Barley administrator retiring after 24 years
Two new potato varieties released
New dairy safety net insurance program
Ag education is the key to ag sustainability

By Zippy Duvall
American Farm Bureau Federation President

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

We must stay dialed in on water issues

By Bryan Searle
Idaho Farm Bureau Federation President

The state has blown away its record for managed recharge into the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer. As of mid-June, more than 545,000 acre-feet of water had been recharged into the important aquifer, which is a critical source of water for farmers, ranchers, businesses and municipalities.

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

While the amount of recharge accomplished by the state during the 2017-18 season is impressive, it’s important that Idaho remain vigilant when it comes to protecting the state’s most important resource: water.

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

See DUVALL, page 6

The Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution

By Rick Keller
Idaho Farm Bureau Federation CEO

This July marks the 242nd anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. With the beginning sentence of this immortal document — “When in the course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another … requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation” — a new nation was formed.

The separation from a tyrannical sovereign nation was the first step, but to become a viable and legitimate government, a ruling document needed to be fashioned. Fourteen years after the Declaration, all 13 colonies ratified the U.S. Constitution, the document which would govern this newest of nations. Although tested, that divinely inspired constitution has held this nation together for 228 years.

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

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

See KELLER, page 6
The Idaho Wheat Commission’s fiscal year 2019 budget includes $1.54 million for a wide variety of research projects aimed at helping farmers overcome production challenges.

**Idaho Wheat Commission’s fiscal 2019 budget is heavy on research**

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Investing money to make sure growers have access to the most current wheat tech-
By Sean Ellis
Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

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

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

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

IBC commissioners said they believe they have found a solid replacement in Laura Wilder, who began working side by side with Olson in June, but they also said there’s no doubt that Olson takes an enormous amount of institutional knowledge about the industry with her into retirement.

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

“We all have our niches where we know something about barley. Kelly knows the big picture,” said IBC commissioner Timothy Pella, the industry representative on the commission.

Olson said she will miss her job greatly and retirement is bittersweet.

“I’ve been with this organization for 24 years and I’ve built some very deep friendships and relationships with producers, researchers and industry and it’s hard to leave those be-
Olson said she is leaving at a time when the industry is in a good position.

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

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

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

IBC commissioner and Bonners Ferry farmer Wes Hubbard said it’s no coincidence that Idaho’s rise to become the top barley state coincided with Olson’s tenure at the helm of the commission.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Olson, who was raised on a farm outside Mountain Home, said that during her retirement, she plans to be a dedicated volunteer for several food-related organizations, including the Idaho Foodbank, Treasure Valley Food Coalition and Boise Farmers Market.

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

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

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

WHEAT RESEARCH

Continued from page 3

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

It includes funding to host several overseas trade teams, as well as cereal schools and grower workshops.
‘Let us reawaken our understanding of these two founding documents, the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. Together, they are only 6,000 words in length or a short 12 pages, and yet they continue to govern, guide and protect.’

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

Article 6 covers several miscellaneous items, including a definition of the supreme law of the land, namely, the Constitution itself, the laws of the United States and all treaties made. Article 7, the last, explains how the Constitution is to be ratified.

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

To date, the Constitution has been amended 27 times. The most recent amendment prohibits any law that increases or decreases the salary of members of Congress from taking effect until the start of the next set of terms of office for representatives.

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

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

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

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

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

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

We also hope that getting a little taste for ag will lead some of them to consider a career in the field. The Foundation’s new My Little Ag Me allows students everywhere to do just that. With the game, students can put on the hats of up to nine careers in agriculture. From large animal vet to florist to irrigation specialist, students can learn about the diverse opportunities of jobs on and off the farm that support agriculture.

These are just a couple samples from the bounty of agricultural education resources and experiences the hard-working team at the Foundation provides. If we are going to educate consumers from field to fork and get the next generation involved in agriculture, we need to ensure we can continue to plant the seeds that yield a harvest of knowledge. Please consider joining with the Foundation in this good work (www.agfoundation.org).
Gary Spackman, director of the Idaho Department of Water Resources, attended some of the events and reiterated the critical need that we must stay vigilant in protecting our water. With so much pressure being put on the water we currently have, we must be looking for and promoting options to protect and grow our water supply.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Supreme Court ruling was in favor of Northwest Indian tribes and the federal government.

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

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

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

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

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

These are only a few of many water-related issues that we must remain engaged in to ensure they don’t affect the ability of farmers and ranchers to continue to produce an abundant and affordable supply of food.
University of Idaho’s “Idaho Farm Bureau Federation Foyer to the Future” is christened May 22 during a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the university’s Moscow campus attended by UI faculty and IFBF employees.

UI christens its ‘Idaho Farm Bureau Federation Foyer to the Future’

By Sean Ellis
Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

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

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

One of the foyers is located outside of Room 106, which is the largest theater-style classroom on campus and used by the entire university.

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

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

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

IFBF President Bryan Searle said Farm Bureau members recognize the important role UI plays in helping educate tomorrow’s leaders in the agricultural industry.

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

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

“We just completed our commencement weekend and this place was hopping,” she
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-H
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

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)
Larry Jensen Soda (Pocatello)
Geronimos (Pocatello)
Helping Hands Home Health (Pocatello)
Keller Williams Realty (Eastern Idaho)

OIL CHANGE
Jiffy Lube

SHUTTLE TRANSPORT
Salt Lake Express
(To or From SLC)

APPLIANCES
Sears Commercial

MEDICATION
The Canadian Pharmacy
Farm Bureau RX Card

LIFEFLIGHT
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

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

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

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

Brown, who recently retired as potato breeder with USDA’s Agricultural Research Service in Prosser, Wash., made the initial cross for Castle in 2005. The Oregon State University potato breeding program selected Castle from its field trials. Brown describes the variety as good-looking with a heavy russet skin.

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

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

Castle also resists potato mop top virus and cold sweetening.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Photo by John O’Connell
Rich Novy, a USDA potato breeder in Aberdeen, Idaho, stands next to potato seedlings that will be planted in fields to begin the plant variety development process.
The initial cross for Echo was made in Aberdeen in 1996 by former potato breeder Joe Pavek, who has long since retired. Rich Novy, the current USDA-ARS potato breeder in Aberdeen, explained Echo was selected by OSU for conditions in the Columbia Basin. Its parents were two unnamed breeding clones.

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

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

It’s been considered as a good option for organic potato production due to its broad range of disease resistance. Before the year’s end, Novy said, two more varieties originating from Aberdeen, which have been assigned numbers but are yet to be named, may be released. Novy said A06021 is an early maturing spud with potential in the fresh industry.

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

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

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

New varieties could result in more royalties for potato breeding efforts

By John O’Connell
For Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Clearwater is a medium- to late-maturing russet that maintains excellent fry color out of storage, resists sugar ends and avoids tuber defects.
BOISE – The Idaho State Department of Agriculture will add eight new positions to help it keep pace with an increased demand for services from the state’s farming and ranching industry.

“With the growth in agriculture, there’s more need for services from the department of agriculture, both from a regulatory standpoint and a food safety standpoint,” said ISDA Director Celia Gould.

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

“Yet we have to be able to manage both the expectations of our industry and make sure we don’t bust at the seams at the department of agriculture,” Gould said. “We want to continue to operate a lean, mean operation here.”

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

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

Among the eight positions the ISDA will add are two new inspectors for the department’s dairy program, which has seen its workload explode in recent years.
“There are more dairy cows coming on line all the time and Idaho’s milk processing capacity has grown by a huge amount in the last 11 years,” Gould said.

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

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

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

“We really need to make sure we take care of this critical industry and I think adding more inspectors will help us do that,” she said.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

For example, the animal health lab last year experienced a six-fold increase in lab tests related to a new cattle processing facility in Kuna.
POCATELLO – The total value of Idaho agricultural exports increased 2 percent during the first three months of 2018.

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

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

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

Last year, the value of Idaho ag exports totaled $827 million, an increase of 10 percent compared with 2016.

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

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

Photo by Sean Ellis

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

Idaho ag export value up 2 percent in first quarter

By Sean Ellis
Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

See EXPORTS page 25
FOYER
Continued from page 8

said.

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

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

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

“Your investment to help renovate this often-used space will provide great return not only for students in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, but also students from across campus who utilize the adjacent classroom,” he said.

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

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

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

IFBF’s earliest documentation includes a newspaper article printed in 1918 about UI extension agents and 26 county Farm Bureaus teaming up to help fight a plague of destructive ground squirrels.

“The university’s county extension agents and Farm Bureau have developed together,” Keller said.

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

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

“You care about economic development and you care about education,” she said. “That’s exactly what the University of Idaho is about, too. That partnership that we share with you is made visible through this wonderful gift of yours to develop this gathering place.”
Boundary County Farm Tour visits Naples

By Bob Smathers
Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

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

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

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

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

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

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

The second stop of the day was the Young Living Research/Highland Flats Tree Farm and Distillery west of Naples. The group was given a grand tour of the farm and distillery. This operation produces a product known as essential oils. Michael Carter, assistant manager at the Highland Flats Research Farm and Distillery, explained how tree material from grand fir and spruce is put into extraction chambers, then steamed and when the steam condenses, they extract the oil which is highly concentrated. Their current facilities, according to Carter, can produce up to 15 gallons of oil per day, but they have plans to add more distilling capacity in the future.

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

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

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

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

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

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

We know life can be a balancing act.

That’s why we’re here to help you protect what matters most, your todays and your tomorrows. Contact your Farm Bureau agent to discuss what’s been happening in your world.

Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company*/West Des Moines, IA. *Company provider of Farm Bureau Financial Services M175 (4-17)
By Randy Brooks & Rob Keefe

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

Ground-based skidding

Ground-based skidding with grapple or cable skidders, and occasionally horses, is common in Idaho and is appropriate on slopes less than 40 percent. However, ground-based skidding should only be conducted when conditions are either dry or snowy enough (or on hard frozen ground) that excessive rutting and soil compaction is avoided. Rutting occurs under wet conditions when the weight of a machine, as well as possible spinning of tires, causes depressions in the ground. Ruts create watercourses on hillsides that allow sediment to be carried. Additional traction for rubber-tired skidding machines can be created by putting slash mats down to increase traction, especially in wet areas on skid trails and during winter operations. Slash mats also help to catch sediment that may be carried in overland flow.

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

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

Cut-to-length systems

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

Selecting the right harvesting system for your forest property
used to pad forwarder trails. This reduces ground disturbance, increases tire traction, and traps sediment.

**Shovel logging**

When turn distances are short, shovel logging using loaders, also known as swing machines to advance logs to the roadside, can be more productive than ground skidding and causes less ground disturbance. Shovels are on carriers with tracks, so machine weight is distributed over a larger surface area than on rubber-tired skidders. Shovel logging is now the most common ground-based logging system used on moderate slopes on many industrial ownerships west of the Cascades. However, when shovel logging requires more than two to three swings, the productivity drops off and this system becomes less cost effective. In logging operations where it is feasible, shovel logging is an excellent practice to reduce soil disturbance and rutting during weather conditions when precipitation is possible, such as during early summer and late fall harvesting.

**Cable yarding**

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

Corridors created by cable systems create a vertical path on the hillslope that can become a route for sediment transport. For this reason, hand-piling or using a sky carriage to deposit a slash mat along a corridor after completion of cable yarding may help to reduce subsequent downslope transport of sediments; especially with ground-lead cable systems like single-drum jammers and tong throwers.

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

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

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

*See UI FORESTRY, page 20*
Ground based skidding can be obtained with self-loading forwarders.

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

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

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

Soil compaction is a function of total vehicle weight and the amount of tire or track surface area in contact with the soil. Tracked machines tend to have lower pounds per square inch of ground pressure because the weight is distributed over a larger total surface area. For the same reason, rubber-tired skidders with dual wheels on each axle exert half the ground pressure of those with single tires. The use of slash mats helps catch sediment during and after skidding operations and also reduces soil disturbance by providing additional traction.

Ground-based skidding, cut-to-length systems, shovel logging, and cable systems are all options for logging in Idaho. Deciding which system to use largely depends on appropriate stand and site conditions of your property. Grapple skidding and whole tree processing at the landing is the most popular ground-based harvesting method on moderate slopes (less than 40 percent) in Idaho, with manual felling and cable logging being the preferred methods on steep slopes.

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

Randy Brooks is an Extension forestry specialist at the University of Idaho and Rob Keefe is an associate professor of forest operations for UI.
Why Ag 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 14,000 Idaho agricultural education students, 95 active chartered Idaho FFA chapters, and over 5,100 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 though an interactive classroom and Laboratory.

SAE is experiential, service or work-based learning though 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
www.idffafoundation.org
ARBON VALLEY, Idaho – Local dry-land grain farmer Hans Hayden has hit a stumbling block at the county level in his efforts to capitalize on a recent change in state law, which he hopes will eventually enable him to ship larger truckloads of wheat for milling.

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

Favorable results from the pilot project led the state to make the 129,000-pound weight limit permanent on pilot routes a few years ago, and to establish a mechanism for increasing weight limits on other state and local routes, at the request of shippers. The federal government had previously lifted a 1991 restriction on allowing trucks above 105,500 pounds on its highways through Idaho.

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

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

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

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

“What we really need to do is have the
Idaho Farm Bureau producer / JulY 2018

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

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

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

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

Oneida County Commissioner Max Firth said he’s met with state engineers about 129,000-pound weight limits, and he acknowledges the science behind allowing heavier trucks is sound. He’s a bit concerned that traffic volumes could increase on county roads with the designation.

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

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

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

Increased trucking weight limits have been especially important for Amalgamated Sugar Co.

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

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

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

“Once highway districts get it figured out that the higher weight limits do result in less wear and tear to their roads, they tend to become proponents of higher weight limits on specified roads,” Grant said.
**Grain Marketing with Clark Johnston**

**Use historical futures trends as part of decision-making process**

By Clark Johnston

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

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

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

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

Also, when we set an unrealistic price objective we usually won’t take advantage of the good opportunities during the year while we wait for the extreme price level. When we wait and wait and wait for the unrealistic level, more times than not we finally once again just give up and contract our wheat toward the bottom of the range for the marketing year.

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

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

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

Remember, once you have hedged your wheat with futures you are now a basis trader. I recently had a producer visit with me about the local markets. He was trading futures by using options through a broker in the Midwest. The broker was very good with the futures markets but he was concerned that his marketing strategy didn’t have anything to do with the local basis appreciation. This producer was a little frustrated with his marketing and hedging program just for the fact that it was centered on the futures markets without any regard to what the basis was doing.

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

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

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

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

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

Canada was the top foreign destination for Idaho farm products during the first quarter, as $70 million worth of ag products were sold to that nation, an 11 percent increase over the same period in 2017.

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

The totals, which are released quarterly, are based on U.S. Census Bureau data that is calculated for ISDA by a private company. The data is based on the zip code of the exporter of record and doesn’t capture a lot of Idaho farm products, such as wheat, that are shipped to other states before being exported.

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

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

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

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

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

Are you a young or beginning producer with dreams of a successful future in agriculture?

You've come to the right place. Our AgVision program provides financing for producers age 35 or younger, or who have less than 10 years in the business. Qualified applicants have less restrictive loan underwriting standards, a mentor and an abundance of educational resources.

Ready to build a life in agriculture? We're ready to help.

208.552.2300 | northwestfcs.com
CUSCO, Peru – A delegation of researchers from Idaho, where the potato is world famous, traveled to Peru, where the potato originated, for the World Potato Congress.

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

WPC attendee Nora Olsen, a professor and potato storage specialist at the University of Idaho’s Kimberly Research and Extension Center, said the potato congress plays an important role in Idaho’s potato industry.

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

“You get this wide breadth of what’s happening worldwide,” Olsen said. “We have a lot of the same sort of issues and scientific concerns, even production or industry concerns.”

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

“It was a great opportunity to work with colleagues, work with industry personnel throughout the world and to identify what are some of the major issues,” Olsen said.

See POTATO CONFERENCE, page 28
sen said about leading the technical session.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Whitworth said that they are focusing on trying to develop a potato with resistance to pale cyst nematode but also with resistance to the other two nematodes.

Novy said that his most successful crosses have been with Eden, a round, white Scottish variety, and Western Russet, a long tuber shape favored by processors.

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

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

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

“Now (pale cyst nematode), that’s a little bit more difficult,” Novy said.

Whitworth said that they’re happy with the results of the cross-breeding to date and hope to continue to develop greater resistance to pale cyst nematode with future progeny.
Recently Added Farm Bureau Member Benefits

All of Idaho

Smart Home Technology - Water Hero
Water Hero P-100: Leak Monitoring and Protection System with Shut-off. Text/E-mail Leak & Temperature Alerts, Remote and Automatic Water Shut-off, Real Time and Historical Water Usage, Wireless Internet Connection over WiFi, Smart water meter shut-off valve, Installed to measure flow instead of external water detection sensors.
Farm Bureau members receive $100 discount.

Pocatello
Geronimo's!
Trampoline Park
Farm Bureau Members always receive 20% off regular priced individual admission. Offer can not be combined with other offers or promotions. Farm Bureau members must present a valid Idaho Farm Bureau membership card or proof of insurance to receive this discount.

www.idahofbstore.com

Eastern Idaho

The 208 Group
Keller Williams Realty
Idaho Farm Bureau members receive 25% off listing-side fee when you list with the 208 Group - Keller Williams Realty. Up to $1,000 towards a 2-yr home warranty from Freedom Home Warranty, or up to $1,000 towards moving costs with Bust'n Moves.

Discounts For Idaho Farm Bureau Members

Case IH Tractor & Equipment Incentive Program: Farm Bureau members can now take advantage of Case IH equipment discounts thanks to a new membership value program. Eligible Farm Bureau members will receive an incentive discount – from $300 to $500 – when purchasing qualifying Case IH equipment from participating dealerships. The discount is stackable, meaning it can be used with other discounts, promotions, rebates or offers that may be provided by Case IH or a Case IH dealership. A current Farm Bureau membership verification certificate must be presented to the Case IH dealer in advance of product delivery to receive the incentive discount.

Farmall Compact tractors (A & B) $300 per unit
Farmall Utilities – C, U, & J series $500 per unit
Maxxum Series and Farmall 100A series $500 per unit
Self-propelled windrowers $500 per unit
Large square balers $500 per unit
Round balers $300 per unit
Small square balers $300 per unit
Disc mower conditioners $300 per unit
Sickle mower conditioners $300 per unit
Case IH Scout $300 per unit

To print off a Farm Bureau verification certificate go to www.fbverify.com/case
Type in your Idaho Farm Bureau membership # and zip code.

Questions? Call Joel 208-239-4289
COEUR d’ALENE – About 1,050 Kootenai County fifth-graders learned a wide variety of lessons about agriculture at the 4th Annual Farm To Table Fair May 23-24 at the Kootenai County Fairgrounds.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Using the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation Moving Agriculture to the Classroom trailer, which has a variety of tools to teach kids about agriculture, retired wheat farmers Wally Meyer and Doug Meyer, who farmed on the Rathdrum Prairie, spoke to the students about how wheat is planted, grown and harvested.

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

It was a popular game for all the classes that came through the MAC trailer station and it demonstrated just how important wheat is to our diet. At the end of that presentation, the students were given the opportunity to grind some wheat into flour.

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

They talked about the processing of potatoes and the positive impact that technology has made in potato production. The Searles also brought some sprouted potatoes at different stages of growth as props to give the students a hands-on experience.
Use your Idaho Farm Bureau membership number for GreenFleet at JohnDeere.com/FarmBureau. You will have access to the following benefits:

- $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](http://www.idahofbstore.com)
Boise — The American Farm Bureau Federation teamed up with American Farm Bureau Insurance Services and dairymen to develop a new risk-management insurance safety net for dairy farmers.

The Idaho Dairymen’s Association and Idaho Farm Bureau Federation held informational meetings across Idaho in June to preview the safety net insurance program. Policies are expected to be available in late summer 2018.

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

“When you purchase a car, what is the first thing you buy?” he said. “It’s insurance and why do you do that? To protect your asset. We need something to protect our assets so we don’t dig into our bottom line or capital base and destroy the whole operation.”

Known as “Dairy Revenue Protection,” the insurance plan would allow farmers to purchase risk management protection against quarterly milk market declines and unexpected declines in milk prices, milk production, or both.

If the new Farm Bill is passed this year, Dairy Revenue Protection insurance would give farmers like Jones the opportunity to manage risks by focusing on their profits from milk sales. The program is approved by the USDA’s Federal Crop Insurance Corporation.
“I think this a timely and needed product for the dairy industry,” said IFBF Commodities Director Zak Miller. “We’ve seen volatility in the feed side and in the market side of dairy production. It’s nice to see a product coming on that finally benefits dairymen.”

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

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

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

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

Dairy-RP coverage works just like the area-based crop revenue protection insurance policies, according to AFBF. Crop coverage offers revenue guarantees based on three things: futures prices, expected production and market-implied risk.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The three meetings were well attended.

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

### GRAIN PRICES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th></th>
<th>5/22/2018</th>
<th>6/22/2018</th>
<th>Trend</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PORTLAND:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Wheat</td>
<td></td>
<td>5.80-5.94</td>
<td>5.90-6.00</td>
<td>+ .10 to + .06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard Red Winter</td>
<td></td>
<td>6.45-6.70</td>
<td>5.95-6.30</td>
<td>- .50 to - .40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DNS 14%</td>
<td></td>
<td>7.78-7.93</td>
<td>6.66-6.91</td>
<td>- 1.12 to - 1.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oats</td>
<td></td>
<td>250.00</td>
<td>250.00</td>
<td>Steady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OGDEN:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Wheat</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.51</td>
<td>4.49</td>
<td>- .02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard Red Winter</td>
<td></td>
<td>5.01</td>
<td>4.65</td>
<td>- .36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DNS 14%</td>
<td></td>
<td>6.03</td>
<td>5.26</td>
<td>- .77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barley</td>
<td></td>
<td>7.45</td>
<td>7.45</td>
<td>Steady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BLACKFOOT/IDAHO FALLS:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Wheat</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.35</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>- .35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard Red Winter</td>
<td></td>
<td>5.10</td>
<td>4.60</td>
<td>- .50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DNS 14%</td>
<td></td>
<td>5.60</td>
<td>4.90</td>
<td>- .70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard White</td>
<td></td>
<td>5.10</td>
<td>4.80</td>
<td>- .30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BURLEY:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Wheat</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.39</td>
<td>4.17</td>
<td>- .22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard Red Winter</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.80</td>
<td>4.26</td>
<td>- .54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DNS 14%</td>
<td></td>
<td>5.65</td>
<td>4.96</td>
<td>- .69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barley</td>
<td></td>
<td>7.00</td>
<td>5.25</td>
<td>1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MERIDIAN:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Wheat (wt)</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.90</td>
<td>4.80</td>
<td>- .10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEWISTON:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Wheat</td>
<td></td>
<td>5.70</td>
<td>5.75</td>
<td>+ .05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Red Winter</td>
<td></td>
<td>6.45</td>
<td>5.80</td>
<td>- .65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dark N. Spring</td>
<td></td>
<td>7.40</td>
<td>6.51</td>
<td>- .97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barley</td>
<td></td>
<td>141.50</td>
<td>136.50</td>
<td>- .50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### LIVESTOCK PRICES

#### FEEDER STEERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight Range</th>
<th>5/22/2018</th>
<th>6/22/2018</th>
<th>Trend</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 500 lbs</td>
<td>150-207</td>
<td>160-201</td>
<td>+ 10 to + 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500-700 lbs</td>
<td>135-194</td>
<td>141-178</td>
<td>+ 6 to + 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>700-900 lbs</td>
<td>117-153</td>
<td>121-156</td>
<td>+ 4 to + 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### FEEDER HEIFERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight Range</th>
<th>5/22/2018</th>
<th>6/22/2018</th>
<th>Trend</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 500 lbs</td>
<td>127-169</td>
<td>137-189</td>
<td>+ 10 to + 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500-700 lbs</td>
<td>125-156</td>
<td>126-177</td>
<td>+ 1 to + 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>700-900 lbs</td>
<td>118-137</td>
<td>110-140</td>
<td>Steady to + 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### HOLSTEIN STEERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight Range</th>
<th>5/22/2018</th>
<th>6/22/2018</th>
<th>Trend</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 700 lbs</td>
<td>70-110</td>
<td>71-99</td>
<td>+ 1 to - 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 700 lbs</td>
<td>73-101</td>
<td>68-86</td>
<td>- 5 to - 15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### COWS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>5/22/2018</th>
<th>6/22/2018</th>
<th>Trend</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Utility/Commercial</td>
<td>53-78</td>
<td>57-85</td>
<td>+ 4 to + 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canner &amp; Cutter</td>
<td>53-70</td>
<td>50-74</td>
<td>- 3 to + 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stock Cows</td>
<td>1125-1300</td>
<td>1125-1300</td>
<td>Steady</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### BULLS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>5/22/2018</th>
<th>6/22/2018</th>
<th>Trend</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Slaughter</td>
<td>64-99</td>
<td>70-107</td>
<td>+ 6 to - 8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### BEAN PRICES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variety</th>
<th>5/22/2018</th>
<th>6/22/2018</th>
<th>Trend</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pinto</td>
<td>21.00-24.00</td>
<td>29.00-30.00</td>
<td>+ 8.00 to + 6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garbanzo</td>
<td>35.00-40.00</td>
<td>30.00-38.00</td>
<td>- 5.00 to - 2.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Compiled by the Idaho Farm Bureau Commodity Division
IDAHO HAY REPORT
USDA Market News, Moses Lake, WA

Tons: 4650  Last Week: 1200  Last Year: 1600

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

POTATOES & ONIONS
June 19 2018
Potatoes
UPPER VALLEY, TWIN FALLS-BURLINGTON DISTRICT, IDAHO -- Shipments 708-814-732(includes exports of 12-18-05) --- Movement expected to remain about the same. Trading moderate. Prices generally unchanged. Russet Burbank U.S. One baled 10-5 pound film bags non size A mostly 5.50, 50-pound cartons 40-50s mostly 12.00, 60-70s mostly 14.00, 80s mostly 13.50-14.00, 90s mostly 11.00, 100s mostly 10.00.

5 YEAR GRAIN COMPARISON

MILK PRODUCTION
June 19, 2018
May Milk Production up 0.9 Percent
Milk production in the 23 major States during May totaled 17.9 billion pounds, up 0.9 percent from May 2017. April revised production, at 17.3 billion pounds, was up 0.5 percent from April 2017. The April revision represented a decrease of 18 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month’s preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 2,052 pounds for May, 15 pounds above May 2017. This is the highest production per cow for the month of May since the 23 State series began in 2003. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.74 million head, 10,000 head more than May 2017, and 2,000 head more than April 2018.

May Milk Production in the United States up 0.8 Percent
Milk production in the United States during May totaled 19.1 billion pounds, up 0.8 percent from May 2017. Production per cow in the United States averaged 2,031 pounds for May, 15 pounds above May 2017. The number of milk cows on farms in the United States was 9.40 million head, 3,000 head more than May 2017, and 2,000 head more than April 2018.

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

June 25, 2018

Cash Cattle

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

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

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

Slaughter the week of June 3rd was 658,000 head

June 10th was 654,000 head

June 17th was 664,000 head – 25,000 head over last year.

These are large numbers and will work through heavy supplies of fed cattle, however the composition of sales of those cattle is anything but transparent.

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

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

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

The weekly breakdown of fed cattle moving to the beef processing plants is as follows. 1) 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 cutout continued lower losing over $5 from one week ago. Retailers are now purchasing for post holiday store needs. The choice/select spread is fairly stable and demand good for both forward bought and current shipments.

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

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

Farm Equipment

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


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

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

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


Real Estate/Acreage


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

Miscellaneous


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

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

Wanted

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

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

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

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

IDEAHO FARM BUREAU PRODUCER / JULY 2018 39
Farm Bureau Members Pay Less

www.idahofbstore.com
208-239-4279

Lagoon

General Admission Regular Price: $62.95 w/tax
Farm Bureau Price: $45.50 Includes Sales Tax
Purchase at select Farm Bureau offices.

Roaring Springs

Regular Adult $33.91 tax included
Farm Bureau Price $26.50

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

Wah-hooz

Regular Adult $43.99
Farm Bureau Online Discount Price $36.99
Child/ (Under 60”) $36.99
Farm Bureau Online Discount Price $31.49

Silverwood Theme Park

Save $5
Ages (8 - 64)

Save $3
Ages (3-7)

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