

## New U.S. agriculture secretary visits Kentucky farmers

LOUISVILLE – Brooke Rollins was sworn in as the 33rd U.S. Secretary of Agriculture on Thursday, Feb. 13. The following day, she went to the same place hundreds of thousands of farmers go every year – the National Farm Machinery Show.

Rollins spent much of her time engaging directly with farmers during her Kentucky visit, first at the national show in Louisville then visiting Gallrein Farms in Shelbyville.

“On my very first trip after being sworn in as the US Secretary of Agriculture, it was my honor to address 15,000 freedom-loving patriots in Louisville, Kentucky at the National Farm Machinery Show,” said Rollins. “I also had the privilege of meeting with more than 100 farmers this morning and hearing directly from them about the challenges and opportunities they face. Every single day, I will fight for our farmers, ranchers, and American agriculture. Together, we are going to create a new era of rural prosperity across this great country.”

On Friday, Secretary Rollins addressed a crowd of 15,000 people at



U. S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins visited the National Farm Machinery Show on her second day in office. Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner Jonathan Shell (left) and David Beck, CEO and president of Kentucky Venues, joined Rollins as she met with hundreds of farmers at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center and the following day at a Shelbyville farm.

SEE **NEW U.S. AG**, PAGE 2

INSIDE	
EDITORIAL	4
FORAGE DOCTOR	12
DIRECTORY PAGE	10
CLASSIFIEDS	24

**CAIP Administrator Training**

See Page 4 for details

## After another successful year Farm Machinery Show gears up for 60th anniversary

LOUISVILLE – The conclusion of the 59th National Farm Machinery Show and Championship Tractor Pull sponsored by Farm Credit Mid-America was an all-out showdown of horsepower and performance.

The events brought together elite competitors, cutting-edge agricultural technology, and record-breaking crowds, reinforcing its reputation as the largest indoor farm show in the country.

The show, steeped in history, once again pulled out all the stops with new product unveilings, forward-thinking seminars, and networking opportunities with leading industry professionals. A surprise guest, the 33rd U.S. Department of Agriculture Sec-



Elliott Storck, who is six and a half years old, visited the Kentucky Corn Growers booth during the National Farm Machinery Show and tried out the corn go-kart. The concept of the corn go-kart started with the Union County Lions Club Corn Festival. The go-carts run on E-85.

SEE **CHAMPIONS**, PAGE 3

# New U.S. agriculture secretary visits Kentucky farmers

FROM FRONT PAGE

Freedom Hall during the National Farm Machinery Show and explored cutting-edge farm equipment alongside industry stakeholders. She also joined the Championship Tractor Pull, highlighting the importance of agricultural innovation and rural economies.

On Saturday morning, Secretary Rollins joined Fox and Friends live from Louisville, where she discussed tackling egg prices and President Trump's trade priorities.

Rollins and Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner Jonathan Shell then traveled to Shelbyville to host a fireside chat and meet-and-greet with more than 100 local farmers at Gallrein Farms. They discussed issues facing farmers, such as avian flu, trade, and

restoring rural prosperity.

Rollins hit the ground running in more ways than one. In the next few days, she also visited Kansas, Texas and Missouri.

On her first full day in office, she took several actions to eliminate policies that counter Trump's positions on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility.

"We will neither commemorate nor celebrate our immutable characteristics, neither among ourselves nor among Americans at large. We will instead celebrate the things that make us American: merit, faith, and liberty first among them. All Americans deserve equal dignity, and at this Department they will receive it. On this precipice of the 250th anniversary of our Revolution, we will rededicate ourselves to 'the proposition that all men are created equal,'" she said.

She convened a briefing and reviewed options for a strategy to combat Avian flu and lower the price of eggs. She delivered a message to U.S. Forest Service firefighters for their actions to save lives and curb wildfires in California.

She held a media availability at the White House, where she discussed key priorities for American farms and ranchers.

As she was traveling and meeting farmers, however, farmers were becoming concerned about USDA funds that have been frozen by the Trump administration. Last Thursday, Rollins announced that \$20 million in frozen funds would be released that had been "paused due to the review of funding in the Inflation Reduction Act."

Rollins said USDA would honor contracts that were already made directly to farm-

ers. The funds were part of contracts with farmers through the Environmental Quality Incentive Program, the Conservation Stewardship Program and the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program.

"After careful review, it is clear that some of this funding went to programs that had nothing to do with agriculture—that is why we are still reviewing—whereas other funding was directed to farmers and ranchers who have since made investments in these programs. We will honor our commitments to American farmers and ranchers, and we will ensure they have the support they need to be the most competitive in the world," she said.

USDA continues to review IRA funding and more announcements are expected to follow.

## FARMERS REGIONAL LIVESTOCK MARKET OF GLASGOW, LLC

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

### Dairy Sale Every Tuesday at Noon

Mike Hatcher

1-800-563-2131 • 270-384-6376 • 270-378-0512

MARKET REPORT: WEEK OF FEB. 18, 2025

Farmers Regional Livestock Market of Glasgow, LLC

Supply included: 9% Feeder Cattle (4% Steers, 24% Dairy Steers, 12% Heifers, 40% Bulls, 20% Dairy Heifers); 40% Slaughter Cattle (0% Steers, 85% Cows, 12% Bulls, 3% Dairy Heifers); 51% Replacement Dairy Cattle (5% Fresh/Milking Cows, 4% Bred Cows, 11% Bred Heifers, 1% Springer Heifers, 14% Open Heifers, 3% Bulls, 47% Baby Bull Calves, 15% Baby Heifer Calves). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs was 36%.

### FEEDER CATTLE:

**Steers:** Medium and Large 2-3: 1 Head 600# 179.00. **Dairy Steers:** Large 3: 3 Head 303# 187.00; 1 Head 660# 148.00; 1 Head 830# 133.00; 1 Head 905# 114.00. **Heifers:** Medium and Large 2-3: 1 Head 470# 173.00; 1 Head 680# 179.00; 1 Head 895# 180.00. **Dairy Heifers:** Large 3: 1 Head 505# 149.00; 1 Head 585# 152.50; 1 Head 630# 196.00; 1 Head 795# 163.00; 1 Head 815# 120.00. **Bulls:** Medium and Large 1-2: 4 Head 435# 294.00; 1 Head 475# 256.00; 4 Head 561# 227.00. Medium and Large 2-3: 1 Head 580# 200.00.

### SLAUGHTER CATTLE:

**Steers:** Select and Choice 1-2: 1 Head 1520# 195.00. **Dairy Heifers:** Select and Choice 1-2: 5 Head 1044# 148.49; 1 Head 1165# 169.00; 1 Head 905# 136.00. **Cows:** Breaker 75-80%: 5 Head 1622# 138.19; 3 Head 1547# 159.97; 1 Head 1860# 128.00. Boner 80-85%: 31 Head 1428# 139.81; 47 Head 1339# 154.46; 8 Head 1477# 124.50. Lean 85-90%: 39 Head 1154# 128.37; 18 Head 1181# 143.75; 17 Head 1004# 113.91; 13 Head 1088# 85.99. **Bulls:** 1-2: 11 Head 1602# 163.48; 13 Head 1619# 180.73; 1 Head 980# 143.00.

See more at Source: USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News • [www.ams.usda.gov/lpgmn](http://www.ams.usda.gov/lpgmn)

Visit [FordRecognizesU.com/FarmBureau](http://FordRecognizesU.com/FarmBureau) today for complete offer details!

**Farm Bureau RECOGNITION**



Ford Super Duty

Farm Bureau members receive a

**\$500** Exclusive Cash Reward\*

toward an eligible new F-150® Lightning®, Super Duty®, F-150, Ranger® or Maverick®  
\*Now compatible with Ford AXZD Plans

\*Available on the purchase or lease of an eligible new 2024/2025/2026 model year Ford Maverick, Ranger, F-150, Super Duty or F-150 Lightning. Not available on any other Ford or Lincoln vehicles, including F-150 Raptor® and Ranger Raptor. Vehicle eligibility may change at any time. Available to U.S. residents only. Place a new retail order or take new retail delivery from an authorized Ford Dealer's stock by 1/31/26. Limit of five purchases or leases per household during the program offer (PGM# 32524). Offer subject to dealer participation. May not be used/combined with most other Ford private offers. See an authorized Ford Dealer, or go to [FordRecognizesU.com](http://FordRecognizesU.com), for complete details and eligibility (PGM# 32524). Due to high demand and global supply chain constraints, some models, trims, and features may not be available or may be subject to change. Check with your local dealer for current information. Offer subject to confirmation of eligibility.



# After another successful year Farm Machinery Show gears up for 60th anniversary

FROM FRONT PAGE

retary Brooke Rollins, selected the National Farm Machinery Show as the site for her first official public appearance, following her swearing-in ceremony the day before, underscoring the importance the event plays in shaping American agriculture.

"A big part of the National Farm Machinery Show is welcoming guests and industry leaders from around the world to Kentucky," said David S. Beck, President and CEO of Kentucky Venues. "This year, the show floor at the Kentucky Exposition Center was as busy as ever, and the adrenaline-packed competition in Freedom Hall made every step through the event exhilarating."

The Championship Tractor Pull concluded with two of the five sessions selling out, welcoming over 70,000 fans, and Wednesday pulls having the best attendance since 2014.

Plans are underway to celebrate the 60th National Farm Machinery Show, which will be held Feb. 11-14, 2026, and highlight the newest innovations shaping the industry. For more information about the show, visit [farmmachinery-show.org](http://farmmachinery-show.org)



Worried about fertilizer prices?

Soil Sample to know your nutrient levels

Independent service

Need help planning for 2025?

Your data stays YOUR DATA

## AGRONOMY ONE LLC. CUSTOM SOIL SAMPLING

### • INDEPENDENT SERVICE

- Soil sampling by soil type or production zone
- Samples generate variable rate fertilizer and lime maps
- Can generate spread maps for all controllers
- Serving ALL of Kentucky



**Ronan Cummins**  
27 years of experience in service to Kentucky agriculture  
270-313-1101 • [ronan@agronomyone.com](mailto:ronan@agronomyone.com)

**SAVE THE DATE!**

## ISAACS ADVANTAGE Spring Sale

**SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2025  
10 AM CST**

**17 Breeding Age Bulls**  
**15 First Calf Heifer Pairs**  
**15 Fall Bred Heifers**  
**8 3 in 1 Pairs**

*For sale updates follow  
our Facebook page -  
Isaacs Angus*

**WE OFFER QUALITY ANGUS & SIMANGUS CATTLE**

For sale information call Matt Isaacs

270.774.5486

270.528.5486



809 Glen Logsdon Rd.  
Horse Cave, KY 42749  
[isaacsangus.com](http://isaacsangus.com)





# Still time to sign up for CAIP Administrator Training



AGRI-EXEC. DIR.  
KENTUCKY  
OFFICE OF  
AGRICULTURAL  
POLICY

**Brandon  
Reed**

Efforts have been made to improve our state's need for large and food animal veterinarians.

I would like to thank everyone who has taken the time to join us at our County Agricultural Incentives Program Administrator Trainings this year. We have seven remaining CAIP administrator trainings, both in-person and virtual. Each CAIP administrator will attend one session prior to administering the program. However, others interested in the process are also welcome. This provides us with an opportunity to both present an update of guidelines to administrators and extension agents, and an additional connection to KOAP staff.

You can sign up for one of our remaining 2025 CAIP Administrator Trainings on our website or by the link below. The training dates are:

Registration link:  
<https://forms.gle/hFVPbWgJMwxGAW7U6>

- February 27 – Virtual
- March 25 – Princeton
- March 26 – Bowling Green
- April 23 – West Liberty
- May 28 – Frankfort
- June 24 – Virtual

Efforts have been made to improve our state's need for large and food animal veterinarians. Specifically in the Kentucky Office of Agricultural Policy, two programs of ours have the potential to impact our commonwealth's coverage of large and food animal veterinarians: KAFV Large/Food Animal Veterinary Loan Program and the KADB Large and Food Animal Veterinary Incentives Program. The LFAVLP is a loan program designed to assist individuals licensed to practice veterinary medicine in Kentucky who desire to construct, expand, equip, or buy into

SEE **STILL TIME**, PAGE 5

# We're about to find out

During the final stages of building the world's first atomic bomb, scientists at the secret New Mexico research site worried that the initial test of their new weapon might ignite the atmosphere and wipe out every living thing.

The project's anxious physicists, however, considered it "extremely unlikely and ultimately downplayed the possibility as a realistic threat" but "not an unreasonable concern."

Farmers, ranchers, and rural communities are experiencing similar anxieties as the White House and Congressional Republicans rev up their efforts to slash federal spending. Unlike the nuclear pioneers, however, neither GOP group has produced quantifiable numbers to support their views.

Moreover, any voter with an internet connection can quickly disprove key claims the budgeteers are using to underwrite their claims.

For example, in the attention-grabbing Jan. 27 White House directive labeled "Temporary Pause of Agency Grant, Loan, and other Financial Assistance Programs," the Office of Management and Budget predicated its spending cuts on this hardworking phrase: "In the Fiscal Year 2024, of the nearly \$10 trillion that the Federal Government spent..."

There's a problem with that case-building opener; it's simply not true. Indeed, "according to the June 2024 estimate by the Congressional Budget Office.. 'In fiscal 2024, the federal government spent \$6.9 trillion..."

So 2024 spending by the federal government—as reported by the federal government—was about 30 percent smaller than what the Administration's current budget office used to justify its government-wide spending "pause."

What happens when deep spending cuts and future government budgets are based on numbers that are at least 30 percent out of line with reality? We're about to find out.

In the meantime, mandated federal spending cuts are coming to rural America with or without the White House working with honest numbers. For example, the University of Illinois recently re-



**FOOD  
&  
FARM  
FILE**

**Alan  
Guebert**

There's a problem with that case-building opener; it's simply not true.

SEE **WE'RE ABOUT**, PAGE 5

## The Farmer's Pride

Sharon Burton .....Publisher ..... snburton@farmlandpub.com .....270-384-9454  
JaCinda Blair .....Readership, Questions .....jacinda@thefarmerspride.com.....270-384-9454  
JaCinda Blair .....Marketing/Sales .....pridesales@thefarmerspride.com.....270-384-9454  
National Sales Rep .....J.L. Farmakis ..... www.jlfarmakis.com .....203-834-8832

Published by Farmland Publications, Inc.; Sharon Burton, President, snburton@farmlandpub.com

MAIN OFFICE: 270-384-9454  
**Send news items to  
newsroom@thefarmerspride.com**

P.O. Box 159, Columbia, KY 42728  
[www.thefarmerspride.com](http://www.thefarmerspride.com)

PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID at Columbia, Ky. 42728 with additional entries. (ISSN 1056-7666) The Farmer's Pride is published every first and third Thursday of each month with an additional publication in February by Farmland Publications, Inc.

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

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$35 in Kentucky. \$45 all other. Send check or money order to Circulation Manager,

The Farmer's Pride, P.O. Box 159, Columbia, KY 42728 or subscribe online at [thefarmerspride.com](http://thefarmerspride.com)

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

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

ADVERTISING POLICY: Farmland Publications is not responsible for more than one incorrect insertion of an advertisement.

Publisher can assume no liability for typographical error except to re-run or cancel charges on the incorrect portion of the ad.

All advertising is run subject to publisher's approval. The Farmer's Pride does not knowingly accept fraudulent or objectionable advertising. Readers are asked to report any misrepresentation by any advertisers.



# Burley & Dark Tobacco Producers Association



**EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR  
KENTUCKY  
BURLEY & DARK  
TOBACCO  
PRODUCERS**

**JOE  
CAIN**

The joint Burley and Dark Tobacco Producer Association and Council for Burley Tobacco annual meeting was held in Bowling Green on Jan. 16 in conjunction with the Kentucky Commodity Conference. Roughly 60 producers and industry personnel attended the annual meeting and adopted official policy for the association and elected four new directors.

Participants were provided with an industry outlook from Daniel Green, chief executive officer for the Burley Stabilization Corporation headquartered in Springfield, Tenn. Green noted the world supply of burley remained tight and felt burley growers might see some modest increases in contracts for the coming season. However, he reported that dark tobacco inventories with processors remained high and expects continued cuts in dark leaf contracts for 2025 as companies try to work through inventories. He said while world inventories of burley were tight in 2024, he sees some of our international competitors ramping up production for 2025.

Kimberly Foley, president of Foley Seed and Service, presented her perspective on how leaf producers might maintain domestic tobacco production as we maneuver through various federal harm reduction strategies. She noted that domestic leaf is produced under much more stringent regulatory oversight than much internationally produce leaf, and that needs to be stressed with legislators and regulators. This could provide an opportunity for domestic growers to increase production in the future.

Robbie Parker, director of government relations and leaf sustainability for U.S. Tobacco Cooperative, provided an update on legislative opportunities under the new Trump Administration, while Ms. Ericka King, director of national affairs for Kentucky Farm Bureau, provided an update on state legislative affairs as well as efforts to address federal labor regulations.

The Tobacco Growers Association of North Carolina was also in attendance and Executive Director Graham Boyd and past TGANC President Jonathan Renn provided an update on flue tobacco production in North Carolina. They noted the close relationship between TGANC and the BDTPA and how the two associations are working together on key legislative issues on behalf of growers.

During the BDTPA business session, four new directors were elected. They were David Furnish of Cynthiana; Charlie Skaggs of Elkton; Tony Eldridge of Woodlawn, Tenn.; and Tony Holloway of Gracey. The current officer slate of Al Pedigo, president; Darrell Varner, vice president; Bradley Shearn, secretary; and Jason Wade, treasurer; were re-elected. The board of directors oversee both the BDTPA and Council functions with Vice President Darrell Varner serving as the council chairman. Membership also adopted official policies that will direct association regulatory and legislative efforts. The policy will be available on the association website for review.

This could provide an opportunity for domestic growers to increase production in the future.

# We're about to find out

FROM PAGE 4

ported its College of Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences received "\$61 million in direct federal funding last year."

How does folding up federal programs at a Land Grant university's ag teaching and research umbrella affect that state's farmers and rural communities? We'll soon know.

Caught in the Washington, D.C. crossfire is the university's Soybean Innovation Lab that receives vital funding from the U.S. Agency for International Development, or USAID. That agency was one of the first targets for deep cuts and dramatic overhaul by the Trump White House team.

After USAID's mid-February gutting, "Peter Goldsmith, the executive director" of the Illinois soybean research facility, "announced the lab will shut down in April as [USAID] terminated its funding... Thirty soybean experts working in the local lab were let go last Friday."

What happens to those experts and their work – described as "one of U.S. farmers' best tools to expand their markets... globally" – when it is dismantled without thought, understanding or appeal?

The United States' more than 500,000 soybean growers in nearly 30 states are about to find out.

And what about trade dependent American farmers; how will the recently advanced Trump trade policy of "reciprocity" – essentially a country-by-country, eye-for-an-eye mashup of arcane, trade-killing rules–reverse U.S. ag's fast growing trade deficit?

Even more worrisome, can the pared back and still-being pared USDA handle today's fast-moving avian flu outbreak before the disease discovers a pathway to a Covid-like pandemic as the White House continues to cut, freeze or eliminate funding and jobs at USDA testing facilities and National Institutes of Health research programs?

And what impact will Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., the Trump Administration's newly approved secretary of health and human services, have in upcoming food debates as the boss over the Food and Drug Administration?

No one knows but we're about to find out.

# Still time to sign up for CAIP administrator training

FROM PAGE 4

a practice serving large and food animal producers, including cattle, equine, goat, sheep, swine, and other food animals. School debt may be eligible to use as a matching fund. The LFFIP provides funding for Kentucky veterinarians in the form of a cost-reimbursement grant up to 75 percent to increase service to large and food animals in the state. Applicants are able to participate in both programs simultaneously.

In November, the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board approved the reauthorization of the State Support to Limited Allocation Counties initiative for 2025-2028.

SSLAC 2025-2028 will provide state funds to counties with allocations below \$30,000, allowing all 120 counties to have at least \$30,000 in county funds to invest to improve their agricultural economy. The counties may use the funding for any project or program in line with the County's Plan for Agricultural Development.

I look forward to seeing the new projects throughout the year, funded by both KADF and KAFK, that will continue to provide diversity in Kentucky's agriculture industry. We are grateful for the General Assembly's continued support and commitment to our producers, agribusinesses, and those that work in between. I wish everyone a safe, and happy start to 2025.

## Randy Warner kicks off year as president of the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association

Randy Warner, the new president of the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association, loves his cows. "To be in farming, you have to have a passion for it," he said. He runs 140 cows on a 210-acre farm near Sharpsburg, in Bath County. "Funny story," he said. Though he's a fifth-generation farmer living seven miles from the original farm, he and his wife Tammy bought this one before they started their cow-calf operation. Tammy had an injury and was on muscle relaxants when he came home and said, "Your father has found us a farm." She said, "Okay. Whatever you want to do." He told his father-in-law yes and came back to tell Tammy they'd bought the farm: for \$80,000, a lot of money in 1988. "She flew off that couch like you wouldn't believe. She never took muscle relaxants again."

But like, Randy, Tammy, a vet tech, loves animals. She has her own herd of multi-colored cows.

Warner's plan as president is to continue established programs. First is to see the Livestock Innovation Center in Woodford County through to fruition.

"We hired the architect this week. We'll do a site walk and start laying out plans once the mud dries out."

Secondly is to continue the Cattleman's Beef sales to Kroger, a successful marketing program that has been underway for several years.

Another priority for Warner is to bring more youth into the association. There are roughly 1100 Kentucky youth in



Randy and Tammy Warner

SEE RANDY WARNER, PAGE 7

*Stephens*  
**GENETIC**  
*Advantage*  
BULL SALE

# 3.22.25

*Selling* 35+ SIMMENTAL & SIM-ANGUS  
BREEDING-AGE BULLS + 20 BRED HEIFERS

*Followed By Special Cow Sale*




**Sale will be held at 1:00 p.m.**  
**at the Paris Stockyards in Paris, KY**

For more information, please contact:

**SB** **STEPHENS**  
**BEEF CATTLE**  
JEFF 606.782.7640  
WILL 859.699.8577

# THE KENTUCKY AG SERVICES DIRECTORY

## Kentucky Farm Bureau

President Executive Vice President  
Eddie Melton Drew Graham  
502-495-5000  
9201 Bunsen Parkway Louisville, KY 40220  
kyfb.com



## Kentucky Dairy Development Council

Director  
H.H. Barlow, III

176 Pasadena Drive  
Lexington, KY 40503  
kydairy.org



Phone: 859-516-1129  
Fax: 859-260-2060  
Email: kddc@kydairy.org



859-223-7845

1510 Newtown Pike, Ste. 110  
Lexington, KY 40511

h2a@awmalabor.com

www.awmalabor.com

## Kentucky Aquaculture Association

502-782-4104

111 Corporate Dr.  
Frankfort, KY 40601



@dairy\_alliance

@realdairyrealdelicious

@thedairyalliance



Elise Carpenter  
Manager, Agricultural and  
Environmental Affairs

cell: 270.970.4792  
toll free: 800.343.4693  
ecarpenter@thedairyalliance.com

5340 West Fayetteville Road  
Atlanta, GA 30349

thedairyalliance.com

**Call now to advertise**  
**270-384-9454**



# Randy Warner kicks off year as president of KCA

FROM PAGE 6

the membership now, of which 200 are in Bath County alone. The Livestock Innovation Center is a way to engage the next generation of farmers. It will provide the tech training that will make many farm tasks easier. For example, Warner was impressed with an ear tag he saw at the national Cattleman's Association meeting in San Antonio last week. The tag could report a cow's temperature, if she had gone into labor, or needed other attention. Connected to the farmer's phone, this app eliminates the guesswork as to the cow's ailment and alerts the farmer as soon as there is a health issue.

Warner is "extremely humbled" by the faith of the membership in his leadership. "If the little me saw the big me, he would not believe this was possible," Warner

said. He will do much traveling this year, across the state, nationally and possibly internationally to Japan and South Korea in this role.

At the convention in San Antonio, Warner said, "Kentucky and its innovation center was the envy of all there. Even from farmers in Texas, who are the number one beef producing state. Kentucky is second. We were at the big boys' table. We are doing good things here."

The new national nutrition guidelines for school lunches seem to target beef and meat as unhealthy by making those items the 10th in purchasing priority. It places beans and peas first as the protein of choice. Warner said, "That's what we feed cattle."

He has faith in Ag Commissioner Jonathan Shell's powers to push back on these guidelines. "Remember that fake

meat that went nowhere? That had ingredients like what is put in dog food."

As a passionate leader with a strong sense of mission, a healthy background of on-the-ground experience, a true love of cows, and a humble desire to serve

the cattlemen of this state, Warner is the steady hand to champion Kentucky's stellar beef industry.

By Lynn Pruett  
Field Reporter



## Bluegrass Stockyards of Richmond, LLC

348 K. Street • Richmond, Ky.



### CATTLE SALE

Every Friday  
at 9:30 a.m.

### GOAT SALE

2nd 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

## Attention Burley Growers

**Smokin Leaf Tobacco**

**has orders for all grades and  
stalk positions of Burley.**

**Any portion of your crop that will  
not fit your existing contracts  
we would appreciate the opportunity to purchase.**

**Please call for more  
information:  
434-603-7611**



# Green Leaf Lettuce Tacos

## INGREDIENTS:

- |                                |                                 |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 8 large lettuce leaves         | 1 oz. packet low sodium         |
| 1-1/2 c. cooked brownrice      | taco seasoning                  |
| 3/4 c. fresh corn kernels      | 4 oz. low sodium tomato sauce   |
| 1 c. canned black beans,       | 1 tbsp. finely chopped cilantro |
| drained and rinsed             | 1 tsp. lime juice               |
| 1 tbsp. olive oil              | 1 tomato, chopped               |
| 3/4 lb. extra lean ground beef | 1 small red onion, chopped      |
| 1 small zucchini, chopped      |                                 |

## DIRECTIONS:

Wash and dry lettuce leaves. Prepare rice according package directions. Cut corn off cob. Drain and rinse black beans. In a skillet, heat the oil to medium; add ground beef and begin to cook. When beef begins to brown, add zucchini, corn and black beans to skillet. Continue to cook until vegetables are tender and beef is done. Do not overcook. Add in taco seasoning and tomato sauce and heat through. Add cilantro and lime juice to the cooked rice. Place equal amounts of rice mixture and taco mixture into lettuce leaves. Top each taco with chopped tomato and onion.



## How to like people better

There are a lot of strange things going on in our world today. There seems to be turmoil everywhere you look, from warring countries to violence on our streets.

It seems a lot of nations don't like us anymore, but then we have had record amounts of citizens from other countries make their way into our country in hopes of finding a better life. It can get totally confusing.

Add to that the violence on our streets. Those of us who have spent most of our lives in rural communities can easily become afraid of "what's out there," especially when we see the drugs and violence seep their way into our own little towns. Life in the country really has changed.

With school shootings and random violence around us, we could easily become frozen by fear.

Add to that the bickering about politics, which has gotten downright ugly, and it's really easy to find yourself hating your neighbor.

Sadly, it feels like we have gone from a culture of people who took pride in hard work and building quality lives to a culture of people demanding that someone else fix all the problems and provide for us an easy road to success.

There is no easy road to success. Never has been, never will be.

For me, I've had to do a heart check. I found myself struggling to be empathic to others. I found myself getting angry at the changes I see around me. I found myself ready to walk away and let the enemy have what is not his to take.

So, I did what God tells us to do: I looked at what I was doing wrong, not what others were doing wrong.

It's amazing how spending more time with God and less time worrying about the world actually makes you love people more. You can't enjoy his presence without finding a peace in your heart and a genuine love for others.

You want to make the world a better place? Start with your relationship with its Creator. Everything else will fall in line.

# Cauliflower Mushroom Poppers

## INGREDIENTS:

- |                                    |                                  |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 head cauliflower, chopped        | 1/2 c. chopped red bell pepper   |
| 60 whole baby Portabella mushrooms | 1/2 c. chopped green bell pepper |
| 1 c. nonfat plain yogurt           | 1 tsp. salt                      |
| 1/2 c. reduced fat shredded        | 1/4 tsp. pepper                  |
| cheddar cheese                     | 1/2 tsp. garlic powder           |
| 1/4 c. Parmesan cheese             | Paprika                          |
| 3/4 c. crushed bran flakes         |                                  |

## DIRECTIONS:

Preheat oven to 325 degrees F. Grease a 9-by-13-inch baking pan. Steam the cauliflower by placing in a saucepan in 1/2-inch of boiling water, cover with lid and cook for 5 minutes. Drain. Place cooked cauliflower in a bowl and mash using a potato masher. Remove the stems and scoop out the caps of mushrooms. Chop stems for later use. Combine yogurt, cheddar cheese, Parmesan cheese, bran flakes, bell peppers, salt, pepper and garlic powder in a medium bowl. Stir in cauliflower and 1/2 cup of the reserved chopped mushroom stems. Stuff the cauliflower mixture into the hollowed mushroom caps. Sprinkle with paprika. Bake, uncovered for 20 minutes.





# Field Day to showcase fragipan remediation and soil health solutions

At the March 13 event, University of Kentucky researchers will feature field-based methods and solutions on fragipan soils, which impacts millions in Kentucky and beyond.

Fragipan is a naturally occurring soil horizon that virtually stops water movement and root growth through the soil. Photo by Steve Patton.

Farmers, agronomists and community members invested in soil health and crop yields are invited to the 2025 Annual Ryegrass Field Day presented by the University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment's Cooperative Extension Service. Attendees will gain firsthand insight into a research-backed solution for overcoming fragipan soils.

Fragipan, a dense, cement-like soil layer found roughly two feet below the surface, affects approximately three million acres in Kentucky and 50 million acres nationwide. This layer restricts root penetration and water movement, severely limiting crop productivity.

## Real-world results in fragipan remediation

For over a decade, Lloyd Murdock, emeritus professor in the University of Kentucky Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, has worked alongside fellow UK researchers Tasios Karathanasis, Chris Matocha and John Grove, to develop long-term solutions. One of the most effective has been utilizing ryegrass as a cover crop.

"When I first came to Kentucky, I had never heard of fragipan," Murdock said. "After years of study and trials, we discovered that annual ryegrass gradually breaks down that hard layer, allowing roots and water to move deeper in the soil. While it's not a quick fix, the long-term results are worth the investment."

Murdock stated that the average yield increase of corn with an annual ryegrass cover crop, compared to no cover crop, is an average of approximately 2% per year on fragipan soil. The evidence indicates that fragipan breakdown increases with time and the continued use of annual ryegrass as a cover crop. Therefore, the yields have been shown to continue to increase with time.

For example, Murdock pointed to one Calloway County farmer he worked with who followed these recommendations for a decade. Recently, he discovered his fragipan layer was completely gone in the treated fields—something that soil probes confirmed. Over 10 years, Murdock said that same farmer saw corn yields rise by an average of 50+ bushels per acre and soybean yields jump to the mid-80s bushels per acre, far exceeding county averages.

## Field Day Highlights

Presentations from Murdock and Karathanasis, who collaborated on lab, greenhouse and field research to document fragipan remediation, with John Murphy presenting on improving production potential.

Yield comparisons showcasing the significant advantages of deeper and healthier soils.

Producer panel featuring several farmers who have successfully managed fragipan breakdown. They will share best practices, give tips on controlling cover crop volunteers and discuss cost-benefit considerations.

Q&A session with the researchers and farmers to ensure attendees leave with a practical "recipe" for implementing these methods on their own operations.

"This is a chance for farmers to dig into the soil, talk to those who've had success," Murdock said. "We will have on-farm soil pits where producers can see the difference between treated and untreated land and hear firsthand from farmers who have transformed shallow, unproductive fields into deep, high-yielding soils. It's one thing to read about in a report—it's another to stand in a field where fragipan used to be a problem and see how much better the crops are growing."

The field day is free and open to the public.

The event will start at 9 a.m. CT on March 13 at Paschall Ag Operations, 1434 Billy Paschall Rd., Murray, KY 42071. To reserve a spot or learn more, please contact Matt Chadwick at the Calloway County Extension Office at (270) 753-1452 or email [matthew.chadwick@uky.edu](mailto:matthew.chadwick@uky.edu).

**Jordan Strickler**  
University of Kentucky Communications

## THE MOST ELITE & COMPLETE BLACK HEREFORD SALE IN THE BREED

# Black IS THE Color

## 10TH Annual Production Sale

### Saturday, March 15TH • 1PM EST

**CATTLE VIEWING MARCH 14TH: 9AM - DARK**  
**MARCH 15 : LUNCH 11:30AM • SALE 1PM EST**  
**TRIPLE T FARMS • 2616 HWY 1664 • NANCY, KY 42544**



## APPROXIMATELY 75 LOTS

*Real world cattle that will make you a profit.*

## BREEDING AGE BULLS READY FOR SERVICE

All registered bulls are approved herd sires & have passed a BSE test.  
Many bulls qualify for KY/TN cost share money.

## SPRING AND FALL BRED HEIFERS • BRED COWS PAIRS • OPEN HEIFERS • 3 IN 1 OFFERINGS SHOW PROSPECTS

**SPECIAL OFFERING**  
**12 COMMERCIAL**  
**BRED BLACK**  
**BALDY HEIFERS**

**TRIPLE T FARMS**  
Tim & Teresa Tarter  
(606) 305-2289  
2616 Hwy 1664  
Nancy, KY 42544



**BID LIVE ONLINE**  
**WWW.CCI.LIVE**

[tripleblackherefords@gmail.com](mailto:tripleblackherefords@gmail.com)



go to [www.tripleblackcattle.com](http://www.tripleblackcattle.com) to view online catalog and videos

# AUCTIONEER DIRECTORY

**CONDUCTING LIVE, HYBRID & ONLINE ONLY AUCTIONS.**  
**Call for a FREE Consultation!**

[www.GoldenRuleAuction.com](http://www.GoldenRuleAuction.com)



Visit us for current REAL ESTATE  
 listings & upcoming AUCTION events!  
 270-384-1111 • 1-800-854-9992

**GOLDEN RULE-WILSON**  
 Real Estate & Auction #1, LLC

Danny Mouser, Agent & Auctioneer  
 Troy Coffey, Agent & App. Auctioneer

Alex Popplewell, Auctioneer  
 Chris Wilson, Broker and Auctioneer

**KESSLER**

**AUCTION & REALTY CO.**

HOMES • FARMS • ESTATES • PERSONAL PROPERTY  
 ANTIQUES • FARM MACHINERY • BUSINESS LIQUIDATIONS

304 E Broadway  
 Campbellsville, KY  
 270-465-7051

[www.kesslerauction.com](http://www.kesslerauction.com)

John M. Kessler  
 Principal Broker - Auctioneer  
 John Wayne Kessler  
 Associate Broker - Auctioneer

For The Best In Auction & Private Sales • "Successful Auctions Since 1938"

**kurtz**

AUCTION & REALTY

**800-264-1204**

**kurtzauction.com**

**Roeder Auction Company**

1010 Skyline Dr.  
 Hopkinsville, KY 42240

Owner: Delbert Roeder  
 Cell 270-881-2610  
 Office 270-962-7273



**Call 270-384-9454**  
**now to get your**  
**auctioneer**  
**business listed!**

**H. BARRY SMITH**  
 REALTORS AND AUCTIONEERS, LLC

*Your full service auction company!*

888-631-2746 • 502-633-2746  
 88 Brunerstown Rd. • Shelbyville, KY  
[shawn@hbarrysmith.com](mailto:shawn@hbarrysmith.com)

# LIVESTOCK DIRECTORY

**Robey Farms**



Est. 1899  
 Schochoh, Kentucky

**REGISTERED HOLSTEIN CATTLE**

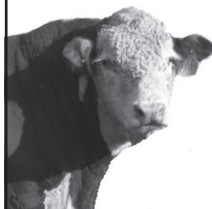
RHA 32907m 1105F 1002p

Registered Yearling Bulls Always Available

Chris Robey  
 270-726-5543

Adam Robey  
 270-726-0494

**JMS**  
**Polled Herefords**  
 LINEBRED VICTOR DOMINO CATTLE



Danny Miller  
 and  
 Trent Miller

**BULLS FOR SALE**

**jmsvictordomino.com**

270-566-2964 • 270-566-2000  
[jmspolledherefords.com](http://jmspolledherefords.com)

**Isaacs Angus**

Tim & Ann Marie Isaacs

809 Glen Logsdon Rd. • Horse Cave, KY 42749

270-528-5486 • 270-528-1946

Matt Isaacs - 270-774-5486

Quality Alfalfa Hay

Registered Angus Cows For Sale

Registered Angus Bulls - Service Age

**GET LISTED TODAY!!!!**  
**CALL THE FARMER'S PRIDE**  
**270-384-9454**



# Integrated Pest Management virtual training school set for March 12

University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment and UK Research and Education Center at Princeton extension specialists, will share the latest on integrated pest management during the annual 2025 IPM Virtual Training School.

Continuing a tradition spanning more than 25 years, this annual one-day virtual workshop takes place March 12 beginning at 8 a.m. CST via Zoom.

"Agents, consultants, industry professionals and producers will learn the latest on pest management and nutrient research for agronomic and specialty crops," said Ric Bessin, UK extension entomologist. "The goal is to provide producers from all over with valuable multidisciplinary information to grow crops maximizing economic return and environmental sustainability. Every year in agriculture is different with weather, new technology and more, and this school brings all that together."



The morning field crop sessions will include presentations on updating nitrogen, phosphate and potash rate recommendations (AGR-1) for Kentucky grain growers, fertilization methods for organic crop production, improving return on investment for corn fungicide applications and foliar disease soybean management. Other topics include emergent soybean pests, insect pest response to climate change and weed control.

An additional presentation on slug ob-

servations and implications, led by University of Delaware extension specialist David Owens, is an emerging topic that impacts many farmers.

"Slugs are the most important pest of no-till full season soybean," Owens said. "Slug problems have caused farmers to increasingly abandon no-till production, which creates other agronomic and environmental problems. There are no easy answers for slugs. Proper planting conditions to promote rapid stand establishment and

growth will be discussed, along with long-term practices that can help promote natural enemies like ground beetles."

The afternoon horticulture sessions will include presentations on weed management strategies, managing common invasive plants, soil solarization, nurse IPM best practices, spotted lanternfly and fruit crops cold damage and prevention.

After each session, attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions. The training also offers continuing education units for commercial pesticide applicators and Certified Crop Advisers.

Online registration is required and will be accepted through March 11. Registration can also be found online at <https://wkrec.ca.uky.edu> under events.

For questions or more information, contact Zenaida Vilorio at [zenaida.vilorio@uky.edu](mailto:zenaida.vilorio@uky.edu) or 859-562-1336.

**Christopher Carney**  
University of Kentucky Communications

## LORETTO GRAIN



Come visit our new location at 1420 Bluegrass Pike Danville, KY

Hours 7 a.m.-5 p.m.

(Extended hours during harvest. Call ahead for scheduling)

**Deborah Gillis, Sales**  
270-699-0792

**Vibb Golden, Deliveries**  
Danville  
859-608-0249

**Brent Hupman, Deliveries**  
502-827-3344

**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR CASH PRICES AT [PETERSON-FARMS.COM](http://PETERSON-FARMS.COM)  
SIGN UP FOR DAILY PRICING UPDATES VIA TEXT!**

## Start the New Year strong with the Nation's Top Ag Lender!

ICBA named First Financial Bank as the Top Ag Lender in the Nation for 2023 and 2024 in the \$1 billion in asset category.



**Call Aaron Miller today to find out how we can grow your operation.**

**502-709-0078 | [amiller@ffb1.com](mailto:amiller@ffb1.com)**

**FIRST FINANCIAL BANK**  
In the Business of YOU.

Farmer Mac Approved Lender | FSA Preferred Lender | [www.ffb1.com](http://www.ffb1.com) | @FFBank1



# More Thoughts on nitrogen for pasture and hay

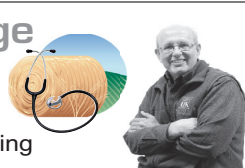
With fertilizer prices at historic highs, it is more important than ever to maximize the value of legumes for your hay and pasture system. Forage professionals have always been proponents of using legumes because of their effects on forage yield, nutritional quality and especially to reduce or offset the negative effects of the endophyte of tall fescue. Here are some important things to remember if you are going to rely more on clover to boost yields of your pasture and hay fields.

1. Clover can be established by many methods, but the most common is by frost seeding. Frost seeding relies on clover seed landing on bare soil and several freeze-thaw cycles to get seed soil contact. February is the best time for frost seeding of clover.

2. Address soil fertility, especially pH for successful clover establishment. This is the year to focus on liming pastures and hay-

## The Forage Doctor

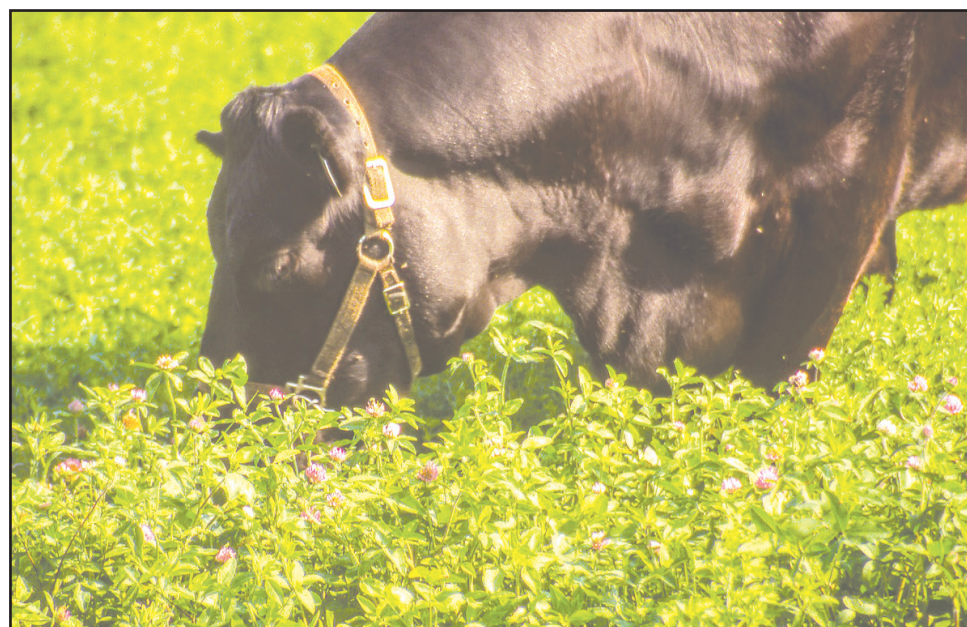
By Jimmy Henning



fields to get pH to 6.4 or above for clover establishment. Use a current soil test to focus clover establishment on the fields where P and K are in the medium or better range.

3. Grazing removes a fraction of the nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium from soil compared to haymaking. Per acre removal of nutrients on a cow calf system is 10 pounds of nitrogen, seven pounds of phosphorus as P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and one pound of potassium as K<sub>2</sub>O. Removing just one ton of hay will remove 40, 15 and 55 pounds of nitrogen, P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and K<sub>2</sub>O, respectively.

SEE MORE THOUGHTS, PAGE 16



Legumes add yield, nutritional quality to pastures and hayfields and they fix their own nitrogen. Grass-clover systems can produce like grass-nitrogen systems but it takes time and management.

## BALE INSURANCE GROUP

### Let us be your Crop Insurance Specialists!

Bale Insurance Group and NAU Country Insurance Company provide farmers with superior crop insurance protection and the fast friendly service our customers deserve.

Give one of our agents a call today to discuss a protection plan that is right for your farming operation.

**Jeremy Hinton, agent**

Hodgenville  
270.268.5333

jeremy@baleinsurancegroup.com

**Linda London, agent**

Glasgow  
270.651.5101

lindalondon39@hotmail.com



© 2020 NAU Country Insurance Company. All rights reserved. QBE and the links logo are registered service marks of QBE Insurance Group Limited. NAU Country Insurance Company and Bale Insurance Group are equal opportunity providers and employers.

## CLIFFORD FARMS & GUEST

### HEREFORD PRODUCTION SALE

**SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2025 • BLUEGRASS STOCKYARDS**

4561 IRONWORKS PIKE, LEXINGTON, KY 40511



CHF WH LAYLA 4G 109L

44619135 - Calved Nov. 9, 2023

Sire: Mohican Playbook 4G



K3 9140 6028 Oakdale 426

P44634358 - Calved: Feb. 18, 2024

Sire: THM Maverick 9140 ET

#### GUEST CONSIGNMENTS FROM:

- Wells Farms
- Underwood Farms
- K3 Cattle
- Weinel Farm
- Grassy Run Farms
- Gordon Cattle Company
- NJB Limited

**15 Service Age Bulls  
65 Purebred Females  
15 Black Baldy Females**



FOR A SALE CATALOG PLEASE CONTACT:

**BEN CLIFFORD:**  
859-421-7902

**LINCOLN CLIFFORD:**  
859-954-0102

**DALE STITH, SALE MANAGER**  
918-760-1550



# CORNConnection

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

## White House Actions Every Kentucky Corn Farmer Should Know

**A**s the new administration and Congress take office, the nation's political landscape is positioned for significant changes.

Legislation has been introduced in both the House and Senate aimed at ensuring year-round access to fuels containing up to 15 percent ethanol, commonly known as E15.

The proposed bill, called the Nationwide Consumer and Fuel Retailer Choice Act, aims to remove the summer restrictions on E15 sales.

The National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) issued a call to action, encouraging farmers to sign a letter directed to congressional leaders, urging them to support the proposed legislative solution.

The letter outlines how higher ethanol blends will benefit corn farmers, emphasizing that the decision would come at no cost to the government. To add your name to the letter, scan the QR code below.



Scan the QR Code to sign the letter advocating for year-round E15.



Mack Sanderfur, Ray Allan Mackey, Laura Knoth, Josh Lancaster, Jon Miller, and Tyson Sanderfur stand for a photo with U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins.

Standardizing year-round E15 could boost corn demand by approximately 2.3 billion bushels annually.

This increased demand would contribute to greater profitability and market stability for corn growers.

The USDA reports that about 40% of field corn is used for fuel ethanol and related co-products.

Corn ethanol fuel provides a safe, cost-effective, efficient, and environmentally friendly option for use in vehicles.

On February 11, 2025, the Senate confirmed Brooke Rollins as the Secretary of Agriculture.

A native of Texas, she becomes the second woman to lead the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), which employs 100,000

people.

Rollins' inaugural trip as Secretary took her to Louisville, Kentucky, where she addressed a crowd of 15,000 at the National Farm Machinery Show in Freedom Hall.

Rollins attended the Championship Tractor Pull and toured the exhibit halls at the Kentucky Exposition Center, where she had the opportunity to witness agricultural innovations first-hand.

The next day, Rollins and Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner Jonathan Shell visited Shelbyville, Kentucky to meet with over 100 farmers and agriculture leaders at Gallrein Farms.

The group shared concerns related to avian flu, trade issues, and efforts to revitalize rural communities.

Kentucky Corn leaders, joined by NCGA board member Jon Miller, shared priorities for corn farmers with Secretary Rollins.



800-326-0906

[www.kycorn.org](http://www.kycorn.org)

Josh Lancaster  
KyCGA President

Ray Allan Mackey  
Promotion Council Chair



KYCGA President Josh Lancaster shakes hands with Secretary Rollins.

A focus of the Trump administration is using tariffs to secure borders and make international markets fair.

While current tariffs have not directly targeted corn or its by-products, recent trade policy changes—such as those targeting ethanol—could set a precedent for other agricultural products, including corn.

President Trump has announced plans to implement 'reciprocal' tariffs on countries imposing higher duties on U.S. goods, citing Brazil's 18% tariff on U.S. ethanol, compared to the U.S.'s 2.5% tariff on Brazilian ethanol.

This imbalance contributed to a significant trade deficit, with the U.S. importing over \$200 million worth of ethanol from Brazil, while exporting only \$52 million to the country.

Kentucky Corn, alongside NCGA, continues engaging in policy that impacts corn farmers' profitability and their markets.



# BLUEGRASS BEGINNINGS BOUNDLESS FUTURES

Your \$10 Ag Tag Donation Grows  
Agriculture & Leaders Across Kentucky



## KENTUCKY AG TAG

Your Ag Tag grows agriculture & youth in your community. Contributions are divided equally between Kentucky Proud, Kentucky 4-H and Kentucky FFA. Local 4-H Clubs & FFA Chapters receive half of those funds.

**100% of the funds are used to support FFA, 4-H and Kentucky Proud members across Kentucky directly.**





# Maple syrup flows at Blues End Farm

SHELBYVILLE, Ky. – The steep driveway leading to Blues End Farm curves through a woods so full of sugar and red maples you can literally feel the maple sap flowing.

The farm, located in southern Shelby County, is one of 13 maple syrup farms across the state which welcomed visitors during Kentucky Maple Syrup Days, Feb. 1 and 15.

John Duvall, president of the Kentucky Maple Syrup Association, said there were fewer farms open for Maple

Days this year.

“Several of our regular farms were hit hard by the ice storm in January and just lost too many tree branches to be open for visitors,” Duvall said. He also noted that flooding in eastern Kentucky kept some farms from opening.

Farm proprietors Doug and Ruth Welch are native Floridians who settled in Louisville. Ruth, as a teacher in

SEE MAPLE SYRUP, PAGE 17



Five gradients of syrup show the difference in density and flavor based on time of harvest. The earlier the harvest the lighter the color and less potent the taste.

## Shelby Insurance Agency Inc

500 Main Street

Shelbyville, KY 40065

800-353-6108

Dedicated to understanding you as a farmer and tailoring your insurance needs.

Over 40 years of crop insurance experience. We know the federal crop insurance options available to help provide you peace of mind.

Livestock Risk  
Protection  
(LRP)

Whole Farm/  
Micro Farm  
(WFRP)  
March 15 WFRP  
Deadline  
April 15 Micro  
Deadline

Work Comp  
on H-2A  
Employees

Corn

Tobacco

MPCI

March 15 Deadline

Soybeans

Hemp

[www.ShelbyInsuranceAgency.com](http://www.ShelbyInsuranceAgency.com)

[David.Mathis@shelbyins.com](mailto:David.Mathis@shelbyins.com)

Shelby Insurance Agency Inc is an equal opportunity provider.

## 36<sup>th</sup> Annual ANGUS OPPORTUNITY SALE

At Buckner & Jeffries  
Angus Farm  
Canmer, KY

Saturday • Noon • April 5, 2025

SELLING: Cow/Calf Pairs • Bred Heifers • Show Heifer Prospects  
Service-Age Bulls all with genomic enhanced EPDs  
Commercial Bred Heifers

### Deer Valley Growth Fund



### Smoot Moxie 2142



GRAND CHAMPION COW/CALF 2023 NORTH AMERICAN ROV SHOW, SELLING THE DAUGHTER THAT WAS AT HER SIDE WHEN SHE WON

### GAR Home Town



### CONSIGNORS:

Davis Bend Farms  
Canmer, KY

4J Farms  
Horse Cave, KY

Shaw Family Angus  
Hodgenville, KY

Popplewell Farms  
Russell Springs, KY

JHL Angus  
High Point, NC

R&K Angus  
Buffalo, KY

Fouts & Fouts Angus  
London, KY

Larry Jagers  
Glendale, KY

APS Angus  
Taylorsville, KY



Sale held at:  
226 Angus Road • Canmer, KY 42722  
Fax (270) 528-3315

Keith & Diana Jeffries  
(270) 528-3318

Tim, Lily, Lucy & Emily Jeffries  
(270) 528-6605

Todd & Denise Jeffries  
(270) 528-7246

Troy & Tammy Jeffries  
(270) 524-3440

timothyjeffries@gmail.com



For your free reference sale booklet, contact anyone in the office of the Sale Managers, TOM BURKE/KURT SCHAFF/ALEX POPPLEWELL, AMERICAN ANGUS HALL OF FAME at the WORLD ANGUS HEADQUARTERS, Box 660, Smithville, MO 64089-0660. Phone (816) 532-0811. Fax (816) 532-0851. E-mail: angushall@angushall.com • www.angushall.com



# More thoughts on nitrogen for pasture and hay

FROM PAGE 12

4. Nutrients in manure and urine tend to be concentrated near shade and water points, especially in continuously grazed fields. Implementing rotational stocking will spread manure and urine more uniformly across the pasture system.

5. Converting your hay program from a grass-plus-nitrogen system to a grass-clover system takes time. Clover established this spring will produce its first harvest in mid- to late June. Red is better than white clover for haymaking because of its higher yields and erect growth. Red clover hay is excellent for cattle but is considered too dusty for horses. A late-summer fungus that often infects red clover will also cause horses to slobber excessively.

6. Little nitrogen from clover is passed directly to the companion grass. Most (80%) of the nitrogen present in legumes is in the top growth and is removed in haymaking. Grass-clover systems can pro-

duce comparable yields to grass-nitrogen systems but only if there is at least 25 to 30 percent legume by weight in the stand. Twenty five percent clover by weight looks like 75% visually across the field. Most people vastly over-estimate the amount of clover present in a field.

7. For good yields in a grass-clover system, use improved varieties of red clover. While the ladino-type clovers are productive, they do not produce the tonnage of red clovers. The yield increase in grass-clover fields comes from the legume component, not from increased grass production.

8. Hay feeding areas are going to be rich in nutrients. These are good places to plant summer annuals for hay or baleage.

I have one more idea to consider, but only if you can make baleage. Think about using soybeans instead of pearl millet or sorghum-sudangrass for stored forage. Soybeans fix their own nitrogen and can produce good yields. Plant one to 1.5 bush-

els of maturity group 3.5 to 4.5 soybeans per acre and be sure to inoculate the seed to ensure good nodulation and nitrogen fixation. Harvest in the pod stage before lower leaves begin to drop. As baleage, forage quality can be good to excellent, but leaf loss and thick stems cause soybean hay to be low quality and difficult to dry down. Nitrogen drives forage production. For

legumes to fix more of your overall farm nitrogen this year, focus on establishing good stands and keeping high percentages of clover year after year. It is always a good time to let legumes to do what they do very well – fix their own nitrogen.

Happy foraging.



**JOIN US!!**

**AUCTIONS**

**EVERY WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY**

**10 A.M.**

**BRED COW SALE**

**1<sup>ST</sup> FRIDAY EVERY MONTH - 7 P.M.**

*Thank you to all of our producers*



**BLUE  
GRASS**

**BLUEGRASS STOCKYARDS**

**CAMPBELLSVILLE**

Ronnie Choate - Manager

265 Airport Rd.,

Campbellsville, Ky., 42718

**270-465-4051**

**270-766-8240**

**270-465-9672 - FAX**



**16% PROTEIN 10% FAT**

**THE ECONOMIC ALTERNATIVE**

**Mike England - Mid South Ag LLC**

270-524-2008 OR 270-528-4131

**MIX 30**

THE HIGH ENERGY LIQUID FEED.



# Maple Syrup flows at Blues End Farm



The Welches name their trees. Ruth is checking the amount of collected sap in "Number One." Doug finds that "Dependable" is living up to its name. Sentinel stands guard at the top of a trail that leads down to Jephtha Creek.

## FROM PAGE 15

Jefferson County Public Schools, and Doug with the Presbyterian Church, headquartered in Louisville.

In the early 2000s, Doug saw the Presbyterian Church was downsizing and he might lose his job. Ruth loved her teaching ESL job. What would they do?

"We decided, you know what?" and they began to pursue their dream of owning land and farming. They hoped to find 10-20 acres, but in 2005, they located 66 acres close to the I-64 interchange, enabling them to commute to Louisville.

The wooded property had a few acres on a hilltop used for cattle pasture and a small tobacco crop but no home, barn, or outbuildings. The Welches built their house and moved in 2006.

Their first agricultural pursuit was

blueberries, and daughter Bethany, who, along with her husband, is a partner in the farming operation, laughed and noted that she was a grumpy high

school teenager planting blueberry bushes during spring break.

SEE MAPLE SYRUP, PAGE 21

## SSF Erosion Control Blankets



Come see us at the National Farm Machinery Show! Located in the Pavilion Booth 2718

Parts



See us about  
preseason **FREE**  
check up on all  
balers.

# BRODHEAD FARM

## EQUIPMENT

*Our Deals Can't Be Beat!*

Specials on  
**BALER • TEDDERS • RAKES • DISC MOWERS**

# 606-758-9532

\*0% Financing

• Rita Smith •  
Vermeer Parts-Parts Parts

Parts



See Owner: Danny McKinney  
"Downtown Brodhead"  
Main St. • Brodhead, Kentucky  
brodheadfe@yahoo.com

\*for qualified buyers.

# Rebuilding the cattle herd

The decline in the U.S. cattle inventory continues as the latest USDA report verifies a drop in herd numbers from last year. According to information from the National Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 86.7 million head of cattle and calves on U.S. farms as of January 1, 2025, with 27.9 million beef cows in the U.S. as of the same date, marking a one percent decline from last year.

David Knopf, regional director of the National Agricultural Statistics Service Eastern Mountain and Northeastern Regional Field Offices, said the number of cattle in Kentucky continued to decline, as well, falling two percent from 2024 to an inventory of 1,850,000.

"This is the fewest number of cattle on January 1 since 1955," he said. "Beef cow numbers followed a similar trend, but there was an increase in the number of heifers for beef cow replacement."

If there is a silver lining, cattle prices continue to be high, along with continued consumer demand. Kentucky's projected farm cash receipts for 2024 stand around \$8

billion, propped up by livestock numbers.

But turning around herd numbers will not be an overnight success for various reasons. University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment Extension Professor and Livestock Specialist Kenny Burdine said many factors contribute to the continued decline, and getting the situation headed in the right direction could take some time.

"Everything starts with cow/calf operations," he said. "When you've got fewer cows out there and a smaller supply of calves moving through markets, that also means a smaller pool of calves for backrounders and stocker operators."

Burdine points to a few issues that are helping to contribute to these lower numbers.

"If you look at beef cow inventory, we've got a lot of land constraints in Kentucky. We have lost a lot of pasture ground to row crops over the last several years," he said. "Plus, land is very expensive, so it's hard to get started. All those things are leading to us seeing smaller numbers of cattle."

And then there is the price factor as cattle prices remain high making for better profitability for producers.

"I think there are some producers who are hesitant to hold back heifers for development because they are so valuable, and the same thing can be said about cull cows," Burdine said. "With high cull cow prices, producers are likely to cull a little deeper than they would have otherwise, which is also contributing to a lack of growth in the cowherd."

But a turnaround will likely happen, just not in the near future. Burdine said there are a few things that have to line up to see the cow herd expand.

"Those include profit at the cow-calf level, availability of pasture, and the patience to retain heifers for development to increase cow numbers in the future," he said. "Profit is largely there right now, but we're coming off several tough years, so we may also be seeing some recouping of capital."

With pastures having been lost or beaten down by difficult weather conditions. Burdine also pointed out that if weather con-

ditions do cooperate in 2025, some heifer retention could be seen, but he doesn't see a path where a larger cow herd will be realized a year from now.

"I just don't think there's enough heifers in the system right now to do that," he said.

Donovan Pigg, Kentucky Farm Bureau Livestock Marketing Specialist, said while cow numbers are the lowest they have been in 60 years, retaining heifers is one of the keys to building it back.

"Heifers on feed, are still running at 40 percent, so that doesn't indicate to me that we're retaining many of them," he said. "But I think we're in the stage to start potentially retaining or maybe buying some back, which could help in building this cow herd back."

Pigg thinks building a quality cow herd back is very important in any build-back process and there is an opportunity to do that through high-end genetics.

"It's one thing to build a cow herd back, but I think it's another thing to build back

SEE REBUILDING, PAGE 22

## SOIL

### Sungro Sunshine #5 Soil for tobacco

Greenhouse Covers • HydroFilm

Tobacco Seed • Greenhouse Supplies • Heating Systems • Fans • And More!

Custom greenhouses and parts to fit YOUR needs!

Authorized L.B. White dealer. If we don't have it we CAN get it.



250,000 btu  
Propane or  
Natural Gas

## TRAYS

128, 242, 288, 338

— SPECIAL TRUCK LOAD PRICES —

Call 502-463-2412 or

859-743-1447

## N. KY Tobacco Greenhouses & Supplies

1490 Hwy. 35 • Sparta, KY 41086  
502-463-2412 • Fax 502-463-2416  
kitty.nkygreenhouses@gmail.com



## MAYHAVEN FARM SEED DAYS

From now until March 1, save big on many varieties of seed, twine, silage wrap, mineral, and other farm supplies.

Jim May: (606) 669-1651  
Trevor Clark: (859) 339-0088  
mayhavenfarm@gmail.com



Mayhaven Farm  
2000 Ky Hwy 643  
Waynesburg, KY 40489

*Everything begins with a seed.*

Let us help you choose the right one.

Visit our new site:  
[www.mayhaven-farm.com](http://www.mayhaven-farm.com)



## AGRI-TECHNOLOGY



## Hi-Tech Agriculture Businesses in Kentucky

Several Kentucky farm and grower organizations are encouraging hi-tech agricultural businesses to set up shop in Kentucky.

One of those is the Bluegrass AgTech Development Corp, established in 2022 by a group of leading civic, farming, and research entities to help make Kentucky the agricultural technology capital of the United States. By attracting up-and-coming entrepreneurs to settle in Kentucky, they hope to boost farmer productivity and profitability, expand career and employment options in agriculture, achieve greater nutrition and food security, support advancements in environmental sustainability, and develop a varied pipeline of research opportunities.

Last summer, Bluegrass AgTech Development Corp awarded \$625,000 in grant funds provided by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund and the City of Lexington to seven Kentucky businesses.

**HempWood**, located in Murray, KY, develops hemp-based building materials and paneling as a sustainable alternative to lumber products. They utilize biomimicry to transform hemp fibers and protein-based bonding agents into a viable substitute for solid oak, which is in high demand for other industries. The hemp grown for these products is all sourced within 100 miles of Murray and processed with hydropower and soy-based adhesives.

“The entire purpose of HempWood is to do something positive that benefits the world, its people, and their environment” said Greg Wilson, HempWood CEO.

HempWood was named the 2024 Coolest Thing Made in Kentucky by the Kentucky Association of Manufacturers.

**Iristrac**, located in Louisville, KY, provides horse owners with a painless, noninvasive identification method. A corresponding web platform and database stores their horse’s IDs and other records. The primary product of Iristrac is a patented equine iris scanner. According to Iristrac, every eye is unique, like a fingerprint, and the EyeD technology developed by this company takes advantage of that. Their eye scanners can read the iris (colored) part of a horse’s eye to identify and connect the animal with a database of their records.

**Lepidext Inc.**, located in Lexington, KY, works to provide a solution to pest problems for grain growers, specifically the corn earworm. This pest has caused up to \$2 billion in damage yearly in the US and has continuously been one of the most challenging pests to manage with even advanced control techniques. Lepidext Inc. proposed using a strain of naturally occurring virus (Insterus-Hz) that affects the fertility of corn earworms. The company has isolated the virus and uses it to release sterilized earworm

moths, reducing their population. Lepidext says Insterus-Hz is a safer alternative to chemical pesticides particular to the corn earworm and does not have the potential to harm non-target species.

### Parasight System Inc.

specializes in accessible animal health technology. Founded in 2014 in Lexington, Parasight provides a “push-button” AI technology system that can immediately identify parasites in the feces of pasture and companion animals. The connected app provides a clear image of the identified organisms and their egg count and has an interface that makes it easy to send these results to veterinarians or send in samples for further testing. The company continues to develop its technology to expand the list of species that are compatible for testing.

**RedLeaf Biologics** was developed when one - in a field of 2 million - sorghum plant grew with red leaves, and Professor Seth DeBolt and his team at the University of Kentucky discovered it. Intrigued, they nurtured this sorghum variation with natural breeding techniques and studied its properties. Red coloration in crop plants typically hints at a high concentration of “bioactives.” The UK team discovered that this red sorghum was incredibly phenol-rich and developed extracts that can be used in a wide variety of wellness, food, and even cosmetic applications.

**Spirited Biomaterials** is a developing business in Lexington that is offering an alternative to plastic by utilizing feedstock from Kentucky’s distilleries. While there are many renewable alternatives available, Spirited is focused on PHA (Polyhydroxyalkanoates), a bi-product of bourbon distillation. It is proven to be fully biodegradable yet effectively mimics the petroleum-based products that consumers want. Spirited Inc is perfecting PHA technology by discovering the “secret sauce” of natural additives that allows it to better match the look and feel of a wide variety of plastics.

**Sunflower Fuels**, located in Lexington, KY, strives to create a fuel source that is not only good for the planet and economy, but for the people in rural communities who rely on coal mining and are impacted by alternative energy sources. The company works to develop means of Miscanthus production powered by these rural areas. This crop is powerful in cleaning up carbon emissions and has many uses. Beyond being turned into fuels, it can be turned into renewable packaging and bedding for farm animals. With this multipurpose product being grown on previously unproductive land, Sunflower Fuels introduces a solution to feed a circular economy and the “growing global demand for bio-efficient feedstock for power generation.”

*Search for these businesses to learn more.*



The articles and information in the Pride in Agriculture Education page are provided by the Kentucky Agriculture and Environment in the Classroom with support from the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund and the Kentucky Agricultural Council. KyAEC and its members partner to bring agriculture learning to Kentucky schools and youth organizations through education programs, workshops, and curriculum development. [www.teachkyag.org](http://www.teachkyag.org).



# Leslie and Donna Stith give back through FFA gift

When Leslie and Donna Stith made provisions for planned gifts through their estate trust, they carefully selected organizations that meant a lot to them both. Leslie's time in FFA, and specifically at the KY FFA Leadership Training Center (LTC), or affectionately known as FFA Camp, was transformative for him. With that in mind, he and Donna made a \$50,000 designation for the Kentucky FFA Foundation with the purpose of supporting the KY FFA Leadership Training Center.

Growing up as the youngest of three brothers on a large family farm in Meade County, Leslie was a key part of his dad's labor force and couldn't often be spared to attend extracurricular activities. FFA was an exception.

"The only time he would allow me to go away from home was FFA camp," said Leslie. "I couldn't do basketball or football, because my dad said there was no way I'd make a living doing sports, but I might make a living in agriculture, so I needed to be involved and learn as much as I possibly could."

That meant his time at the KY FFA Leadership Training Center was one of the rare occasions when Leslie got to leave the farm – and he made the most of it.

"FFA camp was an opportunity for me to meet people I would have never had a chance to meet in my lifetime. I still have friends from FFA camp today. I won the leadership award three years, earned college credit working there for four years – I still have friends today that I met at FFA camp."

Leslie served as the Kentucky FFA State Treasurer in 1977-78, went on to graduate from the University of Kentucky's College of Agriculture, marry Donna, and have a long and successful career with former agribusiness giant Monsanto, but he never forgot how his experiences at the KY FFA LTC changed his life.

"It was a domino effect – my first step out into the real world. I continued to use what I learned at FFA camp throughout the years – into my career. Even in 30-plus years of working with Monsanto, I still came across people I had met through FFA camp.

Leslie's commitment to FFA has followed him throughout his life. He served nine years on the Kentucky FFA Foundation's Board of Trustees, including a term as chairman, where his leadership made a lasting impact.

"I took every opportunity I could find when I was younger to help me be a better person," he said. "Now it's time for me to give back."

The Kentucky FFA Foundation cultivates partnerships which support the FFA vision to grow leaders, build communities, and strengthen agriculture. Kentucky FFA Foundation initiatives impact 15,700 FFA members in 158 FFA chapters across Kentucky. If you would like to learn more about how you can leave a legacy through the Kentucky FFA Foundation, visit [kyffa.planmygift.org](http://kyffa.planmygift.org).



## Cannon Angus



*Annual Production Sale*

**MARCH 13, 2025**  
**6:30 PM**  
**FARMERS STOCKYARDS**  
**FLEMINGSBURG KY**

*With Guest Consignors*



STORY CATTLE COMPANY


[cannonangusfarm.com](http://cannonangusfarm.com)



- 4: Coming 2 Year Old Bulls
- 10: 18 month Old Bulls
- 35: Yearling Bulls
- 18: Spring Calving Heifers
- 15: Open Heifers
- 5: Spring Calving Cows

MaryJayne Cannon: 606.748.6307 Victoria Cannon: 606.748.5420 Casey Story: 606.209.5566



# Maple syrup flows at Blues End Farm

FROM PAGE 17

Doug enlisted a state forester to walk the farm and advise him on how to manage the woods. "The forester looked at me and asked if I would make maple syrup. Doug recalled.

Doug acknowledged that he and Ruth were of the same generation who connected with Euell Gibbons, and used one of his books as a guide. The book described how to collect maple sap using a feed bucket hung on a screw and a hollow elderberry branch as the tap. They collected the sap and cooked it on their kitchen stove.

"And we were hooked," Ruth laughed. Ruth thinks that, like bourbon and wine, the maple sap, and ultimately the syrup's excellent flavor comes from the soil minerals and limestone water.

When they began tapping in 2006, they were both still working and carried buckets of sap from trees to the house to cook. They gradually evolved to use an open kettle evaporator in their garage, which only held a few gallons. Doug monitored the evaporator day and night to ensure the sap didn't burn before reaching the correct sugar concentration.

A 50-gallon hobby evaporator ended the sleepless nights. Doug's parents, who lived in Florida, tasted the Kentucky maple syrup and were so impressed with the flavor that they helped Doug and Ruth invest in the evaporator. The evaporator is wood-fueled from wood collected on the farm.

When Ruth and Doug retired around 2016, they decided they wanted to produce more and sell to people other than friends. They increased the taps to 50 trees still on buckets and added a tank on the back of a 4-wheeler for collection.

Currently, they tap 150 trees, which are still in buckets, but Doug is advocating for vacuum lines. Doug attended a workshop in West Virginia sponsored by the Kentucky Maple Syrup Association and learned about vacuum lines. The Welches joined the Kentucky association and found the syrup community an essential source of information and support for their enterprise. The Kentucky Maple Syrup Association has 40 members and sponsors not only Maple Syrup Days but a two-day educational workshop each fall.

With information from the workshop, they added 38 taps on tubing. With one-third as many taps, they are collecting a significantly higher percentage of sap than from the drip buckets.

Doug is ready to increase the number of vacuum

lines, but Ruth isn't excited about the aesthetics of lines running throughout the farm. She also wonders if the taste will be the same.

"It has to be a total team decision," Doug acknowledged.

Blues End is continually looking for ways to make its production more efficient and less time-consuming. They received a grant from Kentucky State University to purchase a reverse osmosis machine that removes water molecules rather than sugar molecules and reduces the evaporation time.

Maple syrup production is totally temperature dependent. The sap runs best when night temperatures are below 32 and daytime temperatures around 40.

The sap season runs from the first of the year to mid-March. With warmer winters, flow starts earlier.

"We have tried tapping earlier, but the flow just isn't there," Ruth pointed out. "Last year was not good."

But this year has been much better. This year's harvest of 800 gallons of sap, produced 16 gallons of syrup. Their collection on Sunday, Feb. 16 was over 250 gallons and there were at least a couple more weeks of harvest.

Ruth produced five bottles of syrup, showing the difference in color and taste from early taps to later. The later the collection the darker and stronger the flavor.

"It's a matter of preference," Ruth continued.

Doug expresses concern about the future of syrup production in Kentucky with the onset of climate change and warmer winters. Kentucky is geographically at the southern production limit even before the increasing winter temperatures.

Blues End Farm was excited to host Maple Syrup Day. Around 300 people attended their 2024 event to see the syrup-making process. This year's event suffered the consequences of the 5-inch statewide rainfall.

But the Welches were not deterred and welcomed the 80 that came out.

But there was one more question for the couple. Why the name Blues End?

Doug laughed.

"Well, most things around here relate to blue, but the bottom line is this is where 'your blues end.'"

By Toni Riley  
Field Reporter



6350 Doug checks the syrup level in the 50 gallon evaporator. This piece of equipment does not require contact monitoring and syrup comes off when it reaches the correct temperature - no worry about scorching. This evaporator along with the reverse osmosis machine have significantly decreased the amount time it takes to turn 50 gallons of sap into a gallon of syrup.

## Carrollton Greenhouse

### Tobacco Supplies, Inc.

**Trays • Soil • Tobacco Seed**

**Mechanical Transplanters & Parts**

**Greenhouse Plastic & Side Curtians  
Cardboard & Wire  
for Large Tobacco Bales**

Carrollton Greenhouse

## 502-732-9365

P.O. Box 527 • 3356 Hwy. 42 East • Carrollton, KY

John Rothenburger

Tommy Williams



# Rebuilding the cattle herd

FROM PAGE 18

with high-quality animals," he said, "At the local level, we can focus on genetics to help increase the quality of our animals and give a little more value for them down the road."

But current high prices are enticing producers to sell a little quicker than they might normally do, according to Pigg.

"A lot of our producers have a really good, young group of cows, but there are just not a lot of them," he said. "Prices for cows, bulls, and slaughter bulls have gotten extremely high, and a lot of these cows have hit the market. I foresee that continuing, and I think that'll even tighten as we go forward."

Mitchel Logsdon, a beef producer from Hart County and KFB state director, said while inventory numbers are low, the last couple of years have brought some welcome economic relief to cow/calf operators.

"The last four or five years were very lean at the best for cow-calf operators after the inputs had increased along with oth-

er expenses and prices that hadn't kept up, leaving slim margins," he said. "But the last couple of years have been a boost to the cow-calf producers who needed to catch up, and it's been very helpful."

Logsdon added that as a cattle producer, he knows the cattle industry has historically seen up-and-down trends.

"My father had an old saying, 'The faster it goes up, the faster it comes down,' and it tends to be true, and we always have that in the back of our minds. Financially, you need to try to prepare for that. And when you have those years that your income's a lot more, you need to try to adjust for that."

Logsdon said he doesn't see a lot of signs of expansion in the cow herd right now, with supply and demand still driving the situation, and while buyers seem concerned about filling their orders, and finding enough feeders, that could create some security for the cow-calf producer.

Expansion of the herd will come slowly but it is something most producers want to do and can do.

"Most of the time you need to look at opportunities to expand, especially with the scale of economics that we deal with these days, and you need to look for ways to expand, but you also have to be careful," Logsdon said. "Retaining heifers is the mainstay of the expansion in the beef industry, but typically, that's a three-year process almost. But it takes a while to see the income from any expansion. You have to ask if it's going to be sustainable. When the market and the other end of that curve starts back down, are you going to be able to maintain this when some of those leaner years come back?"

Logsdon who also serves as chair of the KFB Beef Cattle Advisory Committee, the KFB Federation's representative on the U.S. Meat Export Federation, and a member of the Cattleman Beef Check-Off Board sees the industry from several perspectives. He said that even though prices at the consumer level have increased, the beef industry still has a solid customer base.

"You can't deny that prices on the grocery shelf are going to affect the industry to an extent, but we have a good base of customers," Logsdon said. "The checkoff board does a tremendously good job utilizing the dollars they have, whether it's promotion or market research, and figuring out where those markets are."

There have been many estimates as to when the cattle herd will begin to increase. Pigg said he thinks it is still at least a year or two away.

"Some economists had talked starting January 2025, and I thought their predictions were a little hopeful on that, but I could see the middle of 2026, or the first of 2027 in really starting to either retain heifers or developing heifers to be sold as replacements. So, I could see a small expansion. Now, we're not going to jump back to 31 million head overnight by any means, but I think we will start trending back up over the next four to five years."

*Kentucky Farm Bureau News*

## Redline Auction Service Equipment Consignment Auction

**SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 2025 • 9 AM CST**

**571 S. Dixie St., Horse Cave, KY 42749**  
**Lunch will be served!**

*Please make plans to attend and consign to this auction. WE ARE NOW TAKING CONSIGNMENT FOR THE MARCH 8 SALE. We will be receiving consignment starting February 24. Agriculture equipment, construction machinery and lawn care equipment will be accepted until March 5th at 4 PM.*

**8% onsite 12%  
online Buyers  
Premium Capped  
at \$750/item**

**To start consigning contact Dewayne 270-392-0285**

**Live & Online  
AUCTION**

**Ky Auctioneers License  
#256705**

**redlineauction.com**

**270-392-0285 • redforddewayne@gmail.com**



## Continental Industries, Inc.

### • Drexel Chemical Company

Sucker Stuff HC  
Super Sucker Stuff  
Off-Shoot-T  
Sucker Plucker  
Leven-38  
Drexalin Plus  
Plucker Plus  
Transplanter Moly

- Continental Float, Plant & Garden Ag Covers
- Continental Mud & Erosion Control Fabric
- Continental Straw Blankets and Sod Staples
- Bridon/Fabpro Plastic Baler Twine and Bale-Lok Plus Net Wrap

For Further Information on Distribution, contact:

**Jim Hamilton**

P.O. Box 865 • Shepherdsville, Ky. 40165  
(502) 543-2600 • jchamilton@windstream.net

Weekly Kentucky Livestock and Grain Summary

USDA Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News

Frankfort, KY

Monday, February 24, 2025

For Week Ending:

Saturday, February 22, 2025

Receipts: 3,177

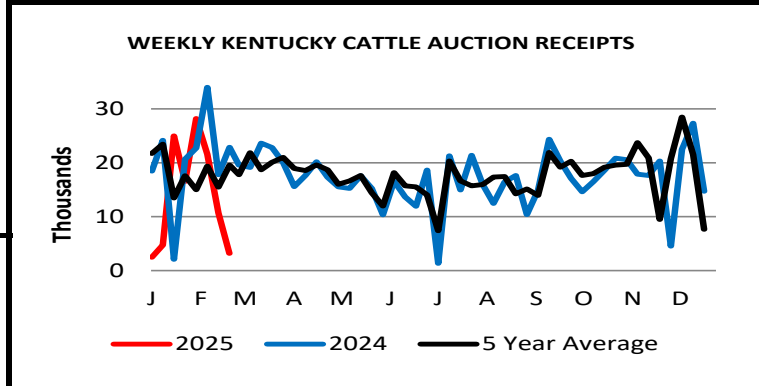
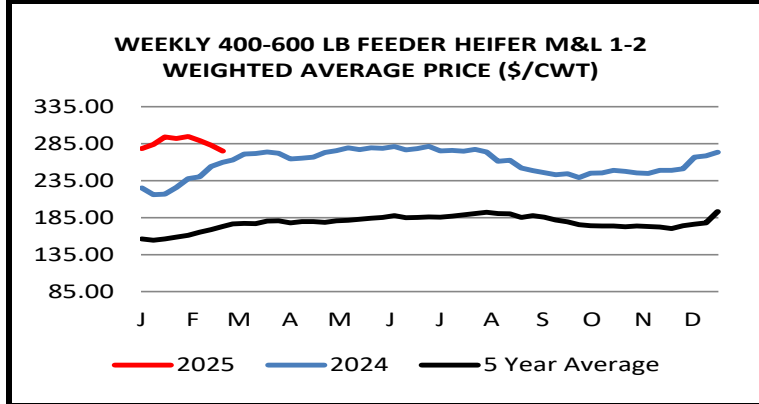
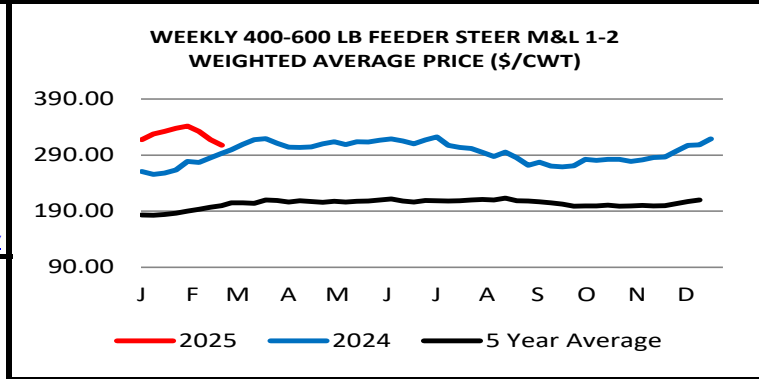
Last Week: 10,663

Last Year: 22,865

There are no comparisons available for feeder cattle this week as most markets were closed due to heavy rains, snow, heavy mud, and severe flooding across the state. Markets that were able to open showed a stronger undertone for all classes with limited receipts. Slaughter cows were trending 4.00 to 8.00 higher and bulls 3.00 to 5.00 higher with limited comparable receipts. All classes of feeder and slaughter cattle sold with good to very good demand.

[View Full Summary](#)

STATE AVERAGES			
Steers (M&L 1-2)	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
350-400 lbs	325.71	342.57	318.24
400-450 lbs	298.87	334.07	304.38
450-500 lbs	299.78	320.95	296.07
500-550 lbs	288.13	307.90	280.96
550-600 lbs	281.85	300.42	273.37
600-650 lbs	261.72	280.84	253.07
650-700 lbs	260.74	267.63	247.94
700-750 lbs	245.69	259.02	237.07
750-800 lbs	245.55	253.98	225.96
800-850 lbs	240.04	251.81	223.50
850-900 lbs	220.00	237.56	215.93
Heifers (M&L 1-2)			
300-350 lbs	294.55	306.00	269.81
350-400 lbs	293.36	305.71	276.51
400-450 lbs	287.66	288.15	271.83
450-500 lbs	281.92	284.53	263.99
500-550 lbs	260.10	272.85	248.35
550-600 lbs	254.42	262.00	238.00
600-650 lbs	236.95	252.09	224.88
650-700 lbs	235.10	245.18	220.45
700-750 lbs	234.88	236.42	208.91
750-800 lbs	213.64	225.82	206.88



WEEKLY COW SUMMARY				
Slaughter Cows		Average	High	Low
	Breakers	125.00-158.00	130.00-169.00	123.00-128.00
	Boners	119.00-153.00	130.00-178.50	110.00-141.00
	Lean	100.00-136.00	132.00-159.00	90.00-127.00
Slaughter Bulls		Average	High	Low
	Yield Grade 1&2	140.00-170.00	162.00-199.50	143.00-152.00

[View Full Report](#)

Feb 13, 2025

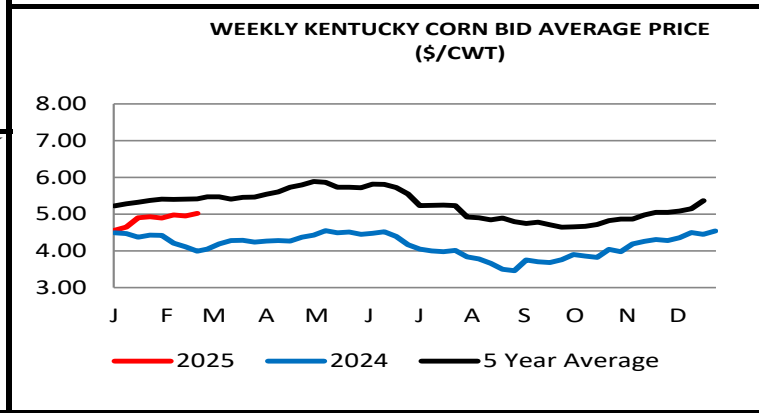
Bowling Green, KY

SLAUGHTER GOATS: 88

Kids: Selection 1 54 lbs 420.00; 63-69 lbs 375.00-420.00. Selection 1-2 55 lbs 420.00; 65 lbs 380.00; 100 lbs 275.00. Selection 2 55 lbs 360.00; 68 lbs 325.00.

SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 820

Hair Breeds-Choice & Prime 1-2 53-57 lbs 345.00-375.00; 66-69 lbs 320.00; 74-78 lbs 307.50-315.50; 88 lbs 270.00; 90 lbs 250.00; 105 lbs 232.50; 125 lbs 210.00; 150 lbs 167.50. Woolled-Choice & Prime 1-2 75 lbs 305.00; 93 lbs 255.00; 100 lbs 205.00; 110-115 lbs 180.00-205.00; 135 lbs 180.00; 162 lbs 165.00.



GRAINS			
	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
Corn	4.81-5.26	4.74-5.20	3.53-4.31
Soybeans	9.47-10.83	9.43-10.73	10.58-11.98
Red Winter Wheat	5.24-6.24	5.09-6.19	4.77-5.75

USDA-KY Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News

Frankfort, KY

Levi Geyer, OIC 502-782-4138

Email: Levi.Geyer@usda.gov

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



# CLASSIFIEDS

# CALL 270-384-9454

- FOR SALE -

## SWEET POTATO PLANTS

6 VARIETIES AVAILABLE

BEAUREGARD • O'HENRY • GEORGIA JETS  
• BUNCH PORTO RICO • COVINGTON •  
MURASAKI

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO PLACE YOUR ORDER AT  
[www.sweetpotatoesky.com](http://www.sweetpotatoesky.com)

**CONTACT US FOR LARGE  
QUANTITY/WHOLESALE ORDER INFO  
SHIPPING AVAILABLE**

606-219-6570

[twinoakacres.ky@gmail.com](mailto:twinoakacres.ky@gmail.com)

*Kentucky's Only Certified Sweet Potato Plant Producer!*

Plants are shipped according to the recommended  
planting dates for your growing zone



Follow us on Facebook and Instagram

## FOR SALE

**FOR SALE:** Simmental and Simangus yearling bulls. Calving ease, growth and all purpose EPDs in top 25% of breed. Quality backed by 40+ years of AI breeding. Come take a look. You won't be disappointed. 502-260-7884 or 502-839-6651

**FOR SALE:** BEAN, TOMATO and TOBACCO STICKS-- kiln dried oak Lebanon Oak Flooring Co LLC Lebanon KY PH: 270-692-2128.

## TIMBER

**MONEY GROWS ON TREES:** Looking for walnut, white oak and red oak trees. Will also harvest other species. Certified logger, references available. WILL TRAVEL!! **EXPERIENCE MAKES THE DIFFERENCE!!** Call Eli Miller Logging at 270-524-2967 and leave a message. Member of the BBB.

## Hillside Acres

Eubank, KY

### Custom Silage Bagger Rental

8 ft. & 9 ft Bags

### Plastic Sheeting

20'x100' up to 80'x200'	51" Hybrid Netwrap
30" FlavorSeal Bale Wrap	48" Blue Magic Netwrap
48" Hybrid Netwrap	Sisal and Plastic Twine

**Call for prices!**

606-423-4271 or 606-802-5748

## EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

**2015 Kinze 3500 - 8/15  
Electric row shutoffs •  
Hydraulic Down Pressure  
• Hydraulic Drive • No Till  
Coulters • Keetons Seed  
Firmers  
\$52,500**

**2008 New Holland CR 9060  
2 wheel drive • 2100  
Separator Hours • Dealer  
Maintained • 900-32 Drive  
Tires • 28L-26 Steering Tire  
\$40,000**

**2019 EZ Trail  
870 Grain Cart • 875 Bushel •  
900-32 Tires • 18" Auger •  
Hydraulic Spout • Roll Over  
Tarp  
\$27,500**

**All equipment from a 400 acre farm  
Call 270-860-4763 for more information**

## KY HOOP BARNS

**32x72 - You Build: \$8,640 - We Build: \$12,000  
32x96 - You Build: \$11,500 - We Build: \$16,000  
32x60 - You Build: \$7,200 - We Build: \$10,000**

*\*Includes everything except concrete around posts and metal sides.*

**Joe Paul Mattingly**

830 Sally Ray Pike  
Raywick, KY 40060



**Home: 270-692-6730**

**Cell: 270-699-1499**



## Precision Planting®

Good yields begin with accurate  
planting. Accurate planting requires  
good equipment.

- Meter Servicing & Calibration
- New Equipment
- Replacement parts for Precision Planting products.

## PRECISION PLANTING EQUIPMENT & SERVICING

Contact us about helping you get the best yields.

**ERIC & HAZEL HINTON  
25 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE!!**

208 Greensburg Road • Hodgenville, KY 42728

**Call or Text 270-268-5332**

# CLASSIFIEDS

# CALL 270-384-9454

## Hilltop LOGGING

Buying Standing Timber • Specializing in Select Cutting

Marvin Weaver

Andy Yoder

270.748.3229

## COWHERD EQUIPMENT, INC.

1483 Old Summersville Rd. • Campbellsville • cowerdequipment.com

Office: 270-465-2679 • Fax: 270-465-8239 • Mobile: 270-469-0398

Silage Bags • Bunker Covers • Hay Covers  
Stretch Film • Net Wrap • Twine

Silage Baggers & Hay Wrappers for Sale or Rent  
Parts & Services Offered!



**Up North  
Plastics**  
Made in the U.S.A.

Come See Us For All  
Your Mixer Wagon Parts,  
Services & Repairs!

## NEW & USED EQUIPMENT SALES & RENTALS



Charlie  
Edgington  
**RED BARN  
AND ASSOCIATES**

**859-608-9745**

## NATIONAL FARM MACHINERY SHOW BOOTH 3374

## OPEN POLLINATED SEED CORN

Outproduces hybrids for silage.  
Leafy and sweet stalks for grazing.  
High feed value grain.  
\$69/bushel + shipping

**217-857-3377**

borriesopenpollinatedseedcorn.com

## DAY & DAY

## FEED MILL

**CHECK OUT THESE BRANDS AND MANY MORE!**



**270-384-2209**

1011 Campbellsville Rd Columbia, KY 42728 42728  
dayanddayfeedmill.com



KENTUCKY MASTER LOGGER

## NOLIN RIVER LOGGING, LLC.

FREE APPRAISALS - REFERENCES AVAILABLE  
Buying Standing Timber on Shares or Out-  
ALSO BUYING TIMBER LAND  
IN BUSINESS SINCE 1983  
ROBERT D. MILLER  
5200 Raider Hollow Rd. • Munfordville, Ky., 42765  
Phone: 270-531-3751 LET RING  
Cell: 270-528-1537

## EQUIPMENT AUCTIONS • CATTLE AUCTIONS



*We are rural people, helping rural people*

OVER 20 YEARS OF EXPERIENCES TO MEET ALL YOUR NEEDS  
OWNED AND OPERATED IN KENTUCKY | AFFILIATED WITH MCINTYRE & WILEY

MUNFORDVILLE, KY.

270-932-0285

## Klerk Silage Bags & Bunker Covers

Ag Bag Silage bags & Silage baggers

**For Sale or Rent**

- Sunfilm & Silacord Silage Wrap • Net Wrap
- Full Selection of parts for Silo Unloaders & Baler Twine
- Valmetal Vertical Mixers 250-1100CF
- Replacement Vertical Mixer Knives available for many models



**MATTINGLY SILOS**  
**502-252-7300**

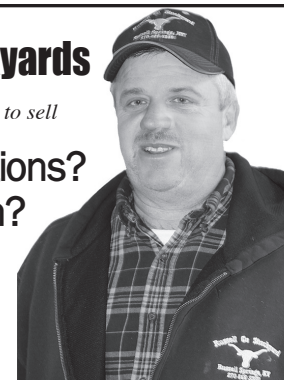


## Russell County Stockyards

*Farm Visits • Consultation on when to sell*

Have livestock questions?  
Need information?

Call Mike Loy at  
**270-250-3554**



## Kentucky Irrigation Co.

*Serving Kentucky and Surrounding States Since 1951*

New & Used Irrigation  
Equipment

Pipes, sprinklers, guns,  
travelers, center pivots &  
drip

Manure Equipment  
Pumps, reels, drag hose  
systems

Call 859-254-7022  
www.kentuckyirrigation.com



**Hauling Rice Hulls for Poultry Houses**

**LEWIS FARMS**  
John Lewis

**606-307-4430**

*Serving Kentucky & Tennessee*

# TELL THEM YOU SEEN IT IN THE PRIDE!!



# Issues with your BMR corn?

"It fell over"  
 "Low starch"  
 "Bad disease pressure"  
 "Not drought tolerant"  
 "Poor yields"

Maybe it's time to try BMR again.

KF 59B70 is a BM3, Sofstarch, BMR hybrid that excels where most BMR corn has fallen short and fallen down.



**KF 59B70 had a strong showing in the 2022 World Forage Analysis Superbowl.**

- Grand Champion First Time Entrant
- 2nd place in the BMR Corn Silage category
- 2 of the top 3 Milk/Ton in the BMR Corn Silage category

*With World Forage Superbowl champion quality and breakthrough agronomics, KF 59B70 will be the future of BMR corn.*

Call to make an appointment with a Byron Seeds Forage Specialist today.

## 800-801-3596

FARM SHOW ATTENDEES  
 COME SEE US AT BOOTH

#1606



**Byron Seeds**



# FAYETTE COUNTY FARM BUREAU

## 42<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL

### FARM EQUIPMENT CONSIGNMENT AUCTION



@ **Kentucky Horse Park**  
 4089 Ironworks Pike Lexington, Ky 40511

**SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2025 8:30AM**  
**WWW.FAYETTECOFARMBUREAU.COM**

#### TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

**NO BUYERS PREMIUM IN PERSON**

**7.5% Buyers Premium ONLINE ONLY**

**10% Sellers Commission, \$30 min. - \$500 max. /per lot**

**\$30 buy back fee/no sale fee including tractors**

**\$50 buy back fee/no sale fee for vehicles and boats**

**All titles at check-in NO EXCEPTION**



Online Bidding Provided By

**Equipmentfacts**

Powered by TractorHouse.com, MachineryTrader.com, TruckPaper.com & MarketBook.com

**QUESTIONS? DROP US A LINE.**

**OUR OFFICE: (859) 880-2766**

**TODD CLARK: (859) 621-6471**

**BOB JAMES: (859) 559-1355**

**>>> NO JUNK**

## EQUIPMENT DROP OFF

**Monday: March 10 | 12pm - 4pm**

**Tuesday-Thursday: March 11-13  
 8AM-4PM**

## CONSIGNER INFORMATION

Online consignments accepted  
**Monday - Thursday Only**

**\*no vehicles or lawn and garden items on the online platform**

# Help secure agriculture's future by donating to the 'Ag Tag' fund

Kentucky Ag Tag is on the road to \$1 million and we need your help getting there.

Last year, Kentucky farmers donated a record-breaking \$931,201.81 to the Ag Tag Program. It was the largest amount ever donated in a single year and topped the 2023 total by nearly \$200,000. But this year, I'm hoping we can reach that \$1 million mark creating even more positive outcomes for Kentucky's agricultural youth.

Ag Tag money is generated through the \$10 voluntary donation Kentuckians make each year when they buy or renew their farm vehicle license plates, or "ag tags." The money is then split equally between the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, Kentucky FFA, and Kentucky 4-H to support Kentucky's agriculture youth and other organizations and programs benefiting our farm families.

The \$10 donation may seem like a small amount. But, by multiplying it by the thousands of Kentuckians that give and then putting those funds in the hands of the department that focuses on the state's agriculture community and the two leading agriculture youth development organizations, we are providing a strong backbone for Kentucky's agricultural future.

As a former FFA kid I know the differences the organization can make in a young person's life. Providing leadership experiences, life lessons, lasting friendships, and giving me the skills I needed for my future, FFA set me off on a path that led me to the Commissioner of Agriculture office.

In the same way FFA helped shape my life, 4-H creates experiences that make lasting impacts. 4-H and FFA are two youth programs that are at the forefront of the future of Kentucky agriculture, providing direction in life for many of our influential young people.

You can help create those lasting

impacts by donating to Kentucky 4-H and Kentucky FFA when you buy or renew your farm license plate, or "Ag Tags" this year. When renewing your plate, you have the opportunity to make a \$10 donation. It's a small amount that can make a huge difference and one of the easiest ways to give back to the community and the future of agriculture.

The KDA uses its share of the Ag Tag funds for various programs such as the Ag Athlete of the Year awards, the Kentucky Leopold Conservation Award, Kentucky Women in Agriculture, and the University of Kentucky Grain and Forage Center of Excellence. KDA will be using the funds for a new program this year that monetarily incentivizes Kentucky school district using Kentucky food products for school meals. We are extremely excited about this endeavor and see it as a fantastic way to bring more Kentucky agriculture products into healthy, nutritious school meals.

Half of the 4-H and FFA donations are returned to local councils and chapters, meaning leaders in your community can use those funds to cover the cost of 4-H and FFA camp and other leadership programs for our youth. County 4-H councils use Ag Tag dollars to provide 4-H camp scholarships and travel for life-changing educational experiences to enable local 4-H youth to grow as leaders and engaged citizens. FFA chapters are free to use the money to meet the greatest needs in their community, such as FFA jackets for students in need or helping cover travel costs to leadership events.

That unselfish willingness to help build and prepare Kentucky's agriculture youth are predominant features of FFA and 4-H. They are two of the leading youth organizations in Kentucky and the nation. While they work to prepare youth to take on the challenges agriculture faces, KDA works every day to promote

Kentucky's farmers, inviting each resident in the Commonwealth to realize the importance agriculture plays in the present and in the future. That future is Kentucky's agriculture youth. That's why this year's Ag Tag campaign theme is "Bluegrass Beginnings, Boundless Futures." Funding from your voluntary donations helps all three organizations fulfill our mission to sustain Kentucky agriculture for generations to come securing the future of Kentucky agriculture.

In the weeks to come, as many of you head back to your county clerk's office to renew your Ag Tags, I hope you will make the \$10 donation. Last year we set a record for Ag Tag collections in a single year. Let's try to break that record this year, while at the same time helping to ensure a bright future for Kentucky agriculture.



Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner  
Jonathan Shell

## Pride in AG Education Sponsors



### Classroom Questions:

1. What are the priorities of the new president of the Kentucky Cattle-men's Association?
2. Why is there an interest in rebuilding the cattle herd? Be specific with data about the industry in your answer.
3. Who is Brooke Rollins? Share some of the topics that were discussed during her visit to Kentucky.
3. What is fragipan remediation about?
4. What is CAIP? Find out from your local extension office what programs have been funded in your county through CAIP.
5. How does Ag Tag funding help you?



Kentucky Agriculture &  
Environment in the Classroom, Inc.





**KENTUCKY**  
DEPARTMENT OF  
**AGRICULTURE**

**WE APPRECIATE ALL FARMERS FOR THEIR  
SACRIFICES AND DEDICATION TO  
AGRICULTURE. WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU  
STAY SAFE AND PROVIDE RESOURCES FOR  
YOUR HEALTH. YOU ARE NOT ALONE!**

*The Raising Hope Team &  
the Kentucky Department of Agriculture*

**988** SUICIDE & CRISIS  
**LIFELINE**