

Gem State Producer

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 IDAHO FARM BUREAU

Quality of Idaho
wheat crop superb

Corn maze promotes
Idaho potatoes

\$15 million in trade
aid headed to Idaho

Staying in the game on WOTUS



By Zippy Duvall

American Farm Bureau Federation President

Fall is one of my favorite seasons on the farm. From calving to harvest, it's a time to celebrate life on the farm and the results of months of planning and tending.

Fall also brings another important tradition to our farmhouse — and

The Zip Line



probably yours as well — the return of college football. In fact, I think you'd be hard pressed to find a more enthusiastic fan than my wife, Miss Bonnie.

She loves cheering her team on, right down to the last second of the last play. The players — and the fans — keep giving it their all, as long as there is still time left on the

clock. Sometimes the most amazing victories or crushing defeats happen just as the clock runs down.

It feels a lot like that last quarter of the game when it comes to the Waters of the U.S. rule right now. Farmers have gotten some tough calls along the way, and we've come back strong in the fourth. But

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Reaping the harvest of policy development



By Bryan Searle

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation President

The state's grain crops are harvested, potato harvest is in full swing, sugar beets are starting to come in and cattle are beginning to come off

the range. What a wonderful time of year.

Harvest in Idaho — harvest time anywhere — is a special time of year because it's when farmers reap the benefits of all the hard work they put in to ensure that crop reaches maturity and is marketable.

It all began several months earlier with the planting of a seed. But that seed didn't grow by itself; it was watered and cultivated until it was ready for harvest. A lot of hard work went into getting that crop to

maturity.

A lesson can be learned here by comparing the growing of a crop to Idaho Farm Bureau Federation's policy development process. IFBF's 37 county Farm Bureaus recently finished up the policy development process, which involved a lot of time and hard work on everyone's part.

In December, county Farm Bureau delegates will vote on those policies. Those that pass muster will be

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Developing sound policy that yields results



By Rick Keller

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation CEO

This past month, Farm Bureau leaders have been meeting around the state developing and proposing policy resolutions addressing the myriad needs of Idaho's farmers and ranchers.

A total of 174 resolutions came from county Farm Bureaus' farmer and rancher leaders to the five district meetings in the state. The ideas and proposals came from individuals at local county Farm Bureau policy development discussions.

This process begins with brainstorming but concludes with in-depth study of the proposals at the county level. The resolutions were well thought out, researched, had merit and included background

information. Anything short of this could lead to misguided, uninformed and poor policy.

At the district meetings, each county Farm Bureau presents their resolutions to again be scrutinized and pass a common-sense test. The test for sound policy includes: Is the resolution properly researched? Is there another side to this issue that should be heard before the decision is made? Will the proposed resolution pro-

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Idaho's 2018 wheat crop gets high marks on quality

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

POCATELLO – Idaho wheat farmers and industry representatives say the quality of the state's wheat crop, which enjoys a reputation for being superb year in and year out, is particularly good this year.

"This year's wheat crop is superb," said Idaho Wheat Commission Executive Director Blaine Jacobson. "Growers are happy and grain elevators are satisfied with the crop."

Jacobson and several farmers contacted for this story said yields were above average, test weights and protein levels were good, the crop faced no major disease issues and there were no significant low falling number problems this year. Falling number tests measure wheat quality and growers get less money for test results below 300.

Due to more harvested acres and increased yields, total wheat production in Idaho in 2018 increased 11.5 percent compared with 2017.

To top it off, prices this year have been higher than they were last year.

It was an above-average year as far as overall quality, protein levels and yields, said Ririe Grain and Seed Coop Manager Lee Andersen.

Wheat farmers had some good opportunities earlier this spring to lock in some good prices and a lot of them took advantage of that, he said.

"This year has been a good year for wheat, growers have a good portion of their crop marketed and hopefully there will be some good opportunities to get the rest of it marketed," Andersen said.

While farmers wish prices were even higher, "I think wheat producers are optimistic about this year's crop," said Richard Durrant, who owns a country elevator in Meridian. "Production is up, I think most everybody feels pretty good about yields, we didn't have any real quality issues and prices are definitely better than they were a year ago."

Farmers and industry representatives said the quality of this year's crop is noteworthy.

In North Idaho, "The quality is nearly off the scale," said IWC Chairman Bill Flory, a North Idaho grower. "This has been a great production year."

While yields in some areas in North Idaho that received too much water were a little below average, "the quality of the wheat is excellent," he added. "Crop quality is outstanding and it's quite exciting."

In some dryland areas in Southeastern Idaho, lack of moisture in June and July caused yields to be down a little, said Soda Springs farmer Jerry Brown. But like in North Idaho, "The quality is really good," he added. "The quality of wheat is good in those areas, but we were a little bit skinny on yields in my area."

See *WHEAT*, page 4

Cover: Photo by Sean Ellis
Hundreds of people sample fruit Sept. 7 during the University of Idaho Parma Research and Extension Center's annual Fruit Field Day. See story, page 8.

WHEAT

Continued from page 3



Photo by Sean Ellis

A wheat field is harvested in southwestern Idaho. Farmers and industry representatives say the quality of Idaho's 2018 wheat crop is particularly good.

According to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Idaho farmers produced a total of 99.1 million bushels of winter and spring wheat in 2018, up from 88.9 million bushels in 2017.

According to NASS, winter wheat yields in Idaho averaged 87 bushels per acre, up from 80 in 2017, and spring wheat yields averaged 88 bushels an acre this year, up from 86 last year.

Idaho farmers harvested 720,000 acres of winter wheat this year, up from 670,000 last year, and 415,000 acres of spring wheat, up from 410,000 in 2017.

The entire Pacific Northwest had an excel-

lent wheat crop this year, said Janice Cooper, managing director of the Wheat Marketing Center, which is based in Portland, Ore.

"In general, it's been a good crop year for all classes of wheat grown in the Pacific Northwest," she said.

The stellar quality of the 2018 Idaho wheat crop comes on the heels of an almost equally stellar crop in 2017, Jacobson said.

"We've had a two-year run of excellent crops," he said.

Jacobson said the state's wheat industry is in a good position.

"Idaho's wheat industry is very healthy," he said. "We continue to have very loyal customers that come to Idaho specifically for our wheat because we continue to grow an excellent crop."

While soft white wheat is still the largest class of wheat in Idaho, the state's hard white wheat production increased substantially this year, Jacobson said.

Soft white wheat is generally used for products with a mild bite, such as cookies, crackers and pancakes, while hard white wheat is used in products such as breads and noodles.

Famous Idaho spuds carved into the ears of famous Idaho cornfield

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

MERIDIAN – Idaho’s most famous corn maze is celebrating Idaho’s most famous crop this year.

The Farmstead, which attracts tens of thousands of visitors a year, has come up with a wide variety of entertaining maze designs over the years that have attracted national media attention.

Jim Lowe, owner of The Farmstead Corn Maze & Pumpkin Festival, said it seemed proper to celebrate the product that Idaho is best known for: potatoes.

“We just think the design strikes at the heart of the identity of Idaho,” he said. “Idaho potatoes are kind of the Cinderella story. It is this humble produce that is grown underground but it’s been a great success story that has been able to rise to such prominence.”

The design features the images of Mr. and Mrs. Potato Head and the words, “Famous Potatoes.”

Lowe said some people believe the state should be known for something more glitzy or glamorous than the humble potato.

“We say, ‘It’s who we are,’” he said. “Let’s embrace it and celebrate it. It is an important part of Idaho.”

Idaho potato farmers bring in about \$950 million a year in farm-gate cash receipts and when the potato processing industry is included, spuds are a



Submitted photo

An aerial view of the Farmstead’s 2018 corn maze, which celebrates Idaho potatoes.

multi-billion-dollar industry in the state.

Idaho Potato Commission President and CEO Frank Muir said he was delighted when Lowe informed him the Farmstead design would celebrate Idaho potatoes this year.

The commission has worked with the Farmstead several times over the festival’s 22-year history and helps sponsor its current Famous Idaho Potato sack slide.

“I think it’s neat that a corn maze is actually celebrating Idaho potatoes,” Muir said.

A Farmstead news release loaded with potato puns pointed out

that a national survey found out that Idaho is known more for potatoes than any state is known for anything else, “a quirky claim to fame that leads to a mishmash of eye-rolling and home state pride among natives and transplants alike.”

That survey asked people the first thing they thought of when they heard a state’s name. While every state had multiple things that ranked high, when people heard the word “Idaho,” only one thing entered their mind: potatoes.

“There was only one state that had one dominant thing it was known for and nothing else and it was Idaho,” Muir said. “There

was nothing even close to us.”

Over the years, the Farmstead has come up with several unique designs for its corn maze, including the Statue of Liberty, comedian Jimmy Fallon, the bumblebee, Abraham Lincoln, and the likenesses of President Obama (on the left) and his Republican challenger, Mitt Romney (on the right), during the run-up to the 2012 presidential election.

The designs have attracted the attention of major media outlets, including USA Today, The Today Show, Good Morning America, The Tonight Show, Time magazine and CNN.

KELLER

Continued from page 2

vide the desired outcome? Is the resolution credible and achievable?

If the proposed resolutions do not meet those high standards, they are sent back to the sponsoring county for more research or clarification.

All successful resolutions from the district meetings are reviewed by a state resolutions committee, where once again, they are scrutinized and subjected to the “common-sense” test. This committee will combine similar resolutions and make recommendations to the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation’s delegates

for consideration.

In December, delegates from each county Farm Bureau will meet at the IFBF annual meeting to review all its policies, plus the new resolutions. The delegates are active farmers and ranchers, selected by their county peers to represent them in developing and approving the policy of Idaho’s largest farm organization. The proposed and amended policies that pass by a majority vote become Idaho Farm Bureau’s sound policy for the next year.

The desired outcome of the policy development process

is not the creation of policy, but its implementation. It is of little value to have a state position and then do little to see it through fruition.

Much of the implementation will require legislative and administrative assistance. To achieve that result, Farm Bureau is engaged in educating decision-makers and the implementers. The legislature or agencies must understand the issue and provide buy-in to complete the actual implementation of the policy.

Farm Bureau works to elect individuals to the legislature who have that understanding

of the issues. Farm Bureau members are engaged in legislative, gubernatorial, and congressional races during this mid-term election cycle for this purpose.

Farm Bureau policy starts with individual members making recommendations and suggestions to the county Farm Bureaus. It is grassroots. It is discussed, scrutinized and voted on at several levels. In the end, sound policy is developed that stands the test of time and can be endorsed by members, legislators and state agencies alike. It is a unique problem-solving exercise that yields results.

DUVALL

Continued from page 2

we cannot stop driving down the field until we have a win for clean water and clear rules.

Clean water matters to all of us. From rural Minnesota to downtown Atlanta, we all want — and need — access to safe water for ourselves and our families. For years, AFBF and others in agriculture have been calling for clean water and clear rules, because we know it’s possible to have both.

Unfortunately, the Obama Administration muddied the waters with its 2015 WOTUS rule. The EPA wrote an illegal rule that threatened farmers and ranchers with jaw-dropping penalties and even criminal prosecution for plowing or spraying a “water of the U.S.”

But it was so broad and vague that “water of the U.S.” could include most any land where water sometimes flows or

ponds after a rain.

The 2015 WOTUS rule didn’t provide clarity, as the agency claimed. It was a pig in a poke: bureaucratic doublespeak designed to allow the federal government to regulate productive land use. Thankfully, several courts recognized the dangerous potential of the rule and blocked it — temporarily.

But those orders only apply in specific states, leaving farmers in much of the country still vulnerable to enforcement.

The battle in the courts continues, and the Trump Administration is hard at work to repeal the WOTUS rule and give all Americans the clean water and clear rules we want and need.

But each move by the current EPA is tackled in court. Just last month, a federal district court struck down EPA’s nationwide delay of the 2015

‘Unfortunately, the Obama Administration muddied the waters with its 2015 WOTUS rule. The EPA wrote an illegal rule that threatened farmers and ranchers with jaw-dropping penalties and even criminal prosecution for plowing or spraying a “water of the U.S.”’

WOTUS rule, making it once again the law of the land in 26 states.

Since then, several other courts have been asked to block the 2015 rule — nationwide or at least in specific states. Today, farmers and ranchers in 23 states are subject to the confusing and unlawful WOTUS rule. For those farmers and ranchers, every small wetland, ditch or ephemeral stream on their land is a regulatory landmine. That’s one more layer of uncertainty for farmers in these already uncertain times.

When it comes to waters of the U.S., the game isn’t over, the outcome isn’t certain, and our opponents would like to run out the clock. None of us can afford to sit passively in the stands — much less celebrate.

AFBF will continue to press the administration to finally, once and for all, Ditch the Rule. We urge you to fight — and cheer — with us. If these months of blocking and tackling lead us to a future where our land isn’t regulated like water, it will have been worth the effort.

SEARLE

Continued from page 2

added to the IFBF policy book.

But it's not sufficient to just have those policies printed in a book. Just like they do with their crops, Farm Bureau members need to remain engaged in those policies and cultivate them to ensure they result in a harvest.

When it comes to policy, the harvest comes when legislation that reflects that policy gets passed.

But an IFBF policy won't get itself passed. It requires time and effort by Farm Bureau members and employees, speaking with other organizations and elected officials and making sure our voice is heard on the issue.

Don't remain on the sidelines when it comes to policy. It's important we stay engaged.

An example of why it's so important to ensure our voices are heard on issues important to agriculture is the immigration reform bill introduced by Rep. Bob Goodlatte, R-Va., the House Judiciary Committee chairman.

Goodlatte's bill was far from perfect initially when it was introduced last fall, but the congressman made some important changes after hearing our concerns and introduced a revised bill, the Ag and Legal Workforce Act.

During American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall's first two years of service, he visited every state Farm Bureau and the number one common thread of concern was labor shortage. In his recent column addressing the

opportunities for labor reform and speaking to Goodlatte's proposed legislation, he said the bill "is a prime example of how effective our grassroots members can be and why it is so important for each of you to share your stories and concerns with your lawmakers."

According to Duvall, the Goodlatte bill now includes a longer-term work visa, a stronger at-will program, a streamlined "touchback" process for workers, greater flexibility in the visa cap, a longer transition to the new H-2C program and modified insurance requirements.

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation hosted several calls with Goodlatte's office on his legislation and IFBF also worked hard to try to convince other Idaho farm groups why it was so important to weigh in on the bill.

The message our congressmen were receiving appears to be the opposite of what farmers and ranchers needed and felt but a very small majority spoke on their behalf. This shows why it's critical to get and stay engaged not only in the policy development process but finish the harvest by having your voice heard.

I have heard from many farmers who were having a very hard time finding enough help. Trucks set idle and many have had to tap into a very costly and broken H-2A guest worker program, scrambling to get their crops harvested.

Congressman Goodlatte will retire at the end of the year and if we don't see the new and improved H-2C program, it could be years before we receive any

more solid labor reform legislation, as it takes years to create and educate others.

As we move forward in the policy process, remember that it's important not to allow one or two voices representing your industry make decisions that could affect all of agriculture. Whether you are trying to get crops harvested, cows milked, or cattle cared for, one way you can help receive a good harvest on policy is to call your congressman and share with them your experiences and support for good labor reform.

To find the contact information for Idaho's congressional delegation, visit the IFBF website

at www.idahofb.org and click on the "Legislative" icon on the right side of the page and then on "Issues." Then enter your zip code in a box titled "Find your elected officials" and information about your congressional representatives will appear.

The Goodlatte bill is just one example of how an imperfect bill was substantially improved directly due to the fact that many grassroots voices weighed in on the issue and convinced the chairman to revise it.

Now let's harvest and show our support for the much needed labor reform.

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Parma fruit field day draws hundreds

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

PARMA – Several hundred people were given a taste for some of the extensive fruit research being conducted at University of Idaho’s Parma Research and Extension Center Sept. 7 during the station’s annual Fruit Field Day.

Attendees also got a literal taste of many of the fruit varieties being researched at the Parma station’s pomology orchard and vineyard site.

Dozens of fruit varieties were laid out on several long tables and included peaches, table grapes, nectarines, plums, apples, quince, Asian pears and several alternative fruits being grown at the orchard.

Once the OK was given to begin tasting the fruit, it didn’t last long.

Fruit researcher Essie Fallahi, who heads UI’s pomology (fruit and nut) program, told attendees that the difference between night and day time temperatures in the summer makes the region a great place to grow fruit.

“The quality of fruit grown in Idaho is superb,” he said. “Idaho fruit is demanded by name in many countries.”

Fallahi recalled a conversation with an official from one major fruit company who told him, “Our shippers don’t want anything but plums from Idaho.”

The annual event is attended by hundreds of commercial and small growers as well as home gardeners, horticultural professionals, fruit industry representatives and graduate students.

“The Parma fruit day is a tremendous event for the Treasure Valley but it also draws folks from all over the state as well as other states interested in tree fruit production,” said Mark McGuire, director of UI’s agricultural research stations. “They



Photo by Sean Ellis

People sample fruit Sept. 7 during the University of Idaho Parma Research and Extension Center’s annual Fruit Field Day.

are here to get more knowledge.”

During the four-hour event, Fallahi spoke about the wide variety of research being conducted at the orchard, including orchard mechanization and irrigation trials as well as pest and disease control, the safe use and effectiveness of certain pesticides and new architectures and rootstocks.

The main goal of the research, he said, is to not only figure out the best way to grow certain fruit varieties in the state, but also to figure out what doesn’t work so growers don’t have to discover that for themselves.

“If we make the mistake first, then the growers will not have to make that mis-

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Photo by Sean Ellis

Wheat is harvested in a southwestern Idaho field this summer. Idaho producers will receive an estimated \$15 million from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's trade mitigation package, which is designed to help American farmers impacted by what the USDA terms as unjustified retaliatory tariffs.

Idaho agriculture could receive \$15 million from USDA trade aid

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

POCATELLO – Idaho producers will receive an estimated \$15 million from USDA's trade mitigation package, which is designed to help farmers hurt by retaliatory tariffs that some nations have placed on U.S. agricultural products.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture in July announced a \$12 billion plan to protect American farmers hurt by what it termed as unjustified retaliatory tariffs by some of the United States' main trading partners.

Earlier this year, the Trump administration slapped tens of billions of dollars' worth of tariffs on goods from some nations in response to what it

claims are unfair trading practices. Those nations, including China, Canada, Mexico and the European Union, responded with their own tariffs, many of them focused on U.S. farm commodities.

USDA released details of the trade aid package on Aug. 27. That plan calls for distributing \$4.7 billion worth of payments to producers of wheat, dairy, corn, soybeans, cotton, hogs and sorghum.

USDA's Farm Service Agency will administer a Market Facilitation Program to provide these payments.

The agriculture department will also provide up to \$1.2 billion to purchase unexpected surplus of commodities affected by the retaliatory tariffs.

USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service will administer this food purchase and distribution program.

Another \$200 million will be used to assist the private sector in developing new export markets for farm products. This money will be made available through FSA's Agricultural Trade Promotion Program.

The money will be distributed to the three programs beginning after Labor Day.

According to an American Farm Bureau Federation analysis of the USDA aid plan, U.S. soybean growers are due to receive a total of \$3.6 billion, pork producers \$290 million, cotton growers \$277 million, sorghum growers \$157 million, dairy producers \$127,000,

wheat growers \$119 million and corn growers \$96 million.

AFBF officials also estimated how much each state will receive from the aid package.

Idaho's dairy producers are forecast to receive a total of \$8.6 million and the state's wheat growers should receive \$6.3 million. Idaho corn growers are estimated to receive about \$160,000 total.

Dairy and wheat rank No. 1 and No. 4 in Idaho in terms of total farm-gate receipts.

The response from Idaho producers due to receive some aid, and industry leaders who represent them, was lukewarm. They said the payments won't come close to equaling the losses they have suffered because of the retaliatory tariffs.

Buhl dairyman John Brubaker said the tariffs have put a hurting on the state's dairy industry and he estimates Idaho dairy operations are losing about \$1 per cow per day because of them.

Dairymen will receive about 12 cents per hundredweight of production in aid and that doesn't come close to making up for the harm caused by the tariffs, he said.

"I'm not for government hand-outs. I just want fair and free trade," he said.

The average Idaho dairyman's opinion of the aid package is that the amount being offered is insulting in light of the impact the tariffs are having on their operations, said Idaho Dairymen's Association Executive Director Rick Naerebout.

"It's not even coming close to covering the losses our dairymen are experiencing because of the tariffs," he said.

Naerebout said U.S. dairy operators have lost an estimated \$1.5 billion this year as a result of the tariffs. The aid plan calls for paying dairy operations 12 cents per hundredweight on half of their production.

"It's woefully inadequate compared to the damage done by the tariffs," he said. "It doesn't even come close to covering 10 percent of the losses suffered because of the tariffs. We have dairies going out of business because of this."

Grace dairyman Sherman Toone, on the other hand, said he understands why President Donald Trump is playing hard ball with these nations: to try to get better trade deals that will end unfair trading practices and result in a level playing

field that in the long run will benefit all Americans, including farmers.

"I'm willing to give the president a shot at this," he said. "We might experience some hurt for awhile but I think this thing will straighten itself out in six months to a year."

The president "is trying something different," Toone said. "Nothing else has worked. Why not try something different? Let's look at the big picture. If something good comes out of this long-term, that would be a wonderful thing."

Idaho Grain Producers Association Executive Director Stacey Katseanes Satterlee said grain growers understand the president's long-term strategy of playing hard ball with trading partners in order to secure better trade deals, but in the short-term, it's always agriculture that loses in these types of trade wars.

She said grain growers appreciate the trade package's acknowledgement "that wheat growers are being hurt by these retaliatory tariffs."

The aid "is something and we'll take it, but it does not amount to much to Idaho growers," Satterlee said.

An analysis by U.S. Wheat Associates and the National Association of Wheat Growers estimates the tariffs have had a negative impact of 75 cents per bushel on U.S. wheat prices, which has caused \$2.2 billion worth of losses across the U.S. wheat supply.

The aid package, Satterlee said, will offer 7 cents per bushel to wheat growers now and possibly 7 cents more later.

"The notion that the (aid) will somehow make up for those lost markets is not a correct notion," she said.

Ririe wheat farmer Gordon Gallup estimated he will receive about \$6,000 total from the aid package.

"We'll take it; every penny helps," he said. "But that doesn't rescue anybody. It's not close to being enough" to make up for the impact of the retaliatory tariffs.

According to AFBF, producers of commodities covered under the MFP payment program can submit applications for support on Sept. 4 or after harvest is complete and they can report their total 2018 production, whichever comes first.

Payments will be made in two parts, with the first payment guaranteed to occur. USDA will determine later whether trade conditions warrant a second payment period.

The first payment will be calculated by multiplying 50 percent of a producer's 2018 production by the MFP rate.

An announcement about further payments will be made in coming months, if warranted, according to a USDA news release. If a second payment period is announced, the remaining 50 percent of a producer's 2018 production would be subject to the second MFP payment rate.

USDA estimates it will distribute \$4.7 billion in trade aid payments during the first round and that total would increase to \$9.4 billion if there is a second round.

In a column, AFBF President Zippy Duvall said the USDA relief package "promises to

give many farmers the extra help they need to hold on through ongoing trade disputes ... The package is not a fix-all, and we wouldn't expect it to be. It will buy a little time, however, as the administration takes a tough stance at the negotiating table – and that's a goal we can all get behind. Farmers and ranchers want to see fair trade deals hammered out and export opportunities expanded for American-grown products."

In a news release, USDA said the trade aid package is a short-term relief strategy to protect ag producers "while the administration works on free, fair and reciprocal trade deals to open more markets in the long run to help American farmers compete globally."

In the USDA news release, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue said the package was developed, after careful analysis, "to mitigate the trade damages sustained by our farmers."

He said President Trump has been standing up to China and other nations, "sending the clear message that the United States will no longer tolerate their unfair trade practices, which include non-tariff trade barriers and the theft of intellectual property. In short, the president has taken action to benefit all sectors of the American economy – including agriculture – in the long run."

"It's important to note all of this could go away tomorrow, if China and the other nations simply correct their behavior," Perdue said. "But in the meantime, the programs we are announcing ... buy time for the president to strike long-lasting trade deals to benefit our entire economy."



Photo by Sean Ellis

A field is prepared for planting in late May near Pingree. A list created by the Idaho State Department of Agriculture provides a look at how retaliatory tariffs on U.S. agricultural products could impact Idaho's farming sector.

Summary shows potential impact of tariffs on Idaho ag products

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

POCATELLO – The Idaho State Department of Agriculture has compiled a list of retaliatory tariffs on U.S. agricultural products that provides a look at how those tariffs could impact Idaho's farming sector.

The summary shows what the previous tariff for certain U.S. agricultural products was in Canada, Mexico, China and the European Union, and what the new tariff is.

It also shows how much of that product Idaho exported to that nation in 2017.

The retaliatory tariffs are increased tariffs those nations recently imposed on certain U.S. farm products due to trade disputes with the United States.

For example, the list shows that Idaho's dairy sector exported \$36 million worth of whey products to China last year. It also shows that as part of its trade war with the U.S., China has increased its tariff on U.S. whey products from 2 percent to 25 percent.

China also increased its tariff on U.S. peas from 0 to 25 percent. Idaho exported \$3.8 million worth of peas to China last year, according to ISDA data.

Due to the North American Free Trade Agreement, the U.S. enjoyed free trade with Canada and Mexico, the top two destinations for Idaho agricultural exports last year.

Canada recently placed a 10 percent tariff on a host of U.S. ag products, and Mexico has also placed tariffs ranging from 15-20 percent on a lot of U.S. farm products.

Idaho's dairy industry sold \$14 million worth of cheese in Mexico last year and Idaho's potato processing industry sold \$15 million worth of frozen potato products, mostly French fries, in that nation in 2017.

Mexico has imposed 20 percent tariffs on both of those products from the U.S.

It also imposed a 15 percent tariff on food preparations derived from dried milk, buttermilk or whey. According to

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Photo by Bill Schaefer

John Guthrie, Idaho Department of Fish and Game Landowner and Sportsman Coordinator for the Magic Valley region, attaches a polytape fencing to a perimeter fence in a grain field outside of Geneva. This is part of a two-year study to try to find ways to reduce crop depredation by elk in southern Idaho

Study hopes to reduce elk depredation of farm fields

By Bill Schaefer

For Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

An increase in the elk population across southern Idaho, combined with plentiful grain production, resulted in more than \$640,000 being paid out by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game to agricultural producers due to elk depredation of their crops in 2017.

According to information gathered by John Guthrie for his master's degree thesis, elk-related depredation payments during the past 24 years by IDFG bounced from a low of \$31,003 in 1994 to a high of \$646,425 in 2017.

The number of claims in 1994 was 13 and

the number of claims was 50 for 2017.

Guthrie is the landowner/sportsman coordinator for the IDFG's Magic Valley region and just started a two-year study this summer exploring four treatment options to try to alter elk behavior and thereby lower both crop depredation in southern Idaho and claims paid out by IDFG.

The results will be part of his thesis for a Master of Science degree in fish and wildlife sciences from the University of Idaho.

Elk numbers are doing pretty well in the majority of the state and populations have increase in many areas, said Toby Boudreau, IDFG assistant chief of wildlife.

Boudreau said the elk population was

down in the Clearwater and Panhandle areas of the state due to changing habitat but elsewhere the elk population is on the rise.

He attributed the increase in elk numbers to a policy directive by the IDFG director in 2014 to increase elk populations in the state. Boudreau said the director made it clear he wanted the department to double down in its efforts to increase elk and deer populations.

"We definitely created an opportunity to grow elk and as the biological advisors to the director's office we said that with increased elk there would be increased problems," Boudreau said. "I think (the director) was very honest about the fact that if

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DEPREDAATION

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Photo by Bill Schaefer

Ryan Luckadoo, Idaho Department of Fish and Game wildlife research technician, attaches a polytape fencing to a perimeter fence in a grain field outside of Geneva. This is part of a two-year study to try to find ways to reduce crop depredation by elk in southern Idaho.

we want more elk to be on the landscape than we're going to be willing to pay for them and the challenges that they will present.”

To meet the expanding depredation payments, the Idaho Legislature passed HB 230, the Depredation and Sportsman Access Programs fee, in 2017. It included hunting and fishing license fee surcharges of \$5 for residents and \$10 for non-residents that provide the IDFG with an additional \$1 million annually for depredation compensation and \$1 million annually for its sportsmen's access program.

“I think the reality is that there are more elk in the ag interface than there were 10 years ago and so elk are getting in trouble more than they did,” Boudreau said. “Corn is probably our biggest issue and one of the issues that John Guthrie's research is dealing with is

elk and corn.”

Boudreau said that elk have discovered that cornfields provide not only great cover but a ready source for both water and food.

Corn grown being grown at the scale it's being grown in Idaho and especially in the Magic Valley is a relatively new phenomenon, he said.

“Our dairy industry in southern Idaho has been growing by leaps and bounds over the last decade and their need for corn has grown with it,” Boudreau said. “Elk have figured out that corn is really the perfect field to be in because once the corn gets tall enough it's hiding cover. There is a ready source of water since corn is irrigated in southern Idaho and there's a source of food that they can live on, so it's really kind of the perfect storm for problems and I think John's research is all about trying to figure out

ways to mitigate those problems.”

Guthrie's two-year thesis project entails evaluating the effectiveness of the four deterrent treatments and data analysis of the success or failure of each treatment. Part of the project includes fitting GPS collars on 45 adult elk spread through 9-10 herds across the state and tracking the elk as they feed and migrate.

The radio collars record the elk's location every 20 minutes using iridium satellites, allowing Guthrie to directly track the elk from his laptop computer while out in the field.

“We are not trying to do any sort of population reduction,” Guthrie said while explaining the four treatment options in his study. “The idea is to scare elk out of crops and to put them into areas where they can be accessed by hunters, allowing us to maintain abundant and healthy elk populations we have in southern Idaho.”

Guthrie said the main time for crop depredation in southern Idaho is between July 15 and Sept. 15, though the herds will graze as long as they find accessible food. Guthrie said that as the grass dries up at higher elevations, the elk will descend in search of food. He said the ag industry calls it “surfing the green wave.”

He and two assistants have been traveling across the state, from Geneva, near the Idaho-Wyoming border, to the Magic Valley region and to the Weiser River and Brownlee area on the west side of Idaho

setting up their study areas.

The first deterrent is the lethal removal of targeted non-collared elk. Using a sharp-shooting tactic at night with the aid of a spotlight they will lethally remove a maximum of two elk per event with no lethal tactics the following night to observe the elk's response. Then after one non-shooting night they will lethally remove up to two more elk the next night.

“The idea behind that is to make the risk of being killed predictable in space or at a predictable location but unpredictable temporally or having an unpredictable nature of when it is going to happen,” Guthrie said. “They know where but not when.”

The three non-lethal deterrents are: using pasture-fence modification; nutrition-limiting repellents; aversive conditioning using dogs to haze bull elk out of cornfields.

For the pasture-fence modification, Guthrie and his assistants modified existing perimeter fencing around agricultural fields with PVC extensions to a height over six-feet and used polytape with conductive metal threads to transmit an electrical shock to any elk trying to enter the field.

The second treatment, nutrition-limiting repellent, sprays hydrolyzed casein, a bitter tasting protein, on a 10-meter wide buffer strip around the perimeter of the field in an effort to discourage elk foraging in the target field. The hydrolyzed casein was applied in two-week intervals.

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Images from a thermal-imaging camera show elk in and near a harvested wheat field near Geneva, Idaho. The images were taken Sept. 13 as part of a study on possible treatment options that could result in less elk depredation of farm crops.

The final treatment used livestock herding dogs to haze bull elk out of cornfields.

Guthrie just completed the first season of the treatments and now he begins analyzing the data to determine their efficacy. This could result in modifications, enhancements or elimination of the treatments.

Guthrie said it will take time to analyze the data but he did share initial assessments of the four treatments based on anecdotal observations.

The lethal removal seemed to be most effective when the first cow to step onto the field was removed.

“When we would kill elk, the first elk that stepped into the field, those elk would leave the area for good sometimes; they

induced a very strong aversion to that field,” Guthrie said.

Analysis of the hydrolyzed casein treatment will require a breakdown of the more than 5,000 GPS locations of the elk during the treatment period but Guthrie said that a preliminary view of the GPS mapping leads him to believe that the casein buffer was keeping elk out of the field.

Guthrie said the pasture fence modifications seemed to work best keeping elk herds numbering less than 100 out of the fields. However, at one site there was a herd of about 300 elk and eventually one of the elk would break through the polytape’s electrical charge opening the field to the rest of the herd.

The border collies brought in

to haze bull elk out of cornfields proved to be a bit of a disappointment according to Guthrie and he brought that treatment to an early end.

“Those border collies were primarily dependent on receiving directions from their handlers,” Guthrie said.

Conditions in the cornfield are extremely tight with visibility limited to about five feet.

“We were able, based on the radio collars, to go exactly to where those elk were and even in that setting the dogs were not able to get on to the elk and chase them out of the fields,” Guthrie said. “Basically, when we would get close to the elk they would just run a circle around us. They were very cagey in the cornfields.

“I spent seven days knowing

exactly where those elk were at in the cornfield, trying to get as close as I could to them, and not once did I ever see an elk in a cornfield,” he said.

Guthrie said another potential problem with chasing elk out of cornfields is the potential damage to the corn caused by the pursuit.

He hasn’t given up on a canine solution but he believes a dog that uses its nose for tracking and has an innate behavior to find animals, perhaps some breed of hound, would work best.

He has the winter months ahead to review the data, fine-tune the four treatments and begin preparations for the second season of trying to modify elk behavior.

Collegiate Farm Bureau tours Rathdrum Prairie agriculture

By Bob Smathers

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

The University of Idaho Collegiate Farm Bureau visited the Rathdrum Prairie Sept. 10 for the group's 2018 industry tour.

UI's Collegiate Farm Bureau brings together students from a variety of disciplines in the university's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences with the goal of developing them as potential future Farm Bureau leaders.

During a presentation at the Hayden Lake outlet on the geology and history of the Rathdrum Prairie, group members learned that the Rathdrum Prairie sits atop a glacial outwash which affects how it is farmed and the crops that are grown there.

During the early part of the last century, before pumping was an option, water was diverted out of several lakes lining the prairie and out of the Spokane River at the Post Falls Dam. Water was diverted many miles into the Spokane Valley of Eastern Washington where thousands of acres of row crops and orchards were irrigated.

Early on, ditches were dug for diversions, but because of the gravelly soil, most of the water was lost long before it reached the cropping regions of the Spokane Valley. As a result, private investors switched to wood and stave flumes. These flumes were not efficient as they lost significant amounts of water, but they were much more efficient than the unlined ditches.

Due to the cost of maintaining the flumes and their inefficiency, irrigation districts were eventually formed and the ditch diverting water from the Post Falls Dam was lined with concrete to get ample amounts of water to the Spokane Valley. This ditch was used until the 1970s, but eventually became obsolete when water pumped from the aquifer became an option.

Also, as time passed, minimum lake levels were established, so diverting water out of area lakes became more difficult. The Spokane Valley and the Rathdrum Prairie sets atop of



Photo by Bob Smathers

Members of the University of Idaho Collegiate Farm Bureau pose for a group photo Sept. 10 during an agricultural tour of the Rathdrum Prairie.

a 10-trillion-gallon aquifer that is one of the fastest moving aquifers in the United States.

During a tour of K&B Hay, owner Kyle Meyer gave a tour of his hay processing facility near Rathdrum. Meyer produces timothy and alfalfa hay and processes it for the horse hay market. He cuts and compresses 1,200-pound bales into small 50-pound square bales that are sold to horse boarding operations, feed stores and other horse owners.

Because of the ease of handling these small bales, they are popular among horse owners. His marketing radius is about 100 miles in every direction.

The students learned from Meyer and his uncle, Walt Meyer, what it is like to farm on the Rathdrum Prairie.

In years past, the cash crop on the prairie was Kentucky bluegrass, but with the burning restrictions that were placed on prairie farmers 15 years ago, that crop was lost, and area farmers had to adjust.

Those who could not adjust sold out to developers. "Now, the main crop on the prairie is residential housing," said Walt Meyer, who added that the number of crops that can be grown on

the prairie is limited because of the geology. "We are farming a gravel pit; you can wear out a set of plowshares by covering only 140 acres."

The prairie has shallow soils over rock and is suitable primarily for perennial crops that do not require much cultivation.

"This is why hay has become the crop of choice on what farm land is left," Walt Meyer said.

During lunch at Falls Park at the Post Falls Dam, group members observed the remnants of the old head gates and concrete irrigation ditches that once carried water from the Spokane River to the Spokane Valley.

They then toured the Buck Knives Co. plant near Post Falls.

They were treated to a steak dinner at the Rider Ranch east of Coeur d'Alene courtesy of the Kootenai-Shoshone Farm Bureau. Owner Linda Rider talked about the history of the working ranch and its many enterprises, including ranch outings, horseback rides, hay rides, weddings and other group gatherings.

"This is also a working ranch where we produce cattle, hay and harvest timber for local mills," Rider said.



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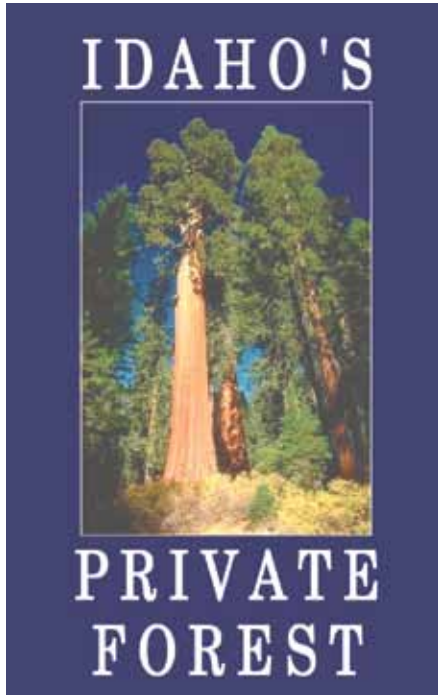


Photo by ChristianSW, Wikimedia

Picking huckleberries is a recreational activity that involves a “taking.”

Permission to recreate please

By Yvonne C. Barkley

University of Idaho

Fall has arrived and a lot of us are spending these last days of fine weather outside doing what we love to do most – recreate. Idahoans have long held with the belief that as long as folks do not vandalize a property they are welcome to recreate there. But private land in Idaho is, well, private.

There’s a new law in town.

Idaho’s trespass law changed July 1. The law specifies that “No person shall enter or remain on private land to shoot any weapon or hunt, fish, trap or retrieve game without written permission or other lawful permission.”

A person should know land is private, and that they are not allowed access without permission, if:

- The property is associated with a residence or business;
- Or cultivated;
- Or fenced or enclosed in a way that delineates the private property;

• Or unfenced and uncultivated but is conspicuously posted with “no trespassing” signs or bright orange, fluorescent paint at all property corners and boundaries where the property intersects public lands, navigable streams, roads, gates and rights-of-way entering the land.

To read the full law, go to: <https://idfg.idaho.gov/2018-trespass-law>

Private landowners include individuals who own small to very large parcels as well as industrial landowners such as PotlatchDeltic Corporation and Bennett Lumber Products, to name a few. Getting permission to access private land is your responsibility.

For small private landowners, such as Joe Smith or Jane Farmer, the easiest way to get permission is to find the house, knock on the door and ask. Written permission is always best and should include: the date; name(s) permission is given to; dates permission is valid for; a general description of the parcel; the landowner’s name; and the landowner’s or agent’s signature.

For large industrial private landowners, the

easiest way to get information about recreating on their land is to read their websites. PotlatchDeltic Corporation, for example, offers recreational opportunities through an online licensing program that grants licensee rights. For those interested in licensing land, go to their website at: <https://rllms.potlatchcorp.com/HomePage.aspx>

Another good example is Bennett Lumber Products, which allows recreation on almost all of its 70,000 acres of forestland. To recreate on Bennett property in Idaho, you must visit their office to get a free Sportsman’s Courtesy Card. For more information, go to: <https://blpi.com/index.php/forest-resources/recreation/>

If you do not know who owns the land you are interested in accessing, contact the local county assessor’s office for ownership information.

What is, and is not, allowed depends on who owns the land.

There are two types of outdoor recreation – those types that involve a “taking” (hunting, fishing, picking berries, cutting firewood and Christmas trees, foraging



Photo by Miguel Vieira, Wikimedia

Hiking is a recreational activity that does not involve a “taking.”

for mushrooms, etc.) and those that do not (hiking, biking, camping, rafting, etc.).

There are a few across-the-board rules. No matter who owns the land or water, the state of Idaho requires you to have the following permits:

Hunting – You need a hunting license and, depending on the species you want to hunt, you may need an additional tag or permit.

Firearms are allowed on all federal and state lands for personal protection. Idaho state gun and weapons laws are enforceable. Learn more at: <https://www.nps.gov/gca/learn/management/upload/Firearms-in-IMRparcs2-2010.pdf>

Fishing - Any person 14 years of age or older must have a valid fishing license to fish anywhere in Idaho. Anglers younger than 14 do not need a license, but there are

differences between resident and nonresident youth regulations. Contact Idaho Fish and Game for the particulars.

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 makes it “illegal for anyone to take, possess, import, export, transport, sell, purchase, barter, or offer for sale, purchase, or barter, any migratory bird, or the parts, nests, or eggs of such a bird except under the terms of a valid permit issued pursuant to federal regulations.” To learn more, go to: <https://www.fws.gov/birds/policies-and-regulations/laws-legislations/migratory-bird-treaty-act.php>

State lands

The Idaho Department of Lands – <https://www.idl.idaho.gov/> – allows recreational access to most endowment lands as long as activities do not degrade land, interfere

with management activities or otherwise negatively affect the long-term financial return to endowment beneficiaries. IDL firewood permits are available for non-commercial purposes and are \$5 per cord with a four-cord minimum.

For a map of IDL Endowment Lands Accessible for Recreation (PDF), go to: <https://www.idl.idaho.gov/maps-land-records/0-endowment-lands-access.pdf>

For information about firewood permits, go to: <https://www.idl.idaho.gov/forestry/firewood-permits/index.html>

Idaho Parks and Recreation

Idaho Parks and Recreation – <https://park-and-recreation.idaho.gov/> – manages our

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UI FORESTRY

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state parks and the registration programs for boats, snowmobiles and other off-highway vehicles. Except for a few exceptions, such as an archery deer season at Farragut State Park and duck hunting at Heyburn State Park, Idaho state parks are primarily for non-taking outdoor experiences.

To access state park lands, Idahoans may purchase an annual Idaho State Parks Passport for \$10 when they register motorhomes or passenger vehicles, online, by mail-in renewal or at any county DMV office.

Idaho educational institutions

In general, land owned by the University of Idaho, Boise State University and other state colleges and universities are not open to the public for recreational activities. Feel free to stop by and say “Hi,” but know that the main function of our state educational institutions is teaching and research, not recreation.

A known exception to this rule is the UI Experimental Forest in Latah County. The UIEF provides a forest classroom for students to work and learn in while also offering numerous recreational opportunities. No motorized recreational access is permitted on the UIEF. Hunting is permitted on a limited basis, with the Flat Creek cabin continuing to be a popular hunting destination. Hunters must park at locked gates and walk in. No target shooting is permitted on any UIEF units and all hunting on the UIEF requires a no-cost permit.

For where to get a permit, go to: <https://www.uidaho.edu/cnr/research/fur-programs/ui-experimental-forest>

To check on availability of the Flat Creek Cabin, email Rob Keefe at robk@uidaho.edu

Federal Land

Idaho has vast amounts of federal land. There are two good websites to go to learn more about recreation on these public lands:



Photo by Tperkins2, Wikimedia

Eagle feathers, as well as all feathers from migratory birds, cannot be legally collected regardless of where you find them.

Public Lands Foundation at: <https://publicland.org/links/public-lands-interactive-maps-information/>

Recreation.gov at: <https://www.recreation.gov/>

U.S. Department of the Interior bureaus and offices include the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Hunting. Many of our most famous national parks do not allow hunting, but 76 areas managed by the National Park Service, as well as hundreds of sites and thousands of acres of DOI public lands, allow hunting in accordance with federal and state regulations and laws.

All hunters on public lands must have the required state license(s).

If you hunt migratory waterfowl and you are 16 years of age or older, you need to purchase and carry a current Duck Stamp or E-Stamp.

To learn more about hunting on DOI lands, go to: <https://www.doi.gov/blog/everything-you-need-know-about-hunting-public-lands>

Forest and wood products permits. Special forest products are plant materials like seeds, berries, greenery, mushrooms,

seedlings, fence posts and poles, firewood and Christmas trees. Visitors can harvest these products in reasonable amounts for personal use without a permit; harvesting more than small amounts requires a permit and, in some cases, may require a contract. Please contact your nearest BLM Idaho office – <https://www.blm.gov/idaho> – for more information on forest products and permits.

USDA Forest Service

Some national forests or grasslands require a recreation fee and/or pass, depending on where they are and what you want to do. For detailed information on recreation fees and passes go to: <https://www.fs.fed.us/visit/passes-permits/recreation-fees-passes>

Firewood permits. Permits are \$6.25 per cord with a four-cord minimum and a 10-cord maximum per household. Permits are available at Forest Service Ranger District offices and private vendors throughout Idaho.

We are fortunate to have access to the magnificent forests and grasslands of Idaho for our recreational pursuits. Remember, common courtesy applies to all, no matter who owns the land. Take only pictures. Make only memories. And leave only footprints.

2018-19 Idaho FFA Foundation Tractor Raffle Underway



Win this Beautifully Restored **1974 John Deere Model 1530**

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2nd Prize—Traeger Grill
3rd Prize—\$250 D&B Gift Card

Proceeds benefit Idaho FFA Members through post-secondary education scholarships and support of Idaho FFA programs statewide through the Idaho FFA Foundation. **\$129,000** in scholarships has been awarded to date and another \$16,000 in scholarships will be awarded in April 2019.

In addition, the local FFA chapters designated on the winning tickets will receive a portion of the total ticket proceeds.

Tickets may be purchased from your local FFA chapter or the Idaho FFA Foundation. **The drawing will be on April 5, 2019 at the Idaho State FFA Leadership Conference in Twin Falls. Need not be present to win.**

This restored tractor includes a loader and a rear blade.

Contact your local Idaho FFA Chapter for Tractor Raffle tickets, or call Idaho FFA Foundation Tractor Raffle Chairman Sid Freeman at 208-941-3584. For more information about the Tractor Raffle, visit: www.idffafoundation.org

2018 Tractor Raffle Scholarships Winners—\$22,000 Total

\$2,000 Agricultural Education Scholarships:

Ashton Shaul, Meridian FFA Chapter
Eliette Wolcik, Nampa FFA Chapter

\$1,000 Scholarships:

Lauren Allmaras, New Plymouth FFA Chapter
Kyle Atkinson, Preston FFA Chapter
Shelbie Burlile, Emmett FFA Chapter
Lauren Hillam, Fruitland FFA Chapter
Harrison Jansen van Beek, Middleton
Leann Johnston, Rigby FFA Chapter

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For a full list of Tractor Raffle sponsors and more information about the Tractor Raffle program, please visit: www.idffafoundation.org

A ticket order form is available on the website.



FFA—Premier Leadership, Personal Growth and Career Success through Agricultural Education

Jedry takes over as Idaho FFA Foundation executive director

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

MERIDIAN – The new executive director of the Idaho FFA Foundation brings with her a wide variety of connections with businesses and industry throughout the state.

She hopes to parlay those connections into greater support for the state's FFA programs from ag-related businesses that have not partnered with the group in the past.

“I feel there are some organizations noticeably missing from the table,” said Marcia Jedry, who took over as director of the foundation in June. “They should be supporting the FFA students because they are the next generation of our ag industry leaders.”

“It is important for me to continue to cultivate relationships with current supporters as well as to look at new opportunities to engage other agricultural related organizations as we have such a diverse range of ag-related industry in our state,” she said.

Jedry formerly worked as director of finance and marketing for the Idaho Association of Commerce & Industry and made connections with a lot of different businesses and industries in Idaho during that time.

“She has a strong connection with the Idaho business community, particularly the natural resources and forest products industries,” said Stephen Parrott, chairman of the Idaho FFA Foundation board of directors. “Marcia is going to be able to do a great job connecting us with those industries.”

Jedry took over as foundation director after the former director, Laura Wilder, became administrator of the Idaho Barley



Submitted photo

Marcia Jedry, right, recently took over as executive director of the Idaho FFA Foundation, which is the financial arm of the Idaho FFA Association. The foundation's former director, Laura Wilder, left, is now administrator of the Idaho Barley Commission.

Commission.

Wilder said she is “excited to have Marcia Jedry take over from me at the foundation moving forward. She is passionate about providing student opportunities and has great connections throughout Idaho business and industry. She will be a great asset to growing the foundation and Idaho FFA in the years ahead.”

While she will pursue partnerships with

businesses that have not partnered with FFA in the past, Jedry said she is also mindful of the ones that have supported the group for years.

“We are fortunate in Idaho to have so many companies in the agricultural sectors; some have been the backbone of our state for the past 100 years,” Jedry said. “They are the innovators and inspiration to the ag ed community. We appreciate

‘Our mission and vision are the same: to further ag education in our state, making sure there’s a viable future in that industry’

the support these organizations have given to the FFA Foundation to help us with our mission of providing valuable tools and resources for student career success in agricultural education.”

Businesses that support the foundation, she said, “are investing in the future of agriculture through today’s students, who will be tomorrow’s agriculture industry leaders.”

Wilder served as Idaho FFA Foundation executive director for 10 years and during her tenure there, FFA membership hit record numbers.

“We were very fortunate to have Laura Wilder in that position for as long as we did,” Parrott said. “Her connections and expertise in FFA is amazing. We wouldn’t be where we are today without Laura.” That said, he added, the board is excited about the energy and different perspective that Jedry brings with her.

“She brings energy and a different perspective that is kind of refreshing to the foundation,” he said. “FFA has had an exciting past few years. It’s exciting to be able to continue that with Marcia.”

The Idaho FFA Foundation is the financial arm to the Idaho FFA Association and the two groups work closely together and have aligning strategic

plans.

“Our mission and vision are the same: to further ag education in our state, making sure there’s a viable future in that industry,” Jedry said.

Idaho FFA Association Executive Director Clara-Leigh Evans said the Idaho FFA Foundation “is vital to the continued growth and success of over 5,100 FFA members in Idaho. From scholarships to support for members to travel to compete in national FFA career development events ... to supplying FFA jackets to help members in need, the foundation supports the FFA mission of making a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.”

Jedry said it’s important for her to work for a cause she believes is important and she became convinced the Idaho FFA Foundation position was a good fit for her during an FFA career development event put on by University of Idaho.

The event included 28 different career development competitions, including in forestry, food sciences, plant sciences and livestock judging.

“I was able to witness several of those competitions and it

really ... solidified my decision to come on as the executive director,” Jedry said. “It really energized me and made me think, I can get behind this and promote it.”

Jedry, who has a degree in business administration with a concentration in finance from the University of Delaware, did not grow up in Idaho or around farming. However, she has been here since college and has a deep appreciation for how important farming is to the state’s economy.

Jedry said one of her goals is to better connect ag instructors with the business community and she would also like to create an online repository where ag teachers could easily find business leaders willing

to speak in the classroom or host tours.

“One of the things that is important to me is to continuously look to business and industry for what new innovations and technology are coming down the pipeline,” she said. “How we can stay in step with that and make sure our students are learning what they need to come out into the workforce prepared for success.”

Evans said Idaho FFA “is excited to see Marcia Jedry ... continuing the legacy of the foundation’s forward momentum in building and growing opportunities for growing leaders, building communities and strengthening agriculture.”

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Be ready to adjust to changing markets

By Clark Johnston

One of the things I really like about marketing and the markets is that they are always changing; therefore, the way we market is an ever-changing process. We need to be ready and willing to adjust our plan as we experience these changes.

This isn't necessarily just changes in the world market or the futures markets but could and should include changes we see in the local market as well.

One example is that just a few years ago most of the cattle feedlots in southeast Idaho were feeding a large amount of corn in their ration. Today, we see very little if any corn being fed in the ration and wheat has taken charge of the feed demand.

The flour mills that had red spring wheat in their flour blend have now reduced the amount of red spring wheat in that blend. Bakers were not willing to pay the high cost of having red spring in their flour in recent years and found other means of producing a very good loaf of bread using other classes of wheat.

Hard white wheat has replaced not only some of the red spring needed but also some of the hard red winter in the flour blend. Even though there has been some progress in developing a fall planted hard white, the spring planted varieties are still the most sought after.

What we are saying is that when deciding just what to produce we should always be looking at marketing and the opportunities we have in our specific area.

Another important area of consideration is the futures markets. Do we see large carry charges into the deferred month and do these carry charges allow us the opportunity to forward contract at good levels that enable us to make a profit on this specific commodity?

For example, this past year we saw producers planting red spring wheat because of the higher price being paid for red spring over the other classes of wheat. This was a good decision as long as the producers had at least part of their production contracted or hedged at the higher prices.

Those that didn't are now finding the market for red spring wheat thin and the bid not much better than the bid for hard white. At this time, we aren't seeing much of a market for 14 plus protein into the flour mills. There seems to be a slightly better market for 13 protein wheat.

Up until just a few short weeks ago we still were experiencing large carry charges in the wheat market. In fact, just this past spring we had not only a carry in the Chicago wheat market into harvest of 2019 but well into the spring of 2020. Now things have changed and the carry isn't as large as it was then, but we still have a carry into harvest of 2019.

This is telling us that even though we still have a carry for this year we have cut the amount of carryover stocks of wheat giving us a little more opportunity to see higher prices for our wheat. We did see the wheat market trend lower in September but it did strengthen some in the latter part of



Clark Johnston

the month.

Historically we will see the market weaken as we move from the first week in October into Thanksgiving. If you still have wheat to contract, you should take a good hard look at just where the local bid is during the first half of October. This time frame could very well give you your chance to contract at a good price. After this time frame the market could become volatile but in order for it to move higher and stay we would need fresh bullish news that we don't see at this time.

Also, don't forget about the local basis. In most areas the basis will peak in the next 30 to 45 days. Let us help you get ahead of the game.

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Clark Johnston is a grain marketing specialist and owner of JC Management Co. of Ogden, Utah. He can be reached at clark@jcmanagement.net

FRUIT

Continued from page 8

take,” he said.

A lot of varieties turn out to be garbage, he said, “and we do that research because we don’t want growers to have to test for themselves.”

Chad Henggeler, field manager for Henggeler Packing Co. in Fruitland, one of Idaho’s largest fruit companies, said Fallahi’s research is helpful to growers because it enables them to not waste time and money on varieties that don’t perform well under Idaho’s growing conditions.

“It basically keeps us from going out and making a big costly mistake,” he said.

“It takes a lot of capital and investment to put in an orchard,”

said Williamson Orchards and Vineyards Manager Michael Williamson. “So the research done there saves us some of the expense and risk.”

The Parma station’s orchard trial is also researching several alternative fruits and nuts to see if they can be grown economically in Idaho. Those include walnuts, almonds, quince, Asian pears, jujube and haskap.

Fallahi said he first listens to the needs of the public and commercial growers and then designs his research projects to address those issues.

Fallahi is always innovating “to try to bring in new varieties or new crops and he’s also

‘The quality of fruit grown in Idaho is superb, Idaho fruit is demanded by name in many countries.’

looking at how best to raise them in Idaho’s climate,” McGuire said. “The work done here is really a benefit to Idaho agriculture.”

While fruit is not one of Idaho’s main farm commodities in terms of total farm-gate revenue, it does generate tens of millions of dollars of farm cash receipts each year and the industry is particularly important in some parts of southwestern Idaho.

According to USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service, Idaho growers produced 54 million pounds of apples this year and 6 million pounds of peaches.

According to the Idaho Wine Commission, the state’s wine industry has an economic impact to the state of \$169 million annually.

Idaho fruit is shipped to 52 countries.

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Tamra Turner (at right) with her Farm Bureau Insurance agent, Lisa Bothof.

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Idaho Farm Bureau 'Friend of Agriculture' recipients

Every two years, Idaho Farm Bureau Federation reviews the votes on selected bills that are important to our membership to determine which legislators will receive the prestigious IFBF "Friend of Agriculture" award. This year, 14 senators and 44 representatives received the coveted award for voting with Farm Bureau more than 94 percent of the time.

A total of 19 bills were used for our legislative scorecard during the 2017 and 2018 sessions. Bill subjects included property rights, taxes, stock water, dyed fuel, deprecation, produce safety, crop residue burning and other important issues.

"We sincerely appreciate those legislators who take the time to learn about the issues and make informed decisions, especially when it concerns agriculture," said Bryan Searle, president of Idaho Farm Bureau Federation. "We express our gratitude to each of these legislators for their outstanding support of Idaho agriculture and Idaho Farm Bureau policies."

Please show your support for these "Friends of Agriculture" as you vote in November.

The names and photos of award recipients who are not running for re-election are not included below.

DISTRICT 1 (BOUNDARY, BONNER COUNTIES)



HOUSE SEAT A —
HEATHER SCOTT, BLANCHARD



HOUSE SEAT B —
SAGE DIXON, PONDERAY

DISTRICT 2 (KOOTENAI COUNTY)



SENATE —
STEVE VICK, DALTON GARDENS



HOUSE SEAT A —
VITO BARBIERI, DALTON GARDENS

DISTRICT 3 (KOOTENAI COUNTY)



HOUSE SEAT A —
RON MENDIVE, COEUR D'ALENE



HOUSE SEAT B —
DON CHEATHAM, POST FALLS

DISTRICT 4 (KOOTENAI COUNTY)



SENATE —
MARY SOUZA, COEUR D'ALENE



HOUSE SEAT B —
PAUL AMADOR, COEUR D'ALENE

DISTRICT 5 (BENEWAH AND LATAH COUNTIES)



HOUSE SEAT B —
CAROLINE NILSSON TROY, GENESEE

DISTRICT 6 (LEWIS AND NEZ PERCE COUNTIES)



HOUSE SEAT A —
THYRA STEVENSON, NEZPERCE



HOUSE SEAT B —
MIKE KINGSLEY, LEWISTON

DISTRICT 7 (BONNER, CLEARWATER, IDAHO, SHOSHONE COUNTIES)



SENATE —
CARL CRABTREE, GRANGEVILLE



HOUSE SEAT B —
PAUL SHEPHERD, RIGGINS

DISTRICT 8 (BOISE, CUSTER, GEM, LEMHI, VALLEY COUNTIES)



SENATE —
STEVEN THAYN, EMMETT



HOUSE SEAT A —
TERRY F. GESTRIN, DONNELLY



HOUSE SEAT B —
DOROTHY MOON, STANLEY

DISTRICT 9 (ADAMS, CANYON, PAYETTE, WASHINGTON COUNTIES)



HOUSE SEAT A —
RYAN KERBY, NEW PLYMOUTH



HOUSE SEAT B —
JUDY BOYLE, MIDVALE

DISTRICT 10 (CANYON COUNTY)



SENATE —
JIM RICE, CALDWELL



HOUSE SEAT B —
GREG CHANEY, CALDWELL

DISTRICT 11 (CANYON COUNTY)



HOUSE SEAT A —
SCOTT SYME, CALDWELL

DISTRICT 12
(CANYON COUNTY)



HOUSE SEAT A —
ROBERT ANDERST, NAMPA



HOUSE SEAT B —
RICK YOUNGBLOOD, NAMPA

DISTRICT 13
(CANYON COUNTY)



SENATE —
JEFF AGENBROAD, NAMPA



HOUSE SEAT A —
BRENT CRANE, NAMPA



HOUSE SEAT B —
GARY COLLINS, NAMPA

DISTRICT 14
(ADA COUNTY)



HOUSE SEAT A —
MIKE MOYLE, STAR

DISTRICT 15
(ADA COUNTY)



HOUSE SEAT B —
PATRICK McDONALD, BOISE

DISTRICT 20
(ADA COUNTY)



HOUSE SEAT A —
JOE PALMER, MERIDIAN



HOUSE SEAT B —
JAMES HOLTZCLAW, MERIDIAN

DISTRICT 21
(ADA COUNTY)



SENATE —
CLIFFORD R. BAYER, MERIDIAN



HOUSE SEAT B —
THOMAS E. DAYLEY, BOISE

DISTRICT 22
(ADA COUNTY)



SENATE —
LORI DEN HARTOG, MERIDIAN



HOUSE SEAT A —
JOHN VANDER WOUDE, NAMPA



HOUSE SEAT B —
JASON MONKS, NAMPA

DISTRICT 23
(OWYHEE, ELMORE, TWIN FALLS
COUNTIES)



HOUSE SEAT A —
CHRISTY ZITO, HAMMETT



HOUSE SEAT B —
MEGAN BLANKSMA, HAMMETT

DISTRICT 26
(BLAINE, CAMAS, GOODING,
LINCOLN COUNTIES)



HOUSE SEAT A —
STEVE MILLER, FAIRFIELD

DISTRICT 27
(MINIDOKA AND CASSIA COUNTIES)



HOUSE SEAT A —
SCOTT BEDKE, OAKLEY

DISTRICT 28
(BANNOCK AND POWER
COUNTIES)



SENATE —
JIM GUTHRIE, INKOM

DISTRICT 30
(BONNEVILLE COUNTY)



SENATE —
DEAN MORTIMER, IDAHO FALLS



HOUSE SEAT B —
WENDY HORMAN, IDAHO FALLS

DISTRICT 31
(BINGHAM COUNTY)



SENATE —
STEVEN BAIR, BLACKFOOT



HOUSE SEAT A —
NEIL A. ANDERSON, BLACKFOOT

DISTRICT 32
(CARIBOU, FRANKLIN, BEAR LAKE
COUNTIES)



SENATE —
MARK HARRIS, SODA SPRINGS

DISTRICT 33
(BONNEVILLE COUNTY)



HOUSE SEAT A —
BARBARA EHARDT, IDAHO FALLS



HOUSE SEAT B —
BRYAN ZOLLINGER, IDAHO FALLS

DISTRICT 35
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TARIFFS

Continued from page 12

ISDA, Idaho sold \$2.4 million worth of those dairy products in Mexico last year.

According to ISDA, the European Union has imposed a 25 percent tariff on U.S. kidney beans, up from 0 percent. Idaho exported \$8 million worth of kidney beans to EU nations last year.

In terms of Idaho's overall production of those farm products, the amounts exported to those nations is small, said University of Idaho Agricultural Economist Garth Taylor.

For example, he said, while Idaho shipped \$15 million worth of frozen potato products to Mexico last year, Idaho's potato farmers fetched an estimated \$955 million for their spuds last year and Idaho potato processors produce billions of dollars' worth of frozen potato products each year.

And while Idaho's dairy industry exported \$36 million worth of whey products to China last year, dairy is a multi-billion-dollar industry in Idaho and the state's dairy farmers fetched \$2.5 billion in farm-gate receipts in 2017.

"In terms of our total production, this is a drop in the bucket," Taylor said. "It's a very small segment of our overall market."

The bigger concern, he said, is the indirect impact the tariffs could have on Idaho farm products. For example, while Idaho may not ship a lot of certain farm products to these nations, the tariffs could make prices for those U.S. products more

expensive and cause companies in those nations to look elsewhere.

That could result in depressed U.S. prices for those commodities and, "if it depresses prices, that is going to be felt in Idaho," Taylor said.

A good example would be apples, said Laura Johnson, who manages ISDA's marketing division. Idaho doesn't ship apples to those nations but Washington, the nation's No. 1 apple producing state, does.

"If Washington ships fewer apples as a result of the tariffs, that will have a ripple effect that could impact Idaho's apple growers," she said.

The reason is simple: fewer U.S. apple exports means more of those apples remain in the United States, depressing apple prices.

Leaders of Idaho's dairy and potato industries said they are hopeful the trade negotiations the U.S. is having with these nations as a result of the tariffs could result in the elimination of unfair trade practices that hurt U.S. growers.

But they also said there is significant concern about the potential impact the tariffs could have on their commodity.

"This is an opportunity to raise awareness of some of those unfair trading practices in other countries," said Idaho Dairywomen's Association Executive Director Rick Naerebout. "This administration is listening to that concern and we're appreciative of that. We just think there was a better way to do

that than being aggressive with tariffs."

He said IDA has heard from some Idaho dairy companies that, in order to maintain market share, they have had to discount their product in those nations to offset the impact of the tariffs.

The impact the tariffs are having on Idaho's potato industry can't be known yet, "But I know it's not helping," said Idaho Potato Commission CEO Frank Muir, who pointed out the tariffs are on frozen potato products, not fresh potatoes.

As an example of the potential impact, he said, "Any time you put tariffs on U.S. potato prod-

ucts and not on European potatoes,

European pricing becomes much more competitive to customers who would normally be sourcing from the U.S."

Muir said he hopes the trade negotiations result in a resolution of some of the unfair trade issues the U.S. potato industry has tried to address for many years because "if the U.S. is given a level playing field, we compete very well."

But so far, he added, the tariffs are only creating challenges for the potato industry.

"We would hope the administration works quickly to resolve these tariff issues," he said.

This Month's Top Farm Bureau Agents



Agent of the Month
Mike Asker
Idaho County



Rookie of the Month
Joseph Richards
Kootenai County



Region of the Month
North Idaho Region
Ben Rae, Regional Executive



Photo by Jake Putnam

Blaine-Camas County Farm Bureau President Sidnee Hill is pictured with BCCFB Vice President Clayton Mecham, center, and Idaho Farm Bureau Federation field man Zack Lanier, at the Picabo Livestock Co. ranch in September.

Q and A with newest county Farm Bureau president, VP

By Jake Putnam

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

PICABO —The newly formed Blaine-Camas County Farm Bureau held an informal September meeting behind Picabo Livestock Co. owner Nick Purdy's store.

Instead of in a boardroom, the meeting was held on Purdy's airstrip. Attending were 150 head of Purdy cattle who paid little attention because they were grazing on lush pastureland.

Blaine-Camas County Farm Bureau, like other county Farm Bureaus, is busy with

policy development, recruiting members and preparing for the upcoming annual meeting in December. Idaho Farm Bureau field man Zack Lanier says there's excitement about the new grassroots organization, even though they don't have a building to hold meetings in.

"It's fun to go in and reorganize a county," he said. "There are dedicated people and they want their voices heard. Agriculture, running cows, farming, this is what they enjoy, this is their life and passion."

BCCFB President Sidnee Hill and her husband are ranchers and lease 150 head

of cattle, with 50 of their own. They lease land outside of Carey. They started four years ago and they're slowly building their operation.

Farm Bureau: You're Idaho Farm Bureau's newest county president, how does it feel?

Hill: It's a lot of weight on my shoulders. I worry a lot about leading effectively, especially such a small and new group. I want to make sure we get a good foundation started so we can continue through

the generations. Hopefully, I'll be able to do that, but I got a great group behind me. Having a good board and the people behind me that we can trust makes my job easier.

Farm Bureau: What are the needs in Blaine-Camas counties?

Hill: One of our biggest needs is to create relationships, relationships with citizens, especially with politicians and media on the county and state level. It's very important that we start to promote agriculturists that are here because we are a smaller, silent minority here in the county and we need to create those good relationships so we can have a voice to promote ourselves.

Farm Bureau: You still don't have a building, what are your hopes and dreams in those regards?

Hill: We're just getting started and right now my hopes and dreams lay mostly in the quality and the people I'm here to serve and have around me. Right now, we are just barely toddling around and if we continue to progress forward I'd be thrilled. If a building comes along that would be great. For us right now we meet at board member homes and that's fine because we're just getting started and it gives us an opportunity to bond more. We will just have to see what the future brings.

Farm Bureau: How do you pitch the Farm Bureau to fellow farmers and ranchers?

Hill: Most of the time those pitches are just conversations. A lot of farmers and ranchers here in Blaine County are starting to become really curious and interested in what Farm Bureau is all about. A lot of people here have a good understanding of Farm Bureau, what it can do and what it is and they get even more interested. They hear my name, and the board members' names connected with Farm Bureau and that sparks their interest, but really, they're one-on-one conversations. Focusing on what they want, what they fear and the problems they have. From that premise, I am able to tell them what Farm Bureau can do.

We have a lot of young people that want to

get into agriculture and I talk to them about Young Farmers and Ranchers. We have a lot of established ranchers that are leasing from absentee ranchers. I talk to them about protections Farm Bureau can provide via our policy book and an organized group backing them. It's all very personal and they come out with a very positive outlook and from there it's word of mouth. It's all about one-on-one relationships and we've started the ball rolling and we are getting people interested in Farm Bureau and slowly getting them involved.

Farm Bureau: This county has a proud ranching tradition, but ag is often forgotten in the northern part of Blaine County. Your thoughts?

Hill: Yes, we're often overlooked. But I don't think they forget, I think there's just a lack of education of what production agriculture actually is. We have many who think they are agriculturists, they are promoting agriculture through farmers markets and producing locally. Those things are very good, but people don't understand that production agriculture is much larger than what they have in the community.

They stay in Hailey, Ketchum, and Bellevue and those communities are wonderful but we hope to encourage them to drive outside the city limits and look around a bit. See the cattle on the hills, farmers in the field and realize that agriculture is vast and it's beautiful in many ways than just locally produced food. We hope that we will have the opportunity to teach more with tools like ag in the classroom with the trailer. We want to create a base of support through fairs, local media, and newspapers sources to teach people what agriculture really is out in the county, because of its large scale.

Also attending the impromptu meeting at the Picabo Livestock Co. property was Blaine-Camas County Farm Bureau Vice President Clayton Mecham. The Mechams run 150 head of cattle on a ranch in Carey. He's working on spreading the word about Farm Bureau in the ranching community.

Farm Bureau: What kind of job was it getting Farm Bureau up and running in these two counties?

Mecham: It was a little bit of a challenge. We have worked on this project for more than three years. It just took a lot of the old-timers to pitch in and get them together, meeting with new members and forming a board. It was a lot of work but we got it done.

Farm Bureau: What's attractive about the Farm Bureau?

Mecham: I think the biggest thing is the area we live in; we live in a very politically diverse area. I think a lot of ranchers agree that we need to have a bigger voice so we can get things done on the county level and the support to complete those projects. Farm Bureau can help us fight the political battles that need to be fought in the valley. With Farm Bureau, we can have a level playing field once again.

Farm Bureau: You still have logistical problems – no place to work – how is it working out?

Mecham: We either get together at the Carey City Center or we'll meet at board members' homes, just depending on our agenda and how many board members are attending. So it's a matter of organization and follow-through because of our challenges and so far we're meeting them.

Farm Bureau: Blaine County is known for amazing skiing and one of the best resorts in the nation, not its world-class ranching and agriculture. What's the blessing and frustration with that?

Mecham: The biggest frustration is having a voice, fair representation for our part of the county. At times we're forgotten by the commissioners. We're also predominately red in the south and blue in the north, so we've always been under-represented. I think Farm Bureau will give us a bigger voice in the county. There will always be problems but I think getting a county Farm Bureau up and running will be good for all of Camas and Blaine county.



Photo by Chris Sheetz

Kids participate in a potato chip eating contest Sept. 15 during the city of Shelley's annual "Idaho Spud Day" celebration.

Thousands attend 'Idaho Spud Day' celebration in Shelley

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

SHELLEY — Thousands of people descended on the small town of Shelley in Eastern Idaho Sept. 15 to celebrate Idaho's most famous crop.

Shelley's annual "Idaho Spud Day" celebration attracts about 15,000 people each year with one goal in mind: to honor the Russet potato, the state's most famous product.

Idaho is the national leader in potato production and a good chunk of the 13 billion pounds of spuds produced each year by Idaho farmers are grown in the Shelley area.

"The Russet potato is what Shelley and Idaho are known for," said event co-organizer Chris Sheetz.

Idaho Potato Commission

President and CEO Frank Muir said the commission is a big supporter of the event and the IPC's big Idaho potato truck has made several appearances there, as has Spuddy Buddy, the potato commission's mascot.

The day-long celebration includes several potato-themed activities such as potato sack races and a timed potato picking contest where participants try to put as many potatoes in a burlap sack as possible.

"It's a fun way to remind people of the heritage of Idaho potatoes and what they mean to the state, particularly East Idaho," Muir said. "We're a very big supporter of this effort."

Shelley (population 4,400) is located in the heart of Idaho potato country and the nickname of the city's high school sports teams is the "Russets"

and the junior high school's sports teams are known as the "Spudniks."

The Spud Day celebration, which is sponsored by the city and local Kiwanis club, is a way for local residents to salute the Russet potato, which underpins the local economy, Sheetz said.

The event also attracts a lot of former Shelley area residents who obviously have fond memories and feelings for the state's most famous crop, said Idaho Farm Bureau Federation President Bryan Searle, a Shelley potato farmer.

"It shows the Russet is still deep in their blood and it's kind of awesome to see that," he said.

The celebration includes a parade with dozens of entrants and a plethora of activities, many centered around the po-

tato, including potato chip eating and spud picking contests and a tug-of-war event that results in the losing team being pulled into a giant pit of mashed potatoes.

The annual celebration began in 1927 and over the years, it has attracted national attention.

"Good Morning America" covered the event in 1990 and the 1991 Spud Day was covered in National Geographic Travel Magazine, New York Times and Better Homes and Gardens.

In 1993, ESPN showed live footage of the tug-of-war contest.

During a spud peeling contest in 1991, participants peeled 694.6 pounds of potatoes in 45 minutes, which bested the world record and earned them a spot in the Guinness Book of World Records.



Kids participate in a timed potato picking contest Sept. 15 during the city of Shelley's annual "Idaho Spud Day" celebration.

Photo by Sean Ellis



Kids participate in a timed potato picking contest Sept. 15 during the city of Shelley's annual "Idaho Spud Day" celebration.

Photo by Sean Ellis



People enjoy free potatoes Sept. 15 during the city of Shelley's annual "Idaho Spud Day" event.

Photo by Sean Ellis

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FARM BUREAU COMMODITY REPORT

GRAIN PRICES	8/24/2018	9/25/2018	Trend
PORTLAND:			
White Wheat	6.00-6.11	5.90-6.11	- .10 to steady
Hard Red Winter	No bid	6.05-6.27	Unavailable
DNS 14%	No bid	6.66	Unavailable
Oats	240.00	240.00	Steady
OGDEN:			
White Wheat	4.64	4.70	+ .06
Hard Red Winter	4.99	4.97	- .02
DNS 14%	5.67	5.66	- .01
BLACKFOOT/ IDAHO FALLS			
White Wheat	4.15	4.25	+ .10
Hard Red Winter	4.75	4.80	+ .05
DNS 14%	5.15	5.40	+ .25
Hard White	5.05	5.25	+ .20
BURLEY:			
White Wheat	4.56	4.51	- .05
Hard Red Winter	4.88	4.66	- .22
DNS 14%	5.31	5.15	- .16
Barley	5.75	6.50	+ .75
MERIDIAN:			
White Wheat(cwt)	5.02	5.00	- .02
LEWISTON:			
White Wheat	5.75	5.85	+ .10
H. Red Winter	5.99	6.19	+ .20
Dark N. Spring	6.32	6.39	+ .07
Barley	131.50	126.50	- 5.00
LIVESTOCK PRICES			
	8/23/2018	9/23/2018	Trend
FEEDER STEERS			
Under 500 lbs	153-225	155-203	+ 2 to - 22
500-700 lbs	139-188	135-177	- 4 to - 11
700-900 lbs	125-160	125-154	Steady to - 6
FEEDER HEIFERS			
Under 500 lbs	140-212	137-184	- 3 to - 28
500-700 lbs	130-164	124-155	- 6 to - 9
700-900 lbs	116-141	117-146	+ 1 to + 5
HOLSTEIN STEERS			
Under 700 lbs	75-90	70-92	- 5 to + 2
Over 700 lbs	70-87	65-98	- 5 to + 12
COWS			
Utility/Commercial	47-69	46-67	- 1 to - 2
Canner & Cutter	44-64	45-64	+ 1 to steady
Stock Cows	875-1400	850-1160	- 25 to - 240
BULLS			
Slaughter	63-86	62-87	- 1 to + 1
BEAN PRICES:			
Pinto	21.00	21.00	Steady
Garbanzo	21.00-22.00	21.00	Steady to - 1.00

COMPILED BY THE IDAHO FARM BUREAU COMMODITY DIVISION

IDAHO HAY REPORT

USDA Market News, Moses Lake, WA

September 21, 2018

Tons: 10,900 Last Week: 10,000 Last Year: 3300

Compared to last Friday, Alfalfa for domestic and export use steady to firm. Higher testing Alfalfa was reported this week. Trade moderate to active with moderate to good demand for all grades of Alfalfa. Retail/Feed store not tested this week. Prices are dollars per ton and FOB the farm or ranch unless otherwise stated.

	Tons	Price	Wt. Avg	Comments
Alfalfa				
Mid Square				
Supreme	300	185.00-185.00	185.00	
Premium/Supreme	1200	175.00-180.00	177.92	
Premium	3500	175.00-175.00	175.00	Export
Good	3000	170.00-170.00	170.00	Organic
Fair/Good	2000	135.00-135.00	135.00	
Fair	800	110.00-110.00	110.00	
Utility	100	90.00-90.00	90.00	Rain Damage

POTATOES & ONIONS

September 25, 2018

Potatoes

UPPER VALLEY, TWIN FALLS-BURLEY DISTRICT, IDAHO -- 2018 Shipments 532-787-703 (includes exports of 4-6-6)---Movement expected to remain about the same. Trading bales active, carton 80-100s moderate, others slow. Prices bales higher, others lower. Russet Norkotah U.S. One baled 10-5 pound film bags non size A mostly 7.50; 50-pound cartons 40-70s 6.00-7.00, 80-100s mostly 7.00.

Onions - Dry

IDAHO AND MALHEUR COUNTY OREGON--- 264-342-338---Movement expected to remain about the same. Trading Yellow medium fairly active, others moderate. Prices Yellow medium, White jumbo and Red jumbo generally unchanged, others lower. Yellow lower, others generally unchanged. Yellow Spanish Hybrid U.S. One 50-pound sacks super colossal mostly 7.00-7.50, colossal mostly 6.00-6.50, jumbo mostly 5.50, medium mostly 5.50; White 50-pound sacks jumbo mostly 14.00, medium 12.00-13.00; Red Globe Type U.S. One 25-pound sacks jumbo 8.00-9.00, medium mostly 7.00.

5 YEAR GRAIN COMPARISON

Grain Prices.....9/23/2014.....9/21/2015.....9/23/2016.....9/20/2017.....9/25/2018

Portland:

White Wheat.....	6.69	5.45	4.74-4.89	5.10-5.30	5.90-6.11
11% Winter.....	6.78-7.08	5.76-5.90	4.81	5.18-5.63	6.05-6.27
14% Spring.....	7.97	6.41	5.98-6.28	7.11-7.31	6.66
Corn.....	No Bid	260.00	225.00	215.00	240.00

Ogden:

White Wheat.....	6.11	5.51	3.84	4.09	4.70
11% Winter.....	5.80	4.60	3.86	4.18	4.97
14 % Spring.....	6.82	5.68	5.03	4.18	5.66
Barley.....	4.90	6.35	5.55	6.20	No Bid

Blackfoot/Idaho Falls:

White Wheat.....	5.75	5.20	3.40	3.65	4.25
11% Winter.....	5.75	4.15	3.80	4.45	4.80
14% Spring.....	6.09	5.30	4.85	5.65	5.40
Barley.....	No Bid	4.75	4.00	No Bid	No Bid

Burley:

White Wheat.....	5.65	5.19	3.65	3.74	4.51
11% Winter.....	5.25	4.25	3.45	3.75	4.66
14% Spring.....	6.11	4.98	4.82	5.63	5.15
Barley.....	5.20	6.00	5.00	5.50	6.50

Meridian:

White Wheat (bushel)....	5.85	5.72	3.65	4.20	5.00
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Lewiston:

White Wheat.....	6.20	5.35	4.55	5.05	5.85
Barley.....	136.50	136.50	101.50	116.50	126.50

Bean Prices:

Pintos.....	40.00-42.00	22.00-24.00	28.00-30.00	24.00-25.00	21.00-23.00
Small Reds.....	No Bid	30.00	28.00	No Bid	28.00

MILK PRODUCTION

September 19, 2018

August Milk Production up 1.4 Percent

Milk production in the 23 major States during August totaled 17.2 billion pounds, up 1.4 percent from August 2017. July revised production, at 17.3 billion pounds, was up 0.5 percent from July 2017. The July revision represented an increase of 16 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,974 pounds for August, 28 pounds above August 2017. This is the highest production per cow for the month of August since the 23 State series began in 2003.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.74 million head, 3,000 head less than August 2017, but 4,000 head more than July 2018.

August Milk Production in the United States up 1.4 Percent

Milk production in the United States during August totaled 18.3 billion pounds, up 1.4 percent from August 2017.

Production per cow in the United States averaged 1,946 pounds for August, 27 pounds above August 2017.

The number of milk cows on farms in the United States was 9.40 million head, 4,000 head less than August 2017, but 5,000 head more than July 2018.

5 YEAR LIVESTOCK COMPARISON

	9/25/2013	9/22/2014	9/21/2015	9/21/2016	9/23/2018
Feeder Steers					
Under 500 lbs	250-390	220-305	120-176	140-209	155-203
500-700 lbs	210-288	170-247	120-142	100-163	135-177
700-900 lbs	180-245	150-211	107-131	97-146	125-154
Over 900 lbs	160-212	146-180	89-123	93-122	113-139
Feeder Heifers					
Under 500 lbs	235-340	220-265	110-153	135-168	137-184
500-700 lbs	190-287	165-232	101-127	125-148	124-155
700-900 lbs	167-230	145-198	95-124	115-136	117-146
Over 900 lbs	150-207	145-165	85-119	81-121	117-132
Holstein Steers					
Under 700 lbs	150-234	120-182	75-110	70-90	70-92
Over 700 lbs	135-206	120-154	75-107	70-95	65-98
Cows					
Utility/Commercial	89-124	75-105	52-80	60-74	46-67
Canner & Cutter	80-109	68-97	49-68	55-65	45-64
Stock Cows	1300-2100	1200-2300	N/A	970-1,200	850-1,160
Bulls – Slaughter					
	104-151	93-136	70-104	64-99	62-87

CATTLE ON FEED

Released September 21, 2018

United States Cattle on Feed Up 6 Percent

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.1 million head on September 1, 2018. The inventory was 6 percent above September 1, 2017. This is the highest September 1 inventory since the series began in 1996.

Placements in feedlots during August totaled 2.07 million head, 7 percent above 2017. Net placements were 2.02 million head. During August, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 430,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 335,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 460,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 475,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 240,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 130,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during August totaled 1.98 million head, slightly above 2017.

Other disappearance totaled 55,000 head during August, 12 percent above 2017.

CATTLE MARKET REPORT AND ANALYSIS

September 26, 2018

A few trades in the north trickled in at steady prices. Dressed prices were \$173-175 and live prices at \$110.50. Most sellers were holding for higher prices. This week's show lists were similar to last week's smaller size at 250,000 head. Packer purchases last week were a healthy 100,000 head for current or spot deliver and an increasing number of forward contracted cattle as more fully described below. Packer margins are holding just under \$200/head giving them plenty of incentive to keep the plants humming.

The cold storage report reported all meats were up over last year. Meat in cold storage does not make or break a market but is some indication of views of the market. Recent declines in poultry prices has pushed more chickens into cold storage [8%] with beef and pork remaining about 5-6% over last year.

Cattle Futures. Futures prices firmed after Monday's decline. Premiums in the deferred months will encourage more forward contracting. Open interest in the cattle contracts continues to maintain levels under last year.

Carcass weights are released each Thursday [lagging the market by two weeks] and are a closely watched barometer indicating the position of cattle feeders in the nation's feedlots. The last report released for the week of September 8th, had steer carcass weights up 8# at 896# which is par to last year. Heifers carcass weights are up 1# to 819# which is 8# over last year.

Forward Cattle Contracts: The predictable aspect of a rising futures market in the deferred contracts attracted cattle owners to forward price some cattle and lock in profits that have been missing for several months. Packers actively purchased cattle for later this year and early next at the following bases.

November:	15,000 head	Par to \$1 over Dec futures
December:	7,500 head	-\$1 under Dec futures
January:	8,200 head	\$1 - \$1.50 over Feb futures
February:	11,000 head	\$1 over Feb futures

The weekly breakdown of fed cattle moving to the beef processing plants is as follows. 1) formulas 55%; 2) negotiated 20% [both live and flat dressed]; 3) forward

contracts 25%. Some of the formula arrangements are week to week negotiated prices and not committed cattle to one plant.

The Cutout. The composite cutout was modestly lower. The cutout has sustained an elevated level over last year primarily from the strength of the middle meats and the strong export value for briskets and rib plates. Cow slaughter has remained well above last year all year. The fed cattle slaughter volume of recent has failed to achieve substantial gains over prior year. The choice/select spread is \$11.

The volumes of choice and select product on the market varies seasonally. More yearlings are marketed in the first quarter of the year [better quality grades] followed by more calves in the second quarter [less choice cattle] leaving the last two quarters subject to market conditions of how long cattle are fed and demand for the quality grades. This year we are seeing less choice grading cattle yet more YG4&5 -- a logical contradiction.

Beef Feature Activity Index.

Fall is never the strongest season for beef consumption but leading up to the holidays, beef will move back into play. General prosperity in the economy will continue to support demand for beef. Football games and outdoor events with cooler weather can help encourage beef features.

CLASSIFIEDS

Animals

AKC Keeshond puppies. Ready in Oct. \$800 cash. All shots. Clearwater, ID. Ask for Tish. 1-208-926-7345.

Himalayan Yaks for sale. Calves, Yearlings, Cows \$800.00 - \$3000.00. Yaks produce fiber, milk, meat and can be trained to pack. Excellent mothers that will protect their calves from predators. Call, email or text Anna yakranch@frontier.com or (208)890-6399.

Farm Equipment

Challenger MT 755, 2209 hrs, annual service by Western States, Trimble A/S, (reduced) \$125,500; 500hp US Motor, 480 volt, hollowshaft irrigation motor, \$20,000. '74 GMC 10 wheeler truck \$12,000. Call 208-220-5588 or e-mail: deegt@aol.com.

New Squeeze chute, green, hand pull, \$1,300. Midvale, Id 208-355-3780.

Balewagons: New Holland self-propelled or pull-type models, parts, tires, manuals. Also interested in buying balewagons. Will consider any model. Call Jim Wilhite at 208-880-2889 anytime.

Hay

Hay and Straw for Sale. 3X3 bales. 115 tons dairy \$150/ton. 75 tons near dairy \$125/ton. 230 tons third crop waiting on test. 450 bales wheat straw and 350 bales barley straw \$45/ton. located in Howe, Idaho (208) 521-4368

Miscellaneous

Violas for sale, new and used. Firth, Id. 208-346-6289.

We have an outdoor wood furnace used to heat your home, it's hot water, and/or shop/barn for sale. This stove creates a more comfortable and affordable heat than anything else on the market. Please contact John 208-781-0691.

Real Estate/Acreage

60+ or - acres 20 miles north of New Meadows on highway 95. 200 ft road frontage, across highway from Little Salmon River. Short distance to choice skiing and good fishing, deer migrate through property. Spring on property. \$90,000 obo. 208-253-6135.

Real Estate/Acreage

Lot for Sale - 1/2 Acre Country Lot. Build a New Home or New Mfg Hm. City water, Gas, Utilities available. Must obtain all permits. Shelley Area. 208-528-5337.

Services

Pond stocking, Opaline Aqua Farm, selling bass, bluegill, grasscarp, trout and koi. fishguy@opalineaquafarm.com or call Rich 208-495-2654.

Wanted

Paying cash for old cork top embossed bottles and some telephone insulators. Call Randy. Payette, Id. 208-740-0178.

Paying cash for German & Japanese war relics/souvenirs! Pistols, rifles, swords, daggers, flags, scopes, optical equipment, uniforms, helmets, machine guns (ATF rules apply) medals, flags, etc. 549-3841 (evenings) or 208-405-9338.

Wanted

Old License Plates Wanted. Also key chain license plates, old signs, light fixtures. Will pay cash. Please email, call or write. Gary Peterson, 130 E Pecan, Genesee, Id 83832. gearlep@gmail.com. 208-285-1258.

Our Idaho family loves old wood barns and would like to restore/rebuild your barn on our Idaho farm. Would you like to see your barn restored/rebuilt rather than rot and fall down? Call Ken & Corrie 208-530-6466.

**DEADLINE DATES:
ADS MUST BE RECEIVED BY
OCT. 20
FOR
NOVEMBER
QUARTERLY**

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MEMBERS**

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FREE CLASSIFIEDS

Non commercial classified ads are free to Idaho Farm Bureau members. Must include membership number for free ad. Forty (40) words maximum. Non-member cost- 50 cents per word. You may advertise your own crops, livestock, used machinery, household items, vehicles, etc. Ads will not be accepted by phone. Ads run one time only and must be re-submitted in each subsequent issue. We reserve the right to refuse to run any ad. Please type or print clearly. Proof-read your ad.

Mail ad copy to:
FARM BUREAU PRODUCER
P.O. Box 4848, Pocatello, ID 83205-4848
or e-mail Dixie at: dashton@idahofb.org

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Address: _____

City / State / Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Membership No. _____

Ad Copy: _____



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Z500L and Z600 Series Zero-Turn Mowers	\$150
S240 Lawn Tractor	\$100
X300 Select Series	\$100
X500 Select Series	\$150
X700 Signature Series	\$200

UTILITY VEHICLES

T-Series Utility Vehicles	\$200
HPX Series Utility Vehicles	\$350
XUV Crossover Utility Vehicles	\$350
RSX High-Performance Utility Vehicles	\$350

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Compact Excavators	17% off MSRP
Compact Wheel Loaders	17% off MSRP

COMMERCIAL MOWING

WG, WH, WHP Series Walk-Behind Mowers	\$300
600 Series Stand-On Mowers	\$400
Z900 Series Zero-Turn Mowers (Gas)	\$400
Z900 Series Zero-Turn Mowers (Diesel)	\$1,300
1500 Series Front Mowers	\$1,300
1600 Series Wide-Area Mowers	\$2,700

GOLF & SPORTS TURF

Golf Course Mowers & Specialty Equipment	\$500 to \$3,700
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Certain rules and restrictions apply. MSRP discounts are in lieu of all other discounts. Cash discounts may not be used in conjunction with the Government Fleet, CIO, Special Discount, MSRP, LSP, Professional Segment Program, or published Golf retail bonus programs. Offer subject to change without notice. Updated 8-1-18, 1798102