

Gem State Producer



June 2016 • Volume 20, Issue 4

 **IDAHO FARM BUREAU**



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TPP Is a Good Deal for U.S. Agriculture

Beyond the Fencerows



By Zippy Duvall
AFBF President

Farmers and ranchers know a good deal. We know how to make every dollar, down to the penny, count. That's why Farm Bureau wasted no time in looking at what the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement would mean in dollars and cents on farms and ranches across America. What's the bottom line for agricul-

ture with TPP? We're looking at an expected boost in business just when farms and rural economies need it most. Farm Bureau estimates an annual increase in U.S. net farm income of \$4.4 billion, compared to not passing the agreement. In spite of negative political rhetoric, the fact is that every day we wait to approve TPP we lose ground. It's like showing up at the auction barn with a load of cattle af-

ter the last gavel has fallen. We fall behind our global competitors. We give up billions in business. And we lose out on deals that other countries are ready to make without us. Our farm and ranch businesses lose when our nation leaves trade deals on the table that would level the playing field. American-grown and -made means quality and customers around the world know this.

See DUVALL, page 10

Developing Sound Policy is Critical



By Bryan Searle
President Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

Over the next few months Idaho Farm Bureau members from every county in the state will meet and begin to discuss hundreds of

issues related to agriculture and natural resources. As these farmers and ranchers, loggers, miners and other small businessmen meet and discuss the problems they face, they'll begin to generate and refine language that could eventually become part of what guides the Idaho Farm Bureau's efforts in 2017 and beyond.

By next fall, the ideas they generate will begin to jell. As more people read and evaluate the statements, they'll ask themselves, "What does this mean to me?" or "How does

this language effect my business?"

They will continue to refine the language and research the questions that arise and by next December they will be ready to present and defend their ideas in front of their peers, representing every county in Idaho.

In Farm Bureau, we call this the policy development process, and it's among the most important things we do. All of this effort of research, discussion and debate is

See SEARLE, page 10

"Best By" Dates Confuse Consumers and Contribute to Food Waste



By Rick Keller
CEO Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

"Use it up, wear it out, make it do or do without," was a common saying during the Great Depression, when everything was a little scarce and everyone learned how to be a bit more frugal, thrifty and

creative. Most farmers I know have lived this principle most of their lives because it has been a necessity to survive.

With that saying and mantra being so prevalent in agriculture, I was surprised when I read that about 40 percent of the U.S. food supply annually goes to waste.

"Sell by" and "best by" date labels found on food packaging are confusing to consumers, and may be contributing to food waste in the United States, says a survey released by the Harvard Food Law

and Policy Clinic and the National Consumers League. The study stated, "The link between confusion over date labeling and food waste is clear. Consumers too often interpret date labels to mean that the food is no longer safe to eat, when that food is oftentimes still both healthy and of peak quality."

Most, incorrectly assume, the date labels are federally regulated. They are not federally required or mandated. Food dating emerged in

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Printed by: Owyhee Publishing, Homedale, ID

GEM STATE PRODUCER

USPS #015-024, is published monthly
except February, May, August and November by the
IDAHO FARM BUREAU FEDERATION,
275 Tierra Vista Drive, Pocatello, ID 83201.

POSTMASTER send changes of address to:

GEM STATE PRODUCER
P.O. Box 4848, Pocatello, ID 83205-4848.
Periodicals postage paid at Pocatello, Idaho,
and additional mailing offices.

Subscription rate:

\$6.00 per year included in Farm Bureau dues.

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A farmer monitors computer equipment during spring planting.
Photo courtesy of the United Soybean Board

Farmers Want Control of their Data

By Jake Putnam

Swarms of drones this growing season will take to the skies over U.S. farmland collecting countless terabytes of data.

Not only is that farm information priceless, it's confidential and controversial.

On Capitol Hill earlier this year congressmen met with farmers to iron out a solution to the 'big data' issue. Farm testimony revealed that the data issue is bigger than the transition from draft horses to farm machinery.

"Think of it this way, a single farm not only harvests an astonishing amount of food but just as much information, both of which are extremely valuable in the marketplace," said former Idaho Palouse wheat farmer Robert Blair. Blair is now Vice President of a company called Measure, the Drone as a Service Company. "Think

See *BIG DATA* page 4

Correction

An article in the Spring edition of Idaho Farm Bureau Quarterly improperly spelled the name of Auric Solar Company.

Learn more about the company at www.auricsolar.com

Cover: Grace Goodwin of Pioneer Elementary School in Weiser works with a hand grinder during an Idaho Farm Bureau educational outreach program at Chandler Farm in Washington County. The program, called Moving Agriculture to the Classroom (MAC) teaches students about food production and farm life. Photo by Steve Ritter



BIG DATA

Continued from page 3



A drone used to check crop conditions and gather data that can be incorporated into a farm's production strategy.
Farm Bureau file photo

of the commodity market information and the value of that data in aggregate and it's a key piece of the puzzle. Compile that data and you can see trends. We're talking production agriculture. There's machinery data, chemical and crop information and all that can be benchmarked, profiled and it's huge."

In the old days farmers compiled crop information to memory, wrote it on calendars or on backs of envelopes without thinking of it as data or consciously analyzing it. They felt the soil, eyed the plants and kept a close eye on the weather then figured out what needed to be done on a day to day basis.

But things have changed drastically. Today's farmer feeds 150 people compared to 72 in the 1970s. Thanks to data analysis, that number is expected to double by 2050 as world population grows while farmland is disappearing.

At this moment crop information is pouring in from satellites, drones, computers and smart phones. Data analysts use infor-

mation gathered the past 10 decades on the farm. They then look at all the acreage in Idaho then all 50 states and end up harvesting a virtual mountain of information. That data is needed to help farmers stay in the game.

That information increases productivity, determines how much fertilizer farmers will need to deliver a crop and how much more crop can be produced in the next decade. But farmers no longer have the resources to handle 'big data,' and even large corporations struggle with the weight and responsibility of the coming revolution.

The American Farm Bureau Federation is addressing the big data problems and just released a survey favoring the creation of a cooperative-style central repository for farm data. They think having their own data clouds is the best way to secure information and maximize its value.

"We asked our members what they thought about data, and it is clear that boosting farmer confidence in security and data management will be critical to unlock-

ing the potential this technology holds," said AFBF President Zippy Duvall. "This survey also shows that we are on the right track with various Ag group initiatives designed to improve data integration and promote transparency about how the data is collected and used."

The last few years it was just machinery information that was gathered, but now a plethora of companies are gathering everything byte of information and that's bringing data into a different realm. Farmers fear that some data will be used maliciously, by market competitors, activists, foreign governments, even neighboring farms.

"Growers not only want all this information but they also want to control and own their data," added Blair. "They don't want to see it going other places especially where they don't have control. In my drone company, the growers own and control their data. We don't share with third parties unless we have written approval."

AFBF is a founding member of the Ag Data Coalition, an organization created



A drone being put to work on Idaho's Palouse Prairie.
Photo by Steve Ritter

by several leading agricultural groups and companies to help farmers better store and manage their information in a central location. The ADC will establish a co-op-style repository for agricultural data, with farmers having a governing role over the group.

Duvall said that is consistent with survey findings that 71 percent of respondents said they are interested in having access to the kind of data bank that ADC is developing, while 82 percent say it is important that farmers have a voice in the Ag data co-op.

Farmers and Ag representatives taking the survey ranked vendor transparency high among their priorities. Farm Bureau and other groups recently introduced an additional tool called the Ag Data Transparency Evaluator to explain data in plain English. It breaks down convoluted details found in data contracts with hardware and software providers.

“Right now companies collect a lot of data and most of it is benign but it still comes down to how it’s processed,” said Blair. “Who do they sell it to? Agriculture is being attacked daily by activist groups and foreign competitors. At what point in time do they get hold of it and release subsidy

information, yields, and pesticide application date. For me that’s the scary part. Only 10 percent of farmers today are using this aggregate information. That will double every year for decades. The Ag Data Coalition is a good start.”

The AFBF survey revealed a high level of misunderstanding among respondents regarding data details in their contracts. When asked whether they knew if their contracts indicated they owned or controlled their own data, 55 percent of those surveyed said they did not know. Twelve percent said the contracts did not indicate control or ownership, and only 33 percent said their contracts specifically indicated that growers owned or controlled the data they generate.

When asked whether contract details about sharing data with a third party, business partner or affiliate required approval of the grower, only 32 percent said they did. Fifty-four percent were unsure and 14 percent said prior approval from a grower was not required for data sharing.

“This indicates a higher level of clarity and transparency is needed to secure grower confidence,” Duvall said. “One of the top-

ics I hear most about from farmers on the data issue is having a clear understanding about the details of ‘Terms and Conditions’ and ‘Privacy Policy’ documents we all sign when buying new electronics. You shouldn’t have to hire an attorney before you are comfortable signing a contract with an Ag technology company and that goes a long way in helping farmers better understand the contracts before they sign on the dotted line.

Oklahoma professor Shanon Ferrell says farmer owned cloud co-ops are a great idea because farmers are very uneasy about access of their information.

“I think the EPA lawsuit from a couple of years ago had an impact,” Ferrell said. “That’s where we saw a lot of information from livestock operations that were made public and put out there for all to see. It’s still hurting us today. Then there was the disclosure of farm subsidies by the Environmental Working Group. That led to farmers having caution about the release of information along with recent stories of groups hacking government IT systems.

See BIG DATA page 23



The fee structure for grazing on state land is being reconsidered and may change. IDL is accepting public comment on a list of proposed changes in June and July. Photo by Steve Ritter

IDL Seeks Comments on Grazing Fee Restructure

By John Thompson

The Idaho Department of Lands is in the process of restructuring its grazing leases on nearly two million acres of endowment trust land located primarily across the southern two-thirds of the state.

Producers who graze cattle on state land and the public are invited to provide comment on the proposal this summer. The process began last fall when the Idaho State Land Board named an advisory committee and tasked its members with restructuring how IDL charges cattle and sheep ranchers for animal unit months (AUM's) and generating a list of options that comply with the following criteria:

- 1 – It must be consistent with the state's fiduciary responsibility to maximize financial returns to the state's public schools.
- 2 - It must be a defensible process driven by market data
- 3 – It has to optimize management of the resource and support long-term sustainability
- 4 – It has to be a transparent formula that is practical and efficient to administer
- 5 – It has to be fair, predictable and certain for both parties

Diane French, IDL deputy director of lands and waterways, said initially the livestock industry and most other observers antici-

pated a fee increase. However, so far she says that does not appear to be the case, although there is a lot more to do before any new proposals are adopted.

"I think the process has gone really well and the operators are going to be somewhat surprised, and not in a bad way," French said.

The nine-member advisory group, made up of representatives from the livestock industry, the state, and wildlife and environmental groups, will submit a list of restructuring options to a State Land Board subcommittee made up of Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter and Secretary of State Lawrence Denney in early June. It will be up to Gov.



Cattle grazing in Idaho County near Riggins. Photo by Steve Ritter

Otter and Secretary Denney to determine whether to let all the alternatives generated by the advisory group go out for public comment or restrict the list.

The advisory group was assisted by seven expert consultants and a professional facilitator. They created the following alternatives for consideration:

Alternative 1 is the current IDL formula

Alternative 2 is the Wyoming formula which looks at beef parity ratios

Alternative 3 takes data from the Calf Crop Index and creates a percentage similar to

crop share arrangements

Alternative 4 establishes a base cost of program administration and then is fully market driven after that

The public comment period will begin in early June and last 60 days. Ranchers who currently have a grazing lease with IDL will receive a postcard in the mail that outlines the process and directs them to a website where they read the alternatives and get more information and also submit comments. Others wishing to provide comments can go to a URL listed at the end of this article.

After the public comment period ends the subcommittee will evaluate the comments and make any needed adjustments before presenting a preferred alternative or a list of alternatives to the State Land Board in October. The new fee structure is expected to go into effect in 2018.

Following is a link to the IDL website where public comment is being accepted. The website will also provide details on the alternatives under consideration. <http://www.idl.idaho.gov/leasing/grazing/rate/index.html>

Spring Branding on Little Weiser

Photo Essay by Steve Ritter

Spring branding marks the start of the season on Schwenkfelder's SS Cattle Company on the Little Weiser River Valley near Cambridge. Royce and Pam team up with Royce's brother Bob and his wife Bonnie along with friends and family for the annual event.

Royce and Bob are fourth generation ranchers. Their ranch has withstood the test of time. Their grandfather homesteaded the property in 1889. They have 850 acres of irrigated base property along with 4,000 acres of rangeland.

This year they'll brand close to 700 new calves in several different locations in Washington County. They raise purebred Red Angus cattle. The Schwenkfelder's make branding a family affair where the young can learn the cowboy-way from the old. Grandsons Kellan (5) and Wyatt (8) jumped in and helped where ever they could.





DUVALL

Continued from page 2

this. But high tariffs and other trade barriers put in place by countries like Japan will keep shutting out American businesses and agricultural goods if we refuse to lead the way in approving trade agreements that would move us forward. Our farmers and ranchers need market expansion like never before. I hear this when I visit with them. Thanks to good weather and improved technology, we expect an abundant grain harvest. But this won't yield good prices for farmers already struggling to get by. It's no secret that farm incomes took a nosedive this year—what's worse, incomes

are expected to drop further still. TPP would increase cash receipts for a variety of farm products, including rice, corn, cotton, beef, pork, poultry, dairy, fruits and nuts, vegetables, soybeans and wheat. Overall U.S. exports would increase by \$5.3 billion per year with this deal. But those numbers don't mean much if we hand economic leadership over to other countries like China. "Other countries should play by the rules that America and our partners set, and not the other way around," President Obama wrote recently. "The world has changed. The rules are

"15 Asian countries, including China, met recently to start working out their own trade deal. And we can bet their trade deal won't look out for American agriculture."

changing with it. The United States, not countries like China, should write them." What's more, other countries won't keep waiting on us for enhanced trade rules. In fact, 15 Asian countries, including China, met recently to start working out their own trade deal. And we can bet their trade deal won't look out for American agriculture. We live and work in a global economy today—and that's

good news for U.S. agriculture. We're in a growth business, but if we want to keep that up into the future, we need good deals like TPP to remove trade barriers and open up new markets. Today, our auction barn is global, and when the opening gavel echoes, our lawmakers need to make sure our goods are in the arena.

SEARLE

Continued from page 2

aimed at supporting the following mission statement:

"The Idaho Farm Bureau is a voluntary, grassroots organization dedicated to strengthening agriculture and protecting the rights, values and property of our member families and their neighbors."

Our process is sound and the evidence of that shows up every year in our many legislative accomplishments. In the recent past we helped pass a law that gave a voice to rural voters in the voter initiative process, we have supported attempts to improve management of federal lands and prevent expansion of federal holdings in Idaho, helped gain approval for 129,000 pound trucks on interstate highways and other designated roads, and many others.

Although our grassroots policy development process is unique and effective, it could be better. In fact, it could be much better. Are you one of those Idaho Farm Bureau members who regularly reads this magazine but haven't attended a county board meeting? Are you one of those members who has some insight or an opinion on something that you are willing to share?

If you are, I would like you to know that our organization is full of people like you. They're people who are knowledgeable, practical, conservative, hard-working, dedicated, engaging, often amusing and above all else, they show up and get things done. Those are the qualities that I admire and those people

Don't stand on the sidelines and wait to be regulated out of business. Be an advocate for agriculture.

make this organization great. They're the reason I've been a Farm Bureau volunteer for over 25 years now.

If you are a member and you would like to be involved in a dynamic, challenging, political process that can bring about positive change and defend agriculture against the onslaught of regulations and absurdities in today's society, I would like to extend a special invitation to you: I would like to invite you to attend a meeting of your county Farm Bureau's board of directors. We are part of a strong, active grassroots organization that develops sound policy.

It's been that way for the last 75 years. We are dedicated to making certain it remains so. In order to do that we must continue to bring in new voices and new perspectives. Agriculture is changing. Don't stand on the sidelines and wait to be regulated out of business. Be an advocate for agriculture. Help us fight back against those who would mislead consumers about food production and the challenges associated with feeding the world. Tell your story, Idaho agriculture needs you.

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Rancher Chris Black shows ponds on his property in Toy Valley that were created with cost-sharing from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Ranchers Create Wetlands in Owyhee County

Article and photos by Steve Stuebner

In the arid West, water is key to the survival of everything. That's why early-day pioneers staked out the river-bottoms when they settled the West. It was all about water.

In recent years, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been partnering with ranchers in Owyhee County to create more ponds and wetlands on private lands.

"Initially, the project was focused on Columbia spotted frogs, which are a candidate species, but we recognized that many species of wildlife would benefit from the creation of wetlands," says Kristin Lohr, a wildlife biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Boise. "These wetlands provide habitat for not just Columbia spotted frogs, but also other animals such as

amphibians, birds, bats, deer and antelope. "As we're standing here, we see red-winged blackbirds in the cat-tails, and we heard a Pacific chorus frog croaking at us earlier. So things are already moving in and using these wetlands."

The Fish and Wildlife Service wants to create more habitat for birds and wildlife -- that's a key part of their mission. But Tom Biebighauser, who taught a wetlands workshop in Owyhee County, said the projects can have a dual purpose.

"The message he gave is we can do both. You can create some wildlife-friendly improvements on your property, and at the same time, make an improvement for your operation," says John Romero, co-owner of the ZX Ranch with his wife, Kathy, and the Richards family.

Owyhee County Rancher Chris Black dug a series of ponds in two different locations to create meadow habitat for wildlife and cattle.

"I wanted to create the meadow habitat because water is so scarce in the West, and water is critical to life," Black says. "So if I can create a meadow habitat, I can create a place for sage grouse to come in, pronghorn to come in, all wildlife to use, plus my cows have a habitat they can use. So it's good for everything in the system."

During a wetlands field workshop held by Tom Biebighauser in the Reynolds Creek area of Owyhee County, they dug a new wetlands pond on John and Kathy Romero's ranch. Through the Fish and Wildlife Service's "Partners in Fish and Wildlife" program, 50 percent cost-share funds are



A pond being excavated on an Owyhee County ranch to enhance wildlife and livestock habitat.

available to assist with the cost of pond construction.

“With the help of the Fish and Wildlife Service, that cost-share, particularly for any farmer or rancher who’s interested, it makes it an attractive feature,” Romero says.

Biebighauser says a shallow pond design is important for wildlife habitat. Kristin Lohr explains.

“The way to do it and have more wildlife, is you get away from the cereal bowl and go with a satellite dish, with more gently sloping edges, and it provides more nesting cover and hiding cover for animals,” Lohr says. “Plus, you have open water, so things like bats that like to take water on the wing, they have access to water.”

Chris Black agrees.

“It becomes important to have different types of habitat. We need to have shallow water, and we need to have deep water for

frogs. The shallow water is where they breed. The deep water is where they go to escape. The shallow water is where most of the insects thrive.”

Rancher Jerry Hoagland has dug many ponds in upper Reynolds Creek for spotted frogs in partnership with the Fish and Wildlife Service.

“We dug about 20 ponds for the Columbia spotted frog to their design, and we’ve been monitoring them for the last three years,” Hoagland says. “The population is gradually growing. We counted over 120 juveniles and I don’t know how many adults in that pond. A beaver turned 4 small ponds into one large pond. That was absolutely amazing! That’s wow! We’re finding more frogs and we’ll help keep it off the (endangered species) list.”

During the wetlands workshop, Hoagland made some more land available on his Dry Creek ranch for a pond. Art Talsma of the Nature Conservancy thinks the Hoagland

pond will create valuable habitat for wildlife and livestock.

“Reynolds Creek is kind of famous, its watershed has been well-studied, but there aren’t many pondage places in this stretch of land,” Talsma says. “The first species that I think of as benefitting is sage grouse. We have a sage grouse lek above here in the distance, we have sagebrush in the background, that’s where they nest, but where they raise their broods is next to these wet meadows and small wetlands.”

“And of course waterfowl come into this,” he continues. “Waterfowl in the Owyhees migrate through and need a high-energy source of food when they’re passing through, and that’s what shallow wetlands give you. Sometimes you’ll see thousands of ducks landing on that, feeding intensely, and then heading up to Canada.”

See OWYHEE WETLANDS page 33

State Still Mum on Yantis Investigation

By John Thompson

It's been eight months since rancher Jack Yantis was shot dead on a rural highway by two Adams County Sheriff's deputies. It could be several more months before anyone outside of law enforcement knows any more of the details of that fateful night.

A crime scene investigation was completed in early March, but the Idaho Attorney General's office hasn't yet released a decision on how they intend to proceed.

Todd Dvorak, spokesman for the AG said they don't comment on pending cases. Attorneys are reviewing information gathered by the Idaho State Police and in the process of making a decision on whether to proceed with a criminal prosecution or not. The AG's office received the investigation on March 10. There is no ongoing investigation, Dvorak said.

Chuck Peterson, a Boise attorney representing the Yantis family, said whatever happens next is completely up to the Idaho AG's office. "Sometimes the gears of justice grind slowly," Peterson said. "It doesn't surprise me that it's taken this long."

Yantis was shot at about 7 p.m. on the evening of November 1, 2015. He'd been called to the scene of an automobile accident about six miles north of Council on Highway 95. A couple from Nampa, who have not been named by law enforcement authorities, were involved in a car accident with a range bull owned by Yantis. The bull was wounded from the car accident and was also shot several times in the abdomen with pistols and small-caliber rifles by the deputies when Yantis arrived, according to Yantis' nephew Rowdy Paradis, who witnessed the incident. The bull was charging cars and emergency personnel responding to the accident.

Paradis told the Idaho Statesman that deputies should be trained to de-escalate volatile situations. But Deputies Brian Wood and Cody Roland did the opposite, according to Paradis. When Yantis arrived with



Jack Yantis

his rifle to dispatch the bull an altercation occurred. Paradis said one of the deputies grabbed Yantis and several shots rang out. Both deputies fired pistols. Yantis' .204 caliber rifle also discharged and soon thereafter, Yantis lay dead in the road, shot multiple times in the chest and abdomen.

The deputies then detained Paradis and Jack Yantis' wife Donna, throwing them to the ground and handcuffing them. They were not allowed to attend to Yantis, Paradis said. Donna Yantis suffered a heart attack at the scene and spent several days in a Boise hospital recovering. The two accident victims from Nampa were transported by air ambulance to a Boise hospital.

The two deputies were placed on administrative leave, according to Adams County Sheriff Ryan Zollman. In late January, an Officer Safety Bulletin warning police that Deputy Brian Wood "has become increasingly unstable," generated by the Ada County Sheriff's Office was leaked to the public. The bulletin is a law enforcement internal document meant to warn police.

The bulletin, dated January 22, states that Wood was observed collecting guns from a fifth-wheel trailer on a relatives property, that he has access to explosives and his whereabouts were unknown at that time. Wood's in-laws, who live in Meridian, requested extra patrol due to statements from Wood that they are "not safe," according to the bulletin.

In all capitalization the bulletin states that no charges have been filed on Wood and Ada County Sheriff's Office is not investigating any crime against him. The bulletin is meant for officer safety only but ends with "Use Extreme Caution."

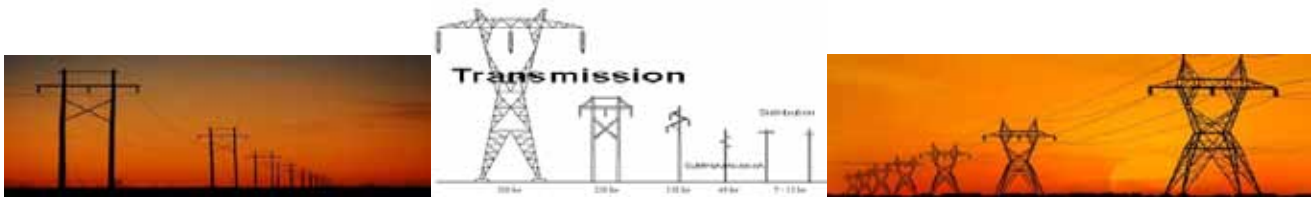
Since November 1, many Adams County residents and people from all over the U.S. have come together in support of the Yantis family. They have held rallies and started a Facebook page called "Justice for Jack," that has generated 1,529 followers. The incident has been covered by national and international media outlets including The Denver Post, The New York Times, The Washington Post, and many others.



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the 1970s, prompted by consumer demand as Americans produced less of their own food but still demanded information about how it was made. The only regulated date labels are on infant formula, which the concern is for nutritional quality, not safety.

“Best if used by” date is a manufacturer’s best guess as to how long the product will be at its peak quality. With only a few exceptions, food will remain wholesome and safe to eat long past its expiration date. In many cases, dates are conservative, and if you go beyond them, you may not notice any difference in quality, especially if the date has recently

passed.

The USDA offers these general definitions:

“Sell by.” This is the date by which manufacturers suggest that retailers remove the product from shelves. The goal is to ensure quality for a period of time after you buy it. That can be several days to several weeks, depending on the item. For instance, milk, assuming proper refrigeration, should last five to seven days past its sell-by date before turning sour.

“Best by” and “Use by,” are terms that tell you when to eat (or freeze) a product for the best quality. A jar of salsa may not taste as fresh and tangy as

it’s supposed to, for example, and crackers may be soft instead of crisp after those dates.

More than 90 percent of Americans throw out food prematurely, and 40 percent of the U.S. food supply is tossed – unused – every year because of food dating. The survey revealed that younger consumers – between 18 and 34 – were found to be more likely to “always” discard products by the “use by” date across all foods.

The food label confusion also highlights the concern that agriculture has for mandatory GMO labeling. As we have seen with food date label misperception, GMO labeling also is unclear. It’s presence implies GMO’s are a food

safety issue, when the World Health Organization concluded in May that GMO’S do not constitute a safety issue, but a product preference. Mandatory labeling should be for safety reasons and not for marketing product segmentation. GMO labeling exasperates the safety misperception and does not add clarity.

So the next time you are tempted to throw out that can of soup that has been sitting on the shelf for an extended period of time, consider opening it up and serving it with a grilled cheese sandwich for lunch. Another saying comes to mind, “Waste Not, Want Not.” Don’t be confused by date labeling.

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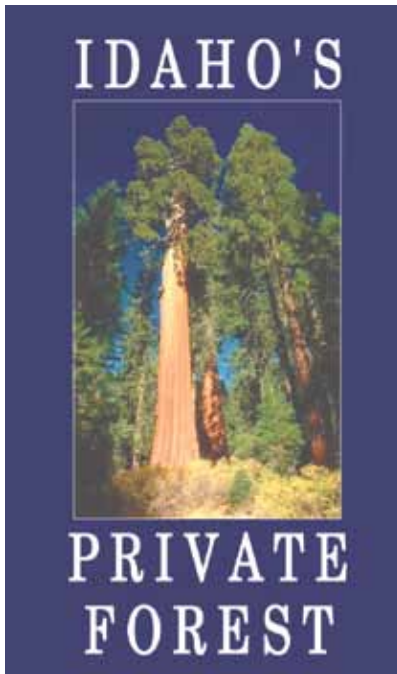
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Blue stain fungus on a log.

Salvage Logging after a Wildfire

By Yvonne Barkley

Forest ecosystems in the Inland Northwest are supremely adapted to disturbance by fire. By living in fire-based ecosystems, we become part of those ecosystems and influence the landscape by the activities we do in and around forestlands. In this light, the time after a burn can be excellent time to achieve specific management objectives for a particular piece of ground. Perhaps a change in the species composition to one more suitable for the site would be appropriate, or increasing wildlife habitat, controlling noxious weeds and/or improving forest health conditions.

From a management perspective,

damages are defined as the unfavorable effects of fire-caused changes that make management objectives difficult to achieve or unobtainable.

benefits are the favorable effects of fire-caused changes and are factors that contribute to the realization of management objectives.

All effects must be looked at with reference to the overall short- and long-term management objectives of any particular site. The effects of fire in an ecosystem that is being managed for wilderness or habitat

objectives may be viewed differently from those being managed primarily for timber production.

Salvage logging

One of the first decisions you may need to make after your forestland has experienced a wildfire is if you want to harvest your dead and dying trees.

Standing dead trees (*snags*) serve a multitude of purposes, the primary one being habitat for many woodland species of bird, mammals and insects that are, in turn, valuable food sources for a wide variety of other animals. Snags and down trees also provide nutrients and organic material to forest soils. But acres of standing dead trees can be too much of a good thing.

Salvage cuts are often initiated after a disturbance (fire, wind, insect or disease kill) to recover the value of damaged trees and remove hazard trees. Salvage operations are usually not done unless the material taken out will at least pay the expense of the operation. But economics and safety are not the sole factors in deciding to salvage log – forest health considerations also play a role in the decision to harvest post-fire stands. Increased bark beetle populations may occur in fire-damaged trees, which then serve as reservoirs for future generations of beetles to spread into adja-

cent healthy stands.

Standing dead and dying timber is also fuel and can increase future fire risks. Look at your land and your management objectives, review the stocking requirements in the Idaho Forest Practices Act and do some math to see if the project will yield a sensible return before making any decisions. Do remember that salvage cuts should be done as soon as possible after a burn – by year three much or all of the value is lost.

Bark beetles

Nothing loves a stressed tree more than a bark beetle – unless it's thousands and thousands of bark beetles. Bark beetle epidemics following a wildfire is a distinct possibility, but not a given. Particular conditions must exist for bark beetles to take advantage of fire-damaged hosts.

There must be enough food for the beetles to eat, meaning a sufficient supply of undamaged inner bark (*phloem*) in fire-damaged trees to sustain growing, or new, and beetle populations.

There must be enough surviving larval or adult beetles to begin the next life-cycle. If the phloem has been heated until dry and dark (dead), any beetle brood in those trees died as well. Beetle larvae cannot feed on dead phloem, nor will adults deposit eggs in it, therefore there must be enough un-

scathed survivors to successfully infest susceptible trees.

Bark beetles are not very strong flyers, so stands without surviving beetles must be close enough to viable populations of beetles for them to take advantage of any suitably weakened trees.

If bark beetle populations do move in, or increase in size, amounts of damage will vary with the severity of the burn. In areas that were **lightly burned**, the amount of bark beetle attraction depends mostly on the amount of root collar damage. Most thick-barked species, such as mature Douglas-fir, western larch, and ponderosa pine, will have low mortality and not attract beetles unless smoldering duff significantly damaged roots or root collars. Thin-barked species, such as true firs, can tolerate little damage at ground level without significant stress, making them much more susceptible to bark beetle attack. Look for trees that have little apparent bole or crown damage, but may be completely girdled at the root collar.

Trees in areas that have experienced **moderately severe burns** are at the greatest risk of bark beetle infestation. The degree to which mature Douglas-fir is attacked will again depend on the amount of damage to the root collar, though it has been found that bole scorch on more than half of the tree's circumference will likely produce a strong attraction for Douglas-fir beetles. Thick stands of ponderosa pine, lodgepole pine, Engelmann spruce and subalpine fir will be stressed enough to almost certainly be attacked by bark beetles or woodborers.

Few **severely burned trees** will be infested by bark beetles or woodborers. Severe heating and charring destroys and dries the phloem, leaving unsuitable habitat for invaders. Even most woodborers that feed in the sapwood require relatively fresh phloem for newly hatched larvae. With that said, studies have shown survival of beetle larvae is higher in standing trees with foliage than without. As severely burned trees that have lost all of their foliage have been found to have a higher moisture content than those with attached dead foliage, they may be able to host a new population of beetles.

Fungi

As fungal spores cannot penetrate bark, insect infestations that take place after a burn often provide entry points for fungi. It is important to detect decay in fire-killed timber early, as it takes very little loss of cell wall material to significantly decrease wood strength. While insect damage and stain lower log value, decay reduces strength properties, which render the wood useless from a structural standpoint and thus decreases log volume.

Fungi require certain levels of temperature, moisture and oxygen to become established and thrive. When the moisture content of wood falls below 15 percent, fungi become inactive. Some species of fungi do not die at this point, but go dormant and become active again when conditions become favorable. Excessive moisture decreases oxygen supplies, and when wood is completely saturated, oxygen levels are not sufficient to sustain fungal growth. On dry sites, deterioration often



A salvage logging project.

occurs on the lower bole where moisture conditions are more favorable. On wet sites, moisture conditions will be more favorable higher up in the stem.

In the first year after a fire, stain is the most important form of deterioration. Blue stain in the sapwood of trees is one of the first signs of degradation in log quality, and when conditions are favorable for blue stain fungi, they are also favorable for other fungi. Stains in softwoods cause little damage to the wood structurally, but do cause loss in grade because of appearance.

Other Forms of Deterioration

Moisture and temperature also contribute to *weather checking*,

which generally happens in the top log (top eight feet) of larger trees where there is less volume to be lost. Smaller trees and those with thin bark are more susceptible to weather checking, and checking will be more extensive on hot, dry or windy slopes. Checking also provides an entryway for fungi.

Breakage in felling is another form of degrade that results in volume or value loss. Fire-killed trees tend to have more breakage than green trees. A decrease in pulp chip volume due to char and decay is another source of loss due to fire.

Rates of Deterioration

See *UI FORESTRY* page 27

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New Book Addresses Farm Succession

By Jake Putnam

A new book called *The Farm Whisperer* by David Specht helps ease the difficulty of passing the family farm to the next generation.

The trend of aging farmers is worrisome because as retirement numbers climb, the question of who takes over the farm looms large. These transition questions, if left unanswered directly affect the survival of the family farm and even the nation's food supply.

"The problem is that the average age of farmers is almost 60 years old and many farmers have not addressed transition issues. The transition of ownership is one of the big challenges agriculture must address this decade, and it needs to be addressed sooner than later," said Specht.

Specht says farmers are often worried about market conditions and day to day operations. He adds that incorporating the younger generations is also a delicate process because of the sensitive nature of family finances.

"I wrote the book to address those issues, everything from the challenge of shared ownership to the transition of handling over the reins," Specht said. "In generational farms traditionally parents have gifted ownership equally amongst kids. Whether they are operating the farm or not, we address that and it can be touchy."

Specht's book has tools that can act as that third party saving attorney fees and letting families keep the succession issue in the family. He also built an iPhone App that addresses the issue.

"I'll give you an example, from a lending perspective, how willing is the next generation to personally take-on the debt of the family farm? That's a question I like to ask every family member as the senior generation works on their estate plan. If we don't have a future generation willing to take on

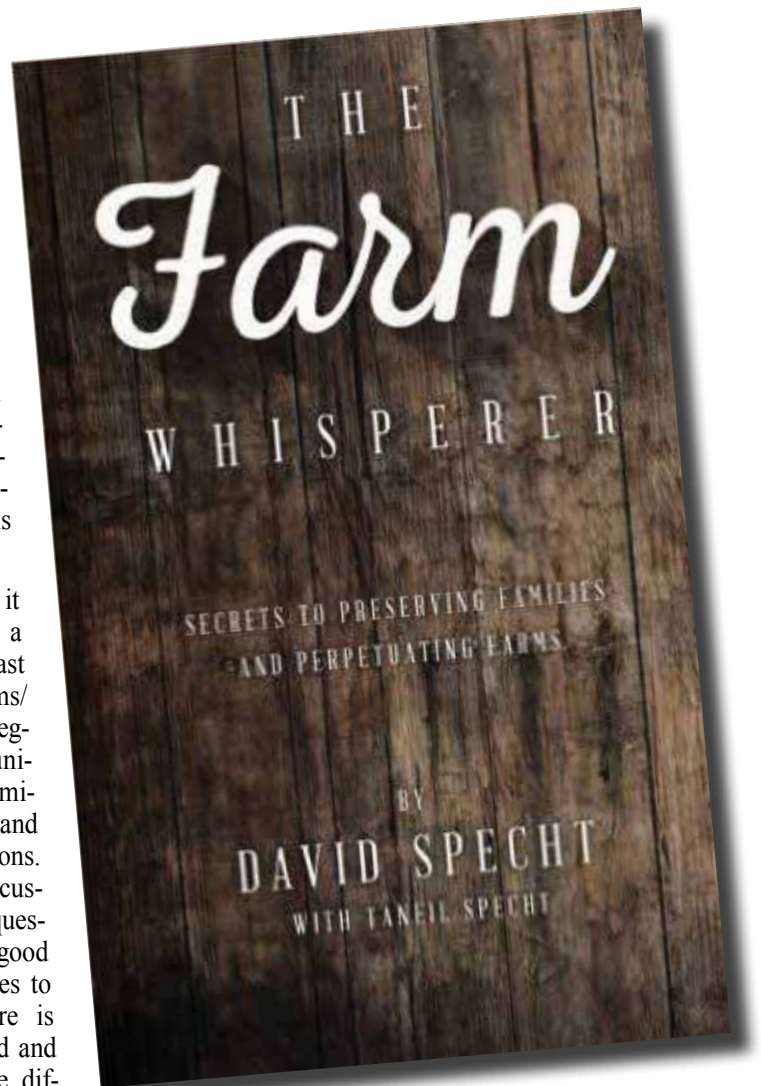
the risk then we should not position those individuals for ownership," added Specht.

Because of these challenges, Specht developed, "Ten Inspired Questions for Perpetuating Generational Farms and Ranches."

What does it mean to be a (insert your last name)? Farms/ranches can be legacies in communities, being in families for three and four generations. Starting the discussion with this question, gives a good basis for families to see where there is common ground and where there are differences.

What is the biggest unknown regarding the future of your ranch? Different generations will answer this differently so this is a way to start discussion and learn about common views and differences.

What is or would be the hardest thing about being a parent and an owner of the ranch? The younger generation has the opportunity to learn about the concerns and challenges the senior generation worries about. It may be debt, who will take over the ranch, or how will they let go when it is time to turn things over.



What do you perceive as the biggest challenge regarding shared ownership in a family ranch? If the senior generation suddenly passes on and leaves the ranch for example to all three children - the son who is home on the farm and the two daughters who left after college and live in the city - how does the next generation sort this out? The parents were trying to be fair to all their children but the children may have different expectations, goals and interpretations of sharing.

What is your comfort level with having to

See FARM SUCCESSION page 22

FARM SUCCESSION

Continued from page 21

personally guarantee the debt of the family ranch? Owning a ranch, especially a legacy ranch, is a huge responsibility. Is the next generation comfortable with the debt level? Everyone needs to know the debt level and the profitability of the operation. Some family members may express they want to come back to the ranch, but don't want to own it, how does this fit with the others family members.

At what age do the decisions in your personal life influence how people look at the ranch? You now find yourself the son taking over the ranch, but you were known in the community as the troublemaker in high school or for making some poor decisions in your early adult years. How does this influence how your family ranch is viewed in the community?

If you owned the ranch, what do you think

would keep you awake at night? Ownership is a lot of responsibility. An open discussion of what will keep you up at night whether it is debt, lack of access to more land to expand and family issues--all these all need to be voiced.

What innovations will the family ranch have to make it stay competitive? As the next generation takes over new technologies may need to be infused into the operation. Is there money for this? Does the senior generation support these changes?

What responsibilities come with owning a ranch? A great question for each generation to discuss and answer. The younger generation may not be aware of some of the responsibilities of owning a farm/ranch.

Complete this sentence: The best thing about being a part of a family ranch is?

Most often families enjoy the flexibility, setting their own hours and working with family (which can be best and worst), but overall it's leaving a legacy. Answering this question is like discussing the mission and values of the ranch operation.

Specht says that great conversations start with tough questions and we need courage to ask these key questions for discussion.

Advising Generations LLC, has released an app for iPhone, iPad and iPod touch which provides 100 Inspired Questions that can be used as dinner table conversation starters, family meeting facilitation questions, and a social media component that allows sharing on Facebook, Twitter, Messaging and E-mail. For more information go to www.inspired-questions.com or buy the Farm Whisperer at Amazon.com.



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BIG DATA

Continued from page 5

We need the co-op clouds.”

The AFBF survey also revealed other issues that must be addressed to help promote farmer acceptance, noting the following:

- Seventy-seven percent are concerned about which entities can access their farm data and whether it could be used for regulatory purposes;
- Sixty-seven percent said they will consider how outside parties use and treat their data when deciding which technology or service provider to use;
- Sixty-six percent believe farmers should share in the potential financial benefits from the use of their data beyond the direct value they may realize on their farm;
- Sixty-one percent are worried that companies could use their data to influence market decisions
- Fifty-nine percent were confused whether current agreements or contracts allowed technology or service providers to use their data to market other services, equipment or inputs back to them.

This year’s poll builds a foundation, an action plan that follows a 2014 survey that led to the development and publication of a set of Thirteen Principles on Data Privacy and Security that same year. Thirty-eight different agricultural companies and farm groups have signed on to the principles.

Since then, Duvall said Farm Bureau has focused its efforts on “bringing life” to the principles. Farm Bureau’s work to date has primarily centered on three major projects. The first of which was the Creation of the Ag Data Transparency Evaluator; the development of a cooperative data repository by the Ag Data Coalition and additional education for farmers and ranchers on issues pertaining to data technology.

The information gathered by tractors, harvesters and aerial drones can bring in as much cash as crop. For farmers the data can be used to improve efficiency, simplify paperwork that adds up to more time and more money. Data also enables better food safety, affordability, better land stewardship and efficient use of irrigation water.

“It’s no surprise that the digital bread crumbs we leave behind is highly sought after information when we shop, bank, go online and do our research,” said Matt Bechdol for the Ag Data Coalition. “Universities need to do better research, manufacturers need it to build better farm equipment and input providers need it to produce cutting-edge seed and crop boosting technologies.”

This means determining ownership of this emerging resource is one of the most important questions that must be addressed as we enter the era of data-driven agriculture.



Clark Johnston

Use Historical Data Rather Than Chase the Market

This spring was very good in most areas for planting as well as keeping the crops in good condition. It wasn't perfect everywhere all the time but, it was good for the most part.

However, what was good for production wasn't necessarily good for prices as we experienced very little in price movements to the upside. Having said this we did see December corn futures trade back up above \$4 a couple of times. The \$4 market was something we hadn't seen since the middle of December. The carry in the corn market did narrow to only 6 cents between July and December futures.

This is telling us that even though we have good supplies of corn the trade isn't quite convinced of ample supplies as we move into the next marketing year. If you want to compare the carry in wheat to the carry in corn we see that wheat futures in Chicago are showing a 27 cent carry for the same July to December time frame.

The wheat markets really haven't changed much over the past few months. We still have ample supplies with projections for demand through the next marketing year to be steady at best. If the early projections play out we could see the carry in the wheat futures remain just as wide as they are now.

I recently visited with a producer that commented on how he always thought he was a very good marketer until the past two

years came along. I think a lot of us fall into this same category; after all it is easier to be a good merchandizer when prices are \$6 rather than \$5. I'm not saying that he really isn't good at marketing; I'm simply saying that he has now realized that things have changed in the market and he needs to also change.

We have talked a great deal about futures and basis over the past few months and how you can use them to your benefit if you separate them rather than just looking at the cash bid. I know this may sound redundant but, as long as we have the carry in the market you need to continue to look at the deferred months when contracting your crop.

Historically we have seen some strength in the futures market as we move into July. At the same time the wheat basis has been at its low during the first part of July and has strengthened as we move into the end of November. This has been the trend over the past 4 years. If the carry charge in the wheat futures continues we would anticipate the trend to remain in place for this marketing year.

Using this trend you would sell the December wheat futures the first of July and hold your wheat in your bin until November. After the basis has strengthened you would contract your wheat and buy your futures position back locking in your selling price for your wheat.

By using the historical data to help you market your commodities you will be able to take at least some of the emotion out of your decision. Emotional traders usually end up chasing the market and are never satisfied with their decisions.

Let's take a look at the historical trend in heating oil and diesel fuel. Most of you remember that heating oil futures move higher from the last half of January through the month of June. This year the July heating oil futures traded 52 cents higher from the third week in January through the third week in May. Your local diesel fuel prices may not have moved as much as the heating oil futures moved but, the trend was still in place and prices moved higher. Keep this in mind for next year.

For more information on the marketing strategies we discuss contact your Regional manager or call the Federation office in Pocatello.

Clark Johnston is a grain marketing specialist who is on contract with the Idaho Farm Bureau. He is the owner of JC Management Company in Northern Utah. He can be reached at clark@jcmanagement.net

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County Happenings

The Cassia County Farm Bureau recently awarded scholarships to local students headed for college.



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UI FORESTRY

Continued from page 19

slopes. Checking also provides an entryway for fungi.

Breakage in felling is another form of degrade that results in volume or value loss. Fire-killed trees tend to have more breakage than green trees. A decrease in pulp chip volume due to char and decay is another source of loss due to fire.

Rates of Deterioration

Insect damage is generally classified as limited deterioration with the resulting wood products, such as lumber or veneer, being lower in grade but still usable. Stain is also classified as limited deterioration but has a major economic impact by lowering the value of products graded for appearance. The presence of decay fungi results in a classification of general deteriora-

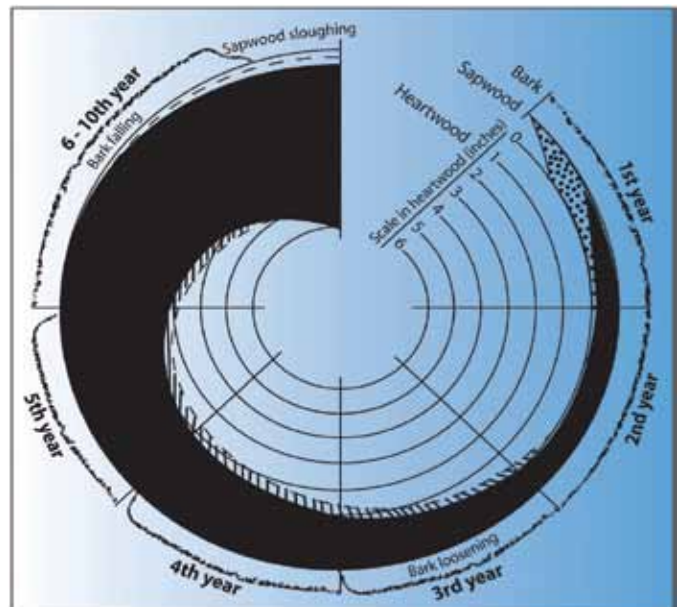
tion with a resulting loss in volume. Each stand and each tree is unique, but some generalizations have been made:

blue stain will appear in susceptible trees within the first year;

by the second year, some of the heartwood will be decayed; sapwood decay will be increasing;

after three years the sapwood of most softwoods has deteriorated beyond use for structural timber products.

Figure 1 shows the progress of deterioration in the trunk of an average young-growth, fire-killed Douglas-fir tree. Stippling represents limited deterioration by blue-staining fungi and ambrosia beetles in the sapwood. The black area represents general deterioration by all causes. The cross hatching represents



An illustration that shows deterioration of wood quality after a fire.

limited deterioration by borers in the heartwood.

For more information on how to assess and manage your forestland after a wildfire, contact Yvonne Barkley at yvonnec@uidaho.edu and request the free

publication *After the Burn: Assessing and Managing Your Forestland after a Wildfire*.

Yvonne Barkley is an associate extension forester for the University of Idaho. She can be reached at yvonnec@uidaho.edu



Focus on Agriculture

\$145,000 Offered in Farm Bureau Rural Entrepreneurship Challenge

By Cyndie Shearing

Did you know that small businesses are especially vital in rural areas, creating about two-thirds of rural jobs? Often, this helps build rural communities as more people get their business ideas off the ground.

The American Farm Bureau Federation's Rural Entrepreneurship Challenge is helping communities around the nation by providing individuals an opportunity to showcase their ideas and innovations while competing for

a total of \$145,000 in startup funding. Along the way, participants get advice from business experts serving as mentors and judges. They learn how to pitch their ideas, write business plans, approach investors and market themselves.

Now in its third year, the application period for the current challenge is open through June 30. Competitors may submit for-profit business ideas related to food and agriculture online at www.strongruralamerica.com/challenge.

All applications must include a business plan, video pitch and photo.

Owners of all types of businesses across the food and agriculture supply chain are encouraged to enter the competition. Ten rural entrepreneurs will receive funding to take their businesses to the next level.

Businesses related to food and agriculture include farms or ranches, value-added food processing, food hubs, community-supported agriculture programs, farm-to-table restaurants,

farmers' markets, wineries, breweries, cideries and distilleries. Businesses can also support food and agriculture such as crop scouting, agritourism, ag advertising agencies and ag technology companies.

Judges will review the applications and provide feedback to the participants. The top 10 teams will be announced in October. This includes six teams who will each win \$10,000 in startup funds.

The final four teams will compete in a live competition at AFBF's 98th Annual Convention in Phoenix on January 8, 2017, to win:

Farm Bureau Entrepreneur of the Year award and \$30,000 (chosen by judges);

People's Choice award and \$25,000 (chosen by public vote);

First runner-up prize, \$15,000; and

Second runner-up prize, \$15,000.

The Entrepreneur of the Year award and the People's Choice award will be awarded to two different teams.

Check-ins with prior winners and finalists reveal that start-up funds won in the challenge have been put to good use.

For example, ScoutPro, Inc. of Pleasantville, Iowa, team lead Michael Koenig, was named Farm Bureau Entrepreneur of the Year in 2015 at AFBF's 96th Annual Convention. ScoutPro received a total of \$30,000 in prize money to implement the winning business idea – software to assist farmers with crop maintenance.

Koenig and his business partners used the start-up funds they won in the competition to re-build and re-launch an updated version of their crop scouting software for growers.

“After launching the grower software in 2012, we discovered that few farmers had tablets” and thus were not able to use the technology, Koenig said. The partners quickly pivoted, successfully focusing on the ag retailer market instead.

Fast forward three years and “Most growers now have the mobile technology capable of operating our software,” Koenig explained. They offer scouting software free to growers who scout their own acres for weeds, insects and diseases, and utilize the services and feedback of advisers in making in-season decisions.

Learn more online at www.strongruralamerica.com/challenge.

Cyndie Shearing is director of internal communications at the American Farm Bureau Federation.



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USDA Announces Conservation Reserve Program Results

USDA announced the enrollment of more than 800,000 acres in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). Through CRP, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) helps farmers offset the costs of restoring, enhancing and protecting certain grasses, shrubs and trees that improve water quality, prevent soil erosion and strengthen wildlife habitat. Farmers' and ranchers' participation in CRP continues to provide numerous benefits to our nation, including helping reduce emissions of harmful greenhouse gases and providing resiliency to future weather changes.

A nationwide acreage limit was established for this program in the 2014 Farm Bill, capping the total number of acres that may be enrolled at 24 million for fiscal years 2017 and 2018. At the same time, USDA has experienced a record demand from farmers and ranchers interested in participating in the voluntary program. As of March 2016, 23.8 million acres were enrolled in CRP, with 1.7 million acres set to expire this fall.

Over three million acres have been of-

ferred for enrollment this year across the three main categories within CRP, with USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) receiving over 26,000 offers to enroll more than 1.8 million acres during the general enrollment period, and over 4,600 offers to enroll more than one million acres in the new CRP Grasslands program. Coming off a record-setting 2015 continuous enrollment of over 860,000 acres, more than 364,000 acres already have been accepted for 2016 in the CRP continuous enrollment, triple the pace of last year.

FSA will accept 411,000 acres in general enrollment, the most competitive selection in the history of the program, with the acreage providing record high conservation benefits. USDA selected offers by weighing environmental factors plus cost, including wildlife enhancement, water quality, soil erosion, enduring benefits, and air quality.

The results of the first-ever enrollment period for CRP Grasslands, FSA will also accept 101,000 acres in the program, providing participants with financial assistance for establishing approved grasses,

trees and shrubs on pasture and rangeland that can continue to be grazed. More than 70 percent of these acres are diverse native grasslands under threat of conversion, and more than 97 percent of the acres have a new, veteran or underserved farmer or rancher as a primary producer. FSA continues to accept CRP Grasslands offers and will conduct another ranking period later this year.

Participants in CRP establish long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees (known as "covers") to control soil erosion, improve water quality and develop wildlife habitat on marginally productive agricultural lands. In return, FSA provides participants with rental payments and cost-share assistance. Contract duration is between 10 and 15 years.

To learn more about FSA's conservation programs, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/conservation or contact a local FSA county office. To find your local FSA county office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION NEWS

Groups Show Support for Farm Credit System

WASHINGTON, D.C., - With farm and ranch commodity prices increasingly under pressure, concerns are growing that the agriculture economy may be entering a prolonged period of instability, making the role of the Farm Credit System more important than ever, the American Farm Bureau Federation and more than 50 agricultural groups wrote to the Senate Agriculture Committee.

"Credit availability in good times is singularly important to our respective members.

Credit availability in tough times may well mean the difference between producers staying on the land or being forced to abandon their operations," the groups wrote.

The array of credit products offered by both the Farm Credit System and commercial banks, often in a collaborative and cooperative manner, ensures that farmers and ranchers and their industry sector partners have access to financial tools that are vital to their success, according to the groups.

"It is our belief that the Farm Credit Sys-

tem and commercial banks play a critical role in ensuring that farmers, ranchers and other rural Americans have access to constructive, competitive credit on an ongoing basis. We need all the resources that can be made available to sustain agriculture and rural America now and into the future," according to the groups.

The groups sent the letter ahead of a Senate Agriculture Committee Farm Credit System oversight hearing.

USDA Resumes Biomass Incentives

WASHINGTON, – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) Administrator Val Dolcini recently announced that incentives resume this month for farmers and foresters who grow and harvest biomass for renewable energy and biobased products. The funds come through the Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP), which was reauthorized by the 2014 Farm Bill.

“This program expands the types of feedstock that can be used to make renewable fuels and biobased products, laying the foundation for growing more products made in rural America,” said Dolcini. “The Biomass Crop Assistance Program currently supports more than 890 growers and landowners farming nearly 49,000 acres to establish and produce dedicated, nonfood energy crops for delivery to energy conversion facilities, and it is a key piece of USDA’s strategy to grow the rural economy and create new markets for our farmers and ranchers.”

Facilities seeking to be qualified by USDA to accept biomass can begin enrollment between today, May 23, and June 6, 2016. BCAP provides financial assistance to farmers and ranchers who establish and maintain new crops of energy biomass, or who harvest and deliver forest or agricultural residues to a USDA-approved facility that creates energy or biobased products.

In fiscal year 2016, there is \$3 million available for BCAP. A portion of the funds will be provided to two existing BCAP projects in New York and Ohio/Pennsylvania to expand acres planted to shrub willow and giant miscanthus. Farmers and forest landowners may enroll for biomass establishment and maintenance payments for these two projects between June 15 and Sept. 13, 2016.

Also, between June 15 to Aug. 4, 2016, USDA will accept applications from foresters and farmers seeking incentives to

remove biomass residues from fields or national forests for delivery to energy generation facilities. The retrieval payments are provided at match of \$1 for \$1, up to \$20 per dry ton. Eligible crops include corn residue, diseased or insect-infested wood materials, or orchard waste.

To learn more about BCAP or to enroll in updates, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/bcap or contact your local FSA county office. To find your local county office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has recognized the biobased economy as one of the pillars that strengthen rural communities, and as a result USDA helped jumpstart efforts to provide a reliable supply of advanced plant materials for biofuels. Over the course of this Administration, USDA has invested \$332 million to accelerate research on renewable energy ranging from genomic research on bioenergy feedstock crops, to development of biofuel conversion processes and costs/benefit estimates of renewable energy production. Through BCAP, USDA is incentivizing more than 890 growers and landowners farming nearly 49,000 acres to establish and produce dedicated, nonfood energy crops for delivery to energy conversion facilities, and the department has expanded insurance coverage and other safety net options to support farmers producing biomass for renewable energy.

To ensure those feedstocks are put to use, USDA has invested in the work needed to create advanced biofuels refineries. Under this Administration, USDA has supported efforts to build six new biorefineries to produce advanced biofuels in Louisiana, Georgia, Oregon, Nevada, North Carolina, and Iowa, in addition to three existing facilities in New Mexico, Michigan and Florida previously supported. USDA has also worked to strengthen markets for biobased products. Approximately 2,500

products now carry USDA’s BioPreferred label, which helps consumers make informed decisions about their purchases, giving them assurances that their product was made using renewable materials, such as plants or forestry materials.

Investments in renewable energy and the biobased economy are a leading part of USDA’s commitment to mitigating climate change and promoting a clean-energy economy. This month, the Department is examining what a changing climate means to agriculture and how USDA is working to reduce greenhouse gases. For more information, visit Chapter 5 of <https://medium.com/usda-results>.

Since 2009, USDA has worked to strengthen and support American agriculture, an industry that supports one in 11 American jobs, provides American consumers with more than 80 percent of the food we consume, ensures that Americans spend less of their paychecks at the grocery store than most people in other countries, and supports markets for homegrown renewable energy and materials. USDA has also provided \$5.6 billion of disaster relief to farmers and ranchers; expanded risk management tools with products like the Whole Farm Revenue Protection; and helped farm businesses grow with \$36 billion in farm credit. The Department has engaged its resources to support a strong next generation of farmers and ranchers by improving access to land and capital; building new markets and market opportunities; extending new conservation opportunities. USDA has developed new markets for rural-made products, including more than 2,500 biobased products through USDA’s BioPreferred program; and invested \$64 billion in infrastructure and community facilities to help improve the quality of life in rural America. For more information, visit www.usda.gov/results.

OWYHEE WETLANDS

Continued from page 13

The Romero family enjoys seeing waterfowl and other wildlife using the ponds as well.

“We are in tune with the wildlife scene,” John Romero says. “And we do like wildlife around us. We have sandhill cranes, lots of waterfowl, pheasants, quail, badgers, coyotes, Canada geese, a variety of songbirds and things like that.”

Chris Black has created pond habitat for wildlife and as a place for his cattle to drink. But his overall objective has been to create wet meadow habitat for multiple species. “I try to manage holistically, which means I try to consider everything when I manage,” he says. “I’m managing for wildlife, I’m managing for recreation, I’m managing for all of the things that are

out there.”

Another reason that Black set up his ponds was to sub-irrigate the meadows. “I wanted them to leak, I wanted them to recharge the system,” Black says. “In the early spring, when we have runoff in this particular area, we have 3-5 days of heavy runoff, an immense amount of water coming down. But then we don’t have any water. So, my idea was to hold that water in the system, longer, so it can build these meadows and recharge the aquifer, instead of running off.”

Black brings his cattle into the Camas Creek meadows in the spring when the meadows are full of water. “It enables me to use pastures more effectively, and it enables me to time my use a lot more ef-

fectively,” he says. “I can use the pastures if they have water in them, use them for a short amount of time, and move onto another one.”

In Toy Valley, Black grazes his cattle here in the fall, after it has been rested all summer. “As you can see, everything is at seed ripe and at its biological potential here. As you can see from the tall (head-high) grass.”

All of the ranchers who have worked on enhancing wetlands recommend it for other landowners. A key aspect is that it’s much quicker and easier to make conservation improvements on private lands.

“Especially here in Owyhee County, water is the key thing,” Romero says. “In the West, particularly in the drier parts of the West, the valuable lands for wildlife and livestock are on the private ground. So to make improvements for wildlife, a lot of people are just discovering that if we can help out the private landowner, then we can also help wildlife.”

Indeed, a recent public opinion poll conducted by the University of Idaho for the Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission, found that 84 percent of the public recognizes that private ranchlands provide important wildlife habitat. On a scale of 1-7, 68 percent rated the value of private farms and ranches for wildlife as being a 5 or higher.

“The more habitat we can create, the better we are off in the long run,” Black says. “More habitat for wildlife, the more profit you can make from cattle if you can enhance a meadow like this, or have a clean drink of water for your cow. Yeah I would recommend it for other ranchers.”

“I think it’s positive for everybody,” Hoagland adds.

Steve Stuebner is the writer and producer of Life on the Range, an educational project sponsored by the Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission.



A man-made and established pond in Owyhee County created to help save water and enhance habitat.

EPA, Army Corps of Engineers Violate Law

WASHINGTON, D.C., - The Environmental Protection Agency and Army Corps of Engineers have violated their own regulations and effectively invented new ones in enforcing the Clean Water Act, the American Farm Bureau Federation said.

Don Parrish, senior director of congressional relations at AFBF, told the Senate Subcommittee on Fisheries, Water and Wildlife that the Army Corps' novel interpretations of environmental law are threatening the very livelihoods of ordinary, middle-class Americans who happen to farm for a living.

"Based on what we see in California, it is clear that the expansions in jurisdiction over land and water features on the farm are already happening," Parrish told the subcommittee. "Most ordinary farming activities conducted in areas under jurisdiction will require

permits if and when the Corps chooses to demand them. And when they demand permits, delays and costs will mount until most farmers simply give up. Congress needs to step in and give farmers some real certainty so they can plan their farming operations and protect the environment at the same time."

Parrish's testimony also included a detailed analysis of recent Army Corps actions by Jody Galloway, an environmental scientist and California Farm Bureau member who has consulted on numerous discussions between local farmers and the Corps. The Army Corps interprets and executes environmental regulations that are largely determined by the EPA.

Parrish cited numerous examples of EPA and Army Corps mismanagement:

The Corps has made jurisdictional determinations and tracked farming activities based on classified aerial pho-

tographs and LIDAR imagery that is not publicly available, even to farmers under investigation

Army Corps officials have forced farmers to sign non-disclosure agreements - gag orders, in effect - as part of their enforcement actions.

One California farmer invested tens of thousands of dollars to map his private property to ensure his farming activity would avoid polluting local watersheds. The Corps, in response, threatened enforcement proceedings over construction of roads and ponds completed years before the farmer owned the property.

In the Army Corps' Sacramento district, any plowing through a wetland requires permits that typically cost hundreds of thousands of dollars in engineering fees, even though the Clean Water Act exempts plowing from permitting.

The Army Corps has issued menacing letters to farmers who have changed from alfalfa hay farming to cattle grazing and back, despite the absence of any law to support their objections.

The Corps has told farmers to stop working when it merely suspected they were plowing too deep or changing land use. The Corps' selective enforcement of this interpretation means it can now tell farmers where they may and may not farm, and what they may grow.

The five-year drought has forced many farmers to temporarily fallow land or change crops based on changes in irrigation and market conditions. Oblivious to such obvious economic distress, the Corps has repeatedly required permits for ordinary plowing necessary to prepare the ground to change crops, further compounding the economic dislocation farmers have felt in the Central Val-

AFBF Statement on GMO Report

WASHINGTON, D.C., -- "The National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine have reaffirmed what thousands of other studies have found, and what farmers, scientists and educated consumers have known all along: genetically engineered crops are safe and beneficial to agriculture, human health and the

environment.

"The Academies also found that we do not need a label for food made from genetically engineered crops because those foods are as safe to consume as any other. This finding is timely, as the Senate has yet to pass legislation to pre-empt state-by-state labeling mandates--mandates that are not based

on science or food safety issues and would be misleading and costly for consumers. The study gives senators all the evidence they need to support a national, voluntary labeling standard and we urge them to do so soon--before it is too late to halt the non-science-based labeling mandate in Vermont.

"The science behind the safety of modern agricultural technology is clearer than ever. We thank the Academies for tackling this issue and doing a thorough, scientific review. This report should close the book on any further debate over the safety and benefits of GMOs."

Idaho News Briefs

UI Extension Natural Resources Camp

KETCHUM, Idaho — University of Idaho Extension will offer the 56th annual Natural Resources Camp Monday through Saturday, June 27-July 2, near Sun Valley for youths ages 12-14 interested in learning about wildlife, rangeland, forestry, water and soil.

As with previous years, the camp will take place 17 miles north of Ketchum in Idaho's Smoky Mountains. Participants and staff will

sleep in cabins and gather around a fire every night after each day's learning activities.

"It's the perfect background and setting to learn about the proper and sustainable management of natural resources," said Randy Brooks, UI Extension forestry specialist. "My favorite part is interacting with the youth. Their minds are like sponges."

Brooks is camp co-director with UI Extension soil specialist Amber Moore. He will teach forestry

classes focusing on tree identification and fire ecology.

UI Extension educators IDAH20 coordinator Jim Ekins and aquaculture specialist Gary Fornshell, along with Joanna Tjaden of the federal Bureau of Land Management, will lead topics in water quality, rangeland management and wildlife habitats and communities. Participants will help plant fish, compete in matchstick splitting competitions, hike and apply their new knowledge during other activities and expeditions.

"We talk about careers. Kids get to meet other kids across the state that maybe share the same passions as them. It's a chance to camp. There are classes, but also

fun games and rec activities. This is probably the best opportunity our youth will have to learn about natural resources in a beautiful, remote setting," Brooks said.

Registration costs \$235, and scholarships are available through local Soil Conservation Districts.

Applications and information are available at local Soil Conservation Districts, county UI Extension offices, online and at the UI Twin Falls Research and Extension Center. The deadline to register without a \$20 late fee is May 20. Approximately 120 spots are available.

More information is available from Sue Knoth at 208-310-0224.

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION NEWS

EPA Disparages Farmers, Hinders Progress

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Three Farm Bureau members today called on the federal government to use more carrots and fewer sticks with farmers who care for land that has often been in their families for generations. Pennsylvania Farm Bureau President Richard Ebert, former Ohio Farm Bureau President Terry McClure and Florida Farm Bureau member Kate English testified before the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.

Ebert told the subcommittee that the Environmental Protection Agency has failed to explain its expectations in the ongoing Chesapeake Bay cleanup.

"Despite my four-year degree in animal science from a well-known and respected university and 34 years of farming while implementing modern technolo-

gies, I don't understand EPA's science," Ebert said. "And no farmer can legitimately comprehend and respond to the reams of academic analyses that have been produced through these meetings and continue to perform the tasks needed to run his or her farm business."

Ebert chided EPA for spreading false information about family farms.

"EPA and its cohorts point fingers and paint agriculture — farmers just like me — as a villain that impairs water quality in the Bay," Ebert said. "But their accusations are in direct conflict with U.S. Geological Survey data — which showed pretty positive gains on water quality in tributaries throughout the Bay Watershed. These gains are not because of our revised Bay strategy or EPA's model. It merely

demonstrates what agriculture has been doing for decades through increased knowledge, additional opportunities, technology and time."

McClure noted that Ohio farmers work hard to reduce runoff of excess phosphorous and nitrogen from their farms.

"Farmers have invested tens of millions of dollars of their own money in establishing conservation practices on their farms," McClure said. "Between 2006 and 2012, they have voluntarily reduced phosphorous applications in the Western Lake Erie Basin by more than 13 million pounds. As farmers are stepping up to implement conservation practices now, they are committed to finding additional solutions in the future."

English warned that federal regulations have become unwork-

ably complex.

"A farmer shouldn't have to have a lawyer and an engineer on staff to grow food," she said.

English singled out the EPA's controversial Waters of the United States rule as an example of bad science.

"The rule not only expands the regulatory footprint for farming and increases the uncertainty we battle daily, but it also lacks peer-reviewed sound science," English said. "These regulations appear instead to be based on public opinion and social media trends rather than facts and science. The result is a highly unpredictable regulatory environment and uncontrolled costs when faced with compliance based on a moving target rather than a rational, science-based goal."

Farm Bureau Members

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ADVANCED RESERVATIONS REQUIRED



FARM BUREAU COMMODITY REPORT

GRAIN PRICES	4/25/2016	5/20/2016	Trend
PORTLAND:			
White Wheat	N/A	5.22-5.32	N/A
11% Winter	5.37-5.43	5.21-5.29	- .16 to - .14
14% Spring	6.17-6.37	6.17-6.32	Steady to - 5
Oats	270.00	270.00	Steady

OGDEN:			
White Wheat	4.11	4.32	+ .21
11% Winter	4.07	4.09	+ .02
14% Spring	5.22	5.32	+ .10
Barley	7.15	6.90	- .25

BLACKFOOT/ IDAHO FALLS			
White Wheat	4.15	4.10	- .05
11.5% Winter	4.40	4.15	- .25
14% Spring	5.10	5.05	- .05
Hard White	4.60	4.50	- .10

BURLEY:			
White Wheat	3.96	3.95	- .01
11% Winter	3.77	3.53	- .24
14% Spring	5.07	5.08	+ .01
Barley	6.00	6.00	Steady

NAMPA:			
White Wheat (cwt) (Bushel)	7.23 4.34	6.90 4.14	- .33 - .20

LEWISTON:			
White Wheat	4.90	4.95	+ .05
H. Red Winter	5.18	4.99	- .19
Dark N. Spring	5.87	5.97	+ .10
Barley	126.50	126.50	Steady

LIVESTOCK PRICES

FEEDER STEERS	4/22/2016	5/20/2016	Trend
Under 500 lbs	150-200	137-194	-13 to - 6
500-700 lbs	130-190	135-180	+ 5 to -10
700-900 lbs	120-164	120-149	steady to - 15
Over 900 lbs	108-130	108-132	steady to + 2

FEEDER HEIFERS			
Under 500 lbs	138-181	137-179	- 1 to - 2
500-700 lbs	127-178	131-160	+ 4 to + 2
700-900 lbs	115-152	115-143	steady to - 9
Over 900 lbs	100-127	No Test	NA

HOLSTEIN STEERS			
Under 700 lbs	86-130	91-109	+ 5 to - 21
Over 700 lbs	76-116	92-126	+ 16 to + 10

COWS			
Utility/Commercial	64-86	65-83	+ 1 to - 3
Canner & Cutter	55-76	55-73	Steady to - 3

Stock Cows	950-1560	950-1500	Steady to - 60
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BULLS			
Slaughter	70-108	73-105	+ 3 to - 3

BEAN PRICES:			
Pinto	24.00	25.00-28.00	+ 1.00 to + 4.00
Pink	28.00	Not established	Not established
Small Red	Not established	Not established	Not established
Garbanzo	33.00-34.00	32.00-35.00	- 1.00 to + 1.00

COMPILED BY THE IDAHO FARM BUREAU COMMODITY DIVISION

IDAHO HAY REPORT

USDA Market News, Moses Lake, WA

May 13, 2016

Tons: 3000 Last Week: 4200 Last Year: 4700

Compared to last Friday: All grades of Alfalfa steady in a light test. New crop sales reported this week are having high moisture problems as rain showers dominate the trade area. Trade slow with light to moderate demand. Retail/feed store/horse not tested this week. All prices are dollars per ton and FOB the farm or ranch unless otherwise stated.

	Tons	Price	Wtd Avg	Comments
Alfalfa				
Mid Square				
Supreme	1900	155.00	155.00	New Crop
Fair/Good	300	80.00	80.00	Tarped
Mixed Grasses				
Fair/Good	500	75.00	75.00	

Alfalfa hay test guidelines, (for domestic livestock use and not more than 10% grass), used with visual appearance and intent of sale
Quantitative factors are approximate and many factors can affect feeding value.

	ADF	NDF	RFV	TDN-100%	TDN-90%	CP-100%
Supreme	<27	<34	>185	>62	>55.9	>22
Premium	27-29	34-36	170-185	60.5-62	54.5-55.9	20-22
Good	29-32	36-40	150-170	58-60	52.5-54.5	18-20
Fair	32-35	40-44	130-150	56-58	50.5-52.5	16-18
Utility	>35	>44	<130	<56	<50.5	<16

RFV calculated using the Wis/Minn formula. TDN calculated using the western formula. Values based on 100% dry matter, TDN both 90% and 100%.

Quantitative factors are approximate, and many factors can affect feeding Value. Values based on 100 pct. dry matter. End usage may influence hay price or value more than testing results.

POTATOES & ONIONS

May 17, 2016

Potatoes

UPPER VALLEY, TWIN FALLS-BURLEY DISTRICT, IDAHO--- Shipments 643-667-676 (includes exports of 1-5-1)---Movement expected to remain about the same. Trading carton 40-80s active, others moderate. Prices carton 40-80s higher, others generally unchanged. Russet Burbank U.S. One baled 10-5 pound film bags non size A mostly 4.50-5.00; 50-pound carton 40-70s mostly 11.50-12.00, 80s mostly 10.00, 90-100s mostly 9.00.

Potatoes for Processing

IDAHO--- Movement expected to remain about the same. No prices reported.

Onions

IDAHO AND MALHEUR COUNTY OREGON---Shipments 55-31-19---Move-ment expected to decrease seasonally. Prices remaining supplies too few hands to establish a market. LAST REPORT.

5 YEAR GRAIN COMPARISON

Grain Prices..... 5/29/2012..... 5/21/2013..... 5/23/2014..... 5/18/2015..... 5/20/2016

Portland:

White Wheat.....	6.90	7.65	7.29	No Bid.....	5.22-5.32
11% Winter.....	7.28-7.43	8.68-8.69	8.11-8.21	6.45-6.46	5.21-5.29
14% Spring.....	9.10	9.33	8.57	7.72	6.17-6.32
Corn.....	256-257.25	285.00	No Bid	55-4.61	4.68-4.74

Ogden:

White Wheat.....	6.10	7.80	6.15	6.27	4.32
11% Winter.....	6.03	7.22	6.52	5.45	4.09
14 % Spring.....	7.52	7.85	6.72	6.75	5.32
Barley.....	10.00	11.70	9.15	5.60	6.90

Pocatello:

White Wheat.....	6.00	7.48	6.50	5.91	4.10
11% Winter.....	5.84	7.55	6.99	5.64	4.15
14% Spring.....	7.49	7.48	6.76	6.50	5.05
Barley.....	10.42	11.35	No Bid	No Bid	No Bid

Burley:

White Wheat.....	6.05	7.50	5.81	5.76	3.95
11% Winter.....	6.11	7.04	6.45	4.86	3.53
14% Spring.....	7.49	7.73	6.60	6.15	5.08
Barley.....	10.00	11.25	6.50	4.75	6.00

Nampa:

White Wheat (cwt).....	9.75	11.83	10.50	9.33	6.90
(bushel).....	5.85	7.10	6.30	5.60	4.14

Lewiston:

White Wheat.....	6.50	7.45	7.05	6.05	4.95
Barley.....	204.50	221.50	186.50	131.50	126.50

Bean Prices:

Pintos.....	50.00	33.00-34.00	34.00-35.00	24.00-25.00	
25.00-28.00					
Pinks.....	45.00-48.00	38.00-40.00	39.00-40.00	No Bid	No Bid
Small Reds.....	N/A	38.00-40.00	39.00-40.00	40.00	No Bid

MILK PRODUCTION

May 20, 2016

April Milk Production up 1.2 Percent

Milk production in the 23 major States during April totaled 16.8 billion pounds, up 1.2 percent from April 2015. March revised production, at 17.2 billion pounds, was up 1.8 percent from March 2015. The March revision represented an increase of 7 million pounds or less than 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,948 pounds for April, 19

pounds above April 2015. This is the highest production per cow for the month of April since the 23 State series began in 2003.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.65 million head, 21,000 head more than April 2015, and 4,000 head more than March 2016.

April Milk Production in the United States up 1.2 Percent

Milk production in the United States during April totaled 18.0 billion pounds, up 1.2 percent from April 2015.

Production per cow in the United States averaged 1,929 pounds for April, 20 pounds above April 2015.

The number of milk cows on farms in the United States was 9.33 million head, 15,000 head more than April 2015, and 4,000 head more than March 2016.



5 YEAR LIVESTOCK COMPARISON

	5/22/2012	5/21/2013	5/20/2014	5/20/2015	5/20/2016
Feeder Steers					
Under 500 lbs	140-197	122-158	170-258	245-332	137-194
500-700 lbs	130-177	119-151	174-241	210-295	135-180
700-900 lbs	120-157	105-135	145-191	175-260	120-149
Over 900 lbs	95-132	89-115	106-171	169-202	108-132
Feeder Heifers					
Under 500 lbs	131-182	118-143	189-245	230-290	137-179
500-700 lbs	121-169	109-135	169-221	195-265	131-160
700-900 lbs	108-141	90-124	135-174	167-210	115-143
Over 900 lbs	90-127	80-108	114-153	135-183	No Bids
Holstein Steers					
Under 700 lbs	75-135	73-106	115-158	140-229	91-109
Over 700 lbs	75-106	76-95	100-145	120-185	92-126
Cows					
Utility/Commercial	64-86	60-85	75-113	85-114	65-83
Canner & Cutter	55-78	55-74	74-112	78-108	55-73
Stock Cows	950-1300	800-1200	1200-1900	1375-2025	950-1500
Bulls – Slaughter					
	75-102	68-110	91-139	97-114	73-105

CATTLE ON FEED

May 20, 2016

United States Cattle on Feed Up 1 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 10.8 million head on May 1, 2016. The inventory was 1 percent above May 1, 2015.

Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.66 million head, 7 percent above 2015. Net placements were 1.59 million head. During April, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 334,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 225,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 390,000 head, and 800 pounds and greater were 715,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 1.66 million head, 1 percent above 2015. Other disappearance totaled 76,000 head during April, 15 percent above 2015.

CATTLE OUTLOOK

May 20, 2016

USDA's May Cattle on Feed report said there were 1.3% more cattle on feed than a year ago. April placements were up a surprising 7.5% and April marketings were up 1.2%.

The April average for retail choice beef was \$6.105 per pound. That was 11.8 cents lower than in March and 39.7 cents lower than in April 2015. The average retail price for all fresh beef was \$5.808/pound in April. Ground beef prices are down but steak prices are holding steady. The average price of ground beef in grocery stores during April was \$3.815 per pound. That was down 14 cents from March, down 41.6 cents from a year ago, and the lowest average price for any month since April 2014. The average price of choice sirloin steak in grocery stores during April was \$8.502 per pound. That was down 1.2 cents from March, up 17.3 cents from a year ago, and the highest average price ever for the month of April.

Calculations by the Livestock Marketing Information Center put feedlot losses for steers slaughtered in April at \$5.98 per head. That was down from losses of \$105.38 in March and \$215.14 in April 2015.

The average steer dressed weight for the week ending on May 7 was 862 pounds, down 6 pounds from the week before and down 8 pounds from a year ago. This was the first week that steer weights averaged below the year-ago level since the week ending on June 14, 2014.

This morning the choice boxed beef cutout value was \$225.10/cwt, up \$7.16 from the previous Friday, but down \$35.70 from a year ago. The select carcass cutout this morning was \$208.85/cwt, up \$3.03 from last week. The choice-select spread, at \$16.25/cwt, is the largest since December 8, 2014.

Fed cattle prices were lower this week in moderate volume. Through Thursday, the 5-area average price for slaughter steers sold on a live weight basis was \$131.14/cwt, down \$1.49 from last week's average. The 5-area dressed steer price averaged \$204.03/cwt, down \$4.54 from the week before.

This week's cattle slaughter totaled 587,000 head, down 2.3% from last week, but up 2.8% from a year ago.

Prices for feeder cattle at the Oklahoma City Stockyards were \$1 to \$3 higher compared to last week. Stocker calf prices were steady. Prices for medium and large frame #1 steers by weight group were: 400-450# \$185-\$193.50, 450-500# \$177-\$190, 500-550# \$165-\$186.50, 550-600# \$159-\$175, 600-650# \$148-\$169, 650-700# \$147-\$167, 700-750# \$145-\$155, 750-800# \$146.50-\$154.25, 800-900# \$129-\$148.50 and 900-1000# \$125-\$140/cwt.

Today, the June live cattle futures contract settled at \$121.05/cwt, down \$2.37 for the week. August fed cattle settled at \$117.45/cwt, down \$1.27 from the previous Friday. October ended the week at \$117.10/cwt. May feeder cattle futures ended the week at \$148.62/cwt, up \$1.57 from a week earlier. August feeders gained \$1.67 this week to close at \$147.92/cwt.

University of Missouri

CLASSIFIEDS

Farm Equipment

Old time manure spreader \$500 obo. Two seated outhouse Make offer. Moreland, ID 208-242-7716

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

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

Household

Pioneer 55" HD TV & Pioneer Receiver - Older cabinet model. Very nice. Sold As-is Condition. \$275. Shelley. Call 528-5337.

Hanging food dehydrator. Non electric. Dry fruit, veggies, jerky. Indoor outdoors. Perfect \$25.00. Miracle juicer. Non electric. Juice fruits, berries, leafy greens. Efficient, durable. Perfect \$35.00. Steam canner, new \$35.00. Write Kurt Largent at PO Box 364, Grangeville, Id. 83530. or call 208-983-2401.

Miscellaneous

Insulation Sheets: Rigid 4'X8' Polyisocyanurate sheets provide R-6 per-inch. Double that of fiberglass. Insulate home/shop/well/outbuildings instead of paying for heat. See zinsulation.com for details/prices. Soda Springs, Id. Cell Phone: 801-717-5890.

Water source geothermal heat pump. Used Hydroheat 4 or 5 ton water source heat pump for sale. Works great. \$1000 obo or Trades considered. Homedale 208-965-0968

Real Estate/Acreage

6 acres horse pasture with a cabin built for 2. Located on a quiet road in Moreland, Id. Leave message. 208-242-7716.

Lot for Sale - 3/4 Acre Country Lot. City water, Gas, Utilities. \$30,000. Shelley area. Call 528-5337.

1 bedroom farmhouse, phone. non GMO garden, St. Maries, Idaho, 350/month. 1 acre RV site, garden, electric. 150/month. For Sale, 5 acre cabin site, 35k, owner carry. No Drugs. Call Thor: 509 341- 9135

Beautiful building lots or camping spot you can own with views of mountains and trees on west side of historic gold town Sumpter, Oregon. We are told the pond on this property has never been dredged. Call: 208-482-6828

Vehicles & Recreation

2010 Harley Davidson Ultra Classic. 96CI motor and 6 speed transmission. Black. \$12,253 miles. \$16,500. Pocatello, Id. Call Mike at 208-241-5312.

35 foot motorhome for sale in American Falls. 1996 Georgie Boy Cruisemaster. 40,000 miles, great condition, everything works. 5KW generator with 20 hours, self-contained, sleeps 6, Chevrolet 400 engine. Recently serviced. \$15,000. Call 208-406-4540.

Wanted

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 208-425-3225.

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

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

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:

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P.O. Box 4848, Pocatello, ID 83205-4848
or e-mail Dixie at: dashton@idahofb.org

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Phone: _____ Membership No. _____

Ad Copy: _____

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General Admission Regular Price - \$57.51 w/ tax

Farm Bureau Price

\$41.50 Includes Sales Tax

Purchase at select Farm Bureau offices.

ROARING springs water park

Regular Adult \$32.85 tax included

Farm Bureau Price

\$25.50

*Roaring Springs prices include sales tax. Purchase at select offices or online.

Check website for full information on obtaining tickets and other discounts such as SeaWorld, San Diego Zoo or Knott's Berry Farm.



Regular Adult \$30.99

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Discount Price**

\$23.99

Child/ (Under 60") \$23.99

**Farm Bureau Online
Discount Price**

\$18.49



Regular Adult \$48.00

**Farm Bureau Online
Discount Price**

\$39.00

Child/Senior \$25.00

**Farm Bureau Online
Discount Price**

\$20.00