

CALLING ALL FARMERS – to be appreciated

FRANKFORT – Dale Dobson says the first annual appreciation and awards day for farmers has been a long time coming. On Sept. 20, he hopes farmers from across the state fill the area between the Capitol and Annex buildings in Frankfort, where there will be lots waiting for them from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Anyone involved in agriculture knows Dobson – he's led the Kentucky Department of Agriculture's farm and home safety program for more than two decades. And he's met tons of farmers – not only statewide but from across the country – and he's heard their problems.

Back in 2019, Dobson and Rep. Brandon Reed had a meeting that resulted in the Wednesday of Farm Safety Week to be designated as Farmer Suicide Prevention Day. Out of that initiative, Dobson says, Raising Hope got started, "and now we have all these agencies working together, for the farmer."

Dobson then began a challenge-coin initiative as a part of suicide prevention. He had specialty coins made, which include the phrase "you're appreciated" on them, to be handed out. Youth safety teams and FFA groups joined in on this, giving coins out with the stipulation that if the farmer ever felt overwhelmed or needed to talk, they would reach out to someone, and that promise is sealed with a handshake.

He believes over the years, with all the handshaking he and others have done, there are about 7,000 coins floating around Kentucky.

"What we've learned from all this is that farmers,

and everybody, likes being appreciated," he says.

Now that the Covid pandemic has settled down, Dobson and Reed began talking about how to ramp up the message again. "The Suicide Prevention Day is a downer ..." he says, so they began coming up with other ideas.

They decided to focus on appreciating farmers.

Dobson and others came up with the criteria for the award winners, but those winning names are not being released yet. "And they don't know they're winning either, so I've been busy making arrangements to make sure they're all there."

There will be three farmer-of-the-year awards given out. Dobson says that from here on out, the nomination process will be open.

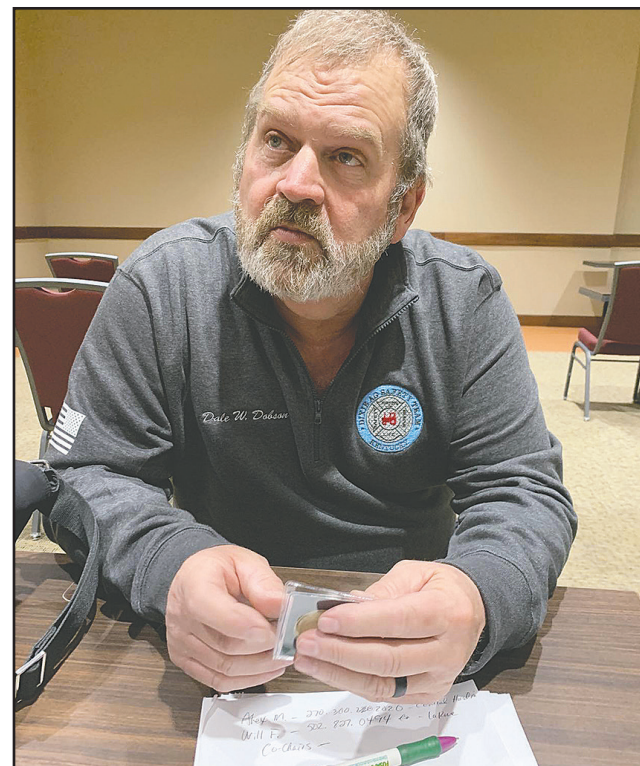
"To be eligible, someone has to nominate you and put a story to it. What type of history do you have, what have you done to help promote farm safety, health and mental health, to be a positive image of ag in your community?"

Dobson says Raising Hope doesn't care "whether you farm one acre or 1,000, it's about what have you done to help people and help yourself."

Ag Commissioner Ryan Quarles will also make a presentation.

"We met with his office about what we wanted to do – I didn't know how it would go, but the commissioner had been talking a lot about Raising Hope; he sees the benefits and rewards," Dobson says.

He says the speech will be Quarles' last hurrah as ag commissioner, who is on his last final term in office.



Dale Dobson began a challenge-coin initiative in 2019. Since it's start around 7,000 coins have been sealed with a handshake around Kentucky.

SEE CALLING, PAGE 2

Raising Hope for the farmer



As farmers experience the highest suicide rates nationwide of any occupation, a Kentucky coalition puts them in the forefront, promoting their physical and mental health, and safety. Raising Hope is a grant-funded initiative — a partnership between the Kentucky Department of Agriculture and five other entities. And

those who work with the farmers talk about what they've seen, and why there's a need.

"When people call 988, they are now asked if they're a farmer, or a member of the farming community ..." Dr. Cheryl Witt said about the national suicide and crisis hotline.

And if they are a farmer, they are transferred to the Pennyroyal Center in Kentucky, where operators are trained how to specifically help them.

Witt said that due to the last round of appropriations from the General Assem-

bly to Raising Hope, they were able to update the equipment and hire more staff at the center. They also developed a cultural awareness guide to assist others in talking to farmers in crisis.

Unfortunately, it's all a necessity. According to the National Rural Health Association, farmer suicide rates are three and a half times higher than that of the general population in the U.S., and this crisis extends globally, too.

Witt is one of the founders of the coa-

SEE RAISING, PAGE 3

CALLING ALL FARMERS – to be appreciated

FROM PAGE 1

“It’s going to be a great one,” he says. The Kentucky Cattlemen’s Association will serve up hamburgers, and there will be hot dogs, chips, drinks and ice cream, with about 600 meals available for attendees.

Dr. Cheryl Witt and her medical team will be performing medical screenings during the event, which are free and require no appointment. They include blood pressure tests, glucose and carotid artery scans, and other health education information will be available. “Since we started doing the handshakes, there’s at least eight people still

alive in Kentucky because of them,” Dobson says.

And since they’ve incorporated Witt’s health team to do screenings at different events, “we’ve found people at the machinery shows who are majorly blocked, strokes waiting to happen. They reach out to us later, and tell us that after what her team found, they went to the doctor and it saved their lives.”

FFA students and rescue instructors will also provide safety demonstrations and education stations. These include multiple safety demos, like rollover tractors, grain rescues and large animal, ATV and fertilizer safety, for instance.

Winning speeches will also be shared by FFA students involved in Dobson’s challenge-coin program, about “the power of the handshake,” farmer suicide prevention and more.

Alex Miller will also appear, the country singer from Garrard County who made his way to American Idol at the young age of 17, now signed by a Nashville label. He will sing the National Anthem, and Rep. Reed and Commissioner Quarles will also speak about the importance of farmers. Miss Kentucky Mallory Hudson will also be at the event.

Dobson says the new EC138 helicopter will be on site, along with fire trucks

and other large machinery. “Now this is the first annual one for Raising Hope,” he says. “And I guess you could say we’re going through some growing pains. But we’re figuring it out, and getting the message out every single day.”

Things are still coming together for the big event, Dobson says. “We’ll have the commissioner and tractors there. Now we want the farmers to be there. We just need them to show up so we can show them how much we care about them.”

By Bobbie Curd
Field reporter

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FEEDER CATTLE:

STEERS: Large 3: 1 Head, 730#, 147.00. DAIRY STEERS: 1 Head, 285#, 122.00; 1 Head, 320#, 112.00; 1 Head, 325#, 145.00, Fancy; 2 Head, 383#, 113.00; 3 Head, 138.00, Fancy; 1 Head, 440#, 140.00, Fancy; 1 Head, 470#, 146.00, Fancy; 1 Head, 585#, 101.00; 1 Head, 805#, 100.00; 1 Head, 800#, 137.00, Value Added; 1 Head, 1065#, 123.00. Small and Medium 3: 1 Head, 420#, 80.00; 1 Head, 765#, 85.00; 1 Head, 945, 80.00; HEIFERS: Medium and Large, 1-2: 1 Head, 340#, 216.00; 1 Head, 355#, 180.00, Fancy; 1 Head, 410#, 201.00; 1 Head, 500#, 190.00. Medium and Large 2-3: 1 Head, 465#, 122.00; 1 Head, 540#, 155.00; 2 Head, 633#, 132.00; 1 Head, 680#, 119.00; BULLS: Medium and Large, 1-2: 1 Head, 820#, 115.00. DAIRY HEIFERS: Large 3: 2 Head, 370-380#, 83.00-96.00; 1 Head, 425#, 90.00; 1 Head, 635#, 115.00, Value Added; 3 Head, 765-780#, 86.00-94.00; 1 Head, 820#, 96.00; 3 Head, 855-895, 93.00-95.00; 1 Head 935#, 124.00, Value Added; 1 Head, 975#, 93.00; 6 Head, 1000-1040#, 120.00-131.00, Value Added; 1 Head, 1060#, 125.00, Value Added.

SLAUGHTER CATTLE

STEERS: Select 1-2: 1 Head, 1475#, 124.00, Average. DAIRY STEERS: Select and Choice 1-2: 2 Head, 1135-1140#, 133.00-135.00, Average. COWS: Breaker 75-80%: 2 Head, 1565-1745#, 100.00-103.00, Average; 22 Head, 1380-2200, 105.00-130.00, High; 1 Head, 1530, 92.00. Boner, 80-85%: 47 Head, 820-1625, 95.00-104.00, Average; 31 Head, 905-1570#, 105.00-122.00; 38 Head, 665-1465#, 85.00-94.00, Low; 26 Head, 670-1650#, 50.00-84.00, Very Low. BULLS: 1-2: 15 Head, 1260-1805#, 120.00-129.00, Average; 24 Head, 1430-2020#, 131.00-151.00, High; 7 Head, 875.00-1575.00#, 90.00-115.00, Low. DAIRY HEIFERS: Select and Choice 1-2: 9 Head, 1065-1405#, 120.00-128.00, Average.

REPLACEMENT DAIRY CATTLE

FRESH/MILKING COWS: Supreme, Stage O, 3 Head, 2175.00-2300.00; Approved, Stage O, 1 Head, 1050.00; Approved, Stage O, 1 Head, 1500.00, Crossbred; Medium, Stage O, 1 Head, 975.00; Medium, Stage O, 1 Head, 725.00, Jersey. BRED COWS: Supreme, Stage T3, 2 Head, 1600.00, Beef Cross; Approved, T1, 2 Head, 1475.00, Beef Cross; Approved, T2, 2 Head, 1100.00-1300.00, Beef Cross; Approved, T2-3, 2 Head, 1200.00, Beef Cross; Medium, T2, 2 Head, 925.00-950.00, Beef Cross; Medium, T2, 1 Head, 850.00, Crossbred. SPRINGER COWS: Supreme, T2-3, 1 Head, 1500.00; Supreme, T3, 1 Head, 1500.00; Approved, T2-3, 1 Head, 1300.00; Medium, T2-3, 1 Head, 900.00, Jersey.

For a full listing visit: <https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/viewReport/2199>

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Raising Hope for the farmer

FROM PAGE 1

lition. She's a researcher with years of experience — an RN and nursing professor who did her PhD dissertation on depression rates of female farmers.

And as a sixth-generation farmer herself, Witt already knew what a huge leap it would be to tackle any kind of farmer health issues. It's just their stoic nature, she said, and how they were raised to deal with things on the farm.

She and Dale Dobson, safety administrator with KDA, work under the health and safety umbrella of the coalition. Witt began partnering with Dobson at different events, like farm machinery shows, bringing her health team to do free screenings.

"It finally hit Dale — he was hedgy at first, when we wanted to do the health screening," she said. They'd never done them before and no one wanted to scare farmers off from safety events, but she knew the team could either help postpone or prevent chronic disease or disability by doing simple scans.

"But he's recognized the importance," Witt said about Dobson, who constantly sings Witt's praises. Dobson said that due to her team's ultrasounds on carotid arteries, he's known of situations where farmers found out at an event about a major blockage that could've led to a stroke.

"Because of Dr. Witt and her team, they lived to come back and tell us about it," Dobson said. So now, he wants her team to come along whenever he can get them.

"Dale and I feel this is such an important mission," Witt said. "We've seen and felt the success of it. It does make a difference."

She said having nursing students involved in talking to farmers and performing screenings makes a difference, too.

"If you work in Kentucky, you're going to take care of a farmer at some point," Witt said, and it's crucial that they are able to communicate with them in order to correctly treat them.

For instance, she said, "Farmers'

scale of pain can be very different from most other people's" due to that stoic nature. They deal with a lot of stressful situations, large animals and large machinery — they don't shake easily, and research shows they have higher pain thresholds than non-farmers.

"And they're always so busy taking care of everything and everyone else on the farm, they usually put off going to the doctor for themselves. So, we said, let's bring what we can to them."

Boots on the ground makes difference

In the academic world, Witt said, "you need science to back things up." Before the coalition was formed, she looked at what's out there. As far as any type of intervention that was made accessible to farming communities and proven to affect mental health, there just weren't any.

"A lot of the suicide prevention programs have been designed with urban folks, it's just a different culture." And

she was impressed with Dobson's challenge coin, created with farmers in mind. He and others give the coins out with a handshake, asking recipients to pledge they will reach out and talk if they need to, while they give their own pledge to be there to listen if they do.

"I wanted to know about the coin — was it effective, and is it farmer-centered." She and her team went back to everyone they could find who received a coin and interviewed them.

"What we found was that it didn't matter if you got your coin yesterday or five years ago — your feeling of caring, feeling cared for and supported was the same."

Witt said it's sustainable, and the interaction made farmers receptive. "What it tells us is that the more direct, interpersonal interventions are more effective with them. And we've found out that the more we're out there, boots on the ground, the more they know we

SEE RAISING, PAGE 9

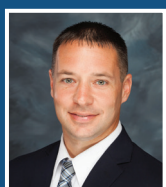


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And the winners are....



KENTUCKY
POULTRY
ASSOCIATION

Dan
Flanagan

The real answer to that question is Kentucky and Kentucky agriculture. I have the honor to chair and present the Kentucky Poultry Federation scholarships each year at our annual meeting in October. Through the generosity of our members and allied companies, scholarships have been established to assist graduating high school students or students currently attending a college or university to continue their education. These scholarships were created to benefit the children and grandchildren of our poultry complex employees, growers, and allied members. The Kentucky Poultry Federation board of directors and members established this fund to help young students continue their academic careers or receive additional training in another area beyond high school.

We've not yet had a legacy winner, but I feel it's only a matter of time. We have had several young farmers and employees who went to work in poultry in the 90s that now have a family and their child has been awarded one of these scholarships. The 2023 winners of the Kentucky Poultry Federation scholarships are:

1. Kennedy Keith
2. Travis Pendencygraft
3. Paige Lewis
4. Barek Williams

As part of the application process, the students must answer two questions in essay form. "What are your future career plans?" And they have to also write a scenario-based essay, "If you were the KPF executive director, live production manager, plant manager, or a current grower, how would you educate and promote the Kentucky poultry community?"

Below are some excerpts from this year's winners. Travis Pendencygraft, a two-time winner wrote, "Additionally, educational grower sessions can be recorded and posted to reference later, and the traffic could generate interest from companies who would like to demo a new product at a discounted price. More advanced systems allow farmers to worry less, and feedback from companies and the community allows us to help each other find solutions to common issues—whether they involve technology or not. Most importantly, these workshops build the community by connecting growers and industry personnel to each other."

Barek Williams answers the same essay question in a little different way. He said, "If I became the live produc-

SEE AND, PAGE 19

How green was our machinery shed

At the height of the mid-August heat wave, I was relieved when an old friend canceled his planned trip to attend a sprawling, old farm machinery show amid central Illinois' endless, sweltering cornfields.

While both of us love to see Olivers 77s, Super Ms, and Ford 9Ns of our youth, neither of us wants to be as sweaty or dirty during those admiring visits as we were when driving them in our hot, dirt-eating youths.

But there is something about those 50-, 60-, and 70 year-old lovingly restored, rust-bucket beauties that still attract an eye, conjures a story, and warms a heart.

In fact, unlike many other ag journalists, I have only four toy tractors in my office: two that are manufacturer gifts from tractor introductions (the best of which, admittedly, is a very sweet, very big Versatile 1150 from 1981) and two are unblemished, green-and-yellow Oliver 77s. One is a "Super" 77, the other a plain "Row Crop" 77.

While we were Oliver people on the southern Illinois dairy farm of my youth, we never owned a Super anything Oliver. We did, however, run a Row Crop 66, Row Crop 77, and Row Crop 88. The 88 was our "big"—when 40 horsepower was big—tractor.

The 77 was Uncle Honey's tractor of choice for two practical reasons. First, my father didn't trust his inattentive, iron-bending uncle with anything associated with the word "big;" alas, no 88 for him. More importantly, the 77 had hydraulics, a requirement to raise our Oliver mower's 7-foot sickle bar when mowing alfalfa, straw, or my mother's perpetually replanted peach trees.

And, yes, despite Honey's honestly earned reputation for destroying farm equipment—he did, after all, plow out two telephone poles—Dad had him mow because those four or five cuttings of 100 acres of alfalfa each year intentionally kept him away from the combine, silage wagons, humans, chain saw, cows, fence posts, and telephone poles.

Well, mostly.

When the farm moved from 36-inch rows to 30-inch, out went the 66, 77, and 88 and in came a new wave of Oliver—and not yet White branded—tractors: a gas 1650, a diesel 1755, and a rugged, log wagon 1850. The 1650 had a narrow front and the 1755 and 1850 were our first wide fronts.

Of the three, my two older brothers and I often argued over who would get the 1650 for their day's work. Its purring engine, power steering, and narrow front made it the perfect tractor for baling hay, planting corn, chopping stalks, pulling silage wagons,

SEE HOW, PAGE 6



FOOD
&
FARM
FILE

Alan
Guebert

While we were Oliver people on the southern Illinois dairy farm of my youth, we never owned a Super anything Oliver.

The Farmer's Pride

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The future looks brighter



KENTUCKY
DAIRY
DEVELOPMENT
COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR

H.
Barlow

Dairy farming in the summer of 2023 has been extremely challenging. The huge milk price drop of over 30 percent coupled with high feed prices has put a strain on all dairymen. Dairy farmers are resilient, and we will continue.

It looks like we've had a great crop year all across the state. There may be some isolated spots that didn't get the rain, but we've had a good season. Plenty of corn silage and hay in storage is a good way to head into winter.

The milk price situation for the past few months has been brutal. Milk checks have been the lowest since Covid in 2020. As I've stated in the past, Dairy Margin Coverage insurance payments have been lifesavers. The cost of production has not dropped any this year, while the milk price is \$8/cwt lower than a year ago. The payment rate for August covering July milk production is \$5.98/cwt, which is the highest rate ever paid. DMC payments cover up to 5 million pounds of production. This is a great help to our dairymen who have herds of 200 cows or less but needs to be expanded to cover larger herds. We have many really good herds, over 200 cows in Kentucky, who could use the help. The margin between the all milk price and feed cost will improve going forward and hopefully the increase will be enough to lower the need for the insurance payment.

Federal Order hearings are going full blast in Carmel, Ind. for the month of September. The reason for these hearings is to modernize the milk pricing system. No changes have been made to pricing since 2000 and our markets have changed greatly. There are 22 proposals being discussed. The proceedings are expected to last six weeks. Testimony is being offered by co-ops, producer groups like the American Dairy Coalition, American Farm Bureau and individual farmers. The processor and retail group International Dairy Foods Association also plays a big role in the proceedings, often taking an opposing view to the producer's testimony.

KDDC has contacts that are closely monitoring the hearings on a weekly basis. Many of the proposals will directly affect our milk checks in the future. The National Milk Producers Federation and American Farm Bureau's proposals are closely aligned with KDDC's position. They have the experts and lawyers there every day to represent producers' interest. The tough part of this proceeding is that it is a long process of implementing any changes. It is estimated it will be the summer of 2024 before the changes take place.

The Farm Bill is also being prepared by Congress. It is still in discussion and appears the present Farm Bill will be extended for some time till the new one is finished. Politics are a challenge. The Kentucky governor's race is just two months away. It is important, please vote for the candidate who aligns with your values.

The Kentucky State Fair recently concluded with a very large participation of dairy exhibitors showing their animals. The highlight of the fair was the cheese auction at the end of the youth show Friday afternoon. KDDC is the principal donor of cheese and contributor toward the auction. We are joined by over 30 other contributors to make the final price. All the proceeds go to youth who participated in the dairy show and a

SEE THE, PAGE 6

Rogers family inducted into the Kentucky 4-H Hall of fame

Kentucky 4-H consist of agents, volunteers, alumni and supporters who choose each day to assist youth in finding their spark and helping them thrive; these individuals play a vital role in the life of a child and/or youth.

In 2018 the Kentucky 4-H Foundation established the Kentucky 4-H Family Hall of Fame to honor those families who created exceptional legacies of service by contributing their time, resources and leadership to the betterment of the Kentucky 4-H program on a local, regional and state level.

The longevity, continuing success and relevance of the Kentucky 4-H program is due in great part to the leadership and support provided by generations of 4-H families and many others throughout the commonwealth. To date, we have inducted seven families into this prestigious group, and this year we inducted another outstanding family – the Rogers family – including Charles and Jacqueline Rogers, Keith and Holly Rogers and Lorie and Jim North.

The Rogers family legacy within the Kentucky 4-H program begins in Hardin County where Mr. and Mrs. Rogers served as volunteer leaders for their own children, Keith and Lorie, as well as many other generations of young people. Mrs. Rogers was a Family and Consumer Science Extension Agent for 33 years in Hardin County. But even before that, she was a successful 4-Her, winning the 4-H Clothing Achievement Program in 1950 and going on to win national honors. Their dedication to the core values of 4-H has paved the way for countless young minds to discover their potential, embrace responsibility, and contribute positively to their communities.

"Jacquie was a professional woman who was married with two children and that was difficult to find, so she was a role model for myself and my two sisters," says Wendy Stivers, retired University of Kentucky Specialist for Kentucky 4-H. "All three of us majored in home economics at the University of Kentucky because of Jacquie and the kind of person she was, a family member and community member."

As adults, Keith and Lorie continue to carry on the values and lessons instilled in them by their parents – often via Kentucky 4-H. Keith was the State 4-H President in 1977-78. Notably, Keith helped build a strong Foundation for the Kentucky 4-H Foundation, serving as the executive director from 2008-2015, when he left to serve as Chief of Staff to the Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture. Lorie has carried Kentucky 4-H's mission of service to others with her through life, raising her children to be active and engaged in their communities.

During Keith's tenure at the Kentucky 4-H Foundation, many programs that are vital to the success of Kentucky 4-H can be contributed to his visionary efforts and leadership including Ag Tag, a program that not only benefits 4-H youth but also FFA and Kentucky Proud. He also made his mark with a grant from the Kentucky Agriculture Development Board to establish an endowment to fund three crucial programs within 4-H – the Achievement Program, the

SEE ROGERS, PAGE 19



KENTUCKY
4H
FOUNDATION

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR

Melissa G.
Miller

The Rogers family legacy within the Kentucky 4-H program begins in Hardin County where Mr. and Mrs. Rogers served as volunteer leaders for their own children, Keith and Lorie, as well as many other generations of young people.

The future looks brighter

FROM PAGE 5

portion goes to 4-H and FFA programs. There were 43 young exhibitors receiving additional checks over and above their premiums they received in the showing. The cheese auctioned for a total of \$23,400. This is a new record and it was a very exciting event. Thank you to all the donors for making this such a special event.

The Kentucky Milk Quality Conference was held in Bowling Green Aug. 28-30. This conference is sponsored by the Dairy Products Association of Kentucky. It is an educational event that brings our processors, inspectors and producers together to discuss milk quality. Our manufacturing industry is essential to all producers and this conference provides the venue for everyone to meet and build relationships.

The KDDC Fall Tour is coming up in early October. We have a great tour planned to the World Dairy Expo in Wisconsin and we will also tour many dairy farms in our travels. I hope many of you can join us.

Thankfully our milk prices have bottomed out and are definitely improving. The future looks brighter, domestic demand for dairy products is robust and milk production is remaining constant. Better times are ahead, so fire up the grill during football season and eat a lot of cheese and pizza.






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The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. 32 Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches."

Matthew 13:31-32

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How green was our machinery shed

FROM PAGE 4

backing a hay wagon into the barn... you name it.

And its best feature was its most important: our farm's first foam tractor seat. Yes, it was plastic covered and, yes, it was a hotplate in the summer and an ice block in the winter. Even at that, the seat wasn't as hot, cold, or hard as the backside-slapping steel seats on the old Oliver fleet that encouraged more standing than sitting while operating.

Honey inherited the stiff, roaring 1850 for both plowing and silage chopping. To his great displeasure, the sickle mower went with the 77. Dad replaced both with a self-propelled, hydrostatic Owatonna haybine and, without any discussion, replaced Honey with me as its only operator.

When White Farm Equipment began to dominate

Oliver in the late 1960s, my father's loyalty to the brand ebbed. He was no fan of Case—a 930 Comfort King, which came and went pretty quickly—and never considered John Deere because he never found a Deere dealer he could bargain with.

He did, however, own a high-hours 4020 at the end of his farming career because, I suspect, its price fit his wallet more than the poorly maintained tractor fit his needs.

His final, go-to "big" tractor was a mid-1970s Ford 9600. It was the only tractor he ever owned with a cab and he all but wore it out over the following decades. It sold for pennies at his retirement auction and holds no special spot in my heart.

Mostly because that space was taken long ago by an Oliver 77.

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Soybean, corn and tobacco field day held



Dr. Andy Bailey discusses tobacco research at the Corn, Soybean and Tobacco Field Day. A newly constructed metal dark fire barn is in the background.

PRINCETON, Ky. – From market expectations to pesticides to cover crops, the University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment provided an extensive list of topics at the Corn, Soybean, and Tobacco Field Day held at the Princeton Research and Education Center Farm on July 25.

The field day groups were divided into corn, soybean, and tobacco sessions. The nearly 200 attendees attended two commodity sessions before reassembling

together for a general review of the center's progress.

Evidence of the center's recovery from the tornado of 2021 is the new construction throughout the field day stops on the east side of Hopkinsville Street. The field day planners were hampered by a torrential thunderstorm of 2.5 inches the day before, blowing down tents and leaving standing water throughout the farm. The gathering space for the event moved to a machinery shed, and the field day planners regrouped

with the resiliency that is a continual part of the center's operation.

At the corn discussion, Dr. Rick Bessin explained the Non-Certified Applicator of pesticides. This new category of applicator went into effect in December 2022, and NCAs can work under the direct supervision of certified private applicators along with annual training records.

Bessin emphatically said that the NCA cannot apply restricted-use pesticides but only "general use" pesticides, which are considered unclassified and do not carry a restricted-use label.

Dr. John Grove discussed his work involving nitrogen fixation products for corn. The agronomy and plant science specialist said several different research studies saw low positive benefits. Grove said his message is that growers need to be skeptical about these products and their claims, particularly regarding reducing fertilizer end rate.

Dr. Grant Gardner, the new University of Kentucky commodity grain market specialist, discussed a topic of particular interest - what's happening in the grain market. Soybeans and corn are essential to the Kentucky economy, contributing \$3 billion annually, and worldwide events as well as the weather can have a direct effect

on income.

Davis showed detailed graphs of projected production acres, pricing, and how weather and the war in Ukraine, especially the recent bombing of an essential Black Sea port, caused price fluctuations. He pointed out that Brazil, a major export competitor with the United States, was predicting a bumper crop yield.

He concluded that markets are moved by Midwestern weather, exports are at a pre-trade-war level, soybean crushes are expanding but stunted by EPA and RFS, and the Russian-Ukraine war. He said that increases and decreases in soybean and corn acreage have differing effects, and neither market is bearish or bullish, but soybeans appear to have upside potential. He also pointed out that increased interest rates affect all farm activities, and farmers feel the effects of double the interest rates with storage costs.

Standing in front of a small tobacco demonstration area, Dr. Andy Bailey, extension tobacco Specialist, was the lone presenter at the tobacco session. He said tobacco research began at the Center in 1925, and the first building built at the Center was a tobacco barn. But the torna-

SEE SOYBEAN, PAGE 18

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Green Bean and Ham Soup

4 cups fresh green beans, trimmed and cut into 1-inch pieces	3 whole carrots, peeled and sliced	¼ teaspoon black pepper
3 cups russet potatoes, unpeeled and cubed	1 pound fully cooked ham, cut into bite-sized pieces	1 teaspoon garlic powder
2 small onions, thinly sliced	9 cups water	1 cup half and half
	1 teaspoon salt	2 tablespoons corn starch
		¼ cup cold water

Place green beans, potatoes, onions, carrots, ham and the nine cups water into a large soup pot; **cover** and bring to a **boil**. **Reduce** heat to medium and **simmer**, uncovered, about 45 minutes or until the vegetables are tender. **Remove** the pot from the heat and **add** the salt, black pepper, garlic powder and half and half. **Return** to heat and bring to a **simmer** again. **Combine** corn starch and

the ¼ cup cold water in a small bowl. When simmer begins, **combine** the corn starch mixture into the soup and stir well. Allow the soup to remain on the heat for 5-7 more minutes while it thickens.

Yield: 12, 1 cup servings

Nutritional Analysis: 140 calories, 4.5 g fat, 2 g saturated fat, 25 mg cholesterol, 670 mg sodium, 14 g carbohydrate, 3 g fiber, 3 g sugar, 10 g protein



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When your beliefs are shattered

Have you ever learned that something you firmly believed in turned out to be false?

I had a friend recently who questioned just about everything she learned in church. She attended a church with a very strict doctrine and always felt that she couldn't question what she was being taught.

I have never experienced that, but I have had moments when I realized I was thinking wrong and had been for many years.

My experiences and hers were very different because she was losing faith in people she had trusted. She felt betrayed and misled. For me, I just learned something new that showed me that what I thought I knew before was incorrect.

It's important that we continue to learn, regardless of our age or how many life experiences we have had. I think if you have a philosophy that "I only know what I know today, but I hope to know more tomorrow," you aren't disappointed in yourself when you find out you have been wrong.

It makes it easier to tolerate people you disagree with too, because you can either 1) just smile and remember that you have been wrong before, too, or 2) realize that maybe you don't know everything you think you know about the conversation.

It's more difficult when it's a "foundational truth," however. I'm talking about those nonnegotiable beliefs. The things you know to be true and will not consider any other option.

For my friend, she believed that the people who were giving her guidance knew what they were talking about. Now, she thinks differently.

I learned a long time ago that people disappoint. It's just that simple. None of us are perfect. Hopefully, all of us will know more tomorrow than we do today.

There is only one place to go where truth is never changing, and that is the word of God. The Bible tells us we can "go boldly before the throne" of God. It also says that Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever. God reveals truth to us; we just have to be willing to learn, and then learn some more.

We may be disappointed by the people in our lives, but we will never be disappointed by God. When we keep our eyes on him, we can't go wrong.

s/ Sharon

Cabbage Jambalaya

1 pound lean ground beef	1 (13 ounces) package turkey smoked sausage, sliced	1 (14.5 ounces) can diced tomatoes
1 ½ cups chopped celery		2 cups water
1 ½ cups chopped onion	1 medium head cabbage, chopped (about 10 cups)	1 cup brown rice
2 cloves garlic, minced		1 teaspoon garlic powder
		1 tablespoon Cajun seasoning

Heat a large stockpot over medium high. **Add** ground beef, and **cook** until it starts to brown, about 6 minutes. **Add** the celery, and **cook** for 2 minutes. **Add** onion and garlic, and **cook** 4 minutes while stirring. **Add** smoked sausage, and **cook** an additional 2 to 3 minutes. **Stir in** cabbage, and **cook** until it wilts, about 3 minutes. **Add** tomatoes, water, rice, garlic powder, and Cajun seasoning.

Bring to a **boil**, and **reduce** heat to medium. **Cover**, and **simmer** for 40 minutes. Serve hot.

Yield: 10, 1-cup servings

Nutritional Analysis: 250 calories, 8 g fat, 3 g saturated fat, 60 mg cholesterol, 400 mg sodium, 26 g carbohydrate, 4 g fiber, 6 g sugars, 0 g added sugars, 18 g protein



Raising Hope for the farmer

FROM PAGE 3

care. That can make a big difference.”

Jeanne Ward got involved with Raising Hope because she knew of the rural health disparities, especially in her PhD program for nursing.

“Rural populations have worse access to healthcare, to screenings, which means a lot poorer outcomes ... and mental health is one of the areas neglected.”

She points out that Raising Hope is not an advocacy group supporting any political causes.

“We’re a coalition — one of our goals is to show appreciation, and farmers also want the public to know what they go through, so awareness is a big part.” They try to reach farmers and the general public through events, digital campaigns, and advertising. It’s also important to the coalition to help educate the general public on what farmers go through in order to produce the food

we need.

There are a lot of moving parts and pieces to a coalition, Ward said. There are several partner entities, and each one — either academic or governmental — were able to apply for grant funding appropriations to do different projects related to Raising Hope’s goals.

Buying into farmers’ health

The last round of funds from the state legislature were announced in August, and totaled \$450,000 to be used for promoting the mental well-being of Kentucky farmers.

In addition to the Pennyroyal Center funding to improve the crisis line, other Raising Hope initiatives that were allocated funds include the University of Kentucky, to expand Mental Health First Aid training to ag-centric populations; Vimarc, a marketing agency to create a campaign to raise awareness of mental health issues in rural areas;

Western Kentucky University for health screening and education events; and the U.K.’s Southeast Center for Agricultural Health and Injury Prevention, for a youth rural resilience program promoting health and safety at farms.

The coalition is also partnered with the Kentucky Department of Public Health and the Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities.

Dobson, Witt and Ward said they were thrilled with the continued funding, making it apparent that the mental and physical health of the state’s farmers is important.

“Raising Hope brings awareness and resources to treat the whole of a person,” Commissioner Quarles said. “As we know, when we deal with mental and physical health situations, we may not have the resources or confidence to address a crisis. Raising Hope offers health solutions and a network of individuals who can relate to mental and

physical struggles and help to overcome these moments.”

Witt said working with Dobson under the safety umbrella only makes sense to her. There’s a synergistic effect between safety and stress, she pointed out.

“If you’re fatigued, you put yourself at a higher risk for getting hurt. And getting hurt then affects your mental health and could develop into a permanent disability, creating more stress.”

Witt said knowing that Raising Hope aims to help the whole farmer makes it even more worthwhile. “We want the farmers to feel that we feel their health is important, so they can remain healthy and keep doing what they love for as long as possible.”

Raising Hope offers several different resources for farmers, which can be found at raisinghopeky.com. For anyone struggling who needs confidential help now, call or text 988.

By Bobbie Curd
Field reporter

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Fall can be a tough time for pasture



Overgrazing in fall can lead to opportunistic annual pasture weeds like buttercup and ragweed (shown here).

As I write this, the weather forecast calls for two weeks of temperatures in the 90s and lots of sunshine. Good weather for haymaking but not so much for cool season pasture, especially if you are short of soil moisture like we are in central Kentucky. Historically, pasture condition scores in Kentucky are worst in October (when these kinds of measures were kept). Here are some thoughts that are rattling around in my head about fall pasture management.

First, keeping at least four inches of growth on pastures is always the goal for our cool season grasses. Orchardgrass is especially sensitive to overgrazing. Leaving a good residual shades the crown of the plant and protects the stem bases where carbohydrates are stored. Hopefully these carbohydrates will be available to fuel growth later this fall. When stands are defoliated to one inch, temperatures are elevated four inches deep into the soil. Keeping four inches of residual height benefits cool season grasses significantly.

Maintaining four inches in a toxic fescue stand benefits the grazing animal as well. The greatest concentration of ergovaline in toxic tall fescue is present in the base of the plant. The stem bases are even more toxic than seed.

The weed control effects of leaving a good grass residual can't be over-emphasized, in my opinion. Short grass stands allow weed germination of winter and summer weeds. Most of the buttercup we see in the spring gets its start as a fall-germinating seedling.

Skeptical? Look around now in your pastures and take a weed inventory. Many of the pastures I am in

have an invasion of ragweed and some pigweed. We are also seeing signature weed of overgrazed pastures – foxtail. I can't promise you that leaving four inches of residual will eliminate these and other annual weeds from your pasture, but it darn sure is going to help.

If you have hung with me so far, no doubt you are thinking, "Okay Mr. PhD, the cows have to be somewhere!" And you would be right. Here is a short list of possible solutions.

Feed hay now. Put the cows in one pasture and feed hay now, especially for your spring calvers that are almost ready to wean. This practice has several advantages. First you limit the overgrazing to just one pasture. Second you can accumulate a lot of nutrients in that pasture from the manure and urine. Third, you can feed your low quality hay now when the cows have their lowest nutritional need.

Use summer forages. Long term, consider some type of recurring summer pasture. You could use summer annuals like sorghum-sudangrass, crabgrass or even corn. Sorghum-sudans and corn require killing the existing vegetation. Crabgrass on the other hand can be broadcast seeded into cool season grass pastures that have been damaged by hoof traffic in spring or that have been lightly tilled to expose soil. Crabgrass is often mixed with red clover to improve pasture quality and yield. Running a cultipacking roller over these overseeded fields will improve establishment. The use of one of the improved varieties of crabgrass like Red River, MoJo or Quick N Big is recommended.

Native warm season perennial grasses are another

The Forage Doctor



By Jimmy Henning



good summer option. Big bluestem, indiangrass and eastern gamagrass are used with success in Kentucky for high quality, mid- and late summer grazing. These grasses have the advantage of being perennials, highly palatable and very efficient users of fertilizer. Their downsides include slow establishment and high seed cost. Cost-share programs available through agencies such as NRCS or Kentucky Fish and Wildlife can greatly reduce establishment costs.

Finally, bermudagrass may be an option. Both the seeded-types and hybrid bermudagrasses can be grown in Kentucky. The seeded varieties are more winter hardy but less palatable. The hybrids are better adapted to the lower tier of counties in Kentucky due to their limited winterhardiness. Both types will need high levels of soil fertility, especially nitrogen for productivity and stand longevity.

Pasture management is always a series of compromises, and a hot dry fall can have us seeking the lesser of evils. Overgrazing in the fall on at least some of the farm may well be impossible. Limiting the extent of this close defoliation can help you have greater regrowth later this fall, and more vigorous, less weedy pastures next spring and summer.

Happy foraging.

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THE Sunny SIDE

The Official Publication of the Kentucky Poultry Federation and The Farmer's Pride Advertising Supplement

September 7, 2023



Kentucky 4-H Poultry Competitions

It has been a busy past few months in 4-H hosting competitions centered on poultry. There were three poultry-related 4-H culinary contests sponsored by the Kentucky Poultry Federation that were held on July 30 at the Hardin County Extension Office in Elizabethtown.

Early that morning, we hosted the 4-H Egg Chef Challenge. In this contest, participants are required to demonstrate the preparation of an egg dish while discussing the virtues of eggs. It is similar to a TV talk show. It is an excellent opportunity for youth to show off their cooking skills and personalities. The top prize of \$100 went to Cecilia Rose Huggins of Simpson County. She made Kentucky Derby Pie, a family favorite. Taking second place with a very close score and receiving \$50 was Josh Cook from Allen County. He scrambled up the fluffiest eggs that the judges have ever eaten.

In the afternoon, we had the chicken and turkey barbecue contests. We had a total of 19 participants in the two contests, the most we have had in several years! In the chicken BBQ contest, participants cook four chicken thighs and hand in three for sensory evaluation. They are judging on their cooking skills, food handling skills, and the quality of the product. In the turkey BBQ contest, participants receive two pounds of ground turkey and are required to hand in two turkey patties. They can add what they want to flavor the patties, but the patties must be at least 1/4-pound pre-cooked weight and contain at least 75 percent turkey meat.

The 2023 State 4-H poultry judging, and avian bowl contests were held on the first Friday of the Kentucky State Fair. These contests allow 4-Hers from all over the state to compete in educational events that help them learn to make and defend decisions, speak publicly, and gain poultry-related skills. In the poultry judging contest, participants evaluate classes of White Leghorn hens for level of past egg production; grade

ready-to-cook chicken carcasses and parts; identify ready-to-cook chicken parts; and grade table eggs for interior and exterior quality. Both juniors and seniors compete in the contest. There were 22 juniors and 21 seniors competing in the contest.

The top five juniors in the poultry judging contest were:

1. Cecilia Huggins, Simpson County
2. Annabelle Adams, Laurel County
3. Ava Schodelbaur, Scott County
4. Avalee Adams, Laurel County
5. Avery Bivens, LaRue County

The top five seniors in the poultry judging contest were:

1. Christopher Sweets, Warren County
2. Isabella Day, LaRue County
3. Jace Coles, Warren County
4. Cash Lee, LaRue County
5. Jake Marksbury, LaRue County

The top four seniors have the opportunity to represent Kentucky at the national poultry judging contest in Louisville in November.

The 4-H Avian Bowl contest is a double-elimination tournament with questions from the Avian Bowl manual related to poultry production. Again, there were junior and senior divisions. There were 10 junior teams and 8 senior teams competing, with a total of 49 4-Hers. In the junior division, the top team was from Warren County and was composed of Piper Hosay and Neal Brown. There was an unbreakable tie for first place between Miranda Stooksbury of Laurel County and Piper Hosay of Warren County. Dylan Klett of Warren County took third, Liam Wentz of Simpson County fourth and Liam Stooksbury of Laurel County fifth.

In the senior division, the top team was from Simpson County and was composed for Cameron Huggins, Kate Ford, and Michaela Van Gelderen. The top five individuals were:

1. Jonas Hosay from Warren County

2. Christopher Sweets from Warren County

3. Cameron Huggins from Simpson County

4. Emily Normington from Scott County

5. Kate Ford from Simpson County

Lastly, the Kentucky Poultry Federation sponsors a t-shirt contest for those wearing team shirts. The winner this year was Simpson County, followed by Pendleton County.

The purpose of the 4-H Poultry Competitions is to help students develop leadership abilities, build character, and assume citizenship responsibilities. These contests also help students develop creative skills in the preparation, use, and serving of food products.

It is our goal to have the best competition

possible. Below are some helpful tools that should come in handy as you prepare for the contest. For more information, contact Dr. Jacquie Jacob (Jacquie.jacob@uky.edu).

- Kentucky rules: <https://afs.ca.uky.edu/event/egg-preparation-demonstration-contests>

- UK factsheet on egg preparation demonstration contests: <http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/4aj/4aj09po/4aj09po.PDF>

- A series of YouTube videos put together by the Alabama Cooperative Extension Service on Egg prep demos (which they call Egg Cookery) - https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLkNoAmOtt__9-H2GvE5q1zw46Z2acLKB4

25th annual Kentucky Poultry Festival

The Kentucky Poultry Federation is hosting the Kentucky Poultry Festival in Lexington. We invite you to attend the 25th Annual Kentucky Poultry Festival at the Griffin Gate Marriott Resort and Spa, Lexington, on October 7. We hope that you will mark your calendars and register to join us for an exciting day of food, fun, and entertainment.

Please, join us for Keeneland, Spa Day, Golf at the Griffin Gate Marriott Resort Golf Club, and the Sporting Clay event at the Elk Creek Sporting Clays. We have limited spots and appointments and they are filled on a first come first served basis. An extension of the festival is the Kentucky Poultry Federation Scholarship Fundraiser. On Saturday evening, we will host a silent auction, all proceeds are designated for scholarships given to children and grandchildren of Kentucky's poultry families, employees, and allied members. If you would like to donate an item for the silent auction please email me at jguffey@kypoultry.org

The day will conclude with the annual Hall of Fame Banquet where we will recognize our Hall of Fame Members, Family Farm Environmental Award Winners, Scholarship Winners, and Ticket Sales Winners. After an evening of good food and recognizing the successes of friends, the grand finale is another great event, the world-famous Howl at the Moon concert.

Please make plans to attend our 25th Annual Kentucky Poultry Festival in Lexington. If you are unable to attend the events but would like to support Kentucky's poultry industry, we have many ways that you can get involved without actually being present. If you would like to purchase tickets, please visit our website at www.kypoultry.org or if you need more information please contact the Kentucky Poultry Federation office at 270-404-2277 or e-mail jguffey@kypoultry.org.

Game Day Breakfast Sliders



Ingredients

Scrambled Eggs:

- 12 eggs
- salt and ground black pepper to taste
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 (12 count) package Hawaiian bread rolls (such as King's®)
- 18 slices provolone cheese, or as needed
- 12 slices deli ham, or as needed
- ¼ cup butter
- 1 ½ tablespoons brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon prepared yellow mustard

Directions

Whisk eggs, salt, and pepper together in a bowl until frothy. Melt 2 tablespoons butter in a large skillet over medium-low heat. Pour eggs into skillet; cook and stir with spatula until set, 3 to 6 minutes. Remove from heat.

Cut rolls in half horizontally; lay bottoms in a single layer in a 9x13-inch baking dish. Add a layer of provolone cheese, then scrambled eggs, then a layer of ham, then provolone cheese, then ham, then provolone cheese again. Cover with roll tops. Cut through ham and provolone cheese layers to make individual sandwiches.

Melt ¼ cup butter, brown sugar, and mustard together in a small saucepan over medium heat; cook and stir until sugar is dissolved. Spread mixture over roll tops. Cover baking dish with aluminum foil and let stand, about 30 minutes.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Remove aluminum foil from baking dish.

Bake in preheated oven until tops are golden brown and cheese has melted, 15 to 20 minutes.

Mark Your Calendars!

OCTOBER 7

SATURDAY, OCT. 7, 2023:

Local Music 5 p.m.

Silent Auction 5 p.m.

Dinner/Banquet/Annual Meeting: 6 p.m.

Howl at the Moon 8:45 p.m.

THE 25TH ANNUAL

KENTUCKY

POULTRY FESTIVAL

LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

FRIDAY, OCT. 6

11 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Tailgate - Keenland

SATURDAY, OCT. 7

8:30 a.m.: KPF Golf Scramble

9:45 a.m. - 1 p.m. Sporting Clay Event

10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Ladies Outing – Spa Treatments

4:30 p.m. Registration Opens

5:00 p.m. Silent Auction Begins

6:00 p.m. KPF Meeting, Dinner & Banquet

8:45 p.m. Howl at the Moon!

*All times are Eastern Time

Buffalo Chicken Bites



Ingredients

- 1 ¼ pounds boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cut into 1-inch pieces**
- 1 cup whole buttermilk**
- ½ cup plus 2 tablespoons buffalo-style hot sauce (such as Frank's RedHot® Original), divided**
- 2 large eggs, beaten**
- 1 ½ cups (6 ⅔ oz.) all-purpose flour**

- 2 ounces Parmesan cheese, grated (about ½ cup)**
- 1 ½ teaspoons kosher salt**
- ½ teaspoon garlic powder**
- ½ teaspoons black pepper**
- ¼ teaspoon baking powder**
- Vegetable oil, for frying**
- ¼ cup unsalted butter, melted**
- Ranch or blue cheese dressing, for serving.**

Directions -Gently stir together chicken, buttermilk, and 2 tablespoons of the hot sauce in a medium bowl to coat chicken; let stand uncovered at room temperature at least 10 minutes or covered and refrigerated up to 24 hours.

Place eggs in a shallow dish. Whisk together flour, cheese, salt, garlic powder, pepper, and baking powder in a separate shallow dish. Working in batches, remove chicken from marinade, shaking off excess; dredge in flour mixture, shaking off excess. Dip in egg, and return to flour mixture, gently pressing to fully coat. Place chicken on a parchment paper-lined baking sheet. Repeat with remaining chicken.

Pour 2-inches of oil in a large skillet over medium-high; heat until a deep-fry thermometer registers 350°F, adjusting heat as needed to maintain temperature. Working in batches, add chicken to hot oil and fry, stirring occasionally, until golden brown and a food thermometer inserted into chicken registers 165°F, 4 or 6 minutes. Use a slotted spoon to transfer chicken to a paper towel-lined plate to drain. Repeat with remaining chicken.

Whisk together melted butter and remaining ½ cup hot sauce in a large bowl; add fried chicken bites, tossing gently to fully coat. Serve with ranch or blue cheese dressing.

The Best Healthy Turkey Chili

- 2 teaspoons olive oil**
- 1 yellow onion, chopped**
- 3 garlic cloves, minced**
- 1 medium red bell pepper, chopped**
- 1 pound extra lean ground turkey or chicken (99%)**
- 4 tablespoons chili powder* (I used McCormick chili powder - please read the notes section on this)**
- 2 teaspoons ground cumin**
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano**
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper**
- 1/2 teaspoon salt, plus more to taste**
- 1 (28-ounce) can diced tomatoes or crushed tomatoes**
- 1 1/4 cups chicken broth**
- 2 (15 oz) cans dark red kidney beans, rinsed and drained**
- 1 (15 oz) can sweet corn, rinsed and drained**
- For topping: cheese, avocado, tortilla chips, cilantro, sour cream**

Directions: Place oil in a large pot and place over medium high heat. Add in onion, garlic and red pepper and saute for 5-7 minutes, stirring frequently.

Add in ground turkey and break up the meat; cooking until no longer pink. Next add in chili powder, cumin, oregano, cayenne pepper and salt; stir for about 20 seconds.

Next add in tomatoes, chicken broth, kidney beans and corn. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat and simmer for 30-45 minutes or until chili thickens and flavors come together. Taste and adjust seasonings and salt as necessary.

Garnish with anything you'd like. Makes 6 servings, about 1 1/2 cups each.

Contact the Kentucky Poultry Federation
office at (270) 404-2277 or e-mail
jguffey@kypoultry.org.

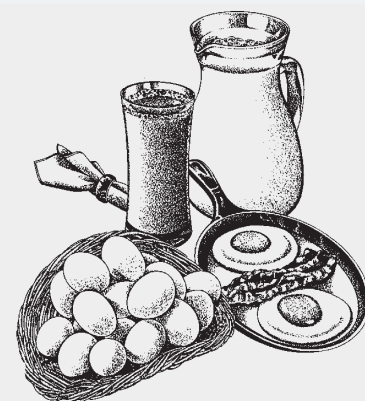
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Soybean, corn and tobacco field day held

FROM PAGE 7

do wiped out all the tobacco infrastructure except one building.

He gave an overview of statewide tobacco production, which generated \$240 million for the economy, down significantly from tobacco's high production days. He noted that burley tobacco production is moving west, and dark air and dark-fired tobacco are still western Kentucky staples and the only place in the world that grows these eyes of dark tobacco. He also pointed out the increase in Connecticut Cigar Wrapper tobacco production. He also said that most producers grow two types, and an increasing number are growing all four.

He discussed several of the restrictions on growing tobacco. Black shank, he said, is still out there but is controlled with the use

of fungicides and patch rotation. He said the Connecticut wrapper is a very high-risk crop. As expected, the large, broad leaf must be flawless, and flea beetles and weather can wreak havoc on a prime crop. He also pointed out that tobacco is shipped to Europe and Africa, and those countries expressed concern over pesticides residues.

With the decrease in tobacco production statewide, he cautioned producers that the number of specialists, agronomists, and pathologists working exclusively in tobacco has also decreased. Only six specialists nationwide are devoted to tobacco, working together to do whatever the growers need. He said even with limited numbers, there is considerable research in pesticides, fungicides, and sucker control.

He said there was significant work with

curing. He pointed out that we can do nothing to make a safe product. We can work toward harm reduction. Two chemical constituents in tobacco called specific nitrosamines form during the curing process. He said there is extensive research during curing that may reduce these compounds, but complete elimination is impossible.

He pointed out that 2/3two-thirds of crop production is labor and half of that comes after harvest. Researchers are working to reduce the costs of stripping and preparing tobacco for the market.

The newly constructed dark-fired barn is very different from current dark-fired barns. The new barn is entirely metal and offers a highly controlled "firing" process with limited vents and airflow. When using

an open fire, limiting direct airflow is critical within the firing process.

After the second session, participants gathered back in the machinery shed tent for a question and answer session on the crop season with Dr. Andy Bailey, Dr. Chad Lee, and Jonathon Reynolds of the Kentucky Soybean Board. Lee provided the news that everyone was interested in hearing – an update on the construction of the new Research Center buildings. Lee said the main building, the new student housing, and the new field labs will begin construction in 2024. Lee noted that JRA Architects expects a ribbon cutting on the center in 2025 with full occupancy.

**By Toni Riley
Field Reporter**

KENTUCKY GRAIN PRICES							National Weekly Ethanol Plant Report	
<u>LOUISVILLE AREA:</u> Louisville & Bagdad; <u>PENNYRILE AREA:</u> Allensville, Auburn, Franklin, Hopkinsville & Pembroke; <u>BLUEGRASS AREA:</u> Bardstown, Lexington & Winchester; <u>GREEN RIVER:</u> Caneyville & Livermore; <u>NORTHERN KENTUCKY AREA:</u> Silver Grove at Cincinnati; <u>PURCHASE AREA:</u> Clinton & Mayfield. Opening bids at elevators and processing plants.							8/7/2023-8/11/2023 Indiana Ohio Illinois Iowa	
<div>8/7/20234:00 pm est</div> <div>Bids for next day</div> <div>Cash Bids</div> <div>Corn #2 Yellow</div> <div>Corn #2 White</div> <div>Soybeans #1 Y</div> <div>Wheat #2 SRW</div> <div>Barley</div>							Yellow Corn Spot Bid 483.25	
							Dried Distillers Grain (\$/ton) 10% moisture 170.00-240.00	
							Modified Wet Distillers (\$/ton) 55-60% moisture 86.00-105.00	
							<div>Kentucky Weekly Cattle Receipts as reported at local markets:</div> <div>07/03/2315,820</div> <div>07/17/2321,183</div> <div>07/31/2313,585</div> <div>08/07/2315,311</div>	
<div>New Crop Delivery Contract</div> <div>Corn #2 Yellow</div> <div>Corn #2 White</div> <div>Soybeans #1 Y</div> <div>Wheat #2 SRW</div> <div>Barley</div>								
Weekly Feed Ingredient Price Wholesale prices, \$ per ton Rail or Truck FOB Location		Owensboro Grain 8/7/2023	Commonwealth Agri-Energy Hopkinsville 8/7/2023	St. Louis Weekly Feed Region 8/4/2023	Memphis Weekly Feed Region 8/4/2023	Corn Belt Weekly Feed Region 8/4/2023	Daily Direct Hog Prices LM_HG218 8/7/2023 Barrows & Gilts Purchased Swine Receipts: 1,710 Base Price: \$93.00-\$106.00	FOR DAILY LIVESTOCK AND GRAIN MARKET REPORTS
Soybean Meal 48% Sol	455.30	—	456.10-456.60	464.10-489.10	434.10-479.10	Wt. Avg. \$101.16	Compared to prior day, wt. avg. base prices were up \$1.53.	CALL FARMLOT
Soybean Hulls	215	—	190.00-220.00	—	155.00-215.00			
Corn Distillers Grain Dried	—	215.00	—	—	—			
Distillers Grain Modified	—	146.00	—	—	—	5 Day Rolling Average: \$102.33	1-800-327-6568	
Distillers Grain Wet	—	90.00	—	—	—			
Corn Condensed Solubles	—	NA	—	—	—			
Corn Gluten Feed 20-21 pct	—	—	235.00-240.00	160.00-180.00	150.00-180.00	1-502-573-0553		
Corn Gluten Meal 60 pct	—	—	623.00	540.00-560.00	500.00-560.00			
Cottonseed Meal 41 pct	—	—	410.00-415.00	340.00-350.00	400.00-410.00			
Whole Cottonseed	—	—	—	—	—			
Wheat Middlings	—	—	—	—	—			



Rogers family inducted into the Kentucky 4-H Hall of fame

FROM PAGE 5

agriculture mini grants and out of state travel for 4-Hers to compete and attend conferences.

“It isn’t the apron, the tractor driving, the raffle, or whatever; it is the camaradery, understanding of how to work with people, and how to put yourself in the best position to move forward that is the real gift of Kentucky 4-H,” said Lorie North.

These eight families in the Kentucky

4-H Family Hall of Family have generationally made an impact on the youth across the commonwealth, helping them thrive in their communities. The Rogers family demonstrated how to make the best better by mentoring and selflessly serving youth they encountered in Hardin County and across the commonwealth. Today, we have the chance to do the same. How will we choose to make our mark on Kentucky’s youth?

Congratulations to the Roger’s family!

USDA ESTIMATED DAILY LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER				
	CATTLE	CALVES	HOGS	SHEEP
Fri. 8/04/2023 (est)	113,000	1,000	418,000	4,000
Week Ago (est)	110,000	1,000	460,000	4,000
Year Ago (act)	114,000	2,000	453,000	4,000
Week to Date (est)	607,000	5,000	2,308,000	32,000
Same Pd Lt Week (est)	609,000	5,000	2,310,000	32,000
Same Pd Lt Yr (act)	610,000	7,000	2,270,000	32,000

National Daily Direct Slaughter Cattle			
Negotiated Purchases 8/07/2023			
Live Bids FOB- weighed average weights & prices			
Steers:			
80%-up Choice: 1455.6 lbs 187.66			
Heifers			
80%-up Choice: 1298.5 lbs 186.90			

8/07/2023 USDA Carlot Meat Summary , Compared to Previous Day Prices in dollars per hundred weight: Boxed beef cutout prices were mixed on Choice and Select carcasses.	
NATIONAL BOXED BEEF CUTOUT Estimated composite cutout value of Choice 600-900 lbs carcasses down 0.30 at 301.49; Select 600-900 lbs carcasses down 1.47 at 275.01; based on 47 loads of choice cuts, 25 loads of select cuts, 8 loads of trimmings, and 13 loads of ground beef. Choice/Select Spread 26.48.	
CARCASS PRICE EQUIVALENT INDEX VALUE NW_LS410 https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/nw_ls410.txt . Estimated carcass price equivalent value of Choice 600-900 lbs carcasses up 0.41 at 285.27; Select 600-900 lbs carcasses up 0.41 at 260.29.	
Current index reflects the equivalent of 106,235 head of cattle.	

And the winners are....

FROM PAGE 4

tion manager for a Kentucky poultry integrator, I would develop/hire a PR position in my company to target and educate the general public.” He goes on to elaborate further by writing, “Here are a few of the things that I would have them focus on. The term poultry farm refers to a farm on which a large number of birds are raised indoors in optimal conditions that maximize production, minimize the risk of disease, and reduce the cost of protein. Poultry includes domestic fowls like chickens and turkeys which are reared to maximize meat and egg production. For growers, it requires a

capital investment and provides additional income and job opportunities to a large number of rural populations. It also improves the nutritional value of people’s diet through less expensive protein and generates rich manure that can replace chemical fertilizers.” To apply for the 2024 scholarship, completed applications must be submitted by June 30, 2024. Applications will be available in April 2024 on our website, www.kypoultry.org. More importantly, if you would like to donate a silent auction item to help support this scholarship program please contact Jamie Guffey at JGuffey@kypoultry.org.

STATE AVERAGES			
Steers (M&L 1-2)	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
350-400 lbs	263.64	246.65	175.76
400-450 lbs	259.02	247.42	180.50
450-500 lbs	255.90	248.61	181.86
500-550 lbs	251.18	248.12	178.36
550-600 lbs	250.32	245.81	175.55
600-650 lbs	249.68	238.49	167.41
650-700 lbs	245.91	242.67	172.15
700-750 lbs	232.10	222.73	161.46
750-800 lbs	228.25	221.74	164.38
800-850 lbs	214.62	221.42	162.58
850-900 lbs	195.20	216.05	148.44
Heifers (M&L 1-2)			
300-350 lbs	232.68	231.10	165.91
350-400 lbs	231.86	228.70	168.09
400-450 lbs	234.29	228.93	162.29
450-500 lbs	234.74	229.66	162.02
500-550 lbs	231.85	222.74	157.97
550-600 lbs	231.62	226.19	156.97
600-650 lbs	224.26	233.02	148.39
650-700 lbs	224.59	212.48	147.05
700-750 lbs	203.27	206.22	140.95
750-800 lbs	192.33	204.18	136.75

WEEKLY COW SUMMARY			
Slaughter Cows	Average	High	Low
Breakers	95.00-126.50	100.00-138.00	79.00-114.50
Boners	80.00-118.50	95.00-135.00	73.00-109.50
Lean	79.00-113.00	86.00-123.00	70.00-100.00
Slaughter Bulls	Average	High	Low
Yield Grade 1&2	113.00-136.50	125.00-152.00	91.00-120.00

<u>July 13, 2023</u>		Bowling Green, KY	
SLAUGHTER GOATS: 168			
Kids Selection 1: 48 lbs 310.00; 71 lbs 287.50. Selection 1-2 92 lbs 277.50.			
Selection 2: 54-58 lbs 245.00-292.50; 68 lbs 275.00. Selection 2-3 52 lbs 267.50.			
SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 644			
Hair Breeds-Choice & Prime 1-2 55 lbs 200.00; 70-76 lbs 185.00-190.00; 85 lbs 162.50; 95 lbs 165.00; 116 lbs 155.00. Choice 2 53 lbs 192.50; 69 lbs 177.50; 89 lbs 157.50. Woolled-Choice and Prime 1-2 67-69 lbs 180.00-195.00; 75 lbs 167.50; 85 lbs 165.00. Choice 2 92 lbs 157.50; 175 lbs 110.00.			

GRAINS			
Corn	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
	4.53-5.64	5.03-6.36	6.01-6.87
Soybeans	13.26-14.56	13.56-15.59	12.98-16.18
Red Winter Wheat	5.13-6.22	5.84-7.10	6.64-7.89

Ham breakfast brings word of delayed farm bill; \$10 million raised for charity

At Kentucky Farm Bureau's 59th annual Country Ham Breakfast, the grand champion ham raised a combined \$10 million for Kentucky charities. Above, front row, from left: Kelly Craft's brother, Marc Guilfoil; Gerry Roll with the Foundation for Appalachian Kentucky; Kristen Branscum on behalf of Kelly and Joe Craft; Miss Kentucky Mallory Hudson; Luther Denton with Central Bank; Leslie Catron with Central Bank; and Greg Shewmaker. Back row, from left is John Sparrow with KFB; auctioneer Seth Hembree; Mark Haney, president of Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation; Eddie Melton with KFB; grand champion country ham producers Beth Drennan and Ronnie Drennan; Agriculture Commissioner Dr. Ryan Quarles; Emma Arvin; Drew Graham with KFB; Sharon Furches with KFB; David Beck with Kentucky Venues; and Nathaniel Keith with the Kentucky Poultry Federation.



LOUISVILLE – A celebration of an award-winning ham was joined with word that farmers can expect the Farm Bill to be delayed until at least the end of the year.

The annual Kentucky Farm Bureau country ham breakfast during the Kentucky State Fair always provides an entertaining auction with proceeds going to charity as well as a platform for Kentucky's highest elected officials, and the 59th annual event was no exception.

U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell told the crowd to expect the farm bill to be delayed, with the Sept. 30 deadline drawing near. The new deadline will be Dec. 31 for reauthorizing the five-year bill that sets federal farm policy.

It's not the farm policy that often causes the bill to be delayed – sometimes by a year or more – but the portion of the bill that sets policy for food assistance programs such as SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program).

Sen. Rand Paul, Gov. Andy Beshear, Agriculture Commissioner Ryan Quarles and Louisville Mayor Craig Greenberg also spoke to the crowd. Attorney General Daniel Cameron, who is the Republican candidate for governor opposing Beshear, a Democrat, was in the audience. Cameron attended a previous forum hosted by KFB for the gubernatorial candidates but Beshear did not.

After a meal of Kentucky products and comments from various speakers, the winning ham produced by Ronnie and Beth Drennan at Broadbent B & B Foods of Kuttawa was auctioned off. Eventually, Kelly and Joe Craft and Central Bank combined their bids for a total of \$10 million and will each donate \$5 million to charity.

Weekly Kentucky Cattle and Grain Summary

USDA Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News

Frankfort, KY

Monday, August 7, 2023

For Week Ending:

Saturday, August 5, 2023

Receipts: 14,600

Last Week: 13,481

Last Year: 15,041

Compared to last week: Feeder Steers sold 4.00 to 6.00 higher and Feeder Heifers sold 3.00 to 5.00 higher with instances throughout the feeder classes selling sharply higher. Very good demand and buyer participation in the feeder sale. Slaughter Cows and Bulls sold steady in good demand.

STATE AVERAGES			
Steers (M&L 1-2)	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
350-400 lbs	263.64	246.65	175.76
400-450 lbs	259.02	247.42	180.50
450-500 lbs	255.90	248.61	181.86
500-550 lbs	251.18	248.12	178.36
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450-500 lbs	234.74	229.66	162.02
500-550 lbs	231.85	222.74	157.97
550-600 lbs	231.62	226.19	156.97
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Slaughter Bulls	Average	High	Low
Yield Grade 1&2	113.00-136.50	125.00-152.00	91.00-120.00

July 13, 2023

Bowling Green, KY

SLAUGHTER GOATS: 168

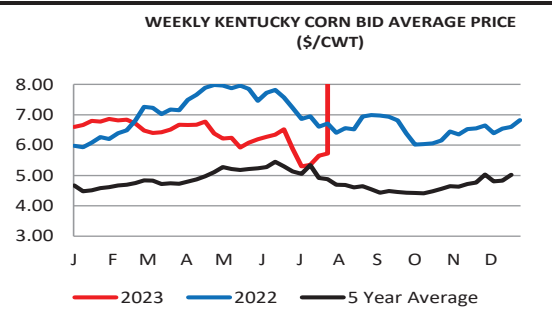
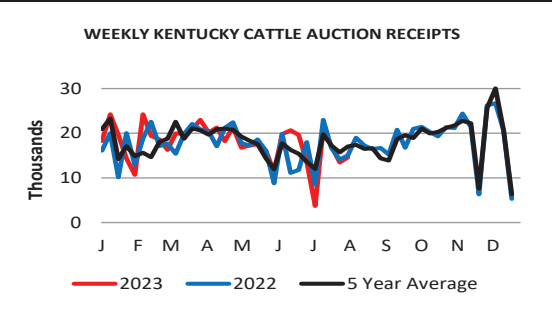
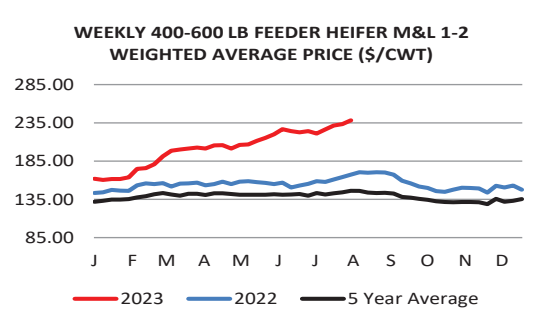
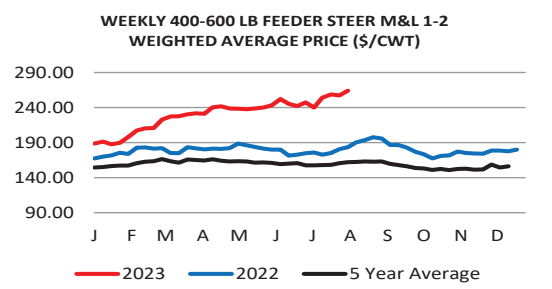
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Red Winter Wheat	5.13-6.22	5.84-7.10	6.64-7.89



USDA-KY Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News

Frankfort, KY

Levi Geyer, OIC 502-782-4139

Email: Levi.Geyer@usda.gov

[USDA Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News](#)

Blue Grass Stockyards Lexington, KY July 31 & August 1, 2023 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 49 hd. 946# 231.25 blk-red 56 hd. 951# 235.00 blk Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 73 hd. 710# 235.10 mixed 69 hd. 711# 239.90 blk-charx	KY-TN Livestock Auction Guthrie, KY August 3, 2023 Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 22 hd. 415# 235.50 blk-bwf 20 hd. 539# 238.50 blk-bwf	Blue Grass South Stanford, KY July 31 & August 3, 2023 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 61 hd. 756# 252.25 blk-charx 56 hd. 771# 248.00 blk 58 hd. 814# 233.00 mixed 65 hd. 815# 242.25 blk-charx 60 hd. 842# 246.50 blk 61 hd. 863# 242.90 blk 61 hd. 905# 234.75 blk-charx 63 hd. 906# 244.00 blk 48 hd. 1098# 213.75 blk Holstein Steers: Large 3 59 hd. 927# 175.50 Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 50 hd. 491# 261.50 blk 80 hd. 657# 241.00 blk-charx 78 hd. 696# 244.00 blk 138 hd. 698# 249.00 blk-charx 72 hd. 716# 248.30 blk 54 hd. 764# 234.75 blk 66 hd. 792# 235.50 blk 62 hd. 797# 232.00 blk-charx 65 hd. 837# 225.75 blk-charx	Paris Stockyards Paris, KY August 3, 2023 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 27 hd. 515# 276.00 blk 74 hd. 526# 283.00 blk 23 hd. 598# 269.00 blk 32 hd. 703# 252.50 blk 37 hd. 770# 250.00 blk-charx 84 hd. 773# 254.00 blk 59 hd. 838# 240.50 charx-red-blk 59 hd. 855# 245.30 blk Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 45 hd. 506# 257.00 blk 20 hd. 540# 558.75 blk 72 hd. 587# 253.40 blk 85 hd. 669# 234.00 mixed
Russell County Stockyards Russell Springs, KY August 2, 2023 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 34 hd. 553# 272.50 blk-bwf 27 hd. 590# 275.00 blk-bwf 21 hd. 594# 270.00 blk-bwf 23 hd. 607# 269.25 blk-bwf 30 hd. 656# 262.00 blk-bwf 41 hd. 687# 257.25 blk-bwf 47 hd. 731# 255.75 blk-bwf Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 29 hd. 545# 242.50 blk-bwf 30 hd. 585# 243.00 blk 30 hd. 700# 235.25 blk-bwf	Washington Co. Livestock Springfield, KY July 31, 2023 Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 72 hd. 716# 236.75 blk	Blue Grass of Albany Albany, KY August 2, 2023 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 65 hd. 841# 249.95 blk	Blue Grass of Richmond Richmond, KY August 4, 2023 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 58 hd. 837# 253.00 blk 46 hd. 902# 234.25 mixed 54 hd. 1000# 235.25 blk 117 hd. 1009# 232.00 blk 288 hd. 1010# 224.75 blk 51 hd. 1021# 221.00 mixed 54 hd. 1051# 227.00 blk-charx
Mid-KY Livestock Market Upton, KY August 1, 2023 Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 31 hd. 604# 234.50 mixed	Lake Cumberland Livestock Somerset, KY. August 5, 2023 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 32 hd. 770# 247.00 blk 55 hd. 1019# 219.75 blk-charx 43 hd. 1265# 183.75 blk-charx Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 75 hd. 653# 241.00 blk-mixed 57 hd. 774# 229.00 charx-red-blk 68 hd. 783# 232.75 blk	Farmers Livestock Glasgow, KY July 31, 2023 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 79 hd. 626# 261.00 mixed 68 hd. 717# 255.00 blk-bwf 53 hd. 829# 227.50 mixed Feeder Bulls: Medium & Large 1-2 20 hd. 390# 249.50 blk-bwf Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 20 hd. 445# 224.00 blk-bwf	Blue Grass East Mt. Sterling, KY August 2, 2023 Feeder Steers: Medium & Large 1-2 33 hd. 713# 251.50 blk-charx 22 hd. 845# 222.80 charx-mixed Feeder Heifers: Medium & Large 1-2 41 hd. 941# 203.20 charx-blk



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