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AUGUST 21, 2014

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A group of Mercer County FFA students ran into Steven Olt, of Greensburg, during the Kentucky State Fair last week and tapped into his vast knowledge about dairy judging. The team asked for tips to help prepare for state competition. Shown with Olt are Taylor Gray, Ashlin Kendrick, Taylor Worthington, Emily Hamilton and advisor Michael Jones.

STATE FAIR TIME! Agriculture shines during 11-day event

LOUISVILLE – Kentucky commodity groups, agriculture officials and FFA and 4-H students from across the commonwealth are hard at work sharing a positive message about Kentucky agriculture during the 11-day Kentucky State Fair.

The annual event attracts more than 600,000 people for concerts, exhibits, livestock shows, food and mid-way rides. Scattered throughout the 1.2 million sq. ft. of space, fairgoers learn about Kentucky agriculture through commodity-sponsored events, farm-fresh foods and livestock competitions.

The fair opened Thursday, Aug. 14 with a commodity

appreciation breakfast, which was attended by Gov. Steve Beshear, Agriculture Commissioner James Comer and Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer.

Kentucky's commodity groups dished out fresh products for breakfast during the free event, with lamb sausage added to the menu for the first time.

Mayor Fischer updated the crowd on Louisville's local food movement and said there is demand for another \$500 million in local foods in addition to what is currently marketed in Louisville.

Gov. Beshear mentioned economic development successes across the state that provide markets for Ken-

tucky products, including a new specialty milk processing facility in Laurel County and a Champion pet foods facility in Logan County.

Commissioner Comer called agriculture recession-proof, noting that farm sales have increased to \$6 billion.

"We're creating jobs, paying taxes and we're doing everything right as a state," Comer said.

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture Home-grown by Heroes program is on display at the state fair

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AGSTRAVAGANZA: LaRue County spotlights farm community **12.**

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Corn, soybean production drop forecast

LOUISVILLE, – A double-digit drop in corn and soybean production by Kentucky farmers is being predicted in a new report.

Corn production in the state is forecast at 200 million bushels, down 18 percent from the prior year.

Soybean production for Kentucky is forecast at 67.6 million bushels, a 17 percent drop from 2013.

The predictions are in a report from the National Agricultural Statistics Service’s field office in Kentucky.

It estimates statewide corn yield at 138 bushels per acre, down 32 bushels from 2013.

Soybean yield is estimated at 40 bushels per acre, down 9.5 bushels from a year ago.

Kentucky burley tobacco production is forecast at 153 million pounds, up 4 percent from last year.

Hay production is forecast to be down from last year due to lower yields.

Food heroes honored

FROM PAGE 3

great Kentucky Proud food?” Commissioner Comer said. “I’m excited to invite everyone out to the state fair this year because we have a lot of new things going on and a lot to be proud of.”

“Our Local Food Heroes help meet an increasing demand for local food in Louisville and across Kentucky,” Mayor Fischer said. “Locally grown food connects and strengthens rural and urban economies, benefits our bodies, and ultimately builds a stronger community.”

“This initiative and these honorees underscore the agricultural foundation of the Kentucky State Fair, and we appreciate this opportunity to welcome these food heroes,” Rippetoe said.

The Local Food Hero Awards are in their second year. The awards are a partnership of the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, Seed Capital Kentucky, and Louisville Metro, and are sponsored by Farm Credit Mid-America.

“This year, we had a 20 percent increase in the number of votes and lots of enthusiastic support for all of our farmers,” said Caroline Heine of Seed Capital Kentucky. “These farmers are loved and appreciated, and this contest is a way to publicly thank them for their efforts.”

The 2013 Kentucky Local Food Heroes were Ramsi Kamar of Louisville, Michael Lewis of Berea, and Clay Turner of Russellville. They will be honored in a Farm to Table Dinner Aug. 18 at Ramsi’s Café on the World in Louisville.

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Algal blooms pose danger to livestock

LEXINGTON, – Recent news reports of unsafe drinking water in the Great Lakes area has drawn national attention to toxic algal blooms. In Kentucky, cyanobacteria, also known as blue-green algae, recently were found in Green River Lake, Taylorsville Lake, Barren River Lake, Nolin Reservoir and Rough River Lake at levels that prompted a recreational advisory.

Algal blooms are accumulated populations of algae in freshwater and marine water environments. They can reduce water quality, so animals might not drink as much as they need to get them through the hot, dry summer. Of the more than 2,000 species of blue-green algae identified, at least 80 are known to produce cyanotoxins (poisons) that can seriously affect animal and human health.

“Although algal blooms can occur at any time of the year, they happen most often in the warmer months of June through September,” said Michelle Arnold, ruminant veterinarian for the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment. “In

freshwater, the majority of harmful algal blooms are caused by cyanobacteria.”

Blue-green algae naturally exist in wet places. They thrive in warm, stagnant, nutrient rich water and are found often in ponds, lakes and slow moving rivers.

While not all algae are harmful, farm ponds contaminated with fertilizer runoff or direct manure and urine are the perfect environment for harmful blue-green algae. When the weather is hot and dry, rapid growth of the algae can result in a “bloom,” or a build-up of algae that creates a green, blue-green, white or brown coloring on the surface of the water. It may look like a floating layer of paint. If it’s windy, the algal blooms may concentrate along the water’s edge, which increases the risk for livestock to ingest the algae when they come down to the pond for a drink.

“Environmental factors such as water temperature, sunlight, water pH and nutrient concentration all affect when toxins will be produced,” Arnold said. “Cyanotoxins can affect the liver and nervous system and have been implicated in illness and human and livestock

‘Although algal blooms can occur at any time of the year, they happen most often in the warmer months of June through September,’

Michelle Arnold
ruminant veterinarian
University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

death in at least 35 states and in more than 50 countries worldwide.”

Animals that consume affected water may die suddenly or suffer from weakness, staggering or photosensitization depending on the toxin and how much they ingested.

A few simple steps can keep livestock, pets and humans safe from algae poisoning. Always assume that a blue-green algal bloom is toxic. Provide clean, fresh water to animals and fence off their access to stagnant, scum-covered ponds.

“Fencing off natural water sources and providing alternative water sources really is your best option,” said Amanda

Gumbert, UKAg extension water quality liaison. “Don’t allow your animals to contaminate the water with feces and urine. Prevent fertilizer or manure runoff from entering water sources. Phosphorus is particularly important in fueling cyanobacteria growth.”

If the water source is treated with an algaecide such as copper sulfate, prevent animal access for at least a week to allow degradation of any released toxins in the water. It is best to wait until ponds are no longer stagnant before allowing

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AGSTRAVAGANZA RETURNS

Second LaRue County event showcases local farms and their products

The second LaRue County AGstravaganza is in the books, and what a day it was!

This second-year event was the brainchild of Kentucky Department of Agriculture Ag Education, Farm Safety and Farmland Preservation Director, Dale Dobson.

Dobson, who travels throughout the state educating school-age children about agriculture, said “kids these days think that milk comes from the grocery store, and it’s up to the ag community to correct that thought.”

Dobson said he attended a farmers’ market celebration in Campbell County a couple of years ago, saw how the farmers there opened their farms up so that people could see for themselves how the food was grown, and he brought that idea home to LaRue County, where he is a director on the local Farm Bureau board.

“I knew there were people here in LaRue County who could make this happen,” he said. “We didn’t just jump in. I presented my ideas and some of the other directors added in some more and we built this thing up together.”

Dobson said it took about 18 months from the initial meeting to the kickoff of the first AGstravaganza, which was held last year, and that he and co-chair Misty Bivens of Fresh Start Farms were happy with the results.

SEE **AGSTRAVAGANZA**, PAGE 15



Photo by Rae Wagoner

Ryan Bivens, president of the Kentucky Soybean Association, and summer interns Jacey Gill of Caldwell County and Victoria Mohon of Muhlenberg County, were on hand at the AGstravaganza. The interns are studying at the Murray State University Hutson School of Agriculture.



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kycorn CONNECTION

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

Research and Water Quality Update Sessions Provided at UK Field Day

On July 31, the University of Kentucky held their annual Corn, Soybean and Tobacco Field Day at the Princeton Research and Education Center.

Several sessions proved to be of particular interest to KyCorn. Chad Lee provided an update on UK's corn population and yield study, showcasing the planter purchased by KyCorn to aid the research.

Field day participants were also provided a variety of water quality and nutrient management issues sessions such as updates on hypoxia and TMDLs, water quality plans, and farmer engagement.

KyCorn's Adam Andrews presented with Brent Burchett (Ky Soybean Association), Amanda Gumbert (UK College of Ag Environmental and Natural Resource Issues) and the newest UK extension specialist Josh McGrath.

"This area of the program allowed KyCorn the opportunity to showcase our involvement and share with producers the need to continue their engagement in the issues of Waters of the U.S. and nutrient strategies," said KyCorn Executive

Director Laura Knoth. "It was also a good reminder that all farms 10 acres or greater need an Ag Water Quality Plan and the protections they provide if a water quality problem occurs."

KyCorn appreciates the cooperation with industry experts and professionals to provide critical and quality educational programs for Kentucky's farmers.



This planter, purchased by KyCorn for use in University of Kentucky research, was displayed at the UK Corn, Soybean and Tobacco Field Day. Dr. Chad Lee gave an update on corn research trials being conducted across the state.



Photo of corn in Hardin Co. research trial tweeted by Chad Lee (@KentuckyCrops).

Ky. Corn Production Down, but Better than Expected

While we knew reproducing last year's record 243 million bushel crop was not likely this year, the August 12 USDA-NASS crop report provided us a better prediction than expected.

Corn production in Kentucky was forecast at 200 million bushels, down 18 percent from the previous crop. Yield was estimated at 138 bushels per acre, down 32 bushels from the 2013 level. Acres for harvest as grain were estimated at 1.45 million acres, up 20,000 acres from 2013.

Rain has been scarce in much of our largest corn growing areas, especially along the southern tier.

Following an informal poll of growers from across the state, we anticipated the average yield for 2014 to be about 130 bushels per acre.

U.S. corn production was forecast at 14.0 billion bushels, up 1 percent from 2013. If realized, this will be the highest U.S. production on record. Based on conditions as of August 1, yields are expected to average 167.4 bushels per acre, up 8.6 bushels from 2013. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 83.8 million acres, unchanged from June but down 4 percent from 2013.

Across the nation, the corn crop is rated 73% good to excellent. In Kentucky, USDA-NASS reported only 57% rating good to excellent.

Be sure to follow us on Twitter (@kycornfed) for the latest crop updates provided by USDA-NASS, University of Kentucky agronomists and producers. You can also watch the Twitter feed on our website at www.kycorn.org.

CORE Program Provides Intense Learning Session for Growers



UK Extension Soils Specialist Lloyd Murdock presented to CORE participants.

Participants of the CORE Farmer Program spent a few days last month with some of UK's best extension researchers and instructors at Princeton. This was session four, marking the halfway point of the current program.

Most of the curriculum for this session was spent in the field with hands-on demonstrations. The topics selected by the 17 classmates for this seminar included fragipan remediation, drought stress, pushing populations, controlling Palmer pigweed, and utilizing litter.

Come December, the class will take a bus tour of Georgia agriculture. The 6-day trek will include a visit to Randy Dowdy's perennial National Corn Yield Contest winning farm, and in-depth view of the cotton industry, exports and a water resources conversation in the Apalachicola estuary. Two more seminars will follow in January and February 2015.

The process to enroll Class 4 of the CORE Farmer Program is planned to begin in March. To inquire about how to apply for this program, contact Adam Andrews at adam@kycorn.org or 502-742-2036.

Kentucky Cattlemen's Association awards youth scholarship



KCA President Steve Downs (left) and Gov. Steve Beshear (right) present certificates (from left), Victoria Floyd, Garrard County High School graduate; Megan Terry, Bullitt Central High School graduate; Benjamin Hunt, Boyle County High School graduate; Julia Scott, Hart County High School graduate; Elizabeth Hinton, Breckinridge County High School graduate.

Lexington, Ky., –The Kentucky Cattlemen's Association has been a long time supporter of youth across the state through FFA, 4-H and scholarships. Five scholarships are awarded each year to one graduating high school senior from each of the five KCA regions who plan to major in agriculture or an agriculturally-related subject. These scholarships are funded by the Kentucky Cattlemen's Foundation.

The KCF Youth Scholarship started in 1991 and has provided \$93,000 in scholarship funds to students across Kentucky.

The 2014 KCF Youth Scholarship recipients received their award during the Commodity Breakfast at the Kentucky State Fair last week. Each recipient received a 1,000 scholarship towards their college education. The Region 1 winner was Elizabeth Hinton from Falls of Rough, a graduate from Breckinridge County High School. Hinton is attending the University of Kentucky majoring in

agriculture economics. The Region 2 winner was Julia Scott from Munfordville, a graduate from Hart County High School. Scott is attending the University of Kentucky majoring in agriculture. The Region 3 winner was Megan Terry from Shepherdsville, a graduate from Bullitt Central High School. Terry is attending Murray State University majoring in agriculture education. The Region 4 winner was Victoria Floyd from Lancaster, a graduate from Garrard County High School. Floyd is attending Asbury University majoring in pre veterinary medicine. The Region 5 winner was Benjamin Hunt from Danville, a graduate from Boyle County High School. Hunt is attending the University of Kentucky majoring in accounting. The Kentucky Cattlemen's Foundation would like to thank all the participants who applied for the foundation scholarship this year and would like to congratulate the 2014 Foundation Scholarship winners.

Algal blooms pose danger to livestock

FROM PAGE 11

animals to drink from it.

"Creating and maintaining natural buffers, such as trees and shrubs between farmland, housing developments and waterways can help filter out excess nitrogen and phosphorous before they reach the water," said Steve Higgins, director of environmental compliance for the UK Agricultural Experiment Station.

To protect humans, don't swim in water with scum layers or blooms and avoid jet skiing, windsurfing, tubing or water skiing over scum or blooms. Don't use untreated water for drinking, cleaning food or washing camping gear. Boiling water will not remove algal toxins. Thoroughly wash any skin that comes into contact with a bloom. Don't eat shellfish caught or harvested from a bloom area.

Farmers who notice algal blooms in ponds intended for livestock use should get the water tested. Not all algal blooms produce toxins.

"Many algal blooms in Kentucky are composed of harmless green algae that may look like underwater moss, stringy

mats or floating scum," Gumbert said. "It is impossible to tell just by looking at the pond if it contains blue-green algae."

The UK Veterinary Diagnostic Lab can accept water samples and forward them to referral labs to identify blue-green algae and test for toxins.

Visit <http://vdl.uky.edu/TestInformation.aspx> and search under "Toxicology"

for further information regarding sampling and pricing.

"Unfortunately, testing water for an actual toxin is problematic, because toxins are not uniformly distributed in the water source," Arnold said. "Testing can be quite expensive and there are many blue-green algae toxins for which no diagnostic tests exist. To be safe, always

assume that a blue-green algal bloom has the potential to be toxic."

For more information, visit the Environmental Protection Agency website <http://www2.epa.gov/nutrient-policy-data/cyanotoxins>.

By Aimee Nielson
University of Kentucky

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AGstravaganza returns in LaRue County

FROM PAGE 12

“And it gave us something to build on,” he said. LaRue County Farm Bureau President Kevin McCubbin was on board from the start. “Dale has always told us about the different programs he sees all around the state,” McCubbin said, “and we wanted to take the best parts from each of those events to create our own. We wanted to show our community where our food comes from, and also to show them the stewardship principles that farmers use every day – the conservation of land, water and other resources that make us responsible caretakers of the land.” LaRue County won a national Farm Bureau award for last year’s event, and McCubbin said that he’s answered a lot of questions from other Farm Bureau counties across the country on how to start an event such as this.

Dobson chimed in with some keys to success. “Number one,” he said, “is that everyone involved with this is great at staying in their own lane. By that, I mean if you have a job to do, you go do it and I don’t follow around behind you, checking up. Letting people take pride in their part of the event is important.”

Another key point Dobson made is that tours should be convenient for the attendees, not necessarily on the farmers’ schedule. “Last year my daughter and some of her nurse friends made some stops on the tour,” he said. “They were planning and they had to squeeze in a soccer game and somebody’s wedding shower and something else, but by having come-and-go tours instead of a really structured way of doing things, they were able to visit several farms that day.”

As often happens, Dale Dobson said it best. “LaRue County AGstravaganza is a day where we open up our homes and farms to our family and friends to come and see what we do on a daily basis in production agriculture.”

Promotion of an event of this magnitude is key, and Dobson, McCubbin and Ryan Bivens could not say enough about the promotion and coverage AGstravaganza has received.

“Allison Shepherd down at the LaRue County Herald has been just great,” Bivens said. “She is a big believer in agriculture, and she has been behind this thing all the way. She printed up a special section in the paper this week, and put the map in there to all of the stops, and had a story and picture of every farm on the tour.”

Kentucky Soybean was well represented. In addition to Kentucky Soybean Association director Caleb Ragland and president Ryan Bivens opening their farms to the public, former director Aaron Reding of Homestead Family Farms did, as well.

Kentucky soybean staff and summer interns were on hand to pass out literature and answer questions about soybeans and their many uses, while the LaRue County FFA Chapter turned out in full force to do everything from empty trash to park cars.

Despite an hour-long downpour, the evening’s grand finale went off well. Country recording artist and na-



Ashley Reding of Homestead Family Farms explains her family’s farm operation to visitors.

tive of nearby Taylorsville, J.D. Shelburne, rocked the stage with his first hit single, titled... what else? FARMBOY.

By Rae Wagoner
Kentucky Soybean Promotion Board

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Advanced grazing school to reinforce seasonal grazing options

LEXINGTON – Fall and winter are quickly approaching. Producers who want to receive research-based information and tips to extend the grazing season for their ruminant animals can attend the Advanced Kentucky Grazing School Sept. 11 at the University of Kentucky Eden Shale Farm in Owenton.

The one-day event, hosted by specialists with the UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, targets producers who have participated in at least one other UK grazing program.

During the program, participants will receive in-depth information and important grazing concept re-

mindings from UK forage and animal specialists and agriculture and natural resources agents with the UK Cooperative Extension Service. The school begins at 8:30 a.m. EDT.

Topics include seed suppression, fall grazing, creep grazing alfalfa, and managed intensive grazing. The program will also include demonstrations and hands-on activities.

Participants must preregister by Sept. 1.

The registration fee is \$15. For a complete agenda, farm directions, lodging options and registration forms, visit the UK Master Grazer website at

www2.ca.uky.edu/grazer/ or contact Cody Smith, UK Master Grazer coordinator, at 859-257-7512 or cody.smith@uky.edu. Mail registration forms and a check payable to the Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council to Cody Smith, 804 W.P. Garrigus Building, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40546-0215.

Grazing school sponsors include the Master Grazer Educational Program, UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund, Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council.

KCA requests referendum for \$1 assessment

FRANKFORT — The Kentucky Cattlemen's Association has asked the Kentucky State Board of Agriculture for approval to conduct a statewide referendum of Kentucky beef cattle producers on a proposed state assessment of \$1 per head of cattle marketed in the state.

The request is on the agenda for the board's meeting Aug. 21 in Louisville. If the board approves the request, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture will be required by state law to conduct the referendum.

In a letter dated Aug. 11, KCA Executive Vice President Dave Maples wrote that the assessment would be used "to promote [and] stimulate, by research, market development, and education, the use and sale, domestic and foreign, of bovine animal products." If approved by producers, the assessment would become effective April 1, 2015.

Dairy plant in the works for Laurel County

FRANKFORT. (AP) – A dairy processing plant planned for southeastern Kentucky intends to develop a low-calorie, lactose-free skim milk produced from Kentucky cows.

Kentucky Dairy Product Innovations

will open its plant in Laurel County where it has a lease-purchase agreement to acquire a 12,000-square-foot facility.

Gov. Steve Beshear's office says the company plans to hire up to 20 workers and invest nearly \$4 million.

The company expects to be operational by the end of the year.

Beshear's office says the company's initial customer will be Fizza, which is also based in London. It produces a sparkling dairy nutrient beverage ap-

proved for sale at middle and high schools. The beverage is being co-packed by Prairie Farms Dairy of Somerset. The state has approved tax incentives of up to \$200,000 for the project.

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Blue Grass East

Mt. Sterling, KY

August 13, 2014

Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1

62 hd. 793# 219.50 mixed

Blue Grass of Albany

Albany, KY

August 13, 2014

Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

25 hd. 511# 259.25 blk
51 hd. 702# 225.00 blk
68 hd. 722# 221.50 mixed
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Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2

24 hd. 543# 240.10 blk
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Paris Stockyards

Paris, KY

August 14, 2014

Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

22 hd. 814# 209.25 blk
28 hd. 876# 200.75 blk

Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2

81 hd. 628# 224.00 mixed
100 hd. 787# 206.00 mixed

Farmers Livestock

Glasgow, KY

August 11, 2014

Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

23 hd. 442# 267.50 blk
24 hd. 453# 281.00 mixed
49 hd. 516# 245.50 blk
20 hd. 590# 238.00 blk
37 hd. 646# 240.50 mixed

Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2

32 hd. 375# 259.50 blk
67 hd. 450# 239.60 blk
30 hd. 449# 235.50 mixed
23 hd. 472# 238.00 mixed
57 hd. 515# 227.00 blk
26 hd. 587# 220.75 blk

Feeder Bulls: Medium & Large 1-2

45 hd. 434# 263.50 blk
30 hd. 511# 241.00 blk
33 hd. 587# 225.50 blk

Mid-KY Livestock Market

Upton, KY

August 12, 2014

Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

20 hd. 730# 222.00 blk

Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2

20 hd. 351# 253.50 blk
18 hd. 409# 247.50 blk
21 hd. 510# 216.50 blk
25 hd. 561# 210.00 blk

Feeder Bulls: Medium & Large 1-2

25 hd. 358# 270.00 blk
18 hd. 463# 231.50 blk
21 hd. 512# 225.00 blk

Producers Livestock Auction Co, San Angelo, Texas August 13, 2014; Compared to last week slaughter lambs firm to 5.00 higher. Slaughter ewes weak to 4.00 lower. Feeder lambs firm to 4.00 higher. Nannies weak to 2.00 lower. Kids weak. Trading and demand moderate. All slaughter lambs went to non-traditional markets. All sheep and goats sold per hundred weight (CWT) unless otherwise specified.

New Holland Sales Stables - New Holland, PA August 11, 2014; Compared to last week, Slaughter lambs sold mostly 10.00-20.00 lower. Demand was light. Slaughter ewes sold mostly steady. Demand was moderate. Slaughter kids sold mostly firm. Demand was moderate. Nannies traded mostly 10.00-20.00 higher. All Goats are sold by the head on estimated weights.

New Holland Sales Stables - New Holland, PA August 11, 2014; Compared to last week, Slaughter lambs sold mostly 10.00-20.00 lower. Demand was light. Slaughter ewes sold mostly steady. Demand was moderate. Slaughter kids sold mostly firm. Demand was moderate. Nannies traded mostly 10.00-20.00 higher. All Goats are sold by the head on estimated weights.

WEEKLY KENTUCKY CORN BID AVERAGE PRICE
(\$/CWT)



National Daily Direct Slaughter

Cattle

Negotiated Purchases 8/14/2014

Live Bids- weighed average weights & prices

Steers:

80%-up Choice 1442 lbs 154.69

Heifers:

80%-up Choice 1297 lbs 154.15

LAND AUCTION

SAT. AUGUST 23, 2014 -11:00 a.m.

3050 HERMIT RIDGE ROAD

Formerly the R.T. & Evelyn Williams Farm

124.96 acres +/- located in Doyleville, Madison County, KY

LAND OPEN HOUSE: SUNDAY AUGUST 10TH; 2-5 P.M.

This property would make a hunter's retreat or even a suitable building site for that home in the country. The once cattle & tobacco farm could provide an excellent opportunity for hunting; or can be a working cattle farm again. There is road frontage on Hermit Ridge Spur Rd. with existing gated entrances. The farm has a 4-bent weathered barn with shed and stalls. There is also a large tobacco frame barn located at the edge of the bottom, that could provide a great location for hunting under cover or converted to a Hunter's Cabin. There is city water to the entrance of the farm, 2 ponds and access to Muddy Creek along the east side of the property. There is no corn base. Pictures at AUCTIONZIP.COM ID#27794.

TERMS: 10% of the total purchase price is to be placed in escrow the day of the auction with the balance due upon closing no later than 30 days. Buyer should satisfy themselves as to any inspections prior to bidding. Announcements made the day of auction supersede all advertising. **NO BUYERS FEE.**

Contact: **WAYNE LONG**, Principal Auctioneer—LONG AUCTION COMPANY, 859-544-2254, waynes@bellsouth.net; **JOHNNY PURCELL**, LONG AUCTION CO., 859-333-2126 & Bashaw Realty Agent, jpurcell@bashawrealty.com; or **BARBARA BASHAW**, Principal Broker, Bashaw Realty & Auction 859-269-5711.



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Producers still have time to apply for Direct Farm Ownership loan program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Kentucky Farm Service Agency Executive Director, John W. McCauley, announced that farmers and ranchers still have time to apply for low interest 2014 loans available through FSA's direct farm ownership program.

The deadline to submit applications is Sept. 30.

Eligible producers can borrow up to \$300,000 in direct farm ownership loans to buy or enlarge a farm, construct new farm buildings or improve structures, pay closing costs, or promote soil and water conservation and protection.

The interest rate on select loans can be as low as 1.5 percent with up to 40

years to repay.

"This is an extraordinary opportunity for more farmers and ranchers to get low-interest loans to start their first farm, or expand an existing family farm," said McCauley. "There are no backlogs or waiting for funding. If you've dreamed about starting a farm, or if you're looking to strengthen your farm, we want to help."

FSA encourages all interested applicants to apply for direct farm ownership loans.

For more information about the program and other loans administered by FSA, visit any FSA county office or www.fsa.usda.gov.

**Contact your local FSA service center
for more information.**

MAMMOTH CAVE DAIRY AUCTION, INC.

I-65 & U.S. 68 Exit • Smiths Grove, Ky.

Dairy Sale Every Tuesday at Noon

Mike Hatcher

800-563-2131 • 270-384-6376 • 270-378-0512

MARKET REPORT: WEEK OF AUG. 12, 2014

Mammoth Cave Dairy Auction, Inc.

Cattle: 594 Springers Lb. Cows-Bulls

Open Heifers-Steers Fresh Milking Cows Baby Calves

Springers: (2-3 years old, 5-8 months bred) Supreme 1300-1600# 1775.00-2275.00, Approved 1200-1400# 1450.00-1650.00, Medium 950-1200# 1250.00-1425.00, Common 800-1100# 900.00-1175.00.

Fresh Milking Cows: (2-4 years old) Supreme 1300-1600# 1775.00-2375.00, Approved 1200-1400# 1575.00-1700.00, Common 800-1100# 850.00.

Short Bred: (2-3 years old, 1-4 months bred) 1300-1600# 1550.00-1700.00, Approved 1200-1400# 1425.00.

Open Heifers: 200-300# Supreme 460.00-610.00, 300-400# Supreme 625.00-650.00, Approved 450.00-535.00, Medium 350.00, Common 230.00, 400-500# Supreme 825.00-900.00, Approved 635.00-760.00, Medium 435.00, 500-600# Supreme 950.00-1025.00, Approved 710.00-775.00, 600-700# Supreme 1235.00-1335.00, Approved 1000.00, 600-700# Supreme 1235.00-1335.00, Approved 1000.00, 700-800# Supreme 1335.00-1375.00.

Holstein Steers: 200-300# 225.00, 700-800# 165.00-175.00.

Hol. Heifer Calves: Small 90.00-160.00, Medium and Large 200.00-325.00 per head.

Hol. Bull Calves: Small 90.00-160.00, Medium and Large 200.00-325.00 per head.
S.L. Cows: Breaker 75-80 percent lean 1100-1800# 107.00-112.00, H.Dr. 115.00-122.00, L.Dr. 102.00-106.00, Boner 80-85 percent lean 1100-1400# 104.00-110.00, H.Dr. 111.00-118.00, L.Dr. 100.00-103.00, Lean 85-90 percent lean 1000-1300# 100.00-105.00, H.Dr. 107.00-111.00, L.Dr. 94.00-98.00, Lights 85-90 percent lean 750-1000# 80.00-85.00, H.Dr. 87.00-97.00, L.Dr. 69.00-76.00.

S.L. Bulls: Y.G. 1-2 1400-2300# 124.00-131.00, H.Dr. 132.00-143.00, L.Dr. 108.00-120.00.

For our latest market report, visit www.kyagr.com/mcda.htm

**NEXT SPECIAL OPEN/SHORTBRED HEIFER & HOLSTEIN
STEER AUCTION: Saturday, Oct. 4 @ Noon**

AUCTION/MARKET

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

SV LS145

Compared to last week, Steer Calves sold mostly steady and Heifer Calves steady to 2.00 lower with moderate to good demand. Feeder Steers and Heifers sold mostly steady. Demand was moderate to good and quality plain through good for all classes. Chicago futures were erratic this week affecting day to day activity. Slaughter Cows and Slaughter Bulls sold steady to 2.00 higher with most gains occurring late in the session. [More...](#)

SV LS145

STATE AVERAGES

Steers (M&L 1-2)	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
350-400 lbs	286.23	297.46	175.89
400-450 lbs	259.79	272.92	176.75
450-500 lbs	263.75	262.22	170.23
500-550 lbs	242.79	247.96	161.52
550-600 lbs	239.11	241.49	161.54
600-650 lbs	228.30	237.33	155.24
650-700 lbs	225.38	233.02	151.81
700-750 lbs	218.51	215.63	149.12
750-800 lbs	215.24	222.48	147.88
800-850 lbs	209.19	213.27	144.85
850-900 lbs	207.15	214.37	143.92
Heifers (M&L 1-2)			
300-350 lbs	256.99	255.64	159.05
350-400 lbs	253.08	253.73	159.27
400-450 lbs	238.30	240.07	153.19
450-500 lbs	236.20	240.87	147.59
500-550 lbs	225.39	227.72	147.06
550-600 lbs	228.44	232.57	143.60
600-650 lbs	217.59	219.72	142.32
650-700 lbs	218.17	208.80	147.44
700-750 lbs	195.16	194.78	141.65
750-800 lbs	207.52	199.71	139.50

SV LS145

WEEKLY COW SUMMARY

Slaughter Cows	Average	High	Low
Breakers	105.50-111.50	113.50-119.50	100.50-104.50
Boners	105.00-110.50	114.50-119.00	96.00-102.00
Lean	96.50-102.00	110.50-112.50	86.50-91.00
Slaughter Bulls	Average	High	Low
Yield Grade 1&2	126.00-131.50	135.50-140.50	114.00-118.50

SV LS551

Aug 14, 2014

Bowling Green

SLAUGHTER GOATS: 379

Kids: Selection 2 30-45 lbs 177.50; 45-60 lbs 200.00; 60-80 lbs 190.00.
Selection 3 30-45 lbs 166.00; 45-60 lbs 175.00; 60-80 lbs 165.00.

SHEEP: 365

Slaughter Lambs: Hair Choice YG 2 45-70 lbs 180.00; 70-85 lbs 143.00;

Low Choice and Good YG 1-2 40-50 lbs 145.00; 50-65 lbs 120.00.

Slaughter Ewes: Hair Choice YG 3 125-140 lbs 77.50.

Slaughter Rams: Hair 115-130 lbs 107.50; 170-190 lbs 90.00. □

SV GR110

GRAINS	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
Corn	3.32-4.18	3.34-3.98	4.17-6.11
Soybeans	10.16-12.72	10.20-13.78	11.14-13.67
Red Winter Wheat	3.78-5.43	4.39-5.58	5.31-6.52

United Producers Owenton

Owenton, KY

August 13, 2014

Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

20 hd. 819# 209.00 blk

Holstein Steers: Large 3

29 hd. 510# 189.00

Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2

95 hd. 770# 212.50 blk

Russell County Stockyards

Russell Springs, KY

August 13, 2014

Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2

33 hd. 514# 232.00 blk

45 hd. 658# 222.50 blk-red

Blue Grass of Campbellsville

Campbellsville, KY

August 13, 2014

Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

62 hd. 781# 221.85 blk

62 hd. 81# 214.25 blk

Holstein Steers: Large 3

41 hd. 673# 183.00

Blue Grass of Richmond

Richmond, KY

August 8, 2014

Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

68 hd. 787# 210.50 mixed

72 hd. 880# 209.50 blk-charx

186 hd. 939# 203.30 blk-charx-red

101 hd. 990# 201.60 blk

Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2

86 hd. 553# 249.00 blk

United Producers Bowling Green

Bowling Green, KY

August 12, 2014

Feeder Bulls: Medium & Large 1-2

20 hd. 451# 253.00 blk

24 hd. 518# 233.00 blk

Lake Cumberland Livestock

Somerset, KY

August 9, 2014

Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

45 hd. 775# 219.00 blk

Holstein Steers: Large 3

68 hd. 434# 198.50

Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2

43 hd. 666# 227.50 blk

16th Annual

East Kentucky Replacement Bred Heifer Sale

Sponsored by the East Kentucky Heifer Development Committee

Lee City Stockyards

Saturday, Sept. 20th • 1 p.m. – Viewing at noon

Approx. 100 Head Consigned to the Sale

Commercial & Registered Heifers

Some will be sold in Lots of 2 and 3

- Heifers were A.I. bred to the Select Sires Angus bull FORWARD 6025 7AN366
- Black Angus clean up bulls were used with heifer acceptable CE scores
- All heifers had to meet or exceed 160 sq. cm. pelvic area
- Pelvic area was age adjusted to one year of age on all heifers
- All heifers have data available on intra-muscular fat

Heifers were assembled in October 2013 and have remained together and developed under the guidelines from Dr. Les Anderson, UK Extension Beef Specialist.

All sale heifers are source verified and farm raised.

Guaranteed bred for 60 days after the sale

Free delivery for purchases of 10 or more up to 200 miles.

Health records, sire information and heifer information will be provided in a sale catalog.

Catalog will be available on sale day.

For more information Contact:

Charles May
Perry Co. Extension Office
(606) 436-2044



Larry Clay
D & D Ranch
(606) 438-9914

Heifer data can be viewed at <http://ces.ca.uky.edu/perry>.

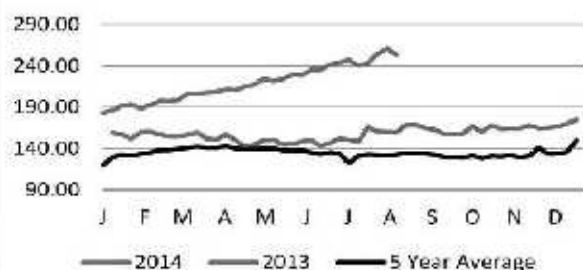
Click on the AG & Natural Resource link

Sale can be watched at www.cattleusa.com

AUCTION/MARKET

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

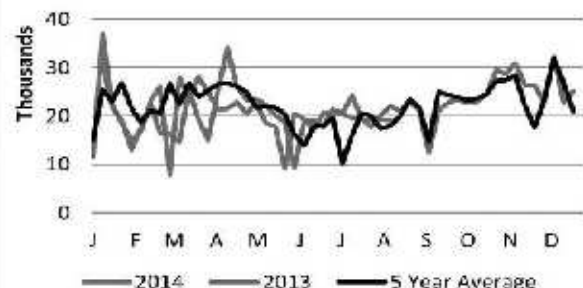
WEEKLY 400-600 LB FEEDER STEER M&L 1-2
WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE (\$/CWT)



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



WEEKLY KENTUCKY CATTLE AUCTION RECEIPTS



8/15/14 USDA Carlot Meat 4:00 Summary, Compared to Previous Day Prices in dollars per hundredweight, NATIONAL BOXED BEEF CUTOUT LM_XB403 Boxed beef cutout values lower on Choice and steady on Select on light. Demand and light to moderate offerings. Select and Choice rib and loin cuts mostly steady while chuck and round items weak to lower. Beef trimmings higher on light to moderate demand and offerings. Estimated composite cutout value of Choice 1-3 600-900 lbs carcasses dn 1.20 at 255.54; Select 1-3 600-900 lbs carcasses dn 0.19 at 248.38; based on 65.85 loads of Choice cuts, 35.57 loads of Select cuts, 14.16 loads of trimmings, and 11.93 loads of coarse ground trimmings.



Central Kentucky Angus Association

Ladies Day 2014 Sale

12th Annual Ladies Day Sale

Saturday • September 13, 2014 • 1 p.m. (EDT)

Central Kentucky Angus Sales Pavilion

4 miles NE of Danville just off of Hwy. 34 on Cherout Bridge Rd. and then Fork Church Rd.



Selling 101 Head Registered Angus Cattle



For a complete list of the semen and the cattle selling scan QR code

Featuring the Dispersion of the Robert Edmonds herd from Russell Springs, Kentucky. This herd was built on outstanding genetic acquired from leading programs such as Sydenstricker Genetics, Stevenson Angus, Wehrmann Angus and Gardiner Ranch. The dispersion includes a granddaughter of N Bar Primrose 2424 and two daughters of Rita 1197 and features an outstanding group of bred heifers sired by bulls such as Ten X, CC&Z, Hoover Dam, Liberty, Mandate, Timeless, Total Impact and Al bred for spring calves to VAR Reserve, Safeguard, Absolute and SydGen Trust.

30 Bred Cows

Many are due this fall.
480 straws of semen and
2 Semen Tanks

2 Bulls

Yearlings by Ten X

13 Open Heifers

Most are ready to breed

24 Bred Heifers

Powerful division.
The hard to find kind!

11 Cow/Calf Pairs

3-in-1 packages



Heritage Reflection 351

Reg. No. 17851857
She and her twin sister sell as
Lots 2A and 2B.



Heritage 7301 Pioneer 355

Reg. No. 17851860
This Pioneer daughter with top 15% SF
and SG values sells as Lot 1.



AAR Ten X 7008 SA

CEP -5, BW 44, WW 129, YW 130,
Milk 430, Mob 450, R 1.77, B 4325
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CKAA Calendar of Events:

52nd Annual Fall Heifer Sale
November 1, 2014

51st Annual Winter Sale
January 24, 2015

50th Annual Spring Sale
April 18, 2015

25th Annual Junior Show
and Picnic
June 2015

35th Annual Fall Cow Sale and
the 201st Overall Sale
sponsored by Central Kentucky
Angus Association.

SALE MANAGER:



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Mobile: 859/238-3195

E-mail: tdievert@dievertsales.com

dievertsales.com

Online sale books available

CKAA OFFICERS:

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Danville, KY

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Jamie Marksberry
Buffalo, KY

Past President: Jason Crowe
Irvine, KY

Photos by Sharon Burton

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: Rantstown, Lexington & Winchester; GREEN RIVER: Caneyville & Livermore;
NORTHERN KENTUCKY AREA: Silver Grove at Cincinnati; PURCHASE AREA: Clinton & Mayfield.
Opening bids at elevators and processing plants.

8/14/14 Bids for next day Cash Bids	Louisville	Pennyrile	Purchase	Bluegrass	Green River	Northern KY
Corn #2 Yellow	3.61-3.72	3.77-3.82	3.52-3.72	3.40-3.62	3.77-3.90	3.76
Corn #2 White	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Soybeans #1 Y	10.16-12.18	11.36	11.56	10.99-11.06	11.06	12.01
Wheat #2 SRW	4.38-4.88	4.97-5.42	4.87	4.69-4.92	4.97	5.27
Barley						

New Crop Delivery Contract

Corn #2 Yellow	3.41-3.45	3.54-3.64	3.44-3.59	3.34	3.59	3.46
Corn #2 White	NA	4.04	NA	NA	NA	NA
Soybeans #1 Y	10.04-10.33	10.26-10.46	10.52-10.54	10.16	10.41	10.41
Wheat #2 SRW	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Barley		2.70				

Eastern Cornbelt Ethanol Plant Report 8/14/2014

Indiana Ohio Illinois

Yellow Corn Spot Bid: 3.40-3.93

Uned Distillers Grain (\$/ton)
10% moisture 95.00-100.00

Modified Wet Distillers (\$/ton)
50-55% moisture 80.00

Kentucky Weekly Cattle Receipts:

08/01/14	19,183
08/08/14	19,285
08/15/14	19,086

Weekly Feed Ingredient Price

Wholesale prices, \$ per ton
Rail or Truck FOB Location

	Owensboro Grain 8/15/2014	Commonwealth Agri-Energy Hopkinsville 8/15/2014
Soybean Meal 48% Sol	470.00	—
Soybean Hulls	150.00	—
Corn Distillers Grain Dried	—	165.00
Distillers Grain Modified	—	95.00
Distillers Grain Wet	—	80.00
Corn Condensed Solubles	—	80.00
Corn Gluten Feed 20-21 pct	—	—
Corn Gluten Meal 60 pct	—	—
Cottonseed Meal 41 pct	—	—
Whole Cottonseed	—	—
Wheat Middlings	—	—

USDA ESTIMATED DAILY LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

	CATTLE	CALVES	HOGS	SHEEP
Thurs. 8/14/2014 (est)	114,000	2,000	408,000	8,000
Week Ago (est)	114,000	2,000	407,000	9,000
Year Ago (act)	120,000	2,000	427,000	9,000
Week to Date (est)	458,000	8,000	1,597,000	33,000
Same Pd Lt Week (est)	454,000	8,000	1,549,000	34,000
Same Pd Lt Yr (act)	480,000	11,000	1,694,000	35,000

Eastern Cornbelt Hog Prices 8/14/2014

Barrows & Gilts
Receipts: 7,585
Base Price:
\$100.00-\$110.74
WT Avg. \$107.74
Compared to
prior day, the
avg. price was
1.50 to 3.95 low-
er. Slow to Mod-
erate market
activity with light
to moderate de-
mand.

Blue Grass Stockyard

Lexington, KY

August 11 & 12, 2014

Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

62 hd. 723# 230.00 blk-charx

19 hd. 766# 223.00 blk

59 hd. 772# 224.90 blkwt

65 hd. 819# 221.75 blk-charx

19 hd. 855# 211.10 blk

58 hd. 911# 206.00 mixed

60 hd. 936# 205.00 blk

60 hd. 942# 204.35 blk-charx

60 hd. 999# 195.00 blk-mixed

Medium & Large 1-2

52 hd. 617# 216.00 blk-mixed

Polstein Steers: Large 3

49 hd. 1035# 157.75

Blue Grass South

Stanford, KY

August 14, 2014

Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

108 hd. 465# 275.00 blk-charx

72 hd. 727# 220.75 blk-charx

83 hd. 858# 212.75 mixed

58 hd. 900# 210.00 charx

100 hd. 985# 188.00 blk-charx

Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2

40 hd. 454# 239.00 blk-charx

80 hd. 640# 222.75 blk-charx

54 hd. 637# 221.50 charx

40 hd. 720# 202.50 mixed

40 hd. 625# 222.50 blk

27 hd. 827# 192.25 charx

Blue Grass of Richmond

Richmond, KY

August 8, 2014

Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

68 hd. 787# 210.50 mixed

72 hd. 860# 209.50 blk-charx

186 hd. 968# 203.30 blk-charx-red

101 hd. 990# 201.60 blk

Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2

88 hd. 553# 249.00 blk

Initiated Producers Owenton

Owenton, KY

August 13, 2014

Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2

20 hd. 819# 209.00 blk

Polstein Steers: Large 3

29 hd. 510# 189.00

Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2

95 hd. 770# 212.50 blk



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during the Kentucky State Fair!

2014 food heroes honored at state fair



Photo courtesy of Kentucky Department of Agriculture

Joining Agriculture Commissioner James Comer, far left, in the awards presentation were, from left: Clifford “Rip” Rippetoe, State Fair Board president; Caroline Heine of Seed Capital Kentucky; Ashley Barth, Russell Poore’s granddaughter, who accepted the award on his behalf; Jacob Sharpe; Brooke Eckmann; Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer; and Bill Johnson of Farm Credit Mid America.

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Farmers from Shelby, Logan, and Scott counties were introduced as the 2014 Kentucky Local Food Heroes in a ceremony at the Kentucky Exposition Center on opening day of the Kentucky State Fair.

Brooke Eckmann of Ambrosia Farm in Finchville; Russell Poore of Poore’s Nursery in Russellville; and Jacob Sharpe of Sharpe Farms in Georgetown were named Local Food Heroes following statewide voting in July. Agriculture Commissioner James Comer, Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer, and Kentucky State Fair Board President Clifford “Rip” Rippetoe made the announcement in the new Kentucky Proud Experience Tent on the West Lawn of the KEC. Locally produced foods were served at the event.

“What better way to kick off the Kentucky State Fair than by showcasing our farmers and eating some

SEE **FOOD**, PAGE 10

BREAK THE MOLD
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When life is simple

It seems like the time between planting and harvest flies by. Summer break from school is over, state fair is here and fall is in the air.

In the newspaper business, I'm pretty sure time does literally fly. We rush from one deadline to another, barely pausing to enjoy our accomplishments. The fast pace is part of why I love this business, but at times it is also the drawback.

For instance, we just recently published our largest issue in the history of our local weekly newspaper, yet we barely had the chance to celebrate. We were too busy working toward the next deadline.

We have had some great successes and I'm very proud of my team. At times, however, I wonder if they know how much they are appreciated because one expectation is followed by another, followed by another, and on and on. I have promised a shopping trip to celebrate our largest issue ever (we are an office full of women; no need to explain further) but we have to find a free day first.

I bet your life as a farmer is similar, always moving on to the next phase of production, or the next crop, or the next task at hand. My guess is you usually struggle with finding a moment in which to enjoy your accomplishments or show appreciation to the team members who helped bring about success.

Oddly, I had this deep revelation last weekend while canning tomatoes. Weird, right?

The truth is, however, I absolutely love to can fresh vegetables. I love to see those quart jars of bright, red tomatoes or fresh green beans all sealed and ready for winter. I consider canning a time of destressing. I realized while taking jars out of the canner that I loved this process because there is a beginning, an end and an immediate opportunity to see the fruit of your labor.

Life is simple when canning tomatoes.

I hope you will take a moment to step back and celebrate your accomplishments. Kentucky agriculture is knee deep in success and you should be enjoying it. Thank the people around you who have helped you reach your goals and find a project that helps you reduce the stress level before you head back out to face the next deadline.

Life is good. Enjoy it.

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



ONE VOICE

Sharon Burton

"Oddly, I had this deep revelation last weekend while canning tomatoes. Weird, right?"

The power of a face and a network

Share your story. Share your story. Share your story. Every farm organization and farm leader has pleaded this request more than once the past few years, myself included. I know it is time consuming, and people should just appreciate what you do. They would starve if you did not.

Times have changed, however. The curse, which is how I'm going to call it, of the social media era is that more people want to connect to the folks that provide them goods and services. As if we didn't have enough to do already.

I'm obviously in one of my anti-social moods. It comes and goes for me, but still important. I am writing this on opening day of the Kentucky State Fair, and I know I will have an important job to do the next 11 days, connect with the public. That means lots of smiling and polite conversation, taking time for regular social media posts, and being a face of our agricultural community.

"So why is a face so important?" you might ask.

I have been carefully experimenting with and studying social media. With Facebook in particular, exposure of posts are magnified when you talk about people and their lives, unless you have an awesomely hilarious cat video, that is. It's tough to compete with comedy and cuteness.

I recently had the privilege of sharing the good news of a fellow Kentucky Ag Leadership Program classmate Quint Pottinger. The National Corn Growers Association asked all the affiliates to nominate a young farmer for the White House Champions of Change program, and Quint was one of the farmers I submitted. He was one of 15 U.S. farmers asked to participate, and I was so proud of his accomplishment.

I splashed his face and story on our Kentucky Corn Fed Facebook page and then shared it on my personal page as well as my Kentucky Farms Feed Us page. The story was shared 54 times and reached more than 13,000 people. While these results won't make Justin Bieber's publicists green with envy, I was thrilled.

Over the last year I have been consciously observing what types of posts garner the most attention and engagement. The stories with photos of farmers and their families win every time.

I don't think any Kentucky farmer or agribusiness does this as well as Lesa Clark of LeCows Dairy in Paducah. She posts



COMMON GROUND KENTUCKY

Jennifer Elwell

The story was shared 54 times and reached more than 13,000 people.

SEE THE POWER, PAGE 6

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- Mindy Yarberry General Manager
- Toni Humphress Field Reporter
- Diana Withers Sales and Marketing
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PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID at Columbia, Ky. 42728 with additional entries. [ISSN 1056-7666] The Farmer's Pride is published every first and third Thursday of each month with an additional publication in February by Farmland Publications, Inc.

STREET LOCATION: 316 Public Square, Columbia, Ky. Mailing address: P.O. Box 159, Columbia, KY 42728.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$19.50. Send check or money order to Circulation Manager, The Farmer's Pride, P.O. Box 159, Columbia, KY 42728.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Farmer's Pride, P.O. Box 159, Columbia, KY 42728.

DEADLINES: Advertising and news deadlines are 4 p.m. Thursday prior to Thursday publication.

ADVERTISING POLICY: Farmland Publications is not responsible for more than one incorrect insertion of an advertisement. Publisher can assume no liability for typographical error except to re-run or cancel charges on the incorrect portion of the ad. All advertising is run subject to publisher's approval. The Farmer's Pride does not knowingly accept fraudulent or objectionable advertising. Readers are asked to report any misrepresentation by any advertisers.

Tobacco operations



COUNCIL
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Another
obstacle in
leveling the
playing field
between
traditional
tobacco
products and
liquid
nicotine is in
the tax code.

In its first year as a grower representative organization, the Council for Burley Tobacco launched a research and education grant program utilizing the tobacco check-off funds, a website and Facebook page to share information with members, and was successful in changing the two-out-of-three rule that handicapped small and large growers by limiting the amount of ground available to them for tobacco production.

This year the CBT has continued to work on behalf of the grower members to address key issues and concerns in the burley tobacco industry.

Child Labor in Tobacco

The CBT supports the family farm, but they do not support the practice of having children work in dangerous jobs on the farm. The recent report from Human Rights Watch has brought the issue of child labor in tobacco around the world to the forefront.

The CBT believes burley farmers in the United States understand the dangers burley production jobs pose to children, and the incidence of children working in tobacco production is low in this country. As a grower member organization, it is critical for the CBT to speak out on this issue.

In July, the CBT passed a resolution stating, “We do not condone the hiring of anyone under the age of 16 for work in tobacco anywhere in the world.”

Liquid Nicotine and Vaping

The tobacco industry is moving in a new direction. The change was never more evident than at the 2014 Tobacco Merchants Association annual meeting in May when the almost 100-year-old organization voted to change its name to just the TMA. It is taking the tobacco out of the name, as industry leaders are gearing up to a move to a more profitable platform, liquid nicotine.

At this time the FDA regulations on the liquid nicotine delivery products are relatively mild. Winning the argument that liquid nicotine products should be regulated the same as traditional tobacco products is the first step in leveling the playing field with this new industry. Yet this is going to be a challenge, as limited research has been done on liquid nicotine products. Research needs to be conducted to look at the different quality of liquid nicotine being sold along with the health risks of liquid nicotine made with tobacco almost completely produced overseas where there are limited regulations on pesticides.

Another obstacle in leveling the playing field between

SEE TOBACCO, PAGE 7

Letters to the Editor

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

800 million people can't be wrong, right



FOOD
&
FARM
FILE
Alan
Guebert

When 800 million of anything moves in the same direction at the same time the world changes. In mid-May the 800 million voters in the world's largest democracy, India, rejected the long-in-power Congress Party for the BJP, the Bharatya Janata Party, led by Narendra Modi, described by the Indian press as a ‘business-friendly’ job creator.

The crushing loss for Congress—it won fewer than 50 of Parliament's 545 seats—was a wholesale rejection of the welfare state philosophy of Nehru and his political heirs, the Gandhi family.

BJP's victory, on the other hand, was hailed both nationally and internationally as an event “that will change the country 100 percent,” and Modi was seen as someone who will bring “foreign companies to India” so “everyone will have jobs.” (Links to source material are posted at <http://farmandfoodfile.com/in-the-news/>)

But nothing is simple in India, a nation of deep complexities and clear contrasts. Indian is home to both 200 million ragged, starving people and the Taj Mahal; where high tech factories are ringed by hand-planted fields tended by women; a nation of 15,000 villages and cities and not one with reliable, safe water 24/7.

After the election, it didn't take long before this native duality ran smack into the pro-business predictions about Modi and the BJP. On July 31, India, despite heavy pressure from the United States, declined to ratify a worldwide customs deal needed, explained the World Trade Organization, to “streamline global trading.”

That failure stopped the sluggish WTO Doha Round of trade talks because the customs deal needed each of the WTO's 160 members' consent to keep the overall talks moving.

Modi's anti-trade action was big news and a big shocker (even the former, deposed government was in favor of the customs deal) to every WTO player, especially the U.S. No one saw it coming.

Given the WTO's sketchy history of success, they probably should have. India, explained Modi, rejected the customs agreement because the WTO has yet to address the nation's concerns over required cuts to its domestic food programs that supply heavily subsidized food to the nation's poor.

Specifically, the Indian government buys agricultural goods, mostly wheat and rice, from its hundreds of millions of subsistence farmers at higher-than-market prices to resell to its hundreds of millions poor at reduced prices. The program helps both India's poor farmers and its hungry poor.

Humanitarian as the program appears, it's wrapped in a blanket of domestic politics. Presently, New Delhi concedes, government rice and wheat stocks top 61 million metric tons. (If converted into wheat alone, 61MMT is nearly 2.25 billion bushels, larger than the entire 2014 American wheat crop.)

India also concedes that adequate stocks for the nationwide food program are about 27 MMT, or less than one-half of current stocks.

SEE 800 MILLION, PAGE 6

Yield debate is over until September



MARKET WATCH

Dewey Strickler

The debate regarding the corn yield has been put to rest, at least until the September or October crop report.

Bearish traders were disappointed with USDA's estimate of 167.4 bushels per acre, as most were expecting a yield closer 170 bushels per acre. Production is forecast at a record 14 billion bushels with 2014-15 ending stocks at 1.808 billion bushels.

With a crop rating of no lower than 73 percent in good-to-excellent condition in August, so far, USDA's estimate will likely increase in upcoming reports. Feed consumption is projected to rise 50 million bushels, which I find difficult to believe with the smallest cattle herd in 60 years.

This is USDA's way of giving themselves wiggle room when they raise production. Any way that you slice it, the bulls will have a hard time getting riled up with USDA's projections.

In other developments, export inspections were a modest 35.6 million bushels. Meanwhile, the trend following funds have lightened their short futures position reducing it to 50 million bushels.

USDA was conservative with their soybean yield estimate at 45.4 million bushels, as August is the crucial month for development. Although conditions are good now, with 70 percent of the crop in the good-to-excellent category, and 72 percent setting pods, a lot can still go wrong if a rain shower or two is missed.

Production is currently projected at 3.816 billion bushels with 2014-15 ending stocks at 430 million bushels. This is higher than

traders expected and could rise even further in the September report when the crop has matured. In other developments, export inspections saw an improvement at 3.6 million bushels, but this is nothing that will get the bulls excited.

Last week, the trend following funds increased their short futures position 30 million bushels to 295 million bushels. In order to entice traders back to the long side of the market, we may need to see adverse growing conditions this fall in South America.

All wheat production is expected to rise modestly to 2.03 billion bushels with winter wheat climbing to 1.397 billion bushels. Ending stocks for 2014-15 are expected to be up slightly to 663 million bushels. What may keep a lid on wheat values is that world ending stocks are projected to rise 3.5 million tons to 193 million.

Eastern Europe and the Black Sea region saw an improvement of 14.9 million tons from July. In other developments, export inspections were 19.3 million bushels with cumulative shipments running nearly 30 percent below a year ago.

The trend following funds lightened their short position 30 million bushels last week reducing it to 410 million bushels. However, they are unlikely to abandon their shorts unless a disruption of exports develops because of the Ukraine-Russia conflict.

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

800 million people can't be wrong

FROM PAGE 5

The massive stockpile bends WTO rules two ways. While any amount of stocks are permitted, those stocks must be bought at market prices and, when distributed, all must be sold at market prices. India does neither.

Worse, at least to the WTO's biggest ag exporters, the European Union and the U.S., no one sees how India can drain its vast stocks without export subsidies that will drain today's already cheap global grain prices even more.

That means today's trade talkers again are debating on how nations view their right to produce, promote and protect their citizens' access to food. This, of course, is not the first time Doha is stuck in the farm mud nor will it be last time.

But it may be high time the WTO moves away from its one-size-fits-all idea of global food production and ag trade to allow regional deals to be negotiated among willing partners.

After all, how does one global organization tell any duly-elected national leader—in this instance, the leader of the nation that is home to one-third of the world's poorest—how and what the leader can do to feed the sovereign people?

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

The power of a face and a network

FROM PAGE 4

thousands of photos of her family, livestock, and daily events, and their "little princess" and her days on the farm take center stage. I don't mean to be a Facebook stalker, but I watch her posts, and a huge percentage of her followers are engaged. That is social media gold.

Another part of the Facebook recipe is building a network and working together. Posts are more likely to make the rounds if people (especially well-known people) are tagged so their friends can see the posts. We also need to try to help each other out within the agriculture community. If you post something on your farm or agribusiness page, encourage every employee, part-

ner, and customer to do the same. Facebook posts have a much further reach if they are shared by people rather than pages, unless you want to pay for it, that is.

My husband is currently part of a leadership group that has the task of promoting events for the Louisville Sports Commission. He has been hounding me to post promotions about the Urban Bourbon Half Marathon that will be run in Louisville, October 25. He knows I have connections to runners and bourbon connoisseurs, and my audience may be more likely to move the message.

When I told him that I need to write a column for *The Farmer's Pride* he instantly asked me to write about the marathon. I gave him a look, and told him that was not

the type of thing I write about. Obviously I saw the educational value in his request, and found a way to oblige (wife points for me). I also reminded myself of how I can be a better champion for farmers and be sure to share more of their posts, with a small dose of "how does this affect me." That's important, too.

JENNIFER ELWELL is the Director of Communications for the Kentucky Corn Growers and Kentucky Small Grain Growers Associations. She is also the co-manager of the CommonGround Kentucky program with Rae Waggoner of the Kentucky Soybean Board. Contact her at Jennifer@kycorn.org.

Ky., feds reach agreement on hemp imports

FRANKFORT (AP) – Kentucky agriculture officials and the federal government have finalized an agreement on how industrial hemp seeds may be imported into the state.

After reaching the deal Friday, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture has agreed to drop a lawsuit filed in May over acquiring the seeds.

Under the agreement, the department will file an application with the federal government for a permit to import hemp seeds, and the federal government will process the Kentucky's application quickly. The federal government also agrees that the process established by the state will control the cultivation and marketing of hemp.

The department filed suit in May against several government agencies after seeds ticketed for Kentucky were held by customs in Louisville. The seeds were released in late May and distributed to universities and private farmers.

“With this agreement, Kentucky is now the first state in the nation with a legal, practical process through which farmers can partner with the state to grow hemp,” Agriculture Commissioner James Comer said. “We and the feds started out as adversaries, but by both talking and listening, we became partners in this process. I appreciate the efforts of Judge John Heyburn, the U.S. Attorney’s office, and the department’s legal counsel that made this happen.”

Tobacco operations

FROM PAGE 5

traditional tobacco products and liquid nicotine is in the tax code. Currently the liquid nicotine products are not considered tobacco products and are not taxed accordingly. In Kentucky alone \$196,820,004 was brought in the state in 2013 and in 2014 the amount dropped to \$187,416,270, a 4.8 percent drop in revenue. Along with the loss in taxes as a result in the increase of sales of liquid nitrogen products is the loss of Master Settlement Agreement funds as the companies producing these products are not contributing to the MSA.

These changes are the growers call for action. Burley tobacco growers cannot stop the industry from moving toward the liquid nicotine products, but it is time for growers to get involved to help level the playing field before we are left behind.

Research and Education

Along with keeping members up-to-date on burley tobacco news and issues, the CBT is responsible for the collection and investment of the Kentucky Burley Tobacco Check-off funds.

We are working closely with the Kentucky Department of Agriculture to make sure all the funds are collected each year.

In the first year of funding grants the CBT invested \$166,739 in research with UK funding projects to breed in sucker control, prevent black shank disease, production and purification of nicotine from green tobacco, and more. This spring the CBT invested an additional \$74,800 in grant funds into eight research projects that ranged from the Evaluation of the Efficacy of HP400 in Reducing TSNAs to the DNA Sequence of the Burley Tobacco Genome.

This fall the CBT will be accepting grant applications once again for the winter funding cycle. The complete guidelines and the application are on the CBT’s website.

To learn more about the CBT and to become a member you can visit the CBT website at www.councilforburleytobacco.com. You can also join the burley conversation by “Liking” the CBT on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CouncilForBurleyTobacco.

ROD KUEGEL is the president of the Council for Burley Tobacco.

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God allows us to fail so we rely on him

Failure is never a welcome guest. Nor does one choose failure to be an associate or companion. Yet it is something that often invades our lives even though it is unwanted. Yet, from it we learn some of life's most valuable lessons.

In Psalm 21 David begins with shouts of praise: "How the king rejoices in Your strength, O Lord...how he shouts with joy because You gave him victory...how You gave him a crown...how You preserved his life." Here we find David rejoicing and praising His Lord for the gracious gifts that He gave him. He praised God for granting him the desires of his heart and giving him victory over his enemies.

But notice carefully: he realized that the source of his strength, the joy of his victories, his golden crown and the preservation of his life all came from his Lord. He recognized God as his source of strength, survival and success. And in doing so, he gave thanks!

David learned from his mistakes. And wisely, when he came confident from his victories, he knew whom to thank. His victories came from the Lord.

God often allows us to experience the agony of defeat and the sorrow of disappointment to learn that we must rely on Him for everything, every day. In this Psalm David reminds us that his strength, joy, victory, rewards and protection all come from God. He learned from experience to trust God. What a great lesson for us.

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Grilled Steak Fajitas

**1 pound ribeye steak
(may substitute strip, sirloin or flank)
1 teaspoon black pepper
1/2 teaspoon cumin
1/2 teaspoon chili powder**

**1 green bell pepper
1 red bell pepper
1 medium-hot Poblano pepper, dark green and triangular
1 medium yellow onion
8 fat-free flour tortillas**

At least two hours before dinner, dust steak with freshly ground black pepper, cumin and chili powder. Let it sit in refrigerator so flavors can penetrate meat.

Cut peppers into large segments, discarding ribs and seeds. Chop onion into thick slices, making sure not to pull rings apart.

Place peppers and onion slices on grill over medium heat; cover and roast by turning frequently until covered with dark spots, but not burnt. Remove from grill and allow to cool, about four minutes. Pull off waxy-papery

skins of peppers and slice crosswise into strips. Break onion slices into rings and mix with peppers in serving bowl.

Place steak on the grill, turning frequently. Cook until desired level of doneness. Remove from grill and cut diagonally into thin slices.

Warm tortillas on edge of grill, keeping them away from direct heat, to warm and soften. Remove from grill.

Roll several slices of steak and pieces of peppers and onions into tortillas to serve.

Mixed Vegetable Grill

**1 tablespoon light brown sugar
1 1/2 teaspoons basil leaves
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper**

**2 tablespoons olive oil
6 cups assorted cut-up vegetables, such as asparagus, bell peppers, zucchini, yellow squash, red onion and small sweet potato**

Mix brown sugar, basil, salt, garlic powder, and pepper in small bowl.

In large bowl, drizzle oil over vegetables; toss to coat well. Add seasoning mixture; toss to coat well.

Place vegetables in grill basket or rack, or thread onto skewers.

Grill over medium heat 10–12 minutes or until vegetables are tender, turning occasionally.





Udderly Delightful Dairy

Owned and operated by Robert and Darlene Bowles in Burgin, Ky.

FEATURE YOUR FARM: A photo of a Kentucky farm is featured in each issue of The Farmer's Pride on the top, left hand corner of the front page. Submit a photo of your farm to Sharon Burton, The Farmer's Pride, P. O. Box 159, Columbia, Ky. 42728 or email to snburton@duo-county.com. Mailed photos will only be returned if a self-addressed envelope is included (we will pay return postage!)

Local farmer appointed to Farm Credit Mid-America Board

LOUISVILLE – Mary Courtney of Bagdad, Kentucky has been appointed to the Farm Credit Mid-America Board of Directors. Her one-year term began July 1.

Courtney raises burley tobacco, grain, vegetable produce and cattle on more than 600 acres in central Kentucky. Along with her husband, Shane, they co-own Courtney Farms and Lawns of Perfection. She serves on the board of the Shelby County Farm Bureau and is a member of the Shelby County Extension Council.

A graduate of the University of Kentucky with a Bachelor of Science in Ag Economics, she started farming full time with her husband in 2008. In 2013, the Courtneys were named Kentucky Farm Bureau's Outstanding Young Farm Family.

Farm Credit Mid-America is customer-owned agricultural credit cooperative spanning four states and serving almost 100,000 farmers, agribusinesses and rural homeowners. The board is comprised of 18 members who meet regularly to set policy and provide overall direction for

the association.

Courtney filled a vacancy left by Dan Flanagan of Campbellsville who is now serving on the AgriBank Board of Directors. AgriBank, one of four Farm Credit System Banks located throughout the nation, provides funding and other services to Farm Credit Mid-America and 16 other Farm Credit associations throughout the mid-west.

About Farm Credit Mid-America

Farm Credit Mid-America is a financial services cooperative serving the credit needs of farmers, agribusinesses and rural residents across Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee for nearly a century. Backed by the strength of nearly 100,000 customer-members and \$20 billion in assets, Farm Credit Mid-America employs more than 1,100 staff and provides loans for real estate, operating, equipment, housing and related services such as crop insurance, and vehicle, equipment and building leases. For more information, call 1-800-444-FARM or visit them on the web at www.e-farmcredit.com.

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