

Gem State Producer



July 2018 • Volume 22, Issue 5

IFB® IDAHO FARM BUREAU



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retiring after
4
24 years

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Ag education is the key to ag sustainability



By Zippy Duvall

American Farm Bureau Federation President

Sustainability has become a real buzzword in agriculture — and rightly so. We need to be talking about how to keep the business of farming and ranching going forward, and we must be wise about using our natural resources.

The Zip Line



What's often missing from all this talk about sustainability, however, is what we're going to do to get the next generation involved in agriculture. How do we pass on a love of agriculture to young people on and off the farm, and encourage more of them to find their calling in one of the most innovative industries in our nation?

These are questions driving the work of the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture. The Foundation brings accuracy and creativity to agricultural education. I'm proud of the Foundation's work to help consumers — young and old — understand what goes into growing the food, fiber and energy crops that benefit everyone.

See DUVALL, page 6

We must stay dialed in on water issues



By Bryan Searle

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation President

The state has blown away its record for managed recharge into the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer. As of mid-June, more than 545,000 acre-feet of

water had been recharged into the important aquifer, which is a critical source of water for farmers, ranchers, businesses and municipalities.

The previous record, set during the 2016-2017 recharge season, was 317,000 acre-feet and the record before that was 166,000 acre-feet, set during the 2011-12 season.

While the amount of recharge accomplished by the state during the 2017-18 season is impressive, it's important that Idaho remain vigi-

lant when it comes to protecting the state's most important resource: water.

This was very evident recently as the Idaho Farm Bureau Water Committee met for a tour and a meeting. During our tour we visited four dams in Western Idaho — Lucky Peak, Arrowrock, Anderson Ranch, and the diversion dam. Each stop and tour at the dam proved once again that those who manage our water may not see things as we do.

See SEARLE, page 7

The Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution



By Rick Keller

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation CEO

This July marks the 242nd anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. With the beginning sentence of this immortal document — “When in the course of human events it becomes neces-

sary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another ... requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation” — a new nation was formed.

The separation from a tyrannical sovereign nation was the first step, but to become a viable and legitimate government, a ruling documented needed to be fashioned. Fourteen years after the Declaration, all 13 colonies ratified the U.S. Constitution, the document which would govern this newest

of nations. Although tested, that divinely inspired constitution has held this nation together for 228 years.

William Gladstone, who served as the United Kingdom's prime minister for 12 years, declared the U.S. Constitution “the most wonderful work ever struck off at a given time by the brain and purpose of man.”

Abraham Lincoln wrote: “Let [the Constitution] be taught in schools, in seminaries, and in colleges, let it

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IDAHO FARM BUREAU

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MAGAZINE CONTACTS:

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

EDITOR (208) 239-4292 • ADS (208) 239-4279

E-MAIL: seanellis@idahofb.org

www.idahofb.org



IFBF file photo

The Idaho Wheat Commission's fiscal year 2019 budget includes \$1.54 million for a wide variety of research projects aimed at helping farmers overcome production challenges.

Idaho Wheat Commission's fiscal 2019 budget is heavy on research

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

REXBURG – The Idaho Wheat Commission has approved a \$3.4 million budget for fiscal year 2019 that includes funding for a lot of research projects aimed at solving production problems faced by the state's grain growers.

The budget is up slightly over the fiscal 2018 budget and 45 percent of it is for research. Fiscal 2019 begins July 1.

The IWC's five grower commissioners said research is a big chunk of the budget because of how important it is to ensure Idaho growers have the latest information and tools they need to help them solve the various agronomic challenges they face.

"Research is key to our industry because issues that impact growers are constantly changing and we need to stay on top of them," said IWC Commissioner Clark Hamilton, an East Idaho grower. "All of these things are a constant battle and we need to invest in research to make sure we stay on top of these issues and keep our industry healthy."

"We've got a few really critical, looming issues that we need some answers to," said "Genesee" Joe Anderson, a North Idaho farmer. "If we hadn't invested in research over the years, this industry would be back in the '40s and '50s growing 30- or 40-bushel wheat and facing some major production challenges."

The 2019 budget sets aside \$1.54 million for research projects, up from \$1.43 million in 2018.

Wheat is Idaho's No. 2 crop in terms of farm-gate receipts, behind potatoes.

Investing money to make sure growers have access to the most current wheat tech-

See *WHEAT RESEARCH*, page 5

Cover: Photo by Steve Ritter
 Belgian horses "Jack" and "Jill" are shown on the Picabo Livestock ranch in Picabo, Idaho, June 21. The working horses are used to pull sleighs or wagons. The ranch used to have about 35 working horses but Jack and Jill are the only two left, said owner Nick Purdy. "It's more of a tradition now."





Photo by Sean Ellis

Kelly Olson, pictured here, is retiring after 24 years as administrator of the Idaho Barley Commission. IBC commissioners say Olson's knowledge of the industry will be sorely missed.

Olson retiring after 24 years at helm of Idaho Barley Commission

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

BOISE – Idaho barley growers say the industry will have a big void to fill when Kelly Olson retires in July.

Olson has served as administrator of the Idaho Barley Commission for the past 24 years and has overseen Idaho's rise to become the No. 1 barley producing state in the nation.

“Kelly has forgotten more

about barley than most of us have ever known,” said Soda Springs farmer and IBC commissioner Scott Brown. “She’s been a great asset to the barley industry and she’s going to be missed.”

IBC commissioners said they believe they have found a solid replacement in Laura Wilder, who began working side by side with Olson in June, but they also said there’s no doubt that Olson takes an enormous amount of institutional knowl-

edge about the industry with her into retirement.

“Kelly has been a very influential person in the barley industry in Idaho and has established herself as an authority on the national and international markets,” said IBC commissioner and Picabo farmer Pat Purdy. “She has served the industry well and her expertise will be sorely missed.”

“We all have our niches where we know something about bar-

ley. Kelly knows the big picture,” said IBC commissioner Timothy Pella, the industry representative on the commission.

Olson said she will miss her job greatly and retirement is bitter-sweet.

“I’ve been with this organization for 24 years and I’ve built some very deep friendships and relationships with producers, researchers and industry and it’s hard to leave those be-

hind,” she said. “But every life has a season and I just decided the time is right.”

Olson said she is leaving at a time when the industry is in a good position.

Idaho ranks No. 1 in barley production in the United States and USDA forecasts barley acres will increase 6 percent to 560,000 in Idaho this year, while acres in other major barley states are forecast to decrease.

Total U.S. barley acres in 2018 are estimated at 2.29 million, down 8 percent from 2017.

“Idaho barley is doing really well,” Olson said. “I leave the industry, I think, in pretty good shape.”

IBC commissioner and Bonners Ferry farmer Wes Hubbard said it’s no coincidence that Idaho’s rise to become the

top barley state coincided with Olson’s tenure at the helm of the commission.

“I credit Kelly and the Idaho Barley Commission for establishing those markets for Idaho growers,” he said. “The barley growers are going to miss Kelly a lot.”

Olson’s impact on Idaho agriculture extends well beyond the barley industry, said Rich Garber, governmental affairs director for the Idaho Grain Producers Association.

During the 1980s, she served as a legislative aide for a couple of different Idaho congressmen in Washington, D.C., and while there, she worked on the watershed 1985 farm bill that created the Conservation Reserve Program and started the country down the path of decoupling farm supports from production decisions.

While working for the Idaho State Department of Agriculture for seven years, Olson started the department’s marketing program and helped open its Mexico trade office.

She took one week off between her jobs at ISDA and the barley commission.

Olson was also the vision behind the creation of the annual Idaho Ag Summit, which brings together a few hundred leaders of the state’s farming industry, Garber told participants of this year’s Ag Summit in February.

“Just as Ag Summit would not be what it is today without the influence of Kelly, Idaho agriculture would not be what it is today without Kelly,” he said.

Olson, who was raised on a farm outside Mountain Home, said that during her retirement,

she plans to be a dedicated volunteer for several food-related organizations, including the Idaho Foodbank, Treasure Valley Food Coalition and Boise Farmers Market.

“I’m passionate about agriculture and food and consumers,” she said. “They are all related. Without consumers, we wouldn’t be in the business of agriculture.”

She said she wants to be remembered for her love of the barley industry.

“Every day I’ve started my day thinking about barley,” Olson said. “What a wonderful crop and business community it is and it’s been the greatest joy of my professional life to have been able to work for and with that industry.”

WHEAT RESEARCH

Continued from page 3

nology is critical to ensure the state’s wheat industry remains competitive, said IWC Executive Director Blaine Jacobson.

The budget includes funding for projects aimed at trying to solve the low falling number problem. Falling number tests measure wheat quality and farmers receive less money for test results below 300.

In 2014, the falling number issue was a major problem for growers in Eastern Idaho due to pre-harvest sprouting caused by heavy rains. North Idaho wheat farmers faced the falling number problem in 2015 due to late-maturity amylase.

Though it hasn’t been an issue for the past two years, “We haven’t forgotten what a problem it is when we do have that issue,” Jacobson said. “That’s why we’re spending resources to try to find a permanent fix for that problem.”

Millions of dollars were lost by Idaho growers because of the falling number issue, Anderson said, and “Those research projects have the potential to really return some value to Idaho growers.”

The budget includes funding for a research project aimed at helping growers manage wireworms.

“That is a difficult pest that is costing growers thousands of dollars,” Hamilton said.

Other research projects that will receive funding from the IWC include: variety development, spore detection system, weed control systems, grower marketing trials, soil acidity, cadmium uptake, seed and nitrogen fertilizer rates, deficit irrigation in spring wheat, control of wheat stripe rust, long-term impact of manure, enhancing resistance to snow mold and Idaho variety survey.

Commissioners also agreed to set aside money to support projects dealing with precision

agriculture.

“Precision agriculture continues to be an important trend,” Jacobson said. “We have several projects that will help growers be more precise with their applications of various inputs.”

The IWC’s fiscal 2019 budget, which was approved during the commission’s regular quarterly meeting, includes \$891,000 for market development, \$905,000 for grower education and communications and \$102,000 for office operations.

It includes funding to host several overseas trade teams, as well as cereal schools and grower workshops.

KELLER

Continued from page 2

‘Let us reawaken our understanding of these two founding documents, the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. Together, they are only 6,000 words in length or a short 12 pages, and yet they continue to govern, guide and protect.’

be written in primers, in spelling books and in almanacs, let it be preached from the pulpit, proclaimed in legislative halls, and enforced in courts of justice. And, in short, let it become the political religion of the nation.”

The Constitution consists of seven separate articles. The first three establish the three branches of government — the legislative, the executive, and the judicial.

The fourth article describes matters pertaining to states, most significantly the guarantee of a republican form of government to every state of the Union. Article 5 defines the amendment procedure of the document, a deliberately difficult process that should be clearly understood by every citizen.

Article 6 covers several miscellaneous items, including a definition of the supreme law of the land, namely, the Constitution

itself, the laws of the United States and all treaties made. Article 7, the last, explains how the Constitution is to be ratified.

After ratification of the document, 10 amendments were added and designated as our Bill of Rights.

To date, the Constitution has been amended 27 times. The most recent amendment prohibits any law that increases or decreases the salary of mem-

bers of Congress from taking effect until the start of the next set of terms of office for representatives.

This season, let us reawaken our understanding of these two founding documents, the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. Together, they are only 6,000 words in length or a short 12 pages, and yet they continue to govern, guide and protect.

We are the blessed beneficiaries of what those founding fathers gifted us. We, as they, will face difficult days in this beloved land. It is my hope and prayer that as we understand this gift, we too will be their protectors as were our founding parents.

DUVALL

Continued from page 2

The Foundation cannot do its vital work without the support of donors. The Foundation produces resources, games and publications that help students grow in their knowledge and appreciation of agriculture — all thanks to the generous support of donors who share a passion for agriculture.

Most recently, donor support made it possible for our Foundation team to host a booth at the USA Science and Engineering Festival Expo, the nation’s largest STEM event, hosted in Washington, D.C. Twelve thousand urban students, and their families, got to enjoy the “My American Farm” experience, test their knowledge on where their food

comes from, and learn more about the technology it takes to farm efficiently.

With the help of Pennsylvania Friends of Agriculture Foundation and its mobile ag lab, our booth was the place to be to learn about the science, innovation and hard work that brings food to our plates. These kinds of events provide the Foundation a unique opportunity to bring the farm to kids who may never have set foot in a barn or field.

We also hope that getting a little taste for ag will lead some of them to consider a career in the field. The Foundation’s new My Little Ag Me allows students everywhere to do

‘We need to be talking about how to keep the business of farming and ranching going forward, and we must be wise about using our natural resources. What’s often missing from all this talk about sustainability, however, is what we’re going to do to get the next generation involved in agriculture.’

just that. With the game, students can put on the hats of up to nine careers in agriculture. From large animal vet to florist to irrigation specialist, students can learn about the diverse opportunities of jobs on and off the farm that support agriculture.

These are just a couple samples from the bounty of agricultural education resources and expe-

riences the hard-working team at the Foundation provides. If we are going to educate consumers from field to fork and get the next generation involved in agriculture, we need to ensure we can continue to plant the seeds that yield a harvest of knowledge. Please consider joining with the Foundation in this good work (www.agfoundation.org).

SEARLE

Continued from page 2

Gary Spackman, director of the Idaho Department of Water Resources, attended some of the events and reiterated the critical need that we must stay vigilant in protecting our water. With so much pressure being put on the water we currently have, we must be looking for and promoting options to protect and grow our water supply.

This means continuing to focus money and resources on the state's managed recharge program and continuing to explore ways to store even more water. That could include raising the height of current dams or even building new dams or smaller storage sites where possible.

Perhaps Idaho could consider doing something similar to Wyoming's Ten in Ten Project, which calls for a minimum of 10 new small-scale water storage projects to be completed over the next 10 years.

The incredible snowpack Idaho received during the 2017 winter is still paying dividends, as evidenced by the back-to-back record recharge years and the mostly full reservoirs across the state.

But everybody knows that future lean water years are inevitable and it's critical that Idaho, and Farm Bureau members, stay dialed in when it comes to water-related issues.

Agriculture is the backbone of Idaho's economy and water is the lifeblood of the agriculture sector.

According to data compiled by University of Idaho Agricultural Economist Garth Taylor, 97 percent of the water used in the state is used by agriculture.

Idaho ranks second in the nation in irrigation withdrawals and fifth in the number of irrigated farm acres, according to Taylor.

In terms of total irrigation water volume, six of the top 20 irrigated counties in the nation are in Idaho (Jefferson, Jerome, Twin Falls, Bingham, Cassia, Ada).

"We're a big state for water use and it's almost entirely for agriculture," Taylor said. "We farm in a desert and water is why we have the agricultural industry we have in this state."

Idaho Water Resource Board Chairman Roger Chase said the board will continue to focus on improving the state's aquifer recharge program and also look for more ways to store more water.

"There's nothing more important to Idaho than water," he said. "We're looking at all the possible ways to keep water in Idaho."

We applaud that outlook and urge local, state and federal officials to support those efforts and not forget that water indeed is the lifeblood of Idaho.

The need to store more water isn't the only water-related issue out there that elected officials and the farming industry need to remain dialed in on.

For example, the U.S. Supreme Court, because of a 4-4 ruling, recently let stand a lower court decision that ruled the state of Washington must continue restoring salmon habitat by fixing or replacing hundreds of culverts that block fish migration.

The Supreme Court ruling was in favor of Northwest Indian tribes and the federal govern-

ment.

The state of Idaho filed an amicus brief asking the court to overturn the lower court's order requiring Washington to remove these culverts, and Idaho Farm Bureau Federation joined the Oregon and Washington Farm Bureaus in submitting briefs supporting the same thing.

Although this case is specific to culverts in Washington, we need to keep an eye on this decision because of its potential to affect other development and farming practices throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Another issue that IFBF and American Farm Bureau Federation continue to keep track of is the ongoing attempt to repeal the EPA's 2015 "Waters of the United States" rule.

If allowed to take effect, the rule, because it is confusing, vague and over-reaching, could result in farmers and ranchers having to hire a team of lawyers just to ensure they can continue to perform their normal farming practices on their own land.

Although court rulings have suspended the WOTUS rule from taking effect in 24 states, it is still the law of the land and Farm Bureau needs to continue to support the EPA's efforts to formally repeal it.

These are only a few of many water-related issues that we must remain engaged in to ensure they don't affect the ability of farmers and ranchers to continue to produce an abundant and affordable supply of food.



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Photo by Dan Walker

University of Idaho's "Idaho Farm Bureau Federation Foyer to the Future" is christened May 22 during a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the university's Moscow campus attended by UI faculty and IFBF employees.

UI christens its 'Idaho Farm Bureau Federation Foyer to the Future'

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

MOSCOW, Idaho – University of Idaho christened its "Idaho Farm Bureau Federation Foyer to the Future" May 22 during a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by UI faculty and IFBF employees.

IFBF and Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Co. of Idaho each donated \$50,000 toward a project that updated the two main entrances, or foyers, in the university's E.J. Iddings Agricultural Sciences Building, which houses the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and is the most heavily trafficked area on campus.

One of the foyers is located outside of Room 106, which is the largest theater-

style classroom on campus and used by the entire university.

While the classroom was renovated in 2014, the foyer was not and, according to UI officials, remained outdated compared to the updated classroom.

The second foyer is outside of the office of CALS Dean Michael Parrella and that renovation project was completed in January 2016.

Farm Bureau's partnership with UI to upgrade the foyers was authorized by the IFBF and insurance company boards in 2015 and 2016 and called, University of Idaho "Inspiring Future Leaders in Idaho Agriculture."

IFBF President Bryan Searle said Farm

Bureau members recognize the important role UI plays in helping educate tomorrow's leaders in the agricultural industry.

"Agriculture is the engine that pulls the economic train of Idaho," he said. "Farm Bureau appreciates what the university does and was happy to help fund a project that will inspire future leaders in Idaho's important agricultural industry."

During the May 22 ribbon-cutting ceremony for the foyer outside of Room 106, Mary Kay McFadden, vice president for university advancement, said the foyers are utilized by all UI students.

"We just completed our commencement weekend and this place was hopping," she

See FOYER, page 15

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Photo by John O'Connell
Rich Novy, a USDA potato breeder in Aberdeen, Idaho, stands next to potato seedlings that will be planted in fields to begin the plant variety development process.

Potato Breeding Program releases two new varieties

By John O'Connell

For Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

ABERDEEN, Idaho – Chuck Brown admits he suggested Castle Russet as the name of a promising new potato variety originating from his breeding program mostly in tribute to his 3-year-old grandson, who is also named Castle.

The name immediately stuck, however, because of the official explanation Brown offered his colleagues, which is also a key reason why major processors are high on the new spud – like a castle, the variety is a fortress against disease. Castle, which is a medium- to late-maturing variety, has extreme resistance to corky ringspot and all strains of potato virus Y.

Castle was released this spring, along with Echo Russet, by the Tri-State Potato Breeding Program – a cooperative effort involving the potato breeding programs of Idaho, Washington and Oregon.

Brown, who recently retired as potato breeder with USDA's Agricultural Research Service in Prosser, Wash., made the initial cross for Castle in 2005. The Oregon State University potato breeding program

selected Castle from its field trials. Brown describes the variety as good-looking with a heavy russet skin.

"I actually obtained the PVY resistance from a German breeding line that had been developed in Cologne, Germany," Brown said, adding that breeders are now using Castle heavily as a parent.

PVY, spread by aphids, is one of the most economically important disease of spuds, affecting both quality and yield. Corky ringspot, which is caused by the tobacco rattle virus and spread by stubby-root nematodes, is especially troublesome in sandy soils of the Pacific Northwest, causing up to half of a spud crop to become unmarketable in extreme cases.

Castle also resists potato mop top virus and cold sweetening.

Brown said a couple of major processors have been enthusiastic about Castle, but he also sees potential for the variety in the fresh market. Castle has a uniform shape and size. Though it's not as long as Russet Burbank – which is still the industry's standard – Brown said it's long enough for processors to cut fries.

When Castle is sliced, it doesn't tend to enzymatically darken, which is another reason why processors like it, Brown said. Castle was among the best varieties tested for producing low levels of acrylamide, which is a chemical formed when certain starchy foods are fried or baked that may be linked to cancer.

During evaluations, Brown said, Castle's yields posed a concern, but he's heard no further yield concerns from farmers who have grown it.

Another potential weakness is that the variety has somewhat high levels of glycoalkaloids, which can impart a bitter taste into fries.

Brown said Castle still meets the maximum allowable threshold for glycoalkaloids, and he hasn't personally noticed any bitterness when sampling it.

Brown said Castle is similar to another recent release from the Tri-State program, called Payette Russet, which is also resistant to several diseases and offers complete PVY resistance. The down side with Payette, he said, has been that it's known to produce round tubers that don't produce enough long fries to be economical.



Castle Russet potatoes are shown in this photo submitted by the Potato Variety Management Institute. Castle Russet is a promising new potato variety that has extreme resistance to corky ringspot and all strains of potato virus Y.

The initial cross for Echo was made in Aberdeen in 1996 by former potato breeder Joe Pavek, who has long since retired. Rich Novy, the current USDA-ARS potato breeder in Aberdeen, explained Echo was selected by OSU for conditions in the Columbia Basin. Its parents were two unnamed breeding clones.

Novy said Echo, like Castle, can be stored for an intermediate period and can be used both for processing or as a fresh variety. It's a medium- to late-maturing variety with resistance to fusarium dry rot, soft rot and common scab. It also possesses moderate resistance to Verticillium wilt, early blight, PVY, potato leaf roll virus, potato mop top virus and corky ringspot.

"Its primary attribute is a high percentage of marketable yield," Novy said. "It has very few tuber defects."

It's been considered as a good option for organic potato production due to

its broad range of disease resistance.

Before the year's end, Novy said, two more varieties originating from Aberdeen, which have been assigned numbers but are yet to be named, may be released. Novy said A06021 is an early maturing spud with potential in the fresh industry.

The other promising variety, A06336-5Y, is an apricot-colored creamer potato, that produces a high tuber set, a uniform size and has some corky ringspot resistance.

Jeanne Debons, executive director with the Potato Variety Management Institute, which handles licensing and royalty collection of Tri-State varieties, confirmed "some processors are trialing (Castle and Echo) successfully." Debons said Castle appears to have the most interest.

"I think (Castle) has got potential all over North America," Debons said. "I've had interest already from Canada."

New varieties could result in more royalties for potato breeding efforts

By John O'Connell

For Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

BEND, Ore. – A pair of potato varieties bred in the Pacific Northwest will be highlighted during a launch event at a forthcoming trade show in Germany, which should lead to an influx of royalties supporting regional potato breeding efforts.

Potato Europe 2018, scheduled for Sept. 12-13, will include an event to raise awareness about Clearwater Russet and Blazer Russet, which were released from the cooperative public potato breeding programs of Idaho, Oregon and Washington.

Both varieties were approved as accepted varieties for making McDonald's fries in the summer of 2016.

Clearwater has been the most popular of the two varieties, by far. U.S. growers planted 1,930 acres of Clearwater seed in 2017, up from 894 acres in 2015, according to the Potato Variety Management Institute, which handles licensing and royalty collection of varieties released from the Tri-State Potato Breeding Program of Idaho, Washington and Oregon.

"I would say the Germans have already grown these, and they like how they look in their production fields, so the sky is the limit," said Chuck Brown, who recently retired as potato breeder with the USDA's Agricultural Research Service in Prosser, Wash.

PVMI's executive director, Jeanne Debons, said between 50 and 100 European and Western Asian potato industry officials have been invited to the launch event to learn more about the varieties and how to obtain seed. She said some German companies have been growing seed of both varieties and have an ample supply, and they're now commencing with advertising and marketing.

"Because of the success we've found with processors, they have been encouraged to market them in Europe," Debons said.

Debons has been invited to speak at the launch event, though her board hasn't confirmed that she'll be making the trip.

Debons said U.S. seed growers planted 6,359 acres of Tri-State varieties in 2017. PVMI collects about a third of its royalties from growers within Idaho, Washington and Oregon, another third from U.S. growers outside of the three states and the remainder from international growers.

PVMI expects to see significant growth in its German royalties following the launch event, which will support regional potato breeding programs.

"If Clearwater grows as an agronomic success in other places, then I believe we have the potential of increasing the royalties substantially," Debons said.

Clearwater is a medium- to late-maturing russet that maintains excellent fry color out of storage, resists sugar ends and avoids tuber defects.



Photo by Sean Ellis

Cows are pictured at a southwestern Idaho dairy in May. Because of increasing demand for services from the state's dairy industry, the Idaho State Department of Agriculture will add two new inspectors to its dairy program.

Idaho ag department adds new positions to keep up with growth

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

BOISE – The Idaho State Department of Agriculture will add eight new positions to help it keep pace with an increased demand for services from the state's farming and ranching industry.

“With the growth in agriculture, there's more need for services from the department of

agriculture, both from a regulatory standpoint and a food safety standpoint,” said ISDA Director Celia Gould.

The demand for services is booming in certain areas, which is a good problem to have because it shows the state's agricultural sector is in good shape, she said.

“Yet we have to be able to manage both the expectations of our industry and make sure

we don't bust at the seams at the department of agriculture,” Gould said. “We want to continue to operate a lean, mean operation here.”

Idaho lawmakers this year granted ISDA authority to add the new positions and approved a \$44.8 million fiscal year 2019 budget for the department, which represents a 1 percent decrease from the department's current fiscal 2018 budget.

The department was able to shrink its total budget despite adding the new positions by reducing some excess spending authority in some divisions, said ISDA Chief of Operations Chanel Tewalt.

Among the eight positions the ISDA will add are two new inspectors for the department's dairy program, which has seen its workload explode in recent years.

“There are more dairy cows coming on line all the time and Idaho’s milk processing capacity has grown by a huge amount in the last 11 years,” Gould said.

With about 600,000 milk cows, Idaho ranked third among the U.S. states in milk production in 2017 with a total output of 14.7 billion pounds.

Dairy is the state’s top farm commodity in terms of total farm cash receipts and Idaho dairy operations brought in \$2.5 billion in revenue from milk sales last year, according to University of Idaho estimates.

Idaho’s total milk production has doubled over the past decade, Tewalt said.

“We really need to make sure we take care of this critical in-

dustry and I think adding more inspectors will help us do that,” she said.

The department will also add three new employees that will be trained to conduct voluntary on-farm readiness reviews and other outreach and education efforts for farmers who will be impacted by the FDA’s new produce safety rule.

The rule, a result of the Food Safety Modernization Act, will require farmers who grow produce that is likely to be consumed raw to meet a host of new food safety standards.

Idaho lawmakers passed a bill this year that moves authority for conducting on-farm inspections associated with the produce rule provisions from the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare to the ISDA. Industry requested that happen.

Regarding the rule’s inspection requirements, Tewalt said, the state has consistently heard from the agricultural industry: “We want the state to be the on-farm presence, not the federal government.”

Some provisions of the rule recently went into effect and compliance dates for most farmers are fast approaching.

Tewalt said that receiving authority to add the new produce safety rule positions will enable the ISDA to build an education and compliance program, which is currently in its beginning stages, and be prepared to conduct inspections when that time comes.

“It’s not as if we’re going to have inspectors out with clipboards in hand tomorrow,” she said.

ISDA also received authority to add two new inspectors for the department’s organic program, which has also seen an explosion in demand for services.

The number of operations certified as organic through the department has surged by 38 percent since 2014.

Lawmakers also gave the ag department authority to add a lab quality assurance manager that will oversee quality in the ISDA’s six laboratories.

That position will allow current lab employees to focus more time on what in some cases is a significant increase in demand for services.

For example, the animal health lab last year experienced a six-fold increase in lab tests related to a new cattle processing facility in Kuna.

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Photo by Sean Ellis

Idaho farm product exports increased 2 percent during the first quarter of 2018. During that time, \$214 million worth of agricultural products from Idaho were sold to other nations.

Idaho ag export value up 2 percent in first quarter

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

POCATELLO – The total value of Idaho agricultural exports increased 2 percent during the first three months of 2018.

The increase was due to improved pricing for many Idaho farm commodities as well as large crop inventories that were carried over from 2017, according to Doug Robison, Northwest Farm Credit Services' senior vice president for agriculture in Western Idaho.

“Farm production within the state was positive this past year, with many

commodities yielding at or above their trend-line yields, resulting in significant product available for export,” he told Idaho Farm Bureau Federation in an email. “Prices were improved for many commodities in the farm sector as well.”

During the first quarter of 2018, \$214 million worth of agricultural products from Idaho were sold to other nations, according to Idaho State Department of Agriculture data. That represented a 2.3 percent increase over the same period in 2017.

Last year, the value of Idaho ag exports totaled \$827 million, an increase of 10

percent compared with 2016.

Idaho set records for total value of agricultural exports from 2011-2014 but experienced declines in 2015 and 2016. The 10 percent increase in Idaho ag exports last year reversed that two-year slide but the 2017 total is still well below the record of \$1 billion set in 2014.

The recent first-quarter increase, though slight, is noteworthy because it comes on the heels of last year's increase, which reversed a two-year slide, and the export market is extremely important to

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FOYER

Continued from page 8



Photo by Dan Walker

From right to left, Idaho Farm Bureau Federation CEO Rick Keller, IFBF President Bryan Searle and IFBF Vice President Mark Trupp stand in University of Idaho's new "Idaho Farm Bureau Federation Foyer to the Future" May 22.

said.

Besides providing an open and modernized space for students to congregate, the foyer updates include a commodities ticker featuring current agricultural markets and flat panel and interactive screens that include a directory, student club information and university news and events.

The foyer outside of Room 106 will include an antique tractor that will be renovated by UI students this fall.

Parrella said UI appreciates "the support of the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation to invest in our mission and by doing so, create a space where students can envision their place in the future of Idaho agriculture."

"Your investment to help renovate this often-used space will provide great return not only for students in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, but also stu-

dents from across campus who utilize the adjacent classroom," he said.

Farm Bureau recognizes that UI's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences is the largest and most influential agricultural educator in the state, said IFBF CEO Rick Keller.

"Hundreds of our future leaders in agriculture and agribusiness will walk through that hall," he said. "We want to let them know there is an organization out there that is fighting for agriculture."

Keller also pointed out that IFBF's roots include a partnership with UI's county extension agents, who help inform people about current developments in the agricultural sector.

IFBF's earliest documentation includes a newspaper article printed in 1918 about UI extension agents and 26 county Farm Bu-

reaus teaming up to help fight a plague of destructive ground squirrels.

"The university's county extension agents and Farm Bureau have developed together," Keller said.

The ribbon cutting ceremony signifies the beginning of another century of University of Idaho and Idaho Farm Bureau Federation working together to better the lives of farmers and ranchers, he said.

McFadden acknowledged the close relationship that UI and Farm Bureau have had for the past century.

"You care about economic development and you care about education," she said. "That's exactly what the University of Idaho is about, too. That partnership that we share with you is made visible through this wonderful gift of yours to develop this gathering place."

Boundary County Farm Tour visits Naples

By Bob Smathers

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

NAPLES, Idaho – The annual Soil and Water Conservation District and Boundary County Farm Bureau farm tour found its way to scenic Naples, Idaho, in 2018.

This picturesque Idaho town at the base of the Selkirk Mountains is also next to the famous Ruby Ridge. Driving by on state highway 95, one would not expect to see much agriculture here, but the area is teeming with agricultural and forestry activity.

About 75 people attended this year's tour May 25, filling one bus and several vehicles that followed behind. The first stop on the tour was Moose Valley Farms just south of Naples, which is owned by the Kimball family.

Cindy Kimball and her mother, Mary, run the garden center and gift shop. They have been in business 15 years and specialize in shrubs, trees, and succulents, but also have a gift shop with “funky junk” as Cindy Kimball puts it, that no other garden center does. Cindy says their garden center is known for its creativity.

One of Cindy's mottos is “shop local, be local,” so Moose Valley Farms tries to purchase what they cannot grow in their operation from other local tree, shrub and flower growers. Their business is also expanding into online sales where they market succulents year-round.

The marketing area for Moose Valley Farms is mostly Boundary and Bonner counties but patrons come from as far away as Montana to shop at the farm. As a community service, the farm conducts several tours per week and hosts classes during the garden season that fill an educational need in the community.

The second stop of the day was the Young Living Research/Highland Flats Tree Farm and Distillery west of Naples. The group was given a grand tour of the farm and distillery. This operation produces a



Participants of the annual Soil and Water Conservation District and Boundary County Farm Bureau farm tour are pictured during one of the stops in this year's event, which found its way to scenic Naples, Idaho.

product known as essential oils. Michael Carter, assistant manager at the Highland Flats Research Farm and Distillery, explained how tree material from grand fir and spruce is put into extraction chambers, then steamed and when the steam condenses, they extract the oil which is highly concentrated. Their current facilities, according to Carter, can produce up to 15 gallons of oil per day, but they have plans to add more distilling capacity in the future.

The products range from nutritional supplements to cosmetics and even pure and blended oils. They harvest trees off their own farm and from other private landowners in the area.

“One gallon of this highly concentrated oil can produce in excess of 3,000 containers of product and these products are marketed all over the world by their members and other distributors,” Carter said.

After touring Highland Flats Tree Farm and Young Living, the group was treated to a catered lunch onsite courtesy of Boundary County Farm Bureau, the Boundary County Soil and Water Conservation District and Liz Wood.

After lunch, the tour continued onto Idaho

Granite Works, which produces a myriad of products from stone that is mostly hauled in from the local region, but some stone that is imported from other parts of the world. The company thrives by taking on projects that other companies will not tackle like large stone fireplaces, large detailed countertops, etc. The company markets mostly within a two-hour radius and largely works with contractors, but it is picking up work further away by using regional distributors and developing an online presence.

The final stop of the day was a presentation by the county weed supervisor, Dave Wenk, on noxious weeds in the county and particularly on Falls Creek, where the group gathered. A new weed in the county, Knotweed, has shown its ugly face in Falls Creek near Naples and is being spread downstream by beavers, according to Wenk.

He is planning a kayak trip down the stream to determine the extent of the infestation and to assess the control measures that need to be taken. He touched on biological weed controls and chemical controls and talked about the resources available to residents of Boundary County who have noxious weed problems.

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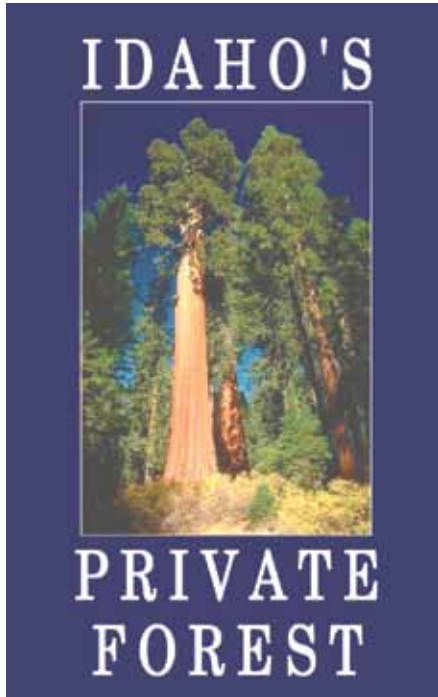
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Shovel logging using tracked loaders is an excellent practice to reduce soil impacts.

Selecting the right harvesting system for your forest property

By Randy Brooks & Rob Keefe

In previous columns we have discussed silvicultural systems and methods (clearcut, seed tree, shelterwood, and selection systems of harvesting) as well as roads, skid trails, and forest road drainage structures. These are all necessary parts of the forest harvest systems and methods of getting forest products from the land to the mill. For this column, we'd like to discuss different harvesting methods that are options for Idaho forest land owners.

Ground-based skidding

Ground-based skidding with grapple or cable skidders, and occasionally horses, is common in Idaho and is appropriate on slopes less than 40 percent. However, ground-based skidding should only be conducted when conditions are either dry or snowy enough (or on hard frozen ground) that excessive rutting and soil compaction is avoided. Rutting occurs under wet conditions when the weight of a machine, as

well as possible spinning of tires, causes depressions in the ground. Ruts create watercourses on hillsides that allow sediment to be carried. Additional traction for rubber-tired skidding machines can be created by putting slash mats down to increase traction, especially in wet areas on skid trails and during winter operations. Slash mats also help to catch sediment that may be carried in overland flow.

On steep slopes, and where soil compaction is a concern, tracked skidders (cats) should be used. Tracked skidders reduce ground pressure because machine weight is spread out over a larger surface area. With either tracked or rubber-tired skidding machines, careful planning of skid trails is important for reducing soil compaction. Unplanned skid trails can occupy more than one third of total stand area, and most soil compaction occurs during the first one to two machine passes.

Cable skidders have the advantage of being

able to yard logs from sensitive areas, such as within the stream protection zone (SPZ), without having to drive to the stump. On the other hand, pulling logs without lift means that yarding with a cable skidder can also cause more ground disturbance than a grapple skidder. Careful consideration of the pros and cons for each piece of equipment is important in each harvesting operation.

Cut-to-length systems

Cut-to-length logging uses a harvester with a processing head that limbs and bucks logs to length in the woods. A log forwarder is then used to carry the logs to the landing. Because ground skidding is not needed, cut-to-length systems tend to reduce both the total stand area with soil disturbance and the area in skid trails, which can reduce overall soil compaction. Because trees are always processed in the woods in cut-to-length operations, plenty of slash is available during forwarding and can be



Ground based skidding using a grapple skidder. Machines can have rubber tires or tracks.

used to pad forwarder trails. This reduces ground disturbance, increases tire traction, and traps sediment.

Shovel logging

When turn distances are short, shovel logging using loaders, also known as swing machines to advance logs to the roadside, can be more productive than ground skidding and causes less ground disturbance. Shovels are on carriers with tracks, so machine weight is distributed over a larger surface area than on rubber-tired skidders. Shovel logging is now the most common groundbased logging system used on moderate slopes on many industrial ownerships west of the Cascades. However, when shovel logging requires more than two to three swings, the productivity drops off and

this system becomes less cost effective. In logging operations where it is feasible, shovel logging is an excellent practice to reduce soil disturbance and rutting during weather conditions when precipitation is possible, such as during early summer and late fall harvesting.

Cable yarding

Cable yarding is more expensive than ground-skidding but causes less soil compaction. Cable systems designed with appropriate deflection maximize payload by creating lift, which diverts physical force from the ground to the skyline or mainline, thus protecting soils.

Corridors created by cable systems create a vertical path on the hillslope that can become a route for sediment transport.

For this reason, hand-piling or using a sky carriage to deposit a slash mat along a corridor after completion of cable yarding may help to reduce subsequent downslope transport of sediments; especially with ground-lead cable systems like single-drum jammers and tong throwers.

It is common in the Inland Northwest for tailholds in skyline systems to be located across the stream in the bottom of a draw. This helps create a vertical skyline profile with sufficient deflection to create lift, optimize the payload capacity of the yarder, and create partial or full suspension for logs.

In highly sensitive areas, such as when crossing streams within SPZs, systems

should be designed so that full suspension is possible, in order to prevent damage to stream banks and beds. Where possible, using anchor Cat's as tailholds for skyline systems can provide flexibility in laying out cable corridors when tailtrees may not be available in desired locations. Small, guyless yarders called yoders or excaliners are highly versatile machines for yarding short distances (e.g. 600-800 feet) in broken terrain.

Because of their ability to move quickly from corridor to corridor, these machines are highly efficient for cable logging operations in short, steep draws where ground-based equipment can't be used. Yoders with tong throwers may be useful for productively clearing

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Ground based skidding can be obtained with self-loading forwarders.

the area in front of a medium- to full-sized yarder prior to line logging.

Summary

As a reminder, once you have chosen the system you will use for your harvest operation, the locations of key areas must be established. It is important that designated skid trail networks are followed, rather than simply heading to each bunch of logs. The use of designated skid trails and directional falling minimizes the total stand area in skid trails, which otherwise can occupy as much as 30 percent of total stand area.

The majority of soil compac-

tion caused by ground skidding occurs during the first one to two passes. Herringbone skid networks that utilize a combination of contour-based skidding across the slope on moderate slopes with favorable skidding in draws work well. Skid trails should stay out of draw bottoms whenever possible.

Soil compaction is a function of total vehicle weight and the amount of tire or track surface area in contact with the soil. Tracked machines tend to have lower pounds per square inch of ground pressure because the weight is distributed over a larger total surface area. For

the same reason, rubber-tired skidders with dual wheels on each axle exert half the ground pressure of those with single tires. The use of slash mats helps catch sediment during and after skidding operations and also reduces soil disturbance by providing additional traction.

Ground-based skidding, cut-length systems, shovel logging, and cable systems are all options for logging in Idaho. Deciding which system to use largely depends on appropriate stand and site conditions of your property. Grapple skidding and whole tree processing at the landing is the most

popular ground-based harvesting method on moderate slopes (less than 40 percent) in Idaho, with manual felling and cable logging being the preferred methods on steep slopes.

Specialized harvesters are now able to fell safely on slopes up to 65 percent. However, as of 2013, there are very few of these machines operating in the Inland Northwest.

Randy Brooks is an Extension forestry specialist at the University of Idaho and Rob Keefe is an associate professor of forest operations for UI.

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Photo by Transystems

A Transystems vehicle with a 129,000-pound weight limit hauls sugar beets. Some counties have been slow to approve 129,000-pound weight limits, which could reduce shipping costs for farmers and others.

Counties slow to approve higher truck weight limits

By John O'Connell

For Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

ARBON VALLEY, Idaho – Local dry-land grain farmer Hans Hayden has hit a stumbling block at the county level in his efforts to capitalize on a recent change in state law, which he hopes will eventually enable him to ship larger truckloads of wheat for milling.

In the late 1990s, the state launched a pilot project to test the safety of increasing truck weight limits from 105,500 pounds to 129,000 pounds. State engineers reasoned the heavier trucks require additional axles, better distributing the weight per axle and improving braking power, ultimately furthering highway safety and reducing wear on infrastructure.

Favorable results from the pilot project led the state to make the 129,000-pound weight

limit permanent on pilot routes a few years ago, and to establish a mechanism for increasing weight limits on other state and local routes, at the request of shippers. The federal government had previously lifted a 1991 restriction on allowing trucks above 105,500 pounds on its highways through Idaho.

Hayden acknowledges the state has been swift in approving the routes shippers have requested. But he's had a harder time getting 129,000-pound weight limits approved on the county roads that access state routes. Hayden has sought permission to ship 129,000-pound loads on local roads in Oneida and Power counties, which would reduce his trips from fields to mills in Utah and Oneida County. County officials, however, have voiced concerns about "unintended consequences," or suggested additional studies should be conducted.

Hayden, however, believes the math speaks for itself. The weight distribution on a truck equipped to haul 129,000 pounds equals 3,071 pounds per tire and 5,864 pounds per brake, compared with 4,058 pounds per tire and 7,537 pounds per brake with a truck equipped to haul 105,500 pounds.

"It's better for the roads, but to try to get everybody to understand that at the county level is a nightmare," Hayden said. "Most counties don't have a full-time civil engineer. They don't say no, they just don't know how to say yes."

Complicating matters, he explained his farm fields are scattered throughout a broad area, and he ships to many different places, which would require approval of a lengthy list of county roads. Hayden has a truck ready to use once county routes are approved.

"What we really need to do is have the

state say everything is 129,000 pounds all the way across the county, and if we don't want trucks on (a road) we have the legal right to put up a sign and say no trucks," Hayden said.

Ed Bala, Idaho Transportation Department's District 5 engineer, said Hayden could realistically need as many as 1,000 local permits to operate 129,000-pound trucks statewide, from fields to elevators. To simplify the process, ITD has offered to complete the permitting process at no cost on behalf of local highway districts willing to use the state's own review standards.

Bala said 17 highway districts have agreed to the terms. Power County is among them but has been "having some bureaucratic snafus," Bala said.

"The science (behind 129,000-pound truck weight limits) is irrefutable, but there are a lot of deniers out there," Bala said.

Oneida County Commissioner Max Firth said he's met with state engineers about

129,000-pound weight limits, and he acknowledges the science behind allowing heavier trucks is sound. He's a bit concerned that traffic volumes could increase on county roads with the designation.

Thus far, he said, the county has granted approval on a single road, accessing a mine, and Idaho Transportation Department has drilled holes to evaluate the condition of the road base where another route is being considered.

Firth added that his road managers retain some concerns about heavier weight limits, and he'd like a consensus in support before granting approvals.

"I farm and ranch myself," Firth said. "A significant move that will help reduce costs for ranchers and farmers is a plus in my book, and I think that's part of our responsibility as local officials – to help citizens make a living."

Increased trucking weight limits have been especially important for Amalgamated

Sugar Co.

Duane Grant, a Rupert farmer who serves as chairman of the board of the cooperative that owns Amalgamated, said the company has succeeded in obtaining the necessary county routes, which will also be useful when he switches shipments from his own farm to 129,000-pound trucks.

"More shippers are emerging as the number of approved county roads gets larger," Grant said.

However, Grant acknowledges there are still many areas in which shippers are located off of the main highway, along county roads, and are still "held captive to a smaller, less efficient, less safe, more road-destroying truck configuration."

"Once highway districts get it figured out that the higher weight limits do result in less wear and tear to their roads, they tend to become proponents of higher weight limits on specified roads," Grant said.

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Use historical futures trends as part of decision-making process

By Clark Johnston

We are now well underway into the harvest season. Hard red winter wheat harvest is all but completed in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. The yields weren't anything to write home about but just the fact that it was harvest did put a little pressure on the market. The bulk of the pressure in the market during the last part of June was due to the uncertainty of the export trade.

Even with all the talk and rumors flying around trade, we did still see the market move very close to the historical seasonal trend. Watching the historical trends isn't an exact science; however, they are very close year after year. We should use them as just a part of our decision-making process.

Using historical futures trends, some technical indicators and historical basis trends will help us eliminate the emotional factor in marketing our commodities. We will be able to market based on what we know rather than what we are hoping or wishing for. Your marketing plan should not and cannot be based on emotion.

When we let emotion manage our decisions it more times than not turns into defensive marketing. You know what I mean: Watching the market move lower and then contracting before we lose any more money. When producers have this mindset, they usually contract their commodities near the bottom of the move.

Also, when we set an unrealistic price objective we usually won't take advantage of the good opportunities during the year while we wait for the extreme price level. When we wait and wait and wait for the unrealistic level, more times than not we

finally once again just give up and contract our wheat toward the bottom of the range for the marketing year.

Now that I have talked about the negative ways to market, let's visit about some positive ways to analyze the market and decide when to contract. Historically, the futures market in wheat will move lower between the 4th of July and Thanksgiving. This is usually the case because of the fact that there is a carry in the market from July futures to December futures. When there is a good carry in the market, the deferred months will usually trade lower as this contract month becomes the front month on the board.

At this time, there is a 27-cent-per-bushel carry from July to the December contract in Chicago futures. This is close to a 4.5 cents per bushel per month carry charge. This is telling us that the trade feels that we still have an adequate supply of wheat even with a less than desirable hard red winter harvest. Remember, we have a rather large carryover position in wheat.

As long as the carry in the futures market remains at these levels we would anticipate the December futures contract to once again trend lower from July until the end of November. At the same timeframe the local basis for wheat historically trends higher into the end of November. This is very good information to know and keep in mind. It is also good to keep track of just how the basis is moving in your specific area.

Remember, once you have hedged your wheat with futures you are now a basis trader. I recently had a producer visit with me about the local markets. He was trading futures by using options through a broker in the Midwest. The broker was very good



Clark Johnston

with the futures markets but he was concerned that his marketing strategy didn't have anything to do with the local basis appreciation. This producer was a little frustrated with his marketing and hedging program just for the fact that it was centered on the futures markets without any regard to what the basis was doing.

Just as there are certain segments of your production that tend to receive more attention than others, basis is just that segment of your marketing program that should receive a great deal of your marketing time. The basis is probably your best indicator of the local supply/demand.

You are going to have many good opportunities to market your wheat at good basis levels between now and the end of the year. Once you use your knowledge to trade the basis, your ability to contract at profitable levels will increase.

For more information on receiving personalized help in preparing your plan for this upcoming marketing year, contact Zak Miller or Melissa Nelson at the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation office in Pocatello.

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

EXPORTS

Continued from page 14

Idaho's farming and ranching industry.

"Exports continue to be vital to Idaho agriculture. Overall, roughly 20 percent of Idaho agriculture products are destined to international markets," said Laura Johnson, who manages the ISDA's market development division, which provided the export data. "That number is even higher for some products such as wheat, where 50 percent of the state's total crop is shipped to foreign countries."

Canada was the top foreign destination for Idaho farm products during the first quarter, as \$70 million worth

of ag products were sold to that nation, an 11 percent increase over the same period in 2017.

Mexico was second at \$34 million, a 3 percent decline over 2017, followed by The Netherlands (\$16 million and 0.7 percent increase), China (\$12 million, 4 percent increase) and South Korea (\$11 million, 24 percent decrease).

The totals, which are released quarterly, are based on U.S. Census Bureau data that is calculated for ISDA by a private company. The data is based on the zip code of the exporter of record and doesn't capture a lot of

Idaho farm products, such as wheat, that are shipped to other states before being exported.

A different total released annually by USDA analyzes the same Census Bureau data and attempts to overcome the issue of other states getting credit for Idaho products, Johnson said.

The USDA total is higher but more than a year behind the totals used for this story and doesn't include country of destination or detailed product categories like that data does.

According to ISDA, Idaho

exported more than \$50 million worth of dairy products during the first quarter and dairy accounted for 17 percent of all Idaho farm product exports during that period.

Idaho also exported \$45 million worth of edible vegetable products, \$29 million worth of products included in the "oilseeds, miscellaneous grain, seed and fruit" category and \$20 million worth of products included in the "milling, malt and starch" category.

Idaho exports of live animals increased 940 percent to \$6 million during the first quarter.

This Month's Top Farm Bureau Agents



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Wayne Hungate



Rookie of the Month
Ryan Pearson

Region of the Month
Treasure Valley Region

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Photo by Bill Schaefer

A group of Northwest potato researchers – from left to right, Nina Zidack, Montana State University, Dennis Johnson, Washington State University, Mike Thornton, University of Idaho, Mark Pavek, Washington State University – meet in the courtyard of the Cusco Convention Center following the opening session of the World Potato Congress.

Idaho contingent attends World Potato Conference in Peru

By Bill Schaefer

For Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

CUSCO, Peru – A delegation of researchers from Idaho, where the potato is world famous, traveled to Peru, where the potato originated, for the World Potato Congress.

The 10th triennial meeting of the WPC was held in Cusco, Peru, May 27-31 and attended by more than 800 people from around the globe.

WPC attendee Nora Olsen, a professor

and potato storage specialist at the University of Idaho's Kimberly Research and Extension Center, said the potato congress plays an important role in Idaho's potato industry.

She said that for her, the biggest benefit of the WPC is the interaction and networking that occurs among fellow potato researchers and university extension educators from around the world.

"You get this wide breadth of what's happening worldwide," Olsen said. "We have a lot of the same sort of issues and

scientific concerns, even production or industry concerns."

Olsen and Daniel Caldiz, director of global agronomy research and development for McCain Foods, were the co-chairs for the WPC technical session on post-harvest and processing technology.

"It was a great opportunity to work with colleagues, work with industry personnel throughout the world and to identify what are some of the major issues," Ol-

See POTATO CONFERENCE, page 28

POTATO CONFERENCE

Continued from page 27



Photo by Bill Schaefer

Nazario Quispo Amoco stands next to a display of Peruvian potato varieties at the Potato Park during the World Potato Congress.

sen said about leading the technical session.

“You could have presentations by somebody from Uruguay or you may hear what’s going on in China, (and get) a glimpse of what are the similarities and differences globally, and then (try to figure out how we can) use that science and education and business to further potato production,” she said.

There are multiple benefits to the Idaho potato industry to be found at the WPC, Olsen said.

“We are looked (at as a) a resource, primarily because we are known for our potato production and our potato industry,” she said. “There are networking opportunities coming out of Idaho. It’s not just production, we have a whole big business and industry surrounded around

Idaho potato production and those are businesses that can expand and develop into other countries.”

Mike Thornton, professor and research plant physiologist at UI’s Parma Research and Extension Center, pointed to two critical values that he came away with from attending this year’s WPC.

“First, potato problems and issues are common across the world and to think that one country has the monopoly on the best research or best ideas on how to solve some of these problems, I think is a little naïve,” he said.

As an example, Thornton cited the spore trapping network recently set up in Idaho as an early warning system for diseases such as late blight.

“That was first trialed in Alberta, Can-

ada, and before that over in Europe,” he said. “So, we’re profiting from the background work they’ve done and adapting it to Idaho.”

Thornton said that the second value from this year’s WPC came from its location.

“A lot of the pests that attack potatoes developed in South America and so understanding what sources of resistance to pests they have in that country and how we might be able to use those sources to solve some of the problems like potato cyst nematode in eastern Idaho, I think is critical,” he said.

“We’re starting to do that; our potato breeding group is collecting parents with nematode resistance from across the world and starting to use them to breed russet type varieties that would grow in Idaho for resistance to potato cyst nema-



Photo by Bill Schaefer

Nora Olsen, a professor and potato researcher at University of Idaho's Kimberly Research and Extension Center, opens the World Potato Congress session on post-harvest and processing technology.

tode," Thornton added.

During the WPC, Idaho researchers Joe Kuhl, Rich Novy and Jonathan Whitworth gave individual poster presentations on the current state of their research into trying to develop a potato with resistance to the three globodera nematodes found in North America.

Kuhl is an associate professor in the department of plant sciences at UI, Novy is a research geneticist and Whitworth is a research plant pathologist for the USDA's Agricultural Research Service at Aberdeen, Idaho.

The three are part of a consortium of researchers from Idaho, Oregon, New York and the United Kingdom working on a specialty crop grant called GLOBAL, an acronym for Globodera Alliance. They are currently in the third year of a five-year grant.

There are three globodera nematodes. *Globodera rostochiensis*, commonly called golden nematode and found in New York state; *globodera pallida* or pale cyst nematode, found in eastern Idaho; and *globodera ellingtonae*, found in Oregon and Idaho.

Whitworth said that they are focusing

on trying to develop a potato with resistance to pale cyst nematode but also with resistance to the other two nematodes.

Novy said that his most successful crosses have been with Eden, a round, white Scottish variety, and Western Russet, a

long tuber shape favored by processors.

"That's the one that where we've made a population and selected out of it for tuber type and shape and for resistance," Whitworth said. "Eden gives us resistance to the Golden Nematode and I would characterize that as high resistance and it gives us moderately high resistance to the pale cyst nematode."

Kuhl is developing molecular markers that help identify resistance to pale cyst nematode to more efficiently screen potato crosses.

Novy said that their research has shown that the gene conferring resistance to the *rostochiensis* nematode also confers resistance to the *ellingtonae* nematode but that's not the case with the pale cyst nematode.

"Now (pale cyst nematode), that's a little bit more difficult," Novy said.

Whitworth said that they're happy with the results of the cross-breeding to date and hope to continue to develop greater resistance to pale cyst nematode with future progeny.



Photo by Bill Schaefer

A vendor sells potatoes at the PISAQ market during the World Potato Congress in Cusco, Peru.

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4th annual Farm to Table Fair teaches 1,050 students about farming

By Bob Smathers

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

COEUR d'ALENE – About 1,050 Kootenai County fifth-graders learned a wide variety of lessons about agriculture at the 4th Annual Farm To Table Fair May 23-24 at the Kootenai County Fairgrounds.

The event features many stations dedicated to teaching students about where their food comes from and how important farming and ranching is to their existence.

As word about the fair has spread, its popularity is growing among Kootenai County schools, said event organizer Linda Rider of the Kootenai/Shoshone Farm Bureau. She said more schools have contacted her about participating next year, “which may require us to expand the fair an extra day.”

She told the many volunteers and presenters at the end of this year’s event that possibly having to expand the fair is “a good problem that we will tackle next year.”

The ag community in Kootenai County joined with Farm Bureau, the event’s main sponsor, and the 26 sponsors of the fair to make this experience possible for the youth in this increasingly urban community.

This year’s event featured 19 stations, including stations dealing with vegetable farming, vertical/hydroponic farming, master gardeners/pollinators, bees, goat dairying, cow dairying, potatoes, apples, water, corn, wheat, sheep, beef, range, soils, and hay.

The students were also treated to a wagon ride pulled by teams of horses from the Rider Ranch and they were fed a lunch sponsored by the Idaho Beef Council.

Using the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation Moving Agriculture to the Class-



Idaho Farm Bureau Federation regional manager Bob Smathers helps teach kids about agriculture during the 4th Annual Farm to Table Fair, which was held May 23-24 at the Kootenai County Fairgrounds.

room trailer, which has a variety of tools to teach kids about agriculture, retired wheat farmers Wally Meyer and Doug Meyer, who farmed on the Rathdrum Prairie, spoke to the students about how wheat is planted, grown and harvested.

They also stressed the importance of wheat as a food source and to demonstrate this, they had 20 products on a table, all but one of which had wheat as a significant ingredient. They asked the students to guess which product on the table did not have wheat in it and with most groups, it took the students several minutes to come up with the right answer.

It was a popular game for all the classes that came through the MAC trailer station

and it demonstrated just how important wheat is to our diet. At the end of that presentation, the students were given the opportunity to grind some wheat into flour.

The potato station presenters were IFBF President Bryan Searle and his wife, Mary. As potato farmers themselves, they taught the children about potato production and the different products made from potatoes.

They talked about the processing of potatoes and the positive impact that technology has made in potato production. The Searles also brought some sprouted potatoes at different stages of growth as props to give the students a hands-on experience.

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Photo by Sean Ellis

American Farm Bureau Federation and American Farm Bureau Insurance Services have developed a new risk-management insurance safety net for dairy farmers.

Idaho Farm Bureau, dairymen hold meetings on new insurance program

By Jake Putnam

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

Boise — The American Farm Bureau Federation teamed up with American Farm Bureau Insurance Services and dairymen to develop a new risk-management insurance safety net for dairy farmers.

The Idaho Dairymen's Association and Idaho Farm Bureau

Federation held informational meetings across Idaho in June to preview the safety net insurance program. Policies are expected to be available in late summer 2018.

Dairyman Terry Jones of Emmett thinks dairy operations need insurance to survive everyday market losses.

"When you purchase a car, what is the first thing you buy?"

he said. "It's insurance and why do you do that? To protect your asset. We need something to protect our assets so we don't dig into our bottom line or capital base and destroy the whole operation."

Known as "Dairy Revenue Protection," the insurance plan would allow farmers to purchase risk management protection against quarterly milk

market declines and unexpected declines in milk prices, milk production, or both.

If the new Farm Bill is passed this year, Dairy Revenue Protection insurance would give farmers like Jones the opportunity to manage risks by focusing on their profits from milk sales. The program is approved by the USDA's Federal Crop Insurance Corporation.

“I think this a timely and needed product for the dairy industry,” said IFBF Commodities Director Zak Miller. “We’ve seen volatility in the feed side and in the market side of dairy production. It’s nice to see a product coming on that finally benefits dairymen.”

That sentiment was echoed by AFBF President Zippy Duvall.

“We know that the level of risk protection available to dairy farmers was inadequate and we saw a clear opportunity to help by specifically addressing the impact of milk price volatility on a dairy farmer’s revenue,” he said in an AFBF news release announcing the program.

Duvall said the coverage will help shield dairy farmers from unexpected declines in milk prices and milk production by addressing a farmer’s overall revenue.

According to AFBF, Dairy Revenue Protection provides different levels of insurance coverage based on the value of the farmer’s milk. One option uses milk futures prices while the other option is based on the value of milk components, things like milkfat, whey protein, and other milk solids. A majority of dairy farmers selling milk in the United States today are paid based on the amount of milkfat and protein in their milk.

Tim Green, vice president of American Farm Bureau Insurance Services, visited Boise for the meetings and said Dairy-RP policies have been received well by both the House and Senate.

Dairy-RP coverage works just like the area-based crop revenue protection insurance poli-

cies, according to AFBF. Crop coverage offers revenue guarantees based on three things: futures prices, expected production and market-implied risk.

“Dairy-RP allows farmers to pick a value of milk based on a component value or a mix of class-three or class-four milk,” said John Newton, an AFBF economist who attended the informational meetings in Pocatello, Twin Falls, and Boise. “Then the farmer picks how much milk they want to cover, a dairy percentage, and that becomes a revenue guarantee for the farmer on the policy.”

Newton said Farm Bureau started contacting dairy farmers two years ago to see what kind of fixes they needed in the farm safety net in the Farm Bill. Newton pointed to the success of crop programs as an example of why dairymen need the same type of protection.

“In 2016, with declining crop prices, more than \$2.2 billion in insurance indemnities were paid to corn, cotton, rice, soybeans and wheat farmers,” he said. “Dairy-RP would have provided similar protection in 2015 and 2016 when those milk prices fell by nearly 50 percent and the total U.S. farm value of milk fell by nearly \$15 billion.”

Newton said a big selling point of the Dairy-RP program is that a farmer has only four decisions to make when working on his protection policy: the value of milk protected; the amount of milk production to cover; the level of coverage from 70 to 90 percent of the revenue guarantee; and which quarterly contracts a farmer wishes to purchase.

Dairy-RP policies would be

sold by USDA-approved insurance providers and could be purchased for an individual quarter, or a strip of future quarters, up to five quarters out. Newton said the price of the policy will vary daily based on the farmer-selected parameters and on the expected risk in the market.

Like other crop insurance policies, USDA would provide a premium discount to purchase Dairy-RP and the discount would increase as the farmer’s elected deductible increased. For example, 70 percent coverage has a higher premium discount than 90 percent coverage.

Preliminary economic studies show that a Dairy-RP policy covering 90 percent of the milk revenue could cost 5 to 40 cents per hundredweight, depending on the quarter of the year cov-


ered and other policy parameters.

Newton said dairy farmers need additional risk management tools that reflect the diversity of milk production.


“While Farm Bureau continues to work to improve the dairy safety nets available from USDA, the efforts to develop a new revenue-based insurance product will greatly improve the dairy safety net by providing another option in the risk management toolbox,” he said.

The three meetings were well attended.

“This is a badly needed safety net and it’s long overdue,” said Bob Naerebout of the Idaho Dairymen’s Association. “The first Dairy-RP policies could be available by late this summer with congressional approval.”



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FARM BUREAU COMMODITY REPORT

GRAIN PRICES 5/22/2018 6/22/2018 Trend

PORTLAND:

White Wheat	5.80-5.94	5.90-6.00	+ .10 to + .06
Hard Red Winter	6.45-6.70	5.95-6.30	- .50 to - .40
DNS 14%	7.78-7.93	6.66-6.91	- 1.12 to - 1.02
Oats	250.00	250.00	Steady

OGDEN:

White Wheat	4.51	4.49	- .02
Hard Red Winter	5.01	4.65	- .36
DNS 14%	6.03	5.26	- .77
Barley	7.45	7.45	Steady

BLACKFOOT/ IDAHO FALLS

White Wheat	4.35	4.00	- .35
Hard Red Winter	5.10	4.60	- .50
DNS 14%	5.60	4.90	- .70
Hard White	5.10	4.80	- .30

BURLEY:

White Wheat	4.39	4.17	- .22
Hard Red Winter	4.80	4.26	- .54
DNS 14%	5.65	4.96	- .69
Barley	7.00	5.25	- 1.75

MERIDIAN:

White Wheat(cwt)	4.90	4.80	- .10
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LEWISTON:

White Wheat	5.70	5.75	+ .05
H. Red Winter	6.45	5.80	- .65
Dark N. Spring	7.48	6.51	- .97
Barley	141.50	136.50	- 5.00

LIVESTOCK PRICES

FEEDER STEERS

	5/22/2018	6/22/2018	Trend
Under 500 lbs	150-207	160-201	+ 10 to - 6
500-700 lbs	135-194	141-178	+ 6 to - 16
700-900 lbs	117-153	121-156	+ 4 to + 3

FEEDER HEIFERS

Under 500 lbs	127-169	137-189	+ 10 to + 20
500-700 lbs	125-156	126-177	+ 1 to + 21
700-900 lbs	110-137	110-140	Steady to + 3

HOLSTEIN STEERS

Under 700 lbs	70-110	71-99	+ 1 to - 11
Over 700 lbs	73-101	68-86	- 5 to - 15

COWS

Utility/Commercial	53-78	57-85	+ 4 to + 7
Canner & Cutter	53-70	50-74	- 3 to + 4

Stock Cows 1125-1300 1125-1300 Steady

BULLS

Slaughter	64-99	70-107	+ 6 to - 8
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BEAN PRICES:

Pinto	21.00-24.00	29.00-30.00	+ 8.00 to + 6.00
Garbanzo	35.00-40.00	30.00-38.00	- 5.00 to - 2.00

COMPILED BY THE IDAHO FARM BUREAU COMMODITY DIVISION

IDAHO HAY REPORT

USDA Market News, Moses Lake, WA

Tons: 4650 Last Week: 1200 Last Year: 1600

Compared to last Friday, Alfalfa new crop fair steady. Trade slow with good demand especially for export and stable hay going to eastern interests. Rain showers continue to plague the trade area. Large supplies of hay down that has been rain damaged. Retail/Feed store not tested this week. Prices are dollars per ton and FOB the farm or ranch unless otherwise stated.

	Tons	Price	Wt. Avg	Comments
Alfalfa				
Mid Square				
Fair	3000	135.00-140.00	138.00	
	1200	165.00-165.00	165.00	Organic
Utility	450	110.00-110.00	110.00	Rain Damage

Grass Hay guidelines

Quality	Crude Protein Percent
Premium	Over 13
Good	9-13
Fair	5-9
Utility	Under 5

POTATOES & ONIONS

June 19 2018

Potatoes

UPPER VALLEY, TWIN FALLS-BURLEY DISTRICT, IDAHO -- Shipments

708-814-732 (includes exports of 12-18-05) --- Movement expected to remain about the same. Trading moderate. Prices generally unchanged. Russet Burbank U.S. One baled 10-5 pound film bags non size A mostly 5.50; 50-pound cartons 40-50s mostly 12.00, 60-70s mostly 14.00, 80s mostly 13.50-14.00, 90s mostly 11.00, 100s mostly 10.00.

Onions – Dry

IDAHO AND MALHEUR COUNTY OREGON--- 15-13-2--- Movement expected to decrease seasonally. Remaining supplies in too few hands to establish a market.

5 YEAR GRAIN COMPARISON

Grain Prices	6/25/2014	6/23/2015	6/24/2016	6/22/2017	6/22/2018
Portland:					
White Wheat	6.95	N.Q.	N.Q.	4.86-5.11	5.90-6.00
11% Winter	7.99	6.11-6.20	4.92	5.12-5.32	5.95-6.30
14% Spring	8.35	7.57	6.07-6.27	7.56-7.71	6.66-6.91
Corn	280.00	265.00	270.00	225.00	250.00

Ogden:					
White Wheat	5.85	5.67	4.25	4.13	4.49
11% Winter	6.77	5.09	3.91	4.82	4.65
14 % Spring	6.50	6.46	5.26	6.66	5.26
Barley	7.50	5.70	6.15	No Bid	7.45

Blackfoot/Idaho Falls:					
White Wheat	5.60	5.30	3.70	4.00	4.00
11% Winter	6.63	5.20	3.90	4.60	4.60
14% Spring	6.34	6.06	4.90	6.35	6.90
Barley	No Bid	5.40	4.10	4.80	4.80

Burley:					
White Wheat	5.40	5.17	3.90	3.87	4.17
11% Winter	6.30	4.90	3.41	4.02	4.26
14% Spring	6.50	5.71	4.81	6.00	4.96
Barley	7.50	4.75	5.50	5.25	5.25

Nampa/Meridian:					
White Wheat (cwt)	10.25	9.28	7.10	6.48	4.80
(bushel)	6.15	5.57	4.26	3.89	2.88

Lewiston:					
White Wheat	6.80	5.85	5.23	4.73	5.75
Barley	171.50	131.50	126.50	106.50	136.50

Bean Prices:					
Pintos	34.00-35.00	24.00	25.00-30.00	25.00-30.00	25.00-30.00
Small Reds	No Quote	40.00	No Quote	No Quote	No Quote

MILK PRODUCTION

June 19, 2018

May Milk Production up 0.9 Percent

Milk production in the 23 major States during May totaled 17.9 billion pounds, up 0.9 percent from May 2017. April revised production, at 17.3 billion pounds, was up 0.5 percent from April 2017. The April revision represented a decrease of 18 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. **Production per cow** in the 23 major States averaged 2,052 pounds for May, 15 pounds above May 2017. This is the highest production per cow for the month of May since the 23 State series began in 2003.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.74 million head, 10,000 head more than May 2017, and 2,000 head more than April 2018.

May Milk Production in the United States up 0.8 Percent

Milk production in the United States during May totaled 19.1 billion pounds, up 0.8 percent from May 2017.

Production per cow in the United States averaged 2,031 pounds for May, 15 pounds above May 2017.

The number of milk cows on farms in the United States was 9.40 million head, 3,000 head more than May 2017, and 2,000 head more than April 2018.

5 YEAR LIVESTOCK COMPARISON

	6/24/2014	6/22/2015	6/24/2016	6/21/2017	6/22/2018
Feeder Steers					
Under 500 lbs.....	200-265	260-342	125-175	153-194	160-201
500-700 lbs.....	195-248	210-283	120-167	130-186	141-178
700-900 lbs.....	145-217	182-240	110-145	120-164	121-156
Over 900 lbs.....	130-192	170-191	103-127	109-139	100-131
Feeder Heifers					
Under 500 lbs.....	185-251	238-285	125-170	140-180	137-189
500-700 lbs.....	170-239	195-270	100-156	126-170	126-177
700-900 lbs.....	135-201	163-205	110-134	120-141	110-140
Over 900 lbs.....	114-162	140-183	No Test	107-116	No Test
Holstein Steers					
Under 700 lbs.....	115-179	140-197	No Test	87-115	71-99
Over 700 lbs.....	125-170	130-190	No Test	74-105	68-86
Cows					
Utility/Commercial.....	88-114	85-115	65-88	55-87	57-85
Canner & Cutter.....	78-102	78-105	58-78	52-82	50-74
Stock Cows.....	1200-1800	1500-2350	950-1500	1000-1480	1125-1300
Bulls – Slaughter					
	97-140	115-149	115-149	78-110	70-107

CATTLE ON FEED

Released June 22, 2018

United States Cattle on Feed Up 4 Percent

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.6 million head on June 1, 2018. The inventory was 4 percent above June 1, 2017. This is the highest June 1 inventory since the series began in 1996.

Placements in feedlots during May totaled 2.12 million head, slightly above 2017. Net placements were 2.05 million head. During May, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 445,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 340,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 480,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 524,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 235,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 100,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during May totaled 2.06 million head, 5 percent above 2017.

Other disappearance totaled 73,000 head during May, 4 percent above 2017.

CATTLE MARKET REPORT

June 25, 2018

Cash Cattle.

Nothing unsettles the markets more than trade war talk. The tit for tat and back and forth between China and the United States moves markets with each new press release. The moves and counter-moves between the EU and the U.S. triggers economic hot spots and immediate reactions. Trump is right that we must stand up to predatory trade actions but it is also necessary to push negotiations to a conclusion. Secretary of Agriculture Perdue assures farmers and ranchers that he has their back but few understand what that means.

Packers purchased in the reported cash market limited quantities of cattle for the third week in a row. Volumes for the past three weeks have varied between 60-80,000 head compared to over 100,000 in the earlier weeks. Sales in the south at \$109-110 and live sales in the north at \$108-110. In the north a few dressed sales occurred in the north at \$172-174. Live prices are \$2-3 lower than last week and dressed sales \$3-4 lower.

Cattle are coming to market in large numbers. Packers are processing them to full plant capacities. Peak numbers may be occurring now but large numbers will continue for 30-45 days then taper off to year end.

Slaughter the week of June 3rd was 658,000 head
 June 10th was 654,000 head
 June 17th was 664,000 head -- 25,000 head over last year.
 These are large numbers and will work through heavy supplies of fed cattle, however the composition of sales of those cattle is anything but transparent.

Cattle Futures. All contract months are sharply lower Monday morning. This is both a reaction to the COF report and to trade war talk. June is expiring and closing to cash or pulling cash lower. With the expiration of the June contract, August becomes the spot month and is continuing to sell discount to current cash. A discounted futures contract for the spot month will encourage cattle owners to push finished cattle to market.

Carcass weights are released each Thursday and are a closely watched barometer indicating the position of cattle feeders in the nation's feedlots. The last report released for the week of June 9th, had steer carcass weights unchanged at 851# and still remains 4# over last year. Heifers are also 10# over prior year with more heifers in the mix. The seasonal low appears to be in and weights are now moving higher and will be expected to continue higher all summer.

Forward Cattle Contracts: There are no cattle feeders interested in pricing cattle off the forward summer contract months.

The weekly breakdown of fed cattle moving to the beef processing plants is as follows. 1) formula 55%; 2) negotiated 20% [both live and flat dressed]; 3) forward contracts 25%. Some of the formula arrangements are week to week negotiated prices and not committed cattle to one plant.

The Cutout. The cutout continued lower losing over \$5 from one week ago. Retailers are now purchasing for post holiday store needs. The choice/select spread has narrowed from a high of \$26 to \$15. It also seems obvious beef cuts are fairly stable and demand good for both forward bought and current shipments.

The movement of cows to market has remained well over last year and is some indication of the end of the herd building. Recent rains may slow cow liquidation and improve the market for ground beef which would be positive for the cutout. The role of the grind is increasingly important in beef values and the movement by most hamburger chains to feature fresh beef rather than frozen has pushed purchases to domestic rather than imported beef.

Beef Feature Activity Index. This is the most active period of the year for beef features. The period leading up to the 4th of July will move a lot of beef and then will follow a slower period of beef demand until the weather starts to cool. Beef features are often planned months in advance. Retailers might sense we are nearing the bottom in live cattle prices and anticipation of buying beef cheaper might look more remote.

CLASSIFIEDS

Farm Equipment

Landoll Roller Harrow, Model 3210 Series; 15 feet wide; excellent condition. Always stored under cover. \$13,000. in Buhl, Idaho. Call Dale (208)490-0151.

Bale Wagon. New Holland Stackliner in great condition. Two bale, wide pull type. Stack 69. \$6,000. Plummer, Id. Call Bryan. 208-659-2418.

One quarter mile wheel line. I've rented my ground for hops and no longer need it. Five foot wheels, extra engine. Used last year, good shape. \$3500. Per each line. OBO. Wilder, Id 208-482-7020.

Aluminum Gated Pipe Fixtures: 2- 45° 8" or 2- 90° 8" elbows \$30.00 each, 1- end bell 8", 1- 8" to 6" adapter or 2- 8" end plugs \$20.00 each. Kuna, Id. 208-761-1986.

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

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

Miscellaneous

Solar Panel/Satellite Dish Von Weise Actuator. Excellent condition. Model VW-24 Made in USA. Great for up to 10 ft, 600 lb satellite dish or to keep solar array aimed for optimal power production. \$100. Grangeville, ID 208-983-1417.

Old fashion style pine coffins and caskets. Clear finish. Unlined - \$700.00. Lined - \$850.00. Delivery available. Weiser, Id. 208-549-2239.

Freedom Arms belt buckle 22 pistol w/case, w/ buckle. \$400. Pocatello, Id 208-425-3900.

Pioneer Day Fireside - Theme: Our Pioneer and Pioneering Ranchers and Farmers. Sunday, July 22nd, 7:00 p.m. Rexburg Id N. Stake Center. Speakers: Lowell Parkinson, "Who were the Pioneer Ranchers and Farmers of the Upper Snake River Valley?" and Merle Jeppesen, "Pioneer Values for Successful Ranches, Farms, and Families."

Real Estate/Acreage

52 acres for sale. East of Ririe annexed in Ririe city limits. Call 208-356-6967.

Lot for Sale - 1/2 Acre Country Lot. Build a New Home or New Mfg Hm. City water, Gas, Utilities available. Must obtain all permits. Mobile Home for Sale - 1977 14x66 As-Is Condition. Must Move. \$5,000. Shelley Area. 528-5337.

Beautiful newer 2000 sq/ft, 2 bed, 3 bath, kitchen, dining, formal living, utility, laundry, pantry rooms. Study upstairs, attached large 2 car garage, 16.8 acres, wonderful views, big game, BLM close. Blackfoot. \$249,900. Large lot Rockland, 2 building rights. \$25k 208-604-2205.

Services

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

Vehicles

2006 Dodge Mega Cab Pickup. 6 speed manual tranny. In good shape! 5.9 engine. Only 78k original miles! Call for more details. Twin Falls Idaho. 208-539-9790. \$32,500.

Completely rebuilt 1991 Chevy Silverado S350. Short bed. Must see and drive. \$26,500. 208-887-1554.

Wanted

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

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

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

Our Idaho family loves old wood barns and would like to restore/rebuild your barn on our Idaho farm. Would you like to see your barn restored/rebuilt rather than rot and fall down? Call Ken & Corrie 208-425-3225.

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FOR NEXT
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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.

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