

Spirits are high

Two families share direct market success

The adage “a match made in heaven” aptly describes the business partnership between Joseph Monroe and Caleb Fiechter in their thriving Henry County Valley Spirit Farm.

The men met as students at Central Indiana Anderson University, a Christian-centered university with the mission to educate for a life of faith and service in church and society. Their friendship bonded because as Joseph laughed, “We were the only corn-fed farm boys there.”

They are Indiana natives, Caleb from just outside of South Bend, and Joseph, near Madison. Both men, now 34, grew up on productive Indiana farms.

As their friendship grew, they both knew they wanted to continue in farming even though their college majors wouldn't head them in that direction. Joseph's majors were Bible and religion and Caleb's, English literature and Spanish. They also both knew they didn't want to farm in the same way as their family farms. They wanted to grow chemical-free, ecologically responsible and nutritionally dense food.

After graduation in 2006, they married their high school sweethearts. They began their careers farming on their family farm and in other agriculture areas, keeping in touch and always having the dream of farming together.

The dream of Valley Spirit became a reality in 2015 when Joseph was able to lease and eventually purchase 116 acres known as the McCarty Farm. Each family began their part of the business.

Joseph and Abbie produce pasture-raised and finished beef and a variety of vegetables from a three-acre garden. Caleb and Kelly manage a pastured/woodland pork herd and grow culinary mushrooms. And it's working.

Joseph remarked that one of their farmer neighbors told him they were the only

SEE TWO, PAGE 15

Amid opposition Beef processing plant drops option to locate in Christian Co.

Christian County has been eliminated from consideration as the site of a 500,000-square-foot beef processing facility that was expected to employ more than 1,300 workers, according to an announcement from Carter Hendricks, director of the South Western Kentucky Economic Development Council.

“As a result of the company's ongoing analysis, the company has decided to pursue other options due to logistical considerations and the availability of commodity as compared to the competitive site,” Hendricks said in an email to media Monday evening. He added that the SWKEDC encourages the company — which was identified last week as the Green Bay, Wisconsin-based American Foods Group — to consider additional locations within Kentucky.

News of the proposed development has drawn heavy scrutiny from many county residents and some public officials.

In the first public discussion about the project on Monday, Sept. 27 in the old Pembroke school gymnasium, a group of residents who live close to the site overwhelmingly opposed the plan. They cited concerns about the smell of cattle and manure, truck traffic, wastewater treatment, groundwater pollution, the available workforce, housing for workers, school capacity and an influx of foreign workers.

Farmer Phillip Garnett, whose family helped organize the Pembroke meeting, said beef processing doesn't fit with Christian County agriculture. The county is known for wheat, corn, soybeans and tobacco — not livestock. He agreed the county needs ag processing plants, but not meatpackers, he said.

“They are live animals. They are going to crap on your roads ... believe me,” he said in brief comments that brought many in



A speaker raises concerns about a proposed beef processing plant during a meeting Monday, Sept. 27, in the old Pembroke school gymnasium that is less than 2 miles from the proposed plant on John Rivers Road. (Photo by Jennifer P. Brown, Hoptown Chronicle.)

the crowd of roughly 150 people to their feet and cheering.

Garnett and his brother Billy Garnett own the roughly 375-acre site that the SWKEDC marketed to the meatpacker. The land adjacent to the CSX rail line is under contract with the Hopkinsville Industrial Foundation, which has an option to purchase the tract. The price is reportedly more than \$12 million.

The industrial foundation's three-year option to buy expires in November. Garnett said he wasn't sure he would renew the contract under the same conditions that could allow for the construction of a large slaughterhouse. He had assumed the land would go to a manufacturing plant.

Another community meeting for opponents was set for Oct. 12, during which organizers aimed to “establish a forceful message to take to local industrial leadership, elected officials and decision-makers to ensure they understand we do not want this industry, of any size or nature, in our community,” according to the announcement.

On Thursday, just days after the first community meeting, AFG representatives, state agriculture officials and a group of Kentucky cattlemen gathered in Hopkinsville for a series of meetings about the proposal.

During one discussion, Rep. Myron Dossett and Christian County Magistrate Philip Peterson told company officials to not build here, Dossett told Hoptown Chronicle as he and Peterson emerged from an airport terminal building following the meeting with AFG representatives.

At Breathitt Veterinary Center, discussions focused on the broader relationship between Kentucky cattle farm interests and AFG, according to Jerry Gilliam, who is in the cattle business and serves on Christian Fiscal Court. Gilliam told Hoptown Chronicle that he would oppose incentives for the facility if any came before the Fiscal Court.

The Hopkinsville Industrial Foundation board also met Thursday to discuss the

SEE BEEF, PAGE 2



PRIDE IN AG – Niki Ellis puts ag education degree to work at Pork Producers **20.**

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Beef processing plant drops Christian Co. option

FROM PAGE 1

foundation's land contract with the Garnett brothers, who own the site of interest.

Shortly after Hendricks' email was sent, the Pembroke Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution opposing the proposed slaughterhouse.

Despite the proposed site being located just a mile from most residences and businesses in Pembroke, the city never received "any official information from the company concerning said facility," according to the resolution. It also noted the city would not receive any direct tax or other fiscal benefit from the development.

The resolution states that board members share residents' concerns about the project related to traffic congestion, environmental impact, odor, noise, blocked rail crossings, the already tight labor market, and the likelihood of an increased demand on city services.

A busy day

The proposed slaughterhouse, which would cost \$300 million to build, prompted at least three meetings during the day last Thursday.

Christian County agribusiness executive Wayne Hunt, a key advocate for a beef processing plant, was present for a meeting at the airport when AFG executive vice president Jim Rathke and others spoke with state Rep. Dossett and Peterson. (At the airport, Rathke told Hoptown Chronicle he is in charge of AFG's expansion plan, but he declined to name the location of a second site that his company is considering.)

"We don't think the company and Pembroke would be a good fit," Dossett told Hoptown Chronicle.

Peterson, whose mother Judy Peterson is Pembroke's mayor, said residents of the town and surrounding areas are overwhelmingly opposed to the plant.

"Can we stop this thing from coming? I don't know. But at least they heard us," Dossett said.

Peterson and Dossett said local officials involved in recruiting AFG to Christian County kept the project secret too long. By the time many people in Pembroke heard about it, they felt like they had been left out of the process.



An aerial view shows a 378-acre tract (above the CSX rail line) that a Wisconsin meatpacking company has considered for a massive slaughterhouse. The land is on John Rivers Road. The town of Pembroke is visible in the upper left corner of the photo. (Image from South Western Kentucky Economic Development Council)

Although the proposed site is closest to Pembroke, it would have hinged on incentives from Hopkinsville City Council and possibly Christian Fiscal Court. In addition, state incentives awarded through the Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority typically are part of an incentive package for a project as large as the proposed slaughterhouse.

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Cows: Breaker 75-80%: 1435-1830# 54.00-62.00; 1400-1745# 56.00-68.00. Boner 80-85% 1095-1425# 52.00-62.00; 1130-1385# 630.00-7400; 1210-1455# 42.00-51.00; Lean 85-90% 42.00-51.00.

Bulls: 1-2: 1330-2230# 89.00-99.00; 1725-2145# 101.00-108.00; 1245-1830# 83.00-88.00.

Heifers: Large 2: 475# 121.00.

Fresh/Milking Cows: Common, 900.00 Jersey.

Bred Heifers: Common T1 725.00.

Springer Heifers: Approved T3 1175.00; Medium T3 950.00; Common T3 650.00-775.00.

Baby Bull Calves: 13 Head 5.00-40.00; 4 Head 100.00-170.00 Beef Cross; 4 Head 30.00-85.00 Crossbred; 3 Head 10.00-20.00 Jersey.

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Larue crop judging team wins national title



A small local high school made a splash on a national stage earlier this month when Larue County FFA's crop scouting team was named co-national champions.

"This is a great group of kids to work with," says Daniel Carpenter, ag extension agent for Larue County and the crop scouting team coach since the program's inception in 2019. "They've had great FFA advisors and ag teachers that gave them a good foundation, and I was just happy to be able to help get them to a spot to where they can do well. They worked hard and studied hard, and they pulled it off."

The squad qualified for nationals back in July when the group traveled to the University of Kentucky's Princeton campus and took home the state title, just edging out second place Adair County. While state competition was held at one location, nationals were online only due to Covid-19 concerns and took place Sept. 9. As for the tie for the top spot, Carpenter has a simple explanation.

"We both finished with the same amount of points," he says with a laugh. "I was kind of surprised they didn't have any kind of tiebreaker, but we're happy to share the win."



From left to right, LCHS crop scouting team members Donna Thompson, Jose Villanos, Jacob Hinton, Grayson Miller, and Bryan Robbins.

This was the third year Carpenter's team has competed at nationals. The group traveled to Iowa for the 2019 competition and participated online the last two years.

Carpenter says a share of the credit for the team's success goes to Misty Bivens and Chris Thomas, the two agriculture teachers at Larue County High School.

I have a really good relationship with the teachers there," Carpenter says. "They do a great job and I'm just happy to be able to help out with crop scouting."

For the uninitiated, crop scouting includes observing fields and making note of the issues and problems that it might have, identifying those problems and finding solutions.

"We try to educate them on what those problems are here in Kentucky, the diseases and insects we deal with here," Carpenter says. "We try to find out what caused the problems, and then have (the students) come up with a solution for the grower."

By Wes Feese
Field Reporter

CONGRATULATIONS LARUE COUNTY CROP SCOUTING

1st Place 2021 National Crop Scouting Team and 1st Place 2021 Kentucky Crop Scouting Team



Team members – Donna Thompson, Jose Villanos, Jacob Hinton, Grayson Miller, Bryan Robbins.
Coached by Misty Bivens, Chris Thomas
(Ag Education instructors) and Daniel Carpenter
(LaRue County Ag Extension Agent).

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CONGRATULATIONS LARUE COUNTY CROP SCOUTING TEAM

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First place NATIONAL FFA Crop Scouting Team



Team members – Donna Thompson, Jose Villanos,
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Coached by Misty Bivens, Chris Thomas
(Ag Education instructors) and Daniel Carpenter
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ONE VOICE

Sharon
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Mostly, I just want to congratulate the people of Christian County for their willingness to contemplate what they want their communities, their region and their economy to look like.

Years ago Adair County was a textile community. Sewing factory jobs were our number one industry, and many people went straight from high school into a factory job.

A lot of those people were women and they were farmer's wives, supplementing the farm income and providing health insurance for their families.

When those jobs left, our leaders did very little to help our people recoup. Our state showed interest, but our community failed to provide viable training programs or other opportunities.

We have continued to struggle and local economic development efforts have been insignificant. Some community leadership wants to keep it that way because they see a growth of new jobs as competition for them. Keep the options few; keep the wages low.

I am a business owner, but I disagree with that view. Grow the economy – with a plan for the future – and we all benefit.

Because of my experience here, I have been keenly interested in the activities taking place in the Hopkinsville area. Some residents near Pembroke oppose a proposed slaughterhouse that would generate more than 1,300 jobs. One report indicated those jobs would pay workers from \$18 to \$25 an hour.

I'm not taking a stand on whether the community should support or oppose the slaughterhouse. I don't live or work there and it's not for me to tell the ones who do what is best for them.

Mostly, I just want to congratulate the people of Christian County for their willingness to contemplate what they want their communities, their region and their economy to look like. They have been doing that for a long time.

This is not their first economic development conversation. According to hoptownchronicle.org, a nonprofit news site for Christian County, there are already 28 industrial plants along Pembroke Road employing 8,000 workers.

Meanwhile, our community is starving for a stronger economy and the idea of 1,300 jobs at \$18 to \$25 an hour sounds like a major win to us. We don't have 28 industrial plants.

The conversation taking place in Christian County is a reminder that the needs vary across the state. What one community may see as an opportunity another may see as a bad fit. Either way, it's all about planning what you want your community to look like in the future and then traveling the right roads to get there.

SHARON BURTON is editor of The Farmer's Pride.

Corn growers take lead in policy, research

We hear great things across the state about this year's harvest. Hopefully, you are having to drive your combine really slowly! As the new crop comes in, our minds focus on demand and profitability, and we feel it is important to update you on what the Kentucky Corn Promotion Council (investment arm) and Kentucky Corn Growers Association (grassroots advocacy program) are doing to help your farm's bottom line.

Policy decisions, mostly in Washington, D.C., have an immense impact on your freedom to operate and many of our demand segments. You have probably already seen information about the Next Generation Fuels Act that was introduced in August. It would revolutionize the transportation fuels industry by creating an octane standard and measures to decarbonize liquid fuels. Since ethanol is, by far, the cheapest and cleanest octane enhancer, the bill will have huge implications on our largest user of corn. We also are engaged in Waters of the United States (WOTUS) discussions, preparing to ensure that changes to that rule do not adversely affect you. Tax reform, particularly relating to stepped-up basis and the estate tax exemption thresholds, are front in our minds and in our grassroots activation programs.

We can never take our demand portfolio for granted. Not any portion of it. The KyCPC puts our checkoff dollars to work with trade promotion programs for grains, poultry, and livestock markets across the globe. Ninety-six percent of the world's consumers living outside the United States. The future of American agriculture largely depends on our ability to sell to foreign markets, and we have robust programs in place to ensure that for corn and corn products like ethanol, beef, poultry and pork.

We feel the same concern as all corn farmers regarding skyrocketing input costs. The Council seeks to leverage checkoff dollars in that space, as well. Much of this work is conducted in partnership with UK Ag Research funding from KyCPC and is designed to help farmers fine-tune crop budgets and improve decision making for nitrogen rates and timings, disease risks, weed pressure, and more. We work with UK researchers yearlong to ensure the projects funded by our checkoff dollars are practical and meaningful for our bottom lines and focused on the problems that Kentucky growers face in their fields.

We strive to make sound checkoff investments and advance policy priorities to increase corn grind and improve your farm's bottom line. We always want to engage you in this effort and to receive your input. You can contact our office at 800-326-0906.

May you have a safe and blessed harvest season.



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Harvest, exports, and South America



MARKET WATCH

Dewey Strickler

China's energy shortages, primarily coal, have raised concerns as soybean processors have been forced to cut back on their operations.

The focus in grains is on harvest, exports, and South America with traders also keeping a close eye on the Evergrande Group, a property manager in China that may be close to defaulting on their loan payments. Although concerns about them have eased the past few days, the problem is not going away.

Meanwhile, corn harvest is progressing at a fast clip and is 18 percent done versus the average of 15 percent. Yields are slightly less than expected. Exports are improving as the Gulf port comes back online with inspections last week a marketing year high of 20.3 million bushels. Corn planting is underway in Brazil and 22 percent complete.

Soybean harvest is getting into full swing and is 16 percent done versus the average of 13 percent. Yields are about as expected, maybe better.

China's energy shortages, primarily coal, have raised concerns as soybean processors have been forced to cut back on their operations. However, China purchased 334,000 tons this week, their largest buy in several weeks.

Last week, export inspections were a marketing year high of 16.1 million bushels with China taking 65 percent of the shipments. Planting is beginning in Brazil with expectations that they will produce another record crop.

Concerns of rising inflation is causing end users to increase their coverage of wheat.

However, prices came under pressure early this week because of the strength in the dollar.

In other developments, winter wheat planting is progressing smoothly and is 34 percent complete compared to 32 percent for the average. Last week, export inspections were disappointing at 10.5 million bushels. Since late August, shipments have fallen nearly 12 percent.

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

Death taxes: Only for the 1 percenters

Most Americans know there are three, unalterable facts of life: death, taxes, and farmers howling about "death taxes."

And just between you and me, there's an oft-whispered, rarely acknowledged fourth fact of life: Nearly every farm leader knows there's no such thing as a "death tax" – federal taxes due upon death – for 99 percent of all farmers.

That's not an opinion; it is a provable fact. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service again confirmed it in a 23-page analysis of the American Family Plan, the pending White House tax proposal, in September.

The analysis, wrote ERS, "suggest(s) that of the estimated 32,174 family farm estates in 2021, 1.1 percent would owe capital gains at death, 18.2 percent would not owe capital gains taxes at death but could have deferred liability if the farm assets do not remain family-owned, and 80.7 percent would have no change to their capital gains tax liability."

In one way, the farm leaders were right. The number of estimated farm estates to be taxed under the Biden plan is higher than the number under current tax law. That number, according to a March 2021 ERS report, is incredibly tiny.

"For 2020, ERS forecasted 31,394 farm estates would be created from principal operator households, and out of those, .6 percent—or 189 estates—would be required to file an estate tax return, and only .16 percent of the 31,394 farm estates will have an estate tax liability."

That means 50 – as in 5-0 or one per U.S. state – "farm estates have an estate tax liability." Under the proposed changes, that average rises to seven per state.

As the numbers make clear, neither today's tax laws nor the proposed American Family Plan creates a "death tax" crisis in any state or the nation. In fact, hardly any American – including American farmers – pay taxes after "death."

And "hardly" means hardly.

According to 2020 estimates compiled by the non-profit, non-partisan Tax Policy Center, "About 4,100 estate tax returns will be filed for people who die in 2020, of which only about 1,900 will be taxable—less than 0.1 percent of the 2.8 million people expected to die in that year. Because of a series of increases in the estate tax exemption, few estates pay the tax."

So it's not just farmers not paying "death taxes," 99.9 percent of all Americans who die don't pay a penny to undertaker Uncle Sam. That means "death taxes" apply to only the 1,900 Americans either so rich upon death they can't avoid some taxes or the few who die without a plan to avoid taxes.

The facts, however, never get in the way of politicians preaching the horrors of phantom death taxes destroying the American family farm. A month before the Biden tax plan became public this spring, South Dakota Sen. John Thune argued that even "One family or business lost to the death tax is one too many."

And Thune, the U.S. Senate's second most powerful Republican, wasn't alone. There was a bipartisan race to the microphones by virtually every House and Senate member to denounce death taxes on family farms despite clear evidence that virtually no family farm pays any estate taxes.

No mind, on Sept. 13, "The House Ways and Means Committee... released a section-by-section fact sheet on the tax provisions in the [Biden tax] bill to be considered by the committee... that did not include any references to changes in stepped-up basis for estate taxes," noted the Hagstrom Report.

So, glory hallelujah, Congress has once again protected every "family farmer" from onerous "death taxes" that only 50 farm estates now pay.

Now, hopefully, they'll tackle other critical issues like whether the Brooklyn Bridge is actually in Brooklyn.



FOOD & FARM FILE

Alan Guebert

The latest CRP general sign-up period that ended earlier this summer lured in only 2.8 million acres of the 4 million acres the Biden Administration hoped to attract.

ALAN GUEBERT publishes a weekly column Farm and Food File through the U.S. and Canada. Past columns, events and contact information are posted at farmandfoodfile.com. Contact Alan Guebert by email at agcomm@farmandfoodfile.com.

Ag Finance reaches milestone; meat processing program invests \$7m



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**Brian
Lacefield**

It has been great this summer seeing so many of you at meetings, field days, and of course at the Kentucky State Fair. After over a year of Zoom meetings, it was great to see friends and colleagues in person again and learn more about the impact the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund has had in communities across the state.

Talking about impacts, this summer the Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation reached \$100 million in assets! This makes KOAP's lending arm the size of a community bank here in Kentucky.

This milestone was achieved when Kentucky Agricultural Development Board committed \$5 million in state Kentucky Agricultural Development Funds to KAFC during its May 2021 meeting.

Since 2003, the KADB has invested \$80 million in KAFC for its loan programs. The additional \$20 million in assets includes interest paid on

all loans and KADB-approved loans transferred to KAFC for servicing.

The Meat Processing Investment Program investments are also making a big impact across Kentucky. Established in the spring of 2020 to expand Kentucky's beef, dairy, pork, lamb, sheep, goat and poultry processing capabilities, the MPIP was created in an effort to address the capacity issues in the supply chain that were brought to light by the coronavirus pandemic. To date nearly \$7 million has been invested in our meat processing industry through MPIP and federal CARES program.

MPIP investments span the state from Graves County in west Kentucky to Greenup County in east Kentucky. Projects include young farmers like Jorden Patterson – a farmer in

Monroe County – who started with a dream to add value to her family's livestock. Now, thanks to her determination, she is opening a new USDA certified processing facility. Rod Kuegel, a lifelong tobacco farmer, has diversified his operation by renovating an existing meat processing facility in McLean County with his sons, starting a new agriculture tradition in the Kuegel family. The investments in the meat processing industry are not only a benefit to our farmers by providing expanded access to processing services, but also provides a benefit to Kentucky consumers, increasing their access to fresh local meat.

This month we will be discussing the impact KADF programs and investments have had across Kentucky at a second joint meeting of the

KADB and KAFC boards. On Oct. 14 and 15 the boards will meet in Frankfort to continue the strategic planning process they began in July.

I want to thank all of you who took time to complete the stakeholder survey in August. The survey results are one of the tools to be used in the strategic planning process.

From the commodity-centered focus groups earlier this year to providing feedback through the stakeholder survey, our farmers and industry partners have provided valuable input for our strategic planning process. In 2000, Kentucky's agriculture community spoke with one voice to secure the historic investment in agriculture with the KADF, and once again we are working together to create a roadmap for the next 20 years.

BRIAN LACEFIELD is the Executive Director of the Kentucky Office of Agricultural Policy.

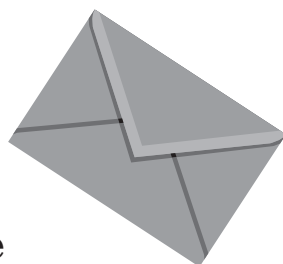
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Letters should be no longer than 500 words and will be edited for clarity.

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Johnson retiring from Farm Credit Mid-America

Association's board of Directors launches national search to fill top role



Bill Johnson – retiring President and CEO of Farm Credit Mid-America.

Bill Johnson, president and CEO of Farm Credit Mid-America, will retire in the first quarter of 2022 after 11 years in the role and 39 years of dedicated service to the Farm Credit System.

"Bill has brought a balance to growing the association in a way that maintains quality and financial strength while also investing in people, processes and technology to evolve with our customer's needs," said Farm Credit Mid-America Board Chair Andrew Wilson. The financial services cooperative has grown \$13.3 billion in total assets under Johnson's leadership and serves more than 80,000 customer-owners.

"It has been an honor to work with our customers and team members as CEO, and I can't wait to see how far the organization will go in the next 10 years," Johnson said. "The quality of customers and the dedication of team members makes for a winning combination."

"Because of our team's talent and commitment, we are confident that leadership transition will go well and that we will continue to provide customers with the financial services they need by a lender who keeps

customers at the heart of all we do," said Wilson.

Wilson said that the board has been focused on succession planning for many years and will soon launch a national search to fill this top role. "We remain com-

mitted to select a leader who will exemplify our values and work cooperatively to secure the future of rural communities and agriculture, one home, one farm, one business at a time."

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The purpose of this notice is to inform you that a \$7,200,000.00 class-action settlement (the "Proposed Retailer Settlement") has been reached with the four Retailer Defendants in a lawsuit regarding the sale and use of Super S Supertrac 303 Tractor Hydraulic Fluid, Super S 303 Tractor Hydraulic Fluid, Cam2 ProMax 303 Tractor Hydraulic Oil, and/or Cam2 303 Tractor Hydraulic Oil ("303 THF Products"). The Proposed Retailer Settlement settles claims against Retailer Defendants Tractor Supply Company, Orscheln Farm and Home LLC, Rural King, and Atwood, together with each of their affiliates, divisions, subsidiaries, and assigns (collectively referred to as "Retailer Defendants") that were asserted in a Multi-District Litigation ("MDL") lawsuit. Plaintiffs believe that the primary claims in the MDL are against Smitty's Supply, Inc. and CAM2 International, LLC (collectively referred to as "Manufacturer Defendants"), and those claims are proceeding in the MDL and have not been settled.

The Proposed Retailer Settlement may affect your rights. For comprehensive information about the lawsuit and settlement, including the longer notice of settlement and the Retailer Settlement Agreement and Release with the precise terms and conditions of the Retailer Settlement, please see www.303tractorhydraulicfluidsettlement.com or call 1-866-742-4955. You may also access the Court docket in this case through the Court's Public Access to Court Electronic Records (PACER) system at www.mow.uscourts.gov/ or by visiting the office of the Office of the Clerk of Court, United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri, 400 E. 9th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, 64106, between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding Court holidays. The MDL lawsuit is titled *In Re: Smitty's/CAM2 303 Tractor Hydraulic Fluid Marketing, Sales Practices, and Product Liability Litigation*, MDL No. 2936, Case No. 4:20-MD-02936-SRB, pending before the Honorable Judge Stephen R. Bough in the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri. Please do not telephone the Court or the Court Clerk's Office to inquire about the Proposed Settlement or the claim process.

In the MDL lawsuit, Plaintiffs allege (1) that the Manufacturing Defendants' 303 THF Products did not meet the equipment manufacturers' specifications or provide the performance benefits listed on the product labels, (2) that the 303 THF Products were made with inappropriate ingredients, including used transformer oil, used turbine oil, and line flush, and (3) that use of the 303 THF Products in equipment causes damage to various parts of the equipment. Because of the used oil and line flush contained in the 303 THF Products, Plaintiffs allege that those 303 THF Products should not be used as tractor hydraulic fluid and that the fluid should be flushed from equipment systems if one can afford the cost of doing so.

The Manufacturer Defendants have denied the allegations and claims of wrongdoing, and the claims against those Manufacturer Defendants are ongoing. The Retailer Defendants deny any allegations and claims of wrongdoing on their part. The Court has not decided who is right or made a final ruling on Plaintiffs' claims. Plaintiffs and the Retailer Defendants have agreed to the Proposed Settlement as to the Retailer Defendants' liability to avoid the risk and expense of further litigation.

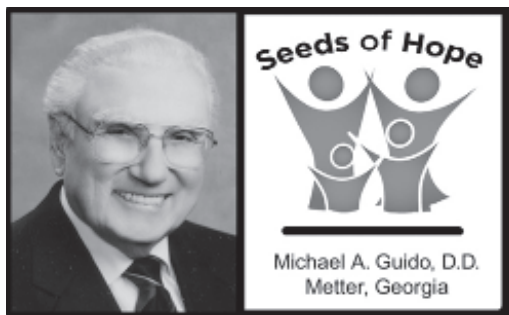
You may be a member of the Retailer Settlement Class if you purchased the above-listed 303 THF Products from December 1, 2013, to the present from Tractor Supply Company (including its Del's Feed and Farm Supply locations), Orscheln Farm and Home, Rural King or Atwood. If you are a member of the Retailer Settlement Class, you may need to submit a Class Membership Form to be eligible for benefits, and you also may be eligible to submit a Repair/Parts/Specific Equipment Damage Claim Form. Please see www.303tractorhydraulicfluidsettlement.com for a copy of the Class Membership Form and Repair/Parts/Specific Equipment Damage Claim Form or call 1-866-742-4955 to request a Class Membership Form and Claim Form be mailed to you. The deadline to file your claim is December 29, 2021. In order to maximize efficiency, proceeds from this Retailer Settlement will be held for distribution at such a point in time after monies, if any, have been received in settlement or judgment for the Litigation Class claims against the Manufacturer Defendants. Please be patient and check the website for updates.

If you do not want to be legally bound by the Proposed Retailer Settlement, you must exclude yourself by December 29, 2021. If you do not exclude yourself, you will release any claims you may have against the Retailer Defendants, as more fully described in the Retailer Settlement Agreement. You may object to the Proposed Retailer Settlement by December 29, 2021. The Long Form Notice, available at www.303tractorhydraulicfluidsettlement.com or upon request, explains how to exclude yourself or object.

The Court will decide whether to approve the Proposed Retailer Settlement at the Final Fairness Hearing on January 6, 2022, at 1:30 p.m. Class Counsel also will ask that the Court award up to \$2,300,000.00 in attorneys' fees, \$300,000.00 in expenses, and an incentive payment of \$500 for each of the class representatives. The amounts awarded for attorneys' fees, expenses, and incentive awards come out of the Retailer Settlement Class Fund. This date for the hearing may change; see www.303tractorhydraulicfluidsettlement.com



BY ORDER OF U.S. DISTRICT COURT



His Master's Voice

There once was a dog named "Nipper," a terrier, who was very devoted to his master, Mark Barraud. The two were best friends and were rarely seen apart from each other. When Mark died, his brother Francis 'adopted' him and after a lengthy period of mourning, "Nipper" became very attached to Francis, who was an artist. Eventually they too developed a very close relationship.

Mark and Francis lived in the latter 1800s and at that time phonographs with wax cylinders were used for recording voices and music. Some of Francis' cylinders contained recordings of his voice and each time he played one of his recordings, "Nipper" would place his head near the phonograph and look intently into it as though he was looking for his master to appear. "Nipper's" pose inspired the artist, and he painted a picture of it that became one of the most famous and recognizable brands in all the world, called "His Master's Voice."

In Psalm 99:7 we read that "He spoke to them from the pillar of cloud." What an unusual means of communication. Imagine walking through a field and suddenly hearing a cloud call you by name and giving you a special message. Seems improbable, but that's what God did to Moses and Aaron. Yet, if necessary, He could do it today.

Our God is constantly trying to speak to us in different ways at different times and in different places every moment of every day. He does everything he can to get our attention to get us to hear "our Master's voice." However, we must be alert and attentive, waiting and willing to hear Him speak, and keep our eyes open to see Him in action.

Scripture For Today: He spoke to Israel from the pillar of cloud, and they followed the laws and decrees he gave them. Psalm 99:7

Maple-Roasted Chicken Thighs



Preheat the oven to 425 degrees F.

Line a 10x15-inch baking pan with foil.

Whisk 1 teaspoon olive oil, maple syrup, thyme, 1/4 teaspoon salt, and 1/4 teaspoon pepper together in a small bowl. Set aside.

Toss sweet potatoes and Brussels sprouts together in a large bowl with 2 teaspoons olive oil, 1/4 teaspoon salt, and 1/4 teaspoon pepper.

Brush chicken with remaining olive oil and sprinkle with remaining salt and pepper. Arrange chicken, smooth sides down, in the center of the prepared pan. Arrange vegetables around chicken.

Roast in the preheated oven for 15 minutes.

Turn chicken over; brush it, sweet potatoes, and Brussels sprouts with maple syrup mixture. Continue to roast until potatoes are tender and an instant-read thermometer inserted into thickest parts of the chicken registers 175 degrees F (80 degrees C), about 15 minutes. Sprinkle with pecans and cranberries.

- 2 tablespoons olive oil, divided
- 2 tablespoons maple syrup
- 1 tablespoon snipped fresh thyme
- 3/4 teaspoon salt, divided
- 3/4 teaspoon ground black pepper, divided
- 1 pound sweet potatoes, peeled and cut into 1-inch wedges
- 1 pound Brussels sprouts, trimmed and halved
- 4 bone-in chicken thighs
- 1/4 cup chopped toasted pecans
- 1/4 cup chopped dried cranberries



Applesauce Pumpkin Spice Bread

- Cooking spray
- 3 1/2 cups unbleached all-purpose flour
- 3 tablespoons ground cinnamon
- 1 1/2 tablespoons ground nutmeg
- 2 teaspoons ground cloves
- 1 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 2 cups dark brown sugar
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1 cup unsweetened applesauce
- 4 eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 (15 ounce) can solid-pack pumpkin
- 1/2 cup water

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

Grease 2 loaf pans with cooking spray.

Mix flour, cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves, ginger, baking soda, salt, and baking powder together in a large bowl.

Combine brown sugar, white sugar, applesauce, and eggs in a large bowl. Add pumpkin and mix well. Add flour mixture alternately with water, mixing well between additions. Divide between the prepared loaf pans.

Bake loaves in the preheated oven until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean, 60 to 65 minutes. Cool in pans for 10 minutes. Invert onto a wire rack to cool completely.



Kentucky young soybean leaders named



Daniel and Paige Adams of Eddyville.

Daniel and Paige Adams of Eddyville and Matt and Amanda Gajdzik of Shelbyville have been selected as Kentucky's American Soybean Association Corteva Young Leaders. This national program allows young soybean farmers from around the country to gather for a challenging leadership experience. The Young Leaders program offers the opportunity for participants to enhance their leadership skills as well as meet and learn from other young leaders.

The Young Leaders program is unique

among the leadership opportunities that exist for soybean growers, as it is designed to include both husbands and wives, whether the spouse works on or off the farm. The couples will attend sessions together so that both parties understand the importance of helping to shape national policy and advocate for agriculture, and both have the tools to do so. This program trains leaders with the expectation that they will, at some point, serve in a leadership capacity in the soybean family.

Daniel Adams raises soybeans and corn in three counties in western Kentucky and is a lifetime member of the Kentucky Soybean Association. He is a sponsor of the Lyon County Chapter of FFA and a first-generation farmer. His wife, Paige, is employed off the farm with a company that encourages its employees to volunteer their time, particularly in leadership roles. The couple has two small children who they would like to offer the opportunity to farm.

Matt Gajdzik raises soybeans, corn, and cattle along with a thriving fruit orchard. His wife, Amanda, also farms full time, taking the lead on the couple's agritourism operation, marketing of the produce and beef, and book work for both the farm and the orchard. He is a lifetime member of the Kentucky Soybean Association and has

been involved with a number of agriculture organizations here in the state. The Gajdziks also have two children who they wish to offer a place in the operation should they choose to farm.

As part of their status as Kentucky's ASA Corteva Young Leaders, Daniel and Matt will serve as ex-officio members of the board of the Kentucky Soybean Association. Young Leader duties begin in November when the couples will travel to Corteva corporate headquarters in Johnston, Iowa, for part one of a two-part training session. Part two will take place in March during Commodity Classic in New Orleans. Classic is the national annual meeting of the American Soybean Association, the National Corn Growers Association, the National Association of Wheat Growers and the National Sorghum Producers.



Matt and Amanda Gajdzik of Shelbyville.

For more information on soybean farming in Kentucky, visit www.kysoy.org.

Central Kentucky Premier Heifer Sale

November 27th, 2021 • 1:00 PM EST
Blue Grass Stockyards • Lexington, KY



- Approximately **250 heifers** will sell from producers in Marion and Nelson counties.
- Bred to calve in the spring starting February - March 2022
- Guaranteed bred to bulls with known EPDs and have met stringent requirements for health, quality and pelvic measurements.
- Guaranteed pregnant 30 days past sale.
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17th Annual

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FRIDAY OCTOBER 29 • 6:30PM
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3025 OWINGSVILLE ROAD • MOUNT STERLING

SELLING 140
SPRING BRED HEIFERS
and a few COW/CALF PAIRS

COST SHARE ELIGIBLE

- Heifers have completed extensive spring and fall health programs.
- All Heifers meet requirements for Kentucky Phase 1 CAIP Cost Share and Tennessee program.
- All are examined safe in calf by a competent veterinarian through palpation or ultrasound
- All service sires are calving ease acceptable bulls.
- Heifers are guaranteed BVD-PI negative, and are EID tagged.
- Sold in uniform groups by breed, frame, and expected calving due dates
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These heifers excel in quality and have exceptional future earning potential.

For More Information Contact:
John McDonald • (859) 404-1406 Email: johnk.mcdonald@ky.gov
Catalogs available 2 weeks prior to sale
Sale Day/Stockyard Phone: 859-498-9625 • Jeff Copher: 859-229-7587



Photo by Katie Pratt, UK agricultural communications.

Butch King, Kentucky fencing school participant, participates in an on-site fence construction demonstration in Logan County.

Regional fencing schools coming in November

The University of Kentucky will host two regional fencing schools this fall to help livestock producers learn the newest fencing techniques and sound fence construction.

The fall fencing schools will occur Nov. 9 at the Grand Rivers Community Center in Livingston County and Nov. 11 at Kentucky State University's Harold R. Benson Research and Demonstration Farm in Frankfort. The schools begin at 7:30 a.m. and conclude at 4:30 p.m. local time.

The Frankfort school will have a special focus on fencing for small ruminants. Chris Teutsch, UK forage extension specialist, started these one-day events in 2018 in Kentucky to help producers improve their grazing management.

"If you have ever driven around the countryside, there are a lot of fences but not a lot of well-constructed ones," said Teutsch, extension associate professor in the UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment. "One of the goals of this school is to help people get the basics of fencing down. That way they can build a strong, durable fence that will last 25 or 30 years, or if they decide to hire a contractor to build it for them, they will know what a well-constructed fence looks like."

UK specialists and fencing industry

experts will use a mixture of classroom instruction and hands-on demonstrations to teach producers the basics of a well-built fence. An added bonus of the school is that the techniques producers learn can help them qualify for cost-share dollars from the Natural Resources Conservation Service for new fence construction.

Each school is limited to 30 participants, and the cost is \$30 per person. This cost covers lunch, a fencing notebook and safety gear. Participants are encouraged to bring leather gloves for the hands-on portion of the school. Those interested in attending can register online from the UK Forages Extension website or mail the completed form and payment to Carrie Thrailkill, UK Research and Education Center, 348 University Drive, Princeton, KY, 42445.

Producers are encouraged to register early, as spots will fill quickly. The registration deadline for each location is two weeks prior to the workshop. During the events, participants must follow current Covid-19 protocols. KFGC, UK Co-op. Extension Service and KY Master Grazer Educational Program organize the schools with the help of numerous sponsors.

By Katie Pratt
University of Kentucky

TAS Auction

COBLENTZ FARMS/PENNYRILE DAIRY

TWO Complete Dairy Herd Dispersals at ONE location!

Saturday • October 16th, 2021 • 10:00 AM CST • Cattle 11:00 am

Sale held at Coblentz Farms: 6785 Russellville Rd. • Guthrie, KY



350 HEAD SELL!! • Herd avg: 24,157M • 137 SCC
140 milking • 23 dry • 69 bred heifers • 93 open heifers • 25 calves

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Case IH 695 Tractor, 2428 hrs
GEA Houle 5350 Manure Tank, extra nice
Penta 3020-SD Mix Wagon
Gehl Mix-All 170 Grinder Mixer, scales
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Please no Sunday calls

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE:

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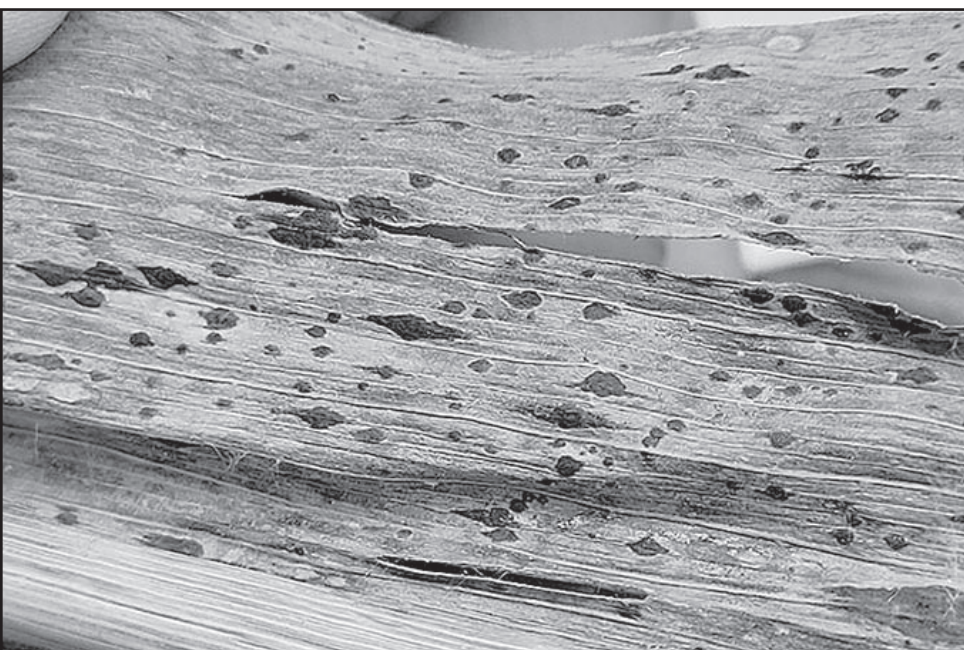


Photo by Kiersten Wise, UK extension plant pathologist

Tell-tale signs of tar spot include small, black, irregular-shaped structures called stromata on leaf tissue.

Tar spot found in Kentucky corn

PRINCETON, Ky. - The University of Kentucky Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab in Princeton confirmed the state's first case of tar spot on corn during the week of Sept. 13.

Curt Judy, Todd County agriculture and natural resources extension agent, submitted the diseased sample from an inbred corn line that was part of a local breeding trial. It was not found in a commercial corn field. The disease was found on plant leaves.

"At this point in the season, no management is needed if tar spot is confirmed in a field, but it is important to alert your county extension agent if you observe the disease so we can document distribution in the state," said Kiersten Wise, extension plant pathologist with the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment.

Tar spot is caused by the fungus *Phyllachora maydis*. The first signs of infection are small, black, irregular-shaped structures called stromata on leaf tissue. The stromata will protrude from the leaf and feel rough or bumpy. This bumpy feel of the fungal stromata also distinguishes tar spot from dark spots caused by saprophytic growth on senesced plant tissue. Tar spot may also appear on the leaf sheaths, husks and tassels. Unlike dirt or insect excrement, producers will not be able to wipe tar spot lesions off the leaf.

Tar spot is a foliar disease, originally found in the Caribbean, Central America, Mexico and South America. It first appeared in the United States in 2015. Since then, it has spread across the Midwest, north into Canada and as far south as Florida. The fungus that causes the disease can overwinter in the United States.

Yield losses can range from none to more than 50 bushels an acre, depending on hybrid susceptibility, infection timing and environmental conditions. Research has indicated fungal infection and growth occurs under moderate temperatures (70s F) and high humidity.

"Research on tar spot is ongoing and has primarily occurred in northern states," Wise said. "It is unknown what impact tar spot will have in Kentucky and how management recommendations for the disease in other areas will apply in Kentucky."

Kentucky producers who suspect they have the disease should work with their local extension agent to submit samples to the UK Plant Disease Diagnostic Laboratory for diagnosis.

Producers can find more information about tar spot on the Crop Protection Network's website cropprotectionnetwork.org/resources/publications/tar-spot

Katie Pratt
University of Kentucky

SPRANG COMPLETE FARM DISPERSAL AUCTION

9:30AM MISC
11AM REAL ESTATE
FARM EQUIP. FOLLOWS

118
ACRES

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9TH

PREMIER 118 ACRE WESTERN HOLMES CO. OHIO FARM FARM EQUIPMENT- HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS

Will sell on the farm located at 12970 TR 474 Big Prairie, OH 44611. 15 Miles NW of Millersburg or 15 miles SW of Wooster. From Nashville, OH travel NE on SR 514 three miles to CR 373 then left (North) one mile to TR 474 then west ¼ mile to farm or from Shreve, OH follow SR 226 south to SR 514 then continue SW 3 ½ miles to CR 373 then north to TR 474 and west to farm.

REAL ESTATE: Definitely one of the premier western Holmes County farms to be offered at public auction in recent history. 118 Acres sold in its entirety – 78 Acres +/- tillable – Fenced pastures – Stunning 4300 + sq. ft. custom built home (2008). Renovated bank barn and attached cattle sheds, Machinery shed, Hoop (Cover-All) barn. Full details on the website - www.res.bid



TRACTORS * SKID STEER * BACKHOE * TRUCK * TRAILER: '07 JD 7420 D. 4 WD Tractor w/full factory cab, buddy seat, power quad. Trans., 18.4x42 radial rears, triple remotes, 16 front wts., 540/1000 pto, 3260 hrs. (Clean & Sharp); '82 JD 4440 D. 2 WD tractor w/full factory cab, power quad. trans., 18.4x38 rears, triple remotes, 8 front wts., 540/1000 pto, 8520 hrs. (Engine overhauled at 8000 hrs.); '82 JD 2640 D 2 WD tractor, ROPS Canopy, 15.5x38 rears, single remote, 8 speed trans.; '50 Oliver 77 gas row crop tractor, hyd., pto, 13.6x38 rubber (Older restoration); Wide front axle for Oliver 77 sells separate; Cat 216 B (47 hp) skid steer loader w/only 1385 hrs. selling w/67" material bucket; Attachments Selling separate – set of Loegering steel tracks, 72" material bucket, manure tooth bucket, pallet forks, 3 prong big bale fork, round bale fork; CAT 416 Diesel 4 WD Loader/backhoe – w/extend-a-hoe, ROPS Canopy, 7' material bucket, 12" & 24" hoe buckets. Hrs. unk. runs and is in good condition; '06 GMC 3500 1 Ton dually single cab truck w/Duramax Diesel, Auto., good rubber, steel flatbed w/gooseneck hitch, 107,000 mi.; PJ 14' 7000 lb. Tandem axle, bumper hitch trailer w/steel mesh tailgate, & SS fenders.

HONDA PILOT - CAN AM SIDE X SIDE - 2 TORO ZERO TURNS - 4 WHEELER - ETC.: '11 Honda Pilot 4WD car w/3.5L Vortec engine, burgundy w/Tan leather, 127K, nice condition; Can Am HD 8 Defender XT gas 4x4 side x side w/winch, roof, windshield, net doors, manual dump bed, 1100 hrs. (VERY NICE); Toro Z Master commercial grade Mod. 3000 zero turn mower w/Kawasaki gas engine 60" deck & 900 hrs.; Toro SWX 5000 Time Cutter Zero Turn mower w/steering wheel, 50" deck, (2 yrs. old, ex. Condition); Polaris 400 Sportsman 4 wheeler w/winch, 415 hrs.; JD 455 D. garden tractor has a mtd. 25 gal. poly tank & 12V pump for spraying & 54" mower deck – 22 HP water cooled Yanmar diesel w/1010 hrs.; Woods RM 59 3 pt. finish mower

GP NO - TILL DRILL - MOWERS - BLADE: '94 GP 1500 Solid Stand Center Pivot No-Til Grain Drill 7 ½" spacing, 5070 acres – Good steel; Bomford GT 49 3 pt. rotary flail ditch bank mower (19' reach & Independent Hydraulics); JD 1518 15' Batwing brush hog w/solid trailing wheels; Rhino TW 84 (7') 3 pt. Brush Hog Mower; Bush Hog RG 84 box blade w/Scarifier teeth; Bush Hog mod. 121 – E8 3 pt, power angle & tilt blade w/trailing wheel; (Like New); IH 3 pt. 4 row Danish tine cultivator; 16' flatbed wagon on UFT gear.

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OR SUBSCRIBE AND NEVER MISS AN ISSUE!

One-day Kentucky grazing conference being offered in three locations

Producers can choose the most convenient location to attend the one day KY Grazing Conference and learn how they can sustainably improve their pastures.

The program is a joint effort of the Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council, University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service and UK Master Grazer Program.

The offerings include Oct. 26 at the University of Kentucky Research and Education Center in Princeton, Oct. 27 at the Hardin County Extension office in Elizabethtown,

and Oct. 28 at the Clark County Extension office in Winchester. The program begins each day at 8 a.m. and ends at 3 p.m. local time.

UK specialists will discuss several topics during the event, including weather trends and their grazing impacts, weed management, getting more bang from fertilizer, bale grazing, precision agriculture, designing flexible water and fencing systems and GRAZE, a program that balances available forages and livestock needs. Dr. Ed Ray-



burn, forage extension specialist from West Virginia University will join UK specialists to discuss pasture ecology. Preregistration is required to get the conference's reduced price of \$35 per person. Attendees may also register at the door the day of the event, but registration costs increase to \$50 per

participant then. Registration for youth or students is \$10. Registration information is available on the UK Forage Extension website. For more information contact Carrie Thrailkill, carrie.thrailkill@uky.edu.

Katie Pratt
University of Kentucky



Kentucky Department of Agriculture photo

Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture Dr. Ryan Quarles, second from left, with Homegrown By Heroes members and representatives of the Farmer Veteran Coalition, signed paperwork handing off the Kentucky Department of Agriculture's ownership of its Homegrown By Heroes campaign to the national Farmer Veteran Coalition.

KDA hands over Homegrown By Heroes program to Farmer Veteran Coalition

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture is handing off its ownership of its successful Homegrown By Heroes campaign to the national Farmer Veteran Coalition, allowing it to continue the program's unprecedented growth and fulfilling the terms of a 2017 memorandum of understanding between the two organizations.

Homegrown By Heroes was created by the KDA in 2013 to promote agricultural products produced by military veteran farmers. Since then the program has grown to include active-duty personnel, reservists and National Guard members. The Farmer Veteran Coalition and the KDA embarked on an agreement that same year allowing the Coalition to grow the program on a national scale. Today, Homegrown by Heroes has more than 2,000 certified producers around the nation.

While grown nationally by the Farmer Veteran Coalition, KDA continued to own the rights to the Homegrown By Heroes name and logo. This distinctive logo served as identification to prospective consumers that the products were locally grown or raised by a veteran. From the grocery shelf to the farmers' market to on-line retail, this label served as an extra incentive to consumers when making a purchase decision.

During the last few years, KDA licensed the logo rights to the Coalition to be used nationally. With today's agreement, those rights will now move over to the Farmer Veteran Coalition.

"The Homegrown By Heroes program has been instrumental in promoting the successful farming careers of active-duty and veteran military members," KDA Commissioner Dr. Ryan Quarles said. "In 2013, the Kentucky agriculture community was excited about the prospects of honoring our farmer-veterans with their own logo and now, eight years later, we are just as thrilled to turn it over to the Farmer Veteran Coalition. We know it's in good hands."

The Farmer Veteran Coalition is a national nonprofit organization based in Davis, California, that seeks to help veterans find employment and careers in agriculture.

While the Coalition will now own the Homegrown By Heroes trademark, KDA will still partner with the organization to help Kentucky military members promote their agricultural products by maintaining its own Homegrown by Heroes marketing program.

To learn more about Homegrown By Heroes program and eligibility, visit the KDA's website, kyagr.com, or the Coalition's website, farmvetco.org.

PASTURE, RANGELAND AND FORAGE INSURANCE



Last Day to Sign Up is Dec. 1

Pasture, rangeland, and forages cover approximately 55 percent of all U.S. land. Forage grows differently in different areas, so it's important for farmers and ranchers to know which types and techniques work best for their region. Pasture, Rangeland, and Forage utilizes an indexing system to determine conditions. The Rainfall Index is based on weather data collected and maintained by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Climate Prediction Center. The index reflects how much precipitation is received relative to the long term average for a specified area and timeframe. **All or a portion of your acreage of the crop can be insured.**

The Risk Management Agency's Pasture, Rangeland, Forage Pilot Insurance Program is designed to provide insurance coverage on your pasture, rangeland or forage acres. This innovative pilot program is based on precipitation, Rainfall Index. This program is designed to give you the ability to buy insurance protection for losses of forage produced for grazing or harvested for hay, which result in increased costs for feed, destocking, depopulating or other actions.

Apiculture Pilot Insurance Program (API) works similar to the PRF policy and is now available to provide a safety net for beekeepers' income sources – honey, pollen collection, wax and breeding stock.

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Protect your income ... contact David Mathis today!

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Cropland values hit record highs, equipment prices and other inflation boost production costs

The Farm Belt is in a revival, with cropland values hitting record highs this year, but farmers worry about inflation and supply-chain disruptions, Jesse Newman and Bob Tita report for The Wall Street Journal.

"A months-long rally in prices for major agricultural commodities such as corn and soybeans is pushing up incomes for U.S. farmers and unleashing spending and investment that had been subdued for years, according to agricultural economists

and executives," the Journal reports. "The run-up in land and equipment prices that has followed could leave farmers exposed if big harvests send crop prices lower again, some economists said. Until recently, U.S. farmers were in the grips of an agricultural recession brought on by a worldwide crop glut. Starting last year, however, strong demand from China and poor weather in key growing regions fueled a sharp rise in prices for crops like corn and soybeans,

which touched their highest levels in eight years during the spring. U.S. agricultural exports are expected to hit records in fiscal 2021 and 2022, according to U.S. Department of Agriculture forecasts."

The department's most recent Farm Income Forecast projected that net farm income would increase 20% percent this year to its highest level since 2013. But "inflation is also hitting the Farm Belt, boosting almost all farmers' production

expenses this year, including fertilizer and fuel," Newman and Tita report. "The USDA expects production expenses to rise by more than 7 percent in 2021, the agency said. Farmers' bills for supplies such as seed and fertilizer bought for next year will be the highest ever," an agricultural economist at major farm lender Wells Fargo said.

Heather Chapman
The Rural Blog

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Sautéed Pork Tenderloin Medallions with Lemon-Garlic Sauce

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| 1 pork tenderloin, (1 lb.), trimmed | 1/2 cup dry white wine (or low-sodium chicken broth) |
| 1/4 tsp. salt, divided | 1/2 cup chicken broth, low-sodium |
| 1/4 tsp. plus 1/8 tsp. black pepper | Grated zest and 1 tbs. lemon juice |
| 2 tsp. olive oil, divided | 1 tbs. fresh parsley, chopped, |
| 2 cloves garlic, minced | OR 1 1/2 tsp. chopped fresh sage or rosemary* |

Cut pork into 12 slices, about 1-inch thick. Sprinkle pork on all sides with 1/8 tsp. of the salt and 1/4 tsp. of the pepper. Heat 1 tsp. of the oil in a large heavy skillet over medium-high heat. Add the pork and cook, turning once, until the pork is well browned and internal temperature reaches 145° F, about 1 1/2 min. on each side. Transfer pork to serving platter and cover to keep warm.

Add the remaining 1 tsp. oil to skillet. Add garlic and cook, stirring constantly, until garlic is fragrant, about 30 sec. Add the wine and broth. Increase heat to high and cook, stirring to scrape up the browned bits from the bottom of the skillet, until the liquid is reduced by two thirds, about 5 min.

Remove the skillet from the heat and stir in the remaining 1/8 tsp. salt, remaining 1/4 tsp. pepper, the lemon zest and juice, and the parsley. Serve the pork medallions drizzled with the sauce (makes a generous 1/2 cup; about 1 1/2 tbs. per serving).

*To substitute fresh herbs with dried herbs, use 1 1/2 tsp. dried parsley or 3/4 tsp. dried sage, or 3/4 tsp. dried rosemary. Makes 4 servings.

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To cut or not to cut (alfalfa)

The Forage Doctor



By Jimmy Henning



Alfalfa always seems to look best this time of year. It helps that we are past the evils of the alfalfa weevil, potato leafhopper and hopefully fall armyworm. Alfalfa looks so good in fact that it is tempting to take one last cutting in this season. Yet we know it is good management to give alfalfa a fall rest before winter to allow root carbohydrate reserves to replenish. So how do you decide if it is okay to make a late summer harvest of alfalfa?

First, alfalfa really does need a rest period during the fall to recharge root reserves and survive the winter. The last harvest should come four to six weeks before the date of the first killing frost for your area. For most of Kentucky this will mean taking that harvest before Sept. 15 to Oct. 1. Alfalfa then has the next four to six weeks to regrow enough to replenish the root carbohydrates. After the first hard freeze (24o F or lower), or Nov. 1, a final harvest can be made.

Cutting alfalfa stands during this critical fall rest period will affect the plant response the following year. It can reduce the speed of regrowth in the spring and may reduce the yield of the first cutting. In the worst case, stands may

be thinned. The decision to cut or not is not simple. Here are some situations where cutting alfalfa late in the year may be justified.

1. If you need the feed. If you don't have enough forage for the winter, then taking a late cut is a risk worth taking. Needing the feed is a certainty; possible winter injury is not.

2. Alfalfa well rested and mature. Winter injury from a fall harvest is less if the stand is in bloom at the time of the fall cut, or it has been at least 45 days since the last harvest.

3. The variety has a good disease resistance to the major pathogens of alfalfa like phytophthora root rot, aphanomyces root rot, anthracnose, bacterial wilt and fusarium wilt.

4. The field has been well managed during the year. Good management would include:

- Harvest intervals of 30 days or longer. Cutting alfalfa more frequently than every 30 days usually means the plant does not full recharge root carbohydrate reserves during the harvest cycle. These stands will be more prone to injury from a late cutting.
- Good weed and insect control. Weed pressure and insect damage can weaken an alfalfa stand and make it susceptible to winter injury from a late cutting. In particular, potato leafhopper damage and defoliation by fall armyworm can significantly stress alfalfa. If the crop has not

SEE T0, PAGE 16



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Two families share direct market success

FROM PAGE 1

farmers in the county who didn't have an off-farm income.

On a recent Saturday morning at the Douglas Loop Farmers' Market in Louisville, both men were busy selling meat and vegetables, delivering CSAs, and developing the essential relationships with customers. Earlier that morning, Caleb had worked at the St. Matthews Farmers' Market.

These two markets are Valley Spirit's main source of sales. Both markets are in upscale areas of Louisville, and both have a juried application process to become part of the market. Joseph recalled how they earned a spot in St. Matthews when Ashbourne Farm, where he worked opted out of their site.

"I knew I could farm full time with our



Caleb believes his woodland and pasture raised hogs are happier and more content than those raised in confinement.

acceptance on a full-time basis."

He also recalled how they applied to Douglas Loop off Bardstown Rd. seven times. Acceptance at these markets is on a trial basis.

They tag-teamed, serving customers and explaining how the business operated. Joseph noted that the name Valley Spirit came from the farm's location in the Ohio Valley and Spirit to remind them to keep

their spirits up.

Valley Spirit operates as two separate family businesses, with each family making their own risk and crop development decisions. They do share a market trailer and a tractor. They come together on market days, which are actually the hardest part of the business.

On the market day each partner carefully inventories their products: the pork, beef and vegetables that go to each market. At the end of the day, they inventory again, dividing up sales receipts and credit card processing fees.

"It is a lot of work," Joseph added.

Meat sales, as expected, are the main source of income. The Fiechter family has 11 sows, a 5-way composite breed of European wild boar, old-line Duroc, old-line Red Waddle, and Meishan crossed with old-line Hampshire. The herd is raised totally on pasture, including farrowing twice a year in outdoor huts.

That is a far cry from the total confinement operation Caleb knew growing up.

"I just feel the animals are happier and more content on pasture, and we enjoy watching them grow," he said.

The Monroe family feels the same way about the 22 moderate framed Angus brood cows and South Poll herd sire. The operation has a daily pasture rotation that produces 1,000-pound finished slaughter cattle from spring and fall caving seasons and harvests about two head a month.

When working that closely with the hogs and cattle, it's no surprise they develop an attachment.

"This is Beyonce," Joseph said as he tapped a display of beef sticks. They name all the brood cows after pop singers, and Beyonce had three chances to produce calves, but now produces the beef sticks.

The Valley Spirit website says that the dual farming operations are a product of the families, the community, and the neighbors, and make all decisions for the good of the families.

Joseph said the community influences the operations. The families attend Port Royal Baptist Church.

"There have been times when in general conversation with these long-term farmers and something will unlock, and we will



Joseph, Abby and Ruth Monroe, and Caleb and Kelly Fiechter take time from their busy day. The other family children attend Henry County schools.

learn a better way."

He also said they want to be good neighbors before they are good farmers.

Both men agree how important it is to have times with families; both have two young children. Ruth and Angus follow Joseph and Abbie to the garden and Judah and Rebekah go with Caleb and Kelly to check the hogs.

Both families hope their children will follow in their foot steps. The children receiving hands-on experience right beside their parents follows the Valley Spirit philosophy.

"By empowering our families to steward the earth, we strive to enrich our lives, our community and your dinner table."

**By Toni Riley
Field Reporter**



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To cut or not to cut

FROM PAGE 1

been overly stressed during the year.

- Soil fertility has been maintained. Alfalfa stands that are in good soil nutrient status will be most able to tolerate a late cutting. Good nutrient status would mean pH 6.5 to 7, with phosphorus and potassium fertility maintained during the year.

- To get a companion grass established. Companion grasses such as orchardgrass are often added to alfalfa in the fall. When alfalfa top growth is excessive, the new seedlings cannot compete and establishment is likely unsuccessful. Making a fall cut may be needed to allow for successful grass interseeding.

- The stands are established but young. Stands that are 18 to 36 months old can withstand fall cutting better because their crowns have less damage due to traffic and root disease.

Deciding whether to cut an alfalfa field in late September or early to mid-October is an individual judgment that should be based on the benefits of the extra yield and quality outweighing the risks of yield and stand loss the following year. Keep in mind that you will never hurt the stand by not cutting during the traditional fall rest period.

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USDA RMA revises dates for insurance programs

Agricultural producers now will have until Dec. 1 to make coverage decisions and complete reporting activities for the Pasture, Rangeland, and Forage Pilot Insurance Program.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Risk Management Agency is making this change and other updates to this policy based on feedback from stakeholders.

"We want to offer flexibility to our nation's producers, which is why we are always listening to our customers and looking at ways to improve the process and products we provide to them," said RMA Acting Administrator Richard Flournoy. "The date changes will provide additional time to help producers who are busy preparing their operations for the winter."

PRF is a Rainfall Index crop insurance policy designed to aid agricultural producers in case of a lack of precipitation that affects available forage for livestock. The plan considers a decline in rainfall by comparing it with the historical average precipitation for the same area during the same period of time. PRF is designed to help protect a producer's livestock operation from the risks of forage loss. In 2020, producers insured almost 160 million acres and nearly 32,000 policies to protect \$2.9 billion in liabilities.

RMA is revising the dates for the sales closing, acreage reporting, cancellation, and termination of the PRF insurance program from Nov. 15 to Dec. 1. For PRF, RMA is also increasing reporting flexibility by allowing the USDA's Farm Service Agency acreage report (form FSA-578) to be used in conjunction with other documents to verify insurable interest.

Other changes to the plans include revising the definition of "veteran farmer or rancher" to allow a legal entity, com-

prised only of the veteran and their spouse, to qualify as a veteran farmer or rancher when a qualifying veteran has a non-veteran spouse; and allowing a producer to report acreage as certified organic, or as acreage in transition to

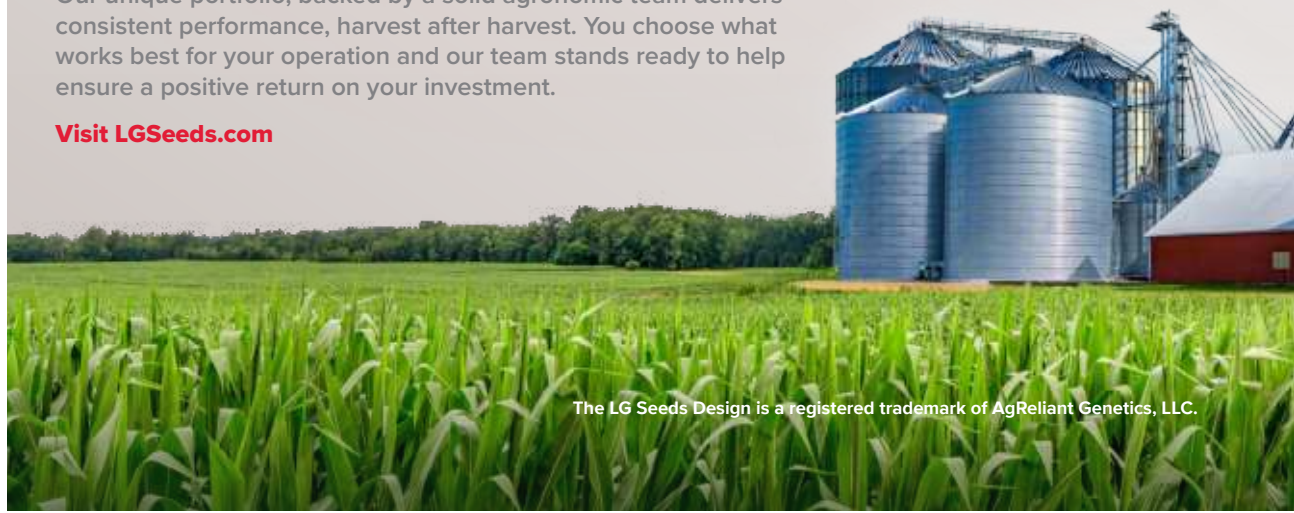
organic, when the producer has requested an organic certification by the acreage reporting date. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA Service Centers and online at the RMA Agent Locator.



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Dr. Laura Stephenson, UK Extension
 Director

7:50—Price Discovery & Placement Weight Considerations

Kenny Burdine, UK Beef Economic
 Extension Specialist

8:20—Shooting the Bull with Kentucky Cattle Farmers

9:00—Adjourn

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Niki Ellis puts her agriculture education degree to work for Kentucky's Pork Producers

Congratulations are in order for Niki Ellis, the Kentucky Pork Producers Association new executive director. Niki served as the Director of Education for the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association for six years before earning her place among the agriculture community's organization leaders.

We asked Niki to talk about her new role and what prepared her to be a bacon boss.

Provide a summary of your job and what you may do in a typical day.

As the executive director of the Kentucky Pork Producers Association, I work on behalf of all of Kentucky's pork producing families. I work to ensure that pork production in Kentucky stays successful and sustainable. Like the farm families I represent, we are focused on keeping our pig herds healthy, our environment safe, and supporting our communities across the state. I also must keep consumers at the front of my mind as well. What products do consumers like? What recipes are they looking for? What questions do they have about swine farms? Where do they get their information? I work with other professionals in the pork industry, elected officials, regulatory services, pork farmers, industry partners and all pork farm families. Working with each of them looks a little different than the one before. Some days I may be interviewing a farmer for a feature on social media, drafting a letter of encouragement for a change to help Kentucky farm families, or I might be flipping pork burgers at the state fair.

Why did you decide to study agriculture?

I knew I wanted to study agriculture because I was in love with the culture. A culture made up of individuals driven to work hard, who are constantly trying to improve, who are resilient and passionate about their work. Growing up in an agriculture-focused county I saw the impact the industry had on families in my own community as well as those far away. How a small farm in Central Kentucky had the potential to feed hundreds of people across the world. I learned about the impacts of American agriculture on the world through my time in the FFA, which sealed the deal on where I wanted to be, in agriculture.

How did your college/work experiences shape the job you have today? What was your path?

I am a graduate of the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment from the Career and Technical Education Program with an emphasis in agriculture. I thought I wanted to be a traditional teacher in a traditional classroom. My time at UK allowed me to be immersed in all sorts of experiences and fields. My advisors, Dr. Rebekah Epps and Dr. Stacy Vincent prepared me well to tackle agriculture literacy. I'm forever thankful for the uniqueness of that program. When it came time to look for jobs, however, I wanted to look at more non-traditional education roles. I happened to apply for a consumer affairs position at the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association, educating consumers on all things beef. I was, however, offered a much different role as their Director of Education. I spent

six years working with youth, producers, and consumers through various educational projects. My time at KCA showed me the importance of trade associations to those involved in agriculture and the need to keep passionate individuals involved in our industry to continue to grow to meet consumer expectations.

My husband (Brandon) and I, with our sons Colton and Blaine, raise hogs in central Kentucky, so being an advocate for swine farm families is extremely important to me. When the call for applications opened for the executive director of the Kentucky Pork Producers Association, I felt that would be a natural fit for me. I wanted to continue to help Kentucky's farm families and ensure a bright future for my kids if they choose to stay in the swine industry. With a strong producer board and state agriculture leaders, I am surrounded by great minds and great advice to keep improving.

I can't say enough how important it is to build your network and accept all the experiences that you can to continue to grow.

Explain the skills (learned or soft) you need to accomplish your job.

The most important skill is showing up, being present in all areas that I need to be. Being organized, listening, knowing how to talk to people (written and verbal), setting goals and asking for help. I also need to know how to take out the trash, file papers, and stack boxes. I must be willing to learn every day.

If you knew you would end up in this career, what would you have done/studied differently?

Knowing what I know now, I would have taken more courses in spreadsheet design, marketing, and political science. Possibly a basic class in graphic design.

What is your favorite part about your job? Most interesting?

The favorite part of my job is meeting with producers. Learning what is important to them and their families. What I've found most interesting so far is learning how policy and regulatory services work at the national and global level. Seeing the impact of U.S. agriculture as a leader in food and fiber production is always stunning.



What advice would you give a young person looking at this career?

This career is a once in a lifetime position. There aren't many opportunities to serve as an executive for an agriculture commodity group. If given the opportunity, strongly consider it. It's an extremely unique opportunity to safeguard an industry and help keep businesses sustainable for farm families. What is written in the job description is just a scratch on the surface of what the job really is. The diversity of people and topics that you encounter is wide. You just never know what might come across your desk or be in the text you get. Never the same thing twice and constantly trying to improve. It's challenging but rewarding, frustrating but exciting. If you consider making this type of position a career goal, build your network and always accept opportunities to grow in experiences. The more immersed you are in the world the better prepared you will be.



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Blue Grass South Stanford, KY Sept. 16, 2021 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 85 hd. 590# 165.10 blk-charx 59 hd. 922# 146.40 blk 57 hd. 938# 147.00 blk 52 hd. 1067# 138.00 blk Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 74 hd. 688# 137.00 mixed 74 hd. 700# 145.70 blk	KY-TN Livestock Auction Guthrie, KY Sept. 16, 2021 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 37 hd. 549# 153.50 bbwf 34 hd. 637# 144.50 bbwf Feeder Bulls: Medium & Large 1-2 30 hd. 485# 161.00 bbwf 26 hd. 555# 145.00 bbwf 20 hd. 622# 134.50 bbwf Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 20 hd. 448# 134.00 mixed 38 hd. 495# 143.50 bbwf 39 hd. 554# 140.00 bbwf 24 hd. 624# 132.75 bbwf	Blue Grass Stockyards Lexington, KY Sept. 13 & 14, 2021 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 61 hd. 841# 150.95 charx-mixed 60 hd. 876# 152.25 blk Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 77 hd. 670# 149.10 blk-charx 65 hd. 717# 146.80 blk 31 hd. 752# 142.00 blk 105 hd. 998# 126.95 blk	Paris Stockyards Paris, KY Sept. 16, 2021 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 39 hd. 515# 163.50 blk 31 hd. 615# 157.00 blk 22 hd. 791# 155.50 blk-red 70 hd. 827# 153.80 blk 62 hd. 870# 149.00 charx 60 hd. 878# 152.00 blk 61 hd. 884# 149.70 blk Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 89 hd. 595# 152.60 blk 77 hd. 618# 155.00 blk
Blue Grass of Albany Albany, KY Sept. 15, 2021 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 23 hd. 767# 149.50 mixed	Russell County Stockyards Russell Springs, KY Sept. 15, 2021 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 20 hd. 604# 159.25 blk Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 74 hd. 652# 147.75 blk	Mid-KY Livestock Market Upton, KY Sept. 14, 2021 Feeder Bulls: Medium & Large 1-2 23 hd. 468# 148.50 blk 20 hd. 630# 135.00 blk Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 22 hd. 463# 131.50 mixed 22 hd. 518# 135.00 blk 24 hd. 562# 134.50 blk	Blue Grass of Richmond Richmond, KY Sept. 17, 2021 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 60 hd. 785# 153.60 blk 61 hd. 802# 148.75 blk-red 116 hd. 904# 145.90 blk 60 hd. 918# 145.90 blk-charx 62 hd. 924# 135.40 blk-charx 56 hd. 925# 147.50 blk 70 hd. 942# 142.25 blk-charx 58 hd. 949# 138.00 charx-blk 109 hd. 969# 146.50 blk 55 hd. 1001# 137.70 charx-blk Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 74 hd. 685# 148.00 blk-charx
United Producers Owenton Owenton, KY Sept. 15, 2021 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 29 hd. 684# 155.25 blk 60 hd. 836# 149.10 blk Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 23 hd. 636# 145.50 blk	Washington Co. Livestock Springfield, KY Sept. 13, 2021 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 29 hd. 750# 146.75 blk 63 hd. 787# 156.95 blk 62 hd. 810# 154.50 blk 63 hd. 833# 153.00 blk 54 hd. 833# 149.00 blk 61 hd. 837# 153.25 blk 62 hd. 844# 144.00 blk Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 78 hd. 649# 154.95 blk 73 hd. 675# 152.00 blk 32 hd. 697# 145.00 blk	Cattlemen's Livestock Bowling Green, KY Sept. 13, 2021 Feeder Heifers: Medium & large 1-2 20 hd. 463# 144.50 blk	
Blue Grass of Campbellsville Campbellsville, KY Sept. 18, 2021 Holstein Steers: Large 3 39 hd. 376# 113.50 47 hd. 696# 112.50			
Lake Cumberland Livestock Somerset, KY Sept. 18, 2021 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 64 hd. 821# 145.75 mixed 20 hd. 894# 134.50 blk-charx			
Cattlemen's Livestock Bowling Green, KY Sept. 13, 2021 Feeder Heifers: Medium & large 1-2 20 hd. 463# 144.50 blk	Farmers Livestock Glasgow, KY Sept. 13, 2021 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 54 hd. 769# 145.10 mixed 21 hd. 780# 138.50 blk 62 hd. 796# 149.75 blk 58 hd. 897# 146.00 blk Feeder Bulls: Medium & Large 1-2 22 hd. 441# 157.00 blk 30 hd. 506# 146.50 blk Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 25 hd. 439# 139.00 blk 35 hd. 520# 133.75 blk		
Kentuckiana Livestock Market Owensboro, KY Sept. 13, 2021 Feeder Bulls: Medium & Large 1-2 26 hd. 435# 153.00 blk 33 hd. 498# 146.00 blk Feeder Heifers: Medium & large 1-2 28 hd. 434# 139.00 blk			
United Producers Bowling Green Bowling Green, KY Sept. 14, 2021 Feeder Bulls: Medium & Large 1-2 23 hd. 582# 146.00 blk	<p>View full market reports at www.ams.usda.gov</p>		

31st Annual ELITE BRED HEIFER SALE®

Presented by Bourbon County Livestock Improvement Association

WEBSITE: www.eliteheifer.com

Virtual Sale Available (Download Form on Website)

Monday, November 1, 2021

Sale 6:00 PM E.D.T.

Inspection 1:00-5:00 PM E.D.T.



- ✓ Approximately 300 heifers available - approximately 150 AI (Angus & Angus X, Charolais X, Simmental X, Red Angus)
- ✓ All heifers calthood vaccinated
- ✓ All heifers have tested negative for BVD, PI
- ✓ Sale lots will be grouped to calve in 45 days
- ✓ Lots can be viewed online at www.eliteheifer.com
- ✓ Heifers bred to calving ease bulls with EPD's available, some bred AI
- ✓ Heifers have met minimum pelvic measurement requirements
- ✓ Heifers have met target weight requirements for their breed types
- ✓ Fall health work completed (Bovi Shield Gold 5 FPL5 & Pour-on wormer, 45 days before sale)
- ✓ All heifers meet Large or Medium frame
- ✓ No shorts, bad eyes, no horns, no rat tails (Inspected by Ky Dept of Ag)
- ✓ All heifers are Source Verified AND Electronically Identified
- ✓ FREE DELIVERY OF 10 OR MORE HEAD, UP TO 500 MILES
- ✓ Heifers owned and managed under Elite Heifer guidelines since 12/1/19
- ✓ All heifers guaranteed pregnant 60 days post sale. Heifers may be palpated by a licensed veterinarian up to 60 days post sale and buyer be refunded \$5.00/head for heifers palpated
- ✓ **Heifers are qualified for Phase 1 Cost-Share Programs**

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Zoetis

Sale Location:
Paris Stockyards
US 68 North

Sponsored by:
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Peoples Exchange Bank-Winchester

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Bourbon County Extension Office – 859-987-1895 or Toll Free 1-888-317-2555

SALE DAY PHONE: 859-987-1977

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AUCTION/MARKET

STATE AVERAGES

Steers (M&L 1-2)	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Prior Week</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
350-400 lbs	169.00	169.99	157.86
400-450 lbs	164.41	163.65	152.49
450-500 lbs	160.54	161.57	150.00
500-550 lbs	155.84	154.95	144.70
550-600 lbs	152.40	151.35	142.24
600-650 lbs	148.39	146.84	138.12
650-700 lbs	144.93	146.24	134.01
700-750 lbs	140.44	140.03	132.36
750-800 lbs	138.67	143.69	131.90
800-850 lbs	142.27	140.18	130.28
850-900 lbs	133.78	131.98	124.63
Heifers (M&L 1-2)			
300-350 lbs	144.37	146.38	137.07
350-400 lbs	144.03	143.73	134.69
400-450 lbs	142.07	144.40	131.63
450-500 lbs	140.71	143.03	130.15
500-550 lbs	136.20	138.67	128.63
550-600 lbs	136.58	137.26	126.65
600-650 lbs	132.08	134.43	123.33
650-700 lbs	132.31	130.56	120.09
700-750 lbs	124.79	123.05	116.80
750-800 lbs	122.90	127.54	113.10

WEEKLY COW SUMMARY

Slaughter Cows	<u>Average</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>
Breakers	50.0070.00	58.00-81.00	50.50-64.00
Boners	50.00-74.00	62.00-79.50	44.00-62.00
Lean	40.50-67.00	50.00-66.00	34.00-61.00
Slaughter Bulls	<u>Average</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>
Yield Grade 1&2	81.00-100.00	95.00-114.00	73.50-92.00

August 26, 2021

Bowling Green, KY

SLAUGHTER GOATS: 98

Kids-Selection 1 74 lbs 280.00; 83 lbs 330.00. **Selection 2** 50 lbs lbs 265.00; 63 lbs 230.00-260.00. **Kids-Selection 3** 50 lbs 267.50.

SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 210

Wooled-Choice and Prime 1-2 48 jlbs 330.00; 83 lbs 205.00; 141 lbs 200.00. **Wooled-Choice 2** 45 lbs 235.00; 51 lbs 270.00. **Hair Breeds-Choice & Prime 1-2** 68 lbs 260.00; 92-95 lbs 210.00-230.00. **Hair Breeds-Choice 2** 58 lbs 260.00; 58 lbs 260.00; 72 lbs 245.00; 86 lbs 230.00. [View Full Report](#)

[View Full Grain Report](#)

GRAINS	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Prior Week</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
Corn	4.76-5.74	4.21-5.62	3.41-3.82
Soybeans	11.97-12.95	11.84-12.88	9.27-10.49
Red Winter Wheat	6.17-6.63	6.18-6.70	4.51-5.61

Produce Prices updated 09/20/2021

Variety	Unit Size	Price Range	Avg. Price
Tomato #1	20 lbs	15.00-33.00	23.72
Tomato #2	20 lbs	15.00-22.00	19.98
Tomato small/canner	20 lbs	4.50-11.00	6.74
Bell Peppers	bu	2.00-11.00	5.39
Cabbage	hd.	1.00-1.45	1.19
Cucumbers, slicing	.5 bu	9.00-22.00	17.67
Green Beans	.5 bu	31.00-31.00	31.00
Sweet Corn	doz.	2.65-4.25	3.62
Yellow Squash	.5 bu	2.00-9.00	7.39
Zucchini	.5 bu	3.00-16.00	7.22

Prices and Quotes furnished by Wholesale and Retail Markets



Bluegrass Stockyards of Richmond, LLC

348 K. Street • Richmond, Ky.



CATTLE SALE

Every Friday
at 9:30 a.m.

GOAT SALE

Second and 4th Monday of
each month at 1 p.m.



For additional information, call Jim Dause at
(859) 623-5167 or (859) 314-7211

BLUEGRASS STOCKYARDS OF RICHMOND, LLC

Ph. (859) 623-1280 • Fax (859) 623-1258

AUCTION/MARKET

09/20/2021 USDA Carlot Meat Summary, Compared to Previous Day Prices in dollars per hundred weight: Boxed beef cutout prices trending up on Choice and Select carcasses.

NATIONAL BOXED BEEF CUTOUT LM_XB403 Estimated composite cutout value of Choice 1-3 600-900 lbs carcasses up 1.19 at 315.66; Select 1-3 600-900 lbs carcasses up 1.00 at 280.75; based on 40 loads of choice cuts, 21 loads of select cuts, 9 loads of trimmings, and 13 loads of ground beef. Choice/Select Spread 34.91

CARCASS PRICE EQUIVALENT INDEX VALUE NW_LS410 https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/nw_ls410.txt. Estimated carcass price equivalent value of Choice 1-3 600-900 lbs carcasses up 0.62 at 241.88; Select 1-3 600-900 lbs carcasses up 0.28 at 211.48.

Current index reflects the equivalent of 102,469 head of cattle.

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CE	BW	WW	YW	ADG	MCE	M	MMW	STW	CW	HC	BA	EF	REA	API	T
11.6	-0.5	90.4	147.1	0.35	8.5	5.4	50.6	18.6	38.9	-0.43	0.79	-0.062	1.25	174.2	9.6
50%	55%	10%	5%	6%	25%	95%	95%	15%	30%	5%	3%	25%	1%	2%	1%

BULLS & FEMALES OF FALL SALE

Saturday, October 30, 2021

11 a.m. CDT • At the Farm • Lafayette, TN

Selling: 50 Red Angus, SimAngus™ & Cross-Ty Bulls
40 Registered Bred Heifers
30 Commercial Bred Heifers

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Selling 250 Spring Calving Bred Heifers



Saturday, November 20, 2021
12:00 noon central time

Kentucky-Tennessee Livestock Market
Guthrie, Kentucky

For more information contact:

Kevin Laurent, University of Kentucky (270) 365-7541 ext. 226
Mark Barnett, KY-TN Livestock Market (270) 483-2504

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AUCTION/MARKET

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.

**Eastern Cornbelt Ethanol
Plant Report**
09/20/2021
Indiana Ohio Illinois

Yellow Corn Spot Bid 5.02-5.87

Dried Distillers Grain (\$/ton)
 10% moisture 185.00-215.00

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

**Kentucky Weekly Cattle
Receipts as reported at local
markets:**

08/28/21 13,442

09/04/21 11,874

09/11/21 14,598

09/18/21 18,653

09/20/2021 4:00 pm est Bids for next day Cash Bids	Louisville	Pennyrile	Purchase	Bluegrass	Green River	Northern KY
Corn #2 Yellow	4.91-4.97	4.92-5.02	4.82-4.95	5.42	5.07	5.03
Corn #2 White			5.12-5.38			
Soybeans #1 Y	11.76	12.03	12.18-12.29	12.18	12.11	12.48
Wheat #2 SRW	NA	6.51	NA	NA	NA	NA
Barley						
New Crop Delivery Contract						
Corn #2 Yellow	4.97-5.00	4.92-5.02	4.92-4.95	4.97	5.07	5.03
Corn #2 White			5.12-5.38			
Soybeans #1 Y	11.76	12.03	12.18-12.23	12.18	12.08	12.48
Wheat #2 SRW	6.16	NA	NA	6.70	6.60	6.85
Barley						

USDA ESTIMATED DAILY LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

	CATTLE	CALVES	HOGS	SHEEP
Friday 09/17/2021 (est)	118,000	1,000	470,000	4,000
Week Ago (est)	121,000	1,000	467,000	4,000
Year Ago (act)	112,000	2,000	463,000	5,000
Week to Date (est)	593,000	6,000	2,352,000	32,000
Same Pd Lt Week (est)	486,000	4,000	1,894,000	23,000
Same Pd Lt Yr (act)	592,000	8,000	2,386,000	36,000

National Daily Direct Slaughter Cattle

Negotiated Purchases 09/20/2021
 Live Bids- weighed average weights
 & prices
Steers:
 80%-up Choice 1516.0 lbs 123.96
Heifers
 80%-up Choice 1454.4 lbs 123.80

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Great Plains - 7ft \$18,500

John Deere 7200- cab - 2WD - \$40,000

John Deere 6300-cab-2WD-Ldr - \$34,000

New Holland 570 baler with thrower - IN STOCK

Horning 1402/1403 Heads - TO FIT ALL MAKE AND MODELS

Silage Wagons - 10 IN STOCK

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NH 790/230/240 - IN STOCK

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Artex SB600/SB200 - IN STOCK

Meyer 510 TMR Mixers - IN STOCK

Cloverdale 500 T - TMR Mixers - IN STOCK

Stoltzfus 10 ton litter spreader - \$30,000

Caterpillar 242B skid loader, 303 mini excavator - IN STOCK

NH 790 choppers - \$7,500

JD 8200 drill - \$6,000

Gehl 7219/8335 feeder wagon - IN STOCK

Artex SB 200 - vertical beater - FOR RENTAL

Stoltzfus lime - litter fert cu 50 - IN STOCK

JD 556/567 string roll balers - CALL

JD 468 - net and twine round baler - \$16,500

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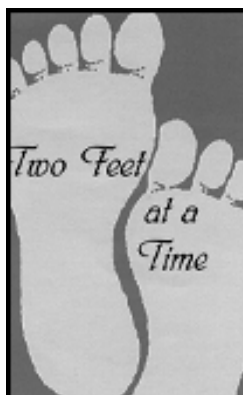
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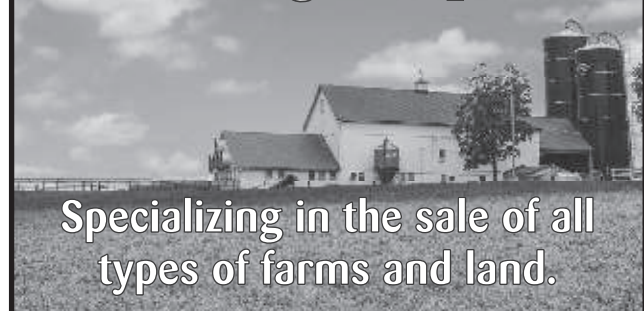
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KSU will need a bailout by next April to remain solvent

Financially beleaguered Kentucky State University will need emergency assistance by next spring to remain solvent, the school's new chief financial officer told the Kentucky's legislature's interim joint budget committee on Sept. 24.

"We have been doing cash-flow projections," Greg Rush told state lawmakers. "We are confident we're going to be able to make it to January. We believe we can make it through April. But at this point ... we would not have enough cash to operate past April."

No specific sum was identified Friday. Lawmakers begin writing the next two-year state budget in January.

KSU announced in August that it faces a \$15 million budget shortfall due to a stack of unpaid bills and other mounting debts, a ballooning payroll and several years of poorly managed spending that outpaced revenue.

Gov. Andy Beshear placed KSU under state oversight following the sudden resig-

nation July 20 of President M. Christopher Brown II, who previously had the public support of the KSU Board of Regents. An independent audit of the school's finances is underway.

KSU is an historically Black college in Frankfort. It is home to The Agricultural Research Station, which encompasses all areas of research in the College of Agriculture, Community and the Sciences and 1890's Land Grant Program with a special emphasis on working with socially disadvantaged and limited resource farmers and under-served communities.

The college's budget this year is \$49.9 million. Of that, \$27.1 million comes from the state's General Fund and \$16.3 million comes from tuition and fees from its student body of about 2,200, according to KSU budget documents.

Sen. Chris McDaniel, chairman of the Senate budget committee, expressed concern with the school's history of financial

problems and previous state oversight, which he said has won it different treatment than Kentucky's other public universities. KSU got budget increases when other state universities took cuts, McDaniel said.

In fiscal year 2017, the state gave KSU \$26.7 million, and the school produced 401 degrees for an average cost of \$66,000 per degree, McDaniel said. Two years later, the state gave KSU \$25.2 million, and the school produced 205 degrees, for an average cost of \$123,000 per degree, he said.

"So the financial case to be made is there should not be a Kentucky State," said McDaniel, R-Taylor Mill. "That we should give these kids full tuition, send them to the University of Kentucky, send them to the University of Louisville. But there are larger cultural implications at play as well."

Also on Sept. 24, an attorney for Chandee Felder, former staff representative on the KSU Board of Regents, said she is preparing to file a whistle-blower lawsuit against

the school because of her firing earlier this month.

The week after the legislative committee meeting, The State Journal reported that Kentucky Auditor Mike Harmon's office is looking into the finances at KSU, per both KSU Chief Financial Officer Greg Rush and the auditor's office.

Michael Goins, spokesperson for Harmon, told The State Journal that auditors have asked for data in response to "concerns" received by his office.

"We have requested financial data from the university for fiscal years 2020 and 2021 in an effort to access concerns received by our office," Goins wrote in an email. "We continue to monitor the situation at KSU," The State Journal reported.

By John Cheves
Lexington Herald-Leader
Updated with report from The State Journal

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