



# THE Farmer's Pride

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JULY 3, 2014

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Photo by Sharon Burton

**Peter Thornton, assistant director of international marketing at the North Carolina Department of Agriculture, shared some success stories from his state during a recent agriculture export seminar in Bowling Green.**

## EXPORT SEMINAR: Ky. farmers see potential growth in agriculture exports

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. – Kentucky does a lot of things well when it comes to exporting agricultural products. The commonwealth's ag exports have doubled since 2002, bringing in \$2.4 billion in 2012.

During a recent agriculture export seminar in Bowling Green, Peter Thornton, assistant director of international marketing at the North Carolina Department of Agriculture, said Kentucky is recognized across the globe for quality products.

"You guys are the best at distilled spirits," he said. "Between distilled spirits and live horses, I can't think of anything more difficult to export. And you guys lead the world in that.

If you can do that, you guys can do anything. You export what nobody else can."

The seminar was attended by representatives of Kentucky's commodity groups and a number of producers who are involved in direct marketing or interested in expanding market opportunities. A portion of the seminar focused on the resources currently available for anyone interested in getting involved in marketing their goods outside of the United States.

While Kentucky's farm products do make their way across the nation's borders, some opportunities may be overlooked as the industry enjoys a

strong marketplace in the domestic economy.

Thornton, from North Carolina, said he has learned from experience that it's impossible to identify who might be successful in the marketplace by completing a survey or checklist. He shared a story about a local grain elevator in North Carolina that exports all its grain. The soybeans in the area don't meet quality standards so they bring in beans from other areas to raise the average.

The export market benefits the region's producers who sell their products elsewhere, he noted.

"The producer now has the world

SEE **EXPORT**, PAGE 3

## Canola co. seeks Ky growers

TRENTON, Ky. – A canola processing company is reaching out to Kentucky and Tennessee producers this month in hopes of recruiting growers to supply a new plant being built in Todd County.

Hart AgStrong LLC. announced plans in April to build a canola oilseed processing plant in Trenton. This month, they are hosting five meetings in three states in search of producers.

Jeff Rice, president of Rice Agrimarketing, has been working with Hart AgStrong since the company began contracting with American farmers in 2006. It launched its first canola operation in Georgia in 2009.

"AgStrong is a company that has a great vision for the future," Rice said. "They have been successful in Georgia and Alabama and are really excited about being up in this area."

Rice said AgStrong has been working with several producers in the Todd County area and the results look very promising.

"So far they have had good crops and good yield," Rice said. "Given the environment, it has been competitive with wheat and barley."

Gov. Steve Beshear announced the construction of the project this past April.

"We welcome Hart AgStrong to the commonwealth," Beshear said. "Not only will the company create 25 jobs and invest \$7.3 million, it will also provide a significant boost to our local farmers and Kentucky's food production industry. I look forward to seeing this Kentucky-made product on store shelves throughout the U.S."

The processing facility will be constructed

SEE **CANOLA**, PAGE 7



### CLEAN MILK: Organic dairy has 105,000 SCC. 13

#### INSIDE

EDITORIAL	4	MARKET REPORT	19-21
OPINION	5	CLASSIFIEDS	22-23



# Ag exports continue to offer increased opportunity

**FROM PAGE 3**

“Exports are extremely important to our ag economy,” Snell said.

USDA projects that the nation’s agriculture/food exports will increase 25 percent over the next decade. The number of middle class people across the world will increase from 2 billion to 5 billion in the next 15 years.

“These consumers out there, they want to be like us. They want to be able to eat a lot of foods that are more in terms of an animal protein...more beef, more pork, more chicken,” Snell said.

Thornton said success at the North Carolina Department of Agriculture is not determined in the foreign markets but in rural North Carolina.

The greatest challenge, he said, “is to get people thinking, ‘Yes, I can export that.’”

The decrease in the value of the American dollar provides competitiveness for the nation’s ag products, Thornton

noted.

“We are getting better and the price is getting cheaper,” he said.

Ag export opportunities are getting ready to explode, Thornton said.

“If you are limiting yourself to just the domestic portfolio you are limiting yourself from 95 percent of your potential market.”

Roger Thomas, executive director of the Governor’s Office of Agricultural Policy, said the workshop was well attended and especially beneficial to producers who attended.

“It provided them information and contacts needed to develop new market opportunities for their products through exports. We are planning the next steps to ensure we are exploring all markets for our agricultural products,” Thomas said.

**By Sharon Burton**  
snburton@duo-county.com

Summary of USDA agricultural trade long-term projections (billion dollars)			
	2014	2021	2021 vs 2010
Livestock, poultry, and dairy	31.8	46.9	147.5%
Grain and feeds	28.1	31.7	112.8%
Soybeans/Oilseeds and products	28.8	28.8	100.0%
Horticultural products	34.5	48.1	139.4%
Other exports	13.2	16.9	128.0%
Total agricultural exports	137.0	172.4	125.8%
Bulk commodity exports	42.3	44.1	104.3%
High-value product exports	94.7	128.3	135.5%
High-value product share	69.1%	74.4%	

## Advocates seek to expand ag in eastern Ky.

HIPPO, Ky. (AP) – Agriculture advocates are attempting to expand farming opportunities in eastern Kentucky.

Former coal worker Todd Howard is part of the movement. He started out in 2010 by selling corn and tomatoes at the farmers’ market in Floyd County. By last year, he and others sold goods worth about \$50,000.

Advocates say there’s a lot of room to expand agriculture production in the region, which would also help diversify the economy in an area that has seen the number of coal jobs decrease sharply in the last two years.

Howard, who operates HF Farms, told the Lexington Herald-Leader (<http://bit.ly/T7zKnS>) that realizing the idea’s potential would take time, money and effort on the part of many. It would mean finding affordable financing for farmers, assisting with marketing and aiding in developing infrastructure.

“There’s a lot of steps that have to happen,” he said.

The market value of agricultural products sold in several eastern Kentucky counties was recorded at less than \$100,000 while several counties in central and western Kentucky have \$100 million or more.

Daniel Wilson, the agriculture extension

agent in Wolfe County, says a renewed interest in locally produced healthy food could drive the move, noting that people want to know where their food came from.

“I just think that there’s a huge market for that,” said Wilson, who heads up a group looking at ways to expand the region’s agriculture economy.

Community Farm Alliance Executive Director Martin Richards says his organization works with eight markets in the region and sales skyrocketed from \$1,100 in 2011 to \$186,800 in 2013.

He said adding markets in seven counties that don’t have them could pump about \$500,000 into the local economies. The demand is there, he said.

“We’ve been saying for 25 years that agriculture is economic development,” he said.

While the region doesn’t have vast, relatively flat fields that lend themselves to big farm operations, it has enough for several farms on smaller scales.

Valerie Horn, who works in Letcher County with several groups promoting local food production, said many farmers might have to keep another job, but the extra income would have an impact.

“It can be enough that it keeps you from having to leave,” Horn said.

### Export's Economic Importance to Kentucky Agriculture

- Kentucky's \$2.4 billion ag exports ranks 20<sup>th</sup> nationally in 2012
- Based on % of ag cash receipts, Kentucky is the 4th most trade dependent U.S. state

KY Ag Exports as a % of Ag Cash Receipts

Year	% of Ag Cash Receipts
2001	38%
2002	38%
2003	38%
2004	35%
2005	37%
2006	40%
2007	43%
2008	48%
2009	45%
2010	48%
2011	49%
2012	46%

Source: ERS/USDA

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# Next cattle expansion will be complex

LEXINGTON, — Cattle numbers in the United States are the lowest they have been in more than 50 years.

"There has always been variation in cattle inventory from year to year," said Kenny Burdine, agricultural economist with the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment. "There was an upward trend from the 1930s to the 1970s, followed by a sharp and then more gradual reversal that has continued through today."

So many factors play into the current situation, not the least of which is a massive, long-standing drought in the Southern Plains that has reduced conditions to a modern-day Dust Bowl. But that's not the only thing affecting cattle numbers. Burdine said many things would determine when and if a cattle expansion occurs.

"There's really no single factor that drives a producer to decide to expand or reduce their cow herd size," he said. "Producers respond to a wide array of market signals, and they operate within a wide range of constraints as well. Regardless, I believe the next expansion is going to be very complex."

Even though Kentucky has not experienced the same harsh drought conditions as the Southern Plains in the past couple years, drought was an issue in 2007, 2008 and 2012. Kentucky's cattle inventory has decreased by about 195,000 cows since 2007 according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. According to fellow UK agricultural economist Greg Halich, however, conversion of pasture ground to row crops is probably the main reason for the reduced numbers in Kentucky.

"Record prices and profitability in row crops has led to this conversion, and most of this ground will not come back to pasture very easily," he said.

As corn and soybeans gained popularity for their profitability in the past several years, cattle producers opted for row crops over cow numbers. If grain prices decrease and grain profitability declines, producers may start to convert row crops back to pasture and increase their herds again.

"That really just illustrates a basic economic principle that farmers are going to allocate their land to what is going to be most profitable for them," Halich said. "Cattle obviously compete with other land uses. In Kentucky, we've his-

torically run cattle and produced hay on ground that is also suitable for row crop production, particularly in the central part of the state."

It's easier to convert pasture to row crops than to convert row crops to pastureland. Halich said it's not really that simple to "switch" back. Re-establishing forages takes time. And then there are the fences that many farmers removed to make row crop management more efficient.

"Once those fences are gone, the cost of returning the land to pasture dramatically increases," he added. "Fencing is very expensive, and producers will only make that investment when it is justified by the market."

Burdine explained that there are many areas that were forced to reduce numbers because of weather, and they will want to expand again once weather conditions improve. In Texas, beef cow numbers have decreased 22 percent since 2011 and much of that land is not well suited to row crop production.

It's important to note that producers don't just automatically expand when prices reach a certain level.

"It's true, calf and feeder prices are at an all-time high," Burdine said. "It's also true that production costs have dramatically gone up as well. To really signal an expansion, prices will have to rise enough to translate into increased profits at the cow-calf level."

When it does come about, expansion could actually happen pretty quickly in the early stages. Heifer retention gets a lot of attention in expansion talks.

"We've actually seen increased heifer retention over the past several years," Burdine said. "But, this hasn't really been enough to offset the reduction in beef cow numbers brought about by higher than normal culling."

Expansion is a long-term process that involves cattle that are likely to remain in production for 10 years or more. A producer who purchases additional bred heifers, or one who holds back their own heifers, makes an investment that requires several years to pay back. The upfront cost is high, and producers don't know what the conditions will be throughout the time it takes to recover the investment. Those long-term profit expectations are what most farmers are using to guide their expansion decisions.

'To really signal an expansion, prices will have to rise enough to translate into increased profits at the cow-calf level.'

Kenny Burdine

Agricultural Economist

University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

Burdine and Halich also asked the question, "Do farmers and ranchers really have to expand the herd?"

"It's assumed that there are folks out there ready to expand when conditions are better," Halich said. "But there is a growing concern that fewer and fewer of the next generation are willing to take

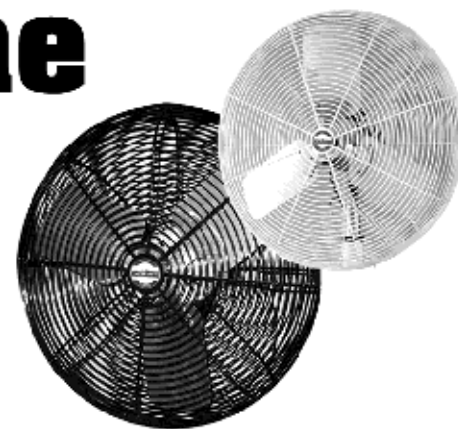
up the challenges and opportunities of raising cattle. Fewer cattle farmers coming up through the ranks and a decrease in large tracts of land suitable for cattle will make it more difficult to expand the cattle herd in the future."

By Aimee Nielson

University of Kentucky

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# AgStrong meetings throughout Kentucky

**Tuesday, July 8:**

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. CST, Trenton Community Center, Inc.,  
250 Guthrie St., **Trenton**  
6 p.m. - 8 p.m. CST at Robertson County Fairgrounds,  
4635 Hwy 41 N., **Springfield, Tenn.**

**Wednesday, July 9:**

8 a.m. -10 a.m. CST, Caldwell Co. Ext. Office, 1025  
Hwy 62W, **Princeton**  
Noon - 2 p.m. CST, Purchase Area Development Dis-  
trict, 1002 Medical Drive, **Mayfield**

**Thursday, July 10:**

7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. CST, Schochoh Community Cen-  
ter, 2570 Schochoh Road, **Adairville**  
Noon - 2 p.m., Jerry's Restaurant, Exit 28 off I-65,  
**Bowling Green**

**Friday July 11:**

7:30 a.m. - 9 a.m. EST, Petro/Restaurant, 554 Glendale-  
Hodgenville Rd., **West Glendale**  
Noon - 2 p.m. EST, Steyer Seeds, 229 W. MLK Drive,  
**Lebanon**

**Wednesday, July 16:**

7:30 a.m. - 10 a.m. CST, Rice AgriMarketing, 720 Hwy  
431, **Livermore**  
Noon - 2 p.m. CST, Feed Mill Rest, 3541 Hwy 60, **Mor-  
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“Clean cows are key for me,” John Beiler said. “It is about nutrition and what is in the soil.”

"All I do is bring Dr. Paul out and have events on organic farms to show people," he said. "Anybody can come and see the health of the pastures or the alfalfa fields and see the yields that they are getting and real-

“When you go organic you start to quit beating up

SEE **CLEAN**, PAGE 16

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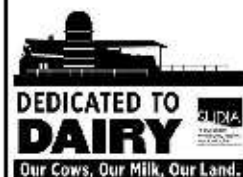
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Submit a photo of your farm to Sharon Burton, The Farmer's Pride, P. O. Box 159, Columbia, Ky. 42728 or email to [sburton@duo-county.com](mailto:sburton@duo-county.com). Mailed photos will only be returned if a self-addressed envelope is included (we will pay return postage!).

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# CLEAN MILK: Organic dairy has 105,000 SCC

FROM PAGE 1

Mother Nature," he said. "You are starting to let the soil get back into balance, you are letting the microbes repopulate. You want everything to be natural. You don't want any synthesized nitrogen, pesticides and herbicides. You are going to have a smaller carbon footprint on our aquifers, our soil erosion, phosphorous issues and more nutrient-dense food that is not contaminated with synthesized molecules."

For Dettloff, organic farming goes back to a time when simpler did actually mean better.

"I was born in 1942 in Minnesota and my dad never owned a sprayer, we had very few health issues and we had balanced soil," he said. "And when these gentlemen go organic, it is a nice way of life and there is no rat race anymore."

Organic Valley has a farm-resource staff of professionals, Dettloff said, and the company considers itself to be an educational company. Dettloff said he started working for Organic Valley 13 years ago when the company was associated with 400 organic farms — mostly dairy herds along with poultry, hogs and produce — and has grown to more than 2,000 operations.

Schmitz said his company is looking to

grow because it can't keep up with the demand, and his company is continuously trying to recruit more producers.

"We just went up another dollar on our base price — \$29.80 per hundredweight," he said. "We have some of the best premiums in the country. Based on solids, butter fats. Some of these guys are getting \$35 a hundredweight. Over the past seven years they have gone from \$25 to \$35 per hundredweight."

Schmitz said the transition to organic doesn't have to be hard.

"It is just grazing more. If they are grazing already then the transition is not that difficult," he said.

Dettloff said farmers like Beiler and his father and their ability to produce a great product is all about hard, smart work by highly skilled producers.

"The consumer today wants us to be humane to our animals and we give very few shots, we do drenching, we use all-natural treatments where there is no side-effects and it is a huge educational process," Dettloff said. "If you don't want to learn, change your way and listen, then we don't want to twist your arm."

"These guys, the Beilers, really enjoy farming."

By Ryan Craig

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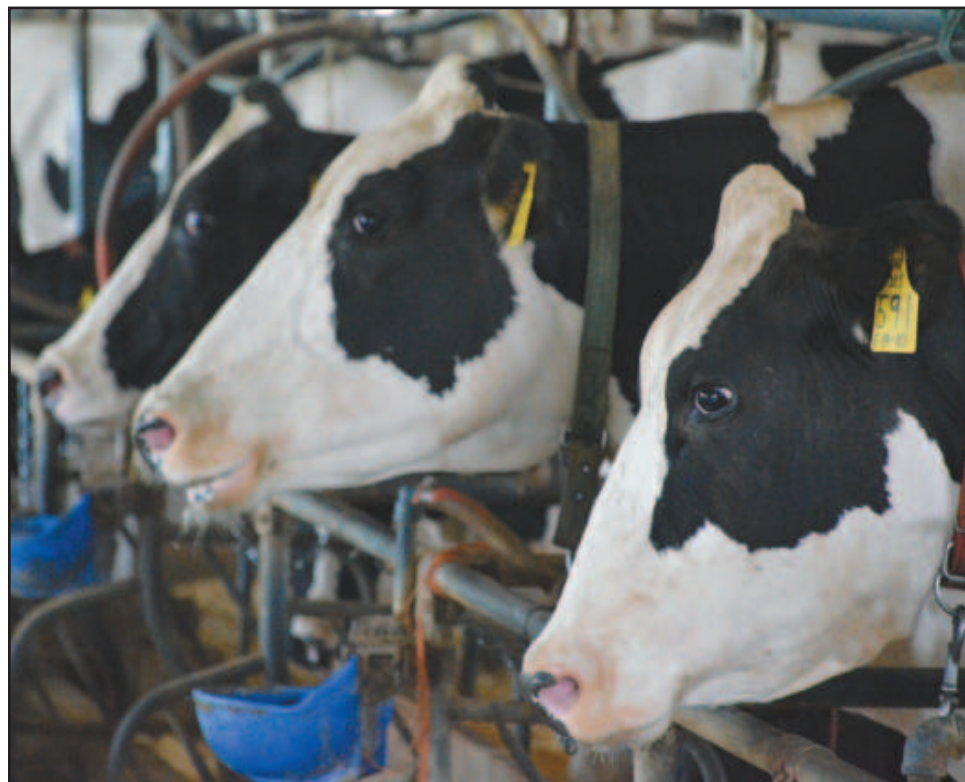


Photo by Ryan Craig

Organic dairy production has become popular in Todd and surrounding counties.

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# Lawson Spann announces run for ag commissioner

FRANKFORT— Jean-Marie Lawson Spann has officially announced her candidacy for the office of Kentucky commissioner of agriculture.

Lawson Spann followed up the announcement with a four-day tour across the commonwealth to lay out her goals for the Kentucky Department of Agriculture.

During the original announcement, she was introduced by former Kentucky Secretary of the Personnel Cabinet Carol Palmore, Kentucky State Representative Derrick Graham, former Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture Ed Logsdon and former Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture Billy Ray Smith.

Two special speakers during the event were Natalie and Catherine McAninch, ages 10 and 13, from Liberty.

Lawson Spann is vice president of marketing for Lawson Marketing, Inc. Prior to Lawson Marketing, Inc., she was vice president of marketing for Hartland Equipment.

She has 17 years of experience in business, sales, governmental affairs, marketing, development, advertising and strategic public relations in both the public and private sectors.

She currently hosts a weekly radio show covering an array of agriculture issues. The daughter of Sam and Beverly Lawson of Bowling Green, she recently married Bobby Spann, vice president of external affairs for Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport. Her father is a founding member of the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board.

**Jean Marie Lawson Spann announced plans to run for Kentucky agriculture commissioner. With Spann is her husband Bobby (left) and former commissioner Billy Ray Smith.**



## Obama creates task force to figure out how save honeybees

On June 20 President Obama announced the formation of a task force to seek a solution to stop the continued loss of bee colonies, which pollinate about 90 crops worldwide.

Honeybee populations lost 23.5 percent of their numbers over the winter, and have been losing populations for years.

The Pollinator Health Task Force “will have 180 days

to create a strategy to prevent future bee loss,” Isabelle Khurshudyan reports for *The Washington Post*.

“Specifically, the task force will investigate how to reduce pollinator exposure to pesticides found to harm bumblebees by interfering with their homing abilities.”

Honeybee pollination adds more than \$15 billion in value to agricultural crops each year in the U.S., a White House release said. “Over the past few decades,

there has been a significant loss of pollinators, including honey bees, native bees, birds, bats, and butterflies, from the environment. The problem is serious and requires immediate attention to ensure the sustainability of our food production systems, avoid additional economic impact on the agricultural sector, and protect the health of the environment.”

From <http://irjci.blogspot.com>.

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# It's county fair time in Kentucky!

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 10-20.**

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. 2.**

Germantown Fair, Germantown, **July 28-Aug. 2.**

Oldham County Fair, LaGrange, **July 29-Aug. 2.**

Boone County Fair,

Burlington, **Aug. 2-9.**

Rowan County Fair, Morehead, **Aug. 20-23.**

Greenup County Fair, Greenup, **Aug. 26-30.**

Grayson County Fair, Leitchfield, **Aug. 26-Sept. 1.**

Alexandria Fair, Alexandria, **Aug. 27-Sept. 1.**

Edmonson County Fair, Brownsville, **Sept. 4-13.**

Powell County Fair, Stanton, **Sept. 8-13.**

Robertson County Fair, Mount Olivet, **Sept. 18-21.**

Ohio County Fair, Hartford, **Sept. 25-217.**

Washington County Fair, Springfield, **Oct. 3-5.**

Trigg County Fair, Cadiz, **Oct. 10-11.**

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# AUCTION/MARKET

## Blue Grass of Richmond

Richmond, KY

June 20, 2014

### Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

88 hd. 534# 252.25 blk-mixed  
93 hd. 561# 251.75 blk-mixed  
40 hd. 701# 202.00 blk  
54 hd. 822# 195.00 mixed  
66 hd. 824# 202.75 blk  
57 hd. 901# 191.00 blk  
56 hd. 967# 191.90 blk  
55 hd. 1008# 179.50 blk-mixed

### Holstein Steers: Large 3

58 hd. 575# 189.00

### Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2

25 hd. 663# 187.50 blk

## Blue Grass Stockyard

Lexington, KY

June 23 &amp; 24, 2014

### Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1

55 hd. 638# 230.50 blk-charx  
19 hd. 687# 228.50 blk  
24 hd. 689# 229.00 blk-smokes  
114hd. 729# 218.00 blk-charx  
55 hd. 787# 214.00 bbwf  
52 hd. 816# 206.75 mixed  
30 hd. 828# 208.50 blk  
59 hd. 871# 202.00 blk-mixed  
50 hd. 880# 207.00 bbwf  
61 hd. 1007# 179.75 blk-mixed

### Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1

23 hd. 503# 212.00 blk-charx  
74 hd. 677# 205.80 charx-red-blk  
134 hd. 716# 200.25 blk  
61 hd. 721# 201.00 bbwf  
Medium & Large 1-2  
76 hd. 517# 219.25 mixed

### Holstein Steers: Large 3

60 hd. 890# 166.25

## Mid-KY Livestock Market

Upton, KY

June 24, 2014

### Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

20 hd. 604# 243.50 mixed  
17 hd. 889# 208.25 blk  
16hd. 1098# 179.50 blk

### Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 2-3

24 hd. 551# 200.00 blk  
26 hd. 888# 189.95 blk  
20hd. 1057# 170.00 blk

### Feeder Bulls: Medium & Large 1-2

20 hd. 409# 242.50 blk  
20 hd. 509# 227.00 blk  
18 hd. 616# 202.50 blk

## Blue Grass East

Mt. Sterling, KY

June 25, 2014

### Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1

42 hd. 763# 212.00 blk-charx  
30 hd. 767# 206.50 mixed  
37 hd. 953# 175.00 blk-smokes

### Holstein Steers: Large 3

41 hd. 836# 164.95

### Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1

41 hd. 523# 218.25 bbwf-charx

## United Producers Bowling Green

Bowling Green, KY

June 24, 2014

### Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2

20 hd. 516# 215.50 blk

## Blue Grass South

Stanford, KY

June 23 &amp; 26, 2014

### Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

81 hd. 666# 231.75 blk  
43 hd. 700# 225.00 blk-charx  
69 hd. 726# 224.85 blk  
44 hd. 763# 216.00 blk-charx  
20 hd. 798# 211.75 blk

145 hd. 798# 214.00 blk-charx

68 hd. 808# 211.75 blk-charx

69 hd. 839# 213.75 blk-charx

62 hd. 865# 210.00 blk-charx

61 hd. 890# 199.75 blk-charx

86 hd. 901# 202.00 blk

55 hd. 961# 184.25 mixed

54 hd. 987# 182.75 blk-charx

117 hd. 855# 208.50 blk-charx

59 hd. 860# 205.50 blk-charx

115 hd. 864# 207.00 blk-charx

### Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2

64 hd. 518# 233.50 blk

52 hd. 522# 225.25 mixed

63 hd. 707# 206.25 blk-charx

73 hd. 714# 206.00 blk-charx

68 hd. 768# 199.25 blk

## Russell County Stockyards

Russell Springs, KY

June 25, 2014

### Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

24 hd. 581# 246.75 charx

21 hd. 639# 227.00 blk-red

58 hd. 871# 207.95 blk

56 hd. 879# 203.00 blk-charx

### Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2

96 hd. 519# 228.00 mixed

73 hd. 611# 222.70 mixed

## Blue Grass of Albany

Albany, KY

June 25, 2014

### Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2

53 hd. 502# 222.00 mixed

26 hd. 702# 199.50 blk

### Video Receipts:

135 hd. 760# 200.20 blk heifers

70 hd. 730# 224.00 blk steers

62 hd. 825# 204.50 blk steers

60 hd. 850# 204.50 blk steers

60 hd. 900# 195.00 mixed steers

## Kentuckiana Livestock Market

Owensboro, KY

June 23, 2014

### Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

22 hd. 416# 252.00 blk

21 hd. 611# 225.50 bbwf

### Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2

23 hd. 503# 215.00 blk

31 hd. 564# 213.50 bbwf

## Blue Grass of Campbellsville

Campbellsville, KY

June 25, 2014

### Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

21 hd. 671# 221.00 blk

70 hd. 733# 208.50 blk-charx

65 hd. 819# 209.00 mixed

62 hd. 823# 211.00 blk

### Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2

41 hd. 903# 175.00 blk-charx

## KY-TN Livestock Auction

Guthrie, KY

June 26, 2014

### Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

28 hd. 464# 247.50 bbwf

47 hd. 550# 238.50 bbwf

51 hd. 638# 215.00 bbwf

24 hd. 643# 217.00 charx

### Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2

33 hd. 382# 244.50 bbwf

70 hd. 452# 234.50 bbwf

22 hd. 461# 224.50 mixed

76 hd. 537# 207.25 bbwf

24 hd. 630# 192.75 bbwf

26 hd. 671# 197.50 mixed

### Feeder Bulls: Medium & Large 1-2

24 hd. 377# 276.50 bbwf

45 hd. 455# 249.75 bbwf

37 hd. 540# 239.00 bbwf

## Lake Cumberland Livestock

Somerset, KY

June 21, 2014

### Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

38 hd. 617# 229.25 blk

### Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2

60 hd. 682# 194.50 blk

60 hd. 701# 193.73 mixed

## Paris Stockyards

Paris, KY

June 26, 2014

### Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

40 hd. 642# 230.00 mixed

77 hd. 709# 226.75 blk

### Holstein Steers: Large 3

98 hd. 761# 172.25

## Farmers Livestock

Glasgow, KY

June 23, 2014

### Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

25 hd. 606# 229.50 mixed

24 hd. 717# 208.25 blk

### Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2

23 hd. 452# 230.50 blk

36 hd. 462# 222.00 mixed

37 hd. 514# 214.25 blk

20 hd. 551# 199.50 mixed

21 hd. 574# 203.50 mixed

24 hd. 587# 198.75 blk

28 hd. 637# 203.50 blk

### Feeder Bulls: Medium & Large 1-2

25 hd. 377# 260.50 blk

37 hd. 442# 239.50 blk

35 hd. 449# 229.50 mixed

37 hd. 511# 228.50 blk

25 hd. 556# 217.50 mixed

25 hd. 595# 216.00 blk

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*Madison County, Kentucky*

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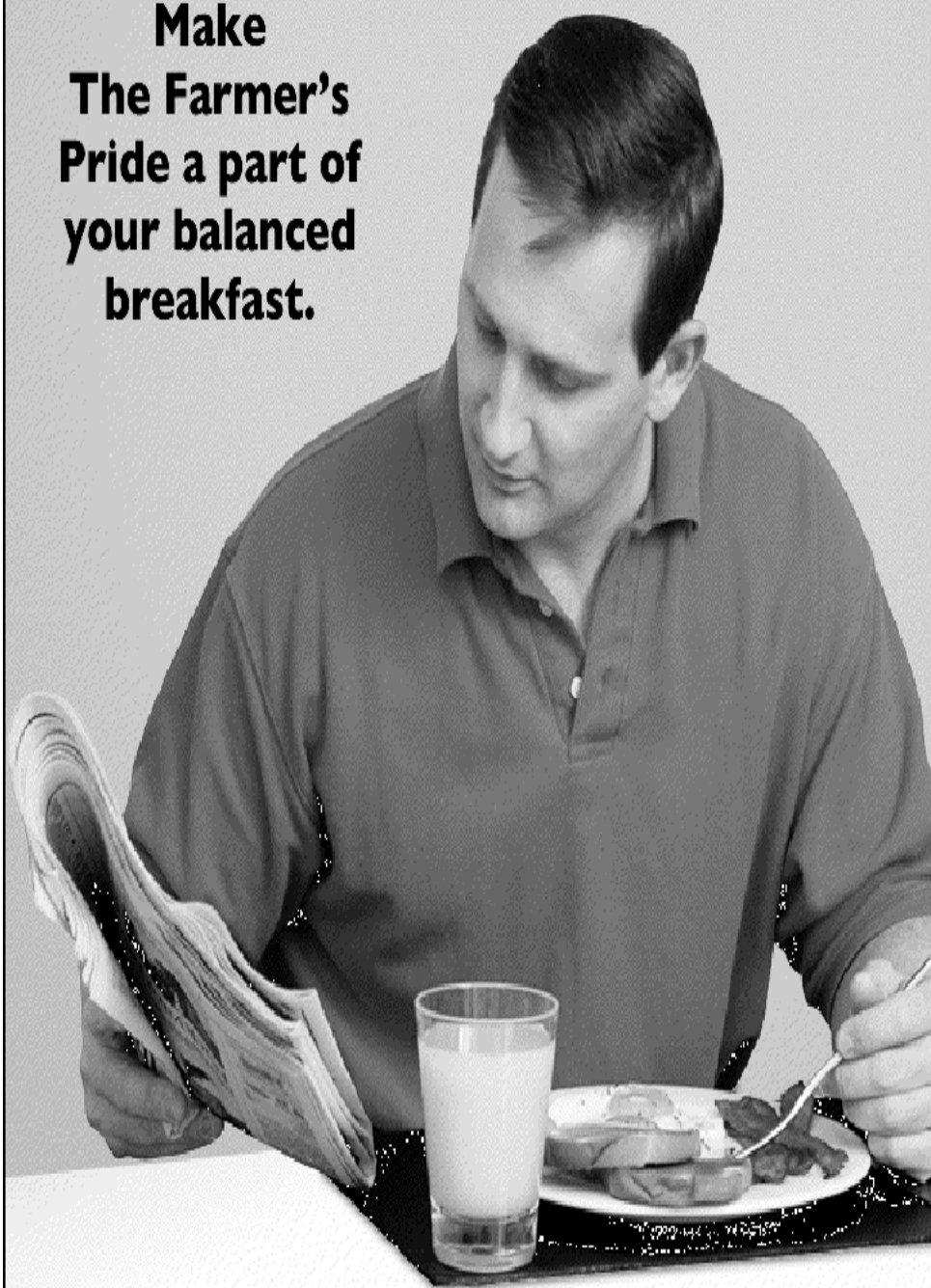
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## Acreage reporting deadline is July 15 for spring seeded crops

July 15 is the deadline to file an acreage report for spring seeded crops.

Planted acres must be reported to FSA by July 15, U.S. Department of Agriculture Kentucky Farm Service Agency Executive Director John W. McCauley reminds agricultural producers.

The Agricultural Act of 2014 (2014 farm bill) requires producers on a farm to submit annual acreage reports on all cropland.

"Although some federal farm program enrollments have not yet started, timely acreage reports for all crops and land uses, including prevented and failed acreage that producers submit to their local FSA office, are important to ensure program eligibility," said McCauley.

Acreage reports to FSA are considered timely filed when completed by the applicable final crop reporting deadline, which may vary from state to state.

Perennial forage crops intended for grazing or haying were required to be

reported last fall, whereas perennial forage crops with an intended use of cover only, green manure, left standing, or seed, must be reported by July 15.

Although July 15 is the most common deadline to report acreage for spring seeded crops, this date may be different in locations with climates that are warmer or cooler than average.

Producers should contact their county FSA office if they are uncertain about acreage reporting deadlines. McCauley said that failed acreage must be reported before the disposition of the crop and that prevented acreage must be reported within 15 calendar days after the final planting date for the applicable crop.

For questions on any FSA program, including specific crop reporting deadlines and planting dates, contact your county FSA office or seek information online at [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov).

### MAMMOTH CAVE DAIRY AUCTION, INC.

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Mike Hatcher

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#### MARKET REPORT: WEEK OF JUNE 24, 2014

**Mammoth Cave Dairy Auction, Inc.**

**Cattle: 667 Springers Lb. Cows-Bulls**

**Open Heifers-Steers Fresh Milking Cows Baby Calves**

**Springers:** (2-3 years old, 5-8 months bred) 1300-1600# 1700.00-2075.00, Approved 1200-1400# 1500.00-1625.00, Medium 950-1200# 1250.00-1400.00, Common 800-1100# 900.00-1175.00.

**Fresh Milking Cows:** (2-4 years old) Approved 1200-1400# 1650.00-1675.00, Common 800-100# 1085.00-1200.00.

**Short Bred:** (2-3 years old, 1-4 months bred) Supreme 1300-1600# 1525.00-1650.00, Medium 950-1200# 1225.00, Common 800-1100# 985.00.

**Open Heifers:** 300-400# Supreme 575.00, Approved 435.00, 400-500# Supreme 735.00-935.00, Approved 575.00-635.00, Medium 425.00, 500-600# Supreme 935.00-985.00, Approved 610.00-710.00.

**Holstein Steers:** 200-300# 175.00-179.00, 400-500# 161.00-176.00.

**Hol. Heifer Calves:** Small 160.00-200.00, Medium and Large 230.00-330.00 per head.

**Hol. Bull Calves:** Small 110.00-190.00, Medium and Large 200.00-330.00 per head.

**S.L. Cows:** Breaker 75-80 percent lean 1100-1800# 106.00-110.00, H.Dr. 111.00-121.00, L.Dr. 103.00-106.00, Boner 80-85 percent lean 1100-1400# 102.00-108.00, H.Dr. 109.00-117.00, L.Dr. 98.00-101.00, Lean 85-90 percent lean 1000-1300# 99.00-103.00, H.Dr. 105.00-109.00, L.Dr. 91.00-98.00, Lights 85-90 percent lean 750-1000# 76.00-83.00, H.Dr. 85.00-94.00, L.Dr. 65.00-74.00.

**S.L. Bulls:** Y.G. 1-2 1400-2300# 1120.00-127.00, H.Dr. 130.00-137.00, L.Dr. 108.00-117.00.

**For our latest market report, visit [www.kyagr.com/mcda.htm](http://www.kyagr.com/mcda.htm)**

**NEXT SPECIAL OPEN/SHORTBRED HEIFER & HOLSTEIN  
STEER AUCTION: Saturday, Aug. 2nd @ Noon**



# AUCTION/MARKET

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

### KENTUCKY GRAIN PRICES

**LOUISVILLE AREA:** Louisville & Bagdad; **PENNYRILE AREA:** Allensville, Auburn, Franklin, Hopkinsville & Pembroke; **BLUEGRASS AREA:** Bardstown, Lexington & Winchester; **GREEN RIVER:** Caneyville & Livermore; **NORTHERN KENTUCKY AREA:** Silver Grove at Cincinnati; **PURCHASE AREA:** Clinton & Mayfield. Opening bids at elevators and processing plants.

6/26/14 4:00 pm est	Louisville	Pennyrile	Purchase	Bluegrass	Green River	Northern KY
<b>Cash Bids</b>						
Com #2 Yellow	4.49-4.62	4.53-4.71	4.48-4.63	4.19-4.43	4.75-4.77	4.66
Com #2 White		4.53				
Soybeans #1 Y	14.05-14.56	14.31-14.32	14.42-14.52	14.00-14.23	14.59	14.69
Wheat #2 SRW	5.35-5.86	5.57-5.77	5.67-5.68	5.42-5.48	5.72	5.72
Barley						
<b>New Crop Delivery Contract</b>						
Com #2 Yellow	4.11-4.15	4.23-4.28	4.24-4.28	4.13	4.35	4.16
Com #2 White		4.68				
Soybeans #1 Y	11.87-12.27	12.19-12.24	12.44-12.49	12.09	12.39	12.35
Wheat #2 SRW	5.35-5.86	5.57-5.77	5.87-5.88	NA	5.72	5.72
Barley		3.00				

### Eastern Cornbelt Ethanol Plant Report 6/26/2014 Indiana Ohio Illinois

Yellow Corn Spot Bid 4.29-4.76  
Dried Distillers Grain (\$/ton)  
10% moisture 160.00-175.00  
Modified Wet Distillers (\$/ton)  
50-55% moisture 90.00

### Kentucky Weekly Cattle Receipts:

06/13/14	19,348
06/20/14	17,147
06/27/14	20,687

### KY-TN CPH Sale

Guthrie, Ky.  
June 23, 2014  
**Feeder Steers:** Medium & Large 1-2  
38 hd. 553# 234.00 blk-bbwf  
86 hd. 642# 224.25 blk-bbwf  
65 hd. 741# 208.75 blk-bbwf  
**Feeder Heifers:** Medium & Large 1-2  
65 hd. 544# 220.75 blk-bbwf  
31 hd. 613# 215.50 blk-bbwf

### National Daily Direct Slaughter Cattle

**Negotiated Purchases 6/26/2014**  
Live Bids- weighed average weights & prices  
**Steers:**  
80%-up Choice 1310 lbs 151.04  
**Heifers:**  
60-80% Choice 1100 lbs 152.00

Weekly Feed Ingredient Price	Owensboro Grain	Common-wealth	USDA ESTIMATED DAILY LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER				Eastern Cornbelt Hog Prices
Wholesale prices, \$ per ton		Agri-Energy		CATTLE	CALVES	HOGS	SHEEP
Rail or Truck FOB Location		Hopkinsville	Thurs 6/26/2014 (est)	117,000	2,000	397,000	8,000
	6/27/2014	6/27/2014	Week Ago (est)	118,000	2,000	371,000	8,000
			Year Ago (act)	125,000	2,000	408,000	8,000
			Week to Date (est)	463,000	8,000	1,570,000	34,000
			Same Pd Lt Week (est)	464,000	9,000	1,500,000	35,000
			Same Pd Lt Yr (act)	484,000	11,000	1,613,000	33,000
Soybean Meal 48% Sol	505.00	—					
Soybean Hulls	200.00	—					
Com Distillers Grain Dried	—	175.00					
Distillers Grain Modified	—	101.00					
Distillers Grain Wet	—	62.00					
Com Condensed Solubles	—	86.00					
Com Gluten Feed 20-21 pct	—	—					
Com Gluten Meal 80 pct	—	—					
Cottonseed Meal 41 pct	—	—					
Whole Cottonseed	—	—					
Wheat Middlings	—	—					

Eastern Cornbelt Hog Prices 6/26/2014  
Barrows & Gilts  
Receipts: 8,257  
Base Price:  
\$116.00-\$129.00  
Wt. Avg. \$124.55  
Compared to prior day, the wt. avg. price was 0.62 to 2.39 higher. Slow to moderate market activity with moderate demand.

Call Diana at  
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The Pride!

**Producers Livestock Auction Co, San Angelo, Texas June 25, 2014;** Compared to last week slaughter lambs steady. Slaughter ewes weak to 3.00 lower. Feeder lambs weak to 3.00 lower. Nannies firm to 2.00 higher; kids firm. Trading and demand moderate. All sheep and goats sold per hundred weight (CWT) unless otherwise specified.

**New Holland Sales Stables - New Holland, PA June 23, 2014;** Compared to last week, Slaughter lambs sold mostly steady to 10.00 higher. Most movement on the lighter weight lambs. Slaughter ewes sold mostly 10.00- 20.00 lower. Demand was moderate for all classes. Slaughter Goats: When compared to last week, slaughter kids sold mostly 10.00-20.00 higher on good demand. Nannies traded mostly steady to 10.00 higher.



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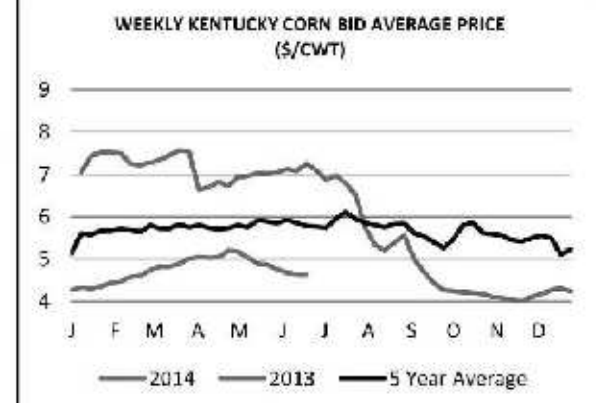
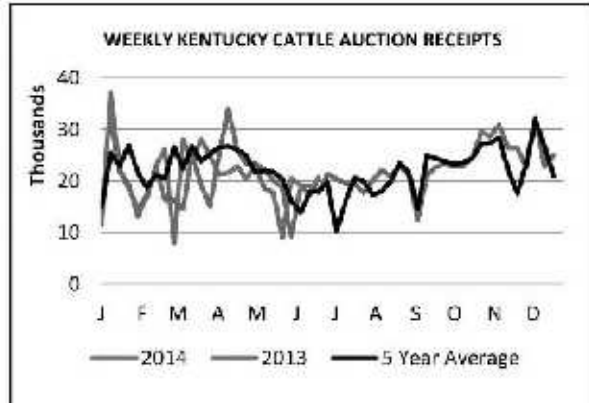
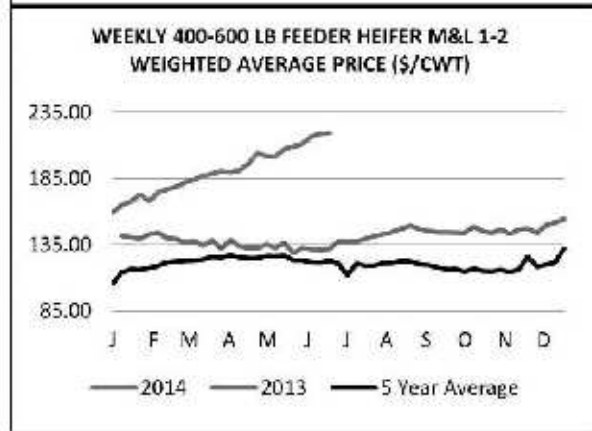
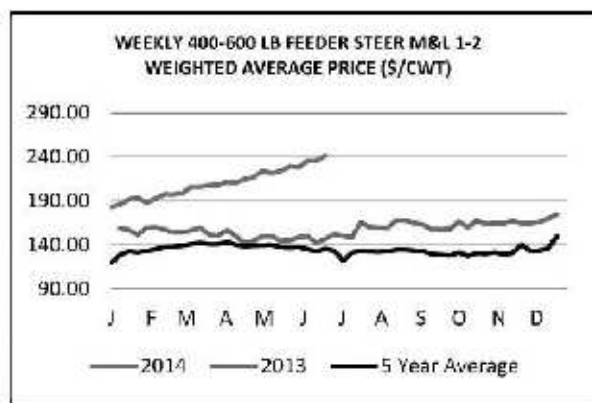
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# AUCTION/MARKET

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



SV LS551

June 26, 2014

Bowling Green

## SLAUGHTER GOATS: 282

**Kids:** Selection 1 60-70 lbs 215.00. Selection 2 30-45 lbs 172.50; 45-60 lbs 203.00; 60-80 lbs 197.50. Selection 3 30-45 lbs 160.00; 45-60 lbs 148.00.

## SHEEP: 236

**Slaughter Lambs:** Wool Prime and Choice YG 2-3 75-85 lbs 146.00; 90-110 lbs 150.00; 120-140 lbs 145.00. **Hair Prime and Choice YG 2-3** 50-65 lbs 137.50; 65-80 lbs 127.50. **Slaughter Ewes:** Wool Choice YG 3 160-180 lbs 78.00; 190-220 lbs 65.00. **Hair Choice YG 2-3** 110-130 lbs 60.00.



## Bluegrass Stockyards of Richmond, LLC

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JD 4030 2P 4050 hrs 1970

(2) JD 7810 & 7800 both MFD

—JD 7130 C&A, JD 7230 MFD

JD 4960 MFD 42" duals super nice

JD 4610 duals 42" very sharp

JD 6415 MFD Mulcher

JD 6415 C&A w/Alamo Boom

—JD 6415 MFD fine damage

(5) JD 6420, 7420, 6100 w/Ldr.

all MFD

(26) other JD Tractors 4040, 4240,

4290, 3020, 4020, 2140, 5210,

5310, 5303, 3055

NH TS100 C&A w/Tiger boom—

NH TC 80B 4x4 w/Ldr.

MF 5445 w/Ldr.

(23) Other Tractors not listed

(7) Front end Loaders

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JD 275 Disc Mower 200 Ac. usage

JD 702 V Rake—Krone Tedder 28'

(26) Rnd. Bales (10) JD 567, 568,

466, 535, 430—

(7) Vermeer 605H, 605H,

605X1, 504 Super I, 504M, Hesston

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# EXPORT SEMINAR: Middle class numbers increasing

## FROM PAGE 1

price to use to negotiate regardless of which market he sells in, because he now knows we export," Thornton said.

Will Snell, an ag economist with the University of Kentucky Department of Agricultural Economics, noticed a trend in other nations as he traveled abroad as co-director of the Kentucky Agricultural Leadership Program.

"What I found out, not only companies know a lot about trade, but also farm-

ers," Snell said. "They know a lot about international markets. They know what is going on with trade agreements...they know the exchange rate of that day."

Several steps are required to successfully export products, and requirements are different depending on where goods will go.

Jonathan Van Balen, import/export advisor at the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, can assist producers with research of foreign markets, with regis-

tration and identifying requirements from foreign countries.

While there are plenty of resources and information available, Snell learned by conducting a study for the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy that Kentucky's effort to export agriculture products lacks a cohesiveness he has seen in other states.

"There are a lot of resources, but...everybody out there is kind of doing their own thing," Snell said.

When visiting with other states during the study, Snell said he was taken aback by the number of personnel and amount

of legislative funding provided for agribusinesses and producers involved in exporting.

"I think we have a great trade story to tell but I think we can do better," Snell said. He challenged everyone to work together to "have a more coordinated approach as we capitalize upon the opportunity we have in the international marketplace."

Kentucky ranks as the fourth most trade dependent ag export state in the United States.

SEE EXPORT SEMINAR, PAGE 10

## BROOKINGS

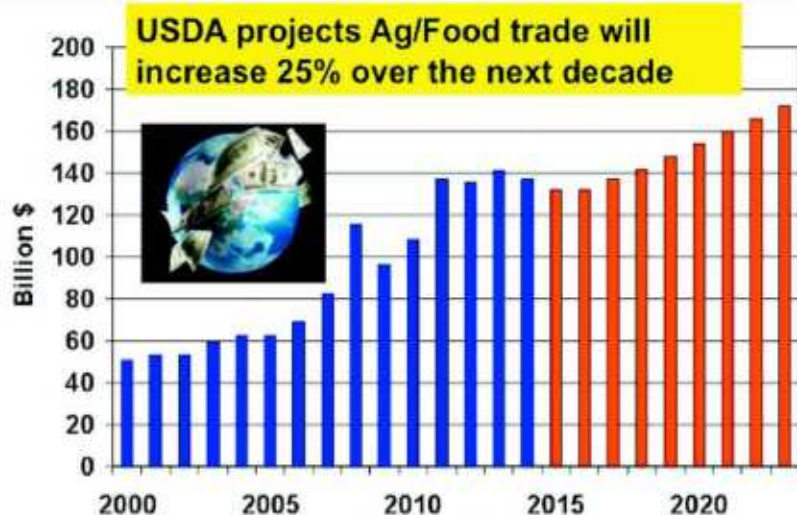
### The New Big Spenders

Middle Class Consumption – Top 10 Countries  
(billions of 2005 PPP\$ and global share)

	2009			2020			2030		
1	United States	4,377	21%	China	4,468	13%	India	12,777	23%
2	Japan	1,800	8%	United States	4,270	12%	China	9,985	18%
3	Germany	1,219	6%	India	3,733	11%	United States	3,969	7%
4	France	927	4%	Japan	2,203	6%	Indonesia	2,474	4%
5	United Kingdom	889	4%	Germany	1,361	4%	Japan	2,286	4%
6	Russia	870	4%	Russia	1,189	3%	Russia	1,448	3%
7	China	859	4%	France	1,077	3%	Germany	1,335	2%
8	Italy	740	3%	Indonesia	1,020	3%	Mexico	1,239	2%
9	Mexico	715	3%	Mexico	992	3%	Brazil	1,225	2%
10	Brazil	623	3%	United Kingdom	976	3%	France	1,119	2%

Source: The Emerging Middle Class in Developing Countries  
Homi Kharas, Brookings Institution, June XX, 2011

## U.S. Ag Exports



Source: ERS/USDA

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# Thank God for the squirrel



ONE  
VOICE

Sharon  
Burton

I considered how decisions we make today have an affect on our lives in the future, sometimes unexpected consequences.

I was driving through LaRue County last week when a squirrel decided to take a break in the middle of the lane just up ahead. I braked and took a quick look in the mirror to make sure the car behind me would also brake. I wanted to avoid the squirrel but if the choice came between squirrel guts on my front tire or a car wreck, I would just have to mourn the furry little creature. Thankfully, the woman behind me was alert and also slowed down. The squirrel, which was in no apparent hurry, finally scrambled back to the safety of a nearby field. I removed my foot from the brake and placed it on the gas pedal as my vehicle nudged over a rise. Before I could accelerate and just as I crested the rise, a deer leapt across the road. Knowing the golden rule of Kentucky country roads, I again went for the brake. We all know where there is a deer, there will usually be multiple deer. I reached the spot where the deer crossed and finally, deer number two decided to attempt a crossing. Right before me the smallest, most precious fawn crossed the highway on trembling legs. Had the squirrel not taken a leisurely stroll into the roadway, I could have had a terribly unpleasant experience with that deer. I can't imagine the emotional turmoil had I taken out that sweet little baby. As I finished my travels, I thought about the squirrel and the chain of events that followed. I considered how decisions we make today have an affect on our lives in the future, sometimes unexpected consequences. Some people probably believe in coincidence, but I tend to believe more in divine intervention. How many times have you had one of those "almost" moments and understood there was more at work than the human mind could understand? I got a little philosophical and even theological as I finished my trip to Elizabethtown, but I concluded that I didn't need to over think the whole thing. Instead, I just thanked God for the squirrel.

# Chicago council publishes strategy to adapt to climate change

The Chicago Council on Global Affairs outlines a series of strategies they believe will both mitigate the impact of climate change and advance global food security. The group examined the impact of human-induced climate change on agriculture—along with an overview of climate science—and the reasons that agriculture needs to take immediate steps to adapt to climate change, resulting in the publication, "Advancing Global Food Security in the Face of a Changing Climate" ([www.tinyurl.com/mb4pj5s](http://www.tinyurl.com/mb4pj5s)). While, in the next 35 years, many farmers will experience weather events that are beyond anything they have experienced to date, they will also have to contend with the increasing scarcity of inputs as well as volatility in the price of those inputs. During this same period, the need for agricultural products will increase because of a larger and more affluent population.

But the future need not be as bleak as this analysis suggests if decisions are made by "governments, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations" to help agriculture adapt to climate change. The publication then identifies a series of strategies that it believes will enhance food security, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and increase the resilience of agriculture as it faces unprecedented challenges. Increasing the level of agricultural research stands at the top of their list of strategies. The research program needs to include plants and animals, both domesticated and wild. The challenges researchers need to address are higher temperatures, increased weather variability, the efficient use of water, and growing crops on marginal soils, while increasing crop nutrition and yields. They call for the preservation of the germplasm of both plants and animals. To accomplish this, it will take both public and private research in the U.S. and in research centers and universities around the world. To guide the agenda of researchers and the strategies of producers, climate scientists will need to have access to a growing array of data to improve their models. The needed data include increases in weather variability, changes in ground-level ozone, increases in the salinization of soils and aquifers, increases in the prevalence of pests, and diseases, as well as the resistance of pests, pathogens and diseases to treatments. Other issues that will need to be incorporated into the models are changes beyond the farmgate like the disruption of food distri-



DARYLL E.  
RAY

University of  
Tennessee  
Ag Policy

To accomplish this, it will take both public and private research in the U.S. and in research centers and universities around the world.

SEE CHICAGO, PAGE 6

## The Farmer's Pride

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# Freedom to operate



KENTUCKY  
SOYBEAN  
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Ryan  
Bivens

What I don't agree with, though, is someone who has no experience, no background and no education (whether formal or school-of-hard-knocks) in agriculture presuming to tell me how I should farm.

I know that many of us are thinking about freedom, and this issue of *The Farmer's Pride* landing in your mailbox so close to Independence Day makes this topic a natural tie-in.

One of the four cornerstones of one of our national soybean organizations, the United Soybean Board, is Freedom to Operate, and the parallels between our nation's independence and the freedom granted to farmers comes to mind. USB's Freedom to Operate Action Team works hard to ensure that our industry and its customers have the freedom and infrastructure to operate, and, as a farmer, I'm awfully glad there is an organization at the national level that is concerned with protecting my freedom to make choices about the way I farm.

I realize that food and farming discussions are taking place around dinner tables and soccer fields across our nation, and I think that's great. People should care about what they feed their children (and themselves), and they should ask questions about where it comes from and how it's grown. People should know that cheeseburgers come from somewhere farther up the food supply chain than a drive-through window.

I think it's great that people are concerned about what's in their food, and I don't mind answering questions about topics like herbicides, pesticides and GMO technology. I'd certainly rather that, if one of my friends or neighbors has a question about farming practices, that they ask me or another farmer instead of believing whatever they find on the internet. There is so much misinformation about food and farming on the web, there's no way anyone could read through it all in a lifetime. The Kentucky Soybean Board partners with Kentucky Corn Growers in the CommonGround program, and one of the most powerful messages to come out of that program in recent years is "make food choices based on facts, not fear." I can't think of a better way to encourage people to do their homework instead of being influenced by those who may be on the fear bandwagon.

I encourage anyone who wonders about why we farmers do what we do, why we spray certain chemicals, why we grow (or don't grow) GMO soybeans and corn, to ask. Why do some farmers utilize no-till practices while others turn the previous crop under? Just ask!

What I don't agree with, though, is someone who has no experience, no background and no education (whether formal or school-of-hard-knocks) in agriculture presuming to tell me how I should farm. The farmers I know are good people. They are good stewards of the land, and they're trying to make a living for themselves and their families while providing safe and affordable food, feed and fuel for everyone else, while leaving the environment and land better than they found it! They make decisions on what they will grow and how they will grow it only after careful consideration and planning, and I can assure you that they're not easily influenced by a seed or chemical salesman.

So as the burgers are grilled and we celebrate the freedom that we enjoy, remember that Freedom to Operate is one specific freedom that we as farmers should all hold dear. God Bless America!

RYAN BIVENS is the president of Kentucky Soybean Association.

# Little useful information

At the end of every fiscal year, June 30, and the end of every calendar year, Dec. 31, readers claim this space to offer their views of my views.

Take Mike C. from Texas who, after I wrote a spring column on how climate change will affect food production in 2050, sent a parody of a similar story with the following opinion printed in large capital letters in its side margin:

"You socialists Democrats will fall for anything that Hussein Obama and those wacko scientists send down the pike... After we had one of the coldest winters on record, (you) conveniently changed 'global warming' to climate change."

A mid-February column on a U.S. Department of Agriculture investigation into an earlier USDA investigation—I didn't make that up: a USDA investigation into a USDA investigation—over shenanigans in the federally-chartered beef checkoff, brought a similar analysis of my work from Jim S. in Montana.

"When it comes to the beef industry, [Guebert's] ignorance of the topic is readily apparent... It's easy to tell when he is writing on a subject that's over his head, he resorts to sarcasm and name calling."

One veterinarian three time zones away in Delaware agrees. After a mid-March column on a pending USDA proposal to "allow poultry company employees to do the job currently done by 800 or so USDA inspectors" on slaughter lines, Dr. K. emailed a knuckle-cracking complaint.

"I have become accustomed to 'ill-informed articles' in the news media," it began, "but to be honest, I am surprised to see such a blatant lack of knowledge... Your article... is poorly researched verbiage. I read your article every week and will read it in the future with a 'jaundiced eye.'"

A late-April column that outlined how Big Food and Big Ag have parted company over the Humane Society of the U.S. and the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals brought a smoking hot email from John Y. from, well, he didn't say.

"PETA and HSUS are no friends of mine! Both these organizations are pegged to the LEFT. They are anti-gun, anti-hunting, anti-fishing, and anti-meat. Do you understand what that means to... ranchers and farmers? I do!"

One Illinois reader spent much of the long winter and delayed spring writing emails to me pointing out my "obvious" lack of skills as both a reporter and ag journalist. One mid-April grenade captures their tone well.

"As usual," it starts, "your column provided little useful information to operating farmers and farm crop-share landlords... I learn more in 15 minutes listening to (a local radio station) than I glean from reading a month's worth of your columns..."

Moreover, he added, "Please, no more columns on your farm childhood and your rural church. You are supposed to be a provider of agricultural information, not a wannabe novelist."



FOOD  
&  
FARM  
FILE

Alan  
Guebert

Moreover, he added, "Please, no more columns on your farm childhood and your rural church. You are supposed to be a provider of agricultural information, not a wannabe novelist."

SEE LITTLE, PAGE 6



# Wheat is the weakest link in grains



**MARKET WATCH**

**Dewey Strickler**

Prices are being pressured from harvest, which is 33 percent done, and improving conditions in the Black Sea region.

Corn futures are being plagued by the outlook for a record crop. Whether this occurs will partially be answered in the acreage report on June 30. In March, USDA estimated planted acres at 91.7 million. So far, the Corn Belt has been blessed with near ideal conditions with the exception of the upper Midwest which has seen excessive rain. In the meantime, 74 percent of the crop is rated in good-to-excellent condition, down two points from a week ago. However, this is well above the rating of 65 percent a year ago. According to Ag Watch’s yield model, we are looking at a yield of 166.7 bushels per acre versus USDA’s current projection of 165.3 bushels per acre.

In other developments, export inspections were down last week at 38.9 million bushels, running slightly below the pace needed to reach USDA’s target of 1.9 billion bushels. Meanwhile, the trend following funds have trimmed their long position to 355 million bushels reducing it 75 million bushels last week.

New crop soybeans have been resilient the past couple of weeks considering the decline in corn and wheat. This stems from the fact that old crop stocks remain tight. In the meantime, the crop is off to a good start, rated 72 percent in good to excellent condition, down one from a week ago. This is a strong rating compared to previous years. Keep in mind that the market’s resilience may change after the acreage report on June 30. In March, USDA projected planted acres at 81.5 million. However, because of the late start in

corn planting and the price relationship favoring soybeans early in the season, traders anticipate that planted acreage could be an additional 1-3 million. If it materializes and Mother Nature continues to cooperate, prices will not stay at these levels.

In other developments, export inspections were meager at 2.2 million bushels with China a no show again. However, shipments are on track for USDA’s target of 1.6 billion bushels. Meanwhile, the trend following funds is less friendly as they whacked 195 million bushels from their long position, reducing it to a token 5 million bushels.

Have you ever been in a crowded room and noticed a funny smell? It is probably wheat. Since May, the market has been under relentless selling pressure, and it looks like the trend will continue. Prices are being pressured from harvest, which is 33 percent done, and improving conditions in the Black Sea region. In addition, U.S. wheat is more expensive than the competition on the world market. Last week, the trend following funds increased their short position 10 million bushels to 265 million bushels, the largest since February. Meanwhile, export inspections were better than the previous week at 21.3 million bushels and are on track for reaching USDA’s target of 925 million bushels. Wheat is the weakest link in the grains and is adding to the woes in corn.

**DEWEY STRICKLER** is president of Ag Watch Market Advisors, LLC. Email Strickler at [agwatchdls@comcast.net](mailto:agwatchdls@comcast.net) or go online at [www.agwatch.biz](http://www.agwatch.biz).

# Little useful information

FROM PAGE 5

Most of 2014’s reader mail was friendlier. Several eagle-eyed readers wrote to thank me for posting links to column source material on the “In the News” page of the column’s website, [farmandfoodfile.com](http://farmandfoodfile.com).

“Thanks for setting what should be a universal standard for all opinion columns,” wrote Ken S. from Indiana.

Full disclosure: I do not post the links. I email them to the talented, no-fear team at Foxwell Digital, daughter Mary Grace and son-in-law Andrew Foxwell, who post them. They do electrons; I do pronouns.

Many readers wrote to ask about a before-mentioned book that collects the best of the “southern Illinois dairy farm of my youth” columns.

Officially, there’s nothing to report; unofficially, however, it’s a go with a spring 2015 release by (you didn’t read it here) a big university press. More information on the book will be posted on the website when it becomes, ah, official.

In the meantime, keep those emails and letters coming. After all, you have another “reader” column to write in six months.

**ALAN GUEBERT** publishes a weekly column Farm and Food File in more than 70 newspapers. Contact Alan Guebert by email at [ag-comm@farmandfoodfile.com](mailto:ag-comm@farmandfoodfile.com).

## Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor longer than 500 words are welcomed. Letters and will be edited for must include the au- clarity. thor’s name, address and Send letters to Editor, phone number for verifi- The Farmer’s Pride, P. O. cation purposes. Box 159, Columbia, Ky. Letters should be no 42728.

# Chicago council publishes strategy to adapt to climate change

FROM PAGE 4

bution channels and social unrest. The scale of farming operations around the world goes from mega-operations that have access to hundreds of thousands of hectares to those that operate on fractions of a hectare. The large industrial-like operations produce the bulk of the agricultural products in commercial trade, while the vast majority of farmers operate on small plots of land. For research and policies to be effective, they must be tailored to the individual farm whether it is large or small, high-tech or low-tech.

The report identifies a number of ex-

isting technologies that could be used by smaller farmers if local circumstances were taken into account. In addition there are existing practices that farmers on larger operations could begin to use immediately. Together farmers could begin to adapt to climate change even before the fruits of increased research become available. One point the report highlights is the importance of recognizing the contribution women can make “in enhancing agricultural productivity and resilience.” In addition, “the financial needs of smallholder farmers must be met.”

The report issues a word of warning about policies that hinder food security.

These include the pricing of agricultural inputs—by subsidies or taxes—as well as policies that interfere with agricultural trade and the transmission of price signals to farmers as production areas change in response to a changing climate.

The report points out that “Although future weather patterns remain uncertain, some climate change adaptation can already be built into infrastructure design for agriculture. It is usually much cheaper to build with likely climate change in mind than to retrofit. Some examples follow:

“New rural roads should be built to withstand higher temperatures and

more extreme events.

“Dams and irrigation systems should be designed for more extreme rainfall events.

“Construction of levies and coastal defenses for countries such as Bangladesh and Vietnam should be built for rising sea levels.

“‘Soft’ landscape engineering such as the planting of riverine forests should be considered in flood control projects.

“Passive policy measures such as the preservation of forests, natural grasslands, and mangroves should be put into place.”

SEE **WHERE**, NEXT PAGE

# Canola company seeks growers

**FROM PAGE 1**

this fall and will initially crush and process 150 tons of canola oilseeds per day. A second phase of the project will include increasing the facility's crushing capacity and building a vegetable oil refining plant, which is expected to be operational by early 2017.

"I applaud Hart AgStrong for selecting Kentucky to expand its canola oilseed operations," said Roger Thomas, executive director of the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy. "As a result of Hart AgStrong's agribusiness investment in our state, the commonwealth's farmers will have enhanced crop opportunities, our hard-working Kentuckians will benefit from

the new job growth and Kentucky's overall economy will receive a healthy boost."

Rice says adding canola to the crop rotation seems to help with soil health. "In canola there is a lot of talk about soil health," Rice said. "Many producers have seen a 2.5 bushel increase to double crop beans by adding canola."

Rice said because canola is part of the brassica family, it gives off pathogens that prevent or suppress nematodes. Studies have shown that producers often times will get a better bean crop if canola is part of their winter crop rotation.

The new initiative has some farmers recalling an attempt to grow canola in

Kentucky two decades ago.

According to Rice, even though the market didn't last, it proved that canola could succeed here.

The market was limited to a refinery in Canada, however, and transportation costs ate into farmers' profits.

"It was a marketing problem," Rice said. "With AgStrong coming in, they have solved a lot of that problem."

Hybrid canola is now available, which offers better disease resistance and winter heartiness, something Rice says is a good thing for the canola industry in Kentucky. Carrie Knott, a small grains specialist with University of Kentucky in Princeton, says the problems in the 1980s also stemmed from not having the correct canola for Kentucky climate. She said that now there is more available on the market and several western Kentucky farmers have found a version of canola that works well in our area.

"Many of the southern states have had huge success with canola," Knott said, "It's a different crop that helps add diversity."

Knott also said that while exact yields are not yet available, it appears that those who had canola crops during the long brutal winter seem to have survived without a lot of damage.

"You also get better yields in your double crop gains with canola than with wheat," Knott said, "When they researched it in the 1980s they saw an average of a five to seven bushel increase on double crop soybeans all the way up to 16 bushels."

"It does have a longer rotation period," Knott said, "But it is a bit more profitable."

**Toni Humphress**  
toni@thefarmerspride.com

## Chicago council publishes strategy to adapt to climate change

**FROM PAGE 6**

place."

This section of the report concludes that agriculture can make a significant contribution to slowing global warming while "supporting food and nutrition security." Farmers can intensify production on existing land rather than increasing the land area under production, avoiding the surge in greenhouse gas emission that results from bringing new land into production. This strategy would include the remediation of farmland that has become degraded due to a

variety of circumstances.

Improved animal feeding practices can reduce greenhouse gas emissions. "In some parts of the world, meat consumption can be reduced to slow the growth of agricultural emissions," the report points out. Improved water and fertilizer management can also help mitigate climate change while improving food security.

**DARYLL E. RAY** is the director of UT's Agricultural Policy Analysis Center.

*Cowritten with Harwood D. Schaffer, Research Assistant Professor, University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture.*

**See a complete list of upcoming meetings about the contract opportunity with Hart AgStrong on page 12.**

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## We should all be bold before God

David's boldness is dramatic. He goes before God with confidence and conviction - not fearing what God may uncover in his heart. "Hear me, O Lord - my plea is just and my prayer does not rise from deceitful lips." Most of us, when we go to God in prayer, begin with a plea for forgiveness, knowing that our lives fall short of God's expectations and our best efforts.

David, in this Psalm, had no fear of God. He said that "You, God, have probed my heart, examined me at night, have tested me and found no evil plans within me!" That's boldness that we can actually see! Few of us would stand before God and make such statements! How was it that David could ask God to put him under His magnifying glass and have no fear? Was he a favorite of God's? Did he do something that gave him special privileges in God's sight? Or was he so aware of God's love, mercy and grace that he could stand before God and say, "Judge me! I've been cleansed of my sin!"

David prayed for God's presence to be with him and His eyes to be upon him. And we, as David, can make that same claim! Not because we have a clear conscience or a just plea. Not because God has examined and found us faultless.

We can ask for God's presence and His favors because we have a Savior who cleanses us from all unrighteousness and who pleads our cause before His Father. "In Him and through faith in Him we may approach God with freedom and confidence," said Paul.

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## Grilled New York Strip

with Virginia Bacon Brown Butter Sauce and Balsamic Drizzle

**1 1/2 inch thick cut New York strip steak**  
**1/2 teaspoon kosher salt and freshly cracked pepper**  
**2 tablespoons unsalted butter**

Season both sides of steak with salt and pepper. Allow steaks to sit for 30 minutes at room temperature.

For butter sauce, take 1 tablespoon each of butter and bacon, and sauté in pan to render fat out of bacon, browning and crisping it. Drain fat from pan, leaving bacon. Add remaining 1 tablespoon of butter to sauté pan with bacon and brown butter over high heat.

For balsamic drizzle, place vinegar in sauce pan and reduce to 1/4 cup or until it coats spoon.

Set up fire for direct grilling with Kingsford charcoal. While grill heats, remove steaks from refrigerator to

**2 strips of thick cut Virginia bacon, sliced into 1/4-inch strips**  
**1/2 cup balsamic vinegar**

come to room temperature.

When briquets are burning hot, pour coals into bottom grill and place grate on top. Once grill has reached 700°F, place steak on grill and cook for approximately 6 minutes, then flip. Cook approximately 6 minutes more and then flip again. Cook for about 5 minutes more, flip and cook until steak reaches an internal temp of 126°F for medium rare steak.

Allow steak to rest for 5 minutes. Spoon bacon brown butter sauce over steak and drizzle with balsamic reduction. Serve hot.

## Greek Potato Salad

**4 medium Idaho potatoes, peeled and cut into 1/2-inch chunks**  
**8 ounces stem ends trimmed green beans, cut into 1-inch lengths**  
**3/4 cup buttermilk**  
**2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil**  
**1/2 teaspoon grated lemon zest**  
**1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice**  
**1/2 teaspoon salt**  
**1 large cucumber, peeled, halved lengthwise, seeded and thinly sliced**  
**1 cup cherry tomatoes, halved**  
**1 medium red onion, halved and thinly sliced**  
**1/4 cup snipped fresh dill**  
**4 ounces feta cheese, crumbled**

In large pot of boiling salted water, cook potatoes about 12 minutes, until crisp-tender. Add green beans and cook 2 minutes longer. Drain well.

Meanwhile, in large bowl, whisk together buttermilk, olive oil, lemon zest, lemon juice and salt. Add potatoes and green beans and toss gently to coat.

Add cucumber, tomatoes, red onion and dill; tossing gently. Cool to room temperature. Sprinkle feta at serving time.

Recipes courtesy of  
**familyfeatures**  
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# USDA announces new support for beginning farmers and ranchers

LEXINGTON, – U.S. Agriculture Deputy Secretary Krysta Harden announced the implementation of new farm bill measures and other policy changes to improve the financial security of new and beginning farmers and ranchers.

Harden also unveiled [www.usda.gov/newfarmers](http://www.usda.gov/newfarmers), a new website that will provide a centralized, one-stop resource where beginning farmers and ranchers can explore the variety of USDA initiatives designed to help them succeed.

“New and beginning farmers are the future of American agriculture,” said Harden. “The average age of an American farmer is 58 and rising, so we must help new farmers get started if America is going to continue feeding the world and maintain a strong agriculture economy. The new policies announced today will help give beginning farmers the financial security they need to succeed. Our new online tool will provide one-stop shopping for beginning farmers to learn more about accessing USDA services that can help their operations thrive.”

USDA’s [www.usda.gov/newfarmers](http://www.usda.gov/newfarmers) has in depth information for new farmers and ranchers, including, how to increase access to land and capital; build new market opportunities; participate in conservation opportunities; select and use the right risk management tools; and access USDA education, and technical support programs. These issues have been identified as top priorities by new farmers. The website will also feature instructive case studies about beginning farmers who have successfully used USDA resources to start or expand their business operations.

Policy announcements in support of beginning farmers and ranchers include:

– Waiving service fees for new and beginning farmers or ranchers to enroll in the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program for the 2014 crop year. NAP provides risk management tools to farmers who grow crops for which there is no crop insurance product. Under this waiver, announced via an official notice to Farm Service Agency offices, farmers and ranchers

‘New and beginning farmers are the future of American agriculture’

Krysta Harden  
U.S. Agriculture Deputy Secretary

whom already enrolled in NAP for the 2014 crop year are eligible for a service fee refund.

– Eliminating payment reductions under the Conservation Reserve Program for new and beginning farmers which will allow routine, prescribed, and emergency grazing outside the primary nesting season on enrolled land consistent with approved conservation plans. Previously, farmers and ranchers grazing on CRP land were subject to a reduction in CRP payments of up to 25 percent. Waiving these reductions for new and beginning farmers will provide extra financial support during times of emergency like drought and other natural disasters.

– Increasing payment rates to beginning farmers and ranchers under Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program. Under this provision, beginning farmers can claim up to 90 percent of losses for lost livestock, such as bees, under ELAP. This is a 50 percent increase over previously available payment amounts to new and beginning farmers.

In the near future, USDA will also announce additional crop insurance program changes for beginning

farmers and ranchers – including discounted premiums, waiver of administrative fees, and other benefits.

These policy announcements are made possible through the 2014 farm bill. Since enactment, USDA has made significant progress to implement each provision of this legislation, including providing disaster relief to farmers and ranchers; strengthening risk management tools; expanding access to rural credit; funding critical research; establishing innovative public-private conservation partnerships; developing new markets for rural-made products; and investing in infrastructure, housing and community facilities to help improve quality of life in rural America. For more information, visit [www.usda.gov/farmbill](http://www.usda.gov/farmbill).

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Wednesday, July 9 - 8 a.m.-10 a.m. at Caldwell County Extension, 1025 62 W., Princeton, Ky. and Noon-2 p.m. at Purchase Area Development District, 1002 Medical Dr., Mayfield, Ky.  
Thursday, July 10 - 7:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m. at Schochoh Community Center, 2570 Schochoh Rd., Adairville, Ky. and Noon-2 p.m. at Jerry's Restaurant, Exit 28 (Corvette Museum Exit) in Bowling Green, Ky.  
Friday, July 11 - 7:30 a.m.-9 a.m. at Petro/Restaurant, 554 Glendale-Hodgenville Rd. West, Glendale, Ky. and Noon-2 p.m. at Steyer Seeds, 229 W. MLK Dr., Lebanon, Ky.  
Wednesday, July 16 - 7:30 a.m.-10 a.m. at Rice AgriMarketing, 720 Hwy. 431, Livermore, Ky. and Noon-2 p.m. at Feed Mill Restaurant, 3541 Hwy. 60, Morganfield, Ky.

  
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