



VOL. 9, NO. 10

OCTOBER 2009

KENTUCKY

FARM BUREAU NEWS



KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU CERTIFIED ROADSIDE FARM MARKETS

~ Something for all seasons ~

The Kentucky Farm Bureau Certified Roadside Farm Market sign welcomes you to some of Kentucky's best farm markets, providing quality products and service at reasonable prices. Visit one of these Roadside Farm Markets for flowers, fruits & vegetables, landscaping, family fun, and much more.

West

- Broadbent B & B Foods**
Eddyville • (800) 841-2202
- Cates Farm**
Henderson • (270) 823-6150
- D & M Produce**
Ledbetter • (270) 898-6312
- J Potts Nursery & Greenhouse**
Kirksey • (270) 293-6882
- Lost Valley Farm**
Bremen • (270) 525-9720
- Scott Hams**
Greenville • (270) 338-3402
- Stone Hill Honey Country Store**
Spottsville • (270) 826-2767
- The Country Barn**
Elkton • (270) 885-4843
- Trunnell's Farm Market**
Utica • (270) 733-2222
- Turner Valley Produce**
Russellville • (270) 726-3983

East

- Bennett's Mill Covered Bridge**
South Shore • (606) 932-3636
- Black Barn Produce, LLC**
River • (606) 297-2600
- Bramble Ridge Orchard**
Mt. Sterling • (859) 498-9123
- Fannin's Vegetables**
West Liberty • (606) 743-3343
- Imel's Greenhouse**
Greenup • (606) 473-1708
- Townsend's Sorghum Mill**
Jeffersonville • (606) 498-4142

North Central

- Ayres Family Orchard**
Owenton • (502) 484-5236
- Beech Springs Farm Market**
Winchester • (859) 744-2868
- Benton Farms U-Pick**
Walton • (859) 485-7000
- Bi-Water Farm & Greenhouse**
Georgetown • (502) 863-3676
- Bray Orchard & Roadside Market**
Bedford • (502) 255-3607
- Boyd's Orchard**
Versailles • (859) 873-3097
- Callis Orchard**
Bedford • (502) 255-3316
- Caswell Farms**
Carlisle • (859) 749-0385
- Cheek's Produce**
Taylorsville • (502) 477-1277
- Country Corner Greenhouse**
Shepherdsville • (502) 955-8635
- Deutsch Farm**
Taylorsville • (502) 252-1400
- Elk Creek Vineyards**
Owenton • (502) 484-0005
- Evans Orchard**
Georgetown • (502) 863-2255
- Farm Haven**
Union • (859) 384-1547
- Foxhollow Farm Market**
Crestwood • (502) 241-6869
- Gallrein Farms**
Shelbyville • (502) 633-4849
- George Gagel Truck Farm**
Louisville • (502) 447-6809
- Interstate Greenhouse & Nursery**
Carrollton • (800) 830-6429
- Julie's Pumpkins**
Paris • (859) 987-4498
- Kinman Farms**
Burlington • (859) 689-2682
- Lan Mark Farm**
Sharpsburg • (859) 383-4454

Michels Family Farm

Sparta • (859) 643-2511

"R" Farm Pumpkins & More

Maysville • (606) 742-2429

Reed Valley Orchard

Paris • (859) 987-6480

Ridgeview Greenhouse & Nursery

Shepherdsville • (502) 955-5939

River View Greenhouses

Hebron • (859) 689-9511

Sherwood Acres Beef

LaGrange • (502) 222-4326

Sweet Home Spun in the Low Dutch Meetinghouse

Pleasureville • (502) 878-4814

Sunny Acres

Jeffersontown • (502) 643-6584

Thieneman's Herbs & Perennials

Louisville • (502) 491-6305

Tower View Farm & Nursery

Jeffersontown • (502) 267-2066

Yuletide Tree Farm & Nursery

Winchester • (859) 771-4729

Habegger's Amish Market

Scottsville • (270) 618-5676

Haney's Appledale Farm

Nancy • (606) 636-6148

Hettmansperger Farm

Science Hill • (606) 423-4668

Hinton's Orchard & Farm Market

Hodgenville • (270) 325-3854

Jackson's Orchard & Nursery

Bowling Green • (270) 781-5303

Kenny's Farmhouse Cheese

Austin • (270) 434-4124

Lee's Garden Center

Hodgenville • (270) 358-9897

Mammoth Cave Transplants

Brownsville • (270) 597-2533

Maple Hill Manor Alpaca & Llama Fiber Farm & Studio

Springfield • (859) 336-3075

Sinking Valley Vineyard & Winery

Somerset • (606) 274-0223

St. Catherine Farm

St. Catherine • (859) 805-1278

Stephens' Nursery & Fresh Produce

Russell Springs (270) 343-2295

Stonemeadow Farm Fresh

Danville • (859) 239-8664

Three Springs Farm

Elizabethtown • (270) 360-0644

Warren Farm Greenhouse

Richmond • (859) 328-7005

Winward Oaks Farm & Orchard

Harrodsburg • (859) 734-0027

Wonder of Life Farm

Lancaster • (859) 792-8923

South Central

Acres of Land Winery

Richmond • (859) 328-3000

Baldwin Farms

Richmond • (859) 582-5785

Burton's Nursery & Garden Center

Campbellsville • (270) 789-1239

Chaney's Dairy Barn

Bowling Green • (270) 843-5567

Chateau de Vieux Corbeau Winery

Danville • (859) 236-1775

Dennison's Roadside Market

Horse Cave • (270) 786-1663

Fairview Pumpkin Farm

Harrodsburg • (859) 734-2701

Flaggy Meadow Fiber Works

Springfield • (859) 336-7272

**Many Roadside Markets
have seasonal hours.
Please call ahead for days,
times, and seasonal
product selection.**



“COMMENT”

I don't have enough space here to point out all of the problems facing dairy farmers today, but there's a simple description of the situation: It has hit rock bottom.

Dairy farming unfortunately is on the same path that reshaped our pork industry – get big or get out. Under the current structure, small producers (and by that I mean those under 500 head or so) are in serious jeopardy. Here in Kentucky, where the industry is dominated by small operations, the number of dairy farms just fell to below a thousand. Thirty years ago we had over 6,000. We've lost a thousand in the past 10 years.

Dairy operations across the country are taking an enormous hit as farm milk prices have plunged to about half of what they were a year ago. This has forced many producers to dip into savings or borrow against equity to make ends meet. Currently my feed bill eats up about 70 percent of my milk check, leaving very little for other expenses.

I know producers milking far more than my 55 head who are on the brink of quitting the business.

Dairy farmers are used to rainy days caused by the ebbs and flows of the market. But this time it's a monsoon. There are many reasons for this economic disaster, but oversupply of milk, falling exports and high feed costs are the primary culprits.

Our dairy industry used to be fairly isolated. Now it's globalized. When the export market is strong like it was last summer, we do well. When it is weak, domestic use of our dairy products is not enough to prop the market back up. And we have a perishable product that must move into the marketplace each day. We can't store it in a bin and wait for prices to improve.

With Farm Bureau's policy development process in full swing, we will be taking a close look at the dairy program and considering changes that can temper the huge swings in supply and demand. Some type of formula to control how much milk goes to processors would seem to be warranted. Whatever the method, we simply must find a way to bring some sense of stability to this industry because these periodic downturns continue to drive dairy farmers out of the business.



Kelly Thurman

CHAIRMAN

KFB DAIRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ON THE COVER:

A SOYBEAN FIELD IN BULLITT COUNTY
PHOTO BY ROGER NESBITT

Kentucky Farm Bureau NEWS is published monthly by the Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation and mailed to all regular members. Bulk postage rate is paid at Lebanon Junction, KY. Changes in address and/or your comments should be mailed to:

Kentucky Farm Bureau Communications Division
PO Box 20700
Louisville, Kentucky, 40250

Kentucky Farm Bureau is a voluntary organization of farm families and their allies dedicated to serving as the voice of agriculture by identifying problems, developing solutions and taking actions which will improve net farm income, achieve better economic opportunities and enhance the quality of life for all.

KFB OFFICERS

Mark Haney	President
John C. Hendricks	1st Vice President
Eddie Melton	2nd Vice President
David S. Beck	Executive Vice President

KFB DIRECTORS

Randall Heath	Hickory
Tripp Furches	Murray
Kelly Thurman	Livermore
Eddie Melton	Sebree
Steve Bolinger	Pembroke
J. Fritz Giesecke	Horse Cave
Larry Thomas	Elizabethtown
Patrick Henderson	Irvington
Russell Poore	Russellville
Jay Coleman	Cave City
Scott Travis	Cox's Creek
Randy Chrisman	Lawrenceburg
David Chappell	Owenton
Terry Rowlett	Campbellsburg
Mark Haney	Nancy
Danny Wilkinson	Columbia
Kim McCoy	Burkesville
Terry Gilbert	Danville
David L. Campbell	Stanford
John C. Hendricks	Winchester
Alex Barnett	Cynthiana
David McGlone	Grayson
Carroll Amyx	Campton
Charlie Bengé	London
Bige Hensley	Manchester
Marshall Coyle	Owingsville
Frieda Heath	Hickory
Greg Harris	Richmond
Terry Patterson	Elizabethtown
Scott Smith	Lexington
Debbie Anderson	Shelbyville
Kevin Lyons	Tompkinsville

KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU NEWS

Editor	Roger Nesbitt
Production Asst.	Brittany Ogaldez
Graphic Designer	Donia Simmons
	Pioneer Publishing
	Lexington, KY

“The Voice of Kentucky Agriculture”
www.kyfb.com

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

KFB DAIRY GROUP WANTS OVERHAUL OF PRICING SYSTEM

KFB's Dairy Advisory Committee is calling for an overhaul of the federal milk pricing system in order to bring stability to an industry with a long history of market extremes.

Kentucky's dairy farmers currently are reeling from a downturn caused by an oversupply of milk. Farm milk prices are about half of what they were a year ago. Most, if not all, Kentucky dairymen are operating at a significant loss.

The dairy committee, chaired by KFB Director Kelly Thurman of McLean County, held a four-hour meeting last month geared mainly on how to fix what several members called "a broken system" of determining farm milk prices. The dairy program is widely regarded as the most complex and confusing price control system in agriculture.

Committee member Stewart Gritton of Anderson County made a comment reflecting the prevailing attitude, saying: "We've done the same thing we've been doing for 40 years and are getting the same results. We're doing a lot of good things in this industry but we still really don't know how milk is priced. The system is broke."

Noting that economic crisis in the dairy industry has become a routine, cyclical occurrence under the program, Marion County dairyman Joe Paul Mattingly said "this thing fixes itself in time, but there are always casualties."

He was alluding to the continuing shakeout of dairy farms. Kentucky recently fell below 1,000 dairy farms, as compared to 6,000 30 years ago. The U.S. has lost 100,000 dairy farms since 1992.

Mattingly made that statement to underscore the need for a change that will halt the contraction of dairy farms. He was the most vocal proponent of a supply management program. However, Thurman cautioned that such a policy would be contrary to Farm Bureau's "free market" position, plus would be extremely difficult to enact through a U.S. Congress that is wary of quota or production control methods in agriculture. Several committee members voiced agreement with that assessment.

After well over an hour of debate,

Kentucky Dairy Development Council Executive Director Maury Cox articulated the group's dilemma, noting the difficulty of developing a specific solution. "The problem for everybody is that we don't fully know the ramifications (of potential program changes) because the system is so complex," he said.

After mulling over several ideas, the committee decided to simply adopt a general statement recommending changes to the federal milk pricing system. "The important thing," said Thurman, "is that this committee needed to express a desire for change. We can work toward the details as the process moves forward."

The committee also recommends policy encouraging 100 percent dairy farmer participation in the "Cooperatives Working Together" (CWT) program to reduce the nation's dairy herd. Thus far the "buyout" program has removed about 200,000 dairy cows.

In other committee proceedings, Chris Thompson of UK's Regulatory Services Division spoke about a national security program and the restructuring of the state's milk inspection program, Mac Stone of the Kentucky Department of Agriculture spoke about the Kentucky Proud Program, Eunice Schlappi of KDA addressed upcoming dairy industry events, UK dairy economist Dr. Jeffrey Bewley offered advice on handling adversity and State Veterinarian Dr. Robert Stout gave an update on dairy health programs.

Following are brief summaries from other committee meetings:

ENERGY AND TRANSPORTATION

The introductions included recognition of special guest Bill Corum, president-elect of the Kentucky Association of Electric Cooperatives. He will be succeeding long-time KAEC President Ron Sheets.

Rick Krause, AFBF's senior director of Congressional Relations, spoke to the group on a conference call, providing an overview of the cap-and-trade legislation that AFBF vigorously opposes. "We see this as a net loss to farmers and ranchers," Krause explained after detailing how

the measure could lead to higher energy and input costs. AFBF, he said, is calling for an international agreement on controlling greenhouse gases.

Krause also noted that AFBF has been granted "observer" status for an upcoming United Nations conference on global warming.

Don Yates, KAEC's Vice President of Government Affairs, explained why electric co-ops were opposed to the cap-and-trade bill. He described the proposal as "an economic disaster" for Kentucky, saying the state would only receive 59 percent of the carbon allowances it would require, thereby forcing it to buy the remaining credits from other states. The formula for establishing allowances greatly favors northeast and Pacific Coast states while penalizing southern and Midwest states, Yates said.

Lona Brewer of the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet gave an overview of Economic Recovery Act Programs in the state. She noted that the Kentucky Farm Efficiency and Renewable Energy Partnership should be of particular interest to KFB because it provides cost-share funding for on-farm improvements. Kentucky's program has a \$2 million budget, she said.

Next presenter was Matt Bullock, District 5 Chief Engineer for the Kentucky Department of Transportation. He gave an overview of the state's six-year road plan, focusing on the funding structure. Many projects are on hold right now due to a depleted road fund, he said.

Turning to policy, the committee approved a recommendation expressing opposition to municipal water utilities raising rates on rural districts and small communities in order to pay for expanding their water plant.

KFB Director David Campbell of Lincoln County is chairman of the Energy and Transportation Committee.

FORAGE

This meeting was held at the Anderson County Extension Office in conjunction with a meeting of the Kentucky Forage and Grasslands Council and their summer grazing and hay production field day.

UK forage specialist Dr. Garry

Lacefield updated the group on research projects and forthcoming meetings and events. His colleague, Dr. Ray Smith, spoke about a “forages for fuel” program which involves switchgrass production in a partnership with East Kentucky Power. Dr. Smith noted that cost-share funding for switchgrass production is available through the EQIP and BCAP programs.

Kim Fields then gave a report on the Kentucky Department of Agriculture’s hay testing program. She said despite a decline in personnel numbers they are continuing to meet a 10-day turnaround period on testing.

Following a break Dr. Lacefield gave an update on the Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council and touched on the master grazer program. Dr. Smith then spoke about the council’s equine initiative.

KFB staffer Jeff Harper gave an update on KFB’s animal care task force and the group discussed plans for the forage conference at KFB’s annual meeting.

One policy recommendation was adopted, urging the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources to work with the extension service to ensure that native grass production is managed properly.

KFB Director Terry Rowlett of Henry County is chairman of the Forage Committee.

EDUCATION

This group met at the Shelby County FB office and toured the community and technical college in Shelbyville. School Director Dr. John Wieland headed the tour. He said the school offers more than 150 classes per semester and has 1,200 students.

State Rep. Carl Rollins, who chairs the House Education Committee, addressed the group, reviewing some of the education-related legislation that emerged from the 2009 session. He also explained the new standardized testing system that is replacing CATS.

This committee had a number of policy proposals. It wants language stating “we support lowering the classroom teacher-to-student ratio while maintaining adequate staffing of schools.” Another proposal reads “we support local school districts in providing professional development and/or workshops to improve teaching methods of new and ineffective teachers.” A related suggestion endorses an effectiveness rating system. The com-

mittee also favors policy recommending agriculture biology and math courses in high school ag programs. On the national policy level, the committee wants to see federal antitrust oversight of school milk and lunch contracts.

Chairman of the Education Committee is KFB Director Terry Gilbert of Boyle County.

COTTON

This meeting was held at the Fulton County FB office. Committee member John Lindamood gave an update on the boll weevil eradication program in Tennessee. He said the program is 100 percent funded and is in a post-eradication phase. He noted that he is the only Kentucky farmer growing the crop, with about 200 acres.

KFB staffer L. Joe Cain then spoke about Congressional issues of importance to Kentucky agriculture. There was discussion about crop insurance and the lack of a replant provision in Kentucky. The committee asked KFB to explore the issue.

No policy changes were recommended. Fulton County FB President Glenn Howell is chairman of the Cotton Committee.

POLITICAL EDUCATION

This committee met at KFB’s legislative office in Frankfort. Jack Brammer, the veteran state government and political reporter for the Lexington Herald-Leader, spoke about the polling process and use of polling data plus offered some political perspectives. Brammer was followed by Roger Thomas, Executive Director of the Governor’s Office of Agricultural Policy. He reviewed GOAP programs.

Drew Graham of the UK College of Agriculture spoke about the “ag roundup” activities scheduled for October 23-24 at the UK campus. He also noted that UK was ranked as a top ten school in research.

Les Fugate, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, reviewed the special state senate election and gave an overview for next year’s political scene. He also mentioned a program that allows citizens to vote in honor of a veteran.

KFB’s L. Joe Cain reviewed plans for the 2009 and 2010 Campaign Management Seminars. There were no policy recommendations.

KFB Second Vice President Eddie Melton of Webster County is chairman of the Political Education Committee.

RISE AND SHINE

~ Or clean. Or sharpen. ~



PowerFold

Lift with your finger. Not your back.

With our PowerFold® option, our FrontMount™ DuraMax® decks can be lifted at the touch of a switch to an upright position to make maintenance easy and storage a breeze.

<p>MADISONVILLE POWER MACHINERY 270-322-8181</p> <p>RICHMOND BISHOP'S SMALL ENGINE REPAIR 859-624-1893 www.bishopssmallenginerepair.com</p>	<p>SHEPHERDSVILLE 2M TRACTOR & LAWN 502-543-4359</p> <p>WINCHESTER ADVANCED TURF EQUIPMENT 859-744-6119</p>
---	---



YOUR NEXT MOWER®
© 2008 The Grasshopper Company

Visit grasshoppermower.com for more information.

STAINLESS STEEL

Outside Woodburning Heater



Features...

25-year warranty Low Maintenance

No smoke, ash or wood trash in your home

Connects to existing systems UL Listed®

Standard with bronze pump, combustion Blower and grates



FedUp
with high heating bills!

We Have the Solution!

1-800-542-7395
www.hardyheater.com

SOCIETY SHOULD LISTEN TO FARMERS

Editor's Note: This is an excerpt from an article Missouri Farm Bureau Vice President Blake Hurst wrote for "The American," a publication from the American Enterprise Institute. Mr. Hurst is a farmer and freelance writer who has authored a book "Real Life" and has been widely published, including by The Wall Street Journal and Reader's Digest. This entire article can be found on AFBF's web site under the link for "FB News." Under "archives" go to August 24.

I'm dozing, as I often do on airplanes, but the guy behind me has been broadcasting nonstop for nearly three hours. I finally admit defeat and start some serious eavesdropping. He's talking about food, damning farming, particularly livestock farming, compensating for his lack of knowledge with volume.

I'm so tired of people who wouldn't visit a doctor who used a stethoscope instead of an MRI demanding that farmers like me use 1930s technology to raise food. Farming has always been messy and painful, and bloody and dirty. It still is. But now we have to listen to self-appointed experts on airplanes frightening their seatmates about the profession.

I have practiced for more than 30 years. I'd had enough. I turned around and politely told the lecturer that he ought not to believe everything he reads. He quieted and asked me what kind of farming I do. I told him, and when he asked if I used organic farming, I said no, and left it at that. I didn't answer with the first thought that came to mind, which is simply this: I deal in the real world, not superstitions, and unless the consumer absolutely forces my hand, I am about as likely to adopt organic methods as the Wall Street Journal is to publish their next edition by setting the type by hand.

He was a businessman, and I'm sure spends his days with spreadsheets, projections and marketing studies. He hasn't used a slide rule in his career and wouldn't make projections with tea leaves or soothsayers. He does not

blame witchcraft for a bad quarter, or expect the factory that makes his product to use steam power instead of electricity, or horses and wagons to deliver his products instead of trucks and trains. But he expects me to farm like my grandfather, and not incidentally, I suppose, to live like him as well. He thinks farmers are too stupid to farm sustainably, too cruel to treat their animals well and too careless to worry about their communities, their health and their families. I would not presume to criticize his car, or the size of his house, or the way he runs his business. But he is an expert about me, on the strength of one book, and is sharing that expertise with captive audiences every time he gets the chance. Enough, enough, enough.

Critics of "industrial farming" spend most of their time concerned with the processes by which food is raised. This is because the results of organic production are so, well, troublesome. With the subtraction of every "unnatural" additive, molds, fungus and bugs increase. Since it is difficult to sell a religion with so many readily quantifiable bad results, the trusty family farmer has to be thrown into the breach, saving the whole organic movement by his saintly presence, chewing on his straw, plodding along, at one with his environment, his community, his neighborhood. Except that some of the largest farms in the country are organic—and are giant organizations dependent upon lots of hired stoop labor doing the most backbreaking of tasks in order to save the sensitive conscience of my fellow passenger the merest whiff of pesticide contamination. They do not spend much time talking about that at the Whole Foods store.

The most delicious irony is this: the parts of farming that are the most "industrial" are the most likely to be owned by the kind of family farmers that elicit such a positive response from the consumer. Corn farms are almost all owned and managed by small family farmers. But corn farmers salivate at the thought of one more biotech break-

through, use vast amounts of energy to increase production and raise large quantities of an indistinguishable commodity to sell to huge corporations that turn that corn into thousands of industrial products. Most livestock is produced by family farms, and even the poultry industry, with its contracts and vertical integration, relies on family farms to contract for the production of the birds. Despite the obvious change in scale over time, family farms, like ours, still meet around the kitchen table, send their kids to the same small schools, sit in the same church pew and belong to the same civic organizations our parents and grandparents did.

We may be industrial by some definition, but not our own. Farmers can raise food in different ways if that is what the market wants. It is important, though, that even people in airplanes know that there are environmental and food safety costs to whatever kind of farming we choose.

Much of farming is more "industrial," more technical and more complex than it used to be. Farmers farm more acres and are less close to the ground and their animals than they were in the past. Almost all critics of industrial agriculture bemoan this loss of closeness, this "connectedness," to use author Rod Dreher's term. It is a given in most of the writing about agriculture that the knowledge and experience of the organic farmer is what makes him so unique and important. The "industrial farmer," on the other hand, is a mere pawn of Cargill, backed into his ignorant way of life by forces too large, too far from the farm and too powerful to resist. Concern about this alienation, both between farmers and the land and between consumers and their food supply, is what drives much of the literature about agriculture.

The distance between the farmer and what he grows has certainly increased, but, believe me, if we weren't closely connected, we wouldn't still be farming. It's important to our critics that they emphasize this alienation, because they have to ignore the "industrial" farmer's experience and

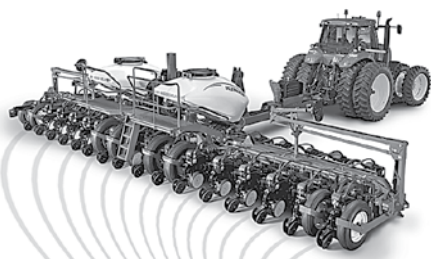
knowledge to say the things they do about farming. But farmers have reasons for their actions, and society should listen to them as we embark upon this reappraisal of our agricultural system.

I use chemicals and diesel fuel to accomplish the tasks my grandfather used to do with sweat, and I use a computer instead of a lined notebook and a pencil, but I'm still farming the same land he did 80 years ago, and the fund of knowledge that our family has accumulated about our small part of Missouri is valuable. And everything I know and I have learned tells me this: we have to farm "industrially" to feed the world, and by using those "industrial" tools sensibly, we can accomplish that task and leave my grandchildren a prosperous and productive farm, while protecting the land, water and air around us.

If we are about to require more expensive ways of producing food, the largest and most well-capitalized farms will have the least trouble adapting. Farmers have reasons for their actions, and society should listen to them as we embark upon this reappraisal of our agricultural system.

Your hours of operation
have just been extended.

Less time filling.
More time planting.



3660 ASD TWIN-LINE® PLANTER

- Field tested with more standard technology features than any other planter in its class.
- Features the Kinze® Air Seed Delivery system with twin 55 bushel hoppers to plant up to 260 acres with just one fill.
- Available in 12 and 16 row sizes.

BEECH GROVE
WARD IMPLEMENT COMPANY INC.
270-273-3206
1-800-264-0206

CLINTON
TRI-COUNTY EQUIP. CO., INC.
270-653-2381
<http://www.tri-countyequipmentinc.com>

MORGANFIELD
H & S FARM SUPPLY, LLC
270-389-3593

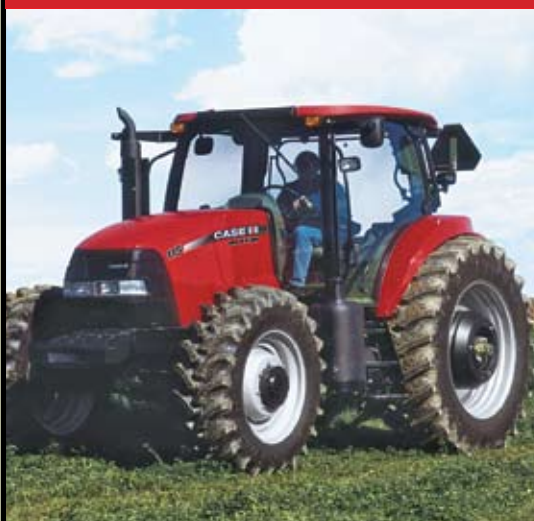
KINZE

THE GANG'S ALL HERE



THE 2009-2010 LEADERSHIP ENHANCEMENT FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (LEAD) CLASS TOOK PART IN A TEAMBUILDING EXERCISE AT THE ASBURY COLLEGE CHALLENGE COURSE NEAR WILMORE. AFTERWARD, THE GROUP STOPPED AT THIS OVERLOOK ABOVE A KENTUCKY RIVER GORGE.

Farm Bureau Membership just got better! Members can now save up to \$500*!



Save \$300 off Farmall DXE & DXL series



Save \$500 off JX series

CASE IH™ and the Kentucky Farm Bureau are proud to announce their membership discount program valid on Case IH™ Farmall tractors, JX Series tractors and Case IH™ Maxxum Series tractors.

Case IH is proud to partner
with the Kentucky Farm Bureau.

* Offer restricted to Iowa, Illinois, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Tennessee Farm Bureau members. Customer must be a resident and hold membership for 30 days within one of the eligible states. Present a valid Farm Bureau membership card at time of purchase to qualify. Farm Bureau and the Farm Bureau National Logo are registered service marks owned by the American Farm Bureau Federation, and are used by CNH America LLC under license from the American Farm Bureau Federation and the Kentucky Farm Bureau. Case IH and CNH Capital are registered trademarks of CNH America LLC. ©2007 CNH America LLC., 700 State Street, Racine, WI 53404 USA. All rights reserved.



ELIZABETHTOWN
JACOBI SALES INC.
800-730-2655
jacobisales.com

HOPKINSVILLE
H & R AGRI-POWER
800-844-3918
hragripower.com

MORGANFIELD
H & R AGRI-POWER
800-869-1421
hragripower.com

RUSSELLVILLE
H & R AGRI-POWER
800-264-2474
hragripower.com

GLASGOW
J & J SALES INC.
800-669-5480
jandjsalesinc.com

MAYFIELD
H & R AGRI-POWER
800-455-4747
hragripower.com

OWENSBORO
H & R AGRI-POWER
800-264-1504
hragripower.com

SHELBYVILLE
JACOBI SALES INC.
800-730-2684
jacobisales.com

CNH CAPITAL
LENDING | LEASING | CREDIT CARDS | INSURANCE

CASE IH
AGRICULTURE



FARM PRODUCTION NEWS

FLIPPING THE SWITCH



Governor Beshear announces agriculture-energy programs

More than \$2 million in Kentucky's economic stimulus funds will be available for on-farm energy conservation, renewable energy production and regional renewable energy projects. The projects will be coordinated through a partnership of the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy and the Energy and Environment Cabinet.

Governor Steve Beshear, GOAP Executive Director Roger Thomas and Energy Cabinet Secretary Len Peters announced the initiative at a news conference held on Doug Langley's farm in Shelby County. A long-time leader in Shelby County FB, Langley was selected to host the news conference because he has implemented a number of energy-efficient measures on his farm (including the grain bins that served as a backdrop for the news conference) and was named "Kentucky

Farmer of the Year" in a contest coordinated by KFB.

(Langley will represent Kentucky at this month's Southeastern Farmer of the Year contest held as part of the Sunbelt Ag Expo in Moultrie, Georgia.)

The two new programs will work in different ways to promote an energy-agriculture partnership. Part of the funds will go for on-farm projects, including renewable fuel production, and will work in tandem with the "On-farm Energy Efficiency and Production" investment area of the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund.

The remaining portion is for the Multi-county Collaborative Agricultural Energy Initiatives Program, complementing the ag development funds for multi-county projects that advance renewable energy production.

"We are positioning agriculture to

be a leader in the development of alternative energy sources," said Governor Beshear. "We intend to expand the average of energy efficient crops. This whole energy area is a great new opportunity for agriculture."

Beshear said he was pleased by the progress made by the state's agricultural development initiative and encouraged by how that initiative can work in tandem with the new energy programs. "I'm excited about the future of agriculture in our state," he said.

He concluded the program by presenting Langley with a plaque recognizing the Kentucky Farmer of the Year award. Langley said he was honored to have been selected to host the news conference. He also noted that he has utilized ag development funds to improve his farm operation.

MUHLENBERG COUNTY HOLDS CUSTOMER APPRECIATION EVENT



One of the attractions was sidetracked by an emergency, but a cookout and some other interesting displays made it a fun time at the Customer Appreciation Event conducted by Muhlenberg County FB.

Dozens of loyal members filled the front lawn at the agency in Greenville to enjoy hot dogs and hamburgers and some camaraderie with agency manager Ricky Hoskins and county FB leaders. Dale Dobson, the personable farm safety specialist for the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, was there along with his tractor and ATV safety displays. The tractor exhibit which shows how a driver can be crushed in a rollover accident always draws a crowd.

Meanwhile, the front parking lot was filled with GM and GMC trucks and SUVs from the county's two dealers; Mansfield GM of Greenville and Pogue Chevrolet of Central City. KFB has a member service program that provides a \$500 discount on the purchase of those products.

A Greenville-based emergency medical helicopter from PHI was only seconds from landing on the site when it received a call to report to an accident scene.

This marked the second year that Muhlenberg County FB held such an event. It has about 3,760 members. The event was advertised in local media plus through a sign alongside the heavily-traveled Greenville bypass.



TOP: MEMBERS ENJOYED A COOKOUT LUNCH AND SOME INTERESTING DISPLAYS.

MIDDLE: GM AND GMC VEHICLES WERE ON DISPLAY TO ENTICE BUYERS WITH THE MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNT.

BOTTOM: THE ROLLOVER TRACTOR AND ATV DISPLAYS WERE ON HAND AT MUHLENBERG COUNTY FB. AT RIGHT IS DALE DOBSON, KDA'S FARM SAFETY SPECIALIST.

Haney appointed to biofuels task force

Governor Steve Beshear appointed KFB President Mark Haney to a task force charged with facilitating the development of a sustainable biomass and biofuels industry in the state. The Executive Task Force on Biomass and Biofuels Development in Kentucky was given a list of goals, including to evaluate the status of energy crop and forestry biotechnology and genetics and recommend a plan of action. Governor Beshear also wants the group to make legislative proposals and to evaluate transportation, logistics and available business structures.

The 21-member task force is co-chaired by Roger Thomas, Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy; and Dr. Len Peters, Secretary of the Energy and Environment Cabinet. The task force also includes Rep. Tom McKee of Cynthiana, who is chairman of the House Agriculture Committee; Senate Ag Committee Chairman David Givens of Greensburg and Agriculture Commissioner Richie Farmer.



Weather or Not.

RTV1100
BEYOND THE ELEMENTS

The Kubota RTV1100 is the first utility vehicle to feature the protection, comfort, and quietness of a factory-installed Premium Grand Cab. It combines the luxury of a standard air-conditioner, heater and defroster with the rugged, hard-working durability you expect from a Kubota 242 HP diesel engine.

Not wind, not heat, not rain, not snow - nothing can stop you from being comfortable and productive. Weather or not - go beyond the elements.

CYNTHIANA
HAYDON EQUIPMENT INC.
859-234-4621
800-649-7683

MADISONVILLE
POWER MACHINERY
270-322-8181

MOUNT STERLING
AMBURGEY'S FARM MACHINERY INC.
859-498-1113
amburgeysinc@earthlink.net

STANFORD
LAWSON TRACTOR & IMPLEMENT II
859-854-3500
www.lawsontractor.com

Кубота

Financing is available to qualified customers through Kubota Credit Corporation U.S.A. For product or dealer information, visit www.kubota.com. ©2007 Kubota Tractor Corporation.

Kurtz

AUCTION & REALTY COMPANY
since 1945"

AUCTION CALENDAR

- ♦ **OCT. 14TH** 43.7 Ac ±, Home, Pole Barn, Farm Mach - Lvermore, KY
- ♦ **OCT. 24TH** 330 Ac ±, Crop, Pasture and Timber in 7 tracts Farm Machinery - Leopold, IN
- ♦ **DATE TO BE SET** 33 Ac ± Cropland - Sacramento, KY
- ♦ **DATE TO BE SET** 42 Ac, Home sites, 4 tracts - Owensboro, KY

For More Information
800-264-1204
www.kurtzauction.com



SLASH YOUR HEAT BILL UP TO 50%

Heat up to 1000 sq. ft. for pennies a day with an energy saving

Infrared Heating System

ENERGY EFFICIENT



PORTABLE - 110 VOLT

- Thermostat controlled
- Over 25 years and Hundreds of thousands of satisfied customers
- Will not reduce humidity or oxygen
- Lifetime air filter
- FULL 3 YEAR BUMPER TO BUMPER FACTORY WARRANTY
- Cannot start a fire
- Safe for children and pets
- Energy efficient safe, soft, comfortable, healthy heat
- Uses electricity (not gas or oil)
- Quality furniture-grade wood cabinet (NOT PLASTIC TO MELT OR PARTICLE BOARD THAT CAN DRY UP AND CRACK)
- Put the heat where you need it
- Even heat wall to wall and floor to ceiling
- Virtually Maintenance Free

Remote and Fireplace Models Available



DEALER INQUIRIES WELCOME

Produced, Distributed and Guaranteed by a 55 Year Old Family Owned Company
SUNHEAT SALES
3724 Arch Ave.
Grand Island, NE 68803

Sold Only By SUNHEAT Certified Dealers
For Information or your nearest dealer LOCATION:
Call 1-800-491-4690 Ext. 376
www.sunheat.com

INFRARED 1500 WATT HEATER COMPARISONS

COMPETITORS MODELS		SUNHEAT
CLAIMS	REALITIES	FACTS
CABINET Plastic & attractive wood cabinet	Most major competitors cabinets are plastic or have plastic fronts where the heat exhausts	All Wood Cabinet - including remote and fireplace models
WARRANTY Three Year Warranty	Read the warranty. Most parts are limited to one year by some competitors	Three year bumper to bumper backed by a fifty-five year old Nebraska Company
HEAT More heat	Some have no copper at all. Others only 5.9 to 12 oz. therefore they cannot produce as much heat or hold it as long as the SUNHEAT which makes competitor's models less efficient	24 oz. copper acting as a heat sink produces more heat than any other 1500 watt infrared heater
FAN Fan twice as quiet as competitor	None twice as quiet - one is 8 decibels quieter, most have a life expectancy of only 20,000 hours	Quiet fan with sealed ball bearings with an incredible 80,000 hour life expectancy
HEAT TUBES 20,000 hours	Wiring is very thin with life expectancy approx. 5000 hours. Some heaters have only been on the market one year or less.	6000 plus hours with heavy duty wiring and a three year guarantee easily replaceable by owner
QUALITY Good Quality	Electronics located close to heat exhaust with light wiring. Contracted out on a low bid basis to factories that do not specialize in building infrared heaters. For most, this is their first season of building infrared heaters and they are not quality controlled inspected in the U.S.	No electronics close to heat exhaust. All high quality heavy duty components and parts. Designed, engineered and guaranteed by a fifty-five year old Nebraska Company. Built in our own factory under watchful eyes and every heater is inspected in the U.S. by trained quality control inspectors

CHICKEN WINGS ARE STRONG

One major change in the broiler industry in 2009 has been the continued strength of wing prices. According to USDA, in 1999, wing prices in the Northeast market averaged 66 cents per pound and boneless/skinless (B/S) breast meat prices averaged \$1.57 -- a price difference of 91 cents. Over the years, the price differential has narrowed. Last year, prices for B/S breast meat still averaged 23 cents per pound above wing prices. Since the start of 2009, the price of wings has strengthened significantly; the average was \$1.43 per pound, a six-cent per pound premium over B/S breast meat. The premium reached ten cents in August.

A number of factors combined to push up wing prices. First, the number of broilers slaughtered over the first half of 2009 is down six percent from 2008, thus reducing the supply. Second, reported wing exports during the first six months of 2009 were 13 percent higher than in the first half of 2008. These factors helped lower stock levels. June 30 stocks of wings were 31.8 million pounds, down 19 percent from a year earlier. The lower supply, higher exports and improved demand, as more food service outlets offer wings, have combined to put upward pressure on wing prices.

SOYBEAN EXPORTS PROMISING

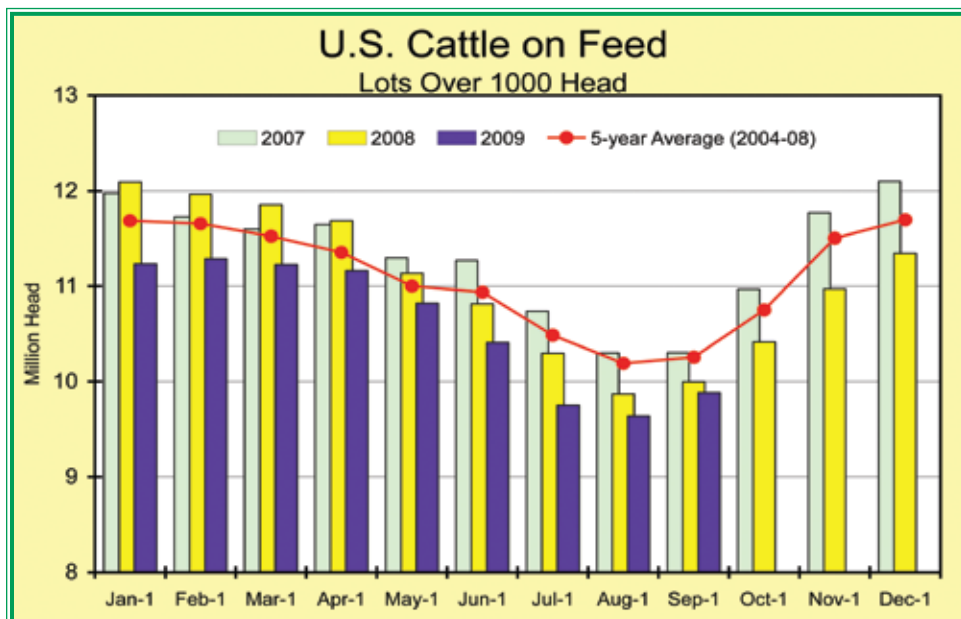
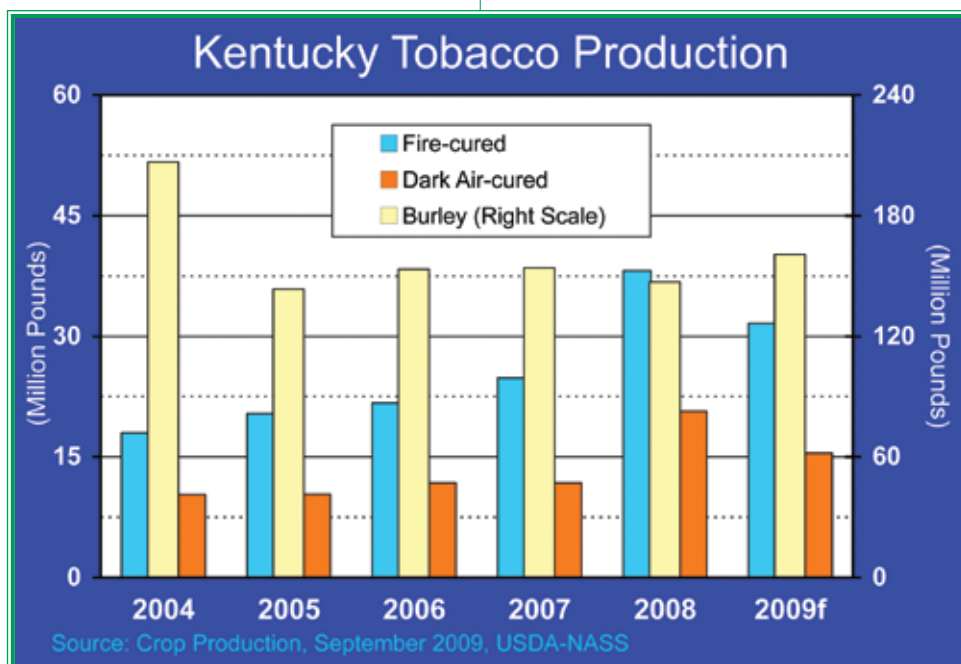
The 2009/10 marketing year for exports of soybeans, soybean meal and soybean oil is expected by USDA to be very good. Through September 17, soybean export sales were 89 percent ahead of the year ago pace, and soybean meal and soybean oil sales were more than double. The increase for soybeans is due mostly to China, our largest export customer. A short supply in South America and a weakening U.S. dollar have supported export demand. 2009/10 soybean exports are expected to total 1.28 billion bushels, equal to the 2008/09 marketing year. Soybean meal exports are forecast at 9.600 million tons, an increase of nine percent over last year, and just shy of the record high 9.615 million tons set in 1997. USDA expects soybean oil exports to increase nearly 50 percent to 3.25 billion pounds.

WEAK DOLLAR SLOWS BEEF IMPORTS

A steadily weakening U.S. dollar versus other countries' currencies has slowed U.S. beef imports from the levels seen earlier in 2009. USDA reported that for January-July 2009 the U.S. had imported 1.697 billion pounds of beef, a 13-percent increase over the same time period in 2008. USDA forecasted an 11 percent increase for the entire year, or a total of 2.815 billion pounds. Beef imports are expected to jump six percent more in 2010. After setting a five-year high in

April 2009, monthly imports from Australia have trended lower. Currency shifts have pushed more Australian beef to Japan and South Korea.

Through July 2009, the U.S. exported 1.021 billion pounds of beef, nearly unchanged from 2008. July-September exports will lag exceptionally high third-quarter 2008 totals. Thus, total beef exports for 2009 are expected to fall eight percent from 2008. A seven percent gain in 2010 would still put total beef exports short of the 2008 total of 1.888 billion pounds.



"Safety Day" in Union County



MISS KENTUCKY MALLORY ERVIN PARTICIPATED IN AN OUTDOOR SAFETY DAY EVENT CO-SPONSORED BY UNION COUNTY FB. THE PHOTO AT LEFT WAS TAKEN AT THE ELECTRICAL SAFETY STATION CONDUCTED BY BIG RIVERS AND KENERGY. THE EVENT WAS FOR ALL FIFTH GRADERS IN THE COUNTY. OTHER STATIONS INCLUDED A HEALTH PLATFORM THAT MISS ERVIN HANDLED, GUN SAFETY, ANIMAL SAFETY, WATER SAFETY, OUTDOOR SAFETY, FIRE SAFETY AND DRUG AWARENESS. NUMEROUS ORGANIZATIONS, AGENCIES AND BUSINESSES TEAMED UP TO CONDUCT THE POPULAR EVENT AT THE LEE K. NELSON LEARNING LAB

Farm groups throughout the state paused the week of September 20-26 to recognize National Farm Safety and Health Week with the special theme: "Rural Roadway Safety: Alert, Aware and Alive."

Statistics tell a story of far too many deaths and injuries that could have been avoided.

The National Safety Council estimates some 15,000 collisions involving farm vehicles occur on U.S. roadways each year. Farm equipment roadway collisions cause an average of 94 fatalities each year, according to the U.S. National Traffic Safety Administration's Fatality Analysis Reporting System.

Surveys note the most common time of day for collisions is between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. and left-turn, rear-end and passing collisions are the most common types of farm vehicle roadway accidents.

Following are a few tips for motorists and farm equipment operators to help make Kentucky's roadways safer during harvest season:

- Keep alert and watch closely for slow-moving vehicles, and slow down immediately upon spotting one. Most agricultural equipment travels at 25 miles per hour (mph) or less. A motorist traveling at 55 mph who is a football field's length behind a vehicle going 25 mph will close the distance in only five seconds.

- Farm equipment can be longer and wider than it appears. Motorists should be patient, since the farmer may not be able to move over to allow you to pass. Only pass farm equipment when it is safe to do so, with plenty of room to get around and ahead.

- Farmers must remember to place slow moving vehicle (SMV) emblems on equipment traveling at less than 25 mph and make sure they are clearly visible, clean and not faded.

- Farm equipment operators should use warning flashers as well as signal lights or proper hand signals to indicate to motorists their location and intentions in advance of turns.

- Slow moving vehicles should be driven in the right-hand lane as close to the road's edge as is safe, not half on the road, half on the shoulder. Equipment operators should not encourage or signal motorists when to pass but should pull over when safe to allow traffic to pass.

- Operators should consider using an escort vehicle and other warnings to oncoming motorists when moving wide equipment on roadways, especially at night.

FARM FILE



"PROUD" MEMBERS HAVE WORLD GAMES PROMO

Kentucky Proud farmers, producers, artists, and others have a unique opportunity for their products to be featured during the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games that will take place September 25 – October 10, 2010.

The Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy will serve as a partner in the "Kentucky Experience," during the games. This partnership with the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea and the Kentucky Department of Agriculture will feature and sample Kentucky Proud products during the 16-day event. Kentucky Proud members will have the opportunity for their products to be sold in the Kentucky Proud Product Pavilion, which will be located on the Horse Park grounds.

Kentucky Proud Members interested in having their products considered for resale at the Product Pavilion are being asked to complete a preliminary survey to gauge interest in participation by October 15. The form can also be obtained from <http://agweg.ky.gov>. If you are not a Kentucky Proud Member and would like to become one please go to www.kentuckyproud.com for an application.

There will be an application and selection process as planning for the Kentucky Proud Product Pavilion progresses. Please keep up-to-date on application information, by visiting <http://agweg.ky.gov>.

CONSERVATION POSTER AND ESSAY CONTEST

Entries are now being accepted for the 2009 Conservation Poster and Essay Contest sponsored by Kentucky Farm Bureau and the Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts. Contest resource material is available at conservation.ky.gov or kyfb.com/federation. This includes a teacher's guide, contest entry form and report forms.

The popular statewide program has a

writing contest for grades 6-12 and an art contest for grades 1-5. District winners receive a \$25 award, area winners get \$50 and the state winners receive \$250 for first place, \$150 for second place and \$50 for third place.

All entries must be received by the local conservation district office by December 1.

AFBF SEEKS AID FOR PORK, DAIRY SECTORS

America's pork and dairy producers have lost much of their equity over the last year. With a wave of restructuring and forced herd sales expected over the next few months, AFBF has asked President Barack Obama to initiate and continue several national measures to provide relief.

In a letter to Obama, AFBF President Bob Stallman expressed appreciation for ongoing Agriculture Department support for farmers hit by worsening economic conditions and he called for additional initiatives. Stallman asked Obama to transfer \$100 million to the Agriculture Department to purchase pork for domestic food and nutrition programs. The money would come from a \$1.85 billion package to fund the govern-

ment's response to issues related to H1N1 influenza. Stallman pointed out that part of today's decrease in pork prices is due to the widespread misuse of the term "swine flu" rather than the H1N1 virus, which caused pork prices to drop sharply in spite of the fact that pork remains safe to eat.

"Pork producers are facing dire circumstances and need the government to step up to purchase more product," Stallman stated. "The recent (price) for hogs is down \$25 per head in only the last four months. If the futures price is an accurate forecast of where hogs will be priced at year's end, producers will be losing \$50 per head. Even the futures price for next April indicates a \$25 per head loss."

"FLU" FIASCO IMPACTS CHINA'S PORK MARKET

About two-thirds of Chinese consumers stopped eating pork during the initial stages of the H1N1 influenza outbreak. Twenty percent of Chinese consumers erroneously believe if they eat pork they could get sick from the virus. That's according to the U.S. Meat Export Federation, which recently surveyed Chinese consumers to

determine their attitudes about pork.

About 55 percent of 1,200 consumers surveyed by USME said inaccurate media labeling of the H1N1 flu virus as "swine flu" contributed to their continued fear of eating pork.

China is both the world's largest producer and consumer of pork.

C O U N T Y A N N U A L M E E T I N G S

ANDERSON COUNTY

Date: October 12, 5:30 p.m.
Place: Eagle Lake Expo Center

BRECKINRIDGE COUNTY

Date: October 13, 6:00 p.m.
Place: High School

GREENUP COUNTY

Date: November 2, 6:00 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau office

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Date: November 12, 7:30 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau Building

LAUREL COUNTY

Date: October 20, 5:45 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau office

LAWRENCE COUNTY

Date: October 20, 6:00 p.m.
Place: Front Porch Restaurant, Louisa

MARION COUNTY

Date: October 12, 7:00 p.m.
Place: Lebanon Masonic Hall

TAYLOR COUNTY

Date: October 12, 6:00 p.m.
Place: Taylor County HS cafeteria

KFB OBJECTS TO H-2A PROPOSALS

The U.S. Department of Labor appears to be intent on erasing some reforms to the H-2A agricultural guest worker program that the Bush administration approved in January. The changes could lead to higher expenses and plenty of headaches for Kentucky farmers.

DOL has published new rules that would likely raise the adverse affect on agricultural workers (AEWR) rate to around \$9.50. Employers still must use the higher of the AEWR, minimum wage or agricultural prevailing wage. This year the prevailing wage was determined to be the higher in Kentucky, at \$8 per hour.

The new DOL rule reinstates the requirement that employers accept applications from domestic workers until 50 percent of the time from the date of need listed in the contract is met. Joint contracts will continue to be allowed as long as they are part of an association. Applications must be filed 60-75 days before the date of need, rather than 45-60 under the old rule.

Employers also will be required to pay transportation and subsistence costs from the worker's home rather than the consulate plus pay all fees the worker incurs such as visa, border crossing and passport fees. DOL also proposes that employers with remote worksites would be required to conduct interviews at more convenient locations for applicants.

The proposal also would create a publicly accessible Electronic Jobs Registry where DOL will list all applications for H-2A workers for public review. This could be a significant issue for employers.

The 248-page proposal was published in the September 4 Federal Register. The comment period expired October 5.

KFB opposes most of the proposals and has communicated that to DOL and our congressional delegation.

Despite all the bureaucratic confusion over the guidelines, the H-2A program continues to be a vital source of temporary labor for Kentucky farmers. According to state statistics, there are more than 5,700 H-2A workers in Kentucky employed by about 750 farmers.

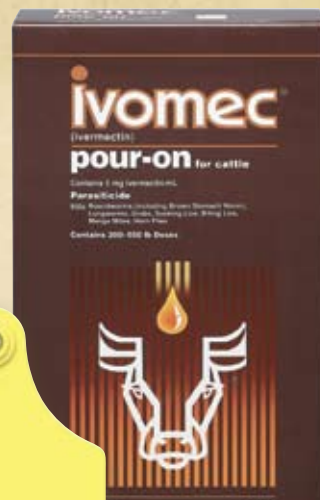
YOU'VE GOT A LOT RIDING ON YOUR **LIVESTOCK OPERATION**



Combining the latest innovations in feed technology, nutritional supplements, animal health and pasture management techniques, Southern States offers a complete product line tailored to meet all your production needs from start to finish.

**SAVE \$1
on any
25 pack of
ID Ear
tags!**

Various



\$229⁹⁹

AFTER MAIL-IN REBATE
REGULAR \$249.99

5L Ivomec®

(114-35029)

**SAVE
\$20**

\$37⁹⁹

REGULAR \$38.99

**Safe-Guard®
Paste**

(114-22405)

Intervet
EXPECT MORE.

Offers good through October 31, 2009. See store for details.



SOUTHERN STATES

Brands you trust. People who know.

www.southernstates.com

Beef producers **can't be everywhere**



Through your investment in the beef checkoff, you tested 39 shoulder and round muscles to discover the ones worthy of becoming tasty, premium cuts — like the Petite Tender and Veal Osso Buco. You also helped develop the Flat Iron Steak, an affordable family favorite that uses 90 million pounds of chuck top blade that used to be ground into hamburger each year.

And, you're not done yet. Your beef checkoff is the reason why we can continue to conduct value-enhancing research to find even more convenient, tender, affordable beef cuts that will delight families everywhere.

My beef checkoff... extending our reach to help build beef demand.



Get to know your checkoff — visit **Kentucky Beef Council** at kybeef.com or call (859) 278-0899

Funded by the Beef Checkoff.