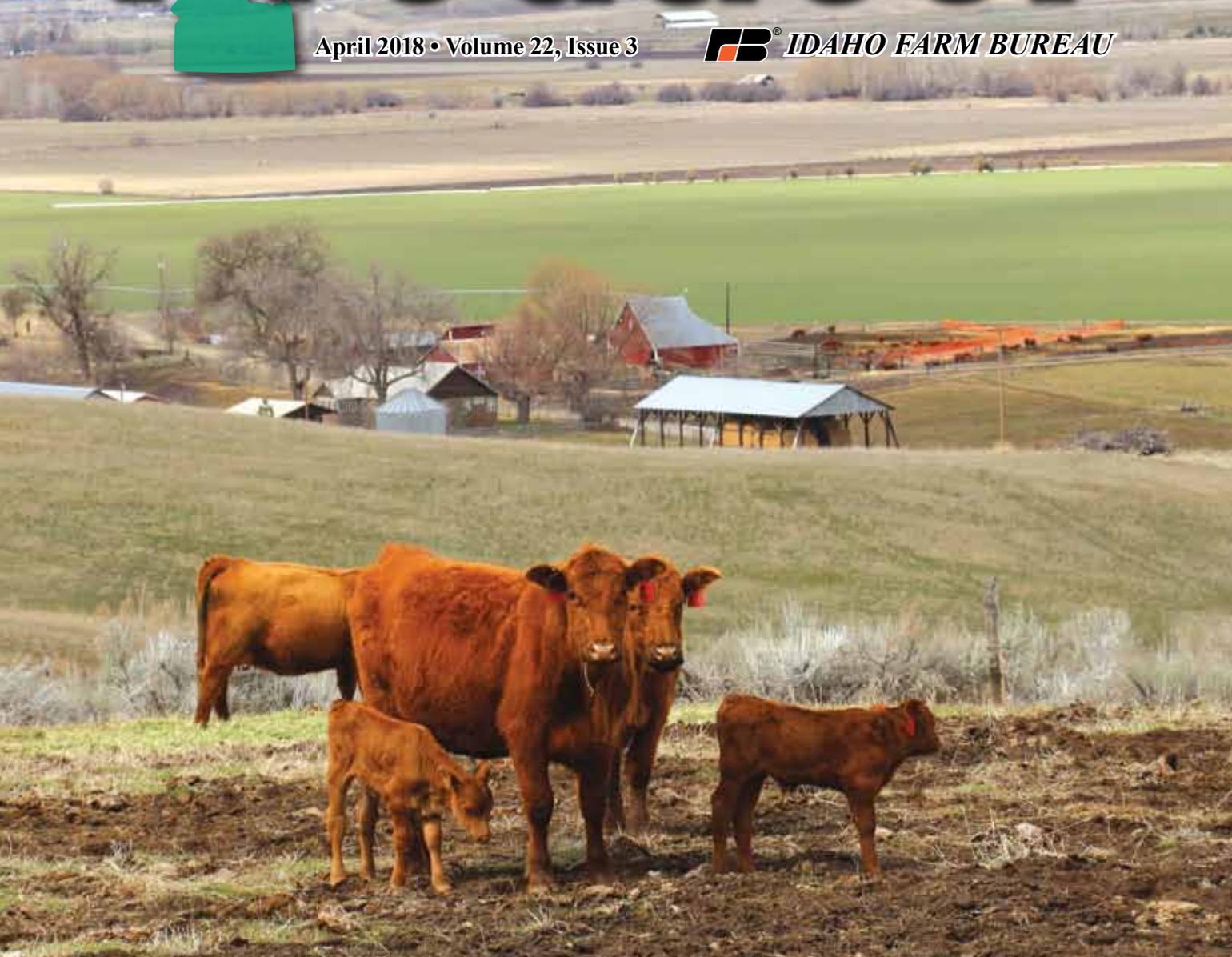


Gem State Producer



April 2018 • Volume 22, Issue 3

IFB® IDAHO FARM BUREAU



CALS hopes to invest
millions in R & E centers

Five inducted into ag
hall of fame

Idaho's wine industry
growing rapidly

Proud to be farming for life



By Zippy Duvall
AFBF President

[Editor's note: this column was written in celebration of National Ag Week, March 19-23.]

To farmers and ranchers, sustainability practices like no-till and buffer strips are old hat, but it's a whole new vocabulary to most consumers.

The Zip Line



I'm so proud of the faithful service and hard work of America's farmers and ranchers all year long, and I'm grateful for how this week shines a spotlight on our great industry. This year's theme is "Farming for Life," and

that's just what we are doing each day as we grow the products that feed, clothe and fuel our nation.

Together, we are growing more with less fuel, fertilizer and water. Thanks to the latest technology and innovation, the modern farm is preventing soil erosion and cutting back greenhouse gas emissions. None of this would be possible, however, without ac-

See DUVALL, page 6

New trespass law protects property rights



By Bryan Searle
President Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

The strength of Farm Bureau is its grassroots members. All of our policies and beliefs come from a process that allows everyone to be heard, then that policy is debated

and decided through a majority vote in our house of delegates at the annual meeting. This establishes our policies and principles that we promote and defend. I quote from the basic principles section of our Idaho Farm Bureau policy book: "Ownership of property and property rights are among the human rights essential to the preservation of individual freedom. The right to own property must be preserved at all costs."

That's why I find it hard to grasp that it proved so difficult to get a

bill passed in the 2018 Idaho Legislature that consolidates Idaho's various trespass laws into one statute and strengthens the penalties for trespassing on private land.

The new statute puts some clarity and actual teeth into the state's trespassing laws. As dozens of people testified during public hearings on House Bill 658, the current laws are inconsistent and lack the "teeth" to deter people from trespassing on private property or inspire pros-

See SEARLE, page 7

Organizations must be responsive to their members



By Rick Keller
CEO Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

We are fast approaching the mid-term election where every congressman, one-third of the U.S. Senate, many governorships, and at least in Idaho, every state legislator will face an

election to stand accountable to their respective electorates. Accountability in politics is at the ballot box. Accountability in the corporate world is the consumer's ability to switch products. Accountability in nonprofit organizations and associations is in the renewal of membership dues. Accountability is everywhere and is essential in a free society.

An example of an organization whose members left its ranks because they perceived it was

not meeting the needs of its members is the Grocery Manufacturers Association. For many years, the GMA was a powerful and unrivaled trade association in the food industry, with members from neighborhood grocery stores to food manufacturing giants with supply chains that span the world. Most recently, GMA has been a powerful force in fighting proposals to require information about added sugar or GMOs on food labels.

See KELLER, page 6



IDAHO FARM BUREAU

Volume 22, Issue 3
IFBF OFFICERS

PresidentBryan Searle, Shelley
Vice PresidentMark Trupp, Driggs
Executive Vice President Rick Keller
Assist Executive Vice President.....Dennis Brower

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Austin TubbsMalad
Dan Garner Clifton
Chris Dalley Blackfoot
Stephanie Mickelsen..... Idaho Falls
Travis McAfee Howe
Scott Steele Idaho Falls
Gerald Marchant Oakley
Rick Pearson Hagerman
Rick Brune Hazelton
Luke Pearce New Plymouth
Cody Chandler Weiser
Tracy Walton Emmett
Marjorie French Princeton
Bob Konen Lewiston
Tom Daniel Bonners Ferry
Judy Woody Filer
Kyle Wade..... Downey

STAFF

Dir. of Organization Justin Patten
Director of Admin. Services Cara Dyer
Commodities & Marketing Assistant . Melissa Nelson
Member Services Assistant Peggy Moore
Public Relations Assistant Dixie Ashton
Assistant Treasurer..... Tyler Zollinger
Dist. I Regional Manager Ott Clark
Dist. II Regional Manager Tyrel Bingham
Dist. III Regional Manager Zack Lanier
Dist. IV Regional ManagerBrody Miller
Dist.V Regional Manager Bob Smathers
Dir. of Governmental AffairsRuss Hendricks
Asst. Dir. of Governmental Affairs ... Dennis Tanikuni
Energy/Natural Resources Braden Jensen
Publications Editor Sean Ellis
Video Services Manager Steve Ritter
Broadcast Services Manager Jake Putnam
Office Manager, Boise Melissa Behaver
Member Services Manager Joel Benson
Commodities and MarketingZak Miller
Project Manager Tyler Moore

Printed by: Owyhee Publishing, Homedale, ID

GEM STATE PRODUCER

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

POSTMASTER send changes of address to: GEM STATE PRODUCER

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

Subscription rate:

\$6.00 per year included in Farm Bureau dues.

MAGAZINE CONTACTS:

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

EDITOR (208) 239-4292 • ADS (208) 239-4279
E-MAIL: dashton@idahofb.org
www.idahofb.org



University of Idaho photo

Michael Parrella (shown here), the dean of University of Idaho's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, is trying to enlist farm industry support for his goal of investing millions of dollars in CALS' nine research and extension centers.

Ag college dean seeks farm industry support for goal of investing millions in research stations

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

BOISE – The dean of University of Idaho's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences has been enlisting farm industry support for the college's aggressive plan to invest millions of dollars in CALS' agricultural research and extension centers.

Over the past few months, CALS Dean Michael Parrella has briefed legislators and farm industry leaders on the college's hope to invest \$25 million in the college's nine research and extension centers. During a sit-down interview, Parrella told Idaho Farm Bureau that the initial response from farm industry leaders to that goal has been positive.

"I feel like I'm on solid ground. I feel like there's support there," he said. "I feel like this is an investment in the college that benefits an industry in the state that is critical to the economy of Idaho."

Parrella outlined his goal in broad strokes March 8 during a visioning session that focused on the Parma research and extension station, where the investment will begin. CALS plans to invest \$6 million in upgrading infrastructure and equipment at the Parma station.

Parrella told visioning session participants the university will do its part investing in the research stations but when it comes to obtaining the funding, he made it clear he

See PARRELLA page 4

Cover: Photo by Steve Ritter

It's calving season at S S Cattle Co. in Washington County in this March 21 photo. Owned by the Schwenkfelder family, S S Cattle is an 850-head commercial Red Angus cow-calf operation.





University of Idaho photo

Researchers are shown at University of Idaho's Aberdeen Research and Extension Center in this file photo. The dean of UI's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences is trying to enlist farm industry support for his goal of investing millions of dollars in CALS' nine research and extension centers.

envisions a three-way partnership between the university, the ag industry and the legislature.

"We will have skin in the game as a college and we would expect industry and the legislature to step up as well," he said.

Farm Bureau asked several people who attended the visioning session and other farm industry leaders what they thought of Parrella's vision.

The response was overwhelmingly positive and while most people said industry will likely step up to financially support CALS' vision, they will need to be convinced their industry will benefit.

Rich Garber, governmental affairs director for Idaho Grain Producers Association, said he

was impressed by the number of people – about 60 -- who turned out for the visioning meeting.

"I was really encouraged ... to see so many of our ag industry leaders show up and participate," he said. "There was a commitment to work together to see how we can come up with adequate funding and keep our research centers active and applied to our everyday issues."

"I think his vision to invest money in the experiment stations is wonderful," said agronomist Bob Simerly, a member of the Treasure Valley Ag Coalition, which acts as an advisory board for the Parma station. "Even though they are starting at Parma, their intention is to make the same type of invest-

ments at all the experiment stations. It's needed everywhere."

The average age of buildings at the experiment stations is about 50 years old and Parrella said it's important to have modern facilities and equipment in order to attract and keep top-notch "early career" researchers.

Farm industry leaders agreed.

"Michael Parrella's vision of the future is exactly what Idaho agriculture needs," said Hammett potato farmer Nick Blanksma. "As this infrastructure gets antiquated, we need to upgrade these facilities across the state. The dean sees the need to build that infrastructure back up."

If Idaho isn't at the forefront of having modern agricultural re-

search facilities and equipment, "we're behind," Blanksma said. "Our competitors are doing it, so we need to be doing it. The idea is to get quality staff and keep them. One way to do that is through healthy infrastructure."

"That's a good investment," Idaho Wheat Commission Executive Director Blaine Jacobson said about CALS' goal of investing millions of dollars to upgrade infrastructure. "We need to upgrade our research stations. A lot of equipment at these stations is several decades old."

Mark McGuire, director of CALS' research stations, said the college, with input from the farming industry, will put together a plan over the next year



University of Idaho photo

Leaders of Idaho's farming industry discuss University of Idaho's plan to invest millions of dollars into the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences' research and extension centers, March 8 during a visioning session in Parma.

and then put forth a request for assistance from the industry.

It's likely the college's first request to lawmakers for funding to help implement the plan will come during the 2020 legislative session.

Parrella said it's important that CALS and industry approach lawmakers with "skin in the game." In other words, go to the legislature having already committed financially toward the plan.

While the state's farm groups and commissions will likely be willing to step up and help financially, people interviewed for this story said, they are going to have to be convinced CALS has a good plan in place that will benefit members of their industry.

"It will have to be something

they feel is needed and important for their industry," Simerly said.

Greg Dean, manager of sugar beet quality improvement for Amalgamated Sugar Co., said that modern infrastructure is necessary in order to attract quality researchers.

But when it comes to offering financial support, "There's going to have to be a 'show me' attitude," he said. "We're looking to have partnerships with USDA and universities where it makes sense, but they are going to have to perform."

Simerly said the main thing industry can do right now is to lobby legislators to support the plan.

"What industry can do is lobby the heck out of the legislature. Don't give up," he said.

During the Parma visioning session, CALS officials asked participants what their top needs and concerns were from the research and extension centers.

At the top of the list was concern about how long it takes to replace retiring researchers. It typically takes three years and that's too long for industry, which moves at a much faster pace, Dean said.

"We have to replace them a lot quicker than two or three years," he said. "Our needs don't allow us to wait that long."

CALS need to have better succession plans for retiring researchers "so there is no lapse in having researchers in place," said Greenleaf farmer Dave Dixon.

Parrella told visioning session participants he received the message that the college's succession planning in replacing retiring researchers is too slow.

"That's something we need to work on," he said. "To me, that's obvious."

Parrella has told industry leaders several times recently that he didn't become dean of CALS to maintain the status quo but to aggressively move the college forward and position it to continue to benefit the state's farming industry in the future.

"The college is already strong, it's getting stronger and it's only the beginning. I think we're going to do some great things," he said.

DUVALL

Continued from page 2

cess to precision ag tools and better seeds. Take GMOs for example. Studies show that in 2014, GMOs made it possible for farmers to reduce emissions by 5.2 billion pounds. That's the same as taking nearly 10 million cars off the road for a year! These are the stories consumers need to hear from us.

Many consumers didn't grow up on or near a farm. But we are seeing more interest in how food gets to the grocery store and dinner table. To farmers and ranchers, sustain-

ability practices like no-till and buffer strips are old hat, but it's a whole new vocabulary to most consumers. We need to explain these terms and practices, and not shy away from talking about the ways technology has changed America's farmland. There's a risk to keeping silent. Our farms, our nation's health and the environment shouldn't suffer at the hands of groups and activists who would put us out of business by ignoring science and spreading misinformation. We can shift

the conversation—and we are—starting with our local communities and going all the way to our lawmakers in Washington, D.C.

While environmental practices are the first order of business when we talk about sustainability, we can't stop there if we're going to secure the future of agriculture. We need policies that promote the business of agriculture if we are going to keep on "farming for life." We need to open new markets through better trade deals and we must fix

our broken immigration system if production is to keep up with market demands. We need to move forward with commonsense, science-based rules and create a regulatory process that is transparent.

Farmers have a long history of adapting to change, especially when those changes are for the better. Let's continue to work together to ensure that changes in policy and practice are good for our farmland and protect our nation's food supply for generations to come.

KELLER

Continued from page 2

As with society in general, there was a clash in the food organization over GMOs, environmental concerns, labeling and other societally sensitive issues. Larger members of the association sought to be more responsive to those demands while other members were not so flexible. GMA's governance mandated a stricter observance from its membership, so some very big names began walking away and not renewing their memberships. In the past six months, Campbell Soup Co. led the way, followed by Unilever (maker of a vast array of packaged foods, such as Hellmann's mayonnaise), the candy maker Mars, Tyson Foods (American's biggest meat producer) Dean Foods, Hershey's, the grain giant Cargill and, just recently, Nestlé, the world's larg-

est food company, decided to leave GMA. This major abandonment of membership is requiring GMA to re-evaluate its future direction. As a GMA spokesman communicated, "the food industry is facing significant disruption and is evolving – and so is GMA. We all will continue to evolve and change at an even faster pace. We are always sorry when member companies decide to leave and hope to work with them on issues of mutual interest in the future."

As a membership organization, the Farm Bureau is sensitive to our mission statement: "The Idaho Farm Bureau is a voluntary grassroots organization dedicated to strengthening agriculture and protecting the rights, values, and property of our member families and their

Recent internal surveying indicates the Idaho Farm Bureau has very favorable approval among our members, but we continually seek to improve.

neighbors." We know that if the Idaho Farm Bureau is not responsive to the needs of our members, they will not renew their annual membership dues.

Recent internal surveying indicates the Idaho Farm Bureau has very favorable approval among our members, but we continually seek to improve. This magazine is one such method of reaching out to our members. We urge members to view our website at idahofb.org to see what their membership is doing for them, representing them in Congress and the legislature. We urge members to

be actively involved in the development and implementation of policies in meeting farmer and rancher needs and concerns. We urge attendance at events and conferences to help keep members informed. We are grateful for the responses and input. We thank our membership for assisting us in being the "voice of Idaho agriculture." Thank you for your involvement. Thank you for your input. We will continue seeking to meet the needs and interests of Idaho's farmers and ranchers.

SEARLE

Continued from page 2

ecutors to pursue trespassing cases.

Under the state's current confusing and often inconsistent trespass codes, someone who is found guilty of trespassing on private land faces a \$50 fine. Under House Bill 658, someone convicted of willful criminal trespass faces a minimum \$300 fine for a first conviction, \$1,500 for a second conviction and \$5,000 on the third conviction, with a felony for a third conviction when there is more than \$1,000 worth of damage involved with the trespass.

The Idaho Grain Producers Association, in written testimony that reflected what many of our members told legislators, said that "increasing penalties and making them more meaningful will truly act as a deterrent."

The bill also creates more practical private property posting requirements that property owners are required to follow that will make more sense both for landowners and the public. The bill requires the property to be posted so that a reasonable person would be put on notice that they are entering private land.

As I and many others participated in public hearings that stretched on for hours, lawmakers heard from dozens of farmers, ranchers and other landowners who testified about how trespassers have destroyed their crops, shot up and destroyed equipment, cut their fences, burned corrals for firewood and harassed and even shot their animals.

Despite that testimony, many lawmakers still opposed the

legislation, which was authored by Rep. Judy Boyle, a Republican rancher from Midvale, and some appeared more concerned about the "rights" of others than the constitutionally protected rights of landowners.

Several legislators appeared to be swayed by testimony from leaders of several sportsmen's groups who said their members, as stakeholders, weren't collaborated with in the drafting of the bill.

But one lawmaker rightly questioned why she kept hearing the words "stakeholders" and "collaboration" when the landowners are the ones who paid for the land, pay the property taxes on it and maintain it.

Most farmers and ranchers never deny anyone access to hunt or be on their property if

they just ask. That seems very reasonable and will bring the respect and protection to private property rights as they should be.

Thanks to the coalition of over 30 organizations and several legislators who worked on this legislation for their hard work and commitment to protect property rights.

To continue the support for the protection of private property rights, find out how your lawmaker voted on House Bill 658 by going to the Idaho Legislature's website -- legislature.idaho.gov -- and then clicking on "Legislative Sessions" and then "Legislation by Bill Number" and then on H0658. Your voice matters and needs to be heard by your elected official.

LOW INTEREST LOANS FOR IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION

- Sprinkler Irrigation
- No-Till Drills
- Fences
- Livestock Feeding Operations
- Solar Stock Water Pump Systems

2.5%-3.25%
Terms 7-15 Years
Up to \$200,000



swc.idaho.gov | 208-332-1790



ISN'T IT TIME TO PUT YOUR MONEY TO WORK FOR YOU?

Farm Bureau Finance Company offers subordinated debenture notes at rates above most competitors.

BENEFITS

- Minimum investment of \$50.00
- You choose the term one month to 60 months
- Automatic re-investment for your convenience with no loss of interest

Amount	Rate/Yr	Term in Months									
		1 to 3*	4 to 6*	8 to 11*	12 to 15*	24 to 30*	36 to 42*	48 to 60*			
\$ 50 - \$ 999	Rate	.600	.700	.800	.900	1.20	1.50	1.80			
	Yield	.800	.700	.800	.900	1.21	1.51	1.81			
\$ 1,000 - \$ 2,499	Rate	.650	.750	.850	.950	1.25	1.55	1.85			
	Yield	.850	.750	.850	.950	1.26	1.56	1.86			
\$ 2,500 - \$ 4,999	Rate	.700	.800	.900	1.00	1.30	1.60	1.90			
	Yield	.700	.800	.900	1.00	1.31	1.61	1.91			
\$ 5,000 - \$ 9,999	Rate	.750	.850	.950	1.05	1.35	1.65	1.95			
	Yield	.750	.850	.950	1.05	1.36	1.66	1.96			
\$ 10,000 - \$ 24,999	Rate	.800	.900	1.00	1.10	1.40	1.70	2.00			
	Yield	.800	.900	1.00	1.10	1.41	1.71	2.01			
\$ 25,000 - \$ 49,999	Rate	.850	.950	1.05	1.15	1.45	1.75	2.05			
	Yield	.850	.950	1.05	1.15	1.46	1.76	2.07			
\$ 50,000 - \$ 99,999	Rate	.900	1.00	1.10	1.20	1.50	1.80	2.10			
	Yield	.900	1.00	1.10	1.21	1.61	1.81	2.12			
\$ 100,000 +	Call	Call	Call	Call	Call	Call	Call	Call			

*Terms in months. Yield assumes that interest is compounded quarterly and is left in the account for a full year. Call for rates on amounts over \$100,000.

Call: (208) 239-4259

Farm Bureau Finance Company
275 Tierra Vista Drive
Pocatello, Idaho 83201

A subordinated debenture note is a security offered by Farm Bureau Finance Company that may only be purchased by residents within the State of Idaho. Prospectus available upon request and furnished with each purchase.



Soulen Livestock Co. near Letha, Idaho. Every spring, owners Phil and Harry Soulen will trail over 4,000 sheep here to be sheared.



In single file, the sheep are herded up the loading chute to be sheared of their wool.

Shearing of the Sheep

By Jake Putnam

Photos by Steve Ritter

Letha, Idaho - Over 4,000 sheep are running through shearing sheds at the Soulen ranch outside of Emmett March 19.

Gem County Rancher Harry Soulen says that with the exception of last week's storms, this winter was an easy one compared with last year and his operation made it through the winter OK. But now he's looking forward to spring and greener pastures.

"We're shearing right at 4,000 head of sheep here in Letha," Soulen said. "We're in the second day of shearing and

the shearing crew is getting through about 800 head a day."

Soulen hires a shearing crew made up of roving shearers from all around the world. One of them, Greg Hawea, is from New Zealand.

"We come over here and start shearing every February," he said. "We shear from the middle of February until mid-May. We have a Peruvian, an American, a Welsh guy and three New Zealanders."

Soulen says his operation used to run about 10,000 head but changing times have forced a reduction in the number of livestock on the range. However, the sheep are

getting bigger.

"These sheep are huge, they're getting too huge, to be honest," Hawea says. "We're having trouble getting them up into the shearing trailer. The sheep have gotten bigger all over the world. Everyone wants a bigger breed. They're weighing (about) 260 pounds."

Soulen says while sheep are bigger, herds are smaller.

"We used to shear about 10,000 head of ewes and yearlings, but with the loss of summer range due to the bighorn situation ... we're down to where we can only run about 4,500 sheep tops," said Soulen.



Wool is graded and sorted into various grading bins before being vacuum packed into bales headed to market. Each bale will weigh between 450 to 500 pounds.



The sheep are set up on their hind quarters with heads tucked into the shearer's waistline as the wool is removed.



Six stations are manned on the shear truck floor and the crew will shear between 800 to 900 sheep a day. The crew includes a Peruvian, two Welshmen, three New Zealanders and one American.



Sheep Rancher Phil Soulen watches a sheared ewe exit the shearing trailer. On average, a sheep will produce 12 pounds of wool annually.



IFBF file photo

A \$2 million investment in a University of Idaho program that trains students to manage agricultural risks using futures and options trading and a wide variety of other tools will benefit wheat farmers and businesses in the state, according to Idaho Wheat Commission officials, who announced the investment March 15.

Idaho Wheat Commission invests \$2 million in ag trading program

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

BOISE – The Idaho Wheat Commission has committed to investing \$2 million in a University of Idaho program that trains students to manage agricultural risks using a wide variety of tools, including futures and options trading and the use of securities markets to counterbalance agricultural risks.

IWC Executive Director Blaine Jacobson said the investment will pay off for wheat farmers and wheat industry businesses in the form of farmers and employees who are trained to manage commodity margins and trade in agricultural commodities.

The tools and information developed through the program will be disseminated to growers.

“This investment will result in a direct benefit to growers by providing them advanced marketing tools to help them mar-

ket their crop,” Jacobson said. “It will provide students with the valuable real-life experience to succeed in that area of the industry and, by so doing, strengthen the agricultural industry as a whole.”

The \$2 million will be used to establish an endowed chair of risk management at UI’s College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. CALS and the College of Business and Economics have since 2013 collaborated on a capital management and trading program that educates students about risk management strategies using real money.

IWC and UI officials said the endowment will allow the colleges to significantly increase the value of the program.

The program teaches students not only how to trade in agricultural commodities but also in inputs they need for their farm operations, said IWC Commissioner Bill Flory, a North Idaho farmer.

“It will provide growers exposure to tools

and trading mechanisms they really have not had before,” he said. “And this will provide industry with trained people who have the tools to trade in complex markets, whether it’s in inputs or production.”

According to a UI news release, “the endowed chair will have considerable depth of experience in conducting research related to agricultural commodity and financial security markets on a global, national and regional scale. Their future research in this position may include price forecasting and examining impacts of changing policies, macroeconomic factors and structural changes in commodity markets on risks encountered throughout the supply chain.”

According to UI officials, the endowed chair will provide outreach to community groups, agribusinesses, farmers, financial institutions and others who use risk management practices.

“The college is going to take this program to our growers and to our affiliated busi-



University of Idaho photo

Idaho Wheat Commission and University of Idaho officials are shown March 15 after signing an agreement that will result in the IWC investing \$2 million in a University of Idaho program that trains students to manage agricultural risks using futures and options trading and a wide variety of other tools.

nesses,” Flory said. “They will provide them some new tools and ways to look at markets.”

CALS Dean Michael Parrella said the endowment “ensures the university will continue to expand the unique and transformative educational opportunities made possible by this collaboration. This will further enhance our national reputation for educating students on managing agricultural market risks using a wide variety of tools that include futures and options trading and using securities markets to counterbalance agricultural risks.”

IWC Chairman Clark Hamilton, a grower from Ririe, said how farmers market their crops is one of the most important aspects of any agricultural business.

“I feel we have a lot of room for improvement in our ag industries when it comes to risk management and the marketing of our products,” he said. “I think this (endow-

ment) will come back to the farms and I think it’s a great investment for the future. It’s a big shot in the arm for Idaho agriculture.”

During a March 15 press conference where the endowment was announced, Brett Wilder of Meridian, one of the first students to benefit from the program, said it instilled in him a passion for risk management and he is “looking forward to witnessing its continued growth and success to support education for students and producers and further research that will benefit the ag industry in our state and across the nation.”

Having access to and experience with real-world risk management tools can be a game-changer for farmers and ranchers, said Wilder, who is studying livestock markets.

“The IWC gift of an endowed chair will make this program even more attractive for

students to come to the University of Idaho to learn these important and valuable skills for risk management in both commodities and securities markets,” he said.

The wheat commission will provide CALS \$1 million now and another \$1 million over the next five years.

Jacobson said the money for the endowment is coming from surplus funds generated by the state’s wheat grower checkoff over the past several years and the commission does not anticipate having to raise the grower assessment to pay for it.

The endowment money will also not affect the wheat commission’s annual \$3 million budget and the money the commission spends in support of research, market development and grower education and information, said Cathy Wilson, the IWC’s director of research collaboration.

MEMBER DISCOUNTS

CHOICE HOTELS

Comfort Inn - Comfort Suites
Quality Inn - Sleep Inn
Clarion - Main Stay Suites
Econo Lodge - Rodeway Inn

WYNDHAM HOTELS

Super 8 - Days Inn
Travelodge - Knights Inn
Wyndam - Wingate Inns
Howard Johnson - AmeriHost Inn
Villager Ramada

HOLIDAY INN

Holiday Inn - Candlewood
Crown Plaza - Staybridge

MOTEL 6

INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES
Grainger

FINANCIAL

\$1,000 Vandalism Reward
Farm Bureau Bank
Farm Bureau Scholarships

DENTAL CONTRACTED RATES
Dental Benefit Program

NEW VEHICLES

Tadd Jenkins Auto Group
Todd Hunzeker Ford

AGRICULTURE

John Deere
CASE-IH
FEWA H2A Program

FOOD STORAGE
Walton Feed

DISCOUNTED MOVIE TICKETS

Boise, Nampa, Pocatello
Idaho Falls, Coeur d'Alene

RENTAL CARS

Hertz - Enterprise
Avis - Budget

SUMMER FUN

Lagoon
Silverwood
Roaring Springs
Wahooz Family Fun Zone
San Diego Zoo - Sea World
Knott's Berry Farm

WINTER SKIING

Pebble Creek
Brundage Mtn.
Silver Mountain
Deer Valley Resort, UT

PROPANE

Amerigas
Suburban Propane

OFFICE SUPPLIES

Office Depot - Office Max

MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEMS

LifeStation

LOCALIZED

Cub River Ranch (Preston)
Silver Mountain Resort (Kellogg)
Dwight Baker Orthodontics (Eastern Idaho)
Summit Eyecare (Eastern Idaho)
Felton & Felton Law (Twin Falls)
Village Coffee & Bistro (Boise)
Desert Canyon Golf Course (Mountain Home)
Barking Spot Grooming (Salmon)
Total Image Salon (Salmon)
Larry Jensen Sod (Pocatello)
Helping Hands Home Health (Pocatello)

OIL CHANGE

Jiffy Lube

SHUTTLE TRANSPORT

Salt Lake Express
(To or From SLC)

APPLIANCES

Sears Commercial

MEDICATION

The Canadian Pharmacy
Farm Bureau RX Card

LIFELIGHT

EIRMC - Portneuf
St. Alphonsus - St. Lukes

HEARING

Clear Value Siemens

PAINT

Sherwin Williams
Kelly-Moore Paints
Columbia Paint

IDENTITY THEFT PROTECTION

Lifelock

SOLAR ENERGY

Big Dog Solar Energy

NBA

Utah Jazz

MACHINERY

Caterpillar

www.idahofbstore.com

(208) 239-4289



Idaho Farm Bureau[®]



University of Idaho photo

A technician works in the University of Idaho's nuclear seed potato germplasm lab in Moscow. Idaho lawmakers have approved \$3 million in state funds that UI will use to build a new \$6 million seed potato facility, which is where most of Idaho's potato crop begins.

University of Idaho plans new nuclear seed potato facility

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

BOISE -- Idaho lawmakers have approved \$3 million toward a new, \$6 million nuclear seed potato facility for the University of Idaho's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences.

The facility on the university's Moscow campus is where most of Idaho's most famous crop begins. It maintains disease-free potato germplasm and mini-tubers for seed potato growers and researchers.

The "nuclear" part has nothing to do with nuclear energy but instead refers to the origin of potatoes. The facility produces plantlets, or mini-tubers as they're known, which are then used by farmers to grow po-

tatoes in their fields.

"We provide the nuclear stock; we identify the disease-free plant material that the industry multiples and plants out in the field," said CALS Dean Michael Parrella. "It all starts with properly identified plants and clean plant material."

CALS officials said the college hopes to complete the new facility in 2020.

"That new facility will advance the biosecurity and purity of seed potato production in Idaho," said Mark McGuire, director of CALS' agricultural experiment stations.

The nuclear seed potato lab produces about 250,000 mini-tubers a year but the demand from growers is at least twice that amount, Parrella said. He said about 90 percent of

the potatoes grown in Idaho and 60 percent of the spuds grown in the Pacific Northwest originate from the facility.

"This new facility is designed for expansion and higher production of mini-tubers and germplasm," said Hammitt potato farmer Nick Blanksma, a member of the Idaho Potato Commission board of directors. "It's a huge thing for our industry. Clean germplasm is the beginning of quality in our industry."

The potato industry will provide \$2 million toward the new facility and potato seed growers increased their own assessment to help pay for the facility.

"Seed growers willingly increased their
See NUCLEAR SEED FACILITY page 23

Five people inducted into Eastern Idaho Ag Hall of Fame



Sean Ellis

Former Idaho Farm Bureau Federation President Frank Priestley addresses participants of the Eastern Idaho Agriculture Hall of Fame's 46th annual recognition dinner, March 23 in Fort Hall. Priestley was one of five people inducted into the hall of fame this year.

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation
FORT HALL – Five people who have made significant contributions to the agricultural industry were inducted into the Eastern Idaho Agriculture Hall of Fame March 23.

The Hall of Fame's 35-member board inducted former Idaho Farm Bureau Federation President Frank Priestley, a farmer and rancher from Franklin; Stan Boyle, a stockman from Idaho Falls; Bonnie Stoddard, a rancher and historian from Dubois; Robert Brown, a rancher and grain producer from Idaho Falls; and R.J. Smith, a rancher from Tendoy.

During the EIAHF's 46th annual recognition dinner, a new award, the Ed Duren Memorial

Young Producer Award, was given to Ryan Steele, who operates a beef cattle feeding and dairy heifer replacement operation near Idaho Falls.

Each year, five people are inducted into the hall of fame and while there are many producers who have done and continue to do great things for the agriculture industry, the board tries "to pick those who have made a substantial contribution to the agriculture industry," said Dale Clark, this year's EIAHF president.

"You wish you could induct everyone who deserves to be in it, but we can only select five each year," he said. "There are some great leaders who have done some great things for agricul-

ture."

Frank S. Priestley

Priestley, who served as IFBF president for 18 years starting in 1997 and who was the organization's longest-serving president, spent more than 40 years promoting agriculture and soil health through Farm Bureau's county, state and national organizations.

During his induction speech, Priestley said he has often asked people he meets, "Where does wealth begin?"

The answer: "Wealth begins with agriculture, timber and mining," he said, adding that everything that is made is made with those products.

According to Priestley's award

bio, IFBF took great strides to confront issues important to agriculture such as wolf depredation, agricultural trade and the Endangered Species Act during his tenure as IFBF president. Farm Bureau membership increased more than 50 percent during his time as president and the group received more than 20 national agricultural awards.

Through his lifetime of involvement in agriculture, "Priestley learned better land management and achieved greater animal health in his dairy," his bio states, and he also helped improve irrigation systems in the area.



Bonnie Bond Stoddard

Stoddard spent her lifetime preserving the pictures and stories of the farms, ranches, homesteads and men, women and organizations and events in Clark County's history.

According to her award bio, "Bonnie's contribution to Eastern Idaho agriculture is sig-

nificant. She has accomplished more than any other single person to document and share the lives and histories of the early farmers and ranchers of Clark County and surrounding areas.”

She gathered and preserved more than 5,000 photos of early Clark County and served as editor and chief writer of “Settlers of the Silver Sage,” a 1,304-page reference to the pioneer families of Clark County.

“Bonnie’s work enables us to honor and learn from our rural heritage and reminds us to never forget the tough men and women who shaped our part of the West,” her bio states.



Stanley S. Boyle

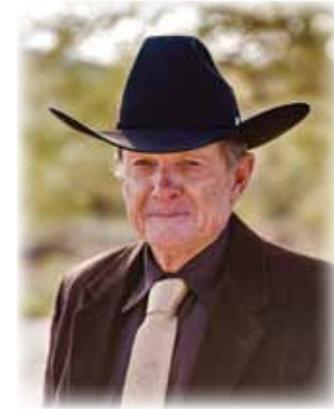
“I consider this to be a family award,” he said during his induction speech, echoing the sentiments of the other inductees.

Boyle and his sons have grazed cattle in the Taylor Mountain area for many years during the summer and they “also work to make spring riparian improvements and keep weeds under control on the mountain’s range,” his award bio states.

With the help of his father,

Boyle started his own cow herd through 4-H projects and “his love for the 4-H program followed him throughout his life as he grew from a member to a leader and now a strong advocate for youth agriculture programs.”

Boyle and his wife, Joy, have both been inducted into the Idaho 4-H Hall of Fame and Boyle has served on numerous 4-H advisory boards, 4-H livestock committees and the Bonneville County Fair Board and is a past president of the Bonneville County Cattleman’s Association and has been instrumental in establishing FFA programs in area high schools.



R.J. Smith

According to his award bio, Smith “is best known as a successful businessman and cattle rancher in the Lemhi Valley. He is noted for always striving to improve the cattle and hay he produces while maintaining a strong financial bottom line.”

After college, Smith was trained in the Army as a helicopter pilot and served in Vietnam. He later utilized that training to keep track of a herd of buffalo while working on a large ranch in Wyoming.

While operating his own ranch and raising hay to feed his livestock, Smith became knowledgeable of the various water issues facing water users in Lemhi County and was often called on for advice and assistance by people filing for individual water rights during the Snake River Basin Adjudication process.

“In his role as chairman of the Lemhi Irrigation District, he became a leading voice in extensive litigation with the federal government,” his award bio states.



Robert L. Brown

Brown was offered a football scholarship by Idaho State University but turned it down to stay with agriculture.

As a young man, he ran cattle on a ranch near Salmon and he worked at a feed grain store and for other farmers in the Idaho Falls area before eventually returning to the family farm.

Starting in 1978, Brown leased and operated his father’s 3,000-acre dry farm. When the farm was enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, Brown rented 500 acres of irrigated land to produce wheat, barley and hay.

“He takes pride in the fact he

lives on, and still operates, a small portion of his grandfather’s original farm homesteaded in the 1880s,” his award bio states.

Brown has been active in grain growing associations throughout the state and received a lifetime achievement award from the Idaho Grain Producers Association and a distinguished service award from the Idaho Wheat Commission. He and his wife, Annette, have hosted trade teams from South Korea, Vietnam and Russia at their home.

Ryan Steele

Steele is the first recipient of the Ed Duren Memorial Young Producer Award, presented in memory of Edward Paul Duren. The award recognizes “an agricultural producer under 40 years of age for product innovations, leadership and a positive impact on the agricultural industry of Eastern Idaho.”

Steele, 26, is active on the boards of the Bonneville and Idaho Cattle Associations and other groups “and is a young producer constantly seeking to educate himself, improve his agribusiness and promote the industry,” his award bio states.

Ed Duren

Duren, who passed away last year, was a University of Idaho Extension Livestock specialist based in Soda Springs.

According to the EIAHF, “Ed spent a 39-year career (and many more years as a professor emeritus) providing education, outreach and leadership to producers and organizations across Idaho and beyond. His impact on agriculture in Idaho is beyond measure.”

BIG DOGTM

SOLAR ENERGY



Idaho Farm Bureau Member Benefit!

Be sure to ask about current tax incentives and Idaho Farm Bureau's \$2,000 cash back program on eligible systems.

CALL TODAY! 800-291-7652

Solar Power



Solar PV systems reduce, or can completely eliminate, the amount of electricity you have to purchase from your utility provider.

The electricity generated by your solar system is clean, renewable and reliable.

Solar PV systems save you money on your utility bill and act as a hedge against future price increases.

Solar power systems can provide owners with fixed energy costs.

Tax incentives can fund a large portion of the installed costs.

Solar Systems allow you the flexibility to increase the size of your system by adding panels over time.

Solar panels are very versatile and can be installed via roof mount, pole, ground, etc.

Our Solar Panels have a 25 year warranty

NABCEP Certified (North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners)

Residential



Agricultural



Commercial



We specialize in both Grid Tie and Off Grid Solar systems.

Backup Power

- Battery backup systems
- Propane and natural gas generators
- We can customize a system for your individual needs.



Big Dog is your full service solar experts. We handle everything including system design, installation and return on investment analysis.

*Some restrictions apply. Contact Big Dog Solar Energy for full details on this program.

TAME — THE — MARKET

LOCK IN GAINS AND NEVER LOSE MONEY¹

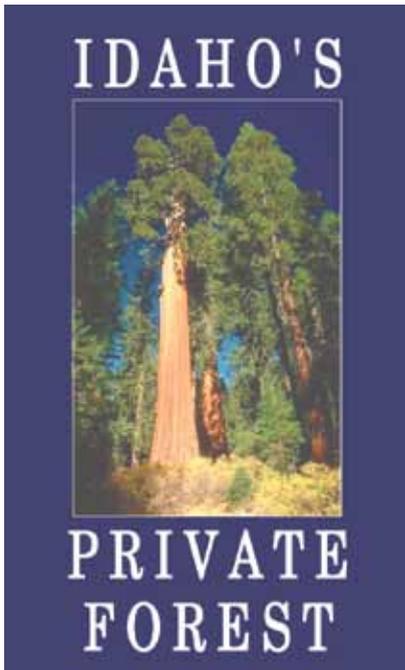


**GRAB YOUR
FUTURE BY
THE HORNS.
ASK ABOUT OUR
ACCUMULOCK
INDEXED ANNUITY[®]
TODAY!**

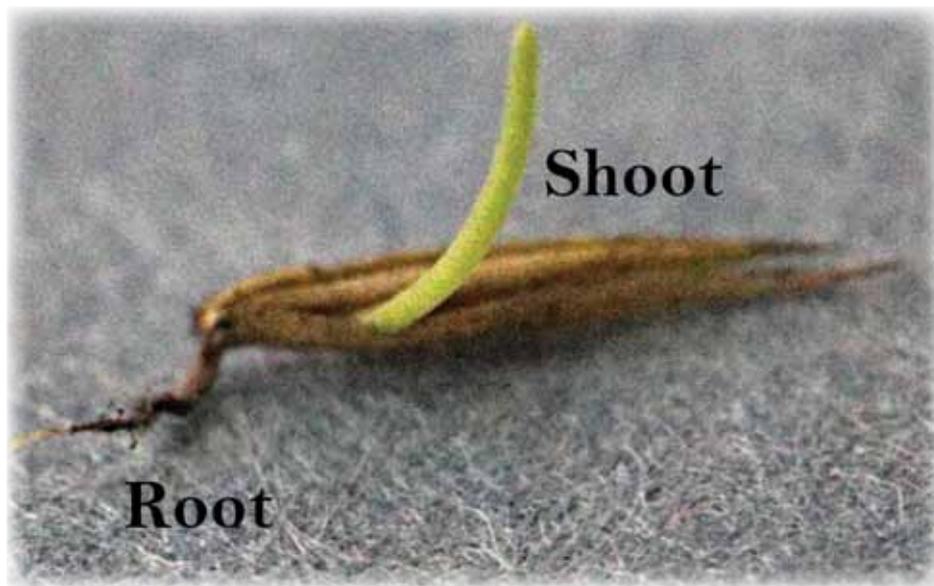
**FARM BUREAU
FINANCIAL SERVICES**

¹Surrender of the contract may be subject to surrender charges. Withdrawals before age 59 ½ may result in a 10% IRS penalty tax. Additionally, there is a charge for the Simple7 Income Rider once it is activated. Qualifications and restrictions apply for activation. Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company*/West Des Moines, IA. *Company provider of Farm Bureau Financial Services A144 (3-18)





Understanding herbicides



The first shoot of a grass is protected by a sheath as it grows toward the soil surface. The roots are growing from the left side of the seed.

By Timothy Prather

University of Idaho photos

Whether the goal is reducing competition for trees during establishment and early growth, or taking care of weeds for other management goals, there are several types of tools available, ranging from prescribed fire, mechanical removal (such as brush cutting), herbicides, and biological weed

control. Using different types of tools for weed control is useful for overall management and as we become familiar with tools, we have a better understanding of how to use them. This year I thought I would address herbicides as a tool and I hope you find it interesting and helpful.

Timing

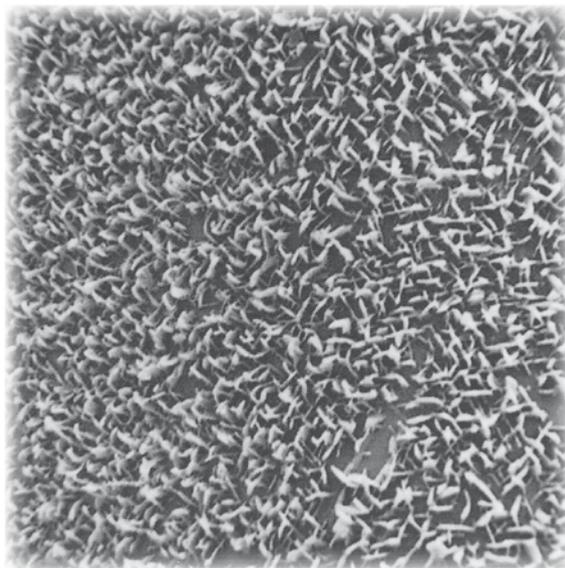
Herbicides can be described by the stage of plant development. Terms you may come across include pre-emergent and post-emergent. Pre-emergent herbicides are applied prior to plants emerging from the soil and post-emergent herbicides are applied after plants emerge from the soil.

Some herbicides act before the plants come out of the soil. We call these herbicides pre-emergent because they act before the plant emerges from the soil. Do these herbicides kill the seeds? With pre-emergent herbicides, we may think they kill the seeds since we don't see the plants coming out of the ground. How-

ever, the pre-emergent herbicides don't kill seeds, they move into the seedling before it comes out of the ground. Before seedlings emerge, they don't have much external protection; they don't have waxes built up on their leaves until later in life. The herbicides can move into the stem where the stem comes out of the seed. Herbicides also can move into the roots, killing the plant while it is still small.

If the pre-emergent herbicide is applied too late, then control of weeds will be reduced. All weeds, even of the same species, won't emerge at the same time. Seeds may be at different depths in the soil or local conditions may trigger germination for some seeds earlier than others. So, if the pre-emergent herbicide is applied late, then at least a portion of the seedlings won't be killed. The label will have information on it to assist you in identifying timing for application with respect to some specific weed species.

Often pre-emergent herbicides need to be incorporated into the soil somehow to be effective. In a forestry setting, we rely primarily on rainfall to incorporate the herbicide. Herbicides vary in the length of



A close-up of a leaf shows wax on the surface of the leaf. Herbicides applied after emergence must make it through wax on the leaf.



The perennial, long-lived grasses survived this pre-emergent herbicide that controlled the annual grasses within the rectangle. To the left of the rectangle, the green in-between the perennial grasses are annual plants that emerged where the herbicide was not applied.

time they remain effective prior to rainfall. Some herbicides can be applied months prior to rainfall and others are applied when rain is likely within a couple of days to a couple of weeks. Herbicide labels will describe the conditions that allow the herbicide to be most effective.

Post-emergent

Herbicides can be applied directly to the leaves and stems of plants once they are out of the soil. Herbicides applied after plants emerge are called post-emergent herbicides. The herbicides applied after emergence enter the plant through leaf and stem surfaces. These stem and leaf surfaces have waxes that protect the plant from water loss and from penetration through the surface by compounds and organisms. The layers above the leaf surface are tricky to navigate. Layers of wax repel water, just like water beaded up on your car after you waxed it, that one year. Then, in addition, the layers include cutin and cutin takes in water. When the herbicide is applied then, it must move through hydrophobic layers (wax) and hydrophilic layers (cutin). The herbicides you buy may already have compounds to help get through the waxes and the leaf surface. Other herbicides must have help getting into the plant and so the

herbicide label may suggest an additive to mix with the herbicide in the spray tank. These additives are sometimes referred to as surfactants.

Surfactants can help penetrate the wax and other layers that lie just above the leaf surface. Surfactants also can keep a droplet containing the herbicide from drying quickly. Droplets that dry slowly allow the herbicide to move to the leaf surface. Surfactants also can reduce the surface tension of water so that the droplet spreads out on the leaf surface instead of retaining a ball-like shape.

Post-emergent herbicides are affected by weather. The herbicide label will state how long of a time period is needed prior to rainfall to prevent herbicide from being washed from the leaf. As the season progresses, many plants will increase the amount of wax produced on the leaf surface. Increased wax and increased temperatures can reduce herbicide movement and quickly can dry spray droplets on the leaf surface.

Pre-emergent or Post-emergent

Herbicides can be both pre-emergent and post-emergent herbicides. Herbicides that cross both categories allow us greater flex-

ibility for when we apply them. If you miss part of the preemergence window, an herbicide that crosses categories will likely still effectively control the target weeds.

Movement in Plants

Herbicide movement in plants can be along two pathways. Movement in the xylem, which is the water moving system in the plant allows the herbicide to move with water as the plant draws water and nutrients from the soil and releases water into the air (transpiration). The phloem is the system that moves sugars, amino acids and other compounds within the plant and some herbicides move in the phloem.

Contact

Contact herbicides do not move very much within plants because they act so quickly on the plant, often causing holes in structures like membranes. There are few herbicides we might use in forestry that are considered contact herbicides and so I will focus on xylem and phloem movement.

Move with Water

The xylem includes cell walls and structures that transport water like a series of

See UI FORESTRY page 29

Idaho Farm Bureau Online

Idaho Farm Bureau Homepage
www.idahofb.org

Flickr
flickr.com/photos/idfarmbureau

YouTube
www.youtube.com/user/IDFarmBureau

Twitter
twitter.com:IDFarmBureau

Blogger
idahofarmbureau.blogspot.com



IDAHO FFA—GROWING LEADERS, BUILDING COMMUNITIES AND STRENGTHENING AGRICULTURE!

Why Agricultural Education and FFA

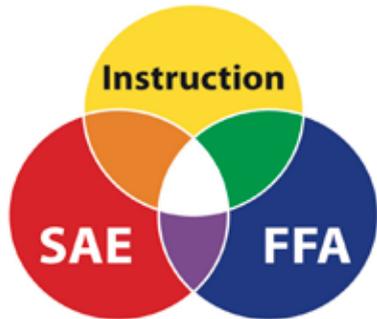
FFA members are students who are preparing to help meet local and global challenges through careers in agricultural sciences, business and technology through their participation in high school agricultural education and FFA.



FFA has been an integral part of agriculture programs in Idaho high schools since 1929, currently with over 13,000 Idaho agricultural education students, 92 active chartered Idaho FFA chapters, and over 4,700 Idaho FFA members.

School-based agricultural education is a systematic, integrated program encompassing three core components represented by the Three-Circle Model:

- 1) Classroom and Laboratory Instruction
- 2) Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE)
- 3) Participation in FFA programs and Activities



Classroom/Laboratory is contextual, **inquiry-based** instruction and learning through an interactive classroom and Laboratory.

SAE is experiential, service or work-based learning through the **implementation** of an SAE program.

FFA is premier leadership, personal growth and career success through **engagement** in FFA activities.



Support Idaho FFA members with your contribution to the Idaho FFA Foundation today!

I/We would like to contribute \$_____ to the Idaho FFA Foundation to support Idaho FFA members:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

- General Contribution
- Memorial Contribution in honor and memory of:

Send notification to _____

- Check Enclosed
- Please bill my:
- Visa or Mastercard



Name on card: _____

Card Number and Expiration Date: _____

Exp _____

Signature _____

Please mail to:

Idaho FFA Foundation
P.O. Box 870
Meridian, ID 83680

Questions? Phone: 208-861-2467,
or Email: lwilder@idffafoundation.org

www.idffafoundation.org



501(c)3
Non-Profit



IFBF file photo

Onions are sorted at a southwestern Idaho processing facility in this file photo. Since its beginning, American Farm Bureau Federation has been a strong advocate for international trade, and expanded export opportunities have played a key role in higher U.S. net farm income.

Focus on Agriculture

AFBF has always been strong advocate for international trade

By Stewart Truelsen

From its beginning almost a century ago, the American Farm Bureau Federation has been a strong advocate for international trade. The organization's first president, James R. Howard, wondered what it would be like if a ship could steam up to his Iowa farm, so he and his neighbors could sell their surplus corn on world markets. This was in 1922 and Howard contemplated how the corn could be made into mush to feed starving children in Russia.

Howard's wish wouldn't come true until 1959 when the St. Lawrence Seaway opened in the Upper Midwest, but Farm Bureau went ahead with programs to move surplus corn to Russia without the seaway.

In 1949, Farm Bureau's international trade policy called for American leadership in

the reduction of tariffs, import quotas, cartels, discriminatory practices and other barriers to the expansion of trade.

A few years later, the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 was signed into law by President Dwight Eisenhower. The export law was better known as Public Law 480 and later as Food for Peace. What's not well-known is that the idea for PL 480 came from a Farm Bureau trade specialist, Gwynn Garnett. Garnett served during the war as a tank commander and then as director of the food and agriculture division of the U.S. military government in Germany. After his service, he joined the Farm Bureau staff and suggested the plan to distribute food to a war-torn world.

U.S. exports of farm commodities took off in the 1970s, rocketing 15 percent in fiscal

year 1971 to a record \$7.8 billion, or \$50 billion in today's dollars. In 1978, Farm Bureau sent a 15-member trade delegation to Geneva, Switzerland, to review multilateral trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. When the Tokyo Round concluded the following year, agriculture was included in the final negotiations for the first time.

Farm Bureau persuaded President Ronald Reagan to end the grain embargo against the Soviet Union in 1981. Initially, the embargo was implemented out of national security concerns by President Jimmy Carter. But the embargo proved ineffective and only served to stimulate crop production in South America.

Farm Bureau also pushed hard for elevating the diplomatic position of U.S. agricultural attaches, opening new U.S. trade of-

ofices and expanding the role of the Special Trade Representative, which became the U.S. Trade Representative, a cabinet-level position in the executive branch. The office includes a chief agricultural negotiator.

When the World Trade Organization replaced the GATT, Farm Bureau continued to work closely with U.S. trade negotiators to reduce tariff and non-tariff barriers and expand agricultural trade. Multilateral trade negotiations under the WTO have been stalled for some time, but Farm Bureau has actively supported efforts to achieve free trade agreements that were

bilateral or multilateral with several countries involved.

One of these agreements was the North American Free Trade Agreement, implemented in 1994, which removed barriers to agricultural trade between the U.S., Canada and Mexico. Renegotiations for NAFTA began last August. Farm Bureau is seeking to protect the gains achieved in agricultural trade and the removal of remaining barriers.

Last year the U.S. ran a trade deficit of \$566 billion overall with the rest of the world;

however, we had a \$21 billion trade surplus in agricultural products, and there has been an ag trade surplus every year since 1959.

It's little wonder that the American Farm Bureau has always been focused on trade and determined to see markets expand. Exports have been the key driver of higher net farm income and have helped farmers build a strong American agriculture that benefits all of us.

Stewart Truelsen is a food and agriculture freelance writer and a regular contributor to the Focus on Agriculture series.

NUCLEAR SEED FACILITY

Continued from page 13



University of Idaho photo

University of Idaho's nuclear seed potato germplasm lab in Moscow is shown in this file photo. Idaho lawmakers have approved \$3 million in state funds that UI will use to build a new \$6 million seed potato facility, which is where most of Idaho's potato crop begins.

assessment and that is extremely generous and, in my view, it shows broad industry support for the facility," Blanksma said.

Agricultural lenders and other ag industry companies and individuals chipped in as well.

CALS is providing \$1 million toward the

facility and lawmakers this year authorized \$3 million in state funds for it.

"It's a true collaboration of industry, the legislature and the university," Blanksma said.

McGuire said the university hopes the new, state-of-the-art facility will spur USDA to

relocate its national potato germplasm repository from Fort Collins, Colo., to Moscow.

About 300 lines of potatoes are maintained at the Moscow facility and if USDA moves there, it would add another 100 cultivars that would be available for public and private breeders.

Don't forget to keep track of the markets

By Clark Johnston

Spring is always an exciting time of the year. After a winter of short daylight days, we get just a little excited when we see the sun still up at 8 p.m. and the temperatures warming. As we get excited about spring work and planting new crops as well as everything else that goes along with this time of the year, let's not forget to keep track of the markets.

After all your work hard to produce your commodities, I feel you should work just as hard when it comes to contracting those same commodities. Yes, I did say work hard at merchandising your crop. It may not take the same amount of physical effort, but it still takes work.

It is important that you take time every day to track the futures markets along with the local basis. Remember, we have talked about the basis being your indicator of the local supply and demand situation and it should be watched closely for those opportunities to make a quick sale at a good price. When commodity prices are somewhat depressed, it is important that you at least try to maximize your return.

A good example of this is the recent wheat market. Between the middle of January and the first of March, the Chicago wheat futures strengthened by 85 cents per bushel, giving you the opportunity to at least price some of your new crop. Then from the first of March through the third week of the month, the futures took 65 cents right back out of the market. Even if you take your crop to the elevator at harvest, you still had the opportunity to contract wheat on the strength.

If you missed this run in the market, don't worry, just keep looking for the next opportunity and be ready to move on it. By now you have a pretty good idea of the level you should contract at to be profitable on your crop. The days of trying to guess how high the market will go to sell your production are gone. The markets are just too volatile to try to put all your eggs in one basket.

We have visited about the two variables in the cash price of your crop. Remember futures and basis and how you have the opportunity to separate the two in an effort to maximize your return. With the current carry in the futures markets, you should be able to use this strategy to contract at least a percentage of your new crop.

Basis does trade seasonal trends and one good trend is from July into the end of November. Basis usually strengthens during this time frame. With the carry in the futures, the deferred months in the market will usually move lower as the contract months move closer to being the nearby month.

In a nutshell, this strategy gives you the opportunity to sell the futures at a high level and also contract your wheat at a higher basis level. When I mentioned earlier that you must work hard at marketing, this is just one of many opportunities to watch and implement in your marketing program.

When it comes to marketing, you should realize you really don't have any control over just where prices are or which way they will move. What you have control of is how you take advantage of what the



Clark Johnston

market is willing to give you in each crop year.

Sadly, many producers are contracting their commodities in the lower half of the price range for the year. This happens by not keeping track of the markets and the seasonal trends and then selling when the opportunity arises. Remember, when the basis quickly moves higher it will also move back lower just as quickly after the bidder has filled their need.

When the basis strengthens quickly, someone is going to sell that demand and once it has been filled, the market will once again be gone. Don't be standing on the outside looking in while someone else, whether that is another producer or a grain company, takes advantage of these opportunities.

I am often asked how you as producers can take advantage of the markets that are being driven by the large speculators in the markets. The answer is by taking the time to learn just how the futures markets and the local basis can really help you each and every crop year.

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

January's Top Farm Bureau Agents



Agent of the Month
Rob Ellis
Magic Valley Region



Rookie of the Month
John Nishimoto
North Idaho Region

Region of the Month
Magic Valley Region

February's Top Farm Bureau Agents



Agent of the Month
Rhett Price
Eastern Idaho Region



Rookie of the Month
Steven Zamora
North Idaho Region

Region of the Month
Eastern Idaho Region

When a friend you refer purchases a policy from us, you'll receive a **\$25 MasterCard® Gift Card** and be entered into our quarterly drawing for a **\$500 Gift Card**.* Our latest \$500 drawing winner is **Jill Hella** from Boise. Congratulations Jill!

Farm Bureau INSURANCE
FARM BUREAU MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF IDAHO

*Certain restrictions apply. Please see the Rewards Program flyer available from your Farm Bureau Insurance agent for complete details.



Steve Ritter

The wine tasting room at Huston Vineyards in Caldwell is shown in this Farm Bureau file photo. Idaho's wine industry has grown rapidly in recent years and there's plenty of room for more growth, according to industry leaders.

Idaho's wine industry has grown rapidly

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

BOISE – Idaho's wine industry has grown rapidly, from 11 wineries in 2002 to 52 today and wine grape acres have increased from about 500 to 1,300 during that time, but there's still plenty of opportunity for more growth, according to industry leaders.

"There's a ton of room for growth. That's what is so exciting," said Idaho Wine Commission Executive Director Moya Shatz-Dolsby.

But for much larger growth to happen, there have to be more wine grape acres planted, she added.

"A barrier to growth is that we don't have enough grapes in the ground," Shatz-Dolsby said. "That's a big barrier for a lot of wineries."

Several Idaho wineries have to go to Washington and sometimes California or Oregon to get some of the fruit they need to

make their wine and that's not ideal, she said, since at least 75 percent of the grapes used to make their wine have to be from this state in order for them to market it as Idaho wine.

"We need more grapes," Shatz-Dolsby said.

But accomplishing that is not always so simple, growers and vintners say, because it's a classic chicken and egg problem.

On the one hand, "A winery can't commit to a crop that hasn't been planted in a plot that hasn't been proven," said Dale Jeffers, manager of Skyline Vineyards. "The people who have tried it haven't been very successful with that business model."

On the other hand, growers are leery of investing a significant amount of money into new wine grape acres if they are not sure they have a customer for those grapes, said Michael Williamson, co-owner of Williamson Orchards and Vineyards.

"I can speculate on a small amount of



Idaho Wine Commission photo

Wine grapes are harvested in this Idaho Wine Commission file photo.

ground but I'm not going to sink a significant amount of money into new ground unless I have a contract," he said. "From the growers' standpoint, there's too much risk in doing that."

The answer to that dilemma of who blinks first is in increased demand, said winemaker Martin Fujishin, owner of Fujishin Family Cellars. As demand for Idaho wine increases, so will wineries' willingness to offer additional contracts to growers he said.

Fujishin himself signed a 10-year contract for wine grapes with a grower last year.

"Until the recent growth in the industry, it's been hard for wineries to make that commitment," he said. "I think they're much more comfortable with that now (and) I think that's going to be more and more common in the future."

The in-state market share for Idaho wine has risen from about 5 percent seven years ago to 9.5 percent now. That means that of all the wine sold in Idaho, 9.5 percent of it is Idaho wine and that percentage continues to grow.

"As we pick up market share, wineries can go back to the growers and say, 'can you plant more grapes for us,'" Fujishin said.

Williamson said part of the reason for the growth in Idaho's wine industry is that "There's grown to be a critical mass of wineries in the state and they're attracting like businesses. I think we're still in the early growth stage of the Idaho wine industry."

The state's rapid population

growth – Idaho is the fastest growing state in the nation on a percentage basis – is another factor in the growth of the wine industry, Fujishin said.

"It's gone hand in hand with the population growth we've seen, particularly here in the Treasure Valley," he said. "A lot of those people are interested in wine and I think that has driven a lot of what has happened."

The creation of Idaho's first American Viticultural Area in 2007, followed by two more since then, has helped as well, industry leaders said. An AVA is a federally designated wine grape growing region with distinct growing conditions, boundaries and history.

The Snake River Valley AVA was established in 2007 and was recently joined by the Lewis-Clark Valley AVA in Northern Idaho and the Eagle Foothills AVA in southwestern Idaho.

The AVAs help tell the story of Idaho wine, Williamson said.

"It tells consumers that we have a distinct region and a distinct flavor along with this region," he said. "An AVA tells you there are serious wineries and serious wine grape growers in those areas."

"The AVAs have given consumers a way to grab ahold of what is specifically unique about the region and the wine produced here," Fujishin said.

Shatz-Dolsby's admittedly lofty goal is to have 100 wineries in Idaho in 10 years, as well as 10,000 acres of wine grapes and one million cases of wine produced annually, up from 200,000 cases now.

She also hopes to see Idaho

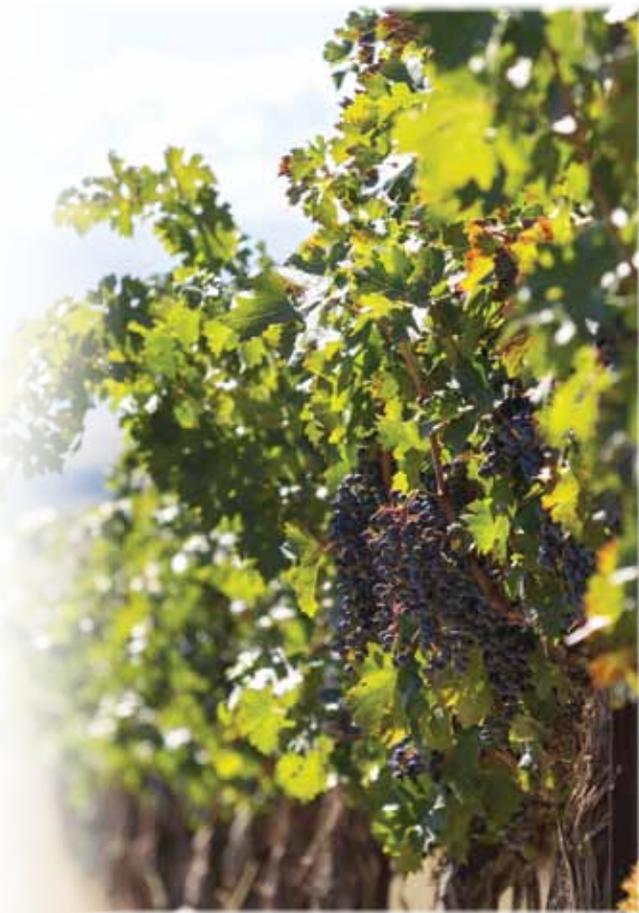
wines' in-state market share rise to 15 percent. To accomplish that will require the commission to continue its marketing and promotions efforts, which have been given a major shot in the arm through a series of grants the IWC has received to promote the industry.

To ensure those efforts continue, the commission will mull asking legislators to approve giving the IWC a bigger share of the state's wine excise tax, which is 45 cents a gallon. The commission receives 2 cents of every gallon sold, which brings it about \$280,000 in revenue. Most of the rest of the IWC's \$500,000 budget

comes through a voluntary assessment paid by wineries and grape growers.

Much of the commission's marketing and promotion efforts have been funded through grants – it will receive about \$200,000 in marketing-related grand funding this year -- and the commission may pursue increasing its share of the excise tax to secure a more stable source of funding, Shatz-Dolsby said.

"We're definitely going to consider that and talk about increasing it during upcoming board meetings," Williamson said.



Idaho Wine Commission photo

An Idaho vineyard is shown in this Idaho Wine Commission file photo.



**RANGER XP® 1000:
YOUR NEW 80HP
WORKHORSE**

**THE HARDEST WORKING, SMOOTHEST RIDING
AUTHORITY ON GETTING EVERY JOB DONE.**

The all-new Polaris RANGER XP® 1000, the world's most powerful and most comfortable utility side-by-side featuring a class dominating 80HP ProStar® engine, an all-new industry-exclusive 3-mode throttle control for ideal power and control for every situation, and best-in-class payload and towing capacity. See your dealer for more information or visit polaris.com to see the full RANGER® lineup.

Thanks to the following Polaris Dealers for supporting the Young Farmer & Rancher Program:

- | | |
|--|--|
| Action Cycles N Sleds
Twin Falls (208) 736-8118 | Mile High Power Sports
McCall (208) 634-7007 |
| Action Motorsports
Idaho Falls (208) 522-3050 | Northstar
Preston (208) 852-1888 |
| Buds Powersports
Cottonwood (208) 962-3211 | Performance Motorsports
Ashton (208) 652-7738 |
| Carl's Cycle Sales
Boise (208) 853-5550 | Post Falls Powersports
Post Falls (866) 628-3821 |
| Dennis Dillon
Boise (208) 343-2830 | Rexburg Motorsports
Rexburg (208) 356-4000 |
| Grizzly Sports
Caldwell (208) 454-8508 | Sandpoint Marine
Sandpoint (208) 263-1535 |
| Guys Outdoor
Lewiston (208) 746-0381 | Switchback Motor Sports
Pocatello (208) 238-1575 |
| Krehbiel's Sales & Service
Aberdeen (208) 397-4704 | Young Powersports
Burley (208) 678-5111 |



Warning: The Polaris RANGER is not intended for on-highway use. Driver must be at least 16 years old with a valid driver's license to operate. Passengers must be at least 12 years old and tall enough to sit with feet firmly on the floor. All SxS drivers should take a safety training course. Contact ROHVA at www.rohva.org or (949) 255-2560 for additional information regarding safety training. Polaris recommends that drivers and passengers wear helmets, eye protection, and protective clothing, especially for trail riding and other recreational use. Always wear seat belts. Be particularly careful on difficult terrain. Never engage in stunt driving, and avoid excessive speeds and sharp turns. Riding and alcohol/drugs don't mix. Check local laws before riding on trails.

**Idaho Farm Bureau members can save a significant amount on their medications.
Take 5 minutes to get a price quote.**



USE IDAHO FARM BUREAU CODE (IDFB)

Toll-Free Phone 1.866.335.8064

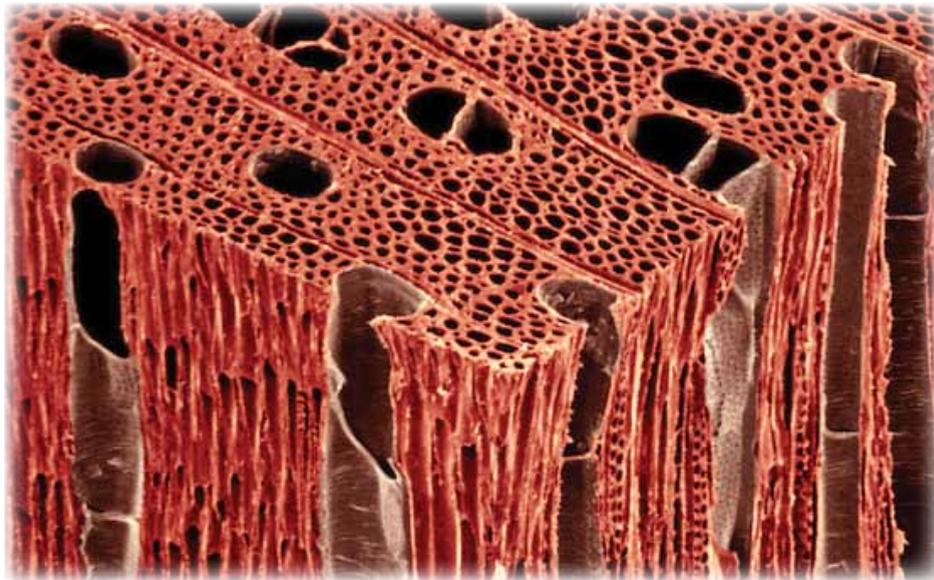
www.thecanadianpharmacy.com

- Step 1:** Call 1.866.335.8064 or go to www.thecanadianpharmacy.com
- Step 2:** Tell them you are with the Idaho Farm Bureau (code IDFB) and that you need a price quote on your medication.
- Step 3:** If this price is lower than what you currently pay, then The Canadian Pharmacy will help you get your prescription at the discounted price.

**At all county
Farm Bureau
offices for Idaho
Farm Bureau
members.**

Family of Member Services™





The xylem is, in part, a collection of non-living cells called tracheids and vessels. Some herbicides move within the xylem.

roadways and those structures include non-living cells called tracheids and xylem vessels. Herbicides may move from the soil, through the root and to the leaves within the xylem system. Just like our road system with highways and city streets, the xylem system is all through the plant and all cells are very close to the equivalent of a highway or city street.

The xylem is basically one-way movement, from root to shoot and so herbicides will move faster when a plant is actively growing and transpiring. Symptoms showing the herbicide has an effect show up first along leaf margins of leaves that are actively moving water through their leaf surface. Plants that are drought-stressed will not have water moving readily through the tissues, so herbicides may be less effective.

The herbicide may move with water but it usually must cross the cell membrane to injure the plant. Movement into the cell occurs in a variety of ways and I won't be going into specific routes of these herbicides through cell membranes.

Move within phloem

Herbicide movement in the phloem typically will be directional from plant tis-

sues called sources to plant tissues that are called sinks. The cells that make up the transport system of the phloem include sieve elements and companion cells. Unlike the xylem, these cells are alive. Also unlike the xylem, the transport can be up toward stem or leaf buds but could also be downward to root buds and root tips. Often the movement is from mature leaves to active growing points. Postemergent herbicides applied to all leaves will result in movement of some of the herbicide from mature leaves to actively growing leaves or the tips of actively growing stems, roots or buds.

Like the xylem system, the analogy of a road system works here as well. There are the equivalent of highways and city streets for the phloem as well. All cells are close to either a highway or city street allowing movement of herbicides to virtually any cell. Actively growing plants will have a stronger source to sink movement and so those actively growing plants will be greatly affected at their growing points by these herbicides.

Herbicides that move primarily in the phloem may move cell to cell yet may also move into the xylem and back to the phlo-

em. The herbicides will have their effects within the cells.

How Do Herbicides Work?

Herbicides work in an amazing diversity of ways within the plant. I am going to focus on just one herbicide and describe how it works within the plant. Glyphosate is used in forestry extensively. Often formulated in products like Roundup, the active ingredient glyphosate is a postemergence herbicide only. Glyphosate is tightly bound by soil so if applied to soil it does not have a chance to get into the plant. Applied to the foliage, glyphosate can enter the plant and is aided by surfactants to move through the waxes. Once in the plant, glyphosate can move primarily in the phloem but it is able to also move in the xylem as well.

Glyphosate moves into cells and stops the production of some amino acids. There are several enzymes involved in the making of amino acids and glyphosate affects one of those enzymes. The enzyme has a long name, enolpyruvylshikimate-3-phosphate synthase, and often goes by the name EPSP synthase. The amino acids that are blocked when EPSP synthase is disrupted include hormones, vitamins, and other important plant products. The EPSP synthase moves to chloroplasts where it is active. The glyphosate binds to the EPSP synthase before it moves to the chloroplast which prevents the EPSP synthase from moving into the chloroplast where it is involved in making the amino acids.

Understanding aspects of how any tool works informs how to best use that tool. I hope this short introduction to a small portion of information on herbicides has been interesting. I also hope that a portion of what I covered will be helpful should you be using herbicides as one of the tools in the weed toolbox.

Timothy S. Prather is a professor in the Department of Plant, Soil and Entomological Sciences College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at the University of Idaho. He can be reached at tprather@uidaho.edu.



Jake Putnam

A Mickelsen Farms potato field in Eastern Idaho is harvested in this file photo. The Mickelsens are one of many farm families in the U.S. that are fighting for the right to repair their own equipment.

The right to repair farm equipment

By Jake Putnam

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

Roberts — Since the dawn of time, farmers not only produced food to feed the world, but they fixed the machinery that helped them do it.

Enter the 21st century and computer software that's now entwined in every tractor and almost all equipment.

These days, farmers can't pull a water pump and install a new one without a software code.

Farmer Andrew Mickelsen of Mickelsen Farms near Roberts says he can't do basic repairs on his tractors because the software computer codes have locked him out.

Although no legislation has been proposed at the Idaho Statehouse on this

issue, Mickelsen said that with costs and frustration rising on the farm, that could soon change.

“We think farmers have a right to the codes and that information,” he said. “We should be able to fix our equipment without going to the dealer and paying hundreds of dollars to fix minor repairs.”

At Mickelsen Farms this time of year

you'll find a long line of bright green tractors. The fleet looks brand new and is well maintained and the oldest tractor is six years old. The 27-ton tractors have tracks instead of wheels and they're worth a quarter million dollars apiece. When something goes wrong there's an annoying in-cab alarm that sounds at intervals to alert the driver of a myriad of problems, everything from an oil pressure issue to faulty hydraulic connectors.

The only one who can stop those error alarms is the manufacturer or dealer because they're the only ones with the high-tech troubleshooting diagnostic tools that are required to do that and they can charge hundreds of dollars per visit. For a farmer like Mickelsen, who comes from a family of farmers that is used to fixing their own equipment, that's tough to accept.

In the cab of one of his tractors, Mickelsen pulls up an iPad-sized screen.

"It shows all the codes that we have going on, and whether it's active right now," Mickelsen said. "But a lot of times when we see the codes it says, 'tracks control communication fault.' Basically, it says there's some problem somewhere. Sometimes the codes don't mean anything. We get bogged down in information that's useless unless we take it to the dealer."

"In the old days, if we had a problem we'd check the fuel, check the compression, little things like that," Mickelsen said. "It could be maybe five things; now it's one of a hundred things. So over time, the problems have multiplied and it's harder to find what went wrong."

"In the old days, if we had a problem we'd check the fuel, check the compression, little things like that, it could be maybe five things; now it's one of a hundred things. So over time, the problems have multiplied and it's harder to find what went wrong."

The Mickelsens are one of many farm families in the U.S. that are fighting for the right to repair their own equipment.

"We believe that it's the farmer's right to have that information that the dealerships have to repair the equipment," he said.

Eight states are pushing "right to repair" bills that would ensure that consumers and repair shops have full access to companies' service manuals, diagnostic tools and parts so they aren't limited to a single supplier.

American Farm Bureau Federation has a policy that supports "the right to repair one's own equipment by amending the Digital Millennium Copyright Act to require agricultural equipment manufacturers to allow equipment owners and independent repair facilities to have access to the same agricultural equipment diagnostic and repair information made available to the manufacturers' dealers and authorized repair facilities."

The policy further states that "Any penalty for alterations should be limited to the voiding of the warranty, as well as the right of dealers to refuse services and trade on altered equipment. Any alterations to software should be limited to the owner's personal use and should not be for distribution."

The issue is growing across the U.S. and farmers have a partner: repair shops for electronic items such as iPhones and laptops that don't have the certified components and codes they need to fix broken devices.

Farm machinery and big tech com-

panies are lobbying against the "right to repair" bills, citing concerns about safety and intellectual property, but grassroots activists are educating fellow farmers and hitting the corridors of statehouses to counter the farm software lobby.

Mickelsen thinks farmers are being held for ransom when their machinery breaks down.

"In the old days, there wasn't anything we couldn't work on," he said. "We'd pull a tractor in the shed and we had the books and tools to get it done. Now you must have the diagnostic computers and software. Opening it up and getting us back under the hoods of these tractors will allow us to repair them once again."

Last fall in the middle of harvest, the tractor Mickelsen was operating had an alarm go off.

"We had problems on one the tractors," he said. "Some wires shorted out and blew a fuse, but we didn't know it at the time. We don't have a diagnostic computer. Our dealer sent a tech out and we had to take the tractor offline for three days. Turns out it was a \$2 fuse in the back of the tractor. It's something that could've been fixed in minutes; instead, it took days because we don't have codes or tools to fix the problem. It cost us a lot of time and money."

The semi-truck situation is much better on the farm, according to Mickelsen.

"The great thing about the trucks is that because of some lawsuits and legislation years ago, it was ruled that trucks and CAT engines have to be able to have computers and software available at repair shops," he said. "So, if our International breaks down, we have a computer and we can plug it in and we have the codes, we can read pressures in the engine. We can do a lot more with our trucks than any of our tractors."



Farm Bureau members, do you pay out-of-pocket for dental work?

Do you live in or near Arco, Boise, Caldwell, Eagle, Coeur D'Alene, Idaho Falls, Kuna, Malad, Meridian, Middleton, Mountain Home, Nampa, Pocatello, Rexburg, Rigby, or Star?

Go to www.idahofbstore.com to learn more about contracted dental rates.

dbp DENTAL BENEFIT PROGRAM

THIS IS NOT INSURANCE.

There is no cost or monthly premium for Farm Bureau members to participate. These dentists have contractually agreed to specific pricing on many dental procedures. See website for full information.

Farm Bureau members receive up to **20%** off of "Best Available Rate".



Call Toll-Free: 877-670-7088
For Super 8 call 800-889-9706

Farm Bureau Discount
ID# 8000002020



Four services that help with tax time

By Tyler Zollinger

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

POCATELLO — Spring planting is here, and I have found it to be the best time to implement better accounting practices and new systems. Many people have just filed their taxes and are probably thinking, “I won’t let next year be this bad.” Last month, the Farm Bureau home office implemented new software that will help out with our month end financial statements. The Farm Bureau fiscal year ends in October, so that allows seven months of practice before the annual audit.

It’s important to remember that everyone’s situation is different. But at Farm Bureau, we’ve found new innovative tools that work very well. These tools have a free pricing tier but are inexpensive if more features are needed beyond the free tier.

One of our favorite tools is a service called File This. File

This is an application that goes out to various websites and gathers your statements. Usually on the first business day of the month, Farm Bureau bank statements appear in a folder ready to review. The bank statement isn’t waiting in the mail and we don’t have to go out to the bank website to get it. Next year we won’t even have to go look for a statement.

To find this tool, visit <https://filethis.com>

Another tool that we use is a service called Expensify. At Farm Bureau, we use a lot of credit cards for business expenses and Expensify makes it easy to maintain all of the documentation we work with. It’s also a great place to track vehicle mileage and other expenses. We can now snap a picture of a receipt with a smart phone and it matches the receipt to your credit card transactions that get imported from the bank. The service syncs with popular ac-

counting software and saves us a lot of time.

To find this tool, visit <https://expensify.com/>

Huge gains in efficiency can be made by using cloud storage to store personal documents, photos and videos. We use Dropbox, but Google, Apple, and Microsoft all have similar services that make storing and syncing documents easy. Dropbox makes it possible to share documents with our outside accountant securely and in an organized fashion.

To find this tool, visit <https://dropbox.com>

What was that password that I needed to download my W2? It’s essential to use good passwords to keep all of your financial data secure. 1 Password saves a huge amount of time because it allows a user to use a different password on every website, but only remember one of them. This makes it

faster to log into websites and helps to keep your information secure. It will even let a user know if a password that they use has been stolen or somehow compromised.

To find this tool, visit <https://1password.com>

None of these services are perfect, but they make it a lot easier to manage financial information. They’re quick to implement and save huge amounts of time in the long run. As the saying goes, “The best time to plant a tree is 20 years ago. The second best time is today.”

All of these services have exclusive Farm Bureau features, so send me an email at tzollinger@idahofb.org before you sign up and I’ll send over our promotion code.

Tyler Zollinger is Idaho Farm Bureau Federation’s assistant treasurer.



IFBF file photo

Transportation Department Extends ELD Waiver for Ag Haulers

*American Farm
Bureau Federation*

The Department of Transportation has again extended the deadline for agricultural haulers to comply with the electronic logging device mandate.

DOT's initial agricultural exemption was set to expire on March 18. The new extension, which carries the exemption through June 18, allows the department additional time to issue guidance on the newly interpreted 150 air-mile agricultural commodity exemption and the hours of service regulations.

Drivers operating under this waiver must carry a copy of the Federal Register notice addressing the ELD waiver extension and present it to motor carrier safety enforcement offi-

cial upon request. A link to the waiver extension can be found on the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation website – www.idahofb.org – under “Trending News.”

While most farmers and ranchers should be exempt from the ELD mandate because they can claim covered farm vehicle status, drivers who haul livestock, live fish and insects are likely to fall under the requirements.

Drivers who have to use ELDs would be limited to current hours of service rules, which restrict a driver to only 14 “on duty” hours, with no more than 11 active driving hours. Once a driver hits those maximum hour allotments, he must stop and rest for 10 consecutive hours, which would be problematic when transporting livestock and other live animals.

Concerned about livestock haulers' readiness to comply with the mandate, as well as how the mandate will affect the transported animals' well-being, the American Farm Bureau Federation and seven livestock organizations last fall asked DOT for a waiver and exemption from the original Dec. 18 ELD implementation deadline.

In their petition, the groups pointed out livestock haulers' strong commitment to ensuring the safety of both the animals they're transporting and the drivers they share the road with. In addition, livestock haulers often receive specialized training beyond that required for their counterparts driving conventional commercial motor vehicles.

Another major roadblock to implementation for livestock

haulers is their lack of awareness of the rule. Because the livestock hauling industry is small compared to the overall trucking industry, it isn't well-represented before or strongly engaged by DOT's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. As a result, livestock drivers who are aware of the program have had difficulty researching the ELD marketplace and identifying cost-effective solutions that are compatible with livestock hauling.

In announcing the latest waiver extension, FMCSA said over the next 90 days it will publish final guidance on both the agricultural 150 air-mile exemption and personal conveyance, as well as continue its outreach to the agricultural industry and community regarding the ELD rule.

County Happenings



Speech Contest Winners: Left to right - Sharon Moser of Women's committee presents prizes to the top three Jefferson County Farm Bureau Speech Contestants. The \$100 first place was awarded to Dallee Hogge, \$75 second place went to Grace Bagley and the \$50 third place was awarded to Jared McKenna. Dallee Hogge represented the Jefferson County Farm Bureau at the District Contest and went on to participate in Boise on the state level.

Jefferson County Farm Bureau Woman of the Year

ReNae French is an exemplary woman for the honor of "Woman of the Year." She was raised on a farm and learned the farm way of life since a young girl. She married Gene French in 1979 and since that time has been an integral part of their Ranching Operation. She is a great support, confident, and encourager with words and her valuable help. You might find her grinding wheat to make bread, gleaning produce from her attractive and abundant garden to can and preserve, helping with irrigating, hauling hay, mucking out stalls, or driving shuttle for the cowboys on the cattle drive. Farming values are deeply rooted in ReNae's heart. She has cultivated a strong belief in the importance of family and hard work. She is rooted deeply in the farming way of life. She is an excellent example of what a person should be to be honored as the Jefferson County Farm Bureau Woman of the Year for 2018. We are very pleased to have her represent our county.

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION NEWS

President Trump signs omnibus spending bill

American Farm Bureau Federation

With President Donald Trump's signature March 23, the 2018 omnibus spending bill—and the several provisions that benefit farmers, ranchers and rural communities it includes—became law. The measure, which was a must-pass to avert a government shutdown, was approved in quick succession by the House and Senate on March 22 and the wee hours of March 23, respectively.

The omnibus amends the cooperative tax deduction (Section 199A) to restore balance to commodity markets and re-establish fairness between cooperative and non-cooperative farmers. It also clarifies that air emissions from animal waste at a farm are not applicable under the Comprehen-

sive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act.

Other provisions important to agriculture and rural communities include a pilot program related to county-level agricultural risk coverage payments; critical forest management reforms, including allowing the U.S. Forest Service to adjust its cap when its fire-suppression budget goes above the 10-year average; a pilot program to allocate \$625 million for broadband service in underserved and unserved areas; and funding for a wide array of federal programs within USDA, the Food and Drug Administration and other departments and agencies.

While Farm Bureau supported the legislation, the group noted it's disappointment in

the lack of language related to the Waters of the U.S. rule.

"We had hoped Congress would include language that would have authorized the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the secretary of the Army to withdraw the 2015 Waters of the United States rule," AFBF President Zippy Duvall said in a letter urging lawmakers to pass the bill. "This would have granted express statutory authority to the agencies to withdraw a rule that courts have already found to be likely illegal and would allow the agencies to move forward on their efforts to develop a new WOTUS rule that comports with the Clean Water Act and Supreme Court precedent."

Farm Bureau Members

Pay
Less
For
Choice Hotels!



A \$40 room will be closer to



\$32

A \$60 room will be closer to



\$48

A \$90 room will be closer to



\$72

1.800.258.2847

FARM BUREAU DISCOUNT CODE

00209550

ADVANCED RESERVATIONS REQUIRED



FARM BUREAU COMMODITY REPORT

GRAIN PRICES	2/20/2018	3/23/2018	Trend
PORTLAND:			
White Wheat	5.25-5.41	5.25-5.70	Steady to + .29
10.5% Winter	5.86-6.21	5.79-6.09	- .07 to - .12
14% Spring	7.17-7.32	7.17-7.37	Steady to + .05
Oats	220.00	240.00	+ 20.00
OGDEN:			
White Wheat	4.10	3.95	- .15
11% Winter	4.86	4.59	- .27
14% Spring	5.93	5.72	- .21
Barley	7.00	7.30	+ .30
BLACKFOOT/ IDAHO FALLS			
White Wheat	3.65	3.60	- .05
11.5% Winter	4.85	4.70	- .15
14% Spring	5.40	5.35	- .05
Hard White	4.95	4.95	Steady
BURLEY:			
White Wheat	3.95	3.70	- .25
11% Winter	4.46	4.28	- .18
14% Spring	5.22	5.32	+ .10
Barley	6.25	6.25	Steady
MERIDIAN:			
White Wheat(cwt)	4.38	4.48	+ .10
LEWISTON:			
White Wheat	5.25	5.40	+ .15
H. Red Winter	5.91	5.89	- .02
Dark N. Spring	7.03	7.12	+ .09
Barley	128.50	138.50	+ 10.00
LIVESTOCK PRICES			
	2/20/2018	3/22/2018	Trend
FEEDER STEERS			
Under 500 lbs	168-230	165-217	- 3 to - 13
500-700 lbs	140-206	140-197	Steady to - 9
700-900 lbs	130-159	124-156	- 6 to - 3
FEEDER HEIFERS			
Under 500 lbs	150-200	145-199	- 5 to - 1
500-700 lbs	130-171	128-170	- 2 to - 1
700-900 lbs	120-146	110-138	- 10 to - 8
HOLSTEIN STEERS			
Under 700 lbs	80-100	92-95	+ 12 to - 5
Over 700 lbs	70-90	72-87	+ 2 to - 3
COWS			
Utility/Commercial	62-86	57-77	- 5 to - 9
Canner & Cutter	48-72	50-70	+ 2 to - 2
Stock Cows	875-1060	No test	N.A.
BULLS			
Slaughter	67-95	74-101	+ 7 to + 6
BEAN PRICES:			
Pinto	21.00	21.00-23.00	Steady to up 2.00
Garbanzo	42.00-43.00	40.00-43.00	- 2.00 to Steady

COMPILED BY THE IDAHO FARM BUREAU COMMODITY DIVISION

IDAHO HAY REPORT

USDA Market News, Moses Lake, WA

March 23, 2018

Tons: 200 Last Week: 195 Last Year: 1000

Compared to last Friday, Alfalfa steady in a light test. Export hay has mostly been cleaned up until new crop. Trade near standstill this week with light demand. Exporters say inventories of 2017 alfalfa and Timothy hay should sell out this spring. Retail/Feedstore steady. Retail/Feedstore not tested.

The Federal Reserve Bank Chairman Powell announced a quarter point interest rate increase yesterday but indicated a much more aggressive path for interest rates in the future. In addition to the increase yesterday, he suggested two or three more increases this year and three more increases next year. Borrowing cost for many will undergo

sharp increases after remaining low for the past decade. Prices are dollars per ton and FOB the farm or ranch unless otherwise stated.

	Tons	Price	Wtd Avg	Comments		
Alfalfa						
Mid Square Fair	200	100.00-100.00	100.00	Tarped		
Alfalfa hay test guidelines, (for domestic livestock use and not more than 10% grass), used with visual appearance and intent of sale						
Quantitative factors are approximate and many factors can affect feeding value.						
	ADF	NDF	RFV	TDN-100%	TDN-90%	CP-100%
Supreme	<27	<34	>185	>62	>55.9	>22
Premium	27-29	34-36	170-185	60.5-62	54.5-55.9	20-22
Good	29-32	36-40	150-170	58-60	52.5-54.5	18-20
Fair	32-35	40-44	130-150	56-58	50.5-52.5	16-18
Utility	>35	>44	<130	<56	<50.5	<16

POTATOES & ONIONS

March 20, 2018

Potatoes

UPPER VALLEY, TWIN FALLS-BURLEY DISTRICT, IDAHO -- Shipments 701-724-730(includes exports of 9-5-7) ---Movement expected to remain about the same. Trading cartons active, others fairly slow. Prices cartons higher, bales lower. Russet Burbank U.S. One baled 10-5 pound film bags non size A mostly 5.50; 50-pound cartons 40s-50s 9.00-10.00, 60-80s mostly 11.00, 90s mostly 9.50-10.00, 100s mostly 9.00; Russet Norkotah U.S. One baled 10-5 pound film bags non size A mostly 5.50; 50-pound cartons 40-50s mostly 9.50-10.00, 60-70s mostly 10.50, 80s 10.00-10.50, 90s mostly 8.50, 100s mostly 7.50.

Onions – Dry

IDAHO AND MALHEUR COUNTY OREGON--- Shipments 259-261-252 --- Movement expected to remain about the same. Trading moderate. Prices Yellow super colossal, Yellow colossal and jumbo Red lower, others generally unchanged. Yellow Spanish Hybrid 50-pound sacks super colossal 9.00-9.50, colossal mostly 8.00, jumbo mostly 7.00, medium 4.00-5.00; Red Globe Type 25-pound sacks jumbo 6.00-7.00, medium mostly 6.00.

5 YEAR GRAIN COMPARISON

Grain Prices	3/24/2014	3/20/2015	3/22/2016	3/23/2017	3/23/2018
Portland					
White Wheat	7.76	6.47	No Bid	4.41-4.80	5.25-5.70
11% Winter	9.15-9.25	6.65-6.68	5.41-5.47	4.78-5.03	5.79-6.09
14% Spring	9.53	8.99	6.04-6.14	6.40-6.75	7.17-7.37
Corn	No Bid	4.87	4.40-4.45	4.31-4.36	4.85-4.87
Ogden					
White Wheat	6.40	6.20	4.21	3.71	3.95
11% Winter	7.34	5.81	4.16	3.73	4.59
14 % Spring	7.83	6.60	5.14	5.35	5.72
Barley	9.10	5.55	7.08	No Bid	7.30
Idaho Falls/Blackfoot					
White Wheat	6.50	6.00	4.20	3.35	3.60
11% Winter	8.14	5.79	4.45	4.00	4.70
14% Spring	8.33	6.89	4.85	5.20	5.35

Burley					
White Wheat	6.34	5.90	3.80	3.35	3.70
11% Winter	7.41	5.04	3.90	3.20	4.28
14% Spring	7.31	6.34	4.85	5.06	5.32
Barley	7.50	5.00	6.00	5.00	6.25

Nampa/Meridian					
White Wheat (cwt)	11.16	9.00	7.06	7.06	7.46
(bushel)	6.70	5.40	4.24	5.75	4.48

Lewiston					
White Wheat	7.45	6.58	4.75	4.45	5.40
Barley	161.50	160.50	126.50	101.50	138.50

Bean Prices					
Pintos	34.00-36.00	24.00-25.00	23.00-24.00	28.00-30.00	21.00-23.00
Pinks	39.00-40.00	No Bid	28.00	No Bid	No Bid
Small Reds	40.00	40.00	33.00-35.00	36.00-37.00	40.00-43.00

MILK PRODUCTION

March 20, 2018

February Milk Production up 1.8 Percent

Milk production in the 23 major States during February totaled 15.9 billion pounds, up 1.8 percent from February 2017. January revised production, at 17.3 billion pounds, was up 1.8 percent from January 2017. The January revision represented an increase of 9 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,822 pounds for February, 23 pounds above February 2017.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.75 million head, 49,000 head more than February 2017, and 1,000 head more than January 2018.

February Milk Production in the United States up 1.8 Percent

Milk production in the United States during February totaled 17.0 billion pounds, up 1.8 percent from February 2017.

Production per cow in the United States averaged 1,807 pounds for February, 24 pounds above February 2017.

The number of milk cows on farms in the United States was 9.41 million head, 45,000 head more than February 2017, and 1,000 head more than January 2018.

5 YEAR LIVESTOCK COMPARISON

	3/24/2014	3/20/2015	3/18/2016	3/21/2017	3/22/2018
Feeder Steers					
Under 500 lbs	190-251	230-346	170-230	130-182	165-217
500-700 lbs	168-239	209-304	150-215	120-167	140-197
700-900 lbs	140-181	177-220	135-161	108-136	124-156
Over 900 lbs	130-150	143-187	110-137	89-122	110-139
Feeder Heifers					
Under 500 lbs	170-227	228-316	160-216	116-167	145-199
500-700 lbs	154-206	190-268	140-185	112-146	128-170
700-900 lbs	130-171	165-215	120-151	102-124	110-138
Over 900 lbs	110-147	140-182	100-129	82-107	93-127
Holstein Steers					
Under 700 lbs	111-146	140-205	99-149	74-84	92-95
Over 700 lbs	110-130	120-180	99-129	65-81	72-87
Cows					
Utility/Commercial	70-104	84-114	58-87	46-78	57-77
Canner & Cutter	60-96	78-107	58-76	40-64	50-70
Stock Cows	1150-1750	1375-2300	1400-1800	750-1300	no test
Bulls – Slaughter					
	70-126	106-142	75-108	55-87	74-101

CATTLE ON FEED

Released March 23, 2018

United States Cattle on Feed Up 9 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 11.7 million head on March 1, 2018. The inventory was 9 percent above March 1, 2017.

Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.82 million head, 7 percent above 2017. Net placements were 1.76 million head. During February, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 325,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 335,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 537,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 420,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 150,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 50,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 1.68 million head, 2 percent above 2017.

Other disappearance totaled 57,000 head during February, 2 percent above 2017.

CATTLE MARKET REPORT

Cash Cattle.

The Chinese can be strategic when it comes to trade and they proved it early today. In an effort to strike at the core of Trump's political base, the WSJ reported that Chinese officials are planning to retaliate to Trump's trade tariffs with their own tariffs on U.S. agricultural products such as soybeans, sorghum, and pork. These products are produced in red states, the source of Trump's electoral base. Futures have been pointing towards this action as they have vastly departed from fundamental news in the cash markets. Beef was not mentioned in the article and no action has taken place yet, but no doubt a retaliatory effort can include beef.

Packers continued to add to their inventory from all regions mainly at \$126 live with spots of trades in Iowa at \$127. Dressed trades were at \$202-203 in the north. Both prices were \$1-2 lower. Falling cattle futures softened up sellers in spite of the fact supplies of fed cattle seem barely adequate.

The Federal Reserve Bank Chairman Powell announced a quarter point interest rate increase yesterday but indicated a much more aggressive path for interest rates in the future. In addition to the increase yesterday, he suggested two or three more increases this year and three more increases next year. Borrowing cost for many beef producers will undergo sharp increases after remaining low for the past decade.

Cattle Futures. Cattle futures lost ground once again. Basis level jumped with cash well over the April board. The trade wars will create an environment of volatility in the cattle futures and futures can be expected to respond to each developing news story from any source.

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 March 3rd, had steer carcass weights remain unchanged 883# which is 7# higher than the past year. Heifers were 5# over prior year with more heifers in the mix.

Forward Cattle Contracts: The packers last week were inactive in forward contracts but that may change. The opportunity to buy and price some forward cattle would allow them good margins and offer retailers much cheaper cuts. Look for volumes of forward contracts to increase.

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

The Cutout. The choice cutout was stronger in mid-week trading. Packers may be able to price beef for the May/June selling periods to retailers at significantly lower prices based on their ability to forward contract cattle at reasonable basis levels. The choice/select spread is \$7.

Beef Feature Activity Index. Beef features are often planned months in advance. Retailers look at the pricing of live cattle futures for signals of product availability and price. Beef specials serve as drawing cards into the stores and are profit centers. This new link provides perspective on the level of feature activity week by week in the country.

CLASSIFIEDS

Animals

Six Angus bulls out of purebred stock; 18 months old, 1200 lbs. Price negotiable. St. Anthony, Id. 208-821-4614.

Black, yearling and 2-year-old SimAngus bulls for sale. Easy to handle, good feet and legs, good calving ease. Caldwell, Id. Phil at 208-454-3790.

Australian Cattle Dog BUD Looking for Full-Time Employment as Ranch Hand. Smart, treat-motivated, 3-year-old that moves like an agility dog, physically fit, high endurance. Movie to show my talents around farm animals. https://youtu.be/_4VH3AilYIE - Meridian Canine Rescue 208-794-0944.

Free to good home! Beautiful and sweet Alaskan Malamute, registered/papered 5-year-old female. Please call with questions. Lewiston, Id. Karen at 208-305-6635.

Alpine milk goat doe. DOB: 03/05/2016. Never been bred. Mother is registered. Negative for CAE, CL and Johnes. Asking \$250 obo. Arimo, ID. Call or text Stephanie 208-312-9255.

Farm Equipment

Deutz 6-cylinder air-cooled diesel, 130 hp w/snap clutch and Murphy witches. \$2,000. Emmett, Id. 208-365-8194.

Two quarter mile wheel lines. I have rented my ground for hops and no longer need them. Five-foot wheels, extra engine. Used last year, good shape. \$3,500 per line each OBO. Wilder Id 208-482-7020.

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

John Deere 4430 powershift. Recent repair. Massey Ferguson/Hesston 9740 2012 Swather, 16 ft header, 722 hours. Challis, Id 208-339-2434.

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.

Farm Equipment

1956 Ford 850 Tractor. Excellent condition. Includes original Dearborn front end loader with trip bucket, heavy duty box scraper, log skidder, rebuilt carburetor, plus extras. \$3,500. Pictures available. Grangeville, Id 208-983-1417.

Miscellaneous

Old fashion style Pine Coffin. Clear finish. Unlined - \$700.00, Lined - \$850.00. Delivery available. Weiser, Id 208-549-2239.

Student model cello with bow and nice soft cover case. Excellent condition. \$3500. Nampa, Id. Call for details (208) 466-2242/message.

Forest Service compliant weed wash unit. Two Hotsy high-pressure pumps with Honda engines mounted on 20ft 14,000 GVW trailer. Salmon, Id. 208-756-4414.

Selling WorldMark, The Club membership with 8000 points. One dollar a point or best offer. Call 208-351-3668.

Real Estate/Acreage

12 acres - 10 miles north of Priest River Id. Approx. 1200 sq ft house. 2-3 bedroom, 2 bath, new roof, paint, 2 wells, 3 car garage, RV garage, outbuildings, fenced garden, greenhouse, \$245,000. Call Gary 208-826-3132.

154 Acres in Grimes Pass. Close to Garden Valley. Surrounded by Boise National Forest. Multiple Potential Building Sites. Less than 6500 per acre, Not to be divided. Call Idaho Joe 208-861-7171.

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

Services

Nuisance Wildlife Removal - Beaver, birds, bats, coyotes, skunks, badgers, etc. also stream gaging, discharge measurements and water quality monitoring. Professional, licensed, permitted in Idaho. Stonefly Services LLC 208-255-8672.

Trailers

1974 Freuhauf 40 ft flatbed trailer, good deck. \$5,500. Weiser, Id. 208-550-2440.

Vehicles

35 ft Georgie Boy Motorhome, 40,000 miles, great condition, everything works. 5 kw generator, gas and electric refrigerator, central air and gas heat, queen bed, sleeps 6, 454 Chevrolet engine. Clean title. \$15,000 in American Falls, Id. 208-406-4540.

1990 Ford Dually, 7.3 diesel non-turbo V-8, automatic 2WD, new white paint, 11' x 7' flatbed w/ 3' high removable sides, only 28,000 miles. Preston, Id. \$4500.00 OBO call Blair 208-681-3581.

Wanted

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

Wanted

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

DEADLINE DATES:

ADS MUST BE RECEIVED BY

April 20

FOR NEXT ISSUE.

FREE CLASSIFIEDS

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

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City / State / Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Membership No. _____

Ad Copy: _____



JOHN DEERE

NEW

Use your Idaho Farm Bureau membership number for GreenFleet at JohnDeere.com/FarmBureau. You will have access to the following benefits:

IDAHO FARM BUREAU FEDERATION
P.O. Box 4848
Pocatello, ID 83205-4848



\$350-\$3,200 off Commercial Mowing
\$100-\$250 off Residential Mowing
\$200-\$350 off Utility Vehicles

\$200-\$350 off Tractors
\$500-\$3,700 off Golf & Sports Turf
17% off MSRP – Commercial Worksite

- Combine GreenFleet equipment savings with National Offers
- Special parts savings delivered to their inbox
- 10% off Home & Workshop Products, including air compressors, generators and more!
- 10% off apparel and accessories at JohnDeereStore.com

Other Details and Restrictions

- GreenFleet Loyalty Rewards benefits are **only available at John Deere dealerships**. Purchases from Lowes or Home Depot will count towards GreenFleet status, but are not eligible for a GreenFleet discount.
- There is no minimum length of Farm Bureau membership to receive the GreenFleet benefit.
- Members need to sign up once for the GreenFleet Loyalty Rewards program, then renew or reactivate their membership approximately every two years.
- GreenFleet members can manage their account at MyJohnDeere.Deere.com.
- For full GreenFleet Terms & Conditions, visit JohnDeere.com/GreenFleet.

**Quick access to links at
www.idahofbstore.com**