ethanol; integrated biorefineries; new processing technology and products from dry and wet mills; products from biorefineries; genetics and biotechnology; new uses of starch; enzyme technology and resistant starch and nutrition.

Increasingly recognized as an important industry networking event, CUTC offered attendees the chance to meet hundreds of valuable business contacts, identify potential new customers and learn how new technologies will enhance the value of corn. KyCorn leadership was also able to connect with an international team of buyers from Southeast Asia, with the help of the US Grains Council, to discuss future market partnerships.

As summer nears, livestock heat stress looms

LEXINGTON – With summer drawing near, it's a good time to start thinking about protecting livestock from inevitable heat stress conditions on the way.

"The combination of hot, muggy weather conditions prompts some real concern for humans, as well as livestock and pets," said Tom Priddy, meteorologist for the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment. "The livestock heat stress index is a combination of air temperature and humidity. That one-two punch makes it hazardous for people and animals. Dew point temperatures above 65 degrees lead officials to declare conditions dangerous for livestock."

The Livestock Heat Stress Index helps producers know when heat stress could create a problem for their animals. Periods of heat stress call for livestock producers to be vigilant in making sure their animals are able to withstand the conditions.

UKAg dairy specialist Jeffrey Bewley said the most important things producers can do are to provide cool, clean water and shade, with buildings as open as possible to help keep animals' internal body temperature within normal limits. Sprinkler systems that periodically spray a cool mist on the animals also are beneficial.

To keep cattle from becoming overheated, producers should not work cattle during periods of heat stress.

"To keep cattle from becoming overheated, you certainly do not want to work them during heat stress conditions—veterinarian work, reproductive checks or vaccinations," Bewley said.

Producers should also avoid transporting livestock during a heat danger or emergency period. If they must move animals during this time, producers should try to do so with fewer animals per load. Planning trips so producers can load animals immediately before leaving and quickly unload upon arrival can help minimize the risk.

Heat loss for all horses becomes difficult when temperatures exceed 90 degrees, so avoid exercising them during very hot periods. When humidity is high, temperatures much lower than 90 degrees can pose problems. Horse owners can reduce heat stress by scheduling 'The combination of hot, muggy
weather conditions prompts some
real concern for humans,
as well as livestock and pets,'

Tom Priddy Meteorologist, University of Kentucky

activities during the cooler part of the day and giving horses plenty of water. Transporting horses during the cooler hours of the morning or evening can help. To reduce the risk of dehydration and heat stress, give horses access to water before, during and after transportation in hot weather.

Offer horses frequent drinks of water during work in hot weather. Allowing them to drink during work helps maintain water balance and relieves the urge to drink a lot of water after exercise. After a hard workout, water horses out gradually.

Even non-working horses will double their water intake during hot weather, so be sure plenty of water is available to horses in pastures, paddocks and stalls.

Lactating mares will have especially high water requirements because they are using water for milk production and heat loss.

Hot weather also will increase horses' need for salt because salt is lost during sweating. Heavy rains can "melt" salt blocks in pastures, so salt licks should be checked.

Visit the UK Ag Weather Center website at http://weather.uky.edu to keep up with current weather, forecasts, heat stress indices and more.

By Aimee Nielson University of Kentucky



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Grazing field day focuses on eastern Ky.

LEXINGTON – Eastern Kentucky livestock and forage producers who are interested in learning about making their pastures more profitable should consider attending the East Region Grazing Field Day.

The University of Kentucky Master Grazer Program field day will be Saturday, June 21 at the Morgan County Extension farm, rain or shine. Registration begins at 8 a.m. EDT. Presentations begin at 9 a.m.

Specialists and extension associates from the UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment and county extension agents for agriculture and natural resources will lead the program. Topics will range from fence construction to understanding soil test results to identifying and treating weeds in pastures.

The program may fulfill the educational requirements for County Agricultural Investment Program funding. Interested individuals should contact their county extension agent for agriculture and natural resources for details.

The field day will also include a free lunch and door prizes. The event will conclude at 3 p.m.

The farm is located just past the intersection of U.S. Route 460 and state Route 172 in West Liberty.

More information is available on the UK Master Grazer Program website at www2.ca.uky.edu/grazer/ or by contacting Cody Smith, UK Master Grazer coordinator at 859-257-7512. Producers can also contact the following county extension agents for agriculture and natural resources for more information:

- Morgan County: Sarah Fannin, 606-743-3292 or sfannin@ukv.edu
- Wolfe County: Daniel Wilson, 606-668-3612 or daniel.wilson@ukv.edu
- Elliott County: Mary McCarty, 606-738-6400 or mary.mccarty@uky.edu
- Menifee County: Courtney Jenkins, 606-768-2524 or courtney.lacy@uky.edu

Sponsors include the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund, UK Robinson Center for Appalachian Resource Sustainability and various county extension district boards.

By Katie Pratt University of Kentucky

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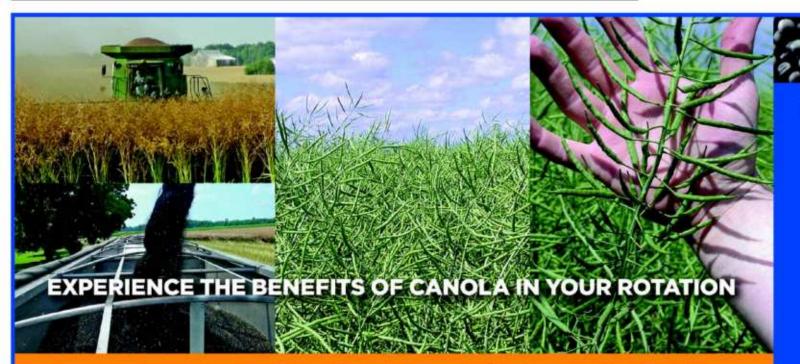




2014 STATE FFA OFFICERS



The 2014 State FFA officers are (front row, from left): State Secretary Darilyn Browning Spencer County FFA; Pennyrile State Vice President Caitlin Wyatt, Hopkins Central FFA; State Vice President Charity Adams Rockcastle County FFA and State Treasurer Jessica Murch, Henderson County FFA. (Second row, from left): State Reporter Caitlin Ross, Mason County FFA; Big Sandy State Vice President Caitlin Conley, Boyd County FFA; Northern Kentucky State Vice President Tori Young, Gallatin County FFA; State Sentinel Sara Chism, Meade County FFA; Barren River State Vice President Kathrine Ditmore, Allen County/Scottsville FFA and Purchase State Vice President Alex Housman, McCraken County FFA. (Back row, from left): Lake Cumberland State Vice President Cody Pryor, McCreary Central FFA and State President Austin Hazelwood, Mercer County FFA.



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State, tobacco companies settle on MSA dispute

FROM PAGE 1

\$42.5 million in 2014 budget cuts in areas like lung cancer research, county agriculture funds, and early child-hood oral and mental health assistance, while maintaining this level of funding in 2015," Gov. Beshear said. "This agreement will ensure funding availability for future investments in these programs that continue to have a positive impact on the commonwealth."

The agreement ends a dispute that began from 2003 when tobacco manufacturers claimed Kentucky did not diligently seek payments from tobacco companies not part of the MSA agreement. The original \$229 billion agreement was between attorneys general of 46 states and Philip Morris, R.J. Reynolds, Brown and Williamson and Lorillard.

The total the state will receive is 45 cents on the dollar of full funding that was part of the original 1998

agreement.

While in dispute, tobacco companies withheld a portion of MSA funds each year. Last year, an arbitration panel found that Kentucky did not meet its enforcement obligations in 2003, resulting in the lower 2014 MSA payment that led to the \$42.5 million budget reduction.

While Kentucky appealed the decision, the ruling, if upheld, would have future implications for the years after 2003 as well. Under the new agreement, the state has settled 10 years of disputed claims and litigation, dating from the 2003 payments through 2012.

"The settlement ends a long-running dispute and restores certainty to Kentucky's annual payments from the 1998 Master Settlement Agreement," Attorney General Conway said. "Under the terms of the settlement, we avoid the possibility of costly litigation and the potential loss of the entire annual MSA payment."

Conway said he began meeting secretly with tobacco companies last November to work out an agreement.

AG COMMUNITY CALLS AGREEMENT A VICTORY

The agriculture community called the agreement a victory that restores funding for programs through the Agricultural Development Fund. One half of MSA funds that come to Kentucky are earmarked for agriculture diversification.

"The MSA has been an important part of Kentucky's agricultural growth over the last several years; farmers and farm advocates across this state can testify to the importance of the MSA and the KADF programs it supports," said Roger Thomas, executive director of the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy. "While Kentucky strongly believes that we made a good case for our diligence in 2003, the arbitration panel ruled otherwise. The decision highlights the unpredictable nature of the arbitration process, which will be conducted by a different panel and under different procedures for each succeeding year. This settlement provides Kentucky with certainty and fiscal stability in these vital areas for the foreseeable future."

According to a press release by the Altria Group, parent company of Philip Morris, the agreement PM USA and the other companies will receive credit toward future MSA payments.

"We think this resolution is good for the Commonwealth of Kentucky and for PM USA" said Denise F. Keane, executive vice president and general counsel, Altria Group Inc. "We have always said we are open to resolving these disputes in a manner that makes sense to the states and to us, and that remains the case."

With this agreement, Kentucky joins 22 other states that have elected to settle Non-Participating Manufacturer MSA disputes.

By Sharon Burton snburton@duo-county.com

Vilsack announces funds to fight deadly pig virus

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) – U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack says the federal government is investing millions of dollars as part of an increased effort to fight a deadly pig virus.

The federal government would pump \$26 million into fighting PEDv, also known as porcine epidemic diarrhea virus, Vilsack said earlier this month at the World Pork Expo in Des Moines. The disease has killed an estimated 8 million pigs – about 10 percent of the country's hog inventory – over the past year, The Des Moines Register reported.

The money will help producers report to local, state or federal veterinarians when they're affected by the disease. They'll also be expected to develop a biosecurity management plan to monitor and control their respective farms.

"We recognize it is important to focus on creating a better understanding of these viruses, a better understanding of how they got into this country, and a better understanding of how to deal with them once they're here and how to deal with the eradication and elimination of them," he said. The agency said in April it would seek the reporting measure. It also includes examining a similar disease known as porcine deltacoronavirus.

"This does not involve a restriction in movement. It doesn't involve a quarantine," he said. "But it does involve the need for reporting, and the need for a monitoring and management plan."

The funding could jump to \$30 million with the agency's 2015 budget request for nearly \$4 million to research a vaccine for the disease.

Vilsack said aggressive action against the disease was important.

"This is too important an industry to this country," he said. "We need to protect producers, protect jobs and protect consumers" who have seen pork prices rise.

Ron Prestage, a South Carolina veterinarian and producer, said the collection of data will be beneficial, but the federal government needs to be "very, very careful it doesn't create a bureaucratic red-tape mess with the submission of herd health and biosecurity plans, especially for small producers."

EPA extends comment period for Waters of the U.S. proposal

The EPA has extended the comment period for the "Waters of the U.S." proposal.

The original deadline of July 17 has been extended to Oct. 20. EPA officials said the decision was made because of heightened interest in the proposed rules.

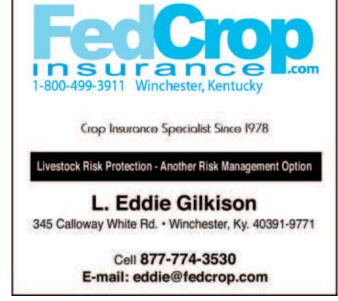
EPA says the rules would clarify its jurisdiction over waterways as part of the Clean Water Act.

Farm organizations have rallied in opposition of the proposal. Bob Stallman, president of American Farm Bureau Federation, told a House subcommittee last week that the proposal threatens local land-use and zoning authority, and is an end-run around Congress and the Supreme Court."

AFB says the rules would micro-manage farming via newly-mandated procedures for fencing, spraying, weeding and more. Permitting, meanwhile, could delay time-sensitive tasks for months, potentially ruining crops in the process.

"EPA is deliberately misleading the regulated community about the impacts on land use. If more people knew how regulators could use the proposed rule to require permits for common activities on dry land, or penalize landowners for not getting them, they would be outraged," Stallman said.

To learn more or to comment, go online to http://ditchtherule.fb.org.



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It's county fair time in Kentucky!

Woodford County Fair, Versailles, June 13-21.

Clark County Fair, Winchester, June 14-21.

Gallatin County Fair, Warsaw, June 14-21.

Union County Fair, Sturgis, June 16-21.

Clinton County Fair, Albany, June 16-21.

Bullitt County Fair, Shepherdsville, June 16-

Green County Fair, Greensburg, June 16-21.

Lawrenceburg Fair, Lawrenceburg, June 21-

Allen County Fair. Scottsville, June 22-June

LaRue County Fair, Hodgenville, June 23.

Bourbon County Fair, Paris, June 23-28.

Garrard County Fair, Lancaster, June 23-28.

McCracken County Fair, Paducah, June 23-28.

Scott County Fair, Georgetown, June 24-28.

Franklin-Simpson Fair, Franklin, June 26-28.

Western Kentucky State Fair, Hopkinsville, June 27-July 5.

Wayne County Fair, Monticello, June 27-July

Estill County Fair, Irvine, June 28-July 5.

Henry County Fair, New Castle, June 30-July 5.

Trimble County Fair, Bedford, June 30-July 5.

Hart County Fair. Munfordville, June 30-July 5.

Lincoln County Fair, Stanford, June 30-July 5.

Marion County Fair, Lebanon, June 30-July 5.

Trimble County Fair, Bedford, June 30-July 5.

Whitley County Fair, Williamsburg, July 1.

Madison County Fair, Richmond, July 1.

Harrison County Fair, Cynthiana, July 3-12.

Adair County Fair, Columbia, July 7-12.

Hardin County Fair, Glendale, July 7-12.

McCreary County Fair, Pine Knot, July 7-12.

Jessamine County Fair, Nicholasville, July 7-12.

Breckinridge County Fair, Hardinsburg, July 7-12.

Ballard County Fair, La Center, July 7-18.

Laurel County Fair, London, July 8-12.

Barren County Fair, Temple Hill, July 10-19.

Lexington Lions Bluegrass Fair, Lexington, July 10-

Henderson County Fair, Henderson, July 11-17.

Owen County Fair, Owenton, July 12-19

Livingston County Fair, Smithland, July 12-19.

Kenton County Fair, Independence, July 14-19.

Franklin County Fair, Frankfort, July 14-19.

Nelson County Fair, Bardstown, **July 14-19**.

Tollesboro Fair, Tollesboro, July 18-26. Spencer County Fair, Taylorsville, July 18-26.

Jefferson County Fair, Louisville, July 19.

Pendleton County Fair, Falmouth, July 19-26.

Meade County Fair, Brandenburg, July 19-26.

Pulaski County Fair, Somerset, July 19-26.

Mercer County Fair, Harrodsburg, July 21-26.

Boyd County Fair, Coalton, July 22-26.

Hopkins County Fair, Madisonville, July 22-26.

Daviess County Lions Fair, Philpot, July 23-26.

Monroe County Fair, Tompkinsville, July 27-Aug. 2.

Logan County Fair, Russellville, July 28-Aug. 2.

Grant County Fair, Crittenden, July 28-Aug. 2.

Southern Kentucky Fair, Bowling Green, July 28-Aug. 2.

Montgomery County Fair, Mount Sterling, July 28-Aug. 2.

Crittenden County Fair, Marion, July 28-Aug. 2.

Cumberland County Fair, Burkesville, July 28-Aug.

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BIG ON COMMITMENT

Kentucky Mesonet looks to beef up funding, support

'The Mesonet has fundamentally changed how the weather service performs its mission day in and day out,'

John Gordon Meteorologist in charge National Weather Service Forecast Office, Louisville

BOWLING GREEN, Ky., – Now in its eighth year of operation, the Kentucky Mesonet is looking to build a broad base of funding and support for the statewide climate and weather network.

The Mesonet, housed in the Kentucky Climate Center at Western Kentucky University, has stations in 64 counties. The first station was installed at the WKU Farm in May 2007.

"We have been economical in operating the Mesonet infrastructure, but are challenged to ensure the sustainability and more fully unlock the value of the Mesonet for the benefit of Kentuckians," Dr. Stuart Foster, state climatologist and director of the Kentucky Mesonet, said in a university news release. "In the current budget environment, the traditional model of top-down funding from federal and state sources has not been a viable option. Instead, we have worked to build a bottom-up funding model by partnering with local governments to support the Mesonet stations in their counties."

The real-time weather and climate data on temperature, precipitation, humidity, solar radiation, wind speed and direction collected by Mesonet stations is transmitted to the Kentucky Climate Center at WKU every five minutes, 24 hours per day, throughout the year and is available online at www.kymesonet.org.

Foster has been working with the Kentucky County Judge/Executive Association and through Kentucky's Area Development Districts to reach out to judge executives in counties that are home to Mesonet sites.

"In letters to county officials, we asked local governments to provide funding in the next fiscal year's budget that WKU will match," Foster said. "This model is one of shared responsibility between WKU and local governments."

Five funding commitments from fiscal courts in Allen, Barren, Carroll, Logan and Ohio counties were received in the past week, he said.

Foster, who is waiting to hear from other county governments, also noted

that the Kentucky Mesonet has received a corporate commitment from Keystone Foods to support the station in Clinton County.

"Keystone Foods values their role as a corporate citizen and sees supporting the Kentucky Mesonet as a way to support the community," he said. "We've been very pleased with the results of our efforts and will continue to focus on building strong local partnerships," he said.

One of the key partnerships in the Mesonet project has been with the National Weather Service offices in Kentucky, which use the data to help with forecasting especially during severe weather situations, Foster said.

"The Mesonet has fundamentally changed how the weather service performs its mission day in and day out," said John Gordon, meteorologist in charge at the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Louisville. "We can look at all kinds of observation data that is used to save life and property each and every day.

"From temperatures during a winter weather mixed precipitation event to wind gusts during lines of severe thunderstorms to moisture levels during extreme fire danger, the Mesonet is a critical component for the National Weather Service to do our job," Gordon said.

The Mesonet enhances both public safety and economic competitiveness at the local level. Indeed, Mesonet data support a variety of needs across Kentucky, including agriculture, education, emergency management, energy, engineering and construction, insurance, recreation, transportation and water supply management.

"It's difficult to ask people for money," Foster said. "But everybody is affected by the weather, and we know that the Mesonet brings value to people, so that makes it easier to ask."

The Mesonet was initially funded with a \$2.9 million federal grant for the Ken-

tucky Climate Center, part of WKU's Applied Research and Technology Program.

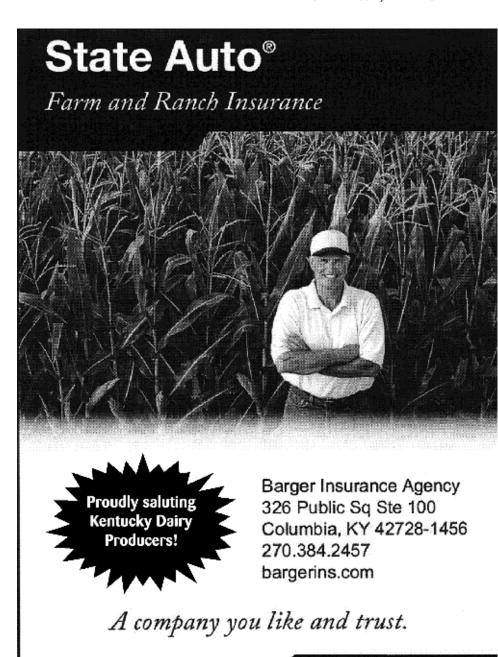
"Once we were awarded that grant we had two challenges for the project," Foster said. "The first challenge was to design and configure the stations, identify monitoring sites and install the stations, build the computer systems necessary to operate the network, and develop the protocols for testing, calibrating, and maintaining the scientific instruments.

"The second challenge was to build a funding model to support the operation and maintenance of the stations and to provide the mechanism for the network to expand into other counties as opportunities arise," he said. "We have worked with local governments from day one, as we sought to identify sites for Mesonet stations, and they continue to be our strongest supporters."

Mesonet stations are located in Adair, Allen, Barren, Bath, Boone, Breathitt, Breckinridge, Bullitt, Caldwell, Calloway, Campbell, Carroll, Casey, Christian, Clark, Clinton, Crittenden, Cumberland, Fayette, Franklin, Fulton,

SEE KENTUCKY, NEXT PAGE

STATEAUTO.COM



Kentucky Mesonet looks to beef up funding, support

FROM PAGE 16

Graves, Grayson, Hardin, Harrison, Hart, Henderson, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Knott, Knox, LaRue, Lawrence, Letcher, Lewis, Lincoln, Logan, Madison, Marion, Marshall, Mason, McLean, McCreary, Meade, Mercer, Metcalfe, Morgan, Muhlenberg, Nicholas, Ohio, Oldham, Owen, Owsley, Pike, Rowan, Shelby, Simpson, Taylor, Todd, Trigg, Union and Warren counties.

In addition to its strong public service component, the Mesonet helps to make Kentucky's universities competitive for research grants. Dr. Rezaul Mahmood, associate director of the Mesonet, is seeking federal grants that would leverage the Mesonet's data and infrastructure for weather and climate research.

"The Mesonet's high quality data from sites across the state is a major selling point as we seek grants from the National Science Foundation, NOAA and others," Mahmood said in the release.

An aim of research using the Mesonet is to develop information products and tools that can be used to support decision making by farmers, water supply managers, emergency managers and others who engage in weather-sensitive activities. "At the same time that federal support for weather and climate monitoring across the country has dwindled, the State of New York recently announced a commitment to build a statewide environmental monitoring network," Foster said. "The value of weather and climate data is evident, but achieving economic sustainability of high-quality monitoring networks has proven difficult. Ultimately, a foundation of strong local partnerships to support the Kentucky Mesonet will help to enhance the quality of life for people in communities throughout the Commonwealth."

Kentucky Press News Service

DOT Exempts Livestock from Hours of Service Requirement

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation granted a one-year exemption to the Hours-of-Service requirement for the transportation of livestock.

The Hours-of-Service rules required all commercial motor vehicle operators, including livestock transporters, to take a 30-minute rest break for every eight hours of service. This is in addition to all scheduled stops not counting time for refueling and other breaks.

The National Cattlemen's Beef Association President and Victoria, Texas cattleman, Bob McCan said the move alleviates many of the concerns of cattlemen and women as they face warmer temperatures

this summer.

"This is great news for livestock producers and for the health of our herds," said McCan.

"As we come into summer, cattle producers have expressed concerns to the DOT that these rules would jeopardize the health and safety of our cattle. For over a year this has been a major priority for the NCBA and our members, but we will continue to urge DOT to make this exemption permanent. This exemption is a common-sense move that keeps our herds and our nation's highways safe."

The hours of service exemption will be effective immediately. More information can be found on the DOT website.

Upcoming June Dairy Events in Ky.

June 19 Prairie Farms Ice Cream Social – Ky RECC Bldg,

Jamestown

June 21 Barren Co. Ag Day

June 24 Dairy Night at Bowling Green Hot Rods

June 27 Adair Co. Dairy Farmer Appreciation Dinner,

Columbia

June 28 Adair Co. Dairy Day on the Square, Columbia

June 30-July 2 Farm Start Tour to Missouri

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FOR SALE: JD 535 round baler, good condition, monitor included. Call 606-416-2419. Nancy. Kv. FOR SALE: Tier polls, oak, 4 inches by 4 inches by 12 ft.; tobacco tray washer. Call 270-763-3726. Hodgenville, 6/19 Ky. FOR SALE: JD 6410 tractor w/cab, 2-WD, power quad w/ right hand reverser, 3,300 hrs., 18.4 by 38 Firestone radial, row crop axle, \$36,000. Call 270-763-3726. Hodgenville, Ky. 6/19

330-6656. Springfield, Tenn.

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Poultry producer uses litter to make energy

FROM PAGE 1

poultry houses, for a total of eight houses, so he would have the amount of poultry litter needed to get the process going.

The closed-loop system is now in operation, but it has a ways to go before it will be running at full capacity.

"Right now our number one priority is to multiply our bacteria. That is our sole purpose," McLean said. "We are making gas but you could say it is a byproduct. We can't start throwing as much material at it as we would like until we get a significant amount of bugs inside of that digester."

The tank, which McLean calls the heart of the operation, stays at a constant temperature of 127 degrees.

"That's what we want. We want that bacteria to live in that environment. That's where they are the most productive, they multiply the best," he said.

As material goes through the system, it goes through a series of pipes, is mixed with creek water and pushed into a flexible digester bladder.

"As liquid goes to the bottom, gas goes in the top and it blows up like a bubble," McLean said.

McLean worked with Eagle Green Energy, a company started several years ago by Prentiss, Miss. poultry producer John Logan. Logan now manufactures poultry manure anaerobic digesters and holds a patent on his product.

According to an article in the Watt

Poultry USA, the industry was convinced poultry litter was not a good fit for anaerobic digestion but Logan believed it would work.

He worked with agriculture engineers to develop a digester. A methanogenic bacterium was isolated at West Virginia University that could digest chicken litter under high temperatures and anaerobic conditions.

McLean built his own facility but he used the expertise and equipment of Eagle Green Energy for the project.

McLean became involved in the process because of his concern for the environment.

"I'm committed to renewable energies," he said. "I've invested everything I've ever made or ever known into this product because I believe in it that much."

McLean is concerned about the lack of incentives in the U.S. to convert to this type of energy. In Europe, he said, digesters get 25 cents per kilowatt. McLean said he will get less than a nickel.

While he will be selling energy to East Kentucky Power, which provides power for his local co-op Taylor County RECC, there are no incentives for the local coop to use bioenergy. He would like to see that change.

While poultry litter is already in demand as a fertilizer, concerns about a high percentage of phosphorus and government regulations make the digester an attractive alternative, McLean said.

'I've invested everything I've ever made or ever known into this product because I believe in it that much.'

John McLean

The breakdown concentrates the fertilizer nutrients in poultry litter, creating a liquid fertilizer that USDA stamps as an organic compound.

McLean plans to add other feedstuffs to his system, and hopes to get milk waste from dairy processors. An array of products can be used, including dead birds and food waste from grocers.

McLean realizes he will have to adjust as different challenges arise. What products are available and what markets are available for the byproducts all factor into the decision-making.

When asked where he hopes to see the project five years from now, McLean said a year ago he would have said he hoped to be building digesters across the U.S. That is no longer his goal, he said.

"I want to make this very successful. I want this to become a model so people can come and look at it, and feel comfortable about digesters in their country," he said. "I want to be successful with this economically, and I'm proud of this."

His vision includes a "renewable energy campus."

"I want this to be a model for something that is traditionally a huge energy user, which is poultry, whether heating or electricity and water, city water...we are eliminating these three things."

By Sharon Burton snburton@duo-county.com

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MARKET REPORT: WEEK OF JUNE 10, 2014 Mammoth Cave Dairy Auction, Inc.

Cattle: 648 Springers Lb. Cows-Bulls
Open Heifers-Steers Fresh Milking Cows Baby Calves

<u>Springers:</u> (2-3 years old, 5-8 months bred) Supreme 1300-1600# 1700.00-2150.00, Approved 1200-1400# 1500.00-1625.00, Medium 950-1200# 1250.00-1400.00, Common 800-1100# 900.00-1100.00.

Fresh Milking Cows: (2-4 years old) Supreme 1300-1600# 1775.00-2225.00, Approved 1200-1400# 1525.00-1675.00, Medium 950-1200# 1300.00, 800-1100# 1110.00-1225.00.

Short Bred: (2-3 years old, 1-4 months bred) Supreme 1300-1600# 1550.00-1800.00, Approved 1200-1400# 1475.00, Medium 950-1200# 1325.00-1375.00, Common 800-1100# 1050.00.

<u>Open Heifers:</u> 400-500# Supreme 700.00-800.00, Medium 475.00-485.00, 500-600# Supreme 800.00-1000.00, Approved 610.00, 600-700# Supreme 950.00-1175.00, Approved 700.00-725.00. <u>Holstein Steers:</u> 200-300# 186.00, Bulls 174.00, 300-400# 181.00, Bulls 173.00, 400-500# 163.00-174.00, 500-600# 164.00.

Hol. Heifer Calves: Small 160.00-200.00, Medium and Large 230.00-350.00 per head.

Hol. Bull Calves: Small 110.00-190.00, Medium and Large 230.00-300.00 per head.

S.L. Cows: Breaker 75-80, 1100-1800# 105.00-108.00, H.Dr. 110.00-119.00, L.Dr. 96.00-103.00,
Boner 80-85 percent lean 1100-1400# 100.00-106.00, H.Dr. 107.00-110.00, L.Dr. 95.00-99.00,
Lean 85-90 percent lean 1000-1300# 94.00-99.00, H.Dr. 100.00-105.00, L.Dr. 89.00-90.00,
Lights 85-90 percent lean 750-1000# 75.00-82.00, H.Dr. 85.00-90.00, L.Dr. 60.00-65.00,
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AUCTION/MARKET

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE FEDERAL AND STATE MARKET NEWS SERVICE - USDA AGRICULTURE MARKETING SERVICE - LOUISVILLE, KY.

5V L5145

Compared to last week: Steers sold 1.00 to 3.00 higher. Heifers steady to 2.00 higher. Demand very good on all classes. All auctions resumed normal schedule: after the Memorial Day holiday. Cool front moved in mid-week and brought thunderstorms and rain for parts of the state. As the week closes many local producers in the field laying down hay in hopes to bale before forecasted showers late in the weekend. Slaughter Cows and Slaughter Bulls....... More...

SV LS145

STATE AVERAGES

Steers (M&L 1-2)	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
350-400 lbs	244.84	247.30	162.57
400-450 lbs	237.60	239.72	155.14
450-500 lbs	232.11	232.23	150.49
500-550 lbs	228.05	227.15	145.61
550-600 lbs	224.32	227.38	142.67
600-650 lbs	210.19	213.63	135.02
650-700 lbs	205.39	206.32	135.14
700-750 lbs	188.56	182.64	128.76
750-800 lbs	192.42	184.01	128.96
800-850 lbs	187.47	176.08	127.94
850-900 lbs	183.02	178.07	125.36
Heifers (M&L 1-2)			
300-350 lbs	231.92	230.74	149.05
350-400 lbs	227.49	218.21	143.15
400-450 lbs	218.27	222.37	135.11
450-500 lbs	216.58	214.42	131.77
500-550 lbs	209.18	207.24	129.60
550-600 lbs	202.80	191.54	126.15
600-650 lbs	186.37	188.84	125.22
650-700 lbs	187.59	194.00	126.77
700-750 lbs	186.04	183.25	118.75
750-800 lbs	179.12	N/E	121.60

SV LS145

WEELKY COW SUMMARY

Slaughter Cows		Average	High	Low
	Breakers	100.00-104.50	106.00-112.50	95.00-97.50
	Boners	98.50-104.00	109.00-114.00	92.50-97.00
	Lean	89.00-94.50	100.50-103.00	82.00-86.50
Slaughter Bulls		Average	<u>High</u>	Low

SV LS551 May 22, 2014 Bowling Green

Yield Grade 1&2 117.00-122.00 125.50-132.00 107.50-111.00

SLAUGHTER GOATS: 176

Kids: Selection 1 50-60 lbs 235.00. **Selection 2** 30-45 lbs 155.00; 45-60 lbs 225.00; 60-80 lbs 215.00. Selection 3 30-45 lbs 192.50; 45-60 lbs 180.00.

SHEEP: 423

Slaughter Lambs: Wool Prime and Choice YG 2-3 55-65 lbs 177.50; 70-80 lbs 180.00; 80-95 lbs 177.50; 100-125 lbs 160.00. Hair Prime and Choice YG 2-3 40-65 lbs 150.00-160.00; 65-85 lbs 165.00-180.00; 85-95 lbs 160.00. Slaughter Ewes: Wool Choice and Good YG 2-3 130-170 lbs 60.00-80.00.

SV GR110			
GRAINS	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
Corn	4.15-5.10	4.46-5.10	6.51-7.33
Soybeans	14.29-15.41	14.64-15.57	15.04-16.23
Red Winter Wheat	5.39-6.38	5.59-6.64	6.56-7.29

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Opening bids at elevators and processing plants.

6/05/14 4:00 pm est Bids for next day Cash Bids	Louisville	Pennyrile	Purchase	Bluegrass	Green River	Northern KY	Dried 10%
Corn #2 Yellow Corn #2 White	4.57-4.68	4.44-4.67 4.49	4.54-4.69	4 26-4.51	4.81	4.73	Modif 50-5
Soybeans #1 Y Wheat #2 SRW Barley	14.29-14.73 5.39-5.98	14.55-14.66 5.76-5.96	14.67-14.70 5.91-5.98	14.34-14.91 5.56	14.81 6.01	14.90 5.86	000
New Grop Delivery Contract	_						Kent
Corn #2 Yellow Corn #2 White	4.15-4.20	4.22-4.29 4.72	4 29-4.32	4.17	4.39	4.21	05/22
Soybeans #1 Y Wheat #2 SRW Barley	11.51-11.90 5.49-5.98	11.86-11.91 5.71-5.91 3.10	12.11-12.16 5.91-5.98	11.81 NA	12.06 6.01	12.02 5.96	05/30

Eastern Cornbelt Ethanol Plant Report 6/05/2014

Yellow Corn Spot Bid 4.24-4.94

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Rail or Truck FOB Location	Cestavento a v	Hopkinsville	Week Ago (est)	120,000	2,000	418,000	9,000
	6/06/2014	6/06/2014	Year Ago (act)	126.000	2,000	399,000	9,000
			Week to Date (est)	464.000	9,000	1,609.000	33,000
Soybean Meal 48% Sol	541.50		Same Pd Lt Week (est)	362.000	8,000	1,259,000	27,000
Soybean Hulls	210.00	100 No. 20	Same Pd Lt Yr (act)	500,000	11,000	1,610,000	34,000
Corn Distillers Grain Dried		210.00					
Distillers Grain Modified		122 00			-		

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19:1

A grand prize of \$1,000 was given to the "Farmers' Choice" picture. Farmer-leaders serving on the Kentucky Soybean Board voted by secret ballot, and the winner was Branden Pepper of Hodgenville.



Category winners were determined by popular vote on the Kentucky Soybean Facebook page and were awarded \$500.

Winner of Chickens: **Emily Murphy** of Calhoun

Winner of Cows: Kailey Barlow of Scottsville





Winner of Production: Kailey Barlow of Scottsville.

Winner of Pigs: Johnna Scott of Winchester



KSA hosts FFA photo contest

The Kentucky Soybean Board recently held a photo contest titled "Soy Snapshots: From the Pod to Your Plate." Exclusively for FFA members, the contest was divided into four categories; cows, pigs, chickens and

soybean production. The animal agriculture photos were solicited because 97 percent of domestic soybean meal is consumed by poultry and livestock, making animal ag the soybean farmers' number one customer.

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Many females will sell with calves at side and carrying he service of this son of SAV Final Answer 0035 backed by the proven performance of SAV Net Worth 4200 and the great Madame Pride cow amily. He also sells!



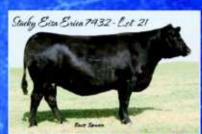
Exceptional low birth and calving ease combined with extreme corcoss values in this daughter of EXAR Upshot 05628 produced from the \$210,000 Lucy 9001.



Several spring-bred cows sell including this impressive daughter of Bextor, and she is a granddaughter of Lady



Progeny from the Pathfinder Sire SAV Net Worth 4200 sell including this funcy doughter descending from the same family as B/R New Frontier 095.



This direct daughter of Eisa Erica 4079 sells with a bull calf at side sired by Connealy Onward. Several maternal sisters also sell!

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Progeny of these PROVEN Sires Sell

SAV Net Worth 4200 Connealy Consensus 7229 EXAR Upshot 05628 **SAV Final Answer 0035** Connealy Confidence 0100

Werner War Party 2417 Kesslers Frontman R001 AAR Ten X 7008 SA **GAR Ingenuity** Sydgen CC&7 And More!



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AUCTION/MARKET

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE FEDERAL AND STATE MARKET NEWS SERVICE - USDA AGRICULTURE MARKETING SERVICE - LOUISVILLE, KY.

Blue Grass of Richmond Richmond, KY May 30, 2014

Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 85 hd. 555# 238.25 blk-charx 70 hd. 694# 210.10 blk-charx 68 hd. 784# 191.10 blk-charx 116hd, 945# 178.85 blk-char-red Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 21 hd. 446# 231.00 blk-charx

21 hd. 585# 205.00 blk-charx 26 hd. 585# 199.00 mixed 74 hd. 687# 196.70 blk-charx 61 hd. 804# 178.90 blk-charx

Blue Grass Stockyard

Lexington, KY June 2 & 3, 2014 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1

73 hd. 748# 203.00 blk-mix 119hd, 854# 191,75 blk-charx 58 hd. 893# 182.75 blk 51 hd. 918# 172.10 mixed 81 hd. 966# 170.50 blk-charx Medium & Large 2

63 hd. 890# 176.90 mixed Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 42 hd. 709# 191.75 blk

Holstein Steers: Large 3 56 hd. 894# 148.85

Blue Grass of Campbellsville

Campbellsville, KY June 4, 2014

Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

40 hd. 666# 210.00 blk 67 hd. 795# 194.70 blk 63 hd. 818# 185.90 blk

Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 71 hd. 733# 189.10 blk

Holstein Steers: Large 3 117 hd. 754# 164.40

Blue Grass of Albany

Albany, KY June 5, 2014 Video Receipts:

60 hd. 850# 187.50 blk steers 62 hd. 800# 176.25 blk heifers

Christian Co. Livestock Auction

Hopkinsville, KY June 4, 2014

Feeder Heifers: Medium& Large 1-2 92 hd, 522# 216,00 blk

Blue Grass South

Stanford, KY June 2 & 5, 2014

Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 60 hd, 648# 218.60 blk-charx-red 69 hd. 696# 208.25 blk

69 hd. 767# 199.00 blk-charx-red. 64 hd. 834# 189.25 blk-charx

142hd, 842# 188.90 blk-charx 57 hd. 876# 178.50 mixed 61 hd, 877# 187.50 blk-charx

109hd. 881# 183 80 blk-charx 57 hd. 889# 182.90 blk-charx 116hd, 896# 183.75 blk-charx

58 hd. 899# 182.00 mixed 59 hd. 920# 179.00 blk 54 hd. 941# 183 00 blk-charx

56 hd, 1847#169.75 blk-charx Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 20 hd, 435# 228.00 blk-charx

103hd, 506# 227.25 blk-charx 56 hd. 529# 219.00 blk 84 hd 693# 186 50 blk-chary

71 hd. 721# 186.75 blk-charx 138hd, 728# 190,40 blk 70 hd. 781# 181.25 blk-charx

75 hd. 798# 180.00 charx 21 hd. 817# 170.00 blk

62 hd. 822# 179.85 blk-charx Holstein Steers: Large 3 40 hd. 665# 165.00 66 hd. 736# 162.50

United Producers Bowling Green

Bowling Green, KY June 3, 2014

Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 20 hd. 474# 229.50 blk 22 hd, 564# 210,00 blk-charx

26 hd. 624# 194.50 blk-charx Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large1-2 22 hd, 436# 214,00 blk 20 hd. 474# 213.00 blk 30 hd. 516# 202,50 blk

23 hd, 568# 199.00 blk-charx 20 hd. 631# 188.00 blk-charx Feeder Bulls: Medium & Large 1-2

26 hd. 442# 228.00 blk 26 hd. 513# 215.50 blk

Lake Cumberland Livestock

Somerset, KY May 31, 2014

Feeder Helfers: Medium & Large 1-2 34 hd. 539# 204.00 blk

KY-TN Livestock Auction

Guthrie, KY June 5, 2014

22 hd. 375# 242.50 bbwf 36 hd. 465# 230.00 bbwf

43 hd 550# 220.25 bbwf 22 hd. 637# 197.50 bbwf

Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 29 hd. 375# 237.00 bbwf 70 hd. 458# 222.75 bbwf

28 hd. 633# 172,50 bbwf Feeder Bulls: Medium & Large 1-2 39 hd. 463# 227.50 bbwf 38 hd. 536# 217.75 bbwf

88 hd. 543# 198,25 bbwf

Russell County Stockyards

Russell Springs, KY June 4, 2014

Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 60 hd 840# 186.40 blk

56 hd. 917# 178,90 bbwf 54 hd. 920# 179.10 charx 54 hd. 924# 178.30 blk

Mid-KY Livestock Market

Upton, KY June 3, 2014

Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 20 hd. 352# 235.00 blk-char mix 20 hd, 488# 237.00 blk

21 hd, 516# 214.00 blk 60 hd. 537# 231.25 blk 20 hd. 562# 205.00 blk

Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 2-3 24 hd. 412# 220.95 blk 23 hd. 457# 215.25 blk

20 hd, 510# 201,00 blk 20 hd, 561# 194,75 blk

United Producers Owenton

Owenton, KY June 4, 2014

Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

21 hd. 505# 230.00 blk 24 hd. 640# 218.00 blk Holstein Steers: Large 3

34 hd 1090# 132.25 Washington Co. Livestock

Springfield, KY June 2, 2014

Holstein Steers: Large 3 22 hd. 579# 175.25

58 hd, 872# 149.50

27 hd. 770# 154.50

Producers Livestock Auction Co, San Angelo, Texas June 4, 2014; Compared to last week slaughter lambs

steady. Slaughter ewes uneven, thin ewes weak, fleshy ewes 5.00-10.00 lower. Feeder Lambs weak. Nannies firm to 2.00 higher, kids weak to 5.00 lower. Trading and demand moderate. All sheep and goats sold per hundred weight (CWT) unless otherwise specified.

New Holland Sales Stables - New Holland, PA June 2, 2014; Sheep and Lambs: Compared to last week, Slaughter lambs sold 10.00-20.00 higher. Slaughter ewes 10.00-20.00 higher. Dermand was very good. Slaughter Goats: When compared to last week, slaughter kids sold mostly steady to 10.00 higher with good demand. Nannies traded mostly 10.00-20.00 higher. All Goats are sold by the head on estimated weights.

Paris Stockyards

Paris, KY June 5, 2014

Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large1-2 94 hd. 576# 215.80 blk

Holstein Steers: Large 3 25 hd. 299# 196.00 holstein-blkx

Blue Grass East

Mt. Sterling, KY June 4, 2014

Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1 57 hd. 949# 173.00 mixed Holstein Steers: Large 3 114hd, 523# 190.00 114hd, 526# 187,95 85 hd. 585# 182.85

81 hd. 635# 181.25 Farmers Livestock

Glasgow, KY June 2, 2014

Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 35 hd. 449# 233.95 blk

21 hd. 475# 235.00 blk 28 hd. 555# 228.50 charx 26 hd. 586# 217.00 blk

39 hd 516# 233.50 blk Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 33 hd. 360# 219.00 mixed

20 hd. 368# 229.00 blk 53 hd. 435# 212.50 mixed

21 hd. 451# 210.00 charx 54 hd. 446# 218.75 blk

54 hd. 510# 204.25 blk 21 hd. 541# 194.50 mixed

34 hd. 583# 189.50 blk Feeder Bulls: Medium & Large 1-2

43 hd. 371# 242.00 blk 27 hd. 372# 230.00 mixed

30 hd. 443# 226.00 blk 31 hd 448# 217 50 mixed

42 hd. 518# 216.25 blk 20 hd. 536# 206.00 mixed

20 hd, 592# 198:00 blk 25 hd. 659# 189.00 blk

Cattlemen's Livestock

Bowling Green, KY June 2, 2014

Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2

20 hd 458# 212.00 blk 24 hd. 517# 195.50 blk

Feeder Bulls: Medium & Large 1-2

20 hd. 412# 139.00 blk 20 hd. 470# 226,50 blk

20 hd. 512# 214.50 blk

Kentuckiana Livestock Market

Owensboro, KY, June 2, 2014

Feeder Helfers: Medium & Large 1-2 24 hd. 435# 220.00 blk

Feeder Bulls: Medium & Large 1-2 23 hd. 503# 212.00 blk

National Daily Direct Slaughter

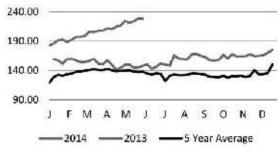
Negotiated Purchases 6/05/2014 Live Bids- weighed average weights

& prices Steers:

80%-up Choice 1150 lbs 144.00 Heifers:

80%-up Choice 1325 lbs 145.00

WEEKLY 400-600 LB FEEDER STEER M&L 1-2 WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE (\$/CWT)



WEEKLY 400-600 LB FEEDER HEIFER M&L 1-2 WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE (\$/CWT)



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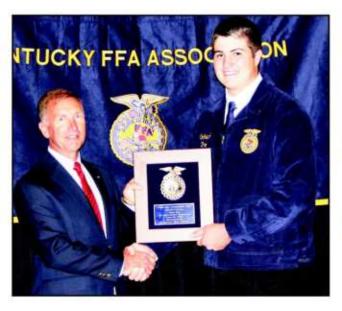


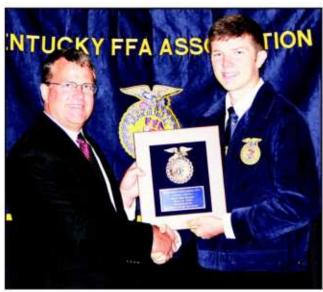
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85th Kentucky State FFA Convention

2014 Star in Agribusiness, Star in Placement and Star Farmer; State President







The prestigious Star titles for 2014 go to, top left, Michael Lacy, Morgan County FFA, Star in Agriculture Placement; above, Caleb Brannon, Calloway County FFA, Star Farmer; and bottom left, Darilyn Browning, Spencer County FFA, Star in Agribusiness. Presenting awards to Lacy and Browning is Dwight Greenwell, Kentucky Farm Bureau. Presenting to Brannon is Louis McIntire, Farm Credit Services.



Austin Hazelwood, Mercer County FFA, was elected as the 2014 State FFA President.

Photos by Toni Humphress

See new FFA officers page 13





THE FARMER'S PRINE

Another blessed year



ONE VOICE

Sharon Burton

Back then, I could not have imagined that Kentucky farmers would be producing \$5 billion in farm products annually and selling \$2.4 billion to export markets.

t's difficult to believe that *The Farmer's Pride* is 25 years old. I still remember the day this newspaper was just an idea shared by two young women who had no clue what the future would hold.

I can honestly say I have been wonderfully blessed for the past quarter of a century. I have met some of the finest people in the entire world. There is not a better group of people than Kentucky farm families.

So much has changed in the agriculture industry, and Kentucky farmers have adapted, not only to survive but to thrive.

Back then, I could not have imagined that Kentucky farmers would be producing \$6 billion in farm products annually and selling \$2.4 billion to export markets.

Back then, farm groups and other leaders did not work together. In fact, there was an unhealthy competition between various agricultural interests. But then times got bad and there were fewer and fewer farmers. Industry leaders soon realized the need to stick together to survive.

Now, we have grain producers supporting livestock efforts. We have everybody working together to present a positive message to consumers.

When we first started publishing, agriculture was pretty much a wholesale industry. The old saying that farmers bought retail and sold wholesale was pretty accurate.

We realized, however, the need to develop a marketing infrastructure and went to work. Today, we see the many benefits of those concepts from years ago.

From CPH cattle to Kentucky Proud, from ethanol to agritourism, we have come so far. I remember having conversations about why we couldn't sell eggs or meat at a farmers' market, but nobody was asking how we could.

But then we did.

We are enjoying some really good years in agriculture right now. We didn't get here by accident. There was a lot of planning and dreaming and more planning involved.

There was a lot of hard work and some creative minds, people willing to be the pioneers so others could learn from their experiences.

Through it all, we have been here, just trying to keep up. The greatest challenge in covering Kentucky agriculture is trying to figure out where you guys are headed so that we

SEE ANOTHER, PAGE 6

Where is the food without the science?

dvances in technology are celebrated in every facet of our lives: transportation, communications, medicine, energy, construction and engineering. Many hesitate, however, to embrace technology when it is applied to food production.

More and more food companies are using some sort of marketing language that refers to their products' natural ingredients and production methods, whatever that may mean.

Chobani, a yogurt company in New York, recently took to Twitter to get a conversation going about #howmatters. They tweeted, "Nature got us to 100 calories, not scientists."

I am sure this was some sort of jab at high fructose corn syrup or low-calorie sugar substitutes. Twitter user @science_cow sent out a clever quip, "Apparently, just pixie dust and happy thoughts is all @Chobani needs to make yogurt." My favorite response in the conversation from @treelobsters was, "Marketing got us into this PR disaster, not scientists."

In fact, Twitter was buzzing with great admonition for Chobani's anti-scientist claim, and fueled many to talk about just how important science is in all areas of food production. I know that I am extremely thankful for continuing advances that makes food more environmentally responsible, safe, and fun.

Did you hear that we can now enjoy our butter, steak, eggs and bacon? It seems the cholesterol police went back to the laboratory and discovered that while saturated fats do contribute to LDL (the bad cholesterol) it was not the harmful cholesterol particles that were impacted. It is actually refined carbs that are impacting our cholesterol in a negative way. That make sense?

Past history still tells us that we need to be cautious to quickly take every scientific study to heart that comes down the pike. How have we been damaging our cholesterol thus far because of what scientists told us to eat for the past 30 years? I remember the day my grandparents traded in their daily bacon and eggs for breakfast cereal.

This may be a reminder that we can enjoy everything in moderation, but I expect business for our livestock farmers will be booming in the near future.

The other good news for farmers is that the majority of people

SEE WHERE'S, PAGE 6

COMMON GROUND KENTUCKY

Jennifer Elwell

I know that I
am extremely
thankful for
continuing
advances that
makes food
more environmentally
responsible,
safe, and fun.

The Farmer's Pride

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Mindy Yarberry	General Manager
Toni Humphress	Field Reporter
Diana Withers	Sales and Marketing
Diane Neat	Office Manager

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Income only part of story



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF **AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER**

James Comer

Feed costs jumped 48 percent. The costs of fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners advanced 53 percent.

entucky farmers took in a record \$6 billion in cash receipts in 2013, and yet many of you are finding that it's still a challenge to make ends meet. How is that possible? The 2012 U.S. Census of Agriculture has some answers.

The census – which was released May 2 – shows that the total value of agricultural products sold in Kentucky (minus equine) increased 26.2 percent from 2007 to 2012, but net cash farm income of Kentucky operations fell 31 percent, and average net cash income per farm declined 24 percent.

The National Agricultural Statistics Service, which conducted the survey, said input costs went through the roof during that five-year span. Feed costs jumped 48 percent. The costs of fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners advanced 53 percent. Fuel costs went up 31.7 percent. The cost of chemicals rose 77.4 percent. Utility expenses were 36.7 percent higher. The costs of cash rent for land, buildings, and grazing fees doubled from 2007 to 2012.

None of that is news to you. You see your input costs going up every time you pay your bills. But these numbers and others drive home the point that it is critically important to continuously improve your operations and squeeze every bit of value out of every dollar you spend on your business. Fortunately, you are not alone.

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture helps farmers find markets for their products and protects Kentucky's livestock herds from foreign animal diseases. The Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund has invested \$400 million in Kentucky agriculture since its inception. Your local Cooperative Extension Service agent is your resource "on the ground," giving you unbiased advice and sharing the latest scientific research. Kentucky Farm Bureau and the state commodity organizations are your eyes and ears in Frankfort and Washington.

That you are still going in the face of the onslaught of skyrocketing input costs is a tribute to your will, determination, intelligence, and work ethic. We at the Kentucky Department of Agriculture will do all we can to help you make your business more profitable.

JAMES COMER is Kentucky's Commissioner of Agriculture.

Letters to the Editor

comed. Letters must include edited for clarity. the author's name, address cation purposes.

Letters to the editor are wel- than 500 words and will be

and phone number for verifi- Send letters to Editor, The Farmer's Pride, P. O. Box 159,

Letters should be no longer Columbia, Ky. 42728.

June's sweetest sound

here's no more comforting sound to awaken to than a soft June rain falling on a shingled roof. The patter of the light rain whispers sweet, twoword poems like "Maybe slowly" and "Rising delayed."

On the big southern Illinois dairy farm of my youth, a rainy June day was a treat almost as great as homemade ice cream. It wasn't a no-work holiday. It was, however, a delicious break from the month's steady diet of straw baling, corn cultivating and—worse—potato hilling in the gulag of our massive vegetable garden.

If the overnight rain continued to fall into the morning, the pace of the entire farm started slow and stayed slow. The cows, like the morning milking crew, were in no hurry to leave their warm beds for the parlor and, once there, neither group hurried to leave.

Even the farm's main field hand, Jackie, knew that lingering over a second cup of instant coffee in the dairy barn was as big a part of any rainy morning as his six-buckle overshoes. My father, milking the cows with Howard, Jackie's older brother, certainly didn't mind because Jackie was no slacker.

In fact, if we had parked two or three tall wagonloads of golden straw in the pole barn the night before because of a rainy forecast, Jackie would skip his second coffee and, without a word, go to the barn to unload the light, tight bales while this motley crew—my brothers and me—slumbered in the peaceful arms of the gentle rain.

The farm did, however, hold several "rainy day" jobs that were nearly as important as any sunny day job. One was the fixing of flat tires.

Fifty years ago, most farms ran on gasoline, not diesel, and all ran on dozens of tubed, not tubeless, rubber tires of every size and ply. None was impervious to hard use and my father's hard-charging Uncle Honey. Honey killed farm tires like hired men killed city beers: without effort and usually in one, long pull.

Lucky we had Jackie, a flat-out fabulous flat fixer. A small man who wasted little motion, Jackie could break the tire's bead, remove its tube, find the leak, apply a patch, put the tube back in the tire, pry the rim over its bead and re-inflate it faster than you could drink a cup of lukewarm shop

Another rainy day job was "treating" Johnson grass, a deeply-rooted perennial that, back then, seemed only to leave your life when life left you. Since Uncle Honey cultivated all the corn and soybeans on the farm, he knew where to find the fast-spreading scourge. That put him in charge of its elimination.

Honey's cure for Johnson grass, like Honey's cure for, well, almost everything, involved a five-gallon can of a 50/50 gasoline/diesel mix and a hand sprayer.

On too-wet-to-work summer days, Honey would pull his Oliver 77 alongside a patch he had spied earlier and proceed to soak it and everything within five feet with the volatile mixture from the comfort of his tractor's seat. In a week, the Johnson grass was dead. So was the soil for the



FOOD **FARM** FILE

Alan Guebert

Another rainv day job was "treating" Johnson grass, a deeply-rooted perennial that, back then, seemed only to leave your life when life left you.

Corn, wheat take hard knocks



MARKET WATCH

Dewey Strickler

While corn
and wheat are
undergoing a
tough time,
soybeans have
been resilient
because of
tight old crop
stocks.

orn has taken some hard knocks as values have fallen nearly 15 percent since early May. A record crop appears to be in the making as USDA pegs production at 13.935 billion bushels with 2014-15 ending stocks at 1.726 billion bushels.

With a rating of 75 percent in good-toexcellent condition, down one point from a week ago, the crop is considered a garden spot in much of the Midwest.

According to Ag Watch's yield model, this equates to a yield of 168.3 bushels per acre. Another factor pressuring the market is China has stopped issuing permits to import DDG's because they contain a banned genetically modified substance.

Long story short, encouraging news seems to be a rare commodity. As a result, the trend following funds are in a liquidation mode as they have trimmed their long futures position to 580 million bushels, down from 1.035 billion bushels in early May. Meanwhile, exports are holding their own with inspections last week at 45.1 million bushels.

While corn and wheat are undergoing a tough time, soybeans have been resilient because of tight old crop stocks. However, attention will soon focus on the potential for record new crop production.

USDA currently projects production at 3.365 billion bushels with 2014-ending stocks of 325 million bushels. Meanwhile, 87 percent of the crop is planted compared to 69 percent a year ago and 81 percent for

the average. The first crop rating of the season shows that 74 percent is in good-to-excellent condition.

This is the highest rating for this time of the season since 2010. In other developments, export inspections were 4.5 million bushels with China being a no show. The trend following funds are relinquishing their long futures position as it fell 120 million bushels last week to 305 million bushels. This is down from 895 million bushels in late February.

Wheat has fallen out of grace over the past few weeks because of increased shower activity in the southern Plains. However, overall crop conditions have seen no improvement as the ratings have not budged in three weeks from 30 percent in the good-to-excellent category.

Meanwhile, harvest has begun and is 9 percent complete compared to the average of 12 percent. USDA currently projects 2014-15 ending stocks at 574 million bushels. Export inspections for the first week of the marketing year stood at 19.0 million bushels.

In other developments, the trend following funds are more bearish as they have increased their short futures position 85 million bushels to 175 million bushels. This is the largest short position they have held since March.

DEWEY STRICKLER is president of Ag Watch Market Advisors, LLC. Email Strickler at agwatchdls@comcast.net or go online at www.agwatch.biz.

Where is the food without the science?

FROM PAGE 4

may not be as anti-science as we think. The U.S. Farmers and Ranchers Alliance has conducted numerous focus group studies to figure out what messages about food production resonate the most with non-farmers. They found that topics on innovation rang loud and clear.

So how can you use this information? Share how your operation has changed over the years to improve the soil, reduce erosion and runoff. Share how your animals are getting better nutrition. Share how you are able to use less energy to produce more food and reduce waste on the farm. Share how GPS and infrared sensing can help you apply fertilizer only where it is needed.

There are many ways to share the science and innovation story. Consumers want to know what you implemented on your farm last year to improve food production going forward.

I have read countless articles the past few months about how we need to fix the broken food system and improve sustainability, one of which appeared in National Geographic. But I realized that every solution offered by these writers is already being done by our expert agricultural scientists and farmers. We just need to do a better job showing and telling.

JENNIFER ELWELL is the communications director for the Kentucky Corn Growers and Kentucky Small Grain Growers Associations. She writes about food and farm issues at

June's sweet sound

FROM PAGE 5

next season or two.

One premium rainy day job would take my father, my brother Richard and me across the Mississippi River to a big farm store in Missouri where we'd stock up on barbed wire, steel fence posts, inner tubes and dairy supplies. Jackie called it "bumming;" I called it a "far afield trip."

Truth be told, it wasn't any trouble at all to plan the once- or twice-a-year trip for noon to fall just about the time we'd pass a little barbecue shack on our way home. That pulled pork lunch often was the only time all summer we didn't eat "dinner" at home.

Quaint? Nah, just one of the many benefits of waking up to light June rain falling on a shingled roof.

ALAN GUEBERT publishes a weekly column Farm and Food File in more than 70 newspapers. Contact Alan Guebert by email at agcomm@farmandfoodfile.com.

Another blessed year

EDOM DACE /

can stay relevant and informative.

I am overwhelmed with gratitude that you have continued to stay with us, year after year, and I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you, our readers and our advertisers.

While so many things have changed, you have remained constant. I so look forward to our travels across the state, trade show season and field day trips, getting the chance to visit with our supporters.

I consider you part of the Pride family.

Thank you for allowing us to be part of Kentucky's farm community for all these years. I hope we can continue to be of service to you for years to come. I look forward to seeing what new, innovative approaches the farming industry will take in the future, and I wish for you many blessed years ahead.

SHARON BURTON is the Editor of *The Farmer's Pride*.

Thank you for 25 years!

We are so blessed to have faithful readers and advertisers.



Sharon, Toni, Mindy, Diane and Diana.

New state apiarist is busy as a bee



Photo by Ray Bowman

Dr. Tammy Horn inspects hives at Dadant and Sons beekeeping supplies distribution center in Frankfort.

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Kentucky's new state apiarist began work June 2, but before the ink was dry on her official documents she had already turned in a pretty impressive day's work.

Dr. Tammy Horn of Lexington is senior researcher and apiculturist in the Center for Economic Development, Entrepreneurship, and Technology at Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond. She also directs Coal Country Beeworks, a project affiliated with EKU that develops pollinator habitat on surface mine sites. She will continue her collaboration with EKU through the university's regional stewardship initiatives.

In 2010, Horn received the Pollinator Advocate Award for the United States from the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign for her work on the national level to raise awareness about the importance of pollination.

On the first day of her new job she was in Frankfort at the Kentucky Department of Agriculture to make her appointment official, but left there to run across town and perform a hive inspection at Dadant and Sons. The Illinois-based firm, which bills itself as "America's oldest and largest manufacturer of beekeeping supplies," operates a distribution center in the commonwealth's capitol city. Since live bees are shipped from that location across state lines, inspection of the facility is the responsibility of the Department and its bee boss.

In the meantime, Horn was fielding phone calls. One came from an Episcopal church in western Kentucky where bees had taken up residence in one of the building's columns. Another series of calls linked up a local "swarm catcher" with a homeowner whose doghouse had been occupied by bees.

Horn is no stranger to getting her hands dirty – or perhaps sticky. "From 2006 to 2009, I worked in the commercial queen industry in Hawaii. The skills I learned there, you can't learn in a college classroom."

Recent changes in the way our culture addresses the pollinator population have been very encouraging for Horn.

"The passage of the 2014 farm bill has opened some

'The skills I learned there, you can't learn in a college classroom.'

> Dr. Tammy Horn Senior Researcher and Apiculturist Eastern Kentucky University

doors," Horn said. "Some senators and representatives have decided to form a pollinator's caucus to address constituents' concerns about honey bees."

The new farm bill also makes crop insurance available to the beekeeping industry.

"The federal government has acknowledged that honey is a crop, so if there are serious losses beekeepers can seek assistance," Horn said. "Until 2014, it has been a very inequitable agricultural playing field. This democratizes things a bit."

To date, Horn has written two books on bees. Both have been published by University Press of Kentucky and look at the insect's importance from a cultural viewpoint. "Bees in America: How the Honey Bee Shaped a Nation" was released in 2006 as a cultural history of bees and beekeeping in the United States. "Beeconomy: What Women and Bees Can Teach Us About Local Trade and Global Markets," came out in 2011. Another book is in the works, entitled "Apiforestation: The Future of Bees," which will address her views on the potential of forest-based beekeeping around the world.

"I find that one book keeps turning into another," Horn said. "I'm a writer. That's who I am at heart. I write like I breathe."

By Ray Bowman Field Reporter

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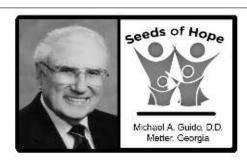
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Call on God to win your battles

Someone has rightly said that when we speak a person's name we call that one into existence. For example, we can go an entire day without someone mentioning our name. No one has recognized that we are even alive. Does that mean that we do not exist? No. It means that we have not been recognized. We have been "overlooked."

David began Psalm 18 by recognizing God and proclaiming his love for his Lord: "I love you, Lord, my strength!" This simple statement quickly describes David's dependence on God, his intimate relationship with God and his devotion to God. God, David said, was the source of his strength. Whatever he did was done through the strength that God gave him.

Often we think of "strength" as our ability to lift something or endure something as an athlete does in a contest. But David was not thinking of that type of strength. He goes on to describe his Lord as a rock, a fortress, a deliverer, a shield, his strength and the horn of his salvation. All of these words that describe God come from a military setting and help us to see that David, in this Psalm, saw God as the One who protected him and made him the victor in all of his battles.

When David called on God, something happened: he was delivered or saved from all of his enemies. That also happens when we call on the Lord. "Everyone," the Bible says, "who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." Call on Him now to be delivered and saved!

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Parmesan-Crusted Pork Chops

4 1-inch thick boneless top loin pork chops 1 tablespoon olive oil 1 1/2 teaspoons coarse salt 1 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper 1/3 cup panko bread crumbs 1/3 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese

Brush pork with oil. Season with salt and pepper. Let stand for 15 to 30 minutes. In small bowl, mix panko and Parmesan together.

Prepare medium-hot fire in grill. Place chops on grill and close lid. Grill over direct heat for four minutes. Turn

chops and sprinkle panko mixture over tops. Close lid and continue grilling for 4-5 minutes more, or until topping is lightly browned and internal temperature of pork on meat thermometer measures between 145°F (medium rare) and 160°F degrees F (medium). Remove from grill and let rest for three minutes.

Strawberry Cheesecake Bars

1 package french vanilla cake mix
1/2 cup melted butter or margarine
3 eggs
1 package cream cheese
2 1/2 cups plus 2 tablespoons confectioners' sugar
1 can strawberry pie filling

Preheat oven to 325°F. In large bowl combine cake mix, butter or margarine and 1 egg; blend well. Reserve 1/3 cup of mixture for topping.

Pat remaining mixture into bottom of well-greased 9-by-13-inch pan.

In mixing bowl, beat cream cheese until fluffy, beat in 2 eggs and 2 1/2 cups confectioners' sugar. Pour over cake mixture in pan. Spread strawberry fruit filling on top and sprinkle with reserved cake mixture.

Bake 1 hour or until lightly browned. Refrigerate until chilled; cut into bars and sprinkle with 2 tablespoons confectioners' sugar.





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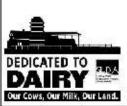
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